

Chapter-2

From Trade to Territory

Notes:-

- Events happened between (year 1599 AD to 1698 AD)
Being motivated by the successful business stories of the Portuguese written in "Merchants Adventures" formed a company - The East India Company in 1599 AD.

The company receive a royal charter from Queen Elizabeth I on December 31, 1600 authorizing to the trade in the East.

- expansion on South and West
- ★ In 1608 AD, the East India Company sent captain Williams Hawkins to the court of the Mughal Emperor Jahangir to secure royal patronage and getting royal permit for the company to establish its factories at various places on the Western coast of India.
- ★ In 1615 AD Sir Thomas Roe was sent to Jahangir's court with a Plea for more

concession for the company.

- ★ In 1662 AD Charles II of England married Portuguese princess Katherine and received the Island of Bombay as Dowry which he immediately gave to the East India Company in 1668 AD for 10 pounds per year. Company shifted its business from Surat to Bombay.
- ★ In 1639 Company obtained lease of the city of Madras (Chennai) from the local king where it built forts and St. George to protect its factory.

Later Madras made the South Indian head quarter of the Company.

- Expansion in East (mainly in Bengal)
- ★ The governor of Bengal Sujardaula in 1651 AD allowed the English Company to carry out its trade activities in Bengal.

A factory in Hugli was established and three villages. Sutanuti, Govindpur and Kalikut (Kolkata) were purchased in 1698 AD to build a factory over there. Fort

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William was raised in order to provide protection around the factory.

- Royal Farman by Emperor Farrukhsiyar (1717) -
- * It was Mughal Emperor Farrukhsiyar which in 1717 AD, issued Royal Farman (charter) granting the company important trading facilities in Bengal which included the permission of import and export British goods in Bengal without paying taxes. The company was authorized to issue Dastak for the transportation of goods.

Remark - Dastak was a special permit that allow movement of goods belonging to English company duty-free.

- The real cause of conflicts between the English East India Company and the Nawab of Bengal.

The English traders became powerful after their victory in the Carnatic war. Now they began preparing themselves for a confrontation with the Nawab of Bengal.

Saukat Jung and Jhasiti Begum was involved in the conspiracy against the Nawab.

had taken shelter under the English ^{at} Calcutta.
This envious Sirajuddaulah against English.

There are of course other reasons for Siraj's hostility towards the English. It were -

- * The company wanted to expand its settlement and they also wanted special privileges.
- * The company thought that duty should be removed but the Nawab of Bengal was not ready to give them that much freedom and also refuse to give them any concession.
- * Misuse of trade concession by doing private trade.
- * Nawab also denied the company any right to mint coins.
- * The company was stopped from extending its fortification.

• The Battle of Plassey (23 June 1757) -

• The British victory under Robert Clive at Plassey in Bengal was the crucial event in the History of India. The young Nawab of Bengal Siraj-ad-daula had taken Calcutta from the East India Company where the notorious black hole episode occurred. The news reached the

Company in Madras and not until October the Clive left for Kolkata. Clive decided that the best way to secure the company interest in Bengal was to replace Siraj with a discontented elderly general named Mir Jafar. After passing few years Mir Jafar was replaced by a new one that is Mir Qasim.

The skirmish at Plassey was critical to the East India Company's triumph over its French rivals and in the larger term to the establishment of British Rule in India.

- The reasons that led the Battle of Buxar -

The seed of the Battle of Buxar sown after the Battle of Plassey, when Mir Qasim became the Nawab of Bengal.

- Main conflicts - Mir Qasim undertook some reformation under which there was a reduction in expenditure on administration and palace, guns were manufactured, regular payment of salaries, new taxes were imposed and capital was shifted

from Monghyar to Murshidabad. which annoyed the British nobles and officers. The British wanted Mir Qasim to remain as puppet in their hand, this led to the number of conflicts between the Nawab and the English.

Mir Qasim, Sir Shuja-ud-daulah and Shah Alam II joined hands to fight against the English to establish their sovereignty over the whole of Bengal and reduce the power of English British. They declare war against English on 23rd October 1764, at the battle ground 'Katkauli', 6 km from Buxar.

- After math of the Battle -

The three combined army forces of Mir Qasim, Shuja-ud-daulah and the Mughal emperor Shah Alam II met with a crucial defeat under the hands of Major Munro.

After the war Mir Qasim fled to North West and died. Shah Alam II sought shelter in the British camp. Sir Shuja-ud-daulah fled to the Rohilkhand.

- The large implication of the Battle

The significant outcome of this Battle

were as follows -

1. It led to the signing of the Treaty of Allahabad in 16th August 1765 by Lord Clive with Mughal Shah Alam II with the defeat of Mir Qasim. The rule of Nawab came to an end.
 2. With the defeat of Mir Qasim ~~Siwari~~ Rights (Fiscal rights) were secured which meant that the British would administer and manage revenue of large area including the present days West Bengal, Bangladesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and U.P.
The British became the master of the people of these places.
 3. After the battle of Buxar the English army moved towards Awadh and established their control over Banaras and Allahabad.
 4. The Allahabad fort became the home of the emperor.
- Significance of battle in the Indian history
The battle of Buxar paved the way for a more concrete British empire in India. Though the initial foundation of the British rule in India after the battle of Plassey by Clive it became more strengthened after the Battle of Buxar.

