

Shahjahan's son Mohi-ud-Din Mohammad Aurangzeb Alamgir arrested his father and sat himself on the throne "in 1658".⁸ Shahajahan became ill in the last days of his life and died in 1666. Aurangzeb who sat on the throne in the life time of his father continued to rule and "expired on the 21st of February, 1707, in the eighty-ninth year of his life, and fiftieth of his reign".⁹

(iii) *Downfall of the Mughals:*

After the sad demise of Aurangzeb in 1707, a new chapter of the history of the Mughals started. The serious wars of succession began amongst the members of the Royal family. The later Mughals, as they are known after Aurangzeb, could not solve the emergence of several complex administrative problems. As a result thereof, there were revolts which greatly weakened their structure of the government. Aurangzeb had three sons - Muhammad Muazzam Bahadur Shah was the eldest, Qutubuddin Muhammad Azam Shah was the second and Kaam Bakhsh was the youngest.

After the death of Aurangzeb his middle son Qutubuddin Mohammad Azam Shah sat on the throne "in 1707"¹⁰ for about three months and then in the same year i.e. in 1707 Aurangzeb's eldest son Mohammad Muazzam Bahadur Shah 1st who was in Peshawar at the time of Aurangzeb's death came to Lahore, and with the support of Munaim Khan fought with his younger brother Azam Shah. During the war for throne between two real brothers - Muazzam Shah and Azam Shah, Azam Shah died and Muazzam Shah sat on the throne.

These types of wars continued among the members of the Royal family. When the Rebellions saw that the members