

## Modern India

- Advent of Europeans

- ❖ **Portuguese**

- The Portuguese were the **first Europeans to arrive in India, and they were also the last to go.**
- The spirit of the Renaissance, with its demand for adventure, captivated Europe in the fifteenth century.
- During this time, Europe achieved significant breakthroughs in shipbuilding and navigation.
- As a result, there was a strong desire throughout Europe for daring maritime trips to the East's unexplored reaches.
- **Discovery of a Sea Route to India**
  - Historians have noted that discovering an ocean route to India had become an obsession for Prince Henry of Portugal, known as the '**Navigator**,' as well as a method to sidestep the Muslim dominance of the eastern Mediterranean and all the roads connecting India and Europe.
  - The kings of **Portugal and Spain** split the non-Christian world between them in 1497, under the Treaty of Tordesillas (1494), by an imaginary line in the Atlantic, about 1,300 miles west of the Cape Verde Islands.
  - Portugal could claim and occupy anything to the east of the line, while Spain could claim everything to the west, according to the pact.
  - As a result, the scene was set for Portuguese intrusions into the Indian Ocean seas.
  - **Bartholomew Dias**, a Portuguese navigator, crossed the Cape of Good Hope in Africa in 1487 and traveled along

the eastern coast, believing that the long-sought maritime path to India had been discovered.

→ However, an expedition of Portuguese ships set off for India barely 10 years later (**in 1497**) and reached India in little less than 11 months, in **May 1498**

➤ **Portuguese Administration in India**

→ The Bahmani Kingdom in the Deccan was dissolving into smaller kingdoms.

→ None of the powers possessed a fleet worth mentioning, and they had no plans to improve their maritime capabilities.

→ The Chinese emperor's imperial proclamation limited the nautical reach of Chinese ships in the Far East.

→ The Arab merchants and shipowners who had previously controlled the Indian Ocean commerce had nothing on the Portuguese in terms of organization and cohesiveness.

→ The Portuguese also had guns mounted on their ships.

→ The viceroy, who ruled for three years, was in charge of the administration, together with his secretary and, subsequently, a council.

→ Next in significance was the Vedor da Fazenda, who was in charge of income, cargoes, and fleet dispatch.

➤ **Significance of the Portuguese**

→ Most historians agree that the arrival of the Portuguese not only signaled the beginning of the European age, but also the growth of maritime power.

→ The Cholas, for example, had been a maritime force, but this was the first time a foreign power had arrived in India by water.

- The Portuguese ships were armed with cannons, and this was the first step toward securing a monopoly over commerce by threatening or using force.
- The Portuguese used body armor, matchlock soldiers, and weapons landed from ships in the Malabar in the 16th century, demonstrating military innovation.
- On the other hand, a significant military contribution made by the Portuguese onshore was the system of drilling infantry groups, modeled after the Spanish model, which was implemented in the 1630s as a response to Dutch pressure.
- The Portuguese were masters of advanced maritime tactics.
- Their multi-decked ships were strongly built, as they were meant to fight out Atlantic gales rather than go ahead of the regular monsoons, allowing them to carry more weapons.
- Goa became a center of complex filigree work, fretted foliage work, and metalwork incorporating diamonds as the silversmith and goldsmith arts thrived.
- However, while the interiors of churches built under the Portuguese include a lot of woodwork and art, as well as painted ceilings, the architectural plans are often plain.

➤ **Vasco Da Gama**

- The landing of three ships under **Vasco Da Gama to Calicut in May 1498, headed by a Gujarati pilot called Abdul Majid**, had a significant impact on Indian history.
- Vasco da Gama spent three months in India.
- When he returned to Portugal, he brought a valuable cargo with him and profitably sold the goods on the European market.
- In **1501 Vasco da Gama returned to India.**

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- When Vasco Da Gama mixed economic avarice with violent hatred and inflicted revenge on Arab commerce everywhere he could, the Zamorin refused to exclude Arab merchants in favor of the Portuguese.
- At **Cannanore, Vasco da Gama established a trading factory.**
- Calicut, Cannanore, and Cochin gradually became key Portuguese commerce centers

