AB-RAWAN: literally meaning running water. Extremely fine quality of muslin, silk muslin or silk gauze.

ALAM: Standard code signifying a ruler.

AMRU, HIMRU: Silk Brocade. Specialty of Aurangabad (Maharashtra).

ANGRAKHA: Full sleeved outer wear for men with a flared skirt.

ANTARIYA: Unstitched loose garment for the lower body draped in style of langot.

ASHRAFI: Gold coin

ASAVARI: Transparent fabric made from yarns of white and light blue colour.

ATAN: Cotton cloth

ATLAS: Arabic word for satin.

AURANG: Thrones in different shapes and sizes, decorated with precious stones.

BADLA FABRICS: Silk fabrics having fattened wire of gold or silver.

BADLA: Flat wire of gold or silver used for embellishment of fabrics.

BAFTA: Cotton fabric woven in Gujarat. Important material of trade for British East India Company.

BAGO: An garment for outerwear, similar in construction to the jama

BALABANDI: Piece of brocaded cloth tied around the turban.

BEGAM: Title of rank awarded to all royal wives.

CHAKDAR JAMA: Jama where hem was zagged with four tips revealing a brightly colored lining.

CHAKMAN: Raincoat made of broadcloth, wool or silk; fastened in five places while wearing.

CHARKANA: Checkered fabric usually of muslin, can be also be silk or mixed.

CHARKHANA, SUSI: Fabrics containing small checks.

CHARQAB: A robe or tunic of gold of gold cloth
**CHAURI**: Symbolizing royalty in form of a fly-whisk; consisted of tufts of hair attached on elaborately decorated handles made of metal or wood.

**CHEOLI**: Silk fabric with a bright satin sheen. Untwisted silk used with buti’s all over the ground.

**CHHATRA**: Elaborately decorated umbrella used to signify a royal position.

**CHIKAN**: Cotton or Silken fabric with butis.

**CHINOTIYA**: Chunni or Odhani having gathers.

**CHIR**: Fabric of gold threads and brocaded silk.

**CHIRA**: Folded turban made of fine silk or cotton thread

**CHOLAKA**: Long sleeved, loose fitting coat in the style of chogha.

**CHOLI**: Stitched upper-garment that covers the breasts.

**DAGALI**: Upper cover over coat with cotton stuffing.

**DARYAI**: Silken fabric

**DHOTI**: Unstitched cloth draped over hips and legs.

**DHUP – CHAUN**: Sunshine – Sunshade. Fabric named after technique where warp and weft are of different colours.

**DHUP**: Broad edged straight blade with a cross hilt.

**DIRA**: Head-dress in the form of short turbans.

**DODHI**: Worn by men of significance, has narrow folds at the sleeves and waist and long stitched ribbons at arms and waist.

**DORIAS**: Striped fabric usually of musli can also be silk or mixed.

**DORIYA**: Cotton fabric with stripes at short intervals.

**DOVADA**: Over-garment with double folds.

**DUGDUGI**: Decoration of precious stones on turban.

**DUPATTA, ODHANI**: Long unstitched cloth traditionally for covering upper body, mostly in South Asia.
DUTAHI: Double folded silk garment in the form of a coat with a lining.

FARGUL: Jacket like farji, worn over shoulders. Scarlet in color, single or double folded.

FARJI: Stitched cloak worn over the shoulders over a peshwaz or jama.

FATUHI: Slightly padded sleeveless vest

FLAG: Royal ensign in the form of a triangular piece of cloth, fitted on a long shaft or pole.

GADAR: Long fur coat without collars, open in the front and quilted with cotton.

GHAGRA: Flared skirt fastened with a draw-string at the waist.


GIRIH: Knot of over two inches in length

GUDADI: Padded cover fitted on coats in the winter for warmth.

GULBADAN: Light textured fabric with wave like pattern. Warp threads are dyed partially.

GULBAND: Muffler tied with a knot around the neck.

HAYACHA: Turkish word for striped silk.

IZARBAND: Drawstring for fastening the drawers

JADIA: Bandage for holding parted beard with hairs pointing upwards towards face.

JAMA: Outer garment worn for formal wear. Tunic with a tightly fitted bodice, a flared skirt and fastened with the ties under the armpit.

JAMDANI, MUSLIN: Hand loom woven fabric of cotton, originated in West Bengal and Dhaka.

JAMDHAR: A dagger with broad, flat, triangular blade.

