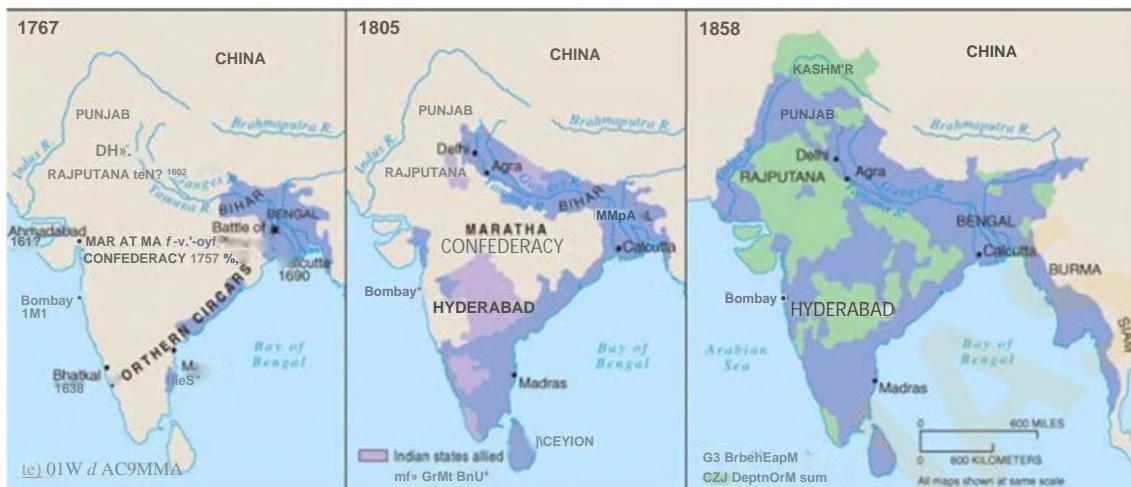


Modern India 2024
Handout 5: Conquest of Bengal (Plassey and Buxar)
Nikhil Sheth



Years	Phase	Governors (General)	Major Wars and Conquests
1757-1813	Mercantile Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Robert Clive (1758-60) Henry Vansittart (1760-64) Robert Clive (1765-67) Warren Hastings (1772-73) Warren Hastings (1773-85) Cornwallis (1786-93) Richard Wellesley (1798-05) Lord Minto (1807-13) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carnatic Wars Bengal - Plassey and Buxar Four Anglo-Mysore Wars Two Rohilla Wars First and Second Anglo-Maratha War
1813-1858	Industrial Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lord Hastings (1813-23) Lord Amherst (1823-28) William Bentinck (1828-35) Lord Auckland (1836-42) Lord Ellenborough (1842-44) Henry Hardinge (1844-48) Dalhousie (1848-56) Lord Canning (1856-58) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Anglo-Maratha War Annexation of Sindh First Anglo-Afghan War Gorkha War Two Burmese Wars Gwalior War Two Anglo-Sikh Wars Annexations, Subjugation of Princely States and Doctrine of Lapse
1858 onwards	Financial Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lord Canning (1858-62) Lawrence (1864-69) Earl of Mayo (1869-72) Lord Northbrook (1872-76) Lytton (1876-80) Ripon (1880-84) Dufferin (1884-88) Lansdowne (1888-94) Elgin (1894-99) Lord Curzon (1899-1905) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bhutan War Second Anglo-Afghan War Third Burmese War Tibet Expedition

Rich resources of Bengal were known since ancient times. Bernier (1620-88) wrote "The rich exuberance of the country has given rise to a proverb in common use among the Portuguese; English and Dutch that the kingdom of Bengal has a hundred gates open for entrance, but not one for departure."

By the 18th century,

- The Mughal province of Bengal had turned into an independent Nawabi Riyasat under Murshid Quli Khan. He combined both Diwani and Nizami into one post in 1717 and managed to carve out an independent Nawabi.
- There was fierce competition among various European companies. In the process of mercantile expansion, Bengal had become the hunting ground for Dutch, French and British companies.
- In 1717, Farrukhsiyar gave firman to the EIC which conferred on it the right to custom-free trade in Bengal at the payment of Rs. 3000/year. The firman also contained other important concessions-the rent of 38 villages adjacent to Calcutta, the permission to use the royal mint for minting coins out of its imported bullion.
 - John Surman was sent from Calcutta to negotiate with the Mughal emperor.
 - Actually, the firman confirmed the privileges granted to the Company in 1691.
 - Rs3000 = £350. At that time Company's exports from Bengal were worth more than £50,000 a year. 6% tax
 - This firman is also called as Magna Carta of the company.

As the nawabs of Bengal experienced heavy loss to the exchequer due to this, there was always pressure from the provincial administration to compel the English Company to pay more for its trade in the province.

- During the era of Murshid Quli Khan, this firman became the fountainhead of commercial abuses pursued by the English merchants. What worried him more was the duty-free private trade carried on by the servants of the Company and their rights to issue dastaks (certificates).
- EIC trade + private trade together deprived the Bengal treasury of its due revenue. It was in unscrupulous manner of swindling and defrauding. The nawab thus tried to force the English merchants to pay the same custom duty as was paid by other merchants.
- Alivardi Khan came to the throne in 1740 and tried to be relatively more assertive over trade privileges. He acted against British and other European companies and also recovered arrears. He occasionally intercepted the goods cargo of foreign merchants and forced them to pay huge sums. Alivardi also didn't allow English and French to fight in Bengal during the First Carnatic war. He opposed their fortification in Calcutta and Chandernagar and didn't allow them to consolidate their military position in Bengal.
- However, on the whole, both Murshid Quli and Alivardi avoided open conflict with the English and allowed the company to carry out duty-free export trade from Bengal, provided the goods genuinely belonged to the company and not to a private trader. Bengal nawabs so far didn't disturb the economic privileges of the Company in the hope that the English trade would bring economic prosperity in Bengal.

Siraj-ud-Daulah (1756-57) succeeded Alivardi Khan as Nawab of Bengal in 1756.

- Succession Issue
 - His succession was opposed by his aunt Ghasiti Begum, his cousin Shaukat Jang (Governor of Purnea) and a section of nobility in the court. But Siraj was quick to smell the plot and detained Ghaseti Begum at Moti Jheel palace in Murshidabad. He suspected that the English company was involved in the plot.
 - Besides this, there was internal dissension within the Nawab's court. Jagat Seth, Umichand, Raj Ballabh, Rai Durlabh, Mir Jafar and others who were also opposed to Siraj.
- Straining Siraj-Company relations
 - There was a serious threat to Nawab's position from the growing commercial activity of the English Company. On his accession, English company didn't provide customary nazrana, as all other foreign merchants did. A suspicion grew in Siraj's mind that the English were hostile to him and were supporting his rivals.
 - Siraj decided to take hard-line towards the English. Siraj was determined to stop the illegal trade and would not hesitate to use force, if necessary. However, the Company was teeming with confidence after its recent victory over the French in Carnatic and was in no mood to tolerate assertive nawab of Bengal.
 - The English were determined to continue the misuse of dastaks.
 - Company officials suspected that Siraj would cut down the privilege of the Company in alliance with the French in Bengal. Without any permission from the Nawab, English tried to expand the fortification around Calcutta, on the pretext of imminent French attack. Siraj saw it as violation of sovereignty.
 - Company gave shelter to Krishna Das (son of Raj Ballabh) who was one of the chief supporters of the plot, fled with immense wealth against Siraj's will.
 - Siraj realized that Company was running a *state within state* and it was a direct challenge to his sovereignty. Siraj thus determined to teach the English a good lesson.



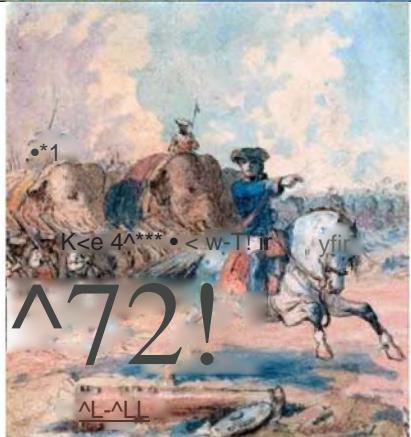
Siraj-ud-Daula rides off to war.

Series of events:

<p>Siraj-ud-daula's attack on the English fort at Calcutta precipitated an open conflict.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Si raj seized Kasimbazaar factory and invaded Calcutta. He captured Fort Williams. British had only 500 men there. British ran away to Fulta island under leadership of Drake. Siraj changed the name of Calcutta to Alinagar. Meanwhile Holwell (junior member Calcutta council) surrendered - Black Hole tragedy. Nawab captured 146 Europeans who were confined to a tiny room for the night. It was alleged that it was too small to accommodate so many people, and thus many of them perished out of suffocation. 	
<p>Recapture of Calcutta</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrival of a strong English force (900 Europe, 1500 Indian) underthe command of Officer Robert Clive and Vice Admiral Charles Watson to Calcutta from Madras strengthened the British position in Bengal. He captured Calcutta. Meanwhile Abdali had captured Delhi. Siraj got unnerved and started to conciliate the British. Thus, Treaty of Alinagar (1757) - all company privileges were restored. Clive also captured and destroyed French Chandarnagar. 	
<p>Hatching of Conspiracy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This was a sham peace concluded with the Nawab. Meanwhile, Clive was involved in secret negotiations for removing Siraj. Clive became aware of the secret plan to dethrone Siraj (Omi Chand, Mir Jafar, Jagat Seth, Rai Durlabh, Yar Latif Khan) and supported the plot. Mir Jafar was offered Nawabship in return for the help. Mir Jafar promised to neutralize a section of Nawab's army during Clive's attack on Murshidabad. 	
<p>Plassey (23 June 1757)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clive marched against Nawab on trivial pretext. Clive now wanted respectable casus belli. He sent letter to Siraj accusing of breaking Alinagar treaty, hobnobbing with French and then without waiting for his rplv, hp lpt Calntta with army and reach Plassey (12 miles south of Murshidabad) It was a minor skirmish. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 800 Europeans + 2500 Indians versus 50,000 Indians. <p>Due to Mir Jafar and Rai Durlabh's treachery, the army didn't fight. Only a small group of soldiers led by Mir Madan and Mohanlal fought valiantly. Siraj left the battleground on the request of his loyal associated but was captured later and put to death by Mir Jafar's son Miran.</p>	



Calcutta, Plassey, Murshidabad, Munger, Buxar



Battle of Plassey looks very heroic in this painting, which was commissioned by Clive of India. *Was it so?*



Robert Clive meeting with [Mir Jafar](#) after the [Battle of Plassey](#)



[Palashi Monument](#)

Madras had been the headquarters of the Company's activities in 17th century. After the victory at the Battle of Plassey, the EIC moved its headquarters from Madras to Calcutta and Clive became Governor of Bengal in 1765.

Significance of Plassey:

military significance : english victory in battle of plassi is confirm even before the battle is fough is not the superiority of mility power but the conspercy of nawab official that help english side.

political : significance is noting much because nawab of bangal still the soveign otherity but in the long turn plassey mount begin of the concer of india. history of bangal in 1757-65 is gradual tranfer of power from nawab to british

economil significance : immense because company found new kind of policial signifcase to establish political monopoly in the bangal. bangal emmarge as punder state after the plassey because company exploite the resources every possible way. bangal was force to pay bangal convest of india. the resouce gain by company after the plassey are used in anglo french war of carnatic.

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	<p>Siraj-ud-Daula's palanquin, taken from the battlefield of Plassey.</p>
	<p>Clive's loot and acquisitions are on display in the Clive Museum at Powis Castle. It looks very English, but it contains more Mughal loot than anywhere in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan or Bangladesh.</p>
	<p>A simple flat-roofed tomb of Siraj-ud-daula's named Khasbagh at Murshidabad.</p>
	<p>The territorial ambitions of the mercantile East India Company were viewed with distrust and doubt in England. After the Battle of Plassey, Robert Clive wrote to William Pitt, one of the Principal Secretaries of State to the English monarch, on 7 January 1759 from Calcutta: <i>But so large a sovereignty may possibly be an object too extensive for a mercantile Company... I flatter myself... that there will be little or no difficulty in obtaining the absolute possession of these rich kingdoms:... Now I leave you to judge, whether an income yearly of two million sterling with the possession of three provinces... be an object deserving the public attention...</i></p>

Mir Jafar and British (1757-60)

In accordance with the secret deal struck before Plassey, Mir Jafar was made the Nawab, but he was supposed to function merely as a puppet. Mir Jafar was made to pay a heavy price to his English friends for their favour.

