

Security Class 08

28th April, 2024 at 9:00 AM

INSURGENCY IN NORTHEAST: (9:14 AM)

- *Before the advent of the British, we had 3 kingdoms in the region:*
- **1. Assam**
- **2. Manipur and,**
- **3. Tripura.**
- **Assam:**
- *It has been culturally integrated with India.*
- *Also known as Pragjyotisha/ Kamrup/ Asom/Assam.*
- *Ahom dynasty, a major one, ruled for around 600 years (1228 AD to 1826 AD).*
- *There were other smaller kingdoms: Sutiya, Kacharis, Diamsas, Jaintias, and Nagas.*
- *Kanbung Dynasty from Myanmar posed a serious challenge to the Britishers in Assam, as the dynasty was expansionist in nature. This led to the Treaty of Yandabo.*
- *The Britishers from here started a series of expansions.*
- **Expansions:** Cachar Hills, Kingdom of Jaintias, hill tribes of Mishmis, Lushiyas (Khasi Hills), Bhutanese Duar regions, and eventually Garo Hills, Naga Hills, Lushai Hills (Present day Mizoram).
- **In 1826, The Britishers divided Assam into 2 regions:**
- a) Lower Assam valley.
- b) Upper Assam Valley.
- *The Ahom kingdom started resisting. In 1828, the Upper Assam valley was handed over to the Ahom Kingdom based on certain conditions.*
- *1838, the control of the Upper Assam Valley was taken back by the Britishers.*
- **Taking advantage of the weaknesses of the Ahom kingdom, the Burmese launched 2 incursions in the Northeast of India:**
- a) In 1816.
- b) In 1819
- From 1819 till 1824, Assam and Manipur were practically under the control of the Burmese.
- The Britishers did not want to share long borders with an expansionist power. In addition, there was a search for a new market and they were also against the use of Burmese harbors by the French.
- This led to the First Anglo-Burmese War, which ended with the signing of the **Treaty of Yandabo in 1826.**
- Following the treaty of Yandabo, the Burmese ceded control over Assam and Manipur.
- Hence, Assam was transferred over from the Burmese to the Britishers.
- Following the Treaty of Yandabo, the Britishers embarked on a series of expansions annexing and controlling Jaintia Hills (*Present day Meghalaya*), Cachar Hills, Khasi Hills, Sadiya tract, followed by Garo Hills, Naga Hills, and eventually Lushai Hills.
- From 1826 to 1895, the annexation of Assam was completed.

- **Evolution of Administrative Apparatus:**
- **1. Pre-Independence:**
- **1874:** Creation of a **separate province** of Assam, **directly under a chief commissioner**.
- Scheduled Districts Act 1874, under which remote/backward areas were removed from the extension of general laws.
- **1919:** Certain territories were declared as backward areas under the GOI Act.
- **1935:** The erstwhile backward areas were regrouped as excluded and partially excluded areas.
- The excluded areas were to be governed under the reserved jurisdiction of the Governor General, while the partially excluded areas were given limited representation in State and Central Legislatures.
- **Inner Line Regulation 1873:**
- The Britishers followed the policy of Ahoms towards the Hill tribes, under which the Ahoms would pay tributes in kind to the hill tribes in exchange for peace and stability in the region.
- The Britishers however changed it from payment in kind to cash and also decided to introduce a line which eventually became the Inner Line.
- **Regulation I of 1873** created a **restriction line**, between tribesmen and the British subjects in the plains adjoining these hills.
- **This line imposed restrictions which included:**
- a) Requirement of a permit for the British subjects or others to cross this line for the purposes of trade, collection of forest produce, possession of land, etc.
- b) This line was not a political boundary under 1914, which meant that it was merely an administrative line that would be altered at will.
- c) This line only marked the end of civil jurisdiction and the Britishers claimed no responsibility for anything that happened beyond this line.
- **Post Independence:**
- 1. The appointment of Bortloi Subcommittee and the introduction of the VI schedule.