### ➤ **Francisco De Almeida**

- In **1505, King Ferdinand I** of Portugal appointed a three-year governor in India and provided him with adequate troops to preserve Portuguese interests.
- The newly appointed governor, Francisco De Almeida, was tasked with consolidating the Portuguese position in India and destroying Muslim trade by conquering Aden, Ormuz, and Malacca.
- The Portuguese squadron was beaten by the combined Egyptian and Gujarat navies in a naval action off the coast of **Diu in 1507**, and **Almeida's son was slain.**
- The next year, Almeida avenged his defeat by annihilating both navies. Almeida's dream was for the Portuguese to rule the Indian Ocean.
- The **Blue Water Policy (cartage system) was his policy.**

### ➤ **Alfonso de Albuquerque**

- Albuquerque, who took over as **Portuguese governor of India when Almeida died, was the true creator of Portuguese authority in the East, a mission he finished before his death.**
- By creating strongholds commanding all of the sea's exits, he ensured Portugal's strategic control over the Indian Ocean.

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- Under **Albuquerque's** leadership, the Portuguese tightened their grip by instituting a permission system for other ships and exerting control over the region's key shipbuilding centers.
- The eradication of sati was a noteworthy element of his reign.
- **Nino da Cunha**
  - In November **1529**, **Nino da Cunha** was appointed governor of Portuguese interests in India, and almost a year later, the Portuguese administration in India moved its headquarters from Cochin to Goa.
  - During his struggle with **Mughal emperor Humayun**, **Bahadur Shah** of Gujarat enlisted the support of the Portuguese by transferring the island of **Bassein**, along with its dependents and income, to them in **1534**.
  - He offered them a base in **Diu as well**.
  - **Da Cunha** also aimed to enhance Portuguese influence in Bengal by placing a large number of Portuguese nationals in the city of Hooghly
- **Decline of the Portuguese**
  - The governors who succeeded Afonso de Albuquerque were weak and inept, and the Portuguese Empire in India finally fell apart.
  - In religious affairs, the Portuguese were intolerant and fanatical. They used coercion to convert the indigenous people to Christianity.
  - In this regard, their attitude was vehemently opposed by the people of India, where religious tolerance was the norm.

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- The Portuguese administration was more concerned with amassing a fortune for itself, which further alienated the Indian people.
- They were also involved in heinous crimes and defiance of the law. They didn't even hesitate to engage in piracy and plunder. All of these actions culminated in an anti-Portuguese sentiment
- During the **15th century** and the first part of the **16th century**, the Portuguese and Spanish had left the English and the Dutch well behind.
- However, throughout the latter part of the **16th century**, emerging economic and naval powers England and Holland, and subsequently France launched a determined battle against the Spanish and Portuguese monopoly of international commerce.
- The latter were defeated in this battle. Their authority in India was also diminished as a result of this.
- The **Mughal Empire's** and the **Marathas'** developing influence also made it difficult for the Portuguese to maintain their commercial monopoly in India for long. For example, in c. **1631 CE**, they struggled with the **Mughal authorities in Bengal** and were forced out of their town at Hughli.
- **Brazil was found by the Portuguese in Latin America**, and they began to pay considerably more attention to it than to their Indian domains.
- When Portugal was annexed by Spain in **1580 CE**, Spanish interests took precedence over Portuguese ones, which were later ignored.

