Chapter - I

Babur and Jahangir : The Naturalists
BABUR AND JAHANGIR: THE NATURALISTS

The first stone of the splendid fabric known as the Mughal empire in India was laid in A.D. 1526 by Babur who was of mixed blood, part Turk and part Mongol. On his father's side he was a direct descendent of Timur, while on his mother's side he derived also from Chingiz Khan. His career began in his twelfth year in the petty kingdom of Ferghana in Central Asia and ended in his fortyeighth years in India, the land of his new acquisition by conquest. These years sum up the life of one of the most attractive characters of history. He was a soldier of fortune, a man of fine literary taste, and even more than that an artist dwelling on the beauties of nature.¹

Babur's life with all its exciting adventures and romantic details, and his expressions of delight in the works of God, are graphically preserved in his autobiography, the Baburnama, or Tuzuk-i-Baburi. The Memoirs reveal his personality and give a vivid account of his daring exploits, of the places he visited and things he observed.²

Although Babur had to pass much of his time in tents and could not lead a peaceful and leisurely imperial life like some of his descendants, yet his love for natural beauty and landscape is undisputed. 'The Mughal dynasty as a whole was so keenly interested in the arts, that each emperor' as he came into power, put something of himself into the paintings done during his reign".³

Babur who contributed a lot to the artistic development in India, was not admired for it in his life. All his efforts in that direction were appreciated

2. Ibid., p. 18.
after his death. Babur a man of aesthetic spirit, outstanding ability a high ideal bequeathed a culture which inspired love and appreciation for art and learning in all his descendants.  

The memoir of Babur is a gearing proof of his love for scenery, flowers and natural effects. He had an expert artistic eye which inspired him to write about the beauty of the campfires twinkling below him. It is also a fact that 'Babur was a learned philosopher, mightily hunter, an enthusiastic traveler, an unstable sight seen, an eager student of the habits and appearances of animals and birds. He was keenly devoted to flowers and gardens and beauties of nature'.

The section of the Baburnama which deals with India is the first illustrated natural history of India. As Babur came from central Asia and Afghanistan, which do not have seen that variety in flora and fauna as India. A keen observer and lover of nature who delighted in plants and gardens, he was amazed by what he saw in India. He is the first person to record the birds, animals and plants of India. His description of plants, birds and animals are brief but patient. Apart from its value as a source book of history, the importance of the Baburnama lies in the fact that it is the first book on natural history of India. Babur had keen sense of observation and he describes the physical features of the country, its people, animals, birds and vegetation with precision and brevity. The value of some of the illustrations of the Baburnama lies in the fact that these are the first natural history paintings in India.

7. Ibid., p. 9.
Writing about the flora of India he speaks with delight of the beautifully
coloured flowers of the ‘Jasun’ seen like a heart amongst its expanded petals.

“Some Hindustanis call it Gaznas. It is not a grass, its tree (is in stems like the
bush of the red rose), it is rather taller than the bush of the red-rose. The size of
the Jasun may be of the red rose”. And of the five petalled ‘kaner’ (oleaner)
which grows both red and white. Like the peach flower, it is five patelled. It is
like the peach bloom (in colour?), but opens 14 or 15 flowers from one place,
so that seen from a distance, they look like one great flower. The Kiura of
excellent perfume flowering within long leaves pressed together bud like, and
the wildly growing ‘Mahua’ flowers which have a sweet and spirituous taste.
The tree’s singular appearance notwithstanding, it has flowers perhaps 1½ to 2
qarish (13½ to 18 inches) long. The white jasmine which Babur found larger
and more strongly scented than the yasmin flower of Ferghana. The
Hindustanis call it champa.

Among the trees he writes of the very good looking plantain and how it
produces bananas. The mango and its fruits which are best in India, the
different varieties of palms and oranges, besides the tamarind, the minusops,
ambli, Mahuwa, Jamun, Kamrak, jack fruit, monkeyjack, lotefruit, Karunda,
paniyala, Gular, amla, chirunji, tari, sadapal, lemon, amrdfal, etc. The great
lover of nature was by no means less sensitive to the charms of the fauna of
India. He writes in detail and with enthusiasm about a number of animals and
birds of India, and his observations are remarkable literary pieces of zoological

