BRITISH RULE IN BENGAL

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Many people came in Bengal for many reasons. Among them, for conducting business many foreigner came in Bengal.

The most demanding country are as following:

- The Portuguese
- The Dutch
- The Danish
- The English
- The French

Battle of Palassey

- Basically the British came in power at Bengal after the battle of palassey.
- After that the battle of boxer played an important role for establishing the British rule in Bengal.

Arrival of English or British

- 1600- British East India Company got the permission for doing business in Bengal.
- 1608- Captain Hawkins meet with emperor Jahangir by the recommendation of king James.
- Sir Thomas Roe-came to the court of emperor Jahangir.
- 1612- Established first commercial offices in Surat,Agra. And second commercial sites- Maslipattam.
- 1658-Established commercial office in Hoogley.
- 1700- Established fort william

- Gradually it turned to a powerful center for keeping the interest of the English and for the expansion of political interest.
- The power of English Company increased when the emperor of Delhi Farukshiyar gave then the right of duty free trade in Bengal, Madras and Bombay. Gaining this right East India Company started to much forward at an irresistible speed.

The Battle of Plassey

- A battle between the Nawabs and the English was inevitable.

Battle period

In 23 June 1757, the famous Battle of Plassey began at the bank Bhagirothi river between Nawab and English.

Causes of war

1. Reasons for not sending the gift to king
2. Reformation of fort by British despite the prohibition of the Nawab.
3. The English abused the trade conditions.
4. Asylum of Krishnadas by English
5. Confidential agreement between Mirzafor and Clive
6. Conspiracy against Nawab

1. Economical conflict
2. ‘Andhakhup Hattya’- a rumor created by Halwell

Conspirator

Mir Zafar, the Commander-in-Chief of the Nawab absented himself from taking part in the battle. Everything was the conspiracy of the English merchants and the fraud nobles

Event of Palassey Battle

Took place in the mango orchard of Palassey on the bank of Bhagirothi.

Nawab

- Mirmodon
- Mohonlal
- Sinfrey
- 50,000 soldiers

English

- Mirzafor
- Raydurlov
- Robert Clive
- 3,000 soldiers

- Result

Nawab was defeated.

Why did Siraj lose the battle?

- Treachery and non-cooperation by the army chief of the Nawab.
- Young Nawab was deficient of experience, prudence, intelligence and steadiness.
- He depended on Mir Zafar after knowing about conspiracy.
- Did not evaluate warning of Alivardi khan about the conspiracy of English and French

Battle of Palassey

Consequences of battle:

1. With the death of Nawab Siraj-ud-Doula, the foundation of the English rule was laid.
2. The merchants of English East India Company established the English rule in Bengal
3. Thus Bengal lost her independence through the Battle of Plassey, which worked as the foundation of the two hundred years long European Colonization in the Indian subcontinent.
4. Siraj-ud-Doula suffered defeat miserably. He tried to save his life by escaping from Murshidabad. But he was caught, and ultimately was murdered by Muhammadi Beg.