JHAGGA: Skirt worn by persons of significance at festivals, reaches up to ankles with elaborate folds.
JODA: Pair of dhotis

JUTI: Urdu word, gained popularity during the Mughal period, meaning handcrafted leather shoe made up of closed upper attached to a sole.

KALGI: A feathered plume, the most distinguished consisting of three black heron feathers reserved by the Mughal emperor as a symbol of high status.

KALANGI: A jewelled turban broach.

KAMBALA, DURSHA, PANVAD: Woollen blankets used in Ancient India

KIMKHWABS (KINKOBS), BROCADES: Silk fabric with ground work of gold threads woven with three to seven layers of warp threads.

KANCHUKA: Stitched bodice for the upper part of the body.

KANO: Coat worn by men of significance with long sleeves.

KANPECH: Decorative cloth tied over turban to cover ears.

KAPOOR – DHOOR: Fine silken fabric re-named by Akbar

KARKANAH: Workshop or storage area.

KAUPINA: Underclothing, rectangular in shape, bound around the waist with a thread.

KAWKABA: To announce coming of King at an assembly hall or court.

KHANDA: A long sword with a double-edged straight blade, narrowing slowly towards the hilt.

KHANJAR: A dagger with a single curved blade, leaf shaped and narrow towards the end dagger.

KHASA: Special fabric of muslin for royal purpose.

KHAYATS, VANSHAVALLIS: Fables and dramatic narratives depicting contemporary events.

KULAH: A skull cap.

KURTA: Stitched garment of knee length or longer.
KURYARAQ, KARKARAQ KHANA: Section of workshop for maintaining royal wardrobe.

LATKAN: Suspended article of gold threads used with a turban ornament.

LEHANGA: Of a lesser flare at the hem than a ghaghra, worn with a choili and a dupatta.

LEHARIYA: Fine cotton fabric dyed to have diagonal stripes similar to wave.

MACE: Club with a heavy, rounded head made of metal.

MADIL: Head dress in turban form, one side heavily decorated with zari pattern.

MAHMUDI: Coin from Gujarat.

MAHMUDI: Finest variety of cotton or muslin.

MAKHMAL KHAS, KING’S MUSLIN: Muslin made in length of 10 yards and width of 1 yard, contains 1000-1800 threads in a warp.

MALMAL: Fine cotton cloth.

MANSABDAR: A person holding a military rank or mansab.

MASHAJJAR: Zaridar Makhmal or silken fabric.

MASHRU: Mixed fabric of silk and cotton.

MIRZAI: Sleeveless quilted jacket worn as over-coat.

MOJARI: A softer variety of the juti. A shoe with an extended curled toe. In juti’s, rear is normally covered but mojaris have an open look from behind.

MUCHAPATTI: Device used for turning the moustache upwards.

MUKHAPATA: Veil like a dupatta used in the ancient period.

NADIRI, KURDI: Sleeveless jacket worn over the qaba worn in Jahangir’s court by him and certain permitted persons.

NAQARA: Round, bowl-shaped, one surface drum that is beaten by sticks.


NIMTANA: Short under vest in form of tunic, less evolved version of the kurta.
OTU: Term used for Woof

PAG: Commonly used term for pagri

PAGRI: a turban made of a piece of un-stitched cloth, wound tightly around the head.

PAIJAMA: Leg-clothing of varying size, shape and tightness.

PANCHTOLIYA: Fine, light weight and transparent cotton cloth.

PECHA: Kind of pag, one end decorated with a fringe made of golden zari.

PESHWAZ: Same as Jama but open in the front with an elaborately decorated hem.

PHENTIA: Additional piece over ghaghra with length equal to skirt, wearing signifies married women.

PHUL-KATRA: Daggers carried by royal chiefs and attendants that were worn under the girdle; mostly for ornamental presentation.


POTIO: Head dress worn by common man

QABA: Quilted winter garment of cotton or muslin worn over the main dress; loose fitting and full length.

QALAMI: Quilted over-cloak embroidered with gold, worn in the winter.

QIRBAN: Container for the bow hung on the left side of the girdle

QUIVER: Container for arrows hung over the shoulders or around the waist.

RADHANAGARI: Striped Cotton Fabric in Hooghly district of West Bengal.

RUBAB: Lute made from larger coconut shells to which a long piece of shallow wood is attached. Number of strings vary but usually six; played with small thin triangular piece of metal or wood.

SACHIQ: Gift sent to the bride’s house by the bridegroom prior to the wedding.

