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HIS114: World Civilization II

In Frameworks of World History, Chapter 16; it was spoken a lot about Jahangir. Jahangir clearly ruled and had a lot of power. “Jahangir’s chain of justice and his role as ‘the safeguard of the world; the sovereign splendor of the faith’” (pg. 489) Also, “Jahangir ruled an empire that covered nearly the entire Indian sub-continent and contained perhaps 60 million people.” (pg. 485) Jahangir had a lot of power over many people under an empire. Jahangir ruled and expanded his empire for over 20 years.

The people living under Jahangir’s empire had some rights; but it was limited due to “low productivity and slow communications.” (Pg. 488) There was always someone higher, in control and with more power. Due to the slow communication, it forced hierarchies into the pyramidal shape; being where there is always a level that is the lowest, with almost no power or voice. Their rights were always controlled. Sometimes, the people even had to work without pay. The power was distributed in terms of social class, who came higher on the pyramid.

Furthermore, there are a handful of similarities and differences between the hierarchies in chapter 16 and our government today. Today, there is still a lot of conflict with opposing countries, governments and even within different states. There is still someone in power who wants to govern or take over everything. On page 496, it was noted that, “But contacts between societies at similar state-based levels of organization tended to result in much more equal exchanges of goods, ideas, and formal connections.” Today, many states that also find themselves in similar levels or power, tend to have equal exchanges; or they work hand in hand.