Consequences of Battle of Palassey

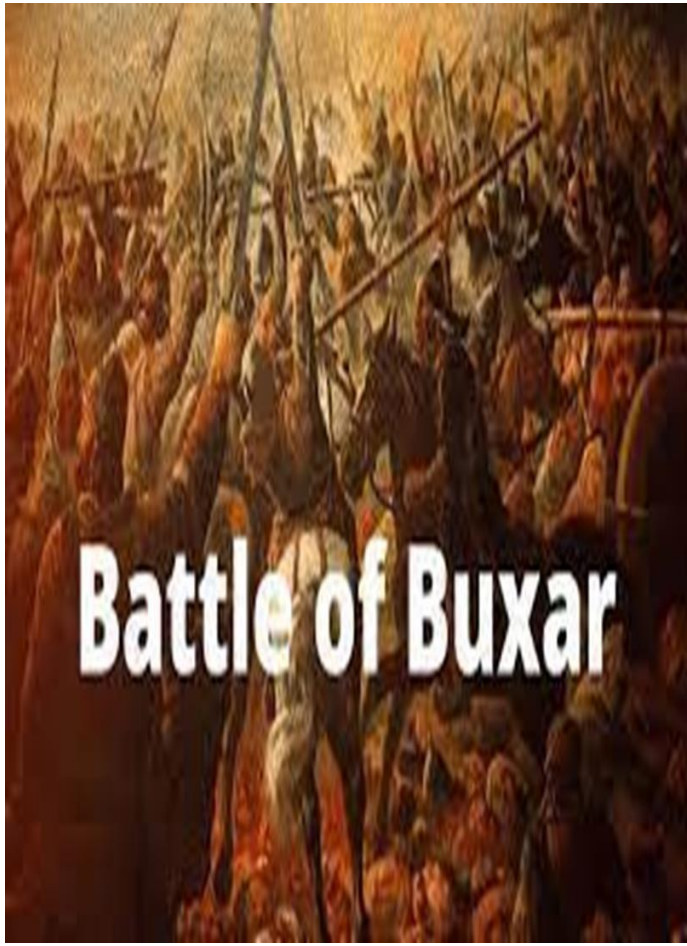
The economy of India was affected severely.

Post the victory, the British started imposing severe rules and regulations on the inhabitants of Bengal in the name of tax collection.

Following the Battle of Plassey, Bengali trade and commerce were exclusively controlled by the British corporation. As a result, Bengal, once a prosperous province of the Mughal Empire, began to become a place of Hunger, Famine, and Deprivation.

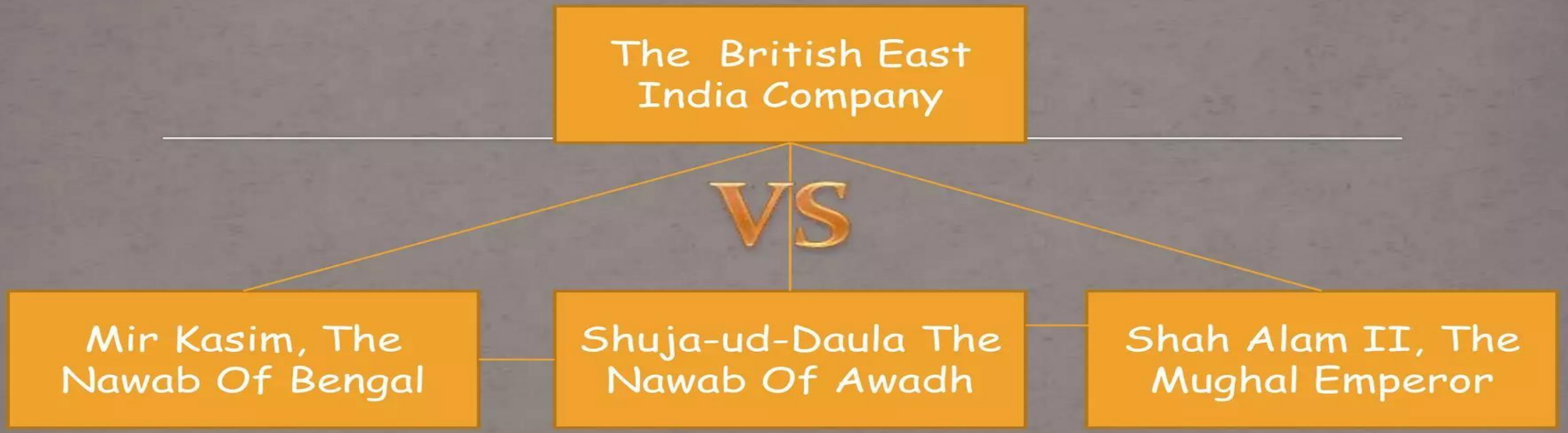
Battle of Buxar (1764)

The Battle of Buxar (22 October 1764) took place between the forces of the British East India Company and the combined army of an alliance of Bengal Nawab Mir Qasim, Oudh Nawab Shuja-ud-Doulah, and the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II. This battle resulted in the Treaty of Allahabad (1765). Under the Treaty of Allahabad, the Mughal Emperor surrendered the sovereignty of Bengal and Bihar to the company. Thus, Robert Clive became the first Governor of Bengal. Over the next hundred years, they seized the entire Indian subcontinent, Myanmar and parts of Afghanistan.



