Twitter Thread by Savitri Mumukshu - ████████ ████████

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1

Since so many Twitter friends of Salman Nizami are turning red asking me for proof, I thought I would oblige. This short thread cites evidence from trusted sources (mostly Islamic) to prove how Mughals built Minars of Hindu heads as a sign of Islam’s victory over infidel Kafirs

2

When Timur first came to Hindustan, he attacked the Hindu kingdom of Kator extending from Kashmir to Kabul. In his autobiography “Tuzak-I-Timuri” Timur describes building a tower of skulls of “obstinate unbelievers” after enslaving women & kids & looting booty (May, 1398 CE).

As soon as it was day, I ordered my troops to attack on all four sides at once, to force their way into the defiles, and to kill the men, imprison the women and children, and plunder and lay waste their property. In obedience to these orders, my nobles and troops made a valiant assault on all sides at once and put the remnant of the infidels to the sword, after which they made prisoners of their women and children and secured an enormous booty. I directed towers of the skulls of those obstinate unbelievers to be built on the mountain, and I ordered an engraver on stone, who was in my camp, to cut an inscription somewhere on those defiles to the effect that I had reached this country by such and such a route, in the auspicious month of Ramazan, A.H. 800 (May, 1398), so that, if chance should conduct any one to that spot, he might know how I had reached it.

3

The Zafarnama of Sharafuddin Ali Yazdi (Iran) is an illustrated book on Timurid dynasty (1425 CE). A painting in the Zafarnama shows Timur getting tribute from soldiers, while an Islamic Minaret representing the might of Islam built out of dead Kafir's heads looms behind him.

4

The next Mughal, Babur, practically salivated with delight at the prospect of killing Hindus & scattering them like “teased wool & broken bubbles on wine”. He built several Minars out of Hindu heads, during battles with Rajputs, in the Doab, near Agra & Chanderi to name a few.

greet the Present; the vain Hindus discovering their dangerous state, *were scattered abroad like teazed wool, and broken like bubbles on wine.* Many were slain, and fell in the battle, and some giving up their lives for lost, turned to the desert of ruin, and became the food of crows and kites; and hillocks were formed of the slain, and towers[1] raised of their heads. Hassan Khan Mewâti was enrolled in the band of the dead by a matchlock shot, and in like manner many of these bewildered and misled rebels, the leaders of that army, were struck by arrows or musket-shot, and closed their lives; of the number, Raûl Udi Sing, before named, who was Prince (Wali) of the country of Udipûr, and had twelve thousand horse; and Rai Chanderbehan Chuhân, who had four thousand horse, and Manikchand Chuhân, and Dulpat Rai, who were masters of four thousand horse, and Gangû, and Kerm Sing, and Rao Bikersi,[2] who had three thousand horse, and a number of others, who each were leaders of great clans, men of high rank and pride, measured the road to Hell, and, from this house of clay, were transferred to the Pit of Perdition. The road from the field of battle was filled like hell, with the wounded who died by the way; and the lowest hell was rendered populous, in consequence of the numbers of infidels who had delivered up their lives to the angels of hell. On whatever side of the armies of the Islâm a person went, on every hand he found men of distinction lying slain; and the illustrious camp, wherever it has moved after the fugitives, could nowhere find a spot in which to plant a foot, in consequence of the number of distinguished men lying mangled.

5

So overjoyed was Babur with the gore that he waxed eloquent poetry about killing Hindus in praise of God. After creating Minars out of Hindu heads, he proudly declared himself a “Ghazi” as his official imperial title - a term which means “Victorious over the enemies of Islam”

All the Hindus were scattered and confounded
With stones,[3] like the warriors of the elephant.
Many hills of their bodies were seen,
And from each hill flowed a rivulet of running blood.
From the dread of the arrows of the ranks full of grandeur,
They were flying and running[4] to every field and hill.

Arabic.—*They go backwards in flight. And the event happened as it had been ordained of Fate. Andnow the praise be to God, who is All-hearing and All-wise; and except from whom there is no help, for he is great and powerful.* Written in the month of the latter Jemâdi, in the year 933. Mar. 1527.

