

Decline of the Mughal Empire

- Aurangzeb was the last powerful Mughal ruler. After his death (1707), governors and nobles became independent.
- The Mughal emperor still ruled Delhi but had lost real power.



Bahadur Shah Zafar and his sons arrested by Captain Hodson after 1857 revolt

The East India Company Comes to India

- 1600: East India Company got a royal charter from Queen Elizabeth I.
 - ◆ Definition: A Royal Charter is official permission to trade, granted by the monarch.
- It gave the Company monopoly rights to trade in the East.
- Portuguese, Dutch, French and British competed for trading rights.



Map showing European sea routes to India (18th century)

- British trading posts were called factories.
- First factory in India was set up in Surat (1613).

The Company in Bengal

- 1651: First English factory at Hugli.
- 1696: Company built a fort around the factory.
- Later got zamindari rights of three villages including Kalikata (now Kolkata).

- **Mughal emperor Aurangzeb gave farman for duty-free trade.**
 - ◆ **Definition: Farman – An official order issued by the ruler.**



 Fig. 3 – Boats bringing goods to Fort St George, Madras (1867 painting)

- **Nawab of Bengal, Murshid Quli Khan, opposed Company's misuse of privileges.**

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Trade to Battles

- **Nawabs refused concessions and accused Company of:**
 - **Not paying taxes**
 - **Fortifying illegally**
 - **Disrespecting local rules**
- **Company wanted full trade freedom and demanded political support.**

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Battle of Plassey (1757)

- **Sirajuddaulah (Nawab of Bengal) opposed British expansion.**
- **He seized the factory at Kasimbazar and Calcutta.**
- **Robert Clive attacked back and defeated Siraj at Plassey.**
- **Key Reason: Betrayal by Mir Jafar (Siraj's commander).**
- **First major victory of the Company in India.**



 Fig. 4 – Robert Clive



 Fig 5 – East India Company directors at East India House, London



 Fig. 6 – Sirajuddaulah portrait

🏛️ From Victory to Expansion

- Mir Jafar made Nawab but had to fund Company. Later replaced by Mir Qasim.
 - Battle of Buxar (1764): Company defeated Nawab of Awadh and Mughal emperor.
 - 1765: Mughal emperor granted Diwani rights to Company.
 - ♦ Definition: Diwani – Right to collect revenue and taxes.
 - Dual system: Indian rulers existed in name, Company held actual power.
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💰 Nabobs – Rich Company Officials

- British officials made huge personal profits in India.
- Called “Nabobs” – an English corruption of nawab.
 - ♦ Definition: Nabob – A term used for British officials who became wealthy in India.



📷 Fig. 7 – Nawab Shujaudaulah with his sons and British Resident

📈 Company Expands Its Rule

- Used strategies like:
 - Appointment of Residents (British advisers in Indian courts)
 - Subsidiary Alliance policy
 - ♦ Definition: Subsidiary Alliance – An alliance in which Indian rulers were forced to keep British troops and pay for them. If they failed, part of their territory was taken.
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🐅 Tipu Sultan – Tiger of Mysore

- Ruler of Mysore who fought fiercely against the Company.

- Controlled trade, modernised army, allied with French.
- Died in the Battle of Seringapatam (1799) defending his kingdom.



 Fig. 8 – Tipu Sultan



 Fig. 9 – Cornwallis receiving Tipu's sons as hostages



Fig. 10 – Tipu's toy tiger

This is the picture of a big mechanical toy that Tipu possessed. You can see a tiger mauling a European soldier. When its handle was turned the toy tiger roared and the soldier shrieked. This toy-tiger is now kept in the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The British took it away when Tipu Sultan died defending his capital Seringapatam on 4 May 1799.

 Fig. 10 – Tipu's toy tiger sculpture (symbol of resistance)

- After 1761 (3rd Battle of Panipat), Maratha power weakened.
- Three Anglo-Maratha Wars:
 - First (1782): No clear winner
 - Second (1803–05): British gained Agra and Delhi
 - Third (1817–19): Marathas finally defeated

Policy of Paramountcy

- Started by Lord Hastings (Governor-General 1813–1823)
 - ◆ Definition: Paramountcy – Supreme authority. British claimed their power was above all.



 Fig. 11 – Lord Hastings



 Fig. 12 – Statue of Rani Channamma of Kitor

- Rani Channamma of Kitor resisted annexation (1824), but was captured.
- Her follower, Rayanna, continued rebellion till 1830.

Control Over Northwest and Punjab

- British wanted to secure northwest border fearing Russian invasion.
- Fought Afghan Wars (1838–42), annexed Sindh (1843) and Punjab (1849).

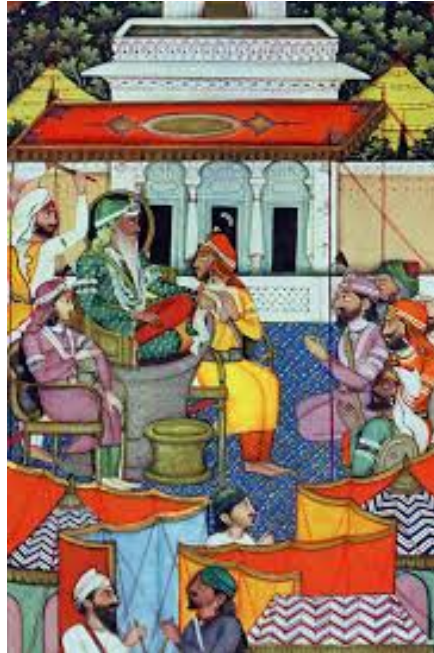


 Fig. 13 – Maharaja Ranjit Singh (Punjab)

Doctrine of Lapse (Lord Dalhousie)

- If an Indian ruler died without a natural male heir → Kingdom taken over.
 - ◆ Definition: Doctrine of Lapse – Policy by which adopted heirs were not recognised by the British.
- States annexed: Satara, Sambalpur, Udaipur, Jhansi, Nagpur, Awadh.



 Fig. 14 – Portrait of Veer Surendra Sai

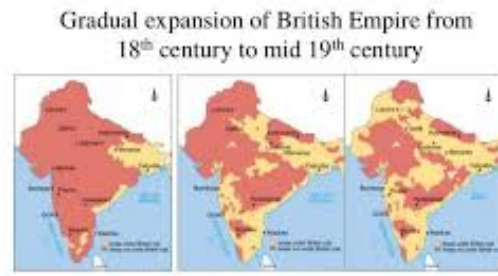


 Fig. 14 a/b/c – Maps showing British expansion (1797, 1840, 1857)

Administrative Changes

- Warren Hastings (first Governor-General, 1773–1785): Restructured administration.
- Three Presidencies: Bengal, Bombay, Madras
- Civil (Diwani) and Criminal (Faujdari) courts established
- ◆ Definition: Adalat – A court of law
- ◆ Sadar Nizamat Adalat – Highest criminal court
- ◆ Supreme Court – Set up in 1774 in Calcutta



 Fig. 15 – Warren Hastings' trial in Britain (1789)

Company's Army

- Old armies had cavalry; Company focused on disciplined infantry with muskets.
- Created a new sepoy army trained European-style
- Ignored caste customs of sepoys → later led to rebellion in 1857



 Fig. 16 – Bengal Sowar (Indian soldier) painting (1780)

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Conclusion

- From traders to rulers — the Company expanded by wars, policies and treaties.
- By 1857, the British controlled most of India — laying the foundation for colonial rule.