### ❖ The Dutch

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- Under the name **Vereenigde Oost Indische Compagnie (VOC)**, the Dutch East India Company was founded about **1602 CE**.
- The Dutch established their first facility at Masulipatnam, Andhra Pradesh. They also created commercial terminals in **Gujarat (Surat, Broach, Cambay, and Ahmedabad), Kerala (Cochin), Bengal (Chinsurah), Bihar (Patna), and Uttar Pradesh (Agra)**.
- Their major base in India was **Pulicat (Tamil Nadu)**, which was subsequently superseded by **Nagapattinam**.
- They defeated the Portuguese in the **17th century** and became the most powerful force in European commerce in the East.
- They expelled the Portuguese out of the Malay straits and the Indonesian islands and thwarted English attempts to settle there in 1623.
- Anglo-Dutch Rivalry
  - The English were also gaining importance in the Eastern trade at this time, posing a severe threat to the Dutch economic interests.
  - **Commercial competition quickly devolved into bloodshed.**
  - After years of fighting, both parties reached an agreement in 1667, in which the British promised to relinquish all claims to Indonesia and the Dutch agreed to leave India to focus on their more successful commerce in Indonesia.
  - They had a monopoly on the black pepper and spice trade. **Silk, cotton, indigo, rice, and opium were the most significant Indian goods sold by the Dutch.**
  - Also, the Anglo-Dutch competition lasted around seven years, during which time the Dutch lost one by one their colonies to the British until the Dutch were eventually beaten by the English in the Battle of Bedara in c. **1759**.

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### ➤ Decline of Dutch in India

- The English retaliation ended in the Dutch being defeated in the **Battle of Hooghly (November 1759)**, thereby ending Dutch ambitions in India.
- The Dutch were not interested in establishing an empire in India; their main focus was trade.
- In any event, their major economic interest was in the Indonesian Spice Islands, from which they made a large profit

### ❖ The English

- The English Association or Company to Trade with the East was founded about **1599 CE** by a group of merchants known as "The Merchant Adventurers."
- Queen Elizabeth granted the corporation a royal charter and the exclusive right to trade in the East on **December 31, 1600 CE**, and it became known as the East India Company.
- The Rise of English
  - Captain William Hawkins landed at the court of Mughal **Emperor Jahangir in 1609 CE** to request permission to open an English trading post in Surat.
  - The Emperor, however, declined it owing to Portuguese pressure.
  - Later, in **1612 CE**, **Jahangir** gave the **East India Company** permission to build a factory at Surat.
  - Sir Thomas Roe arrived at the Mughal court as an envoy for **James I, King of England, in c. 1615 CE** and was successful in obtaining an Imperial Farman to trade and develop factories in various regions of India.
  - The English developed factories in **Agra, Ahmedabad, Baroda, and Broach by c. 1619 CE**



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- Masulipatnam was the site of the English's first factory in the south.
- Francis Day bought Madras from the **Raja of Chandragiri** in **1639 CE** and erected a modest fort around their factory called Fort St. George.
- On the Coromandel coast, Madras quickly displaced Masulipatnam as the English headquarters.
- In c. **1668 CE**, the **English East India Company** purchased Bombay from **Charles II**, the then-king of England, and Bombay became the company's west coast headquarters.
- **Job Charnock** founded an English workshop in a region named Sutanuti in **1690 CE**.
- It ultimately became the city of **Calcutta**, which was home to Fort William and later became the capital of British India.
- British towns in **Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta** grew into thriving metropolises.
- **As the British East India Company expanded in prominence**, it was on the verge of becoming a sovereign state in India.
- An English mission headed by **John Surman** to the Mughal emperor Farrukhsiyar's court in 1715 gained three notable farmans, granting the Company numerous important rights in Bengal, Gujarat, and Hyderabad.

### ❖ **The French**

- Colbert, a minister under **Louis XIV**, formed the **French East India Company in 1664 CE**.
- Francis Caron established the first French factory in Surat about **1668 CE**. Maracara built a factory at **Masulipatnam in 1669 CE**.

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- **Francois Martin** created Pondicherry (Fort Louis) in c. 1673 CE, which later became the seat of the French holdings in India, and he served as its first governor.
- The French took Chandranagore near Calcutta from the governor, Shaista Khan, in **1690 CE. At Balasore, Mahe, Qasim Bazar, and Karaikal, the French erected factories.**
- The advent of French governor Joseph François Dupleix in India in around **1742 CE** marked the start of Anglo-French warfare, which culminated in the legendary Carnatic wars.
- **Pondicherry - The Nerve Center of French**