- Presents and compensation.
- Zamindar of 24 Paragana
- Mint at Calcutta
- Monopoly of saltpetre in Bihar
- Freedom of trade throughout the region
- Nawab to treat all enemies of the companies as his enemies.

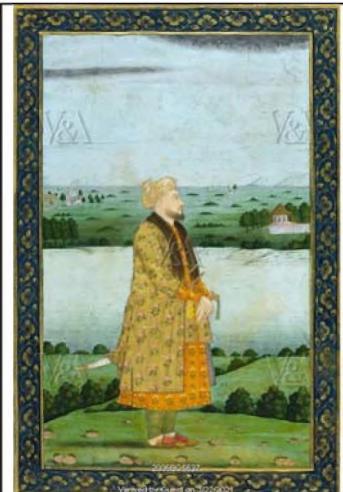
Clive estimated later that the English extracted more than 3 crore rupees from him. Servants of the company asked for more presents almost as a matter of right. But the treasury of Murshidabad did not have enough resources to satisfy the demands of Clive and his fellow countrymen. Its fabled treasure was not as rich as imagined. Thus, Mir Jafar's treasury soon got exhausted in meeting the demands of the Company servants.

EIC's incessant demands for money and territory, and constant interference in internal administration, made it impossible for Mir Jafar to run the government. He soon realized his mistake.

Finally, he tried to change one master for another and started secret talks with Dutch, but the Dutch were soon defeated in the naval battle of Chinsura/Bedara in 1759.

Mir Jafar now lost the confidence of the English. The rebellion of Mir Jafar's army for their due salary provided pretext for the British to force Mir Jafar to step down. In 1760, Mir Jafar was replaced with Mir Kasim (Mir Jafar's son-in-law) by a new Governor Henry Vansittart.

Kasim paid large amounts of money (gifts upto 30 lakhs rupees) and gave zamindari of three districts: Burdwan, Midnapore and Chittagong to the English Company. Henry Vansittart and his family received 2 lakh pounds. The greed and nepotism shown by Vansittart was bottomless.



Mir Jafar was an elderly Arab whose family migrated from Iraq originally.



Henry Vansittart,
Governor of Bengal (1759-64)

Mir Kasim and British (1760-63)

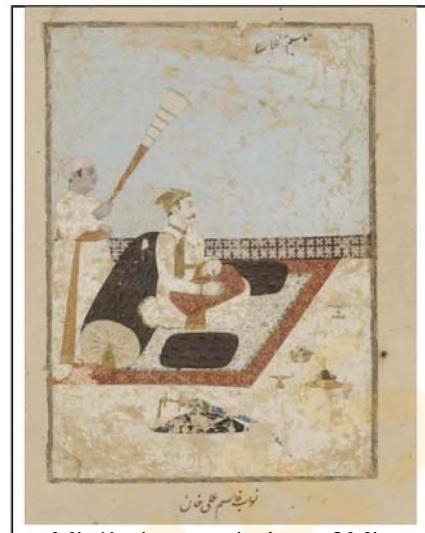
Mir Kasim had an independent personality of his own. He was an efficient, hard-working, and independent-minded person. He realized that to be independent, a full treasury and a strong army are required.

Now, Company merchants became very aggressive in their behaviour. They were almost looting and plundering the countryside. The Company didn't pay any attention to persistent complaints by Mir Kasim regarding this law-and-order situation. Finally, to restore the order, ensure revenue flow and reorganize the army, Mir Kasim initiated a few steps.

- Shifting the capital from Murshidabad to Munger (Bihar) in order to keep a safe distance from the day-to-day meddling of the Company.
 - Here, he reorganized the bureaucracy by the men of his own choice and purged the pro-EIC elements.
 - Re-modeled the army on western lines to enhance its skill and efficiency.
 - He paid the outstanding dues to soldiers.
 - Several European adventurers like Reinhard (Sumru), Marcat Gentil, Aratoon etc. were admitted to Nawab's army.
 - He set up a factory of arms and ammunition at Munger.
- The issue of misuse of dastaks remained as the bone of contention.

In 1757, Clive had secured custom duty exemption from Jafar for company's private trade. However, Indian merchants still had to pay full tax. Mir Kasim retaliated by abolishing internal duties altogether for everyone, thus creating an equal playing field. But English merchants would not have native merchants on equal footing.
- He got investiture from Shah Alam II (Mughal Padshah)
 - This was too much for the English to tolerate.

British now started searching for a suitable replacement of Mir Kasim. But Mir Kasim was not ready to surrender so easily. Therefore, an armed clash between the Nawab and the English became inevitable.



Mir Kasim, son-in-law of Mir Jafar was a second generation Persian immigrant.

Battle of Buxar (Baksar)

In 1763, a regular campaign against Mir Kasim began. Mir Kasim initially defeated the English in battles at Giria, Udayanala etc. But then Mir Kasim had to flee and took refuge in Awadh. In Awadh, he tried to put up a united resistance against the British with the help of the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II and Nawab Shuja-ud-daula of Awadh.

The allied army of the three was routed by Hector Munroe at Buxar on 22nd October 1764. He inflicted a crushing defeat in the fiercely contended battle of Buxar.

Shah Alam submitted to English.

- Shuja fled to Rohilkhand and Awadh was overrun by British.

Mir Kasim's political career ended here. He became fugitive and died in extreme poverty as homeless wanderer in Delhi in 1777.

EIC was not entirely confident that it could defeat Shuja in an extensive war. Thus, shortly after the battle, officials of the company made overtures of friendship to the emperor. Negotiations began in right earnest when Clive returned to India in May 1765 for his second term as the Governor of Bengal.



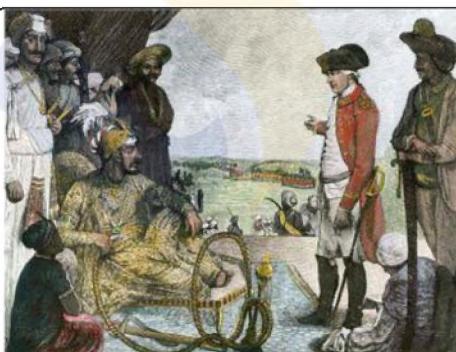
Hector Munroe

Now, Mir Jafar was brought back as the Nawab. Three districts: Midnapore, Burdwan and Chittagong were fully transferred to the English for the maintenance of their army. Also, duty free trade in Bengal {except a duty of 2% on salt) was permitted formally.

Treaty of Allahabad and the beginning of the Dyarchy (1765)

In the summer of 1765 Clive came back as the Governor of Bengal (second term). Clive now engaged himself in completing his unfinished task, i.e., to make the British the supreme political authority in Bengal.

In August, Clive travelled to Allahabad to pay his respects to the emperor. Then, shuttling between Allahabad and Banaras (where Shuja had set up his headquarters).



Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II as the prisoner of the Company after Buxar

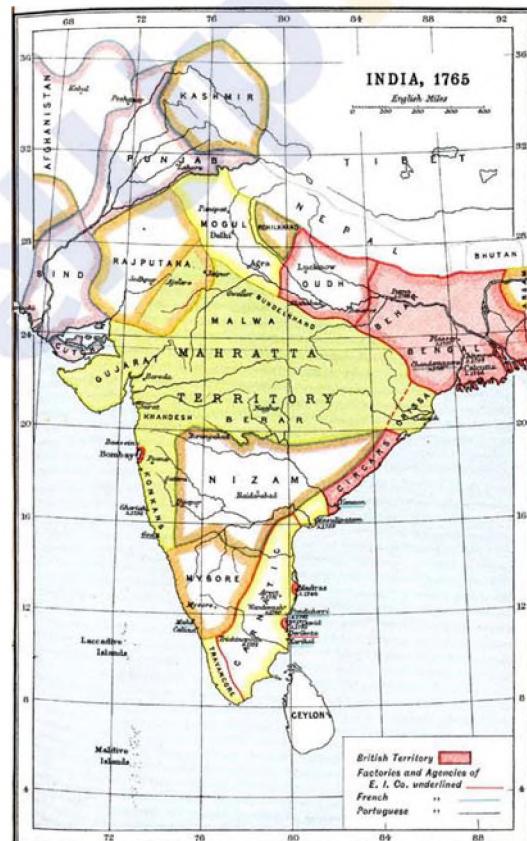


Mughal emperor Shah Alam hands a scroll to Robert Clive, the governor of Bengal.

Phase I of Treaty of Allahabad Robert Clive and Shuja-ud-daula (20 August)	Phase II of Treaty of Allahabad Robert Clive and Shah Alam II (12 August)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shah Alam was to be given Allahabad and the adjoining territories. <u>Chunarto</u> to be retained by British. Zamindari of Benaras to be with the family of <u>Balwant Singh</u> under British protection, although formally under Awadh. <p>Nawab to pay <u>50 lakhs</u> to the Company as war indemnity.</p> <p><u>Nawab to defray the cost of maintenance of the troops for the defence of his frontier.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The emperor granted by a firman, the <u>Diwani of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa</u> to the <u>East India Company</u>. The right of Diwani authorized the Company to collect revenue of the subah of Bengal. Shah Alam was taken under the <u>Company's protection</u>. He was assigned <u>Kara and Allahabad region</u> ceded by Shuja-ud-daula. From now on, Shah Alam was to reside at Allahabad. Company to pay Rs <u>53 lakh</u> for administrative expenses and Rs <u>26 Lakhs</u> for personal expenses annually as <u>tribute to the emperor</u>.

Now, while Diwani was with the Company, the Nizamat (responsibility for defence, law and order and the administration of justice) remained in the hands of the Nawabs. Thus, there was a dual government or dyarchy as it was called. Appointment of Muhammad Reza Khan as Naib Subedar marked the virtual end of the British rule in Bengal.

The system of dyarchy actually enabled the Company to establish its supreme control over both Nizamat and Diwani departments, without assuming the direct or formal control of either. The Company thus now enjoyed all the power without any responsibility and the Nawab of Bengal was reduced to a phantom, a man of straw. This arrangement continued till 1772 when Bengal was brought under direct British control.



Significance of the battle of Buxar:

the battle of buxar gave company complete policial control over the bangal thus it was more decisive than plassey

- 1) it most **decisive** battle ever fought in this battle three of most important indian power defeated simultaneously mughal empor shal alam 2 came under british protection while state of auvadha came under indirect under compony
- 2) the outcome of the battle devised by the **quality** of leader and strengths of the arms, compair to plassey which won by **traiacy** buxer was fearsly constated battle it was superior leadership of hector munuro. british demonstrated the art of order.

the victory of buxer comfirm the virdict of plassey.plassey makes puppets by british but the buxer unchallenged master of bangal

company established the commersial monopoly over the bangal
defeat of siraj udola and the mughal empore confirm the degeneration the army was not confime to navab but the governal general of bangal.

- 4) the company emerge the real master of resources of bangal with the right of dewani

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Additional Information

Internal Reforms by Clive as Governor of Bengal

1. Within the company, Clive enforced his authority by accepting some resignations and enforcing others.
2. Gifts amounting to a value of more than 4,000 rupees were forbidden, and those between that figure and 1,000 rupees were only to be received with official consent.
3. The regulation of private trade was more difficult, for the company paid virtually no salaries. Clive formed a Society of Trade, which operated the salt monopoly, to provide salaries on a graduated scale.
4. Clive dealt with overgrown military allowances with equal vigour, overcoming a white mutiny headed by a brigade commander (1766). He used a legacy from Mir Jafar to start the first pension fund for the Indian army.

