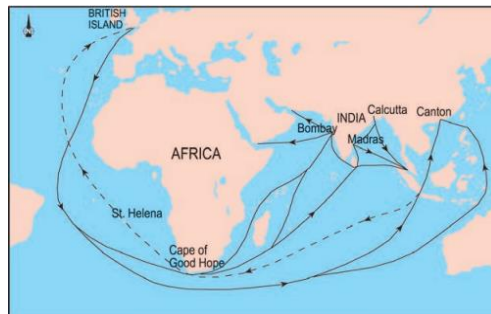


## Chapter – 2: From Trade to Territory

- Aurangzeb – last Mughal ruler – control – large territory – India
- After his death – 1707 – Mughal governors / zamindars – authority – establish regional kingdoms – Delhi – no longer – capital
- 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 18<sup>th</sup> century – new power – British
- British – came for trade – started controlling politics

### East India Company Comes East

- 1600 – East India Company – acquired rights (royal charter) – Queen Elizabeth I (England) – monopoly (sole right) of trade in East – no other Company can compete
- Company – travel across oceans – new lands – buy cheap – sell at high price – make profits by eliminating competition
- Royal charter – could not prevent – European competition



- By the time – first British ship – sailed through west coast of Africa – Cape of Good Hope – crossed the Indian Ocean
- Portuguese (Portugal) – already establish in India – Goa – their base
- Vasco da Gama – Portuguese – discover sea route to India – 1498
- Early 17<sup>th</sup> century – Dutch (Netherlands) – trade in Indian ocean
- Soon – French – came
- Problem- everyone wants same thing – fine qualities of cotton and silk – pepper, cloves, cardamom and cinnamon
- Competition – European companies – pushed up – buying price – reduced profits
- Only way to survive – eliminate the competition – led to fierce (dangerous) battles
- 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries – sank ships, blockaded routes
- Trade – carried out – with arms and ammunition – posts – fortified
- Fortification – led to conflicts – with local rulers

### East India Company begins trade in Bengal

- First English factor – banks of river Hugli – 1651 – base – traders (factors) – operated
- Factory –
  - Warehouse – goods for export – stored
  - Offices – Company officials – operated
- Trade grew – Company persuaded – local merchants – settle near factory
- 1696 – built fort around settlement

- 2 years later – bribed Mughal – acquired zamindari rights – 3 villages – including Kalikata – later became – city of Calcutta – now Kolkata
- Persuaded – Aurangzeb – issue *farman* – trade duty (tax) free
- Company – press for more concessions (special privileges) and manipulating existing ones
- Aurangzeb's *farman* – Company can trade duty free – BUT – officials – trade as side business – paid no taxes – enormous loss of revenue for Bengal

### How trade led to battles

- Early 18<sup>th</sup> century – conflict between Company and nawabs of Bengal – intensified (increased)
- After death of Aurangzeb – nawabs of Bengal – establish authority – like others
- Murshid Ali Khan – then Alivardi Khan – then Sirajuddualah – nawab of Bengal
- Each – strong ruler – refused to give concessions – demanded huge taxes – denied minting (making) coins – stopped fortifications
- Accused Company – deceit – cheating and stealing – huge revenues from Bengal government – disrespecting authority of nawabs
- Company declared – unjust demands – local officials – ruining trade
- Trade only possible – taxes removed – settlements and fortifications expanded
- This conflict – led to Battle of Plassey