### **Pondicherry - The Nerve Center of French**

- Francois Martin, the director of the Masulipatnam factory, was granted a location for a colony in **1673** by **Sher Khan Lodi, the administrator of Valikandapuram (under the Bijapur Sultan).**
- Pondicherry was established in the year **1674**. Caron was succeeded as French governor by Francois Martin the next year.
- Other sections of India, notably the coastal regions, were also home to the French company's plants.
- The **French East India** Company's commercial centers included **Mahe, Karaikal, Balasore, and Qasim Bazar.**
- Francois Martin established Pondicherry as a significant location after gaining command in **1674**. It was, after all, the **French's bastion in India.**
- **First Carnatic War (1740–48)**
  - The **Anglo-French War** in Europe was triggered by the Austrian War of Succession, and the First Carnatic War was a continuation of that conflict.

- The **Treaty of Aix-La Chapelle**, which brought the Austrian War of Succession to a close, concluded the **First Carnatic War in 1748**.
- Madras was returned to the English under the provisions of this treaty, while the French received their colonies in **North America in exchange**
- **Second Carnatic War (1749–54)**
  - **Dupleix**, the French governor who had led the French armies to victory in the **First Carnatic War**, aspired to expand his authority and political influence in southern India by engaging in local dynastic rivalries to beat the English.
  - The **English and the French agreed not to intervene in native rulers' quarrels**.
  - Furthermore, each side was left in control of the territory that they had occupied at the time of the pact.
  - It became clear that Indian authority was no longer required for **European success**; rather, Indian authority was growing increasingly reliant on European backing.
- **Third Carnatic War (1758–63)**
  - When Austria attempted to reclaim **Silesia in 1756**, the **Seven Years' War (1756–63)** broke out in Europe.
  - Once again, the United Kingdom and France were on opposing sides.
  - The **Treaty of Peace Paris (1763)** restored the French industries in India, but after the war, French political dominance vanished.
  - The Dutch having already been beaten in the **Battle of Bidara in 1759**, the English became the dominant European force on the Indian subcontinent.
- English Success and the French Failure - Causes

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- The English company was a private enterprise, which instilled in the people a sense of pride and self-assurance.
- The **French company**, on the other hand, was a government-owned enterprise.
- The French government-controlled and regulated it, and it was boxed in by government policies and decision-making delays.
- The **English navy** was superior to the French fleet, and it assisted in cutting off the important maritime route between France and its Indian colonies.
- **Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras** were all under English control, whilst **Pondicherry was under French control**.
- The French prioritized territorial ambition over business interests, leaving the French enterprise cash-strapped.

### ❖ The Danes

- In **1616, the Danish East India Company was created**, and in **1620**, they opened a factory in **Tranquebar, near Tanjore, on India's eastern coast**.
- Serampore, near **Calcutta**, was their main settlement. In 1845, the Danish industries were sold to the British government, despite the fact that they were unimportant at the time.
- The **Danes are better recognised for their missionary work than for their commercial endeavors**.
- **English Success against Other European Powers**
  - The company, which was founded by the merger of many rival firms at home, was governed by a board of directors whose members were chosen on an annual basis.
  - The state held a substantial portion of France's and Portugal's commercial firms, and their character was feudalism in many aspects.

- The Royal Navy of Britain was not only the largest but also the most technologically sophisticated at the time.
  - The industrial revolution arrived late in other European countries, allowing England to preserve its dominion.
  - The British soldiers were well-trained and disciplined. The British commanders were thinkers who experimented with novel military techniques.
  - In comparison to Spain, Portugal, and the Dutch, Britain was less religiously passionate and eager in spreading Christianity.
  - The Bank of England, the world's first central bank, was formed to sell government debt to money markets on the promise of a fair return if Britain defeated competing countries such as France and Spain
- Modes of conquest
    - ❖ British Expansion in India
      - In **1600**, the **East India Company** acquired a charter from the ruler of England, **Queen Elizabeth I**, granting it the sole right to trade with the East. Then onwards no other trading group in England could compete with the East India Company.
      - However, the royal charter didn't prevent other European powers from entering the Eastern markets.
      - The Portuguese had already established their presence on the western coast of India and had their base in The Dutch too were exploring the possibilities of trade in the Indian Ocean. Soon the French traders arrived on the scene.
      - The problem was that all the companies were interested in buying the same things. So the only way the trading companies could flourish was by eliminating rival competitors. The urge to secure markets, therefore, led to fierce battles between the trading companies.