9. Ibid., p. 514.
10. Ibid., p. 514.
11. Ibid., p. 514.
12. Ibid., pp. 504, 503, 505, 86, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13.
statistics. He describes the immense size and sagacity of the elephant, and how it eats and drinks with its trunk and uses its tusks in fighting or in felling trees and knocking down wells.\textsuperscript{13} He gives interesting data to distinguish the different species of monkeys\textsuperscript{14}, and notices the affinity between the rhinoceros and the horse, and between the squirrel and the mouse. He also writes about the crocodiles, wild buffalo, blue bull (\textit{nilgai}), the deer, gini-cow, \textit{nawal}, \textit{kalak}, and also aquatic animals like water tiger, \textit{siyah-sar}, water-hog (sea-pig), frogs, fishes, etc.\textsuperscript{15} among the birds he notices peacocks, floricans, monal peasants, herons, hoopoes, pigeons, ducks and pelicans, and separates and describes five types of parrots.\textsuperscript{16}

The flowering paradises were dearest to Babur. Beautiful little gardens full of trees and plants with all the freshness of their green shadows, and brightness and perfume of the many hued flowers, fascinated him from his childhood. He went into ruptures at the sight of the colour of an autumn leaf, the sweetness of the violets and roses in bloom, the field of tulips of thirty four different kinds, or the running streams of water in the garden by the side of which he would sit to gaze at the beautiful world. Such sensitiveness led him to garden laying.\textsuperscript{17}

Babur idea of a garden was based on the ideal of a terraced garden from Persian traditions. Garden craft was a national art in Persia. It took a terrace shape in descending stages, where each terrace had a \textit{‘char-bagh’} or four-quartered plan with paved paths, and such ornamental features as parterres of

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\textsuperscript{13} Ibid., p. 488-89.
\textsuperscript{14} Ibid., p. 491.
\textsuperscript{15} Ibid., pp. 489, 99, 90, 91, 501-503.
\textsuperscript{16} Ibid., pp. 504-506
\textsuperscript{17} Swarup, op.cit., p. 18.
\end{flushleft}
shrubs and flowers, avenues of deep toned cypress trees, sprays of rosy almond or silvery flowering plum trees, and water safety rippling from one terrace to another in a series of water falls. He built at least ten such gardens in Kabul, one of which later became his final resting place, and the other was named as the Bagh-i-Wafa (Garden of fidelity), with its lake bordered by oranges, citrus and pomegranates. His favourite place was the fountain of the three friends, where he loved to sit and talk with his closest friends. About it he said, 'when the flowers are in bloom, the yellow mingling with the red, I know no place on earth to compare with it'.

But laying the garden at Agra, after fixing on it as his capital in India, proved a difficult task. 'We crossed the Jun-water' to look at garden grounds a few days after returning Agra. Those grounds were so bad and unattractive that we traversed them with a hundred disgusts and repulsions. So ugly and displeasing were they that the idea of making a "char-bagh" in them passed from my mind. Later, however, the same grounds were chosen for planting gardens and plots were laid out with order and symmetry, with suitable borders and parterres in every corner and in every border rose and narcissus were planted in perfect arrangement. At least three great gardens in Agra are attributed to Babur himself. Among the gardens at Agra, the Bagh Gul-i-Afshan, later named as Aram bagh, and now popularly known as Ram bagh, is the only one which has survived today almost intact. It is a grand garden in four distinct terraces, fulfilling all the necessary conditions and containing all the resultant beauties of a terraced garden. The main terrace has eight raised

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18. Ibid., pp. 18-19.
19. The river Yamuna.
platforms in symbolic imitation of the Bagh-i-Hasht Bihist, or the ‘Garden of eight paradises’ already laid out at Tabriz at the end of the 15th century. He also ordered a lotus garden, the Bagh-i-Nilofer at Dholpur. Later Akbar’s historian Abul Fazl noted that it was only after the arrival of Babur in India that a more methodical arrangement of gardens was seen and travelers admired the beauty of the garden places and their murmuring fountains. Undoubtedly Babur’s greatest contribution to India’s beautification was his introduction of terraced gardens into this country. As two modern writers observe, “the Gardens created by the Mughal dynasty rank as one the great landscape traditions of the world. Their characteristics are strong and their sense of design impeccable”.

Babur indeed was a great nature lover and naturalist. ‘Considering the age in which he lived he can rightly claim to be the first natural history scientist of India’.

