

The East India Company (EIC) first fought against Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb during the Anglo-Mughal War of 1686–1690, often referred to as the Child's War. This conflict arose due to a series of misunderstandings, failed negotiations, and trade disputes between the East India Company and Aurangzeb's Mughal Empire.

## Modern Indian History Class 08

### EVENTS IN EMPIRE BUILDING BY EIC (09:05 AM)

- Refer to Handout 08- EIC in South India for details.
- **CARNATIC WARS:**
- **1st Carnatic war**
- Events-
- The conflict began in 1746.
- Dupleix defeated EIC & captured Fort St George but refused to hand it over to Nawab of Carnatic/Arcot as promised.
- This led to the decisive Battle of Adyar in 1746 where 700 French-trained Indian sepoys defeated the Carnatic army of 10,000.
- **Result:**
- However, the Treaty of Aix-La-Chapelle 1748 between Britain & France led to France getting back its territory in North America while the British got back Madras.
- The superiority of the European Infantry armed with better guns against the Indian Cavalry was proven.

## **2ND CARNATIC WAR (1749-54) (10:10 AM)**

- Refer to Handout 08- EIC in South India for details.
- Dupleix got an opportunity in the form of succession disputes in Hyderabad & Carnatic.
- Struggles: In Hyderabad Nasir Jung vs Muzaffar Jung & in Carnatic Md Ali (son of aged Nawab Anwaruddin) vs Chanda Sahib.
- Dupleix decided to support Muzaffar Jung & Chanda Sahib as he wanted economic & political influence by putting his choice of candidates in power.
- Therefore, anxious EIC supported Nasir Jung & Md Ali.
- Dupleix & Bussy won the 1st phase while Robert Clive of EIC won the second phase.
- After 1st phase, Muzaffar Jung was declared Nizam of Hyderabad & Chanda Sahib Nawab of Arcot/Carnatic.
- **EIC got the victory by 1754**
- French were also defeated in Trichinopoly.
- **Treaty of Pondicherry 1754**
- Dupleix was replaced by Godeheu due to high war expenditure.
- France was allowed to retain its assets in Pondicherry, its bases in Carnatic, and Northern Sarkars & French agent in Hyderabad court.
- Therefore French influence continued in Hyderabad & British established influence in Carnatic.

### 3RD CARNATIC WAR 1756-63 (11:00 AM)

- Refer to Handout 08- EIC in South India for details.
- It was the result & part of 7 years of Global War 1756-63 fought in the Americas, Europe, Africa & India.
- Count-De-Lally arrived from France to lead the French military along with Bussy who was in charge of Northern Sarkars.
- Eyre Coote led the British Army and Robert Clive of EIC also played a role.
- **Why did France lose?**
- Tactical mistake – Bussy left Northern Sarkars unguarded to help Lally in Carnatic leading to the loss of Northern Sarkars to the British.
- Poor leadership of Lally
- Superior British navy
- **Result-**
- The most decisive was the **Battle of Wandiwash in 1760** & the French were defeated everywhere including in Pondicherry.
- **Treaty of Paris 1763-** France lost all gains made in India since 1749 therefore were restricted to pre-1749 status i.e. to Pondicherry & Chandarnagar and were barred from having a strong army & fortifying their bases.
- Now EIC began increasing its political influence & continued the Empire building that began with the Battle of Plassey in 1757. In 1766 Hyderabad gave Northern Sarkars to EIC in return for protection against Marathas & Mysore.



EIC officials started personal trade in the name of EIC.