STATES EMERGED OUT OF ASSAM AND PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED: (10:52 AM)

- *States emerged out of Assam:*
- *Nagaland, Mizoram and Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh.*
- **Reasons for the creation of these states:**
- *Identity/ Regionalism/ Relative Deprivation.*
- *Identity is a self-concept. It is comprised of 2 things: Personal traits and Social identity.*
- *Non-interference policies were adopted by the Britishers (Plains + Hills).*
- *It witnessed a lot of economic developments such as Tea plantations.*
- *People of the plains were more developed than the hilly region.*
- *Hilly regions were autonomous, as the Britishers were not interfering. These regions also witnessed a sense of relative deprivation, as the lower valley people started to discriminate against the hilly people.*
- *The Assam government passed Assamese as the official language. Assam is not a homogenous state. Many hilly tribal people residing in the region felt deprived and a feeling of loss of their cultural identity.*
- *This created restlessness among the troops. First, came from the Nagas.*
- **Nagaland:**
- *With the Naga tribes, the Britishers followed the policy of non-interference.*
- *In 1918: The Naga club was formed as a civil society organization, working towards the general welfare of the Naga people with the patronage coming from the Britishers.*
- *1927: Members of the Naga club submitted a memorandum to the Simon Commission, requesting the exclusion of Nagas from the proposed Constitutional reforms and their retention under the direct administration of the governor of Assam.*
- *1935: The Naga Hills District was declared an excluded area within the province of Assam.*
- *1945: The Naga Hills District Council (NHDC) was established to reconstruct the shattered tribal economy.*
- *The NHDC was later renamed as the Naga National Council (NNC).*
- **The NNC submitted a 4-point memorandum to the cabinet mission in 1946:**
- *1. Proclaimed solidarity of all naga tribes including those in unadministered areas (Myanmar and Manipur).*
- *2. Protested against the grouping of Assam with the Bengal Province.*
- *3. Demanded that the Naga hills should be constitutionally included in an autonomous Assam, with local autonomy and safeguards for Naga's interest.*
- *4. Demanded a separate electorate.*

- **On the issue of the fate of Naga tribes post-independence, there emerged differences of opinion amongst the Nagas.**
- 1. Integrated Autonomous State.
- 2. Separate political identity under the British crown (Crown colony).
- 3. Separate Political arrangement with Indian Union, until they gained experience to govern Nagaland as an independent state.
- 4. Complete Immediate independence at the same time when India becomes independent.
- The Central Government sent Sir Akbar Hydary, to negotiate with the Naga tribes. However, the last clause of the agreement proved contentious.
- This led the restive faction under AZ Phizo to gain dominance over the other factions.
- Consequently, the Naga declared their independence on 14th August 1947.
- Phizo staged his own elections, in the form of a referendum, wherein he claimed that 99% of Nagas voted for independence from India.
- The insurgency began in 1953.
- In 1955, the Naga Federal Government was formed parallel with a separate constitution and a separate flag of their own.
- The Naga Home Guards were converted into the Naga Army.
- Consequently, in 1956, the Indian Army was inducted after which Phizo was forced to flee to London where he lived his remaining life.
- In 1958: AFSPA was enacted.
- At the same time, the government initiated political dialogue with the All Tribe Naga Convention, the result of which was the creation of the State of Nagaland in 1963.
- The Government also appointed a Peace mission, which included Reverent Michael Scott, the host of AZ Phizo.
- The Peace mission failed because the Naga Federal government did not respect the suspension of the Operations Agreement (Ceasefire).
- In the 3rd general election in the state of Nagaland, the United Democratic Front (UDF) came to power and there was an effort made to bring insurgency into the mainstream.
- This led to the signing of the Shillong Accord in 1975.
- Some Naga insurgents accepted the Constitution of India, while others denounced the accord and created the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) with foreign influence.
- In 1988, the NSCN also split into NSCN (IM) and NSCN (K). The main demand was the creation of greater Nagaland as a sovereign state.

TOPIC OF THE NEXT CLASS: PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CREATION OF MIZORAM AND MANIPUR.