

History of India from 1707 A.D. to 1885 A.D.

Geographical Discoveries

- By 1488, Portuguese navigators had investigated the entire western and southern coasts of Africa.
- Between 1492 and 1494, Columbus discovered the Bahamas and the Greater and Lesser Antilles.
- Between 1497 and 1499, Vasco da Gama discovered (with the aid of Arab pilots) a continuous sea route from Western Europe around South Africa to India.
- Between 1513 and 1525, the Spanish crossed the Isthmus of Panama and reached the Pacific Ocean.
- During 1519-22, F. Magellan and his associates completed the first voyage around the world
- Vasco da Gama reached India on May 20, 1498.
- Second visit 1502.

The coming of Europeans to India

- **Portuguese in India**

- The Portuguese came to India to Trade and they wanted to take away the spice trade from the Arab traders.
- **Francis de Almeida** was the first governor of the Portuguese in India. Later, in 1509 **Albuquerque** became the governor.
- **Albuquerque captured Goa from the ruler of Bijapur in 1510.** Goa became the capital of the Portuguese settlements in India. Portuguese influence declined in India by the end of the 16th century as naval and commercial powers of the France, English and Dutch had given a strong competition to Portuguese and Spanish trade monopoly.
- Around 17th century they had lost all their possessions in India except Goa, Diu and Daman as the Marathas captured Salsette and Bassein in 1739.

British East India Company

- The British East India Company sometimes also called John Company, was a Joint- Stock Company established in 1600, as The Company of Merchants of London Trading into the East Indies.

- William Hawkins stayed at the Court of Jahangir from 1608 to 1611.
- The British Company gained foothold in India in 1612 when **Mughal emperor Jahangir granted the rights to establish a factory in Surat to Sir Thomas Roe.**
- The Court of directors was the supreme authority in framing policies for the company.
- In the first 50 years of its arrival, British East India Company, had no interest in the development of colonies, it preferred to engage in trade only.
- This policy saw a change by 1650 when the power of the old guard British royalist merchants was broken, and a new class of merchants wrested control of the Company.
- Later, they tried to establish the political power so that they can compel the Mughals to allow them a free hand in trade and keep the rival European out.
- In 1686 hostilities between English and Mughal emperor broke out, when English had declared war on Emperor. English lost the war and apologized for the same.

- In 1717 Farrukh Siyar confirmed the privileges granted in 1691 Farman and extended them to Deccan and Gujarat.

The Dutch East India Company

- The Dutch East India Company was established in 1602.(Netherlands)
- Dutch established their settlements at Masulipattinam, Karaikal, Nagapattinam, Pulicat, Surat, Chinsura and Kasimbazar.
- Dutch exported indigo, cotton textiles, saltpetre, raw silk, and opium from India.
- In the 17th century before the prominence of British they emerged as the most dominant power in European trade in the East.
- Main centre of Dutch in India was Pulicat and later it was replaced by Nagapattinam.
- Indonesian Islands of Java, Sumatra, and the Spice Islands where spices were produced, were the main interest of the Dutch.

- In 1667, Dutch agreed to leave alone English settlements in India, while English gave up all claims to Indonesia.
- Dutch commercial activities started to decline by the beginning of 18th century and with the Battle of Bedera with the English in 1759 it came to an end.
- Short sited commercial policy which was mostly based on trade in spices was also a major cause of decline of Dutch Power.

The Danish East India Company

- The Danish formed an East India Company and arrived in India in 1616.(Denmark)
- Important Danish settlement in India was Serampore in Bengal; it was also their headquarters in India.
- They could not establish their position in India and finally sold all their Indian settlements to the English in 1845.
- They were more concerned with missionary activities.

French East India Company

- French East India Company was established in 1664.

- The first French factory in India was established at Surat.
- The French company was created, financed and controlled by the State and it differed from the English company which was a private commercial venture.
- Duplex was an important French governor in India (1742).
- Duplex began the policy of extending territorial empire in India and started political occupations, leading to series of conflicts with English in form of Carnatic Wars.
- Battle at Wandiwash against the East India Company in 1760 was the decisive battle for the French existence in India through which they lost almost all their possessions in India.

Colonialism

- **Colonialism** is a practice or policy of control by one people or power over other people or areas, often by establishing colonies and generally with the aim of economic dominance.

- In the process of colonization, colonizers may impose their religion, language, economics, and other cultural practices.

The foreign administrators rule the territory in pursuit of their interests, seeking to benefit from the colonized region's people and resources.

Battle of Plassey:1757

- The **Battle of Plassey** was a decisive victory of the British East India Company over a much larger force of the Nawab of Bengal and his French allies on 23 June 1757, under the leadership of Robert Clive.
- The battle helped the Company seize control of Bengal.
- The battle took place at Palashi on the banks of the Hooghly River, about 150 kilometres north of Calcutta and south of Murshidabad, then capital of Bengal.
- The belligerents were the Nawab Siraj-ud-Daulah, the Nawab of Bengal, and the British East India Company.

- Siraj-ud-Daulah had ordered the English to stop the extension of their fortification.
- Robert Clive bribed Mir Jafar, the commander-in-chief of the Nawab's army, and also promised to make him Nawab of Bengal.
- Clive defeated Siraj-ud-Daulah at Plassey in 1757 and captured Calcutta.
- The battle was preceded by an attack on British-controlled Calcutta by Nawab Siraj-ud-Daulah and the Black Hole massacre.
- The British sent reinforcements under Colonel Robert Clive and Admiral Charles Watson from Madras to Bengal and recaptured Calcutta.
- Clive then seized the initiative to capture the French fort of Chandernagar.
- The battle was waged during the Seven Years' War (1756–1763), and, in a mirror of their European rivalry, the French East India Company (*La Compagnie des Indes Orientales*) sent a small contingent to fight against the British.

- Siraj-ud-Daulah had a vastly numerically superior force and made his stand at Plassey. The British, demoted army chief Mir Jafar.
- Mir Jafar, Rai Durlabh and Yar Lutuf Khan thus assembled their troops near the battlefield but made no move to actually join the battle.
- Siraj-ud-Daulah's army with about 50,000 soldiers, 40 cannons and 10 war elephants was defeated by 3,000 soldiers of Col. Robert Clive. The battle ended in 11 hours approx
- This is judged to be one of the pivotal battles in the control of Indian subcontinent by the colonial powers.
- The British now wielded enormous influence over the Nawab, Mir Jafar and consequently acquired significant concessions for previous losses and revenue from trade.

The British further used this revenue to increase their military might and push the other European colonial powers such as the Dutch and the French out of South Asia, thus expanding the British Empire.

Battle of Buxar

- The **Battle of Buxar** was fought on 22/23 October 1764, between the forces under the command of the British East India Company, led by **Hector Munro**, and the combined armies of
- **Mir Qasim**, Nawab of Bengal,
- the Nawab of Awadh **Shuja-ud-Daula**; and
- the Mughal Emperor **Shah Alam II** accompanied by **Raja Balwan Singh** of Kashi.
- The battle was fought at Buxar, a "small fortified town" within the territory of Bihar, located on the banks of the Ganga river about 130 kilometres west of Patna.
- it was a decisive victory for the British East India Company.
- The war had been brought to an end by the **Treaty of Allahabad** in 1765.
- The British army engaged in the fighting numbered 7,072 comprising 859 British, 5,297 Indian sepoys and 918 Indian cavalry.
- The alliance army's numbers were estimated to be over 40,000. According to other sources, the

combined army of the Mughals, consisting of 40,000 men was defeated by a British army comprising 10,000 men.

- The Nawabs had virtually lost their military power after the battle of Buxar.
- The lack of basic co-ordination among the major three disparate allies was responsible for their decisive defeat.
- Mirza Najaf Khan commanded the right flank of the Mughal imperial army and was the first to advance his forces against Major Hector Munro at daybreak; the British lines formed within twenty minutes and reversed the advance of the Mughals.
- According to the British, Durrani and Rohilla cavalry were also present and fought during the battle in various skirmishes.
- Munro divided his army into various columns and particularly pursued the Mughal Grand Vizier Shuja-ud-Daula the Nawab of Awadh and Balwant singh who responded by blowing up his boat-bridge after crossing the river, thus abandoning the Mughal

Emperor Shah Alam II and members of his own regiment.

- Mir Qasim also fled with his 3 million rupees worth of Gemstones and later died in 1777.
- Mirza Najaf Khan reorganized formations around Shah Alam II, who retreated and then chose to negotiate with the victorious British.
- The victors captured 133 pieces of artillery and over 1 million rupees of cash.
- Immediately after the battle, Munro decided to assist the Marathas, who were described as a "warlike race", well known for their relentless and unwavering hatred towards the Mughal Empire and its Nawabs and Mysore.
- The British victory at Buxar had "at one fell swoop", disposed of the three main scions of Mughal power in Upper India.
- Mir Kasim [Qasim] disappeared into impoverished obscurity.

- Shah Alam realigned himself with the British, and Shah Shuja [Shuja-ud-Daula] fled west hotly pursued by the victors.
- The whole Ganges valley lay at the company's mercy; Shah Shuja eventually surrendered; henceforth company troops became the power-brokers throughout Oudh as well as Bihar"

The Carnatic Wars

- **Carnatic Wars**, also spelled **Karnatic Wars**, series of military contests during the 18th century between the British, the French, the Marathas, and Mysore for control of the coastal strip of eastern India from Nellore (north of Madras [now Chennai]) southward (the Tamil country).
- The name Carnatic properly refers to the region occupied by the Kannada-speaking people, which roughly correspond to the modern Indian state of Karnataka (formerly Mysore). In the 18th century the coastal Carnatic was a dependency of Hyderabad, within the Mughal Empire.

First Carnatic War (1740-48)

- **The War of Austrian Succession**

- Between 1740 and 1748, most of Europe's great powers were involved in a conflict caused by the question of Maria Theresa's succession to the Austrian
- The English navy under **Commodore Curtis Bennett** seized some French ships to provoke France.
- The French Governor General, the **Marquis Joseph-François Dupleix**, appealed for protection from **Anwar-ud-Din**, the Nawab of Carnatic and he in turn warned the British that his province was neutral territory and that no attack on French possessions would be tolerated.
- France retaliated by seizing Madras in 1746 with the help of the fleet from Mauritius, the Isle of France, under **Admiral La Bourdonnais**, the French governor of Mauritius.
- The capture of Madras triggered a bitter argument between Dupleix and La Bourdonnais.
- Dupleix wanted to hand the town over to the Nawab, as compensation for breaking the Nawab's decree of neutrality, while La Bourdonnais wanted to ransom the town back to the British.

- This dispute dragged on into October, and eventually Anwar-ud-Din decided to intervene.
- He sent an army of 10,000 men under the command of his son Mahfuzz Khan to besiege the French in Madras.
- A small French army under Captain Paradise defeated the strong Indian army under Mahfuz Khan at St.Thome on the banks of the River Adyar.
- The First Carnatic War ended in 1748 when the **Treaty of Aix-La Chapelle** was signed bringing the Austrian War of Succession to a conclusion.
- Under the terms of this treaty, Madras was handed back to the English, and the French, in turn, got their territories in North America.
- **War** revealed that even a small disciplined army could easily defeat a much larger Indian army.
- Further, this war adequately brought out the importance of naval force in the Anglo-French conflict in the Deccan.