Jahangir, the fourth Mughal emperor (r. 1605-27), was also a lover of beauty, be it that of an artifact created by human hands or that observed in nature, the work of God. His Memoirs, commonly known as Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri or Jahangirnama, are as much album of his aesthetic experiences as a chronicle of his reign. With his keen sensibility, these experiences were a permanent source of joy for him. Nature and beauty were preserved through the brush of his artists. Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri gives long descriptions of Jahangir’s love for nature and its objects, animate or inanimate. His keen observation of all these objects led him to think with devotion for them and also to provide

opportunities for their love and adoration. During his reign the art of painting reached its high water mark.\textsuperscript{25}

Jahangir was a naturalist of the first order, with a strong curiosity for facts. He was deeply interested in nature. He always looked at nature with the eye of a poet or a naturalist and everything that was charming, beautiful, and unique attracted his attention. He was so much curious about various kinds of birds, animals, flowers and plants.\textsuperscript{26} He maintained a rich menagerie and an aviary, managed by expert officials and a team of workers under his personal supervision. Regular records were kept of each individual specimen, as also of such information as he desired to acquire. His investigations have been found to be of immense scientific value.\textsuperscript{27}

However, Jahangir with the core as well as with his description of various flora and fauna objects their analysis as a proof of obvious. The \textit{Tuzuk} is exclusively devoted to 33 species of animals and to the eleven species of plants; of them some are represented by their fruits or flowers. These sections also contain Jahangir’s references to thirty three species of animals and fifty seven species of plants, showing their distinguishing characteristics, ecology, anatomical notes, habits, local names, weights measurements. The memoirs of Jahangir though primarily a historical document of his reign is full of information on natural history and its attachment with them accuracy is still undisputed. A big aviary and menagerie were established under Jahangir’s

\textsuperscript{25} Meraj-un- Nisan, op.cit., pp. 55-56.  
order; they were required to carry out observations, tests and experiments about the appearance, habits and characteristics of birds and beasts.\footnote{28}{M.A. Alvi & A. Rahman, \textit{Jahangir the Naturalist}, New Delhi, 1968, p. 4}

Looking at his deep and unusual interest his agents and officials procured birds and animals which would please him (and thus gain his favour). Jahangir has recorded numerous instances when rare, uncommon, and foreign specimens were presented to him be it a giant \textit{markhor} (a wild goat), a huge elephant, a rare flying mouse, a turkey cock, a tail less monkey, an Abyssinian zebra, a tibetan yak, an African elephant, an albino \textit{cheetah}, a \textit{shahin} falcon, a sumatran loriquet, a European hunting dong or a jacob sheep, the malted polecat of Afghanistan, pheasants of Himalayas. What is most rewarding is the fact that he decided to illustrate his descriptions in the \textit{Jahangirnama}. Some of his hand-picked painters were ready at hand to draw their faithful likeness, many of which have survived. Mansur was undoubtedly the most accomplished natural history painter of his time\footnote{29}{A.K. Das, \textit{Mansur, Ustad Mansur, Lalit Kala}, No. 17, 1977, p. 45.} and held the title of \textit{Nadir-ul-Asr} (wonder of the age). Jahangir's love for nature urged the foreign dignitaries, his own nobles, traders and even commoners to present to him the gifts of rare animals brought from far and wide and they were taken to be as an addition to his knowledge. Though kinds of carnivorous beasts, hunting birds and domesticated species found space in the royal establishment, but for him the rare one's were of main attraction. Of special interest are Jahangir's notices of uncommon, strange, and exotic animals. Gifting a curious looking animal could guarantee foreign emissaries and visitors a quicker audience than costly jewels. Humble bird catchers and animal trappers could expect rich rewards for

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Nature & Observations
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\textit{Markhor} & Giant
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\textit{Flying Mouse} & Rare
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\textit{Turkey Cock} & Tail less
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\textit{Yak} & Tibetan
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\textit{Cheetah} & Albino
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\textit{Shahin} & Falcon
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\textit{Sumatran Loriquet} & European hunting
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\textit{Jacob Sheep} & Malted polecat
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\textit{Pheasants} & Himalayas
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offering living curious. Among the important duties of his officers in the coastal areas was of acquiring exotic species and making proper arrangements for their transportation to the capital. Henry Beveridge observes that Jahangir would have been a happier man had he been the head of a museum of natural history.

The flora and fauna was very much delightful to Jahangir's heart. The most important thing was that Jahangir himself managed a big aviary and a menagerie which were full of all kinds of birds and beasts. It was in his nature that he used to observe all the habits, characteristics and the appearances of these birds and beasts. It shows that Jahangir was a keen observer and he wrote all these interesting things in his memoirs. The Emperor Jahangir's description of the animals was very accurate and scientific. He allotted local names geographical distribution, structural characteristics, weights and measurements and interesting notes on ecology and behaviour. His description of crane and the gestation period of the elephant is a valuable contribution to subject as well as very helpful to the modern zoologist. The emperor's zoological experience and explanation was so wide and accurate that till today it has maintained its authenticity.