Modern India 2024
Handout 6: Anglo-Mysore Wars
Nikhil Sheth

With the conquest of Bengal began the process of the **subjugation** of the entire Indian subcontinent, a process that continued for the next hundred years and even beyond. The Company continued to **systematically** weaken local/regional polities elsewhere by intervening in their disputes, as they had done in **Bengal**.

Apart from being engaged in devising means for the appropriation of the Bengal resources, for much of the latter half of the century, the Company concentrated its energies on establishing effective control over South India. From 1760s to 1790s, the Company's expansionist drive in south India was fiercely resisted by the state of Mysore under **Hyder Ali** and **Tipu Sultan**. The Anglo-Mysorean relations between 1760-99 must be understood in this context.

Causes for conflict:

- Pro-French policy pursued by both **Hyder** and **Tipu**
 - During the second Carnatic war, Hyder came in contact with the French through **de Bussy**'s subordinates. This tilt became more pronounced by the **1760s**. Ties between the two states acquired greater depth in later half of the century, particularly after the French **Revolution**.
- **Hostilities** between French and British at global level.
- Mutual rivalries among Indigenous powers (eg **Arcot**, **Hyderabad**, **Marathas**)
- English policy of supporting one indigenous ruler against another
- Other British interests
 - Mysore controlled part of rich Malabar coastal **trade** which was a threat to British trade in **cardamom and pepper**.
 - **Buffer** state issue: Powerful Mysore near Madras was a threat.

"...most **contemporary** Indian rulers were tyrannical usurpers of previous dynasties and rights and could therefore **dispensed** with at will so that (this ancient, and highly cultivated people) could be '**restored** to the full enjoyment of their **religious** and civil rights'." (Perception created by British to **legitimize their rule**)

First Anglo-Mysore War (1767-69)

Lord **Verelst** (1767-69) was the governor of Bengal Presidency and Charles Bourchier was the governor of Madras Presidency (1767-70) during this phase.

- British felt threatened by the military might of Mysore and its pro-French stance.
- In late 18th c, **Mysore** assumed central importance. The Nizam of Hyderabad, Nawab of Arcot and Marathas also felt threatened. English now joined them and formed a broad-front against Mysore. (**Triple Alliance**)
- Haider rose to the occasion. He diplomatically turned the Marathas neutral and Nizam into his ally against Nawab of Arcot. He offered Marathas the regions of **Shivener** and **Gutti**, apart from war indemnity of Rs. **32 lakh**.
- After isolating British, Haidar suddenly attacked Madras. His forces reached the outskirts of **Madras**, causing complete chaos and panic. This compelled the English to **sue** for peace. Though Haider did not want stop his offensive against the English, the threat of Maratha invasion forced him to negotiate peace with the English.
- **Treaty of Madras (1769):**
 - It restored the status quo and mutual restitution of territories.
 - There was no provision for war compensation.
 - Important clause: This was a defensive alliance and both powers agreed to help each other in case of an attack by a **third party**.

This treaty was an honourable treaty for Hyder Ali. It severely damaged the **prestige** of English in India. The importance of the First Anglo-Mysore war lies in the fact the English, for the first time in India, seemed to be on backfoot. The seeds of a continuous friction between Mysore and the British power were thus **sowed**.



iramukhoty Hyder Spanks the English

To show that the English did not have sole rights on myth making, here is a cartoon by **Antoine Borel**, showing Hyder Ali of Mysore giving a British officer a thorough spanking while a French soldier **smirks** and supplies the **twigs**

The French had fought in large numbers for Hyder Ali and Tipu sultan during the 1778-1784 second Anglo-Mysore wars, and this cartoon reflects that mood in France. The French were particularly peeved with the brits for having captured their main trading post, Pondicherry, during the American Revolutionary War.

Bibliotheque National des Estampes, 1783

[View all 13 comments](#)

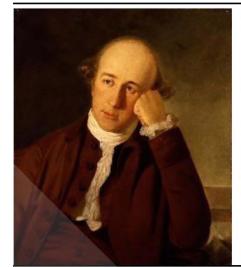
williamdalrymple Brilliant

Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780-84)

Warren Hastings (1772-85)

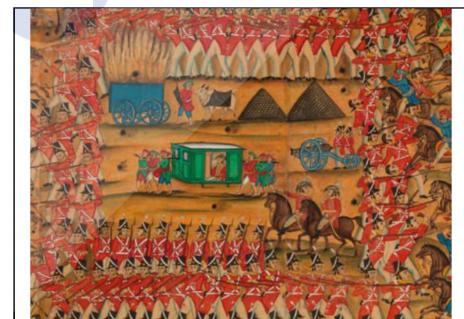
Warren Hastings and Robert Clive are credited with laying the foundation of the British Empire in India - from difficult position post-Mughal and regional rivalries.

- First Anglo-Maratha War
- Second Anglo-Mysore War



Causes

- The second war started after about a decade since the first war.
- In 1771, Mysore was invaded by the Maratha but British didn't come to help. Despite his appeal, they preferred to remain neutral. Hyder Ali considered it a contravention to the spirit of the Treaty of Madras and accused them of breach of faith.
- Haider Ali found the French more resourceful in terms of fulfilling the army requirements of guns, saltpeter and lead. Consequently, he started importing French war materials to Mysore through Mahe, a French possession on the Malabar Coast.
- The increasing friendship between Mysore and French raised concern for the British. In 1779, the British company invaded the French region, Mahe. As Mahe fell under the jurisdiction of Mysore, Haider Ali resisted British attempt to capture it and took it as a direct challenge to his sovereign power. It provided the immediate pretext for the war.



The battle of Pollilur (near Kanchipuram, 1780) when Mysore army led by Tipu defeated the EIC forces. EIC suffered massive losses 'the severest blow that English had suffered ever in India.' The painting offers the wealth of information on battle formations, composition of armies with horses, elephants, foot soldiers, uniforms and military band that accompanied them.

Course of the War

- It was a fiercely fought military context ranging over a vast area stretching from Mangalore on the west coast to Arcot in the east.
- Using his rare diplomatic skill, Hyder was able to win over Marathas and Nizam on his side for some time. This broad united front worked fairly well initially.
- His main strength lay in his cavalry and semi-guerrilla tactics. He was able to capture almost the whole of Carnatic.
- However, after 1781, tables started turning.
 - Battle of Porto Novo (1781): General Eyre Coote defeated Hyder Ali
 - British made peace with Marathas which enabled them to concentrate their entire military strength against Mysore.

- In 1782, Hyder Ali died when the war was in full-swing. It was Tipu Sultan who took command of the war for its remaining duration (1782-84).
 - Tipu got big military successes at many places and hence British came under the pressure. Neither side was capable of overpowering the other completely.
 - At the same time, Madras was hit by financial crunch and Lord Macartney, the Governor of Madras initiated peace talks. Tipu also needed time to consolidate his hold and strengthen administration.
 - Thus, it remained an inconclusive War.
- Treaty of Mangalore (1784)
 - Both sides restored all conquests. This treaty kept Tipu's kingdom and military intact. It was a respectable treaty for Tipu as there was no place for war compensation even in this treaty.
 - Although the British had been shown to be too weak to defeat Mysore, they had certainly proved their ability to hold their own in India.

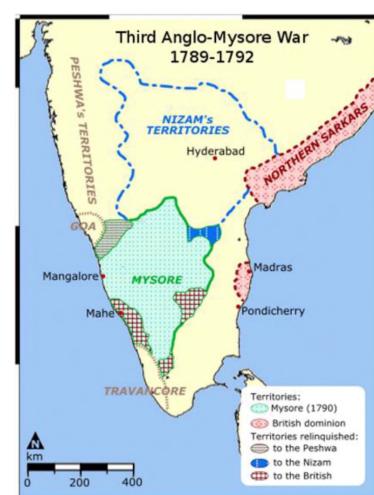
Third Anglo-Mysore War (1790-92)

Cornwallis (1786-93)

- He was sent with instructions to avoid conflict.
- Known for administrative, legal and revenue reforms
- Third Anglo-Mysore War - he inflicted temporary defeat on Tipu



- The Treaty of Mangalore was not enough to resolve the conflict. It was just a temporary respite before a final showdown.
- The relationship between Tipu and Iran/France were improving, which threatened the British interests.
- *"The authorities of the East India Company were acutely hostile to Tipu. They looked upon him as their most formidable rival in the south and as the chief obstacle standing between them and complete domination over South India. Tipu, on his part, thoroughly disliked the English, saw them as the chief danger to his own independence and nursed the ambition to expel them from India."* - NCERT
- Causes
 - Lord Cornwallis diplomatically brought Marathas and Nizam to the British side. They were against Tipu's growing power.
 - In 1789, Tipu invaded the state of Travancore. Travancore was protected by British as per the Treaty of Mangalore (1784).
- War



- Cornwallis came out to protect Travancore and sent an expedition led by General Meadows against Tipu. However, this expedition of unsuccessful.
- Then, Cornwallis formed a Triple Alliance and succeeded in isolating Tipu diplomatically - Marathas and Nizams against Tipu along with British. The rulers of the states of Travancore, Cochin and Arcot were already hostile to Tipu.
- Tipu was compelled to fight simultaneously on several fronts which overstretched his military resources. Still, he sustained the war for one long year. Finally, Tipu was comprehensively defeated in 1792 and had to make a treaty of Srirangapatam.

- Treaty of Seringapatam (1792)

- Humiliating treaty for Tipu - he lost half of his region to the British, along with 3.3 crore rupees as war compensation.
- British shared some regions submitted by Tipu with their allies. (Kadappa and some regions near Tungabhadra to Marathas, regions near Pennar river to Nizam) but the most important regions at Cochin, Coorg and Malabar coast and places like Dindigul, Barmahal (Salem district) were brought under their own control.

- This war depleted Tipu's strength and destroyed his dominant position in the south and firmly established British supremacy there.



Mysorean Rockets

First iron case rockets



Cornwallis receiving the sons of Tipu Sultan as hostages, painted by Daniel Orme, 1793



Velu Nachiyar was an 18th-century queen of Sivaganga. She was one of the first queens to fight against the British rule in India.

In 1780, when the British captured Sivaganga and forced her to flee, she sought refuge in the Kingdom of Mysore. With the help of Gopala Nayaka, Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan, she regained control of Sivaganga in 1780, becoming the first queen to do so in Indian history. She then ruled the kingdom with the help of Tipu Sultan until her death in 1796.

Fourth Anglo-Mysore War (1799)

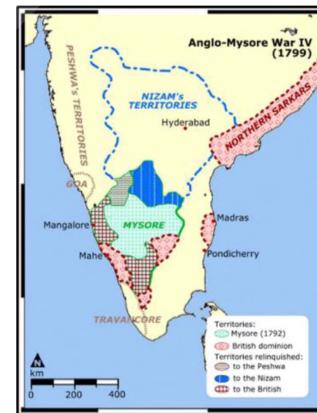
Lord Wellesley (1798-1805)

- French Menace

- He was sent to India during when **Napoleon** was preparing for the invasion of **Egypt** and there was a possibility of French invasion of **India** and the danger of French revival in India. **Wellesley** was expressly sent to India to check the French menace.
- Fresh **vigour** to the British expansionism (policy of annexation)
 - He tried bringing as many Indian states as possible under British control. By his arrival, the two strongest Indian powers (**Mysore**, **Marathas**), had declined in power; aggression was easy as well as **profitable**. And in that, the French menace provided good pretext.
- Wellesley adopted three different methods to achieve his goal:
 - The method of war - **4th Anglo-Mysore**, **2nd Anglo-Maratha**
 - The method of **Subsidiary Alliance**
 - The method of **Annexation** - Surat, Tanjore, Carnatic (he created the Madras Presidency by merging these areas)
- Wellesley had no doubt about its legality or morality. His only objective was **supremacy** of the British in India.