Second Carnatic War (1749-54)

- After the end of the First Carnatic War, the peace was short lived.
- In 1748 **Nizam-ul-Mulk**, the independent Nawab of Hyderabad died.
- The succession to his position was contested, and the British and French were soon dragged into the fighting between the candidates.
- **Dupleix**, the French governor who had successfully led the French forces in the First Carnatic War, sought to increase his power and French political influence in southern India by interfering in local dynastic.
- The resulting Second Carnatic War lasted from 1749 until 1754, and saw the British strengthen their position in southern India.
- The opportunity was provided by the death of **Nizam-ul-Mulk**, the founder of the independent kingdom of **Hyderabad, in 1748**, and the release of **Chanda Sahib**, the son-in-law of **Dost Ali**, the Nawab of Carnatic, by the Marathas in the same year.
- **In Hyderabad**, the accession of Nasir Jang, the son of the Nizam, to the throne of Hyderabad was

opposed by Muzaffar Jang, the grandson of the Nawab, who laid claim to the throne saying that the Mughal Emperor had appointed him as the governor of Hyderabad.

- **Further south** there were two candidates for the **Nawabship of the Carnatic**, a subsidiary post officially dependent on the Nizam.
- **Anwar-ud-Din** had only been appointed Nawab of the Carnatic in **1743**, after Nizam-ul-Mulk had been forced to intervene to restore order in the province.
- Anwar-ud-Din was one of the Nizam's officers.
- Appointment of Anwar-ud-Din was resented by Chanda Sahib
- Chanda Sahib was the son-in-law of a previous Nawab of the Carnatic, Dost Ali (1732-39).
- He had been an effective ally to the French, before in 1741 being besieged in Trichinopoly by the Marathas.

The French supported the claims of Muzaffar Jang and Chanda Sahib in the Deccan and Carnatic, respectively,

while the English sided with Nasir Jang and Anwar-ud-din

- The combined armies of Muzaffar Jang, Chanda Sahib and the French defeated and killed Anwar-ud-din at the **Battle of Ambur** (near Vellore) in **1749**.
- The Nawab was killed early in the war and left behind his son **Mohammed Ali** to claim the Nawabship.
- Muzaffar Jang was installed as the Nizam of Hyderabad and the subahdar of Deccan, and Dupleix was appointed governor of all the Mughal territories to the south of the River Krishna.
- Territories near Pondicherry and also some areas on the Orissa Coast (including Masulipatnam) were ceded to the French.
- However, Muzaffar Jung was killed a couple of months later and the French installed Muzaffar's uncle Salabat Jung as the new Nizam.
- Having failed to provide effective assistance to Muhammad Ali at Trichinopoly, **Robert Clive** of the English company (first British administrator of the Bengal Presidency), put forward the proposal for a

diversionary attack on the Governor Saunders of Madras.

- He suggested a sudden raid on **Arcot** (the capital of the Carnatic) to divert the pressure from Trichinopoly in which the British won.
- After several battles fought, Chanda Sahib was executed by Muhammad Ali who was later installed as the Nawab of Carnatic.
- The French authorities, annoyed at the heavy financial losses that Dupleix's policy involved, decided to recall him in 1754.
- **Charles Robert Godeheu** succeeded Dupleix as the French Governor-General in India.
- Godeheu adopted a **policy of negotiations** with the English and signed the **Treaty of Pondicherry** with them under which the English and the French agreed not to interfere in the quarrels of native princes.
- Also, each party was left in possession of the territories actually occupied by them at the time of the treaty.

- Indian authority was no longer necessary for European success; rather Indian authority itself was becoming dependent on European support.
- **Muhammad Ali** in the Carnatic and **Salabat Jang** in Hyderabad became clients rather than patrons.

Third Carnatic War (1758-63)

- In Europe, when Austria wanted to recover Silesia in 1756, the **Seven Years War (1756-63)** started.
- In 1758, the French army under French General, **Count Thomas Arthur de Lally** captured the English forts of St. David and Vizianagaram in 1758.
- Now, the English became offensive and inflicted heavy losses on the French fleet under **Admiral D'Ache** at Masulipatnam.
- **Battle of Wandiwash:**
- The decisive battle of the Third Carnatic War was won by the English on January 22, 1760 at Wandiwash (or Vandavasi) in Tamil Nadu.

- **General Eyre Coote** of the English totally routed the French army under **Count de Lally** and took Marquis de Bussy as prisoner.
- Pondicherry was defended by Lally for eight months before he surrendered on January 16, 1761.
With the loss of Pondicherry, Gingee and Mahe, the French power in India was reduced to its lowest.
- Lally, after being taken as prisoner of war at London, returned to France where he was imprisoned and executed in 1766.
- The third war ended with the **Treaty of Peace of Paris (1763)** under which Pondicherry and Chandannagar were returned to France but they could only have trading activities in them.
- Although the treaty restored to the French their factories in India, the French political influence disappeared after the war.
- Thereafter, the French, like their Portuguese and Dutch counterparts in India, confined themselves to their small enclaves and to commerce.
- The English became the **supreme European power** in the Indian subcontinent.

- The victory at Wandiwash left the English East India Company with no European rival in India. Thus they were ready to take over the rule of the entire Country.
- Significantly, in the **Battle of Wandiwash**, natives served in both the armies as sepoys.
- It makes one think that irrespective of which side won, there was inevitability about the fall of India to European invaders.
- **Lesser Governmental Control over British:** The English Company was a private enterprise. With less governmental control over it, this company could take instant decisions when needed without waiting for the approval of the government.

The French company, on the other hand, was a State concern.

- **Superior British Navy and Bigger Cities Under Control:** The English navy was superior to the French navy. The English held three important places, namely, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras whereas the French had only Pondicherry.

- **British were Strong with Funds:** The French subordinated their commercial interest to territorial ambition, which made the French company short of funds.
- **Superior British Commanders:** A major factor in the success of the English in India was the superiority of the commanders in the British camp.

In comparison to the long list of leaders on the English side - Sir Eyre Coote, Major Stringer Lawrence, Robert Clive and many others, there was only Dupleix on the French side.

First Anglo-Mysore War

- **The Anglo-Mysore Wars were a series of four wars between the British and the Kingdom of Mysore in the latter half of the 18th century in Southern India.**
- Haider Ali (1721 – 1782)
- Started his career as a soldier in the Mysore Army.
- Soon rose to prominence in the army owing to his military skills.

- He was made the Dalavayi (commander-in-chief), and later the Chief Minister of the Mysore state under **Krishnaraja Wodeyar II**, ruler of Mysore.
- Through his administrative prowess and military skills, he became the de-facto ruler of Mysore with the real king reduced to a titular head only.
- He set up a modern army and trained them along European lines.
- **In 1612**, a Hindu kingdom under the **Wodeyars** emerged in the region of Mysore. **Chikka Krishnaraja WodeyarII** ruled from **1734 to 1766**.
- **Haider Ali** who was appointed as a soldier in the army of Wodeyars became the **de-facto ruler of Mysore** with his great administrative skills and military tactics.
- During the second half of the 18th century, Mysore emerged as a formidable power under his leadership.
- **Mysore's proximity with the French** and **Haider Ali's control** over the rich trade of the **Malabar coast** threatened the political and commercial interests of the English and their control over Madras.

- The British, after their success in the **Battle of Buxar** with the nawab of Bengal, signed a treaty with the **Nizam of Hyderabad** persuading him to give them the **Northern Circars for protecting the Nizam from Haidar Ali** who already had disputes with the **Marathas**.
- The Nizam of Hyderabad, the Marathas, and the English allied together against Haidar Ali. Haider diplomatically turned the Marathas neutral and Nizam into his ally against Nawab of Arcot. The war continued for **a year-and-a-half** without any conclusion.
- Haidar changed his strategy and suddenly appeared before the gates of Madras causing complete chaos and panic at Madras.
- This forced the English to conclude a **treaty with Haidar on April 4, 1769** known as the **Treaty of Madras**.
- The treaty provided for the **exchange of prisoners** and the **conquered areas**.
- Haidar Ali was **promised the help of the English** in case he was attacked by any other power.

Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780-84)

- The British **failed to adhere to the treaty of Madras** when Mysore was attacked by the **Maratha army in 1771**.
- Haider Ali accused them for breach of faith.
- Moreover, **Haider Ali found the French more resourceful** in terms of fulfilling the army requirements of guns, saltpetre and lead.
- Consequently, he started **importing French war materials** to Mysore **through Mahe**, a French possession on the Malabar Coast.
- The increasing friendship between the two raised concerns for the British.
- Consequently the British tried to capture Mahe which was under Haider Ali's protection.
- Haidar Ali forged an **alliance with the Marathas and the Nizam** against the British.
- He **attacked the Carnatic and captured Arcot** and **defeated the English** army under **Colonel Baillie in 1781**.

- In the meantime, the English (**under Sir Eyre Coote**) **detached both the Marathas and the Nizam from Haidar's side**, but the undeterred Haidar faced the English boldly only to suffer a **defeat at Porto Novo** (present day Parangipettai, Tamil Nadu) **in November 1781**.
- However, he regrouped his forces and defeated the English and captured their commander, Braithwaite.
- Haidar Ali **died of cancer on December 7, 1782**.
- His son Tipu Sultan carried on the war for one year without any positive outcome.
- Fed up with an inconclusive war, both sides opted for peace, negotiating the **Treaty of Mangalore (March, 1784)** under which both the parties gave back the territories they had taken from each other.

Third Anglo-Mysore War (1790-92)

- The Treaty of Mangalore was not enough to resolve the conflicts between Tipu Sultan and the British.
- Both were aiming to establish their own political supremacy over the Deccan.

- The **Third Anglo-Mysore War** began when **Tipu attacked Travancore**, an ally of the English and the **only source of pepper for the East India Company**.
- Travancore had purchased Jalkottal and Cannanore from the Dutch in the Cochin state which was a feudatory of Tipu, he considered the act of Travancore as a violation of his sovereign rights.
- The British sided with Travancore and attacked Mysore.
- The Nizam and the Marathas who were jealous of Tipu's growing power joined the British.
- In 1790, Tipu Sultan defeated the British army under **General Meadows**.
- In 1791, **Lord Cornwallis** took the leadership and at the head of a large army marched through **Ambur and Vellore to Bangalore** (captured in March 1791) and from there to **Seringapatam**.
- Coimbatore fell to them, but they lost it again, and at last with the support of the Marathas and the Nizam, the British attacked Seringapatam for the second time.

- Tipu offered serious opposition, but the odds were against him.
- The war was concluded with the **Treaty of Seringapatam, 1792.**
- Under this treaty, nearly **half of the Mysorean territory was taken over** by the alliance of the British, Nizam and the Marathas.
- **Baramahal, Dindigul and Malabar went to the British**, while the **Marathas** got the regions surrounding the **Tungabhadra and its tributaries** and the **Nizam acquired the areas from Krishna to beyond the Pennar.**
- Besides, a **war damage of three crore rupees** was also taken from Tipu.
- Half of the war indemnity was to be paid immediately while the rest was to be given in installments, for which Tipu's two sons were taken as hostages by the English.
- The Third Anglo-Mysore War destroyed Tipu's dominant position in the south and firmly established British supremacy there.

Fourth Anglo-Mysore War (1799)

- The period of 1792-99 was used by both the British and Tipu Sultan to recoup their losses.
- Tipu fulfilled all the terms of the Treaty of Seringapatam and got his sons released.
- In 1796, when the Hindu ruler of the Wodeyar dynasty died, Tipu declared himself as the Sultan and decided to avenge his humiliating defeat in the previous war.
- **In 1798, Lord Wellesley**, an imperialist to the core, **succeeded Sir John Shore** as the new Governor General.
- Tipu's growing friendship with the French raised concerns for Wellesley.
- Aimed at annihilating Tipu's independent existence, he forced him into submission through the system of **Subsidiary Alliance**.
- Tipu was accused of plotting against the British by sending emissaries to Arabia, Afghanistan and Versailles.