After this victory I used the epithet *Ghâzi*,[5] in the imperial titles. On the Fatehnameh (or official account of the victory), below the imperial titles (inscribed on the back of the despatches), I wrote the following verses:— Baber assumes the title of Ghazi.

(*Turki.*)—For love of the Faith I became a wanderer in the desert,
I became the antagonist of Pagans and Hindûs,
I strove to make myself a martyr;—
Thanks be to the Almighty who has made me a Ghâzi, (victorious over the enemies of the Faith.)

6

The Great “secular” Akbar, occupied Delhi & Agra in true Mughal tradition by building a tower with Hindu heads. He did the same in his conquest of Ahmedabad. He rewarded his commander Khan-i-Khanan (Bairam Khan), for building “8 sky high Minarets of Hindu heads” in Bengal.

one (Ikhtiyār-al-mulk) and was applauded by the imperial servants. H.M. prostrated himself in devotion to God, and what had passed from his lips had become fulfilled. As a lesson to the generality, an order was issued that a tower should be made of the heads of the rebels. At the end of the day H.M. reached Aḥmadābād, and the palaces of the Sultans of Gujrāt were glorified by his advent. Bulletins of victory were sent to various countries, and couriers carried the news to mortals. To Mozaffar Khān and the officers of the province of

7

A painting in the illustrated Akbarnama showed Akbar at the 2nd battle of Panipat, in 1526 CE, where Bairam Khan & Akbar colluded to behead Hemu. It depicted “Ghazi” Akbar & his army stacking up heads of Hemu's Hindu soldiers into a tower/Minar of victory over Islam’s enemies.

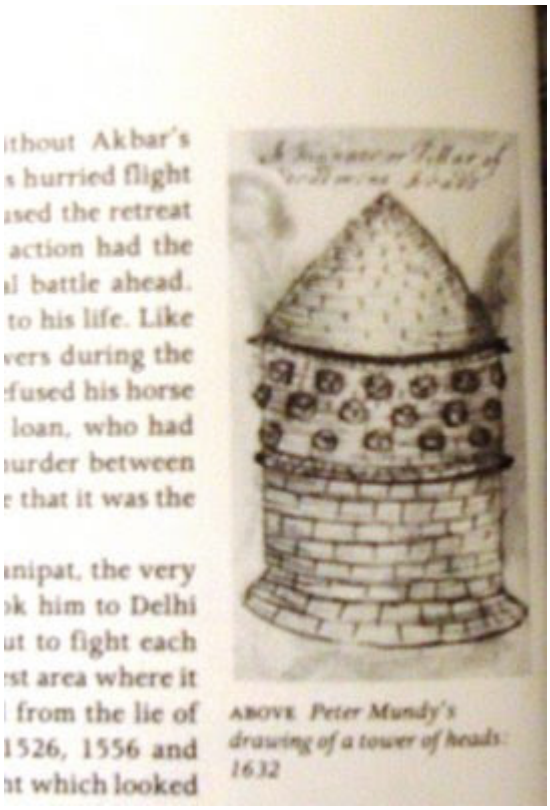
8

The great Mughal romantic, Shah Jahan was nothing less. In 1628 CE, British merchant Peter Mundy traveled to his court & wrote a detailed account of all that he saw. Mundy describes Shah Jahan's army officers such as Abdullah Khan building towers/Minars of Hindu skulls.

At Bakewar Khānpur Mundy found that a large addition to the number of *mīnārs* of skulls set up by 'Abdu'llah Khān, had been made by Bākir Khān. They were increased by about 60, "with 35 or 40 heads a peece" (p. 185). Next day, near Etāwa, he saw the actual making of such a *mīnār*, "with a great heape of heads lying by," "ready to bee immortered" (p. 186).

9

He describes over 60 such towers each made of 35-40 heads. He also saw head towers that were created to warn off criminals. At that time, definition of criminal included any Hindu worshipping their gods, or refusing to convert to Islam. Mundy made a drawing of these towers.



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ABOVE *Peter Mundy's drawing of a tower of heads: 1632*

10

Slaughtering Hindus & stacking up their heads into Minars was a hallowed tradition of the Mughals. They celebrated violent carnage as Ghazis, who won victory against Kafir Hindus for Islam. Minars of horror were one of the foremost building achievement of Mughals in India.

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