He describes the albino varieties among animals like squirrel, the antelope, the gazelle, and a tiger having spots of blue colour on a white body inclined to bluishness. Similarly his description about a number of the birds

31. Shanti Swarup, op. cit., p. 22.
32. Alvi & Rahman, op. cit., p. 5
like falcons, hawks, sparrows, crows, partridges, floricans, quails, and peacocks, parrots, pigeons, wagtail bird, blue bull is really remarkable.\textsuperscript{33}

The description of a monkey which was strange and wonderful by look, struck very much to the mind of Jahangir. Although it had the normal hands, feet, ears, and head, its face was like that of a fox, the colour of its large eyes resembled the hawk’s eyes; its hair was like the wool of a sheep. Its tail hanging down like that of a cat and sometimes it made a sound like a young antelope.\textsuperscript{34}

The elephants were his favourite animals. He watched the period of their gestation and informs us that it was 18 months for a female young one and 19 months for a male. He narrates the birth of a young one in his presence and notes that the elephant, unlike the humans was born with its feet first, and makes towards its mother’s breasts. It was a gesture of deep concern for his elephants that he had ordered the water to be made lukewarm during winter before they took their bath in it.\textsuperscript{35}

Among the birds the koel fascinated him. He narrates its characteristic features in detail and distinguishes it from the crow. He describes that the koel is a bird of the crow tribe, but smaller. The crow’s eyes are black, and those of the koel red. The female has white spots, but the male is all black. The male has a very pleasant voice, quite unlike that of the female. It is in reality the nightingale of India. Just as the nightingale is agitated and noisy in the spring, so is the cry of the koel at the approach of the rainy season, which is the spring

\textsuperscript{33} Tuzuk op. cit., vol. 1, p. 272, 387, 104-5, 351.
\textsuperscript{34} Ibid., vol. 1, p. 216.
\textsuperscript{35} Ibid., vol. 1, p. 410. 
of Hindustan. Its cry is exceedingly pleasant and penetrating, and the bird begins its exhilaration (mastī) when the mangoes ripen. It frequently sits on the mango trees, and is delighted with the colour and scent of the mango.  

The saras was another bird that captivated Jahangir’s affection. He had a pair of them, named Laila and Majnun by him, and they were always soused in a special enclosure put up near his own. A continuing story pieced together from scattered paragraphs in the Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri over several months illustrates his affection for these birds. As he was very much wished to record how they muted from personal observation, he gave orders that at the next signs of love-play he should be informed immediately. Consequently, one early morning on receipt of such information, he rushed to the scene to witness the event, and later wrote: “The female having straightened its legs bent down a little. The male then lifted up one of its feet from the ground and placed it on her back, then afterwards, the second foot, and immediately seating himself on her back paired with her. He then came down, and stretching out his neck put his beak to the ground, and walked once round the female”. The emperor adds: it is possible they may have an egg and produce a young one. Jahangir records that some time afterwards the birds made a nest and the female laid two eggs. Then both the male and the female birds took regular turns at sitting on the nest in order to hatch the eggs. The signal for a change in the duty used to be a sharp peck in the back of the bird sitting on the nest from the bird ready to sit. Later the emperor noticed that in the cold and rainy weather the birds would sit for much longer periods, perhaps to minimize the amount of damp air that could reach the eggs. In due course of time, both the eggs hatched, one after 34

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days and the other after 36. The mother fed them with locusts or grasshoppers from her mouth. But the father teased them by holding the chicks in his beak upside down by the leg. Jahangir however managed to restrain him from doing so. Soon the cries of the new family were attracting wild cranes, one of which was captured and was ringed personally by Jahangir before its release.³⁷

Describing Agra, Jahangir particularly noticed Indian flowers and trees ‘From the Excellencies of its sweet scented flowers one may prefer the fragrance of India to those of the flowers of the whole world.’³⁸ He then marveled at the very symmetrical and large tree of the Champa, full of branches, leaves and flowers of exceedingly sweet fragrance. It has the shape of the saffron flower, but is yellow inclining to white.³⁹ Next to it this was the white Keora flower with a scent so strong and penetrating that it did not yield to the odour of musk. Similar in nature was the yellow ketaki flower.⁴⁰ The chambelli is the white jessmine of wilocyat (Persia or Afghanistan), they extract sweet scented oils.⁴¹ He noticed the double and treble flowers of the Rae-bel exuding a fragrance that reminded him of the white jessamine.⁴² The Mulasari attracted him as another elegant tree with flowers of very pleasant scent. The flower of the lotus, which in the Hindi, language they call Kumudini, is of three, colours – white, blue and red. I had already seen the blue and white, but had never seen the red. A scene which remained memorable in the record of his experiences was a tank full of exquisite lotus blossoms of the red colour the like of which he had not seen before. He particularly observed the kanwal