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- Trade was carried on with arms and trading posts were protected through fortification.
- **The first English factory was set up on the banks of the river Hugli in 1651.**
- By **1696** it began building a fort around the settlement near the factory where merchants and traders
- The company persuaded the Mughal emperor **Aurangzeb** to issue a farman granting the Company the right to trade duty-free.
- Aurangzeb's farman had granted only the Company the right to trade duty-free. The officials of the Company, who were carrying on private trade on the side, were expected to pay duty. However, they did private trades without paying taxes, causing an enormous loss of revenue for Bengal.
- This behavior led to a protest by the Nawab of Bengal, Murshid Quli Khan
- **The Battle of Plassey**
  - **Sirajuddaulah**, then Nawab of Bengal, with his force, captured the English factory at Kasimbazar and then went to Calcutta to establish control over the Company's fort.
  - Company officials in Madras sent forces under the command of Robert Clive, reinforced by naval fleets. Prolonged negotiations with the Nawab followed.
  - Finally, in **1757**, **Robert Clive** led the Company's army against **Sirajuddaulah at Plassey**.
  - Clive had managed to secure the support of one of Sirajuddaulah's commanders named **Mir Jafar** by promising to make him Nawab after crushing Sirajuddaulah.
  - **The Battle of Plassey** became famous because it was the first major victory for the **English East India Company** in India.

- The Company was still unwilling to take over the responsibility of the administration. Its prime objective was the expansion of trade.
- **But Mir Jafar protested with the British on administrative matters. He was replaced by Mir Mir Qasim. He too had conflicts with the East India company. The Company defeated him in the Battle of Buxar (1764).**
- East India companies now started to shift from their primary objective from trade to expansion of territories.
- In **1765** the Mughal emperor appointed the Company as the Diwan of the provinces of Bengal. The Diwani allowed the Company to use the vast revenue resources of Bengal.
- Now revenues from India could finance Company expenses. These revenues could be 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.

### ➤ **Company Rule Expands**

- After the **Battle of Buxar (1764)**, the Company appointed Residents in Indian states.
- Through the Residents, the Company officials began interfering in the internal affairs of Indian states.
- Sometimes the Company forced the states into a “**subsidiary alliance**”. According to the terms of this alliance, Indian rulers were not allowed to have their independent armed forces. They will be protected by the Company but have to pay for the “**subsidiary forces**” that the Company maintains for the purpose of this protection. If the Indian rulers failed to make the payment, then part of their territory was taken away as a penalty

➤ **The claim to paramountcy**

- Under Lord Hastings (**Governor-General from 1813 to 1823**) a new policy of “**paramountcy**” was initiated. Now the Company claimed that its authority was paramount or supreme, so it was justified in annexing or threatening to annex any Indian kingdom.
- This view continued to guide later British policies.
- **These periods saw the British shifting the control north-west because of Russian invasion fear.**
- The British fought a prolonged war with Afghanistan between **1838 and 1842** and established indirect Company rule there. Sind was taken over. In **1849**, Punjab was annexed.

➤ **The Doctrine of Lapse**

- The final wave of annexations occurred under Lord **Dalhousie** who was the Governor-General from 1848 to **1856** using **Doctrine of Lapse** policy.
- **The doctrine declared that if an Indian ruler died without a male heir his kingdom would “lapse”, that is, become part of Company territory. Many kingdoms were annexed simply by applying this doctrine: Examples – Satara (1848), Sambalpur (1850), Udaipur (1852), Nagpur (1853) and Jhansi (1854).**
- **Finally, in 1856, the Company also took over Awadh.** Now this time the British mentioned that they took over Awadh in order to free the people from the “misgovernment” of the Nawab, which was enraged by the Nawab who was deposed. The people of Awadh later joined the great revolt that broke out in 1857.