## BATTLE OF PLASSEY, 1757 (11:28 AM)

- Conquest and political supremacy of the British in India began.
- **Reasons for battle:**
  - The origin of the conflict was **Royal Farman 1717** where Farukh Siyar gave EIC-<sup>1319</sup>
  - Right to duty-free trade in Bengal, Gujarat and Deccan.
  - Right to use Royal Mint. ( mint(print) coins and save cost of conversion of gold to Indian sikkas )
  - Right to rent 38 villages around Calcutta.
- <sup>1727</sup> **Murshid Quli Khan (MQK)-**
  - Allowed duty-free trade(DFT) by EIC but not **misuse of dastaks** by EIC officials.
  - Did not allow the use of Royal Mint.
  - Allowed renting but not the purchase of ~~Royal Mint~~ <sup>Villages.</sup>
  - Bengal lost tax revenue due to the **misuse of Dastaks-**
  - Dastaks operationalised the DFT privilege. They were permits issued by EIC officials certifying that goods were of EIC.
  - EIC officials did private trade and misused Dastaks to evade duty and also sold Dastaks to other merchants.
- By 1750-
  - Private trade by EIC officials was worth 100 thousand Pounds i.e. 50 times their annual salaries.
  - Illegal trade- Trade with the East by any British entity other than EIC violated the Royal Charter but EIC failed to control such trade. For India, private trade was not illegal but misuse of Dastaks was.

↑  
i.e. private trading was illegal in Britain and in India  
private trading was not illegal but tax evasion by misuse  
of Dastaks was illegal.

Q. Compare Royal Farman 1612, 1617, 1691 and 1717.

Full Name: Mirza Muhammad Ali Alivardi Khan  
Birth: 1671  
Death: 1756

Full Name: Mirza Muhammad Siraj-ud-Daula  
Birth: 1733  
Death: 1757

Siraj-ud-Daula was grandson of Alivardi Khan

- **Britain- France Rivalry:**
- Afraid of the French, EIC began adding fortifications in Calcutta in 1755 but without the permission of Alivardi Khan (AK). This challenged the authority of Nawab. However, AK avoided military conflict.
- **Role of Siraj-ud-Daula-** 5657
- Acted in haste and stopped all misuse of Dastaks, hurting private trade of EIC officials.
- When the British gave asylum to **Krishna Ballabh**, a fugitive from the court, charged with fraud by Siraj and when the British began more new fortifications in Calcutta, Siraj took over the EIC factory in Kasim Bazar and captured Calcutta and renamed it Alinagar.
- **Blackhole tragedy-** Here 30 Britishers were killed due to suffocation in an overcrowded room (later Governor Hollwell built a Hollwell monument in 1760 in memory of the event. Netaji in 1940 successfully led a movement to destroy it as constructed to tarnish the image of Siraj)



when Calcutta was attacked then soldiers of Siraj-ud-Daula packed Britishers in a room

( Governor of Calcutta presidency of EIC from 1757-60 )

## • **Events-**

- Robert Clive arrived with the Royal Military and defeated Siraj and recaptured Calcutta.
- The **Treaty of Alinagar** restored all privileges of EIC.
- British destroyed Hugly port, important for the French and defeated France at Chandar Nagar.
- Now Jagat Seth via Mir Jafar (war commander) bribed EIC and Robert Clive so they could replace Siraj with Jafar. There was rivalry between Siraj and intermediary zamindars, bankers, and nobbles- as Siraj was disrespectful and disliked. Also, Indian merchants and bankers gained from business with EIC.
- Mir Jafar ensured that the majority of the Bengal Army did not fight in the Battle of Plassey in 1757. Therefore, Siraj was easily defeated and later beheaded.
- **Impact**
- Now Mir Jafar was a puppet of EIC therefore political supremacy and conquest by EIC began.
- **Plassey Plunder-**
- 275000 pounds to the royal military was given for distribution to soldiers, 2.25 crore rupees to EIC and 234000 pounds to Clive, personal jagir of 35000 pounds per annum to Clive
- From 1757-65, 2.5 million pounds were taken by EIC as political gifts.
- Now rampant misuse of Dastaks and EIC officials made fortunes and also a huge dip in Bengal revenue.
- The structure of the EIC trade changed as gold was no longer needed from Britain and Indian money was now used to buy Indian goods and Indian gold to buy Chinese goods. Therefore from gold inflow, there was gold outflow from India. Therefore, the drain of wealth began.
- EIC built its own army mainly from Plassey plunder.
- When Jafar could not pay more, EIC replaced him with his son-in-law **Mir Qasim**.

**TOPIC OF NEXT CLASS- BATTLE OF BUXAR**

Due to drought Mir Jafar was not able to collect more revenue.

After this again Mir Jafar came from 1763-65