³⁸. Ibid., vol. I, p. 5.
³⁹. Ibid., vol. I, p. 5.
⁴⁰. Ibid., vol. I, pp. 5-6.
and the *kumudini* varieties of the lotus, the former opening during the day and becoming a bud at night, and the latter opening only at night and budding a new in the day time, and watched how the romantic black bee stayed inside the closed blossoms to drink the sweet juice and come out after the petals had again spread open.\(^{43}\) Jahangir pointed out that when Mirza Rustam and Khwaja Abdul latif were appointed to the Deccan, there on Sunday, the 5th I saw a flower, white inside, and red outside, while some of them were red inside and yellow outside. In Persian they call it *La'la-i-bigana*, and in Hindi *thal Kanwal*. *Thal* means land, and as the lotus (*kanwal*) is an aquatic plant, they have called this land lotus”.*\(^ {44}\) Another such occasion when Jahangir came to know about some strange flowers was very pleasant. He himself says that “on Friday, the 8th having traversed nearly 4 *kos*, I halted at the village of Baltar”. There was no *kotal* on this road. It was broad and plain after plain, and mead after mead, of flowers sweet smelling plants of narcissus violet, and strange flowers that grow in this country, came to view. Among these flowers I saw (noticed especially) one extraordinary one. I had five or six orange flowers blooming with their heads downwards. From the middle of the flowers there came out some green leaves, as in the case of the pineapple (?), round which are small flowers of the shape and colour of the jasmine, some blue in colour and some red, with yellow points in the middle, exceedingly pretty in appearance: its name is “*ladar push*”. They call it *push-i-aliyyu-e-umum* (the common push ?). There are many yellow *arghawan* (Judas trees) on the road as well”.\(^ {45}\)

\(^{43}\) Ibid., vol. I, p. 6.
\(^{44}\) Ibid., vol. I, p. 412.
\(^{45}\) Ibid., vol. II, p. 122.
It was his deep love for nature that he visited Mandu where he found the verdure and self grown fragrant plants blooming to such a degree that on all sides on which the eye fell the place looked like a world of greenery and flowers. In the subah of Malwa he was also delighted to see the mango trees, large, green and pleasant, a banyan tree which was exceedingly large, and a tamarind tree which was somewhat strange because its trunk was very straight and well shaped.46

As regards his interest in botany, it was mainly horticultural (Tuzuk) contains his inclination for the plantation of high altitude trees like the Cypress, the pine, the chenar, the white poplar, the bid mulla, jawanese sandal trees in the plains of India. He also discussed about the banyan tree, the tamarind tree, palas tree, and tree oak.47 He had good knowledge of fruit bearing trees and also about their presentation. Mango was one of his most relished fruits. For him date tree looked very graceful and he ordered the painters to give a platform around a date tree and be represented in colour, but the paintings of those plants, trees and flowers are not traceable today e.g. more than a hundred of Kashmir flowers painted by Mansur alone not a single one has survived to this day.48

Despite a very interesting explanation of wild animals and birds, Jahangir also took his keen interest in observing and acquitting with the different varieties of fruits. He pointed out so many fruits but he focused on mango, plantain, grapes, apples, melons, pomegranates, cherries, peaches, apricot, bananas and oranges. He described that "as the day of the Dasahara
had been fixed as the timing of starting, I embarked on a boat with all happy omens and pleasure in the evening, and went on to my goal. I halted for eight days at the first stage that the men night comes on, after making all preparations at leisure. Mahabat Khan had sent apples from Bangash by runners (dak choki). They arrived very fresh, and were of excellent flavour. I was greatly pleased in eating them. They can not be compared with the sil-i-Khub ("the good apples") of Kabul which I ate there or with the samarkand apples, that they bring every year. For sweetness and delicacy of flavour they can not be compared with either of the latter (i.e. the Bangash apples were far better). I had until now never seen such delicate and delicious apples".