- Early resistance to colonialism Revolt of 1857

❖ **Origin of the Resistance**



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- In pre-colonial India, popular uprisings against rulers and officials were common, with the state's high land income demand, corrupt activities, and harsh attitude of the authorities among the driving factors.
- The creation of colonial power and its policies, on the other hand, had a considerably greater annihilative effect on Indians as a whole.
- There was no one to listen to their complaints or to pay attention to their difficulties. The Company was just concerned with making money.
- The colonial legal system and court protected the interests of the government and its collaborators - landlords, merchants, and moneylenders.
- As a result, the people were left with no choice but to pick up guns and protect themselves.
- The tribal people's situations were no different from those on the mainland, but the incursion of strangers into their separate tribal government made them more disgruntled and hostile.

### **❖ Causes of the Resistance**

- Colonial land revenue settlements, high weight of additional taxes, evictions of peasants from their farms, and encroachment on tribal territories.
- Exploitation in rural life is being accompanied by an increase in the number of intermediary revenue collectors, tenants, and moneylenders.
- Expansion of revenue administration over tribal territory, resulting in tribal people's loss of control over agricultural and forest areas.
- Promotion of British manufactured products, imposition of severe charges on Indian industries, particularly export duties, resulting

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in the annihilation of the Indian handloom and handicraft industries.

- Destruction of indigenous industry causes employees to migrate from industry to agriculture, putting strain on land/agriculture.

### ❖ **Civil Uprising**

- The term '**civil**' refers to anything that isn't related to defense or military, but we've included here uprisings led by deposed native rulers or their descendants, former zamindars, landlords, poligars, ex retainers, and officials of conquered.
- Although the power-wielding classes were at the heart of these upheavals, the majority of support came from **rack-rented peasants, jobless craftsmen, and demobilized soldiers.**
- **Causes of Civil Uprisings**
  - **Rapid changes in the economy, administration, and land revenue system occurred during Company rule, all of which were detrimental to the people.**
  - Several zamindars and poligars, who had lost control of their lands and earnings as a result of colonial authority, held personal grudges against the new authorities.
  - Traditional zamindars and poligars' egos were bruised when they were demoted in status by government officials and a new class of merchants and moneylenders emerged.
  - Millions of craftsmen were destitute as a result of colonial policies that destroyed Indian handicraft industries.
  - Their misery was worsened by the departure of their traditional supporters and buyers—princes, chieftains, and zamindars.
  - As religious preachers, priests, pundits, maulvis, and others were reliant on the traditional landed and bureaucratic elite, the priestly classes fostered hostility and resistance against alien control

- The priestly class was directly affected by the demise of zamindars and feudal rulers.
- The British rulers' **foreign nature, which has always been alien to this region, and their disdainful attitude toward the native people harmed the latter's pride.**
- In most cases, these revolutions reflected shared conditions, even though they occurred at different times and in different places.
- The semi-feudal commanders of civil uprisings had a traditional worldview and were backward-minded.
- Their main goal was to return to older systems of government and social ties.
- These revolutions arose from local causes and concerns, and their repercussions were as localized.

### ➤ Important Civil Uprisings

#### 1. **Sanyasi Revolt**

→ **1763–1800**

- The Sanyasi revolt was a late-eighteenth-century rebellion in **Bengal**, India, in the Murshidabad and Baikunthpur forests of Jalpaiguri under the leadership of Pandit Bhabani Charan Pathak.
- In the **18th century**, the Sanyasis who rose against the English were not always individuals who had given up the world.
- **The uprisings were marked by equal participation by Hindus and Muslims.**

#### 2. **Revolt in Midnapore and Dhalbhum**

→ **1766–74**

- In cases of dispute between the ryots and the English revenue collecting authorities, the zamindars of Midnapore sided with the ryots.

- By the 1800s, the **zamindars of Dhalbhum, Manbhum, Raipur, Panchet, Jhatibuni, Karnagarh, and Bagri, who lived in the huge Jungle Mahals of the west and north-west Midnapore, had lost their zamindari.**
- Damodar Singh and Jagannath Dhal were key figures in the uprisings.