- Tipu's explanation did not satisfy Wellesley thus the fourth Anglo-Mysore war began. The war began on **April 17, 1799** and ended on **May 4, 1799** with the fall of Seringapatam. Tipu was defeated first by British General Stuart and then by General Harris.
- Arthur Wellesley, the brother of Lord Wellesley, also participated in the war.
- The Marathas and the Nizam again helped the British as the **Marathas had been promised half of the territory of Tipu** and the **Nizam had already signed the Subsidiary Alliance.**
- Tipu Sultan died in the war and all his treasures were confiscated by the British.
- The British chose a boy from the earlier Hindu royal family of Mysore as the maharaja and also imposed the subsidiary alliance system on him.
- It had taken the English 32 years to subjugate Mysore. The threat of French revival in the Deccan was permanently eliminate
- **Post War Scenario**

- Lord Wellesley offered **Soonda and Harponelly districts of Mysore Kingdom** to the **Marathas**, which the latter **refused**.
- The **Nizam** was given the districts of **Gooty and Gurrankonda**.
- The British took possession of Kanara, **Wayanad, Coimbatore, Dwaraporam and Seringapatam**.
- The new state of Mysore was handed over to the old Hindu dynasty (Wodeyars) under a minor ruler **Krishnaraja III**, who accepted the subsidiary alliance.

Haider Ali

- **Haider Ali (1721-1782)**, started his career as a **horseman in the Mysore army** under the ministers of king **Chikka Krishnaraja Wodeyar**.
- He was uneducated but **intellectual and diplomatically & militarily skilled**.
- He became the *de facto* ruler of Mysore in **1761** and **introduced western methods** of training into his army with the **help of the French army**.

- With his excellent military skills, **he took over the Nizami army and the Marathas** and captured **Dod Ballapur, Sera, Bednur and Hoskote** in 1761- 63 and brought to submission the troublesome **Poligars of South India** (Tamil Nadu)
- Recovering from their defeat, the Marathas under **Madhavrao attacked Mysore, and defeated Haidar Ali in 1764, 1766, and 1771.**
- To buy peace, Haidar Ali had to give them large sums of money, but after Madhavrao's death in 1772, **Haidar Ali raided the Marathas** a number of times **during 1774-76, and recovered all the territories** he had previously lost, besides **capturing new areas.**

Tipu Sultan

- Born in **November 1750**, Tipu Sultan was Haidar Ali's son and a **great warrior** also known as the **Tiger of Mysore.**
- He was a **well educated man** fluent in **Arabic, Persian, Kanarese and Urdu.**

- Tipu, like his father Haider Ali, gave maximum care to the raising and maintenance of **an efficient military force**.
- He organised his **army on the European model with Persian words of command**.
- Though he took the help of the French officers to train his soldiers.
- **In 1796**, he set up a Board of Admiralty and planned for **a fleet of 22 battleships**.
- He established **three dockyards at Mangalore, Wajedabad and Molidabad**.
- He was also a **patron of science and technology** and is credited as the **‘pioneer of rocket technology’** in India.
- He wrote a military manual explaining the operation of rockets.
- Tipu was a **great lover of democracy and a great diplomat** who gave his support to the French soldiers at Seringapatam in setting up a **Jacobin Club in 1797**.

- Tipu himself became a member of the Jacobin Club and allowed himself to be called **Citizen Tipu**. He planted the **Tree of Liberty at Seringapatam**.

First Anglo-Maratha War (1775 – 1782)

- The third Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao died in 1761 due to shock after his defeat at the Third Battle of Panipat.
- His son Madhavrao I succeeded him.
- Madhavrao I was able to recover some of the Maratha power and territories which they had lost in the Battle of Panipat.
- The English were aware of the growing Maratha power.
- When Madhavrao I died, there was a tussle for power in the Maratha camp.
- His brother Narayanrao became the Peshwa but his uncle Raghunathrao wanted to become the Peshwa. For this, he sought the help of the English
- So, the **Treaty of Surat in 1775** was signed according to which Raghunathrao ceded Salsette and Bassen.

- The British and army of Raghunathrao attacked the Peshwa and won.
- **The British Calcutta Council** under Warren Hastings annulled this treaty and a new treaty, the **Treaty of Purandhar** was signed in 1776 between the Calcutta Council and Nana Phadnavis, a Maratha minister.
- Accordingly, Raghunath rao was given a pension only and Salsette was retained by the British.
- But the British establishment at Bombay violated this treaty and sheltered Raghunathrao.
- In 1777, Nana Phadnavis went against his treaty with the Calcutta Council and granted a port on the west coast to the French.
- This led the British to advance a force towards Pune. There was a battle at Wadgaon near Pune in which the Marathas under Mahadji Shinde secured a decisive victory over the English.
- The English were forced to sign the **Treaty of Wadgaon in 1779**.

- There was a series of battles at the end of which the **Treaty of Salbai** was signed in 1782. This ended the first Anglo-Maratha war.
- The East India Company retained Salsette and Broach.
- It also obtained a guarantee from the Marathas that they would retake their possessions in the Deccan from Hyder Ali of Mysore.
- The Marathas also promised that they would not grant any more territories to the French.
- Raghunathrao was to receive a pension of Rs.3 lakh every year.
- All territories taken by the British after the Treaty of Purandhar were ceded back to the Marathas.
- The English accepted Madhavrao II (son of Narayanrao) as the Peshwa.

Second Anglo-Maratha War (1803 – 1805)

- In 1799, the Marathas were the only major power left outside of British domination.
- Maratha Confederacy consisted of five major chiefs, the Peshwas at Pune, the Gaekwads at Baroda, the

Holkars at Indore, the Scindias at Gwalior and the Bhonsles at Nagpur.

- There were internal squabbles among themselves.
- Baji Rao II (son of Raghunathrao) was installed as the Peshwa after the death of Madhavrao II.
- In the Battle of Poona in 1802, Yashwantrao Holkar, the chief of the Holkars of Indore defeated the Peshwas and the Scindias.
- Baji Rao II sought British protection and signed the **Treaty of Bassein** with them.
- As per this treaty, he ceded territory to the British and agreed to the maintenance of British troops there.
- The Scindias and the Bhonsles did not accept this treaty and this caused the second Anglo-Maratha war in central India in 1803.
- The Holkars also joined the battle against the English at a later stage.
- All the Maratha forces were defeated by the British in these battles.
- The Scindias signed the Treaty of Surji-Anjangaon in 1803 through which the British got the territories of

Rohtak, Ganga-Yamuna Doab, Gurgaon, Delhi Agra region, Broach, some districts in Gujarat, parts of Bundelkhand and Ahmadnagar fort.

- The Bhonsles signed the **Treaty of Deogaon** in 1803 as per which the English acquired Cuttack, Balasore and area west of Wardha River.
- The Holkars signed the Treaty of Rajghat in 1805 according to which they gave up Tonk, Bundi and Rampura to the British.
- As a result of the war, large parts of central India came under British control.

Third Anglo-Maratha War Pindari War (1817 – 1818)

- After the second Anglo-Maratha war, the Marathas made one last attempt to rebuild their old prestige.
- They wanted to retake all their old possessions from the English.
- They were also unhappy with the **British residents'** interference in their internal matters.

- The chief reason for this war was the British conflict with the **Pindaris** whom the British suspected were being protected by the Marathas.
- The Maratha chiefs Peshwa Bajirao II, Malharrao Holkar and Mudhoji II Bhonsle forged a united front against the English.
- Daulat Rao Shinde, the fourth major Maratha chief was pressured diplomatically to stay away.
- But the British victory was swift.
- The **Treaty of Gwalior** was signed in 1817 between Shinde and the British, even though he had not been involved in the war.
- As per this treaty, Shinde gave up Rajasthan to the British. The Rajas of Rajputana remained the Princely States till 1947 after accepting British sovereignty.
- The Treaty of Mandasor was signed between the British and the Holkar chief in 1818. An infant was placed on the throne under British guardianship.
- The Peshwa surrendered in 1818. He was dethroned and pensioned off to a small estate in Bithur (near

Kanpur). Most parts of his territory became part of the Bombay Presidency.

- His adopted son, Nana Saheb became one of the leaders of the **Revolt of 1857** at Kanpur.
- The territories annexed from the Pindaris became the Central Provinces under British India.
- This war led to the end of the Maratha Empire. All the Maratha powers surrendered to the British.
- The descendant of Chhatrapati Shivaji was placed as the ceremonial head of the Maratha Confederacy at Satara.
- This was one of the last major wars fought and won by the British. With this, the British controlled most parts of India barring Punjab and Sindh directly or indirectly
- **Failure;** Lack of unity among the Maratha chiefs themselves.
- Lack of good relations with other Indian princes and ruling dynasties.
- Failure to understand the British political and **Diplomatic** strengths.

Pindaris

- The **Pindaris** were irregular military plunderers and foragers in 17th- through early 19th-century Indian subcontinent
- They accompanied initially the Mughal army, later the Maratha army, and finally on their own before being eliminated in 1817-19 Pindari War.
- They were unpaid and their compensation was entirely the loot they plundered during wars and raids.
- They were mostly horsemen armed with spears and swords who would create chaos and deliver intelligence about the enemy positions to benefit the army they accompanied.
- The majority of Pindari leaders were Muslims.
- The earliest mention of them is found in the Mughal period during Aurangzeb's campaign in the Deccan
- Pindari raid on Sringeri Sharada Peetham in 1791 Sringeri'Karnataka. There were an estimated 20,000 to 30,000 Pindari militia around 1800-1815 CE.

- They looted villages, captured people as slaves for sale, and challenged the authority of local Muslim sultanates, Hindu kingdoms, and the British colonies.
- In 1812 and 1813 the Pindaris conducted successful plundering raids on Mirzapur and Surat which were located in areas controlled by the British .
- The British under the governorship of **Francis Rawdon-Hastings** became so frustrated that they formed the largest army they had ever organised in India to exterminate the Pindaris.
- In addition to the military action, the British coalition also offered regular employment to some of the Pindari militia by converting them into a separate contingent of its forces.
- A minority were given jobs as police and offered pensions or Nawab positions along with land to their leaders such as Namdar Khan and Amir Khan.

Thugs

Thugs trace their origins back to **Kali's** fabled battle against Raktabija, their foundation is closer to tantric cults which depart from Vedic versions and Puranic narrations.

Thugs considered themselves to be the children of Kali.

The Muslim thugs, while retaining their monotheistic faith, had functionalised Bhavani for Thuggee and she was syncretised as a spirit subordinate to Allah

Bargis were a light cavalry of Maratha Empires who indulged in large scale plundering of the countryside of western part of Bengal for about ten years (1741–1751) during the Maratha expeditions in Bengal.

First Anglo-Sikh War

Maharaja Ranjit Sing united 12 Sikh misls and subjugated other local kingdoms to become the ‘Maharaja of Punjab’ in 1801.

- Successfully resisted many Afghan invasions and also captured areas under them like Lahore, Peshawar and Multan.
- Earned the title ‘Sher-i-Punjab’ (Lion of Punjab).
- After occupying Lahore in 1799, it became his capital.
- His Sikh Empire included lands to the north of the Sutlej River and South of the north-western Himalayas. His Empire included major towns like

Lahore, Multan, Srinagar (Kashmir), Attock, Peshawar, Rawalpindi, Jammu, Sialkot, Amritsar and Kangra.

- He maintained friendly relations with the British.
- He had men from different races and religions in his army.
- He maintained an army very efficient in warfare, logistics and infrastructure.
- After his death in 1839, there was a struggle for succession among his many relatives. This marked the process of disintegration of the Empire.
- He was succeeded by his eldest legitimate son Kharak Singh. (1801 – 1839)

First Anglo-Sikh War (1845 – 1846)

- Major Broad was placed in Amritsar as the East India Company's agent in 1843.
- The British were closely watching the developments in the Punjab political front and had territorial ambitions there as in other parts of the subcontinent.