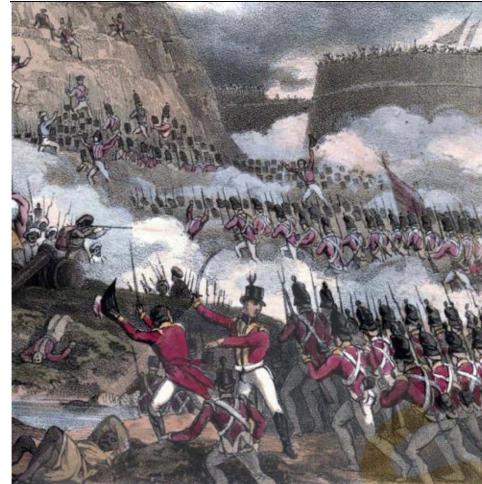
- Tipu's spirit of resistance did not **subside** even when **reduced** to half. He was in the search of alternative method to counter the British.
 - French Connection
 - Developed some military **arsenals** with French support. He developed three armouries - **Mangalore**, **Wazirabad** and **Malidabad** - with the French help.
 - He entered in negotiations for an alliance with Revolutionary France.
 - He **hoisted** French flat and **hoisted** Tree of **Liberty** in **Seringpatanam**. He subscribed himself to the **Jacobin Club** and preferred to call himself Citizen Tipu.
 - British were not prepared to accept Tipu's Francophile policy.
 - Sent ambassadors to many regions including France, Mauritius, Constantinople, Afghanistan and Iran to forge an anti-British alliance. He even maintained correspondence with Napoleon.
 - Under the circumstances, the destruction of Tipu's power became even more urgent from the British **viewpoint**. Tipu was accused of plotting against the British with **treasonable** intent. Lord Wellesley decided to eliminate Tipu first.



- He sent Arthur Wellesley and Major Stewart to crush the power of Tipu. British attempted to persuade Tipu to sign Subsidiary Alliance but he refused.
- British forces attacked Seringapatnam in 1799. Although by now, Tipu was no match for the British, yet he fought valiantly. The battle of Seringapatnam was brief but fierce. Tipu died valiantly fighting in 1799.

Outcome

- Nearly half of Tipu's kingdom was divided between Nizam and British. A small portion was restored to Wodeyars. They were made to sign the subsidiary alliance system.
- Thus ended the independent Mysore state. It had taken the English 32 years to subjugate Mysore.
- The fall of Mysore permanently brushed aside the threat of French revival in the Deccan.
- Just after it, in 1801, there was the formation of the so called 'Madras Presidency'.



British Regiment storming
Seringapatam

the downfall of the Mysore has been attributed to the inability to handle the political situation as tactful as Hyder Ali would have done. Hyder Ali born to create the empire and Tipu to loose one." However the close scrutiny of the South India gives in closing decades of 18th century much more complexity.

- 1) Political situation in India and abroad has gone transformation in the days of Hyder Ali. Hyder took advantage of the ongoing Anglo French and Anglo Maratha contest in the South India. British made the peace with the Maratha, and thus concentrated exclusively with Tipu. By the time Tipu ascended the thrown English had outside the French from the India.
- 2) Tipu's attempt to build up an anti-British front did not succeed while he had far-sidedness to feel the necessity of other indigenous power on another page.
- 3) The British diplomatic gestures could successfully realign the Indian power to suit their interest by bringing Nizam, Tughlaq, Maratha on the side, British isolate Tipu. While the English received the assistance from the indigenous power, Tipu attempted to receive help from the French, which was not successful. Tipu had to fight the British single-handedly.
- 5) The British power was high in 1790; there was now perennial supply of funds to continuous war while hitherto relied on cavalry to disclose the British infantry. Tipu depended on artillery forces directly. The English succeeded because they were better equipped.

conclusion:

finally, the sooner and later the fall of mysoor was inevitable tipu did not have the power to reverse the force of british.



Tipu's Tiger Contraption,
Victoria and Albert Museum



Tipu Sultan's camping tent, seized after fall of
Seringpatnam, today in Powis castle (Welsh)

GS Foundation 2024: Modern India
Handout 7: Anglo-Maratha Wars
Nikhil Sheth

Maratha Confederacy

Originally, Chhatrapati was the fountainhead of all power during the time of Shivaji. But subsequently, the Maratha political-economic system underwent a qualitative transformation. Power was no more concentrated in the hands of the Chhatrapati, or the successors of Shivaji. There set in a process of feudalization among the Marathas in which political structure became more decentralized. A loose association of confederacy of military leaders (sardars) emerged.

This process can be traced back to the days of Balaji Vishwanath, who assigned separate watans/saranjams (jagirs) to Maratha sardars for efficient collection of Chauth and sardeshmukhi. When Balaji Vishwanath returned from Delhi in 1719 with firman for Chauth and Sardeshmukhi, he made a complex division of the collection of chauth and sardeshmukh between Shahu and his sardars. It was actually a political technique devised by him to rally the Maratha sardars to his side. In the long run, this proved to be a major weakness of the Maratha empire. The office of Peshwa (one of ashta-pradhans) became hereditary and actual head of the empire while Chhatrapati remained symbolic head. After the death of Shahu of Satara (1749), Peshwa became virtually all-powerful.

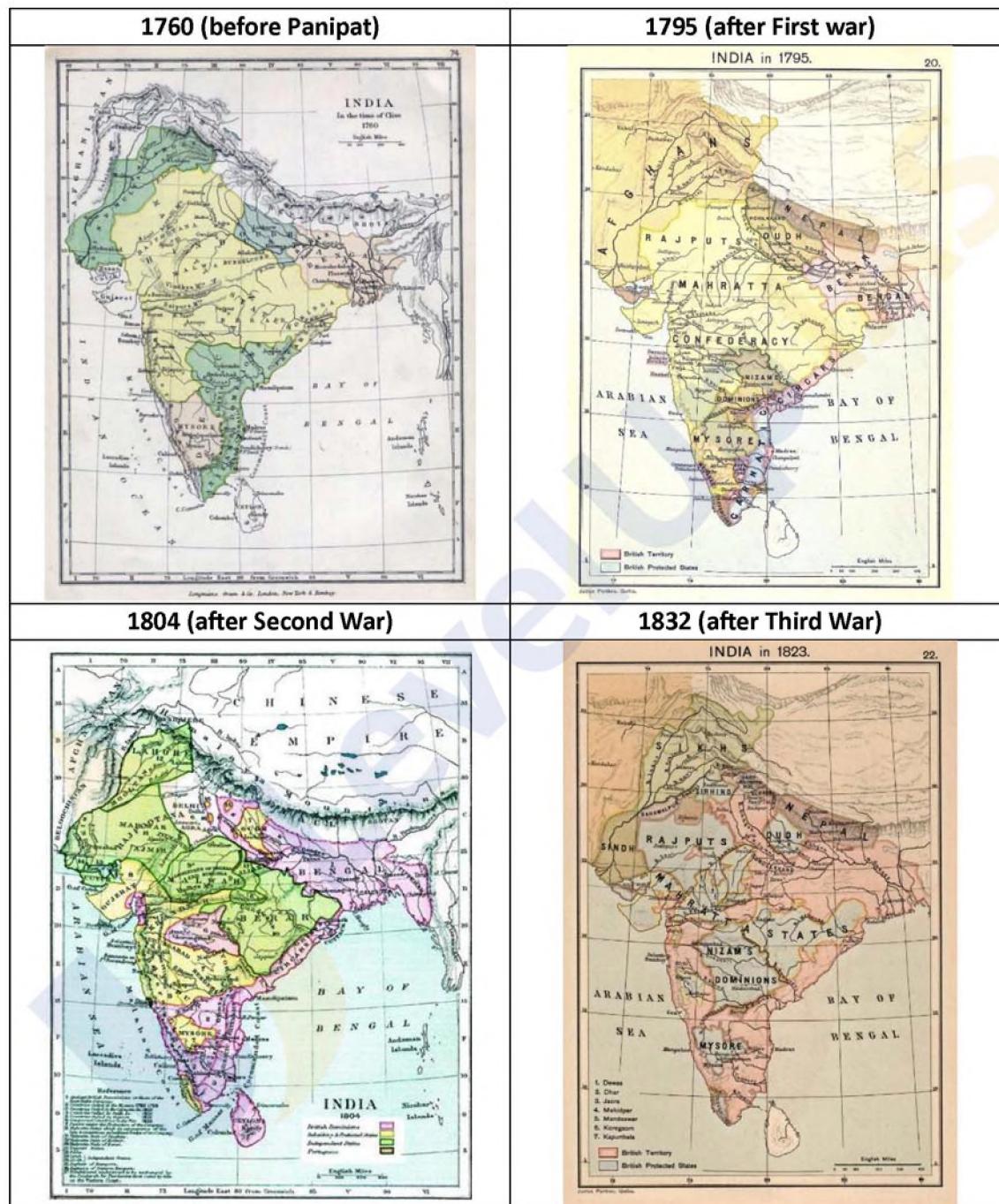


The process of economic feudalization also triggered off political feudalization. The Maratha Chiefs who were assigned the right to collect Chauth and Sardeshmukhi became the administrative heads of the respective areas. They enjoyed complete autonomy and emerged as state-within-state. As a result, political power was diffused. The Maratha state now assumed the character of a confederacy comprising a number of independent chiefs.

Among all the states that emerged in this era, Marathas had the most potential, but it didn't materialize - due to its own structure.

- In the Confederacy, power was shared among the chiefs. Parts of the Maratha state had been alienated to these military commanders.

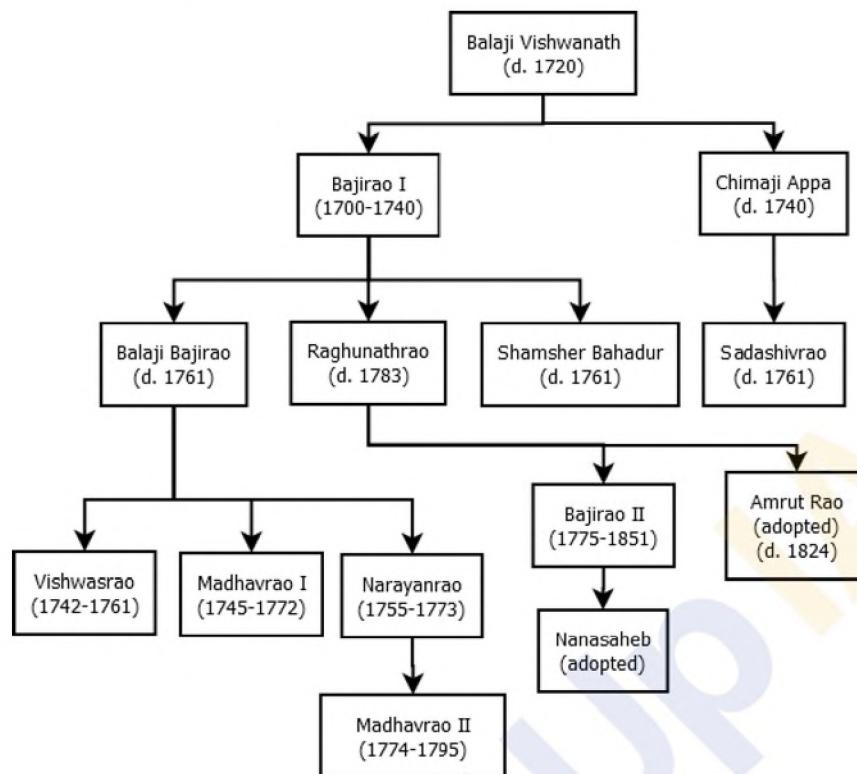
- It was difficult to control the **chiefs**, who did not always like the **peshwa** regulating their activities. Rather, their **loyalty** to **Peshwa** became increasingly nominal. Instead, they joined opposing factions at **Pune** and intrigues with the enemies of Marathas.
- There was also increasing factional rivalry among the Maratha sardars. Their mutual jealousy **crippled** the military power of Marathas **to considerable extent**.