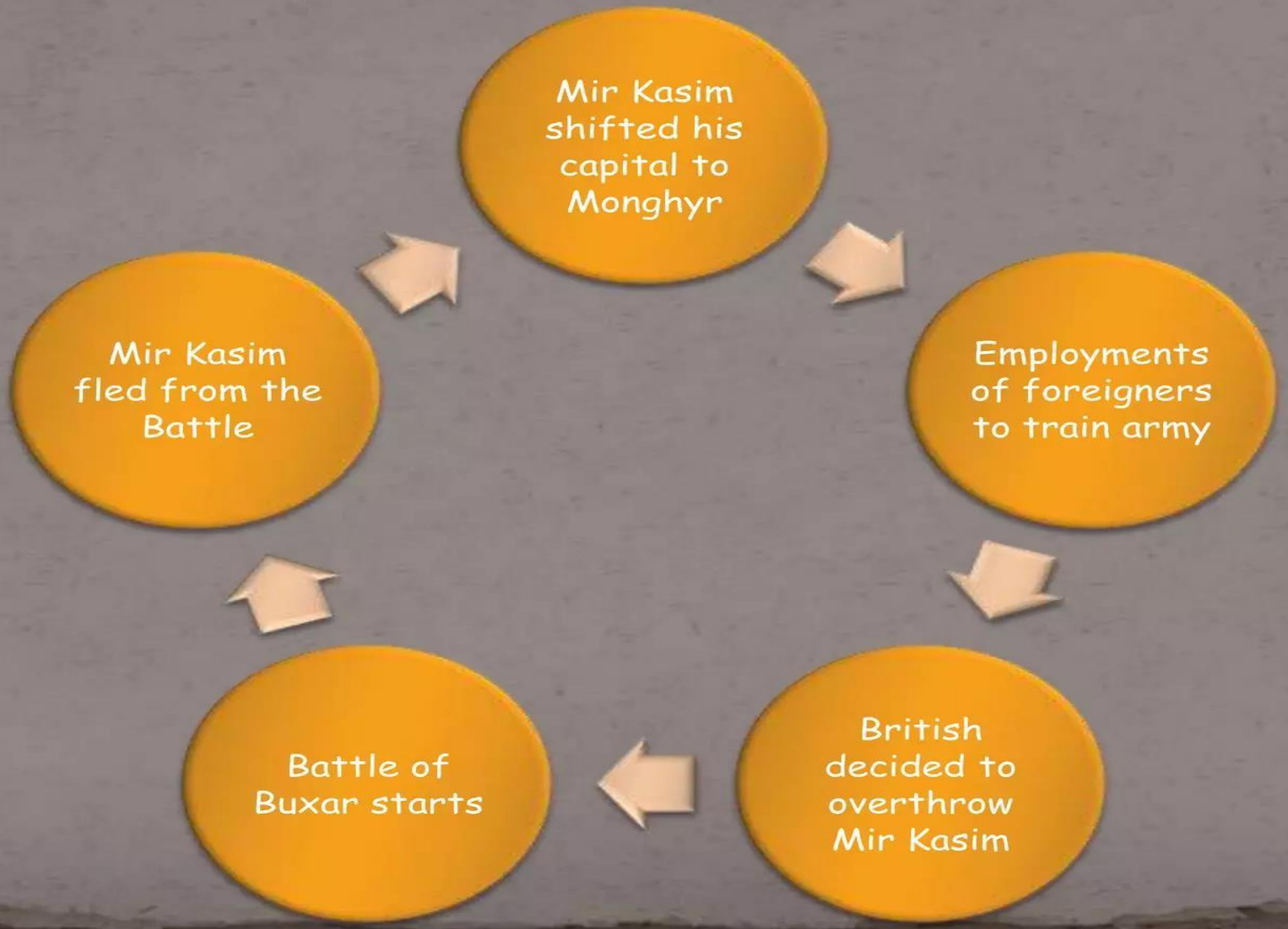
Who Fought the Battle?