- The Sikh forces crossed the Sutlej in December 1845 and took offensive positions against the English forces.
- Subsequently, battles were fought in different places and the English victory at Sobraon led to the signing of the **Lahore Treaty** in 1846 which ended the war.

Treaty of Lahore, 1846

- Maharaja Duleep Singh, who was the ruler of Punjab was to remain its ruler with his mother Jindan Kaur as regent.
- The Sikhs had to cede the Jalandhar Doab to the British.
- The Sikhs were also asked to pay a very huge war indemnity to the English.
- But since they could not pay all of it, part of it was paid and to make up for the remaining, Kashmir, Hazarah and all territories between the Beas and the Indus Rivers were given to the English.
- The Sikhs were to limit their army to a certain number.

- Also, a British Resident, **Sir Henry Lawrence** was appointed to the Sikh court.

Second Anglo Sikh War

- The humiliation caused by the first Anglo-Sikh war wherein the Sikh Empire had lost some territories to the British East India Company.
- The Sikh regent, Maharani **Jindan Kaur** was not treated properly by the British.
- She was removed from Lahore on conspiracy charges against the British resident in Lahore.
- Multan was a part of the Sikh Empire when Maharaja Ranjit Singh had captured it in 1818.
- Multan was governed by Dewan Mulraj. He resented the Lahore Court's (capital of the Sikh Empire but controlled by the British resident since the first Anglo-Sikh war) demand for increased tax assessment and revenues.
- The British Resident at that time was Sir Frederick Currie. He undermined Mulraj and imposed another governor Sardar Kahan Singh along with a British agent Patrick Vans Agnew.

- In 1848, Vans Agnew and another officer who arrived in Multan to take charge were murdered by Mulraj's troops.
- This news led to unrest in Punjab and many Sikh soldiers joined the rebel forces against the British.
- Battles were fought in Ramnagar and Chilianwala.
- The battle at Ramnagar was indecisive whereas the Sikhs won at Chilianwala.
- The final battle was fought at Gujrat near Chenab in 1849. This was won by the British forces.
- The Afghan forces under Dost Mohammad Khan had joined the Sikhs'
- Punjab was annexed by the British in March 1849 (under Lord Dalhousie) as per the Treaty of Lahore.
- The eleven-year-old Maharaja, Duleep Singh was pensioned off to England.
- Jind Kaur was separated from her son the Maharaja and taken to Ferozpur.
- Sir John Lawrence was appointed as the first Chief Commissioner of Punjab to take care of the administration.

- Dalhousie was recognised for his role in the annexation of Punjab to the British and was made a **Marquis**.
- The famous Koh-i-Noor diamond went into British hands. It was in possession of Maharaja Ranjit Singh who had willed it to the Puri Jagannath Temple of Odisha but his will was not executed by the British. They say it was acquired as part of the Treaty of Lahore after the second Anglo-Sikh war.

Anglo-Burmese Wars

- The Anglo-Burmese Wars were a clash between two expanding empires, the British Empire against the **Konbaung Dynasty**
- It became British India's most expensive and longest war, costing 5–13 million pounds sterling (£400 million – £1.1 billion as of 2019) and spanning over 6 years.
- **Reasons**
- Market for British goods.
- Fear of French empire into India through Burmese route.

- Expansionist policy of Burmese ruler.
- It annexed Assam in 1819.
- **Result**
- It ended with “Treaty of Yandaboo”
- British control of Assam, Manipur, Cachar , Jaintia, Arakan and Tenasserim.
- War indemnity of 1 million pound was paid by Burmese.

Second Burmese War(1852)

- Second Burmese war was the result of Company’s greed. Lord Dalhousie wanted to expose the Burmese market for maximum benefit of British Empire.
- It was started over a petty issue of custom dispute which took the shape of Second Burmese War.
- Though Burmese forces showed resistance but it took a little while for British forces to control the lower Burma part (Irrawaddy Delta and Pegu).

Third Burmese War(1885)

- First and Second Burmese War was fought to annex territories of Burma but Third Burmese War was

fought to protect the already annexed territories of Burma.

- King Thibaw's hostility with French.
- French collaboration with Burma to build a railway from Mandalay to Indian border.
- Final annexation of Burma in 1885 by the British forces. By January 1886 whole Burma comprising of Upper Burma, Lower Burma and coastal Burma came into British Indian territory. It marked the end of Konbaung dynasty rule in Burma.
- In 1935 to weaken the Indian National Movement Burma was separated from British Indian territory. It finally got independence on January 4, 1948.

- **Methods of Expansion:**

- Apart from wars, several Governor Generals followed other methods to ensure the Company's supremacy in India.

- **Subsidiary Alliance:**

- **Lord Wellesley** perfected the system of subsidiary alliance to subjugate Indian powers without going through actual warfare. Any Indian ruler whose

security was threatened could enter into a subsidiary alliance with the British. The British promised to protect the ruler from external attack and internal revolt.

- The ruler would have to accept the supremacy of the British in India. The ruler would have to keep and pay for the maintenance of certain number of British troops who would be permanently placed in the territory of the subsidiary ally. A British Resident would be posted in the court of the ruler. The Indian ruler was not allowed to employ any European in his service.
- States like **Mysore, Hyderabad, Awadh, the Rajputs and Marathas** were forced to accept this alliance after being defeated by the English.
- The system of subsidiary alliance proved to be disastrous for the Indian rulers. They became virtual puppets in the hands of the British. The payment of huge amounts of money for the maintenance of British troops was a heavy drain on their resources.
- **Doctrine of Lapse:**

- In 1848, **Lord Dalhousie** arrived in India as the Governor General. Dalhousie was determined to extend British rule over India. His imperialist policy was based on **Doctrine of Lapse**
- According to Indian tradition, a king adopted an heir to the throne if he did not have his own son. But by the Doctrine of Lapse, if the king of a subordinate state died without a natural male heir, then the kingdom would 'lapse' to the British i.e. it would automatically pass into the hands of the British. **Satara, Sambalpur, Jhansi and Nagpur were annexed under this policy.** The families of the former rulers would be pensioned off.
- On grounds of maladministration, Awadh was occupied in 1856.
- Nawab Wajid Ali was pensioned off and sent to Calcutta. By 1856, the East India Company had brought the whole of India under its control.
- After this no war was waged to expand the British Empire any further.
- After defeating the French and their Indian allies in the three Carnatic Wars, the East India Company

began to consolidate and extend its power and influence

- However, local kings and feudal chieftains resisted this.
- The first resistance to East India Company's territorial aggrandizement was from Puli Thevar in the Tirunelveli region.
- This was followed by other chieftains in the Tamil country such as **Velunachiyar, Kattabomman, the Marudhu brothers, and Dheeran Chinnamalai.**
- Known as the Palayakkarars Wars, the culmination of which was Vellore **Revolt of 1806**, this early resistance to British rule in Tamilnadu .

Palayams and Palayakkarars

- The word “**palayam**” means a domain, a military camp, or a little kingdom Palayakkarars in Tamil refers to the holder of a little kingdom as a feudatory to a greater sovereign.
- Under this system, palayam was given for valuable military services rendered by any individual.

- The system was put in place in Tamilnadu by **Viswanatha Nayaka**, when he became the **Nayak ruler of Madurai in 1529**, with the support of his minister Ariyanathar. Traditionally there were supposed to be **72 Palayakkarars**.
- The Palayakkarars were free to collect revenue, administer the territory, settle disputes and maintain law and order. Their police duties were known as **Padikaval or Arasu Kaval**.
- On many occasions the Palayakarars helped the Nayak rulers to restore the kingdom to them.
- **Eastern and Western Palayams**
- Among the **72 Palayakkarars**, created by the Nayak rulers, there were two blocs, namely the prominent eastern and the western Palayams.
- The eastern Palayams were **Sattur, Nagalapuram, Ettayapuram, and Panchalamkurichi** and the prominent western palayams were **Uthumalai, Thalavankottai, Naduvakurichi, Singampatti, Seithur**.
- During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries the Palayakkars dominated the politics of Tamil country.

They functioned as independent, sovereign authorities within their respective Palayams.

Revenue Collection Authority to the Company Rule

- **Revenue Collection Authority to the Company Rule**
- The Nawab of Arcot had borrowed money from the East India Company to meet the expenses he had incurred during the Carnatic Wars.
- When his debts exceeded his capacity to pay, the power of collecting the land revenue dues from southern Palayakkarars was given to the East India Company.
- Claiming that their lands had been handed down to them over sixty generations, many Palayakkarars refused to pay taxes to the Company officials.
- The Company branded the defiant Palayakkarars as rebels and accused them of trying to disturb the peace and tranquillity of the country.
- This led to conflict between the East India Company and the Palaykkarars which are described below.

Palayakkarars' Revolt 1755-1801

- **Revolt of Puli Thevar 1755–1767**
- In **March 1755 Mahfuzkhan (brother of the Nawab of Arcot)** was sent with a contingent of the Company army under Colonel Heron to Tirunelveli.
- Madurai easily fell into their hands. Thereafter Colonel Heron was urged to deal with Puli Thevar as he continued to defy the authority of the Company.
- Puli Thevar wielded much influence over the western palyakkarars.
- For want of cannon and of supplies and pay to soldiers, Colonel Heron abandoned the plan and retired to Madurai.
- **Heron** was recalled and dismissed from service.

Kalakadu Battle

- The Nawab sent an additional contingent of sepoy to Mahfuzkhan and the reinforced army proceeded to Tirunelveli.
- Besides the **1000 sepoy of the Company**, **Mahfuzkhan received 600 more sent by the Nawab.**

- He also had the support of cavalry and foot soldiers from the Carnatic.
- Before Mahfuzkhan could station his troops near Kalakadu, **2000 soldiers from Travancore joined the forces of Puli Thevar.**
- In the battle at Kalakadu, Mahfuzkhan's troops were routed.

Yusuf Khan and Puli Thevar

- The organized resistance of the palayakkarars under Puli Thevar gave an opportunity to the English to interfere directly in the affairs of Tirunelveli.
- Aided by the Raja of Travancore, from **1756 to 1763**, the palyakkarars of Tirunelveli led by Puli Thevar were in a constant state of rebellion against the Nawab's authority.
- Yusuf Khan (**also known as Khan Sahib or, before his conversion to Islam, Marudhanayagam**) who had been sent by the Company was not prepared to attack Puli Thevar unless the big guns and ammunition from Tiruchirappalli arrived.

- As the English were at war with the French, as well as with Hyder Ali and Marathas, the artillery arrived only in **September 1760**.
- On **16 May 1761** Puli Thevar's three major forts (Nerkattumseval, Vasudevanallur and Panayur) came under the control of Yusuf Khan.
- In the meantime, after taking Pondicherry the English had eliminated the French from the picture.
- As a result of this the unity of palyakkarars began to break up as French support was not forthcoming.
- **Travancore, Seithur, Uthumalai and Surandai** switched their loyalty to the opposite camp. Yusuf Khan who was negotiating with the palayakkarars, without informing the Company administration, was charged with treachery and hanged in **1764**.

Fall of Puli Thevar

- After the death of Khan Sahib, Puli Thevar returned from exile and recaptured Nerkattumseval in **1764**.
- However, he was defeated by **Captain Campbell in 1767**. Puli Thevar escaped and died in exile.

- **Velunachiyar (1730–1796)**
- Born in **1730** to the **Raja Sellamuthu Sethupathy of Ramanathapuram**, Velunachiyar was the only daughter of this royal family.
- The king had no male heir. The royal family brought up the princess Velunachiyar, training her in martial arts like valari, stick fighting and to wield weapons.
- She was also adept in horse riding and archery, apart from her proficiency in English, French and Urdu.
- At the **age of 16, Velunachiyar** was married to Muthu Vadugar, the Raja of Sivagangai, and had a daughter by name Vellachi nachiar.
- In **1772**, the Nawab of Arcot and the Company troops under the command of Lt. Col. Bon Jour stormed the Kalaiyar Kovil Palace.
- In the ensuing battle Muthu Vadugar was killed. Velunachiyar escaped with her daughter and lived under the protection of Gopala Nayakar at Virupachi near Dindigul for eight years.