### The Battle of Plassey

- Alivardi Khan – died in 1756 – Sirajuddualah – new nawab
- Company worried – power of Sirajuddualah – wanted – puppet nawab – continue concessions in trade
- Tried – Sirajuddualah's rival – become new nawab – unsuccessful
- Sirajuddualah – angry – asked Company – pay taxes, stop fortification and meddling in politics
- Negotiations failed – nawab – 30,000 soldiers – English factory, Kassimbazar – captured Company officials – locked warehouse – took away – weapons – blockaded ships
- Then – marched to Calcutta – control – Company's fort there
- On hearing news of Calcutta – Company in Madras – sent army with navy under Robert Clive
- A lot of negotiations happened – BUT – everything failed
- 1757 – Robert Clive against Sirajuddualah – at Plassey
- Main reason – Sirajuddualah lost – part of army led by Mir Jafar (commanders / *senapati*) – never fought the Battle
- Clive – persuaded Mir Jafar – promising him the crown after defeat of Sirajuddualah
- Battle of Plassey – famous – 1<sup>st</sup> major victory of Company in India
- After defeat – Sirajuddualah – killed – Mir Jafar – new nawab
- Company – prime objective – expansion of trade – not administration – if possible with help from local rulers – territory – not taken forcefully
- Soon Company – knew – above mentioned objective – not possible – puppet nawabs – not always helpful
- When Mir Jafar – protested – Company – installed Mir Qasim
- When Mir Qasim – complained – Company – defeated him in Battle of Buxar (1764) – thrown out of Bengal – Mir Jafar – again new nawab
- Nawab – pay Rs. 500,000 to Company – BUT – Company wanted more territory and revenue
- 1765 – Mir Jafar died – Company's mood changed – Clive declared – 'We must become nawabs ourselves'
- 1765 – Mughal emperor – appointed Company – Diwan of Bengal

- Allowed Company – use revenue of Bengal
- Early 18<sup>th</sup> century – trade with India – expanded – BUT – buy goods in India – gold / silver imported from Britain
- Britain – nothing to sell
- Import of gold – slowed – after Battle of Plassey – AND – stopped – after Diwani rights
- Revenue from India – manage Company expenses – purchase cotton and silk in India – maintain Company army – build Company fort and offices at Calcutta

### **Company officials became ‘nabobs’**

- Company – more power and authority
- Company servant – visions – life like nawabs
- After Battle of Plassey – actual nawabs – gave land and money – gifts to Company officials
- Robert Clive – came to Madras – 1743 – age 18 – 1767 – left India with ₹ 401,102
- 1764 – Robert Clive – appointed as governor of Bengal – tasked to remove corruption – 1772 – British Parliament – examined him on corruption (because of his vast wealth)
- He was found innocent – committed suicide – 1774
- All officials – did not make such money
- Many died – early – war or disease
- Many – simple backgrounds – wanted to earn enough in India – live comfortable in Britain
- Those who earned a lot – flaunted (demonstrated) – wealth – called ‘nabobs’ – were made fun of in plays

### **Company Rule Expands**

- Analyse – annexation of state – 1757 to 1857 – company – rarely attacked anyone – instead – used politic, economy and diplomacy – extend influence
- After Battle of Buxar (1764) – company appointed Residents – political agents – job – help with company’s interests
- Through Residents – company influenced – internal affairs – Indian states
- Tried to decide – successor and appointments on administrative posts
- Sometimes – company forces – subsidiary alliance
  - Indian rulers – no army – paid protection money to company’s army
  - Failed to pay – penalty – part of territory
- 1801 – Richard Wellesley – Governor-General – nawab of Awadh – gave half territory to company
- Similarly – Hyderabad – gave some territory

### **Tipu Sultan – The “Tiger of Mysore”**

- Company – direct fight – in case of threat
- Mysore – grew stronger – powerful rulers – Haidar Ali (1761 – 1782) – his son Tipu Sultan (1782 – 1799)
- Mysore – controlled – profitable trade from Malabar coast – company purchased – pepper and cardamom
- Tipu Sultan – stopped export – sandalwood, pepper, cardamom – disallowed merchants – trade with company
- Close relation – French – modernize his army
- British – angry – Haider and Tipu – dangerous rulers – had to be controlled

- Four wars with Mysore –
  - 1767 – 1769
  - 1780 – 1784
  - 1790 – 1792
  - 1799
- Last war – Battle of Seringapatam – company won – Tipu Sultan died – former rulers – Wodeyars – back in business – subsidiary alliance forced

### War with the Marathas

- Late 18<sup>th</sup> century – company – destroy Maratha power
- Defeat in 3<sup>rd</sup> Battle of Panipat – 1761 – Maratha dream – ruling Delhi – broken
- Divided into states – under chiefs (*sardars*) – Sindhia, Holkar, Gaikward, Bhonsle
- Chiefs – together under alliance – Peshwa (main leader) – base in Pune
- Mahadji Sindhia and Nana Phadnis – famous Maratha soldiers – 18<sup>th</sup> century
- Marathas were controlled in – series of wars
  - First war – ended in 1782 – treaty (deal) of Salbai – no winner
  - Second war (1803-05) – different places – British won – Orissa and places north of Yamuna including Agra and Delhi
  - Third war (1817-19) – Maratha power ended – Peshwa sent to Bithur
- Now company – control all territory – south of Vindhya