SADRI: Sleeveless jacket worn as over-garment.
SAFA: Broader and shorter version of the pag

SAHAN: White cotton cloth, popular in medieval India.

SALU: Cotton material manufactured in Burhanpur.

SANDLI: Cloth of colour of sandalwood.

SANGI: Fabric with wave line running along its width produced by manipulation of weft thread

SANJ: Two separate plates shaped like cymbals about 25 cm in diameter, each plate has a flat edge and a concave centre; held through a string that emerge from the centre of each plate and knotted on both sides

SARI: Unstitched cloth ranging from four to nine yards, draped over the body in various styles.

SARPECH: Jewelled turban ornament.

SAYABAN: To provide shade to royals, consisting of long pole with large leaf shaped fan, decorated with jewels.

SHAH-AJIDA: Royal stitch coat with double lining.

SHILWAR: Lower garment worn in form of trousers, loose fitting till knees and crinkled below them.

SIKLAT: Silk fabric of foreign origin, often red.

SILK NAINSUKHS: Light cotton fabric used by men.

SIROPAO: Like the Mughal Emperors the Rajput rulers of Rajasthan bestowed robes of honour on their nobles. The Mughals called it khilat and in Rajasthan it was known as Siropao i.e. from head to foot – a complete dress.

SPEAR: Weapon having pointed steel head attached to long wooden shaft; used for hunting or by horsemen during war.


SURNA-I-HIND: A flute, named by Abu’l Fazl.

SUWAR: Second part of the dual ranking system of cavalry officers indicating the number of horses and riders he was supposed to provide.
Glossary

SUZANI: Coat embroidered with patterns of leaves and flowers.

TAS: Special Makhmal (velvet) or brocaded fabric having zardozi work.

TAFTA: Velvet or silken fabric where warp & weft yarns are different. Fabric shows reflection of each colour.

TALWAR: One edged sword with a curved blade and a padded hilt.

TAMBOURINE: Percussion instrument resembling a shallow drum; one side covered with parchment.


TANTRA: Term used for the Warp

TANTU: Yarn originating from Puranic period

TARTARIC GOWNS: Elaborate robes worn by officers and lords in the Sultanate courts.

TAUKUCHIYA: A tunic resembling the Jama supposedly an indigenous Indian garment, made with round skirt instead of slits, and tied on the right side.

TURRA: Turban ornament in the form of a tassel. A tassel of gold threads strung with pearls, tied on the turban at the back.

ULBAGHCHA: Made of fur, short sleeved, till the waist. Purpose of warmth in outdoor activity.

USHNISHA: Three dimensional oval unstitched turban, name derived from head dress of Buddha.

UTTARASANGA: Unstitched band for the upper body, breast.

UTTARIYA: Un-stitched garment used to drape the upper body in ancient times.

VAGA: Outerwear or tunic worn by men.

VASAS: term for women's clothing

VINA: Oldest string instruments of India; three strings; neck made from a hollow piece of wood around 90 cm in length. Two resonators made of dried and hollowed gourds are placed at both ends.
**ZARBAF:** Fabric where wires of gold are combined with silken yarn and woven.

**ZARI:** Persian word meaning yarn made of wire of gold or silver.

**ZARKAS, ZARKASI, ZARDOZI:** Fabrics ornamented with metallic yarns made of yarns of zari enclosing a silk yarn.

**ZARTARI:** Fabrics ornamented with sequins of gold.

**ZAT:** Personal rank of the officer bestowed by the Mughal Emperor.

### WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

**Akbar’s Weights and Measures** - Akbar standardized weights and measurements using a barley corn (*Jau*). For weights, he used the weight of a *Jau*, while the width of a *Jau* set the standard for length.

- **1 MISQAL** : 6.22 grams ~ weight of 96 barley corns
- **1 DAM** (used as weight as well as currency) : 20 grams
- **1 GIRAH** : 1 Hath (elbow to the end of the middle finger, approx 18"")
- **SER** : 637.74 grams

**Jahangir’s Weights and Measures**

- **1 TOLA** : 2.05 grams approx
- **1 SEER** : 80 tolas
- **1 TANK** : 21 carats
- **1 SURKH** : 0.875 carats
- **1 FINGER (ANGUSHT)** : 2.032 cm
- **1 GIRIH (KNOT)** : 5 cm
- **1 LEGAL CUBIT (ZAR’ I – SHAR’I)** : 24 fingers
- **1 ELL (GAZ)** : 83.8 cm
- **1 KOS (KUROH)** : ~ 4 Km