- During her period in hiding, Velunachiyar organised an army and succeeded in securing an alliance with not only Gopala Nayakar but Hyder Ali as well.
- **Dalavay (military chief) Thandavarayanar** wrote a letter to Sultan Hyder Ali on behalf of Velunachiyar asking for 5000 infantry and 5000 cavalry to defeat the English.
- Velunachiyar explained in detail in Urdu all the problems she had with East India Company. She conveyed her strong determination to fight the English.
- Impressed by her courage, Hyder Ali ordered his Commandant Syed in Dindigul fort to provide the required military assistance.
- Velunachiyar employed agents for gathering intelligence to find where the British had stored their ammunition.
- With military assistance from Gopala Nayakar and Hyder Ali she recaptured Sivagangai.
- She was crowned as Queen with the help of Marudhu brothers.

- She was the first female ruler or queen to resist the British colonial power in India.

Rebellion of Veerapandya Kattabomman 1790-1799

- Veerapandya Kattabomman became the **Palayakkarar of Panchalamkurichi** at the age of thirty on the death of his father, Jagavira Pandya Kattabomman.
- The Company's administrators, James London and Colin Jackson, had considered him a man of peaceful disposition.
- However, soon several events led to conflicts between Veerapandya Kattabomman and the East India Company.
- The Nawab, under the provisions of a treaty signed in **1781**.
- **One-sixth of the revenue was to be allowed to meet the expenses of Nawab and his family.**
- The Company had thus gained the right to collect taxes from Panchalamkurichi.
- The Company appointed its Collectors to collect taxes from all the palayams. The Collectors

humiliated the palayakkarars and adopted force to collect the taxes.

- This was the bone of contention between the English and Kattabomman.

Confrontation with Jackson

- The land revenue arrear from Kattabomman was **3310 pagodas in 1798**. Collector Jackson, an English officer, wanted to send an army to collect the revenue dues but the Madras Government did not give him permission.
- On **18 August 1798**, he ordered Kattabomman to meet him in Ramanathapuram. But Kattabomman's attempts to meet him in between proved futile, as Jackson refused to give him audience both in Courtallam and Srivilliputhur.
- At last, an interview was granted and Kattabomman met Jackson in **Ramanathapuram on 19 September 1798**. It is said that Kattabomman had to stand for three hours before Collector Jackson.
- Sensing danger, Kattabomman tried to escape, along with his minister Sivasubramanianar. Oomaithurai

suddenly entered the fort with his men and helped the escape of Kattabomman.

- At the gate of the Ramanathapuram fort there was a clash, in which some people including **Lieutenant Clarke were killed**. Sivasubramanianar was taken prisoner.
- **Appearance before Madras Council**
- On his return to Panchalamkurichi, Kattabomman represented to the Madras Council about how he was ill-treated by the collector Jackson.
- The Council asked Kattabomman to appear before a committee with **William Brown, William Oram and John Casamajor** as members.
- Meanwhile, Governor Edward Clive ordered the release of Sivasubramanianar and the suspension of the Collector Jackson.
- Kattabomman appeared before the Committee that sat on **15 December 1798** and reported on what transpired in Ramanathapuram. The Committee found Kattabomman was not guilty.

- Jackson was dismissed from service and a new **Collector S.R. Lushington** appointed.
- Kattabomman cleared almost all the revenue arrears leaving only a balance of **1080 pagodas**.

Kattabomman and the Confederacy of Palayakkarars

- In the meantime, Marudhu Pandiyar of Sivagangai formed the **South Indian Confederacy** of rebels against the British, with the neighbouring palayakkars like **Gopala Nayak of Dindigul and Yadul Nayak of Aanamalai**.
- Marudhu Pandiyar acted as its leader. The **Tiruchirappalli Proclamation** had been made. Kattabomman was interested in this confederacy.
- Collector Lushington prevented Kattabomman from meeting the Marudhu Brothers.
- But Marudhu Brothers and Kattabomman jointly decided on a confrontation with the English.
- Kattabomman tried to influence **Sivagiri Palayakkarars**, who refused to join. Kattabomman

advanced towards Sivagiri. But the Palayakkarars of Sivagiri was a tributary to the Company.

- So the Company considered the expedition of Kattabomman as a challenge to their authority. The Company ordered the army to march on to **Tirunelveli**.

The Siege of Panchalamkurichi

- In **May 1799**, **Lord Wellesley** issued orders from Madras for the advance of forces from Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur and Madurai to Tirunelveli. Major Bannerman commanded the troops.
- The Travancore troops too joined the British. On **1 September 1799**, an ultimatum was served on Kattabomman to surrender.
- Kattabomman's "**evasive reply**" prompted Bannerman to attack his fort.
- Bannerman moved his entire army to Panchalamkurichi on **5 September**. They cut off all the communications to the fort.

- Bannerman deputed Ramalinganar to convey a message asking Kattabomman to surrender. Kattabomman refused.
- Ramalinganar gathered all the secrets of the Fort, and on the basis of his report, Bannerman decided the strategy of the operation. In a clash at **Kallarpatti**, **Sivasubramanianar** was taken a prisoner.

Execution of Kattabomman

- Kattabomman escaped to Pudukottai. The British put a prize on his head. Betrayed by the rajas of Ettayapuram and Pudukottai Kattabomman was finally captured. **Sivasubramanianar was executed at Nagalapuram on the 13 September.**
- Bannerman made a mockery of a trial for Kattabomman in front of the **palayakarars on 16 October.**
- During the trial Kattabomman bravely admitted all the charges levelled against him.
- Kattabomman was **hanged from a tamarind tree in the old fort of Kayathar**, close to Tirunelveli, in front of the fellow Palayakkars.

- Thus ended the life of the celebrated Palayakkarars of Panchalamkurichi.
- Many folk ballads on Kattabomman helped keep his memory alive among the people.

The Marudhu Brothers

- **Periya Marudhu or Vella Marudhu (1748–1801) and his younger brother Chinna Marudhu (1753-1801)** were able generals of Muthu Vadugar of Sivagangai.
- After Muthu Vadugar's death in the **Kalaiyar Kovil battle Marudhu brothers** assisted in restoring the throne to Velunachiyar.
- In the last years of the eighteenth century Marudhu Brothers organised resistance against the British.
- After the death of Kattabomman, they worked along with his brother Oomathurai.
- They plundered the granaries of the Nawab and caused damage and destruction to Company troops.

Rebellion of Marudhu Brothers (1800–1801)

- It was directed by a confederacy consisting of **Marudhu Pandyan of Sivagangai, Gopala**

Nayak of Dindugal, Kerala Varma of Malabar and Krishnaappa Nayak and Dhoondaji of Mysore. In **April 1800** they meet at Virupachi and decided to organise an uprising against the Company.

- The uprising, which broke out in Coimbatore in **June 1800**, soon spread to Ramanathapuram and Madurai.
- The Company declared war on Krishnappa Nayak of Mysore, Kerala Varma of Malabar and others. The Palayakars of Coimbatore, Sathyamangalam and Tarapuram were caught and hanged.
- In **February 1801** the two brothers of Kattabomman, Oomathurai and Sevathaiah, escaped from the Palayamkottai prison to Kamudhi, from where Chinna Marudhu took them to Siruvayal his capital.
- The **fort at Panchalamkurichi** was reconstructed in record time. The British troops under Colin Macaulay retook the fort in April and the Marudhu brothers sought shelter in Sivagangai.
- The English demanded that the Marudhu Pandyars hand over the fugitives (**Oomathurai and Sevathaiah**). But they refused. Colonel Agnew and Colonel Innes marched on Sivagangai.

In **June 1801 Marudhu Pandyars** issued a proclamation of Independence which is called **Tiruchirappalli Proclamation**

Proclamation of 1801

- The Proclamation of 1801 was an early call to the Indians to unite against the British, cutting across region, caste, creed and religion.
- The proclamation was pasted on the walls of the **Nawab's palace in Tiruchirappalli fort and on the walls of the Srirangam temple**. Many palayakkars of Tamil country rallied together to fight against the English.
- Chinna Marudhu collected nearly **20,000 men to challenge the English army**. British reinforcements were rushed from Bengal, Ceylon and Malaya.
- The rajas of Pudukkottai, Ettayapuram and Thanjavur stood by the British. **Divide and rule policy** followed by the English spilt the forces of the palayakkarars .

Fall of Sivagangai

- In May 1801, the English attacked the rebels in Thanjavur and Tiruchirappalli. The rebels went to Piranmalai and Kalayarkoil.
- They were again defeated by the forces of the English.
- The rebellion failed and Sivagangai was annexed in 1801.
- The Marudhu brothers were executed in **the Fort of Tirupathur near Ramanathapuram on 24 October 1801.**
- Oomathurai and Sevathaiah were captured and beheaded at Panchalamkurichi on **16 November 1801.**
- **Seventy-three rebels** were exiled to Penang in Malaya.
- Though the palayakkarars fell to the English, their exploits and sacrifices inspired later generations.
- Thus the rebellion of Marudhu brothers, which is called South Indian Rebellion, is a landmark event in the history of Tamil Nadu.

Carnatic Treaty, 1801

- The suppression of the Palayakkarars rebellions of **1799 and 1800–1801** resulted in the liquidation of all the local chieftains of Tamilnadu.
- Under the terms of the **Carnatic Treaty of 31 July 1801**, the British assumed direct control over Tamilagam and the Palayakkarar system came to an end with the demolition of all forts and disbandment of their army.

Dheeran Chinnamalai (1756–1805)

- Born as Theerthagiri in 1756 in the Mandradiar royal family of Palayakottai, Dheeran was well trained in silambu, archery, horse riding and modern warfare. He was involved in resolving family and land disputes in the Kongu region.
- As this region was under the control of the Mysore Sultan, tax was collected by Tipu's Diwan Mohammed Ali.
- Once, when the Diwan was returning to Mysore with the tax money, Theerthagiri blocked his way and confiscated all the tax money.

- He let Mohammed Ali go by instructing him to tell his Sultan that “Chinnamalai”, who is between Sivamalai and Chennimalai, was the one who took away taxes. Thus he gained the name “Dheeran Chinnamalai”.
- The offended Diwan sent a contingent to attack Chinnamalai and both the forces met and fought at the Noyyal river bed. Chinnamalai emerged victorious.
- Trained by the French, Dheeran mobilised the Kongu youth in thousands and fought the British together with Tipu.
- After Tipu’s death Dheeran Chinnamalai built a fort and fought the British without leaving the place. Hence the place is called Odanilai.
- He launched guerrilla attacks and evaded capture. Finally the English captured him and his brothers and kept them in prison in Sankagiri.
- When they were asked to accept the rule of the British, they refused. So they were hanged at the top of the Sankagiri Fort on 31 July 1805.

Vellore Revolt 1806

- Before reducing all palayakkarars of south Tamilnadu into submission the East India Company had acquired the revenue districts of Salem, Dindigul at the conclusion of the war with Tipu in 1792.
- Coimbatore was annexed at the end of the Anglo-Mysore War in 1799. In the same year the Raja of Thanjavur whose status had been reduced to that of a vassal in 1798 gave up his sovereign rights over that region to the English.
- After the suppression of resistance of Kattabomman (1799) and Marudhu Brothers (1801), the British charged the Nawab of Arcot with disloyalty and forced a treaty on him.
- According to this Treaty of 1801, the Nawab was to cede the districts of North Arcot, South Arcot, Tiruchirappalli, Madurai and Tirunelveli to the Company and transfer all the administrative powers to it.

