

## **The Gemstones Through The writing of Mughal Indian Emperor Jahangir "Tuzuk Jahangiri (1014-1037A.H /1605-1627 A.D)**

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### **The Abstract:**

India was still famous for all kinds of precious and semi-precious stones, which has had the greatest impact in the lives of the Indian community classes since ancient times, and this is evidenced by the remains of us the material effects and artifacts of the world's museums, as evidenced in the writings of emperors during the era (932-1274 AH / 1526-1858 CE), in particular the writings of the Mughal Emperor Jhangir (1014-1037 AH / 1605-1627), who was fond of these stones and mentioned them, referring to their role in the life of the Mughal court in particular and the life of the kings And Indian princes in general.

Some of the Indian regions were characterized by the presence of their lands, rivers or mountains on certain types of precious stones and gems such as the kingdom of Karnataka in southern India, which was rich in diamonds, onyx, crystal and emerald rubies, while the ambassador was extracted from Punjab and Kashmir.

Although the Indian subcontinent is considered the world's most precious gemstone and gemstone, these memoirs notes proved that they imported some precious stones from other countries, especially the jade, which came from Kashgar, East Turkistan, and turquoise from Iran, emeralds and a Coptic stone from Upper Egypt, and the good garnet from Yemen. Some of the Mughal emperors mastered this craft and produced many artifacts in their own hands, including the son of the Mughal emperor, Jahangir Shah Jahan. Thus, the study of this art during this historical period is a new addition in the field of arts and archeology Islamic in general and Indian in particular.

### **The Kinds of gemstones in the memoirs of the Mughal Emperor Jahangir:**

#### **1- Diamond Stone:**

Emperor jahangir referred to many diamond mining mines in his memoirs in the Indian subcontinent, one of the most important diamonds from ancient times until the end of the 13th century (19). One of the most important sources of diamond access in the Indian subcontinent is the Khukhur or Khokharā, which is one of the cities belonging to Bihar and Batna). Karnatak is one of the most important places to get a diamond stone, where four diamond mines are located within an area of approximately 123.75 miles.

According to these memoirs, this stone was used in the manufacture of ornaments, rings and bracelets, as well as the use of individual texts in the exchange of gifts between rulers and

kings during the mughal era in India in general and the reign of Emperor Jahangir given by Khan Khanan in 1024 AH / 1615 . The King of the Kingdom of Kolkanda was also presented to the son of Jahangir "Shah Jahan" in 1027 AH / 1618 AD with a diamond ring bearing the name of God in the form of three letters of equal size and in the beautiful form. This ring is considered one of the wonders of the world as mentioned in the memoirs of Jahangir.

## **2- Rock crystal stone:**

In India, the rock crystal is known in as Sphatik, which is one of the most famous metals on the earth. It is available in many places on Earth and is extracted in large bulks, some of which weigh more (500 kg), and it is said in many manuscripts that it is brought from Kashmir and parts of Badakhshan.

This rock crystal has won the admiration of kings and rulers in various countries throughout history. The emperor Jahangir sent to the Shah of Iran, Abbas I, a cup of rock crystal with Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Reda in 1026 AH / 1617 AD; Muhammad Hussin Chalabi from Iraq. And two years later, Jahangir sent to Shah Abbas also with his ambassador Sayed Hassan gift, including a pot or jug with jeweled in the form of the dick of this jug which was often in the hands of the mughal emperor to drink wine. "On the 26 th of the month of Bahman, 1023 AH / 1614 AD, Khurram / Shah Shahan was presented with a small box of rock crystal inlaid with emeralds with high artistic taste from a foreign industry.

## **3- Emerald Stone:**

The emerald is called is in Sanskrit "Marakatha" and in Hinduism it is called "Panna" but the name emerald is Persian. Emerald is considered to be one of the most precious stones of the Indians. In ancient times 4000 BC there was a high quality emeralds dedicated to the goddess Venus, Symbolizes eternity, faith and spring; Emerald is available in the Indian subcontinent since ancient times. It is mainly extracted from the state of Rajasthan and from the mines of Ajmer, Udaipur, Orissa, Kalahandi, Karnatak, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir.

This stone was not mentioned in the Emperor Jahangir's memoirs extremely, emeralds were used in many forms, like all other gemstones, either in the form of complete rosaries or rings, or used together with other stones in the form of contracts and others.