The Mughal emperor came fully under control of British. The company became Diwani collector of taxes in Bihar, Bengal and Orissa.

- Anglo-Mysore War

The Anglo-Mysore Wars were a series of wars fought in over the last three decades of 18th century. Hyder Ali and his successor Tipu Sultan fought the war ~~four fronts~~

i) First Anglo-Mysore War (1767 to 1769) - Hyder Ali gain some measured of success against British almost capturing Madras. Treaty of Madras take place.

ii) Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780-84) - This war witnessed bloodier battle with fortunes fluctuating between the contending powers. Tipu defeated Baillie at the battle of Pollilur and Braithwaite at Kumbakonam in February 1782, but the Hyder Ali at the battle of Portonovo and army by British commander Sir Eyre Coote. Tipu continued the war following his father death.

iii-) Third-Anglo-Mysore War (1790-92) -
Tipu Sultan, the ruler of Mysore and
an ally of France, invaded by the nearby
State of Travancore in 1789 which was a
British ally. British forces commanded by
General Cornwallis himself. The war
ended after the 1792 signing the Treaty
of Seringapatam.

It was a treaty that
was shaved down Tipu Sultan's throat.
The provision of treaty included -

- a-) Cession of half his territory to English
Maratha and Nizam.
- b-) Payment of war indemnities upto 1.5 times
Mysore economy to the English and Co.
- c-) Surrender of his two sons as security
to the English that he would make
payments.

So, this was very humiliating
Treaty of Tipu Sultan.

iv-) Fourth Anglo-Mysore War (1798-99) -
Saw the defeat of Tipu Sultan and
further reduction in Mysore. The British
won a decisive victory at the siege of
Seringapatam (1799). Tipu was killed

during the defence of the city. Much of the remaining Mysorean Territory was annexed by the British, Nizam and the Marathas.

- The Maratha War (1775-82) (1803-05) (1817-18) -

The first war began with British support for Raghunath ~~Rao~~ Rao's bid for the office of Peshwa (chief Minister) of the confederacy, in with the treaty of Salbai.

- The treaty of Salbai (1782) -

It was proposed by the Sindhia to be signed between the English and the Marathas. The main provision of this treaty were -

- * Salsette would remain under the possession of the English.
- * It also provided the guarantee of 20 years of peace between the two sides.

The second war 1803-05 was caused by the Peshwa Bajirao II defeat by the Holkars (one of the leading Maratha clans) and his acceptance of British.

protection by 1802.

The third war 1717-1718 was the result of an invasion of Maratha territories in the course of Operation against Pindari robbers banks by the British governor general Lord Hastings. A swift victory made by English following the pensioning of the Peshwa and annexation of his territories. Thus completing the supremacy of the British in India.

- Paramountcy (supreme power and authority) Lord Hastings was the first governor general of India from 1813, under Lord Hastings a new policy of 'Paramountcy' was introduced in India. Under this policy the company claimed that its authority was Paramount or supreme, hence its power was greater than Indian State.
- The Doctrine of Lapse - The Doctrine of Lapse was an annexation policy followed widely by Lord Salhousie when he was Indian's governor general of India from 1848-1856.

- Nature of Doctrine of Lapse - According to this ^{any} princely state would be annexed by the company if they did not have a legal heir.

- State annexed by Doctrine of Lapse -

In 1824 - Kittur

1848 - Satara

1849 - Jaipur, Sambhalpur

1852 - Udaipur

1853 - Jhansi

1854 - Nagpur

Remark - This 'illegal' nature of Doctrine became the main cause of Indian revolt of 1857.

Note - Nana Sahib (adopted son of Peshwa Bajirao II) was denied his title and pension.

- ~~The New Administration~~ - Warren Hastings the first governor general from 1773-1785 played a significant role in the expansion of company power and introduced several administrative reforms.

* British territories were divided into three presidencies Bengal, Madras and Bombay, each

- governed by governors in supervision of governor general. Each district was to have two courts
- A criminal court (Faujdari Adalat)
 - A civil court (Diwani Adalat)
- } governed by European district collector

- * Under the regulating act of 1773 a supreme court was established.
- * The principle figure is an Indian district was the collector, his main job was to collect the revenue and taxes with the help of judges, police and darogas.

Question/Answer -

Ques-1 What attracted European trading companies in India?

Ans: Indian cotton, silk and spices were in a great demand in European market. British could buy them in the cheaper price in India and sold them in a high price in Europe, and made a high profit. This attracted European trading companies to India.

Ques-2 How did the assumption of Diwani benefit the East India Company?

Ans: Diwani allowed East India Company to use

the vast revenue sources of Bengal. Company used the revenue to finance its trade and other expenses, and also helped to strengthen its military power.

Ques-3 - explain the system of "subsidiary alliance".

Ans- According to this -

- India rulers were not allowed to have their own armed forces.
- Company army was to protect the Indian state.
- Rulers had to pay for the subsidiary alliance.
- If any Indian ruler fail to make the payment a part of his territory was taken away as penalty.

Ques-4 Describe the changes that occurred in the composition of the company's army.

- Ans- • The infantry (regiment) became more important.
- The British began to develop a uniform military culture.
 - Drill and discipline that regulated their night life for more than before.

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