Grievances of Indian Soldiers

- But the resistance did not die down. The dispossessed little kings and feudal chieftains continued to deliberate on the future course of action against the Company Government.
- The outcome was the **Vellore Revolt of 1806**. The objective conditions for a last ditch fight existed on the eve of the revolt. The sepoys in the British Indian army nursed a strong sense of resentment over low salary and poor prospects of promotion.
- The English army officers' scant respect for the social and religious sentiments of the Indian sepoys also angered them.
- The state of peasantry from which class the sepoys had been recruited also bothered them much.
- With new experiments in land tenures causing unsettled conditions and famine breaking out in **1805 many of the sepoys' families** were in dire economic straits. The most opportune situation comes with the sons and the family members of Tipu being interned in Vellore Fort.

- The trigger for the revolt came in the form of a new military regulation notified by the **Commander-in-Chief Sir John Cradock**.
- According to the new regulations, the Indian soldiers were asked not to wear caste marks or ear rings when in uniform.
- They were to be cleanly shaven on the chin and maintain uniformity about how their moustache looked.
- The new turban added fuel to fire. The most objectionable addition was the leather cockade made of animal skin.
- The sepoys gave enough forewarning by refusing to wear the new turban. Yet the Company administration did not take heed.
- **Outbreak of the Revolt**
- On **10 July 1806**, in the early hours, guns were booming and the Indian sepoys of the **1st and 23rd regiments** raised their standard of revolt. Colonel Fancourt, who commanded the garrison, was the first victim.

- **Colonel MeKerras of the 23rd regiment** was killed next. Major Armstrong who was passing the Fort heard the sound of firing. When he stopped to enquire he was showered with bullets.
- About a dozen other officers were killed within an hour or so. Among them **Lt. Elly and Lt. Popham** belonged to His Majesty's battalion.
- **Gillespie's Brutality**
- **Major Cootes, who was outside the Fort, informed Colonel Gillespie, the cavalry commandant in Arcot.**
- **Gillespie** reached the fort along with a squadron of cavalry under the command of Captain Young at **9.00 am.**
- In the meantime, the rebels proclaimed **Fateh Hyder, Tipu's eldest son, as their new ruler and hoisted the tiger flag of Mysore sultans** in the Fort. But the uprising was swiftly crushed by Col. Gillespie, who threw to winds all war ethics.

- In the course of suppression, according to an eyewitness account, eight hundred soldiers were found dead in the fort alone.
- Six hundred soldiers were kept in confinement in Tiruchirappalli and Vellore awaiting Inquiry.

Consequences of Revolt

- Were blown from the guns; five were shot dead; eight hanged. Tipu's sons were ordered to be sent to Calcutta.
- The officers and men engaged in the suppression of the revolt were rewarded with prize money and promotion. Col. Gillespie was given **7,000 pagodas**.
- However, the **commander-in chief Sir John Cradock, the Adjutant General Agnew and Governor William Bentinck** were held responsible for the revolt, removed from their office, and recalled to England.
- The military regulations were treated as withdrawn.
- **Gopala Nayak, the Palayakkarar of Virupachi**

- Gopala Nayak **spearheaded** the famous Dindigul League, which was formed with Lakshmi Nayak of Manaparai and Poojai Nayak of Devadanapatti.
- He drew inspiration from Tipu Sultan who sent a deputation to show his camaraderie. He led the resistance against the British from Coimbatore and later joined Oomaidurai, Kattabomman's brother.
- He put up a fierce fight at Aanamalai hills where the local peasants gave him full support. But Gopala Nayak was overpowered by the British forces in 1801.
- **Kuyili**
- Kuyili, a faithful friend of Velunachiyar, is said to have led the unit of women soldiers named after Udaiyaal.
- **Udaiyaal** was a shepherd girl who was killed for not divulging information on Kuyili.
- Kuyili is said to have walked into the British arsenal (1780) after setting herself on fire, thus destroying all the ammunition.
- **Ondiveeran**

- Ondiveeran led one of the army units of Puli Thevar. Fighting by the side of Puli Thevar, he caused much damage to the Company's army.
- According to oral tradition, in one battle, Ondiveeran's hand was chopped off and Puli Thevar was saddened.
- But Ondiveeran said it was a reward for his penetration into enemy's fort causing many heads to roll.
- **South Indian Rebellion 1801**
- The victory over Tipu and Kattabomman had released British forces from several fronts to target the fighting forces in Ramanathapuram and Sivagangai.
- Thondaiman of Pudukottai had already joined the side of the Company.
- The Company had also succeeded in winning the support of the descendent of the former ruler of Sivagangai named Padmattur Woya Thevar.
- Woya Thevar was recognised by the Company as the legitimate ruler of Sivagangai. This divisive strategy

split the royalist group, eventually demoralizing the fighting forces against the British.

- In May 1801 a strong detachment under the command of P.A. Agnew commenced its operations. Marching through Manamadurai and Partibanur the Company forces occupied the rebel strongholds of Paramakudi.
- In the clashes that followed both sides suffered heavy losses. But the fighters' stubborn resistance and the Marudu brothers' heroic battles made the task of the British formidable. In the end the superior military strength and the able commanders of the British army won the day.
- Following Umathurai's arrest Marudu brothers were captured from the Singampunary hills, and Shevathiah from Batlagundu and Doraiswamy, the son of Vellai Marudu from a village near Madurai.
- Chinna Marudu and his brother Vellai Marudu were executed at the fort of Tiruppathur on 24 October 1801. Umathurai and Shevathiah, with several of their followers, were taken to Panchalamkurichi and beheaded on 16 November 1801.

- Seventy three rebels were banished to Penang in Malaya in April 1802.
- The Kongu country comprising Salem, Coimbatore, Karur and Dindigul formed part of the Nayak kingdom of Madurai but had been annexed by the Wodayars of Mysore.
- After the fall of the Wodayars, these territories together with Mysore were controlled by the Mysore Sultans. As a result of the Third and Fourth Mysore wars the entire Kongu region passed into the hands of the English.
- Theeran Chinnamalai was a palayakkarar of Kongu country who fought the British East India Company. He was trained by the French and Tipu.
- In his bid to launch an attack on the Company's fort in Coimbatore (1800), Chinnamalai tried taking the help of the Marudu brothers from Sivagangai.
- He also forged alliances with Gopal Nayak of Virupatchi; Appachi Gounder of Paramathi Velur; Joni Jon Kahan of Attur Salem; Kumaral Vellai of Perundurai and Varanavasi of Erode in fighting the Company.

- Chinnamalai's plans did not succeed as the Company stopped the reinforcements from the Marudu brothers. Also, Chinnamalai changed his plan and attacked the fort a day earlier.
- This led to the Company army executing 49 people. However, Chinnamalai escaped. Between 1800 and July 31, 1805 when he was hanged, Chinnamalai continued to fight against the Company.
- Three of his battles are important: the 1801 battle on Cauvery banks, the 1802 battle in Odanilai and the 1804 battle in Arachalur.
- The last and the final one was in 1805. During the final battle, Chinnamalai was betrayed by his cook Chinnamalai and was hanged in Sivagiri fort.
- **Vellore Revolt (1806)**
- Vellore Revolt 1806 was the culmination of the attempts of the descendents of the dethroned kings and chieftains in south India to throw off the yoke of the British rule.
- After the suppression of revolt of Marudu brothers, they made Vellore the centre of their activity.

- The organizers of an Anti-British Confederacy continued their secret moves, as a result of which no fewer than 3,000 loyalists of Mysore sultans had settled either in the town of Vellore or in its vicinity.
- The garrison of Vellore itself consisted of many aggrieved persons, who had been reduced to dire straits as a sequel to loss of positions or whose properties had been confiscated or whose relatives were slain by the English.
- Thus the Vellore Fort became the meeting ground of the rebel forces of south India.
- The sepoys and the migrants to Vellore held frequent deliberations, attended by the representatives of the sons of Tipu.

Immediate Cause

- In the meantime, the English enforced certain innovations in the administration of the sepoy establishments.
- They prohibited all markings on the forehead which were intended to denote caste and religious, and directed the sepoys to cut their moustaches to a set

pattern. Added to these, Adjutant General Agnew designed and introduced under his direct supervision a new model turban for the sepoys.

- The most obnoxious innovation in the new turban, from the Indian point of view, was the leather cockade.
- The cockade was made of animal skin. Pig skin was anathema to Muslims, while upper caste Hindus shunned anything to do with the cow's hide. To make matters worse the front part of the uniform had been converted into a cross.
- The order regarding whiskers, caste marks and earrings, which infringed the religious customs of both Hindu and Muslim soldiers, was justified on the grounds that, although they had not been prohibited previously by any formal order, it had never been the practice in any well-regulated corps for the men to appear with them on parade.
- The first incident occurred in May 1806. The men in the 2nd battalion of the 4th regiment at Vellore refused to wear the new turban.

- When the matter was reported to the Governor by Col. Fancourt, commandant of the garrison, he ordered a band of the 19th Dragoons (Cavalry) to escort the rebels, against whom charges had been framed, to the Presidency for a trial.
- The 2nd battalion of the 4th regiment was replaced by the 2nd battalion of the 23rd regiment of Wallajahbad. The Court Martial tried 21 privates (a soldier of lower military rank)— 10 Muslims and 11 Hindus—, for defiance.
- In pursuance of the Court Martial order two soldiers (a Muslim and a Hindu) were sentenced to receive 900 lashes each and to be discharged from service.
- Despite signals of protest the Government decided to go ahead with the change, dismissing the grievance of Indian soldiers. Governor William Bentinck also believed that the ‘disinclination to wear the turban was becoming more feeble.’
- Though it was initially claimed that the officers on duty observed nothing unusual during the night of July 9, it was later known that the English officer on duty did not go on his rounds and asked one of the

Indian officers to do the duty and Jameder Sheik Kasim, later one of the principal accused, had done it.

- The leaders of the regiment who were scheduled to have a field day on the morning of 10 July, used it as a pretext to sleep in the Fort on the night of 9 July.
- The Muslim native adjutant contrived to post as many of his followers as possible as guards within the Fort.
- Jamal-ud-din, one of the twelve princes of Tipu family, who was suspected to have played a key role in the revolt, kept telling them in secret parleys that the prince only required them to keep the fort for eight days before which time ten thousand would arrive to their support.
- He disclosed to them that letters had been written to dispossessed palayakkarars seeking their assistance.
- He also informed that there were several officers in the service of Purniah (Tipu's erstwhile minister) who were formerly in the Sultan's service and would undoubtedly join the standard.

Outbreak of Revolt

- At 2:00 a.m. on 10 July, the sentry at the main guard informed Corporal Piercy saying that a shot or two had been fired somewhere near the English barracks.
- Before Piercy could respond, the sepoys made a near simultaneous attack on the British guards, the British barracks and the officers' quarters in the Fort.
- In the European quarters the shutters were kept open, as they were the only means of ventilation from the summer heat.
- The rebels could easily fire the gun 'through the barred windows on the Europeans, lying unprotected in their beds.' Fire was set to the European quarters. Detachments were posted to watch the dwellings of the European officers, ready to shoot anyone who came out.
- A part of the 1st regiment took possession of the magazines (place where gun powder and ball cartridges stored). A select band of 1st Regiment was making their rounds to massacre the European officers in their quarters.