This Battle was fought in October 1764



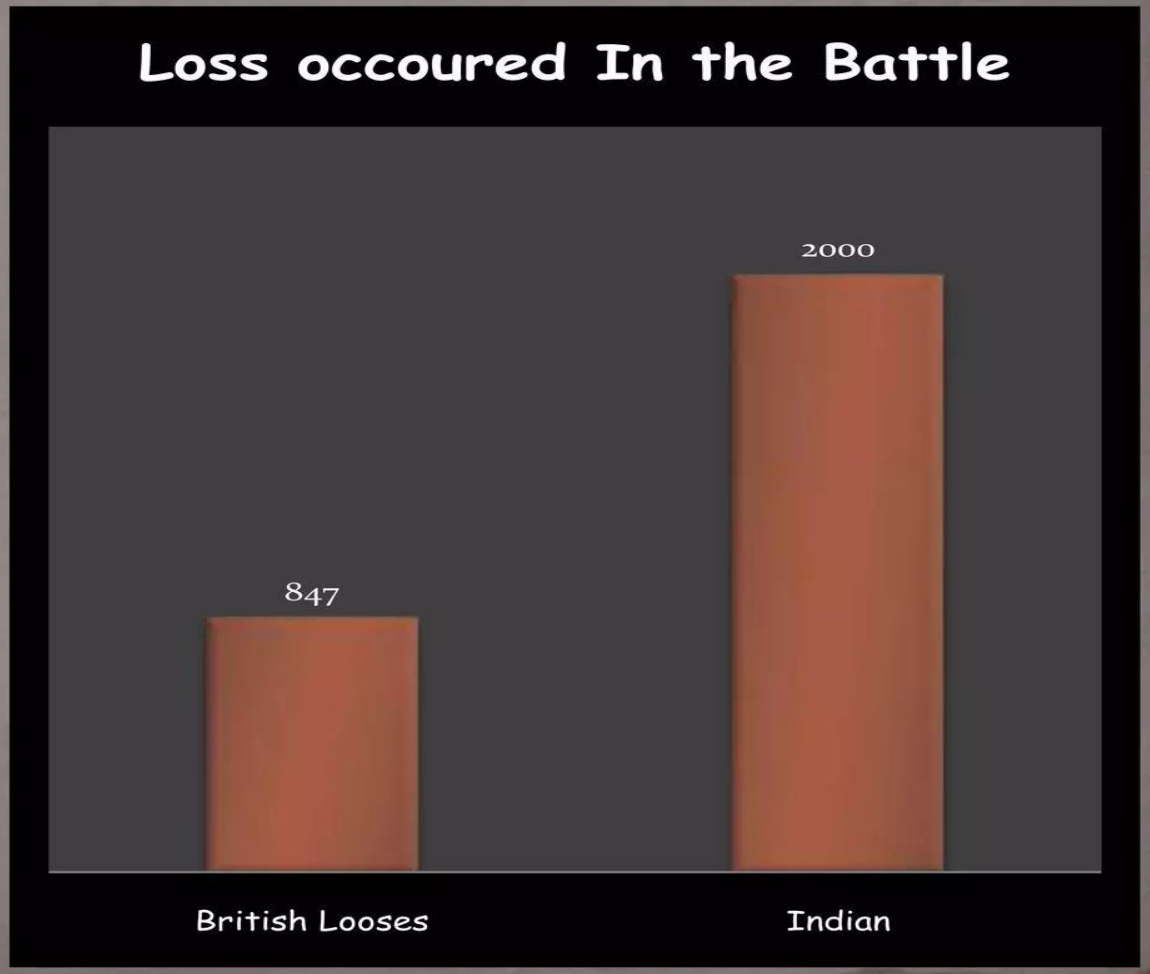
Causes

The seeds of the Battle of Buxar were sown after Battle of Plassey

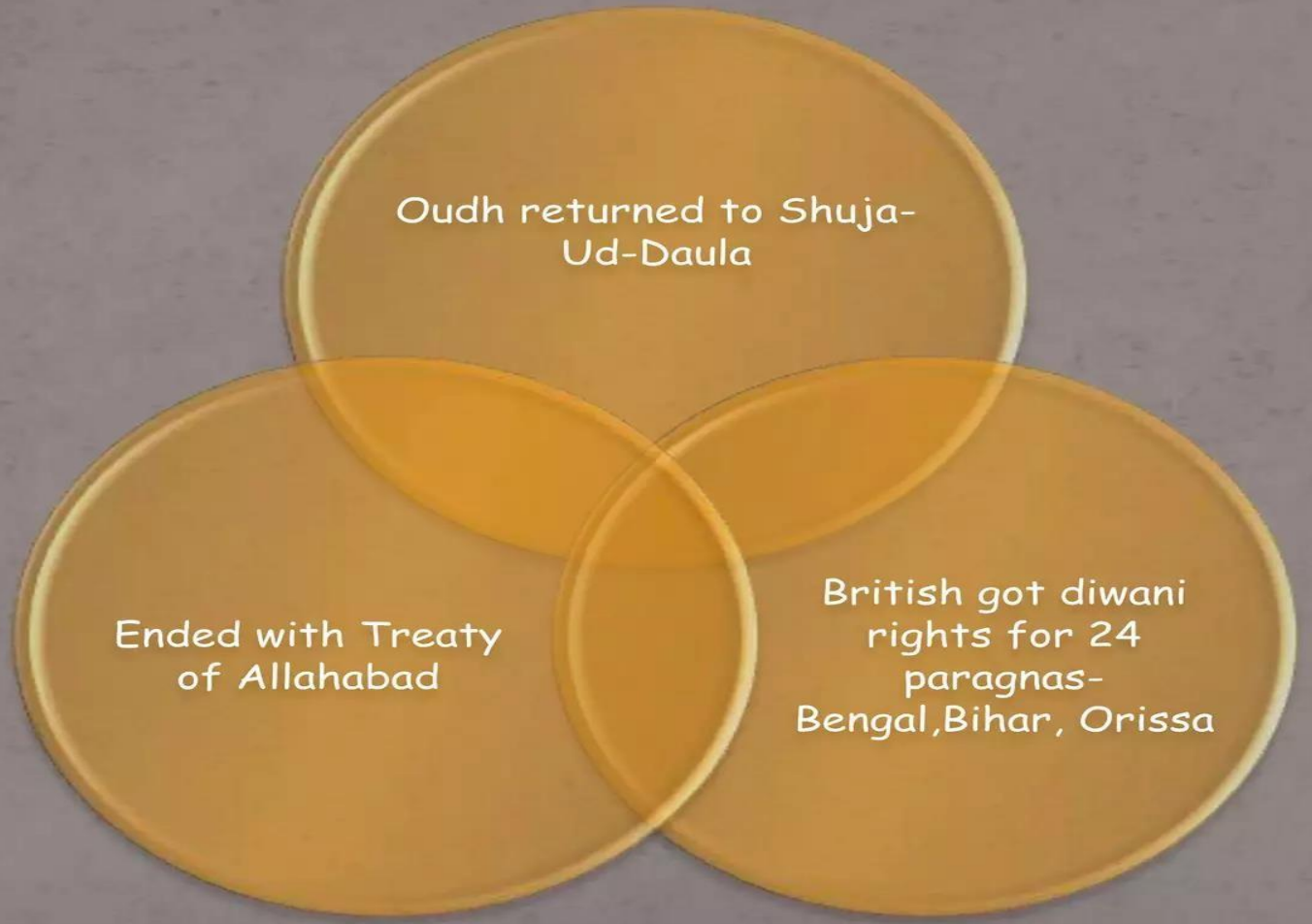


The Battle and the Booty

There were 40000 to 60000 Indian troops



The Result


Oudh returned to Shuja-Ud-Daula
Ended with Treaty of Allahabad
British got diwani rights for 24 paragnas- Bengal,Bihar, Orissa

Buxar was a decisive battle. It riveted the shackles of company rule upon Bengal. Hitherto they had been rivals and manipulators of existing authority and their power was fortuitous and hedged with doubt. It was now unchallenged and about to receive imperial recognition.