## **4- Agate stone:**

However, the Emperor's references to the Jahangir in his memoirs were based on the garnet of Yemen. He referred to an important rosary given to him by the Shah Abbas I, the "ruler of Iran", a rosary from the Yemeni agate, in addition to three other rings by Mirza Jamal al-Din Hussein made one of these rings of good Yemeni agate.

### 5- Turquoise Stone:

This stones is known as the stone of conquest and the eye stone. Mohammed Hussein Chalabi was sent to Iran and Iraq in 1613 by emperor Jahangir to buy some rare things, including the turquoise stone sent by the Shah Abbas, where he ordered one of his servants to equip six bags of turquoise weighing 30 sir with some other things and sending them to Jahangir, So it is can to say that turquoise was not available in India but it was imported from abroad, especially from the city of Ispahan in Iran, Jahangir said that this turquoise was inferior to that of the Shah Tahmasb when the jewelers and the ringmakers made every effort to make a ring of it.

### 6- Coptic Stone:

It is mentioned in Jhangir's memoirs that there was a type of stone called Qutbī, meaning "Coptic" or "Egyptian". In his memoirs, Jahangir mentioned that Khawaja Abul Hassan, the servant of his brother Danyal, had given him the a Coptic stone through the birth of Dara Shikoh Ibn Shah Jahan in the year 1024 AH / 1615 AH.

### 7- Ruby stone:

The ruby has attracted the interest of many rulers, kings and emperors in the Indian subcontinent. Therefore, it was one of the most important gemstones that were used in the exchange of gifts among them. The Emperor Jahangir pointed to many ruby that have historical value attributed to some of his predecessors. The most important historical ruby were mentioned on the first 25 of the year 1029 AH / 1620 AD where the Shah of Iran, "Shah Abbas," sent his emissaries Agha Bik and Mohib Ali to the emberor Jahangir and gave him a ruby whose weight was twelve tānk. It is consider the most famous of the gifts given to Jahangir and it has a great historical value because they are attributed to the Timured sultan "Oleg Bey" son of Shah Rakh and his name is inscribed in the copy line as follows "ألف بيك بن شاه رخ بهادر بن أمير تيمور گورگان", This ruby moved to the Safavid family and the Shah Abbas engraved another inscription in the Nastaelik line elsewhere, Then the Shah Abbas sent it as a gift to the mughal emperor Jahangir.

Then, Emperor Jahangir ordered the head of the goldsmithing section of the Mughal court, Sa'ida, to engrave another inscription on it, including "Jahangir Shah Akbar Shah" and the date of inscription 1030 . A few days later, after the conquest of Deccn, Jahangir gave this ruby to his son Khurram "Shah Shahan".

**8- Jade stone:**

Since the visit of Khawaja Mu'in to the Mughal court in 971 AH /1563 AD, the jade art has started since the reign of Emperor Akbar, Khawaja Mu'in was a merchant of jade from Central Asia and supervisor of the main river to extract jade in Kashgar.

But this jade art did not achieve full prosperity in its artistic form except in the era of two of the greatest art connoisseurs of the Mughal era; Jahangir and Shah Shahan.

One of the finest and most beautiful antiques of the precious stones given to Jahangir in the third year of his reign (1016 AH / 1608 AD) is a pot from pure white jade with an important historical value. It is related to Olgh Bik, It was presented to Jahangir by Mu'nis Khan ibn Mahitar Khan in the third year of the reign of the emperor. Around the neck of the pot is engraved with a thuluth script that includes the name Mirza Olgh Bik and the hijri date. Then the emperor Jahangir ordered to engrave his name and the name of his father "Akbar" on the edge of the mouth of the pot, and read as follows:

" سنة 8 جلوس مطابق سنة 1022 هجري الله أكبر باد شاه ..شهنشاه عدالت...ومجازي ابو المظفر نور الدين جهانكير باد شاه ابن أكبر باد شاه غازي".

**9- Bezoar stone:**

The animal bezoar stone is used to avoidance all animal and plant poisons, while mineral is not useful for poisons. Jahangir mentioned in his eleventh year of his reign about the role of this stone in avoidance the poison, which was placed in a glass of juice twice for "Ghayath al-Din" by his son Nasir al-Din. Ghayath al-Din kept this stone always in his arm.

Finally; The Emperor Jahangir mentioned in his memories the weights of some precious stones, which he gave as gifts or that were given to him by the princes, rulers, nobles and some sultans of the neighboring countries; the weight of precious stones in the era of this Emperor three weights are the Surkh, Miskal and Tānk.