### The claim to paramountcy

- Early 19<sup>th</sup> century – company – aggressive policy – territory acquiring
- Lord Hastings – Governor-General (1813-23) – paramountcy – introduced
- Company – authority – paramount (supreme) – greater power than Indian states
- This policy was challenged
- Kitoor (in today's Karnataka) – Rani Channamma – led anti-British movement – arrested 1824 – died in prison – 1829
- Rayanna – poor *chowkidar* in Sangoli, Kitoor – carried on resistance (fighting back) – destroyed – British camps and records – captured and hanged – 1830
- Late 1830s – East India Company – terrified by Russia
- Company thought – Russia might expand – enter India – north-west – secure control over north-west
- Long war with Afghanistan – 1838 – 1842 – indirect company rule
- Sind – taken over – 1843
- Next – Punjab – Maharaja Ranjit Singh stopped them
- After his death – 1839 – 2 long wars with Sikh kingdoms – 1849 – Punjab lost to company

### The Doctrine of Lapse

- Lord Dalhousie – Governor-General (1848-1856) – policy – Doctrine of Lapse
- Policy – Indian ruler died – no male heir (prince) – kingdom – lapse (lost) – British control
- Satara (1848), Sambalpur (1850), Udaipur (1852), Nagpur (1853), Jhansi (1854)
- 1856 – Awadh – added argument – mismanagement by nawab – British rule much better
- 1857 – great revolt against British

### Setting up a New Administration

- Warren Hastings – Governor-General (1773-1785) – imp. role – expanding company power – Bengal, Madras, Bombay
- British territory – divided – 3 presidencies – Bengal, Madras and Bombay – each had a Governor – leader – Governor-General
- Warren Hastings – 1<sup>st</sup> Governor-General – several new rules
- 1772 – system of justice
- District – 2 courts – criminal (*faujdari adalat*) and civil (*diwani adalat*)
- Maulvis and Hindu Pandits – interpreted – Indian laws – European judges – civil courts
- Criminal courts – under Mufti (translator) and Qazi (judge) – under British supervision
- Major problem – Brahman Pandits – different interpretation – local laws – different schools of **dharmashastra**
- 1775 – bring uniformity – 11 pandits – chosen – compile gist (single interpretation) of Hindu laws – N.B. Halhed – translated in English
- 1778 – code of Muslim laws – prepared for European judges
- Regulating Act, 1773 – new Supreme Court – AND – court of appeal – Sadar Nizamat Adalat – Calcutta
- District – main power – Collectorate – office of Collector – collect revenue and maintain law and order – help from judges, police officers and *darogas*

### The Company army

- Colonial rule – new ideas – administration – BUT – power – military strength
- Mughal army – **cavalry** (soldiers on horsebacks) and **infantry** (foot soldiers)
  - Trained in archery and sword
  - Cavalry – main and infantry – not professionally trained
  - Local zamindars – trained and supplied - infantry
- Major change – 18<sup>th</sup> century – Awadh, Benaras – recruited – peasants – trained professionally
- East India Company – same method – called it sepoy army
- Warfare technology – changed – 1820s – cavalry – not required anymore
- British – fighting in Burma, Afghanistan, Egypt – soldiers – armed – muskets (guns) and matchlocks (bombs)
- Soldiers – maintain with changing military requirements – infantry – more imp.
- Early 19<sup>th</sup> century – British – uniform military culture
- Soldiers – European style training and discipline – problems – caste discrimination – affected team building activities
- Revolt of 1857 – life of sepoys

### Conclusion

- East India Company – came for trade – became colonial power
- Early 19<sup>th</sup> century – steam technology – easy transportation
- 1857 – company – direct rule over 63 % - Indian territory
- Indirect influence – remaining territory – British – 100 % – control over India