Overall Timeline:

Peshwas		
Balaji Vishwanath	1713-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolved the Maratha civil war. Assisted the Syed Brothers in deposing the emperor Farrukhsiyar in 1719.
Bajirao I	1720-40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of Hindu Pad Padshahi. Defeated Nizam of Hyderabad multiple times (eg Palkhed, Bhopal) Conquest of Malwa, Rajputana, Gujarat Attacked Delhi in 1737 Created Maratha Confederacy
Nanasaheb (Balaji Bajirao)	1740-61	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension in North, South, East - From Cuttack to Attock and Peshawar in 1758 Third Battle of Panipat 1761 Expansion of Pune city
Madhavrao I	1761-72	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal crisis, yet recovered from Panipat crisis - Maratha Resurrection Defeated Nizam in the battle of Rakshasabhuwan.
Narayanrao	1772-73	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assassinated by Gardi guards at the behest of Raghunathrao
Raghunathrao	1773-74	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deposed by barbhai (led by Nana Phadanvis), fled for British protection. First Anglo-Maratha War
Madhavrao II	1774-96	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointed as infant by generals and ministers as regents. Era dominated by Nana Phadanvis
Baji Rao II	1796-1802	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defeated by Holkar in the battle of Poona. Fled for British protection, provoked Second Anglo-Maratha War
Amrit Rao	1802-03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appointed by Holkar after defeating Peshwas and Scindia.
Baji Rao II	1803-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Anglo-Maratha War - End of Maratha Confederacy

The Family Tree of Peshwas:



First Anglo-Maratha War (1775-82)

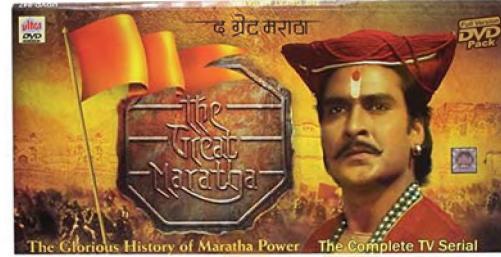
During the period of Warren Hastings (1772-85), two important wars took place - First Anglo-Maratha War and the Second Anglo-Mysore War.

Post-Panipat Resurrection of the Maratha

Marathas were still powerful after the defeat in Third Battle of Panipat.

- Rise of Shinde in North:

- o Mughal Emperor Shah Alam (British pensioner) was recovered by Mahadji Scindia and restored in Delhi in 1771 and left a strong Maratha army in Delhi for protection. Mughal emperor was now a Maratha prisoner.
 - o The title of Wakil-e-Mudalat was given to Peshwa. Till 1803, Delhi remained majorly under Maratha control.
 - o Warren Hastings immediately stopped the pension to Shah Alam.



- Able leadership of Madhavrao Peshwa in South:

- o Maratha cavalry again started dominating the north and south under his leadership.
 - o Defeated Nizam of Hyderabad (at Rakshasbhan) and Hyder of Mysore (at Sira and Madhugiri)
 - o However, his untimely death due to TB.

Just after his death, a series of conspiracies and counter-conspiracies started in the court to control the gaddi of Peshwa.



- o Raghunathrao (brother of Nana Saheb) wanted to be Peshwa but he couldn't succeed in his designs due to the intervention of Nana Phadnavis. So, Raghoba sought British help. This conflict gave British a handle to interfere in Maratha politics.

- Treaty of Surat, 1775, with British obliged Raghunath Rao to

- o Give the regions of Salsette and Bassein to the British
 - o Give the revenue of Surat and Broach
 - o Accept to consult the British before making alliance with any other power.

British Interest:

Expansion to cotton producing region of western India.

- Bombay was an important opium supply route.
- Bombay officers adventured - Intervention into internal matters of Poona court, into the succession rights.

In May 1775, an army contingent led by Col. Keating was dispatched to help Raghoba, thereby commencing the first Anglo-Maratha war. Warren Hastings, however, didn't like the idea and sent Col. Upton to mediate between the Marathas and the Bombay government. This culminated in the Treaty of Purandar (1776). This treaty provided:

Nana ph

- British would get Salsette, while other regions would be vacated by both the parties.
- British should not help Raghoba

england

But the Bombay officials were not satisfied with it and appealed to the Court of Directors and received a favourable ruling. Thus, the treaty of Purandar was annulled. This promoted the Bombay presidency to resume the war.

In the battle of Talegaon (1779), British were roundly defeated by the Marathas and this led to the signing of the Treaty of Wadgaon (1779). This treaty led to the status quo ante be Hum and Salsette went to Marathas again. All the benefits earned by British were lost.

1780 turned out to be a very difficult year for the British, when Nizam, Hyder, and Marathas joined hands against them due to diplomacy of Nana Phadanvis. Now, British went on offensive, and Hastings sent resources from the Bengal Presidency.

General Goddard was sent to invade Ahmedabad after crossing central India.

Col. Pofam was dispatched against Gwalior.

Sir Eyre Coote won the battle of Porto-Novo (against Mysore, 1781)

So, Hastings created severe military pressure on Marathas and forced them to come to the table. Thus, was signed the Treaty of Salbai (1782). According to this treaty:

- British got the control of Salsette, along with Elephanta Islands

The Company promised not to interfere in the internal matters of the Marathas.

Although an expansionist strategy, it was an extension of the policy of Ring-Fence. It was not an entirely novel idea, some of elements were visible earlier.

- Dupleix had a similar treaty with Hyderabad in 1740s.
- Clive concluded first such treaty with Shuja-ud-Daulah back in 1765 (Treaty of Allahabad had seeds of SA - protection to Awadh for cost/land)
- In 1787, Cornwallis signed Treaty with Carnatic - foreign policy of Carnatic was under British control.

Evolution of Subsidiary Alliance System:

The process of evolution of Subsidiary Alliance is divided into 4 phases.

1. In the 1st stage the company assisted a friendly native ruler in his wars.
2. In 2nd stage the company started playing a bigger role in wars and battles of friendly native states. The native rulers started playing a secondary role.
3. In the 3rd stage, the company asked a friendly native state to supply money and not men. The company fought wars of such friendly native states on its own.
4. In the 4th stage, the company began to station a permanent subsidiary force in capital of friendly native state. Native ruler was asked to pay for the upkeep of this force. Smaller state was asked to pay in cash and bigger state was asked to transfer a part of its territory yielding revenue equal to the cost of upkeep of subsidiary force.

Gradually other provisions were added to it which transformed it into a system. Using the pretext of hyped French Menace to justify the aggression, the earlier practices were given a definite formal shape and theoretical framework by Wellesley in the form of Subsidiary Alliance. Before starting the final war with Mysore, Wellesley signed the first treaty with Hyderabad in 1789. It inaugurated the era of Subsidiary Alliance System.

Order in which the Indian States entered Subsidiary Alliances

- . Hyderabad (1798,1800)
- Mysore and Tanjore (1799)
- . Awadh (1801)
- Peshwa (Marathas) (1802)
- Bhojpal and Gaekwad (Marathas) (1803)
- Scindia (Marathas) (1804)

After the capture of Mysore, political entities in India were to be offered the option of submitting peacefully by becoming the part of the subsidiary alliance system, or of a military context if they resisted colonial domination.

The nawabs of Awadh and Arcot drawn into this alliance at an early stage. Later, Wellesley increased the demand for subsidy from the Indian allies. In the case of major states like Awadh, collaboration with the British and acceptance of subsidiary alliance didn't prevent eventual outright annexation. Subsequently the treaty was forced upon the Maratha chiefs.

Wellesley thus used it to subordinate the Indian states to the paramount authority of the Company.

Constituents of the Treaty

- Permanent Subsidiary Army
 - Stationed within the territory of the state to protect from internal disorder and external aggression.
 - Payment of a subsidy in cash (for smaller states) or ceded territory (for bigger states) to defray its expenses.
 - The state had no control over this army.
- Posting a British Resident at his court. Theoretically, the company was not allowed to interfere in the internal matters of the state but practically, this rule was almost always flaunted.
- Control over external relations
 - Not to employ any European in service without consent.
 - Not to directly negotiate with any other Indian ruler.

Effects of the Treaty:

For the British - Extremely useful	On Indian States - Devastating
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It allowed company to gradually and silently disarm Indian native states. • Maintain a large army at the cost of the Indian states. Ostensibly for the protection of the state, it helped the Company in maintaining a large army using state resources. • This subsidiary force was stationed in capital of native states which were places of great strategic significance. The company could fight wars far away from their own territories - throw forward military and expanded political frontier. It also ensured safety of the British territory. • This force was led by European commanders. It was always battle ready. It could be used anywhere by the company at short notice. • Company now controlled the defense and foreign relations of the protected allies. The possibility of any native alliance against company was eliminated. <p style="margin-left: 20px;">It eliminated French threat in India because no French men could be</p>	<p>It proved to be extremely degenerative for Indian native states because native rulers purchased security at the cost of Independence and sovereignty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The army was allegedly for the protection but, it turned the ruler into a tributary client. Indian state virtually signed away its independence. Disbandment of the local armies led to loss of livelihood for soldiers and officers. • British Resident, who interfered in the day-to-day administration. It led to internal decay and rulers gradually lost all spirit and energy. The rulers of the protected states tended to neglect the interests of their people and to oppress them. As a result, a situation of extreme mal-administration developed in many native states. The admin machinery collapsed completely. And this resulted in extreme suffering for common masses, because of this impact Thomas Munro commented that it must run everywhere its full course and destroy every government which it undertakes to protect.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>recruited by a native ruler without the permission of the company.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This system allowed the company to ensure that only its favourites were sitting on throne of native state because at any time native ruler tried to threaten the interest of company he was immediately replaced. The system of Subsidiary Alliances was, in the words of a British writer, "a system of fattening allies as we fatten oxen, till they were worthy of being devoured". It transformed company into an arbitrator of Indian disputes because any kind of conflict involving native state was to be settled by English company. Thus, the Company could easily maintain its paramountcy over native states. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lost all vestiges of sovereignty in external matters - it became subservient in diplomatic relations, could not employ foreign experts, or settle disputes with its neighbours. It lost the right of self-defence as well. Extremely high cost of subsidy - leading to diversion of disproportionate share of revenue. The native rulers were regularly in debt and to overcome this debt extremely heavy burden of taxes were imposed on the common masses. It thus ruined agriculture, disrupted economy and impoverished people. Many states became bankrupt in no time. |
|--|--|

The Company thus got the right both to use the Indian ruler's territory as a buffer against its own enemies and prevent a combination of Indian rulers against it. The native states were gradually brought under the sovereign control of English company because every native state accepted company as paramount power. That is why it is commented that it was a trojan horse tactics of empire building.

Second Anglo-Maratha War (1803-05)

Causes

- By the end of 18th century, British had contained all the major powers in India.
- Almost all the important Maratha leaders had passed away by this time. Next generation leadership was not so competent, lacked **pragmatic program** and involved in **internecine conflict**.
- The internecine conflict between Shinde and Holkar made the Maratha fall almost inevitable. Shinde-Holkar were competing to get influence over Peshwa.
- Due to this, Bajirao II took refuge in the British camp. Lord Wellesley was waiting for **this opportune moment**. The price extracted by the British for extending the support to Bajirao II was a subsidiary alliance treaty which deprived him of control over military and foreign affairs. On 31st December, the Treaty of Bassain (1802) was signed which had the following important provisions:
 - British accountable for the safety and security of Peshwas from internal and external dangers.
 - British regiment stationed at Poona for payment of 26 **lakh/annum**.
 - British resident stationed at Poona and the foreign policy of Peshwas had to be conducted at the advice of **British resident**.
 - Differences between Peshwas-Nizam or Peshwas-Gaikwad to be resolved under British **mediation**.
- As per the treaty
 - British army under Arthur Wellesley restored Peshwa at Poona. British intervention into the internal matters irritated different members of the Confederacy. Peshwa started seeking the support of **Bhonsle** & **Shinde** against the British after realising problems of the **treaty**.
 - However, even in this critical situation, Marathas couldn't unite - Shinde & Bhonsle formed one front. Gaekwads supported the British while **Holkar remained separate** and was planning to wage war on his own.