Buxar also placed Oudh at the mercy of the company. It marks the final establishment of British ascendancy in Bengal. The nawab depended for his internal and external security on the British. By a treaty signed with the company on 20 February 1765, the titular nawab of Bengal was to disband most of his army and to administer Bengal through a deputy subahdar who was to be nominated by the company and who could not be dismissed without its approval.

The company thus gained supreme control over the administration (or nizamat) of Bengal. From Shah Alam 11, who was still the titular head of the Mughal Empire, the company secured the diwani or the right to collect revenue, of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. Thus, its control over Bengal was legalised and the revenues of this most prosperous of Indian provinces were placed at its command. As the diwan, the company directly collected its revenues, while through the right to nominate the deputy subahdar on behalf of the nawab, they had their say in the administration. They controlled the finances of the province and its army directly, and its administration indirectly.

Thus, the British now had the power without responsibility. The nawab and his officials had the responsibility of administration but not the power to discharge it. [Mohammad Shah]

Diwani System

Diwani provincial revenue administration system under the Mughals and an early mechanism of the establishment of Company rule in Bengal.

The Mughal provincial administration had two main branches - nizamat and diwani. Broadly speaking, nizamat meant civil administration and diwani, revenue administration. The provincial subahdar was in charge of nizamat (he was also called nazim) and the diwan oversaw revenue administration.

To ensure checks and balances in the Suba administration, the Mughal emperor used to appoint these two key officers directly. They were normally appointed by, and responsible to, the emperor. The diwan had the power and responsibility to send revenue to the central government without consulting or taking any cognition of the nazim. The outcome of the conflict between Subahdar azim-us-shan and Diwan murshid quli khan over the issue of remitting revenue to the centre directly by the diwan demonstrates the autonomy of the institution of diwani during the times of the great Mughals.

Clive did not choose to make the Company rulers of the country straightaway.

Many practical considerations led him to run the diwani administration through native agencies. He appointed Syed Muhammad reza khan naib diwan and naib nazim. As naib nazim he was to represent the nawab and as naib diwan he was to represent the Company. The system that Clive evolved was called Double Government. The Double Government under Reza Khan worked well if Clive was there to support him as the governor at fort william.

With Clive's final departure in 1767, Reza Khan's influence declined. The Company officials began plundering the country in the name of private trade. The consequence was the collapse of the economy, leading to the great famine of 1769-70. To save the new kingdom from ruin and also to save the Company from complete collapse through recurring losses, the court of directors resolved in 1772 to stand forth as diwan and advised warren hastings, the governor, to abolish the Clive's Double Government system. Hastings sacked Reza Khan and assumed the diwani administration directly in his hand and with that began the second phase of the establishment of the British colonial state in India.

DUAL ADMINISTRATION

- By 1765, The East India Company became the real master of Bengal in the name of Diwani certificate. Since the merchant company was given this immense power from Delhi, there created a *dual administration*. The Nawab depended for his internal and external security on the British and nawab became the powerless ruler.
- As the Diwan, the Company directly collected its revenues, while through the right to nominate the Deputy Subedar, it controlled the Nizamat or the police and judicial powers. This arrangement is known in history as the Dual or Double Government.

Impact of Dual Administration

- It held a great advantage for the British: they had power without responsibility. They controlled the finances of the province and its army directly and its administration indirectly.
- The Nawab and his officials had the responsibility of administration but not the power to discharge it.
- By 1770 the Bengal suffered from a famine which its effects proved one of the most terrible famine known as human history.
- The consequences for the people of Bengal were disastrous: neither the Company nor the Nawab cared for their welfare.
- In the dual system, the Nawab due to inadequate money, failed completely to run the administration. There started disorder all over the country. In this situation in 1772 Waren Hestings did away with that dual system.
- This Company's servants had now the whole of Bengal to themselves and their oppression of the people increased greatly.

Thank
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