



## Lost Civilizations: India, Rajasthan : The Mughal Empire



**Directed by Jacques VICHET**

A documentary of 52'

*French Version*  
*English Version*

High Definition  
HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9

©2014 IN PROJECT

Rajasthan, or «land of the Kings » is undoubtedly the most colourful state in India.

It's harsh landscapes, half desert, half arid hills, make a striking contrast to the brightly coloured clothing worn by the locals.

Rather like a fairytale kingdom, the state is full of magical cities: Jodhpur, Jaipur, Udaipur...

The magnificent buildings with which they abound are the work of the Mughal; a people of warriors and feudal lords for whom honour was more important than life itself, and who dominated the region for centuries.

The Mughal empire was founded in India by Babur in 1526.

The Mughals introduced Persian literature and culture to India, laying the foundations for Indo-persian culture.

The empire marks the peak of the Muslim expansion into India.

Largely re-conquered by Sher Shah Suri, and then lost again during the reign of Humayun, the empire developed considerably under the rule of Akbar, and continued to flourish until the end of the reign of Aurangzeb.

After his death in 1707, the empire fell into a slow but steady decline.

In 1756, an army led by Ahmad Shah ransacked Delhi. After the mutiny of the Sepoys, the British wiped out the last Mughal emperor.

The extravagance of the Mughal princes is what turned Rajasthan into the mythical place it is today.

In spite of massive economic costs, they constructed some of the most beautiful monuments on the planet: the Taj Mahal, the Red Fort, the Itimad-ud-Daulah mausoleum, the Iama Masiid mosque and many, many others.