

Write about NURJAHAN JUNTA

Ans: The original name of Nur Jahan was Mehrunnisa. Nur Jahan was daughter of Mirza Ghias Beg, a native of Tehran. Her father came to India and sought employment at the court of Akbar. Mehrunnisa was a charming, beautiful and intelligent girl. She was married to an Iranian called Ali Quli Khan who was given title of Sher-i- Afghan by Jahangir on account of his courage and bravery. In 1607 Ali Quli was murdered in a quarrel with Qutubuddin Khan the governor of Bengal. In 1611, Jahangir married Mehrunnisa and named her Nur Mahal and later Nur Jahan.

Jahangir was so much in love with her that he granted all her wishes. Soon she got her father and brother Asaf Khan appointed to very high posts. Mirza Ghiyas Beg was given the title of Itmad-ud-Daulah (Pillar of the State) by Jahangir in 1605. Asaf Khan was appointed grand Wazir (minister) to Jahangir. Nur Jahan formed a group of her family members known as 'JUNTA'. This group included Nur Jahan, her father Mirza Gayas Beigh, her brother Asaf Khan and prince Khurram. The Junta managed Jahangir, all the powers and administration was controlled by this group.

Because all the powers were vested in the hands of Nurjahan and her Junta, She signed Royal Farmans (Orders). For many years, she effectively wielded imperial power and was recognized as the real force behind the Mughal throne. She even gave audiences at her palace and the ministers consulted with her on most matters. Jahangir even permitted coinage to be struck in her name, something that traditionally defined sovereignty. Nur jhan was responsible to some extent for the moral degeneration of Jahangir. He lost interest in administration. He spent most of his time drinking wine. She is known as one of the most powerful women who ruled India with an iron fist.