The Battle of Assaye, 1803



Thus started the Second Anglo-Maratha War in 1803.

Two military commands: First Phase of War

North: Lord Gerard Lake	South: Arthur Wellesley
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defeated Shinde in the battle of Aligarh, battle of Laswari in north India. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defeated the combined Daulatrao Shinde & Raghuji Bhonsle in a series of wars. The

<p>He captured Delhi and Agra. Delhi was conquered by the British from the Marathas in the battle of Patparganj (1803).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Now Mughal Emperor again came under British control and remained till 1857. 	<p>most famous battle was the Battle of Assaye (1803)</p>
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- Subsidiary Alliance Treaties:
 - Treaty of Devgaon with Bhosle. By this, Bhosle relinquished the right over Cuttack and the adjoining areas of Odissa and Bengal.
 - Treaty of Surji-Anjangaon (1803) with Daulatrao Shinde. By this, Shinde lost control of North India, esp Delhi. Later on, treaty of Mustafapur (1805) was also foisted upon Shindes.

"By the establishment of our subsidiary forces at Hyderabad, and Poona, with the Gaikwad, Daulat Rao Shindha... an efficient army of 22,000 men is stationed within the territories, or on the frontier of foreign states, and is paid by foreign subsidies. This force may be directed against any of the principal states of India, without the hazard of disturbing the tranquility of the company's possession, and without requiring expenses of the Government of India" Arthur Wellesley

"Our policy and our arms have reduced all the powers of India to the state of mere cyphers." Arthur Wellesley.



Arthur Wellesley,
1st Duke of
Wellington

Second Phase of War:

The war with Yashwant Rao Holkar continued till 1805. He, along with the ruler of Bharatpur, were at war with the British. Though Lord Lake invaded Bharatpur, he was not successful.

The most outstanding event of this phase was the crushing defeat inflicted by Yashwant Rao on a British force under Colonel William Monson in the battle of Mukandwara Pass near Kota in 1804. The British force lost five infantry battalions and six companies of artillery in this battle. He was later once again defeated in the battle of Farrukhabad.

In the meantime, the Court of Directors in London realized the extravagance of the war and recalled Wellesley. They sent Cornwallis again to India (1805) to curb expansionist policies of Wellesley, but he died after reaching in India. Thus, George Barlow was sent as the new Governor-General who concluded peace with Holkar in 1805 (Treaty of Rajpurghat).

So, the second Anglo-Maratha ended in stalemate. The tangible gains for the British were their ascendancy at Pune and the acquisition of some territory mainly in northern India. There was one noteworthy prize that came their way, although its significance was largely symbolic. Emperor Shah Alam was kept under Company protection and confined to the Red Fort.

Third Anglo-Maratha War (1817-18)

Lord Hastings (1813-23)

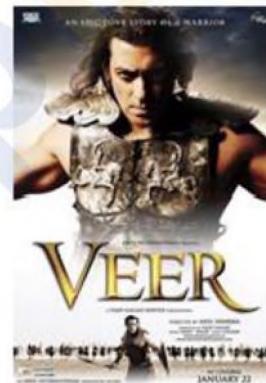
- Before 1813, the EIC was not willing to increase its responsibilities. It generally avoided the policy of annexation as far as possible.
- Now, there was a new objective: India to be developed as a market for the British industrial products. Thus, from Lord Hastings to Dalhousie there was an era of unabashed "Policy of Paramountcy." *Now the Company claimed that its authority was paramount (supreme), hence its power was greater than that of Indian states. In order to protect its interests, it was justified in annexing or threatening to annex any Indian kingdom.* This view continued to guide later British policies as well.



The events

Pindari War (1817-18)

- The final Anglo-Maratha overlapped with a large-scale campaign against the Pindaris. In fact, the so called Pindari menace provided the pretext and justification for military mobilization against the Marathas. Pindaris created a law-and-order situation for the British.



Lord Hastings decided to eliminate them. For him, annihilation of Pindaris was a prerequisite to the destruction of the Marathas. He formed a task force for the same purpose in 1816 CE. They were surrounded by an army of about 120,000 men, which converged upon them from Bengal, the Deccan, and Gujarat under the supreme command of the Governor-General Lord Hastings (northern command) and LG T. Hislop (southern command).



The sheer military might of the Company resulted in victory. The Pindaris themselves offered little resistance. Their bands simply dissolved and there was no direct encounter. Most of the leaders surrendered (some killed, some restored).

Hastings used Pindari campaign as a pretext to attack Marathas. After finishing the Pindari campaign, Lord Hastings asked Maratha commanders to sign new treaty and when they hesitated a war was declared on them immediately. Thus, along with the Pindaris, even Marathas became the target of the same army.

(A) Peshwa of Pune

The Company wanted to capture Poona for strategic importance. Thus, Peshwa and the confederacy were pressurized due to continuous British intervention. Their reaction led to the war.

- War

- o In 1818, Peshwa Attacked Poona Residency. He was defeated in the battle of Khadki and Pune surrendered.
- o Peshwa was again defeated in the battle of Koregaon Bhima.
- o The subjugation of Peshwa domain took several months. Several military campaigns had to be carried out to put down resistance in various parts of western

Maharashtra even as Peshwa continued to be on the move. The last major encounter was in Ashti near Pune. Bajirao nevertheless continued with his resistance for a few more months. Eventually he agreed to negotiate.

- Treaty

- o The defeat of Peshwa broke the Maratha Confederacy. Bajirao II formally abdicated his office and was sent to Bithur with an annual pension of 8 lakh. He lived there in exile till 1851. The gaddi of Peshwa was abolished and region of Maharashtra (including Pune) was completely annexed. However, to assuage the feelings of Maratha spirit, a separate state of Satara was carved out and granted to Pratap Singh, a descendant of Shivaji.



Mountstuart
Elphinstone, LG of
Bombay (1819-27)

(B) Bhosle of Nagpur

Another major objective of the war was the subjugation of the Nagpur state which was ruled by Bhosle. Raghujji Bhosle died by 1817 and Company intensified its attempts to destabilize the state through the Resident.

- Raghujji Bhosle died by 1817 and Company intensified its attempts to destabilize the state. The main instrument of British interference was the resident, Richard Jenkins. Jenkins prevailed upon Appa Sahib to sign a subsidiary alliance which enabled the Company to place its troops in Nagpur. When the battle broke out, Appa Sahib aligned himself with Peshwa.

War

- o In 1818, Appa Saheb attacked British Resident at Nagpur.
- o British had a difficult time in overcoming the resistance of Nagpur. It was only with the arrival of reinforcements that British got the handle over the situation. Appa Saheb was defeated in the battle of Sitabuldi, Nagpur.

- Treaty

- o Appa Sahib also entered alliance with the British with many controls on Nagpur. Raghujji III became the new successor.

(C) Holkars of Indore

While Tusi Bai favoured negotiations with the Company, the Holkar Army was resolved to fight the British.

- Story
- War
 - In 1818, Holkar attacked Indore Residency.
 - Holkars were defeated at Mahidpur after a fierce battle in which the casualties of British side were very high (around 800).

Treaty

- Treaty of Mandsore with Holkar forced them to cede areas around Narmada to British. It substantially reduced the territorial possessions of Holkars.

(D) Shinde of Gwalior

- Though Shinde was not involved in the war. Company, through its show of arms, ensured that Daulat Rao Shinde disengaged himself from the Pindaris.
With respect to Shides, a new treaty was foisted upon them in 1818.
- This paved the way for the subjugation of the Rajasthan states.
 - Charles Metcalf was sent to conclude subsidiary alliance treaties with the Rajput states of Marwar, Udaipur, Jaipur etc. Overall, 19 states signed the treaties surrendering their independence. None of them had the resources to engage in military contests to resist colonial supremacy, making the extension of colonial rule in the area a relatively smooth affair.

(E) Gaekwads of Baroda

- Gujarat, much of which was ruled by Gaekwads, was brought under subsidiary alliance system in 1802 already.
- In 1817, the company signed a new treaty with them on the eve of the war with Bajirao II. As per it, the strength of the subsidiary force was increased, and the city of Ahmedabad was formally ceded.

Consequence

The third Anglo-Maratha war finally ended the independence of the Maratha states - Nagpur, Indore, Gwalior, Baroda - and made the EIC a major territorial power in western and central India. The Peshwa's authority was terminated and his seat of authority, Pune, formally became part of the Company's territory (except for certain parts which were given to successors of Shivaji in Satara to calm the sentiment) and Bajirao II was exiled to Bithur. Although Maratha Confederacy was dissolved, the Shides, Halkars, Gaikwads and Bhosles still retained large tracts of territory at the end of the war, being incorporated into the British India empire as princely states.

Maratha could not offer alternative to Mughal rule political vacuum left behind by the Mughal eventually fill up by the British. despite brilliant initial military success under leadership of Shivaji and first peshwas the Maratha power decline in fount of repeated British on slots. the cause of downfall of Maratha are as follows.

- 1) organizational flaw: the Maratha sardar resemble later mughal noble they remain unified as long as Shivaji system of strong system of central authority was in place following Shivaji Maratha state devolved loose constipation of autonomous states.
- 2) week revenue base and financial insolvency was perpetual problem of Maratha state the economic system of Maratha state was unpredictable. the Maratha chief had to resort to period raids plunder to run their economic. this economic insolvency also excreted evil influences in the political stability of empire. Maratha consideration big five chief who could not found abroad united front against common enemy British.
- 4) by the end of the 18 century all the talent and expired leader maharji Scindia tukoji holkar, nana Phadnavis were dead bajirao2 was selfish and inefficient and the absence of good leader led to mutual corals. the Maratha military supremacy code its origin war fair based on gorilla tactics. but the later Maratha leader opted for the Westen method of warfare and they could not integrate two.
- 5) finally maratha fail because lack ability adapt to new circumstance, they didn't have far site ness to devlope the new economy they could not relied on the import of science and technology only way by which maratha could have save the empire and combat the brish was by transforming state to modern state.

U LevelUP IAS



Four of the main leaders in 1857 were the proteges of the Bajirao II at Bithur - Lakshmibai, Nana Saheb, Tatya Tope and Raosaheb Peshwa - who actually fought from the front.

GS Foundation 2024: Modern India
Handout 8: Mercantile Phase (1757-1813)
(Administrative, Economic and Socio-cultural policies)

Nikhil Sheth

Between 1772 and 1857, changes were frequently made to the administrative structure the British East India Company had established in India. Such changes were not unnatural, given that British Indian administration was essentially a continuous process of experimentation, adjusted and readjusted either in accordance with the ideological developmentstaking place at the time in Great Britain or in accordance with the peculiar on-the-ground realities that the Company encountered in India.

Limited Objective of the Mercantile Phase (1757-1813)

Objective

- **Maximize revenue** to invest in trade and commerce.
- Not interested in major restructuring of the existing administrative structure.
Preferred to maintain the existing Mughal structure with certain modifications.

Policies

- Creation of a political and administrative environment conducive to trade and investment.
- **Administrative Policy:**
 - Maintenance of law and order at the minimum possible cost
- **Economic Policy:** Origin of drain of wealth, Decline of handicraft industries.
- **Social Policy:** Maintain traditional social structure.
- **Cultural Policy:** Orientalism (Indians should be ruled according to their own traditions and customs)

The Perspective...

As the British conquered and annexed different parts of the country, they were faced with the difficult question of how to govern these territories. Clive didn't bother to take the administration of Bengal directly into his hands. Warren Hastings tried to plant British elements on the Mughal system, yet he wasn't ready to overhaul the whole structure. Reforms by Lord Cornwallis were guided by a sense of British egoism i.e. belief in supremacy of British institutions.

Clive	Warren Hastings	Lord Cornwallis	Lord Wellesley
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treaty of Allahabad (1765) - Diwani Right!• Dyarchy• Heavy Land Revenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abolition of Dyarchy• Duties standardized• Land Revenue experiments• Judicial Plan of 1772, 1774• Codification of Laws	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lather of Civil Services• Thana Darogha system• Judicial Structure, Humanisation• Permanent Settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fort Williams College• Censorship of Press Act, 1799

(A) Administrative and Revenue Policies

(1) Robert Clive's Reforms

Dual Government

Clive chose not to usurp the **Nizami** rights directly and instead developed the **system of Dyarchy**.

