

Chapter 2- From Trade to Territory

Page No: 24

Let's Recall

1. Match the following:

Diwani	Tipu Sultan
“Tiger of Mysore”	right to collect land revenue
<i>faujdari adalat</i>	<i>Sepoy</i>
Rani Channamma	criminal court
<i>sipahi</i>	led an anti-British movement in Kitoor

Answer

Diwani	right to collect land revenue
“Tiger of Mysore”	Tipu Sultan
<i>faujdari adalat</i>	criminal court
Rani Channamma	led an anti-British movement in Kitoor
<i>sipahi</i>	<i>Sepoy</i>

2. Fill in the blanks:

(a) The British conquest of Bengal began with the Battle of_____.

► Plassey

(b) Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan were the rulers of_____.

► Mysore

(c) Dalhousie implemented the Doctrine of_____.

► Lapse

(d) Maratha kingdoms were located mainly in the _____ part of India.

► South-Western

3. State whether true or false:

(a) The Mughal empire became stronger in the eighteenth century.

► False

(b) The English East India Company was the only European company that traded with India.

► False

(c) Maharaja Ranjit Singh was the ruler of Punjab.

► True

(d) The British did not introduce administrative changes in the territories they conquered.

► False

Let's Discuss

4. What attracted European trading companies to India?

Answer

European trading companies were attracted to India because of a number of reasons:

→ Trading with India was highly profitable and fruitful to the businessmen in Europe.

→ The European trading companies purchased goods at cheaper and sold them in Europe at the higher prices.

→ The fine qualities of cotton and silk produced in India had a big market in Europe.

→ Indian spices like - pepper, cloves, cardamom and cinnamon were in great demand in Europe.

5. What were the areas of conflict between the Bengal nawabs and the East India Company?

Answer

In the 18th century, after the death of Aurangzeb, the Bengal nawabs asserted their power and autonomy. Through the eighteenth century, the conflicts between them and the East India Company intensified. The nawabs refused to grant the Company concessions, demanded large tributes, denied it the right to mint coins, and stopped it from extending its fortifications. They claimed that the Company was depriving the Bengal government of huge amounts of revenue, and also undermining their authority by refusing to pay taxes, writing disrespectful letters, and humiliating them and their officials.

On the other hand, the Company declared that its trade was getting ruined because of the unjust demands of the local officials. It believed that trade could only flourish if the duties were removed. To expand trade, it wanted to enlarge its settlements, buy up villages, and rebuild its forts.

6. How did the assumption of Diwani benefit the East India Company?

Answer

The Diwani right to the East India Company benefitted it in several ways:

- The Diwani allowed the Company to use the vast revenue resources of Bengal.
- The East India Company monopolized trade and began direct plunder of India's wealth.
- Revenues from India financed Company expenses. These revenues were used to purchase cotton and silk textiles in India, maintain Company troops, and meet the cost of building the Company fort and offices at Calcutta.
- The company used its political power to monopolize trade & dictate terms. They could impose their own prices that had no relation to the costs of production.
- The company used revenue of Bengal to finance exports of Indian goods.

7. Explain the system of "subsidiary alliance".

Answer

After the battle of Plassey in 1757, the battle of Buxar in 1764 and gaining the Diwani of Bengal, the company began to expand its rule in many parts of India. For that it had devised several plans, one among them was the "Subsidiary Alliance". According to the terms of this alliance -

- Indian rulers were not allowed to have their independent armed forces.
- They were to be protected by the company but pay for the Subsidiary Forces, that the company was supposed to maintain for the purpose of their protection.
- If the Indian rulers failed to make payment, then that part of territory was taken away by the company as penalty. For example, in 1801, the nawab of Awadh was forced to give over half of his territory to the Company for failing to pay for the “subsidiary forces”.

8. In what way was the administration of the Company different from that of Indian rulers?

Answer

- British territories were broadly divided into administrative units called Presidencies. There were three Presidencies like - Bengal, Madras & Bombay whereas under the Indian rulers administration was divided into four parts - District (Zila), Paragana, Tehsil and Villages.
- Each administrative unit was ruled by a Governor.
- The supreme head of the administration was the Governor-General, whereas under the Indian Administrative system the supreme head was King or Nawab.
- Warren Hastings introduced the new system of justice. Each district was to have two courts- civil & criminal court.
- The European District Collector presided over civil courts.
- The criminal courts were still under a Qazi and a Mufti.
- Under the Regulating Act of 1773, a new supreme court was established.
- The main figure in an Indian District was Collector.
- According to his title Collector, his main job was to collect the revenue and the taxes and maintain law & order in his district with the help of judges, police officers and darogas.