- Thirteen officers were killed, in addition to several European conductors of ordnance. In the barracks, 82 privates died, and 91 were wounded.
- Major Armstrong of the 16th native infantry was passing outside the Fort when he heard the firing.
- He advanced to the glacis and asked what the firing meant. He was answered by a volley from the ramparts, killing him instantly.
- Major Coates, an officer of the English regiment who was on duty outside the Fort, on hearing of the revolt tried to enter the Fort. As he was unable to make it, he sent off an officer, Captain Stevenson of 23rd, to Arcot with a letter addressed to Colonel Gillespie, who commanded the cavalry cantonment there.
- The letter reached Arcot, some 25 km away, at 6 a.m. Colonel Gillespie set out immediately, taking with him a squadron of the 19th dragoons under Captain Young, supported by a strong troop of the 7th cavalry under Lieutenant Woodhouse. He instructed Colonel Kennedy to follow him with the rest of the cavalry, leaving a detachment to protect the cantonment and to keep up the communication.

- When Colonel Gillespie arrived at the Vellore Fort at 9 a.m., he thought it prudent to await the arrival of the guns, since there was continuous firing.
- Soon the cavalry under Kennedy came from Arcot. It was about 10 o'Clock.
- The gate was blown open with the galloper guns of the 19th dragoons under the direction of Lieutenant Blakiston. The troops entered the place, headed by a squadron of the cavalry under Captain Skelton.
- The Gillespie's men were met by a severe crossfire. In the ensuing battle, Colonel Gillespie himself suffered bruises.
- The sepoys retreated. Hundreds escaped over the walls of the Fort, or threw down their arms and pleaded for mercy.
- Then the cavalry regiment assembled on the parade ground and resolved to pursue the fleeing soldiers, who were exiting towards the narrow passage of escape afforded by the sally port.
- A troop of dragoons and some native horsemen were sent round to intercept the fleeing soldiers. All the

buildings in the Fort were searched, and mutineers found in them pitilessly slaughtered. Gillespie's men wanted to enter the building and take revenge on the princes, the instigators of the plot; but Lt. Colonel Marriott resisted the attempt of the dragoons to kill Tipu's sons.

- Colonel Gillespie is said to have brought the Fort under the possession of the English in about 15 minutes. Col. Harcourt (Commanding Officer at Wallajahbad) was appointed to the temporary command of Vellore on July 11 Harcourt assumed command of the garrison on 13 July, 1806 and clamped martial law.
- It was believed that the prompt and decisive action of Gillespie put an end to 'the dangerous confederacy, and had the fort remained in the possession of the insurgents but a few days, they were certain of being joined by fifty thousand men from Mysore.'
- But the obnoxious regulations to which the soldiers objected were withdrawn.

- The Mysore princes were ordered to be sent to Calcutta, as according the Commission of Inquiry, their complicity could not be established.
- They were removed from Vellore, on 20 August 1806. The higher tribunals of the Home Government held the chief authorities of Madras, namely the Governor, the Commander-in-Chief, and the Deputy Adjutant General, responsible for the bungling and ordered their recall.
- Vellore had its echoes in Hyderabad, Wallajahbad, Bangalore, Nandydurg, Palayamkottai, Bellary and Sankaridurg. Vellore Revolt had all the forebodings of Great Rebellion of 1857, if the word cartridge is substituted by **cockade** and Bahadur Shah and Nana Sahib could be read for Mysore Princes.
- “An all-Indian concept inspired the proclamation, for it not only made a direct appeal to the entire country but expressed an anxiety that if the political malady persisted, India would fall under alien rule,” wrote **K Rajayyan**, author of the book *South Indian Rebellion: The First War of Independence 1800-1801*.

- A courageous, resourceful and ruthless military commander, Major-General Robert Clive helped secure an Indian empire for Britain.
- He eventually became an imperial statesman, but also a greedy speculator who used his political and military influence to amass a fortune.
- Robert Clive's (1725-74) first career was as a Writer (clerk) in the East India Company's civil service at Madras.
- This ended in 1746 He first came to prominence for his heroic defence of the Carnatic's capital of Arcot in October 1751 against the French.
- This helped establish British power in southern India.
- **1757 captured Calcutta.**
- **Plassey**
- We had lost our glory, honour, and reputation everywhere but India: there the country had a heaven-born general, who had never learned the art of war, nor was his name enrolled among the great officers who had for many years received their

country's pay; yet was he not afraid to attack a numerous army with a handful of men.' **Prime Minister Pitt the Elder**, 1757

- Clive served twice as Governor of Bengal (1758-60 and 1764-67).
- Although he later attempted to reform the Bengal administration and reduce corruption, Clive was subjected to further political attacks on his return home in 1767.
- General John Burgoyne, Edmund Burke and other MPs accused him of running a corrupt administration, to which he responded: 'I stand astonished at my own moderation.'
- Despite a ringing Parliamentary resolution in his favour, a combination of illness and depression probably led him to take his own life on 24 November 1774. When he died, his fortune was worth about £500,000 (around £33 million today).
- **Governor-General of Bengal (1773-1833):** When East India Company came to India, it controlled Bengal through a post named as "Governor of Bengal" (**first Governor of Bengal: Robert Clive**).

Other Presidencies, Bombay and Madras, had their own Governor.

- However, **after the passing of Regulating Act 1773**, the post of Governor of Bengal was converted into "**Governor-General of Bengal**" (first Governor-General of Bengal was **Warren Hastings**).
- Through this Act Governor of Bombay and Madras worked under the Governor-General of Bengal.

Governor-General of India (1833-58): By **Charter Act of 1833**, the post name of Governor-General of Bengal again converted into "**Governor-General of India**" (first Governor-General of India was **William Bentinck**).

This post was mainly for administrative purposes and reported to the Court of Directors of the East India Company.

Regulating Act of 1773

- Pitt's India Act of 1784 established the system of dual control of India and these changes continued through 1858. In the dual system of control, the company was represented by the Court of Directors and the British Government by the Board of Control.

- The act mandated that all civil and military officers disclose their property in India and Britain within two months of their joining.
- The Presidencies of Madras and Bombay became subordinate to the Bengal Presidency. In effect, Calcutta became the capital of the British possessions in India. William Pitt became the youngest Prime Minister only at the age of 24
- The **Rohilla War** of 1773–1774 was a punitive campaign by Shuja-ud-Daula, Nawab of Awadh on the behalf of Mughal Emperor, against the Rohillas, Afghan highlanders settled in Rohilkhand, northern India. The Nawab was supported by troops of the British East India Company in a successful campaign brought about by the Rohillas reneging on a debt to the Nawab.
- The First Maratha War in 1775-82 and the Treaty of Salbai in 1782
- Second Mysore War in 1780-84

Lord Cornwallis (1786-1793)

- Third Mysore War (1790-92) and Treaty of Seringapatam (1792)
- **Cornwallis Code** (1793) The **code** contained significant provisions governing, policing and judicial and civil administration.
- Its best known provision was the Permanent Settlement (or the zamindari system enacted in 1793), which established a revenue collection scheme that lasted until the 20th century.
- Permanent Settlement of Bengal, 1793

Lord Wellesley (1798-1805)

- Introduction of the Subsidiary Alliance System (1798) The Subsidiary Alliance System was “*Non-Intervention Policy*” used by Lord Wellesley According to this system, every ruler in India had to accept to pay a subsidy to the British for the maintenance of the British army.
- In return, the British would protect them from their enemies which gave the British enormous expansion.
- Fourth Mysore War (1799)

- Second Maratha War (1803-05)

Lord Minto I (1807-1813)

- known as **Sir Gilbert Elliott** until 1797, was a British diplomat and politician who sat in the House of Commons between 1776 and 1795.
 - He was viceroy of the short-lived Anglo-Corsican Kingdom from 1793 to 1796 and went on to become Governor-General of India between July 1807 and 1813.
 - **Treaty of Amritsar** with Ranjit Singh (1809)
- Lord Hastings** (1813-1823)
- Anglo-Nepal War (1814-16) and the **Treaty of Sagauli**.
 - 1816 also known as the **Gorkha War**, was fought between the Gorkhali army of the Kingdom of Gorkha (present-day Nepal) and the British forces of the East India Company (EIC, present-day India).
 - Both sides had ambitious expansion plans for the mountainous north of the Indian subcontinent. The war ended with the signing of the Treaty of

Sugauli in 1816 AD, which ceded some Nepalese controlled territory to the EIC.

- Third Maratha War (1817-19) and dissolution of Maratha Confederacy
- Establishment of Ryotwari System (1820)
- The **Ryotwari** system was a land revenue system in British India, introduced by Thomas Munro in 1820 based on system administered by Captain Alexander Read in the **Baramahal District**.
- It allowed the government to deal directly with the cultivator ('ryot') for revenue collection and gave the peasant freedom to cede or acquire new land for cultivation.
- **The peasant** was assessed for only the lands that he cultivated.

Lord Amherst (1823-1828)

- First Burmese War (1824-1826)

Lord William Bentinck (1828-1835)

- **Abolition of Sati System** (1829)

- Sati was the practice of the immolation of a Hindu woman on the death of her husband in his funeral pyre. Although this practice does not have any Vedic sanction, it had become prevalent in some parts of India. Many cases of Sati were voluntary whereas some were forced. In the year 1817 alone, about 700 widows were burnt alive.
- The act was made illegal and punishable by the courts. **Sati Regulation XVII A. D. 1829** of the Bengal Code.
- After this law was enacted, similar laws prohibiting this custom were passed in princely states in India. In 1861
- Charter Act of 1833 It made the Governor-General of Bengal as the Governor-General of India, vesting in him all civil and military powers.
- Lord William Bentick was the first governor-general of India. Act said that the company's territories in India were held by it in trust for His Majesty, His heirs and successors'.
- The Charter Act of 1833 attempted to introduce open competition for selection of civil servants.

- **Lord Auckland** (1836-1842) First Afghan War (1838-42)

Lord Hardinge I (1844-1848)

- First Anglo-Sikh War (1845-46) and the Treaty of Lahore (1846).
- Social reforms like the abolition of **female infanticide**

Lord Dalhousie (1848-1856)

- Second Anglo-Sikh War (1848-49)
- The annexation of Lower Burma (1852)
- Introduction of the Doctrine of Lapse
- Wood's Despatch 1854
- Laying down of first railway line connecting Bombay and Thane in 1853
- Laying down of first railway line connecting Bombay and Thane in 1853
- Establishment of PWD
- **Various Resistance Movements Against British Prior to 1857**

- **Bhil Uprisings.**
- **Ramosi uprising.**
- **Revolt** in Sawantwadi.
- **Revolt** of the Raja of Vizianagaram.
- **Revolt** of the Poligars.
- The Wahabi Movement.
- Sepoy Mutinies.
- The Indian Mutiny of 1857-59 was a widespread but unsuccessful rebellion against the rule of British East India Company in India which functioned as a sovereign power on behalf of the British crown.
- The Revolt
- It was the first expression of organised resistance against the British East India Company
- It began as a revolt of the sepoys of the British East India Company's army but eventually secured the participation of the masses.
- The revolt is known by several names:
- **the Sepoy Mutiny** (by the British Historians),

- **the Indian Mutiny, the Great Rebellion** (by the Indian Historians)
- **The First War of Independence** (by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar).

Causes of The Revolt

- **Political Cause**
- **British policy of expansion:** The political causes of the revolt were the British policy of expansion through the **Doctrine of Lapse** and direct annexation.
- A large number of Indian rulers and chiefs were dislodged, thus arousing fear in the minds of other ruling families who apprehended a similar fate.
- **Rani Lakshmi Bai's** adopted son was not permitted to sit on the throne of Jhansi.
- Satara, Nagpur and Jhansi were annexed under the **Doctrine of Lapse**.
- Jaitpur, Sambalpur and Udaipur were also annexed.
- The annexation of Awadh by Lord Dalhousie on the pretext of maladministration left thousands of nobles, officials, retainers and soldiers jobless. This measure

converted Awadh, a loyal state, into a hotbed of discontent and intrigue.