- Dyarchy (direct **diwani**, indirect **nizamat**)
- EIC received Diwani of Bengal directly from the Mughal emperor.
- EIC avoided taking administration (**Nizamat**) directly. However, the Nawab had become the puppet of the Company.
- A new post of Deputy **Nawab/Nazim** was created who combined the function of both **Diwani** and **Nizami** and the actual power was **wielded** by the Company through him.

Reforms in Land revenue system

- Heavy enhancement in land revenue (almost doubled)
- Indian revenue collectors continued but under **supervision of inexperienced/untrained European authorities** -> excessive corruption.

It is here that the **dyarchy** system was far from successful. This dual type of administration led to **anarchy** in **Bengal**. The class hardest hit by the new system was the **peasantry**. Neither the Nawab nor the Company cared for their **welfare**. The result of Dual Government was the impoverishment of Bengal's economy. The **disastrous** effects of the Double Government found manifestation in the famine of **1770** which proved to be one of the worst events in the history of mankind.

• Detrimental Impact on Bengal

- Uncontrolled power without responsibility
- Exploited peasants.
- Disorganized administration
- Gomasta grain trade monopoly
- Crop failure, smallpox

why English does not go for whole control:
1) cost of admin
2) manpower trained.
3) if all the power united against.
4) focus on trade
5) status other european company.

Great Bengal Famine (1770): one-third of Bengal's population perished (**70 lakh to 1 crore**)

- The famine hastened the end of dual governance in Bengal, the Company becoming the **sole** administrator soon after.

The Regulating Act 1773

As the British East India Company emerged as a territorial power in India, an intense struggle broke out in Britain as to whose interest the newly acquired empire would serve. This was a time when imperial policies began to be seriously questioned against the backdrop of problems that Britain was facing in keeping its American colonies under control. It became necessary to determine the framework of Company's Government in India and to exert some control on it.

The acquisition of political power by the Company also had an adverse reaction in Great Britain. There grew the fear that the newly rich nabob class might be able to influence British Parliamentary politics by dint of their economic power and thereby disturb the balance of British democracy.

Although the Company had emerged as an important political power in India but at the same time company was losing badly as a commercial entity. Spending on wars, corruption in private trade and famines had led to huge losses, thus, the Company was in dire need of credit just when its activities began to be scrutinized in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries and had applied to the government for a large loan. This made it difficult for it to resist demands for some kind of parliamentary control over its functioning. In other words, the Regulating Act was linked to the British Parliament's sanction for the loan.

The Regulating Act was passed by the British Parliament in 1773. By this legislation the parliament sought to regulate the Company to a limited extent.

- The Directors of the Company were duty-bound to **submit before the British Government all correspondence** relating to civil, military and revenue affairs in India to enable it to monitor the management of the empire.
- The **Company's organizational structure** was streamlined under this Act by restricting the voting rights of shareholders.
 - o This was done firstly by limiting the vote to those who held minimum £1,000 worth of stock. Besides, the shareholder had to be in possession of the stock for at least one year in order to qualify for voting.
 - o Members of the **court of directors** were to be elected for a period of four years. One fourth of the members were to retire every year, and stay out of office for a minimum duration of one year before they could seek re-election.
- The Act laid down that the Government of Bengal would be headed by the **Governor General and a Council comprising four members**. All civil and military authority was vested in the governor general and his council.
 - o Hereafter, the Governor of Bengal came to be known as the 'Governor-General of Bengal.' Hastings was the first Governor-General of Bengal.
 - o The Governor-General was required to run the Government of Bengal according to the decisions taken in the council by a majority vote. The Governor-General

vote in case the house was divided equally on a given issue. Each had a five-year term.

- It recognized the **precedence of the Bengal Presidency** ('Presidency of Fort William in Bengal') over the two other presidencies. The presidencies of **Madras** and **Bombay** were placed under the overall **supervision** of Fort William. Now, the British authorities at Bombay or Madras had no power to strike alliance with or declare war against any other power.
- The Act also provided for the **establishment of a Supreme Court in Calcutta** to administer justice to the Europeans and their employees.
 - In tune with this provision, the first Supreme Court was established in Calcutta in 1774. **Sir Elijah Impey** became the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

The attempt of the British Parliament to develop a **remote-control** mechanism to regulate the Company ended in a **failure**. The Regulating Act did not give the British Government effective control over the Company. The Act had certain inherent **loopholes** which created problems in the running of **administration**.

- Under the provisions of the Act, it was not possible for the Governor-General to act independently. The numerical composition of the council (**four members** in addition to the governor general) constituted under the 1773 Act rendered the governor general vulnerable in case **three** of the members combined to oppose him.
- Though the Act created the **Supreme Court**, it did not **clearly** indicate the specific power of the said court **vis a vis the Governor-General-in-Council**.
- The Regulating Act intended to make the **Governments of the Madras and Bombay Presidencies** subordinate to the Governor-General of Bengal. But, in reality, the control of the Governor General **over the other two Presidencies** was **inadequate**.
- The Regulating Act failed to resolve the friction between the Company and **its rival groups in England**. The opponents of the Company continued to exert pressure on the Parliament to discipline the Company.

Thus, the **1773** Act had several anomalies which were sought to be rectified through a subsequent legislative measure, enacted in **1784** (Pitt's India Act).

(2) Warren Hastings (1772-1785)

- Reforms of Clive -> fiasco.
 - Ruin of agriculture ruined company finances and exports.
 - Thus, both revenue and trade were adversely affected.
- **Abolition of Dual Government**
 - The Diarchy was abolished and the Company in 1772 assumed the **direct responsibility** of the **revenue administration** of **Bengal**.
 - The direct management of the revenue administration had other implications too. It meant that the Company, hereafter, would also be in charge of the **judicial administration** as well. Thus, the Company had to shake off its **commercial** nature to some extent. It now began to assert the authority of a state. Thus started the initial shape to the British admin **stricture** in Bengal for future, (**trendsetter**)

Warren Hastings - Revenue Reforms

- Transferred the **royal treasury** from **Murshidabad** to **Calcutta**.
- **Toll Tax Reform:** Standardization of collection of duties (to **incentivize** trade)
- Land Revenue Reforms - **Farming System** (for maximization of **revenue**)
 - It was the phase of **trial** and **error**. Experiments followed in quick succession.
 - Initially it was only for a **five-year scheme** (1772-76). The **auctioning** system was carried out under supervision of **diwans** and European collectors. It didn't make **revenue** stable, and adversely affected **agriculture**.
 - To gather systematic information about the different aspects of the Indian agrarian structure he appointed the Amini Commission in **1776**.
 - After five years, in **Y1T1**, the five-year settlement was abolished. A new **one-year scheme with role for zamindars**.
 - Thus, in the actual control of the revenue management, Hastings was not satisfied, achieving a little more than a series of unsuccessful experiments.

Warren Hastings: Judicial Plans of 1772,1774

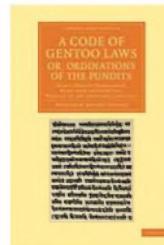
India's modern judicial system was **laid down** by the British. **Rule of law** was the basic feature of these reforms.

- Reasons
 - Closely connected to Land Reform
 - No uniform system before the EIC.
 - Issue of Corruption
- Hastings established a **hierarchy** of civil and criminal courts (Development of The Adalat System). **Civil** district courts under Indian officials were setup. **Qazis** and **Muftis** were appointed for **criminal** cases. To make **adalats accessible**, he divided Calcutta, Orissa and Bihar into **six divisions** with **several districts** each.

Codification of Laws

According to the orientalist influence, Indians were supposed to be governed as per Indian custom. However, to bring efficiency, uniformity and consistency, some amount of codification was required.

- Hastings appointed Hindu Pandits & Muslim Ulemas for codification of laws. Thus, under Warren Hastings a series of law codes such as 'Code of Gentoo laws', 'Colebrook's Digest' etc. came into existence.



Trial of Warren Hastings (1732-1818) in the British House of Commons.

In 1785, Hastings was accused of abuse of office and blackmail by the Whig politicians Sir Philip Francis (1740-1818) and Edmund Burke (1729-1797). The impeachment trial went for about a decade from 1774 to 1784. Finally, he was acquitted.



Edmund Burke



Golghar, Patna (1786)

Constructed by John Garstin of Bengal Engineers. It was designed to store grain and worked like a silo. On the side of the building is a carved inscription that states that the granary was ordered by the governor general in 1784 for the 'Perpetual Prevention of Famine in these Provinces.' Unfortunately, the building never served its purpose.

"Hastings provided a coherent shape to a state of which Clive had only sketched an outline, and he successfully defended that state almost singlehanded with hardly any help from home against a concerted Indian attack." - Percival Spear

Pitt's India Act 1784

The various limitations of the Regulating Act and the increasing pressure of the rival groups on the East India Company in England encouraged the Government of Britain to pass the Pitt's India Act in 1784. The Act came to be known so as William Pitt was then the Prime Minister of England. By this Act, The British Government was finally able to tighten up its grip over the Indian administration. According to the provisions of this Act

- The most important feature of the 1784 Act was the introduction of a permanent mechanism for monitoring, on behalf of parliament, the administration of the Indian empire. A Board of Control comprising six commissioners was created. The Board of Control was to work in a supervisory capacity. However, it was the court of directors that actually governed the Indian empire. Normally, instructions would be sent out to India by or via the court of directors, but the 1784 Act contained provisions for conveying orders of the board, whenever necessary, directly to Fort William through a 'secret committee' bypassing the court of directors.
 - o Thus, Pitt's India Act thus established a system of dual control on the Indian affairs. This became the main instrument till 1858 for parliamentary supervision over the Indian empire.
- The Pitt's India Act elevated the status of the Governor-General to a very extent and in this sense, it was an improvement upon the Regulating Act.
 - o The governor general's council was reconstituted by reducing its strength from four to three. More powers were concentrated in the hands of the governor general so that his authority might not be constrained by the council.
 - o The Bombay and Madras Presidencies were subordinated to Bengal in all matters relating to war, diplomacy and revenues in unambiguous terms.
 - o Thus, Pitt's India Act made the governor general a very powerful colonial official and centralized the Company's colonial government, though centralization was not always possible in practice.

The significance of the Pitt's India Act lies in the fact, that, hereafter, the East India Company became an organ of the broader British national interest. India was to play a subservient role in the interest of the British ruling class.

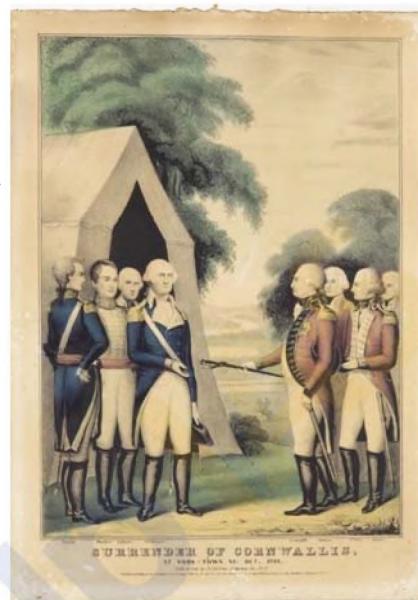
The general framework of the Government of India, laid down by the Pitt's India Act remained unaltered till 1858, though certain minor changes were implemented from time to time.

(3) Lord Cornwallis

The appointment of Cornwallis as Governor-General in 1786 was the direct result of the controversies aroused by the acts of Clive and the rule of Hastings. Certain broad principles of the relationship of India with Britain were worked out.

- British had already lost America -> So, they tried to strengthen its rule in India through various reforms of Cornwallis.
- Cornwallis was guided by a sense of racial superiority of the British.

He gave social and political stability to Bengal at the price of neglecting the rights of the lesser landholders and undertenants and of excluding Indians from any responsible share in the administration.