9. Describe the changes that occurred in the composition of the Company's army.

Answer

During the eighteenth century, when the East India Company began recruitment for its own army, it started recruiting peasants and began training them as professional soldiers. Like the Mughal army, the Company's army was also

composed of the cavalry and the infantry regiments, with the cavalry dominating the army. However, as warfare technology changed during the nineteenth century, the cavalry requirements of the Company's army declined. As the soldiers had to be armed with muskets and matchlocks, the infantry regiments became more important.

Q1. State True (T) or False (F).

- i. The principal figure in an Indian district was the Collector. True
- ii. The Mughal Empire became stronger in the eighteenth century. False
- iii. The English East India Company was the only European company that traded with India. False
- iv. Maharaja Ranjit Singh was the ruler of Punjab. True
- v. The British did not introduce administrative changes in the territories they conquered. False
- vi. The royal charter could not prevent other European powers from entering the Eastern markets. True
- vii. The Third Anglo-Maratha War of 1817-19 crushed Maratha power. True
- viii. Tipu Sultan disallowed local merchants from trading with the Company. True

Q2. Fill in the blanks.

- i. The British conquest of Bengal began with the Battle of Plassey.
- ii. Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan were the rulers of Mysore.
- iii. Dalhousie implemented the Doctrine of Lapse.
- iv. Maratha kingdoms were located mainly in the South - Western part of India.
- v. Murshid Quli Khan was followed by Alivardi Khan and then Sirajuddaulah as the Nawab of Bengal.
- vi. British territories were broadly divided into administrative units called Presidencies.
- vii. The first Anglo-Maratha war ended with the Treaty of Salbai.
- viii. Sirajuddaulah marched with 30,000 soldiers to the English factory at Kassimbazar.
- ix. The first English factory was set up on the banks of the river Hugli in 1651

Q1. Who initiated the policy of paramountcy?

Ans. Lord Hastings (Governor- General from 1813 to 1823) initiated a new policy of “paramountcy”.

Q2. Why could Delhi no longer function as an effective centre?

Ans. As powerful regional kingdoms emerged in various parts of India, Delhi could no longer function as an effective centre.

Q3. What led to intense conflict between British and local rulers?

Ans. Fortification of settlements and effort to carry on profitable trade led to intense conflict between British and local rulers.

Q4. What constituted the Mughal army?

Ans. The Mughal army was mainly composed of cavalry (sawars: trained soldiers on horseback) and infantry, that is, paidal (foot) soldiers.

Q5. Name the two rulers under whose leadership Mysore became powerful.

Ans. Haidar Ali and his famous son Tipu Sultan were the two rulers under whose leadership Mysore became powerful.

Q6. Why did Tipu Sultan develop a close relationship with the French in India?

Ans. Tipu Sultan established a close relationship with the French in India in order to modernized his army with their help.

Q7. Who were two famous Maratha soldiers and statesmen of the late eighteenth century?

Ans.: Mahadji Sindhia and Nana Phadnis were two famous Maratha soldiers and statesmen of the late eighteenth century.

Q8. “After the Battle of Buxar (1764), the Company appointed Residents in Indian states.” Who were the Residents?

Ans. They were political or commercial agents and their job was to serve and further the interests of the Company.

Q9. When did the Mughal emperor appoint the Company as the Diwan of the provinces of Bengal?

Ans. In 1765 the Mughal emperor appointed the Company as the Diwan of the provinces of Bengal.

Q10. Why did the Company want a puppet ruler?

Ans. The Company was keen on a puppet ruler because he would willingly give trade concessions and other privileges.

Q11. Explain the term „Mercantile“.

Ans: Mercantile means a business enterprise that makes profit primarily through trade, buying goods cheap and selling them at higher prices.

Q12. What do you mean by puppet?

Ans. Puppet literally means a toy that you can move with strings. The term is used disapprovingly to refer to a person who is controlled by someone else.

Q13. Who was called tiger of Mysore?

Ans. Tipu Sultan was called tiger of Mysore.

Q14. When did the company take over Awadh?

Ans. The Company took over Awadh in 1856.

Q15. What was the prime objective of East India Company?

Ans. Its prime objective was the expansion of trade.

Q16. Who was the ruler of England in 1600?

Ans. Queen Elizabeth I was the ruler of England in 1600.

Q17. Who was the last of the powerful Mughal rulers?

Ans. Aurangzeb was the last of the powerful Mughal rulers.

Q18. Who became the Nawab of Bengal after Alivardi khan?

Ans. Sirajuddaulah became the Nawab of Bengal after Alivardi khan.

Q19. Who was made the Nawab of Bengal after the Battle of Plassey?

Ans. Mir Jafar was made the Nawab of Bengal after the Battle of Plassey