Social and Religious Cause

- The rapidly **spreading Western Civilisation** in India was alarming concerns all over the country.
- An act in 1850 changed the Hindu law of inheritance enabling a Hindu who had converted into Christianity to inherit his ancestral properties.
- The people were convinced that the Government was planning to **convert Indians to Christianity**.
- The **abolition of practices like sati and female infanticide**, and the legislation legalizing widow remarriage, were believed as threats to the established social structure.
- Introducing **western methods of education** was directly challenging the orthodoxy for Hindus as well as Muslims
- Even the introduction of the railways and telegraph was viewed with suspicion.

Economic Cause

- In rural areas, peasants and zamindars were infuriated by the **heavy taxes on land** and the **stringent methods of revenue collection** followed by the Company.
- Many among these groups were unable to meet the heavy revenue demands and repay their loans to money lenders, eventually losing the lands that they had held for generations.
- Large numbers of **sepoys belonged to the peasantry class** and had family ties in villages, so the grievances of the peasants also affected them.
- After the Industrial Revolution in England, there was an **influx of British manufactured goods** into India, which ruined industries, particularly the textile industry of India.
- Indian handicraft industries had to compete with cheap machine- made goods from Britain.

Military Causes

- The Revolt of 1857 began as a **sepoy mutiny:**

- Indian sepoy formed more than 87% of the British troops in India but were considered inferior to British soldiers.
- An Indian sepoy was paid less than a European sepoy of the same rank.
- They were required to serve in areas far away from their homes.
- In 1856 Lord Canning issued the General Services Enlistment Act which required that the sepoys must be ready to serve even in British land across the sea.

Immediate Cause

- The Revolt of 1857 eventually broke out over the **incident of greased cartridges**.
- A rumour spread that the cartridges of the new enfield rifles were greased with the fat of cows and pigs.
- Before loading these rifles the sepoys had to bite off the paper on the cartridges.
- Both Hindu and Muslim sepoys refused to use them.

- Lord Canning tried to make amends for the error and the offending cartridges were withdrawn but the damage had already been done. There was unrest in several places.
- In March 1857, **Mangal Pandey**, a sepoy in **Barrackpore**, had refused to use the cartridge and attacked his senior officers.
- He was hanged to death on 8th April.
- On 9th May, 85 soldiers in Meerut refused to use the new rifle and were sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.

Mangal Pandey

- On 29 March 1857 at the Barrackpore parade ground, near Calcutta, 29-year-old Mangal Pandey of the 34th BNI, angered by the recent actions of the East India Company, declared that he would rebel against his commanders.
- Informed about Pandey's behaviour Sergeant-Major James Hewson went to investigate, only to have Pandey shoot at him.

- When his adjutant Lt. Henry Baugh came out to investigate the unrest, Pandey opened fire.
- Mangal Pandey was in some kind of "religious frenzy". He ordered the Indian commander of the quarter guard Jemadar Ishwari Prasad to arrest Mangal Pandey, but the Jemadar refused.
- The quarter guard and other sepoy present, with the single exception of a soldier called Shaikh Paltu, drew back from restraining or arresting Mangal Pandey. After failing to incite his comrades into an open and active rebellion, Mangal Pandey tried to take his own life.
- He was court-martialled on 6 April, and hanged two days later.
- The Jemadar Ishwari Prasad was sentenced to death and hanged on 21 April. The regiment was disbanded and stripped of its uniforms

Meerut

- At Meerut, a large military cantonment, 2,357 Indian sepoy and 2,038 British soldiers were stationed along with 12 British-manned guns.

- The station held one of the largest concentrations of British troops in India
- on 24 April Lieutenant Colonel George Carmichael-Smyth, the unsympathetic commanding officer of the 3rd Bengal Light Cavalry, ordered 90 of his men to parade and perform firing drills.
- All except five of the men on parade refused to accept their cartridges. On 9 May, the remaining 85 men were court martialled, and most were sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment with hard labour.
- The Indian troops, led by the 3rd Cavalry, broke into revolt. British junior officers who attempted to quell the first outbreaks were killed by the rebels.
- British officers' and civilians' quarters were attacked, and four civilian men, eight women and eight children were killed.
- Crowds in the bazaar attacked off-duty soldiers there. About 50 Indian civilians, some of them officers' servants who tried to defend or conceal their employers, were killed by the sepoys.

Delhi

- Wood-engraving depicting the massacre of officers by insurgent cavalry at Delhi
- Early on 11 May, the first parties of the 3rd Cavalry reached Delhi.
- From beneath the windows of the King's apartments in the palace, they called on Bahadur Shah to acknowledge and lead them.
- He did nothing at this point, apparently treating the sepoys as ordinary petitioners, but others in the palace were quick to join the revolt.
- There were three battalion-sized regiments of Bengal Native Infantry stationed in or near the city. Some detachments quickly joined the rebellion, while others held back but also refused to obey orders to take action against the rebels.
- In the afternoon, a violent explosion in the city was heard for several miles. Many fugitive British officers and civilians had congregated at the **Flagstaff Tower** on the ridge north of Delhi, where telegraph operators were sending news of the events to other British stations.

- The next day, Bahadur Shah held his first formal court for many years.

Initial stages

- Fugitive British officers and their families attacked by mutineers.
- Bahadur Shah Zafar was proclaimed the Emperor of the whole of India.
- Initially, the Indian rebels were able to push back Company forces, and captured several important towns in Haryana, Bihar, the Central Provinces and the United Provinces.
- the rebels produced some natural leaders such as Bakht Khan,
- In the countryside around Meerut, a general Gurjar uprising posed the largest threat to the British.
- In Parikshitgarh near Meerut, Gurjars declared Choudhari Kadam Singh (Kuddum Singh) their leader, and expelled Company police. The Imperial Gazetteer of India states that throughout the Indian Rebellion of 1857, Gurjars and Ranghars

(Muslim rajputs) proved the "most irreconcilable enemies" of the British in the Bulandshahr area.

- Mufti Nizamuddin, a renowned scholar of Lahore, issued a Fatwa against the British forces and called upon the local population to support the forces of Rao Tula Ram

Siege of Delhi

- The British were slow to strike back at first.
- It took time for troops stationed in Britain to make their way to India by sea, although some regiments moved overland through Persia from the Crimean War, and some regiments already *en route* for China were diverted to India.
- It took time to organise the British troops already in India into field forces, but eventually two columns left Meerut and Simla.
- They proceeded slowly towards Delhi and fought.
- The combined force, including two Gurkha units serving in the Bengal Army under contract from the Kingdom of Nepal, fought the rebels' main army at Badli-ke-Serai and drove them back to Delhi.

- The Company's army established a base on the Delhi ridge to the north of the city and the Siege of Delhi began.
- The siege lasted roughly from 1 July to 21 September. Punjab Movable Column of British, Sikh and Pakhtun soldiers under John Nicholson to reinforce the besiegers on the Ridge on 14 August.
- On 30 August the rebels offered terms, which were refused. After a week of street fighting, the British reached the Red Fort.
- Bahadur Shah Zafar had already fled to Humayun's tomb. The British had retaken the city.

The British soon arrested Bahadur Shah Zafar, and the next day the British agent William Hodson had his sons Mirza Mughal, Mirza Khazir Sultan, and grandson Mirza Abu Bakr shot under his own authority at the Khooni Darwaza (the bloody gate) near Delhi Gate.

Cawnpore (Kanpur)

- In June, sepoys under General Wheeler in Cawnpore (now Kanpur) rebelled and besieged the British entrenchment.
- Wheeler was not only a veteran and respected soldier but also married to an Indian woman.
- He had relied on his own prestige, and his cordial relations with the Nana Sahib. The besieged endured three weeks of the Siege of Cawnpore with little water or food, suffering continuous casualties to men, women and children.
- Several sepoys who had stayed loyal to the Company were removed by the mutineers and killed, either because of their loyalty or because "they had become Christian".
- A few injured British officers trailing the column were also apparently hacked to death by angry sepoys. After the British party had largely arrived at the dock, which was surrounded by sepoys positioned on both banks of the Ganges
- By the time the massacre was over, most of the male members of the party were dead while the surviving

women and children were removed and held hostage to be later killed in the Bibighar massacre

- Only four men eventually escaped alive from Cawnpore on one of the boats: two private soldiers, a lieutenant, and Captain Mowbray Thomson, who wrote a first-hand account of his experiences entitled *The Story of Cawnpore* (London, 1859).
- The killing of the women and children hardened British attitudes against the sepoys.
- The British public was aghast and the anti-Imperial and pro-Indian proponents lost all their support.
- Cawnpore became a war cry for the British and their allies for the rest of the conflict.
- Nana Sahib disappeared near the end of the Rebellion and it is not known what happened to him.
- Lieutenant Colonel James George Smith Neill of the Madras Fusiliers, commanding at Allahabad while moving towards Cawnpore.
- At the nearby town of Fatehpur, a mob had attacked and murdered the local British population.

- On this pretext, Neill ordered all villages beside the Grand Trunk Road to be burned and their inhabitants to be killed by hanging.
- Neill's methods were "ruthless and horrible" Neill was killed in action at Lucknow. on 26 September When the British retook Cawnpore, the soldiers took their sepoy prisoners to the Bibighar and forced them to lick the bloodstains from the walls and floor.
- They then hanged or "blew from the cannon",

Lucknow

- Very soon after the events at Meerut, rebellion erupted in the state of Awadh (also known as Oudh, in modern-day Uttar Pradesh), which had been annexed barely a year before.
- The British Commissioner resident at Lucknow, Sir Henry Lawrence, had enough time to fortify his position inside the Residency compound.
- He was succeeded by John Eardley Inglis.

- The rebels tried to breach the walls with explosives and bypass them via tunnels that led to underground close combat.
- On 25 September, a relief column under the command of Sir Henry Havelock and accompanied by Sir James Outram (who in theory was his superior) fought its way from Cawnpore to Lucknow in a brief campaign, in which the numerically small column defeated rebel forces in a series of increasingly large battles.
- This became known as 'The First Relief of Lucknow'
- March 1858, Campbell once again advanced on Lucknow with a large army, meeting up with the force at Alambagh, this time seeking to suppress the rebellion in Awadh.
- He was aided by a large Nepalese contingent advancing from the north under Jung Bahadur Kunwar Rana.
- General Dhir Shamsheer Kunwar Rana, the youngest brother of Jung Bahadur, also led the Nepalese forces in various parts of India including Lucknow, Benares and Patna.

- Campbell drove the large but disorganised rebel army from Lucknow with the final fighting taking place on 21 March.

Jhansi

- Jhansi State was a Maratha-ruled princely state in Bundelkhand.
- When the Raja of Jhansi died without a biological male heir in 1853, it was annexed to the British Raj by the Governor-General of India under the doctrine of lapse.
- His widow Rani Lakshmi Bai, the Rani of Jhansi, protested against the denial of rights of their adopted son.
- When war broke out, Jhansi quickly became a centre of the rebellion.
- The end of June 1857, the Company had lost control of much of Bundelkhand and eastern Rajasthan.
- The Bengal Army units in the area, having rebelled, marched to take part in the battles for Delhi and Cawnpore. On 3 February, Sir Hugh Rose broke the 3-month siege of Saugor.

- Thousands of local villagers welcomed him as a liberator,
- In March 1858, the Central India Field Force, led by Sir Hugh Rose, advanced on and laid siege to Jhansi.
- The Company forces captured the city, but the Rani fled in disguise. On 1 June 1858 Rani Lakshmi Bai and a group of Maratha rebels captured the fortress city of Gwalior from the Scindia rulers, who were British allies.
- This might have reinvigorated the rebellion but the Central India Field Force very quickly advanced against the city.
- The Rani died on 17 June, the second day of the Battle of Gwalior, probably killed by a carbine shot from the 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars.
- She was compared to **Joan of Arc** by some commentators.