"On the 24th news came that Maha Singh, grandson of Raja Man Singh had died at Balapur in the province of Berar. Same day they had brought to my private fruit house many mangoes from all parts of the province of the deccan, Burhanpur, Guajrat, and the pargahans of Malwa. Although his province is well known and celebrated for the sweetness, freedom from stringiness, and size of its mangoes, and there are few mangoes that equal to its mangoes". Similarly Jahangir described about the peaches. He pointed out that the peaches also are very delicious and plentiful. They had brought some peaches from Istalif. Not withstanding the sweetness of Kabul fruits, not of them has, to my taste, the flavour of the mango. Furthermore he described "several sorts of grapes, such as the sahibi and the habshi and the Kishmishi, became common in several towns, for instance, in the bevars of Lahore every kind and variety that may be

49. Ibid., p. 100.
desired can be had in the grape season.\textsuperscript{52} Next to it, Jahangir discusses about the wild plantain and golden plantation. About wild plantation he said “as it had been several times mentioned to me that a kind of sweet meat was obtained from wild plantation such that dervishes and other poor people made their food, I wished to enquire into the matter. What I found was that the fruit of the wild plantation was an exceedingly hard and tasteless thing. The real fact is that in the lower part (of the trunk) there is a thing shaped like a fir-cone from which the real fruit of the plantation comes out. On this a kind of sweet mean forms which has exactly the juiciness and taste of paluda. It appears that men eat this and enjoy it”. In the similar way he pointed out some Sona-kela (Golden plantation bananas) of which I had never come to know. In size they are one finger, and are very sweet and of good flavour”.\textsuperscript{53}

For him Kashmir was the perpetual spring garden.\textsuperscript{54} He visited Kashmir first when he was still a prince, and was charmed with the exquisite petals of the saffron flower, and the flaming orange blossoms of the palas. He noticed also the beauty of a hundred plane trees gracefully giving shade to a plot of ground, pleasant and green. In a next visit after occasion to the throne he was thrilled with joy at the sight of green meadows interspersed with the hibiscus flowers in bloom, or an unidentified flower flaming like a sun set afire, or the fragrant wild violets and narcissus blossoming on the hill slopes which lingered long in his memory. An unusually beautiful combination of five or six orange flowers blooming with their heads downwards and from the middle of which came out green leaves, was the Bulanik flower of Sriangar. Another

\textsuperscript{52} Ibid., vol. I, p. 116.
\textsuperscript{53} Ibid., vol. I, p. 5.
\textsuperscript{54} Ibid., vol. I, pp. 386, 397.
exceedingly pretty flower in appearance was the *Ladar pusi* around which bloomed masses of small flowers of the shape and colour of jessamine, some blue and some red with yellow points in the middle. He also noticed sweet scented pure white jessamines, or of the colour of sandal wood, several varieties of red roses, and a flower of light yellow colour with an extremely delicate fragrance.\textsuperscript{55}

Kashmir indeed was 'a page that the painter of denting had drawn with the pencil of creation. The buds of hearts break into flower from beholding it'. At Srinagar he designed and constructed the Shalimar *bagh*, which is regarded as one of the best terraced gardens in the world. The Shalimar *bagh* in Srinagar is his best tribute to the nature. The garden with a canal in the centre with water liters floating upon it, flowery hedgerows, lonely *chenar* and cypress trees forming avenues, rose bushes and fragrant flowers bordering the long lines of water ways, trees alongside the enclosing walls. Square plots reserved for fruit trees and flower parterres, are some of the features of this garden which make it the very abode of peace and tranquility.\textsuperscript{56}

His observation of birds, animals and plants was very minute and his wife Nur Jahan had the same love of flowers which her husband had, and she also contributed considerably to India's adornment through garden planning and construction. The garden of Jahangir's tomb at Lahore with separate plots allotted to a single flower variety like tulips, violets, roses, poppies, lilies, anemones and red cyclamen, the deep unending shadows of the cypresses in symmetrically laid out avenues, and the roses bushes bordering the raised

\textsuperscript{55} Ibid., vol. II, p. 81.  
\textsuperscript{56} Swarup, op.cit., p. 22.
walks. Jahangir’s love for novelties and collection of exotica were not restricted to the visual and decorative arts only, but extended to natural history, to rare and beautiful animals, plants and trees. He would not only show his curiosity but also describe them in detail, in the Tuzuk and instruct his painters to keep accurate likenesses of them. Thus, in Jahangir’s period we find a large number of miniatures representing out of the way subjects. It would not be unfair to call him nature war shipper.