Cornwallis Code (1793)

Cornwallis was the real architect of the modern Indian judicial system. The general regulations for the administration of justice by Warren Hastings had marked the beginning of a system, peculiarly English. This early stage of Company's law making came to a climax with the Cornwallis-Code (1793) which was to provide a new legal framework conducive to trade and investment. It contained a series of Regulations regarding governing, policing, judiciary and civil administration that remained in force till 1833.

(A) The code of written law prepared by Cornwallis signalled the coming of Rule of Law into India.

- The Rule of Law was to ensure a uniform system of justice based on the principle of equality before law.
- By introducing codified law, Cornwallis ended the experimentation of the first phase of British Government in India. The law administered was Hindu and Muslim personal law and a modified Muslim criminal code. He took some prevailing Muslim criminal laws as barbarous and so he tried to make them a bit humane. It was clearly laid down that in all district courts were to administer fixed forms of law. The procedure in these courts was to follow roughly the existing procedure in the British courts.
 - o Now, the witness could be from any caste.
 - o Intention, rather than type of weapon, was more emphasized.
 - o Open trials were to be conducted.
- Separation of powers: executive power (revenue collection) and judicial power (civil justice) of district collectors.
 - o Civil justice -> district judge
 - o District collector -> revenue collection

Rate of Revenue: Tax fixed based on taxes collected in 1790-92 as the base year. (Which was equal to Rs. 2.68 crore)

- o 10/11 part to the Company, 1/11 share to the Zamindars.
- o Govt share was fixed permanently. All future increase in total income (either through extension or through revenue increase) would go to the zamindar.

The expectation was that the security of property and unchanging land revenue demand would transform a zamindar into improving **landlord** similar to those in England of the **same period**.

The outcome:

- Absolute land property created a land market in Bengal. The new class of landlords, which emerged because of the Permanent Settlement, had **commercial interests**.
- Many of them were **residents of Calcutta** who decided to invest their capital in the purchase of land in the countryside.
- As the landlords were contract-bound to remit the **revenue** within a short time, they raised rent to an **unprecedented degree**.
- There developed a complex rent collecting structure with various grades of **intermediary** tenure-holders.
- As a result of the **ruthless appropriation** of the rural **surplus**, the peasants were adversely affected.
- As taxes had then to be paid in **cash**, the peasants were **compelled** to have **recourse** to **moneylenders** or **mahajans**.
- In the process, a class of landless **sharecroppers** and **agricultural labourers** emerged in Bengal.
- The condition of the peasant became even more **miserable** as the Permanent Settlement, the new rule of property was backed up by a 'Rule of Law' or the new **judiciary** and the **police** introduced by Lord Cornwallis. The **police** and the **judiciary** responded to the interest of the wealthier **classes** alone. The peasants were invariably **denied justice**.

Thus, the introduction of the Permanent Settlement led to the evolution of a new set of **agrarian** relations that was extremely **regressive**. The misery inflicted by the British on the Indians was of a different kind which they had never experienced before. It reduced the peasants to extreme **poverty** and ushered in a period of **chronic famine**, **starvation** and **hunger**.

By the 1820s, it was clear that the permanent settlement had **failed** to meet its original expectations.

Drain of Wealth (DoW)

- Meaning
 - In 17th and 18th c Europe, DoW meant negative BoT and outflow of precious metal (bullionism)
 - In colonized India, it meant excess export, unilateral transfer of surplus from India to Britain.
- Context - "investment"
 - EIC was struggling to finance one-sided Indian trade, compelled to bring precious metal from Britain.
 - After Diwani of Bengal, it invested the plunder and revenue, and profit gained from inter-regional trade into trading activities. Indian goods were now purchased through Indian money while company curtailed the import of silver from Britain - unilateral transfer of surplus.



Decline of Handicraft

- Earlier
 - Various European companies purchased Indian handicraft products.
 - Dadni system (putting-out system) for clothes.
- Under British: Dadni system -> Agency System (complete control over artisans and production)
 - British eliminated other rivals from this race. Once that was achieved, British put severe pressure on the artisans of Bengal.
 - Dual pressure by Gumastas (agents):
 - Company developed monopoly over the raw material supplies and started to provide it to the artisans at higher cost.
 - Simultaneously, the Company compelled the artisans to sell the product cheap (with legal backing)

Worst exploitation of artisans in Bengal

- Murshidabad & Dhaka became desolate. Dhaka (Lancashire of India), a great supplier of cotton and Muslin (Malmal) now lost its position.
- Unemployed artisans moved to already crowded agriculture: impoverishment.

Weavers also, upon their inability to perform such agreements as have been forced from them by the Company's agents... have had their goods seized, and sold on the spot, to make good the deficiency: and the winders of raw silk, called Nagaads, have been treated also with such injustice, that instances have been known of their cutting off their thumbs, to prevent their being forced to wind silk. - William Bolts (1772)

The bones of the cotton weavers are bleaching the plains of India - William Bentick (1834)

Indian Opium - Chinese Tea Triangular trade

In 1773, the then British Governor-General, Lord Warren Hastings brought the whole of the opium trade under the control of the Government.



Brunswick Dockyard in London - the busiest one, built specially for East Indian trade

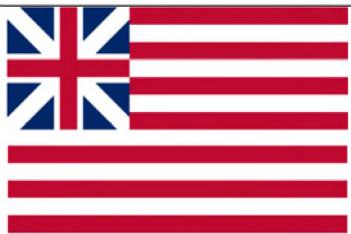


Total of around 400 such clippers were built every year to move tea and opium around the globe at the East India Brunswick dockyard in London.

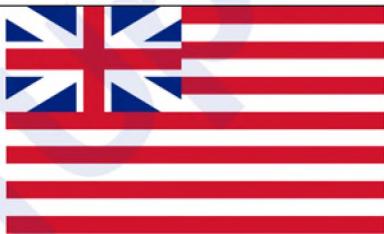
Fun Fact:

Boston Tea Party (1773) happened with tea bags purchased from China with Indian opium.

American Flag is based on the Flag of the East India Company



American Flag in 1770s



Flag of East India Company

(C) Social Policies

Limited objective

- o Focus on trade - maximize revenue to finance Indian trade.

No inclination for social reforms - better to maintain traditional structure.

- o To avoid responsibilities and expenditure
- o Not to antagonise the popular consciousness in Bengal
- o Not economically beneficial for the company



The first formal British ban on Sati was imposed in 1798, in the city of Calcutta only. The practice continued in surrounding regions.

(D) Cultural Policy: Orientalism

White Mughals

By the time Company starts colonizing India, many of the Company people start getting colonized by India because of its attractive culture and lifestyle.

	<p>David Ochterlony smoking Hookah. He was a military officer of the EIC and a British resident at Delhi in 1805. He adopted and thoroughly embraced Indo-Persian culture of Mughals.</p>
	<p>William Fraser, British civil servant. In 1805, having just passed out of Fort William College. He topped his class in Persian, Hindustani & Bengali. He still has his Scottish hat on but is already wearing Mughal dress and holding Persian calligraphy pens.</p>
	<p>James Achilles Kirkpatrick, English Resident at Hyderabad in 1790s.</p>
	<p>Captain James Tod riding an elephant (by Chokhla, Mewar, 1817)</p>

British had decided not to interfere in the history and culture of people they had conquered. However, under the leadership of Warren Hastings and his friends, they embarked on an intellectual project to learn more about the country they were ruling. This project was in consonance with the needs of governance.

In Hastings' own words, "*Every accumulation of knowledge and especially such as is obtained by social communication with people over whom we exercise a dominion founded on the right of conquest is useful to the state... it attracts and conciliates distant affections; it lessens the weight of the chain by which the native are held in subjection and it imprints on the hearts of our countrymen the sense and obligations of benevolence.*"

This ideology which prevailed at this time is called **Orientalism**. This intellectual project was institutionalized by the establishment of **Asiatic Society of Bengal** in 1784 CE by **William Jones**. Here, many scholars took specific interest in exploring Indian past and culture. This society became the centre of learning of Indian culture (**oriental learning**). Most of the British officers posted in India during this time were guided by this approach.

- **Meaning:**

- Sensitive and sympathetic approach towards Indian past and culture.
- Though Indian culture is different from European, it is not inferior to it.
- Orientalists appreciated the rich heritage of Indian past.

- **Examples:**

- Many Sanskrit texts were **translated**.

- William Jones - Shakuntala, Geet Govindam, Manusmriti
- Henry Colebrooke - Sanskrit Grammar, Samkhya Karika, Essay on Vedas (1805)
- Charles Wilkins - Bhagvad Geeta, Hitopadesha, Sanskrit Grammar
- William Carey - Ramayana

- **Codification** of Indian laws

- Henry Colebrooke - Digest of Hindu Laws (unfinished by William Jones), Law of Inheritance (both Mitakshara and Dayabhaga)
- Nathaniel Brassey Halhed - Code of Gentoo Laws

- Emphasis on indigenous **education system**

- **Calcutta Madrasa** by Warren Hastings



Asiatic Society, Bengal
(1784)



Fort William College,
Calcutta (1800)



Sanskrit College,
Banaras (1791)



Calcutta Madrasa
(1781)



Indian Museum,
Calcutta (1814)



Asiatic Society,
Bombay (1804) by Sir
James Mackintosh

- **Sanskrit College** at Benares by Jonathan Duncan (Resident)

- o Training of **Civil Servants**

- Most of the **British officers** stationed in India were guided by Orientalism when they were trained in the **Fort William College** founded by Lord Wellesley.

- o Antiquarianism

- **Indian Museum** in Calcutta (1814)

These establishments between 1780-1800 completed the early phase of Kolkata's emergence as an intellectual centre.

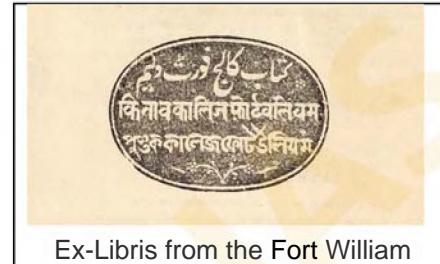
	
Sir William Jones sitting under a banana tree taking notes from Hindu pundits explicating ancient texts.	Warren Hastings with Mullah and a Brahman (Victoria Memorial)

Interest in understanding India's past, her mineral and natural wealth began at the turn of the 18th century for the purpose of trade and commerce. Later on, it became more serious research and the documentation of India's history, the study of birds, animals, trees and plants.

Fort William College, Calcutta (1800)

Initial attempt by Lord Wellesley to give professional training to the European Civil Servants so that they can perform their administrative functions efficiently. He designed a three-year course of study for fresh recruits (between 16-18 years old upon arrival in India)

- **The idea:** To teach the British rookies understand the Oriental Culture, tradition, law and administration.
 - Teaching of Asian languages: Arabic, Urdu, Persian, Sanskrit, Bengali. Later, Marathi and even Chinese.
 - Islamic and Hindu Law
- **Notable scholars associated:**
 - European
 - John Gilchrist-scholar of Hindustani languages
 - William Carrey
 - Henry Colebrooke
 - John Baillie
 - The college employed a large number of Indians (munshis, pandits, maulvis) who were experts in their respective languages and had mastery over legal and/or sacred texts.
 - La Hu Lal - author of Prem Sagar, first modern work in Hindi
 - Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar - head Pundit of Fort William College
 - Thousands of books translated from Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian, Bengali, Hindi, and Urdu into English. The college was instrumental in publishing dictionaries, grammar textbooks, and translations.



Ex-Libris from the Fort William College Library

Trajectory

- Since Wellesley had not obtained proper authorization of the court of directors for setting up the institution, it was not accorded official recognition as a centre for training probationers. Also, CoD were never in favour of a training college in Calcutta -> lack of funds for running the college.
- East India Company College at Haileybury (England), was established in 1807. Yet, Fort William College continued to be a center of learning languages.
- Bentinck's educational policy of public instruction in English in 1835 clipped the wings of Fort William College. Dalhousie administration formally dissolved the institution in 1854.)