Mughal Paintings - Easy PDF Notes

What are Mughal Paintings?

Mughal paintings are miniature artworks developed in the Mughal Empire for manuscripts, portraits, and royal scenes.

Origin & Evolution

- Started by Humayun after returning from Persia with artists.
- Flourished under Akbar with massive workshops.
- Jahangir improved realism and portraiture.
- Shah Jahan brought decorative luxury.
- Decline during Aurangzeb.

Key Features

- Blend of Persian and Indian styles
- Realistic portraits and natural scenes
- Rich colors with gold and silver
- Court, hunting, and battle scenes
- Detailed borders and fine brushwork

Major Painters

- Mir Sayyid Ali
- Abdus Samad
- Basawan
- Bishandas
- Ustad Mansur (famous for animal studies)

Famous Paintings

- Akbar Hunting Lion
- Jahangir Preferring a Sufi Shaikh
- Falcon on a Bird Rest

- Portrait of Shah Jahan

UPSC Focus Points

- Important for Art & Culture
- PYQs from features, painters, examples, differences with Rajput paintings