### **3. Revolt of Moamarias**

- **1769–99**
- The Moamaria insurrection of **1769** was a powerful threat to the authority of **Assam's Ahom monarchs.**
- The Moamarias were low-caste peasants who followed Aniruddhadeva's (**1553–1624**) teachings, and their growth paralleled that of other North Indian low-caste communities.
- Their uprisings weakened the Ahoms and allowed others to assault the territory.
- Despite the fact that the Ahom kingdom survived the uprising, it was devastated by a Burmese invasion and eventually fell under British authority.

### **4. Civil Uprisings in Gorakhpur, Basti, and Bahraich**

- **1781**
- In order to pay for the war against the Marathas and Mysore, Warren Hastings devised a scheme to employ English officers as **ijaradars (revenue farmers)** in **Awadh.**
- In **1781**, the zamindars and farmers revolted against the oppressive taxes, and within weeks, all of Hannay's subordinates were either slain or besieged by zamindari guerrilla troops.

### **5. Revolt of Raja of Vizianagaram**

- **1794**

- **The English and Ananda Gajapatiraju, the monarch of Vizianagaram, signed a deal in 1758 to jointly expel the French from the Northern Circars.**
- The raja rose up in revolt, backed by his subjects.
- In **1793**, the English captured the raja and sentenced him to exile with a pension. The raja was adamant in his refusal.
- In **1794**, the raja was killed in a fight at Padmanabham (now in the Andhra Pradesh district of Visakhapatnam). The Company took control of Vizianagaram.

## **6. Civil Rebellion in Awadh**

- **1799**
- In Benares, **Wazir Ali Khan** was given a pension. However, in January **1799**, he assassinated George Frederick Cherry, a British citizen who had invited him to lunch.
- **Wazir Ali's** soldiers also killed two other Europeans and assaulted the **Benares Magistrate**.
- The entire episode became known as the Benares Massacre.
- Wazir Ali was able to raise a force of many thousand soldiers, but General Erskine was able to beat them

## **7. Kutch or Cutch Rebellion**

- **1816–32**
- The British meddled in the Kutch's internal feuds, prompting **Raja Bharmal II** to gather Arab and African forces in **1819** with the goal of driving the British out of his realm.
- In favor of his newborn son, the British defeated and removed Kutch monarch Rao Bharamal.

- The regency council's administrative innovations, along with excessive land valuation, sparked significant dissatisfaction.

## **8. Paika Rebellion**

→ **1817**

- The **Paiks of Odisha** were the traditional landed militia (meaning "**foot soldiers**") who had hereditary land tenures in exchange for their military duty and policing tasks.
- **Bakshi Jagabandhu Bidyadhar was the military commander of the Raja of Khurda's army.**
- The Company took away Jagabandhu's ancestral estate of Killa Rorang in 1814, leaving him destitute.
- The entry of a group of Khonds from Gumsur into Khurda territory in March 1817 lit the fuse.
- **Paika Bidroh** was the name given to the insurrection (rebellion).
- For a time, the rebels' early success galvanized the whole province of Odisha against the British administration.
- The Paika Rebellion was successful in obtaining huge remissions of arrears, reductions in assessments, a moratorium on the sale of defaulters' properties at will, a new settlement on permanent tenures, and other liberal governance adjuncts.

## **9. Waghera Rising**

→ **1818–20**

- The **Waghera leaders of Okha Mandal** were forced to take up arms due to resentment of the alien authority, as well as the demands of the **Gaekwad of Baroda**, who were backed by the British administration.

→ During the years **1818–1819**, the Wagheras made incursions into British territory.

→ In **November 1820**, a peace deal was concluded.

#### **10. Ahom Revolt**

→ **1828**

→ After the **First Burma War (1824–26)**, the British promised to leave Assam.

→ Instead of leaving after the conflict, the British tried to absorb the Ahoms' regions under the Company's rule.

→ This triggered a revolt in **1828**, led by Gomdhar Konwar, an Ahom prince, and his countrymen, including **Dhanjay Borgohain and Jairam Khargharia Phukan**.

→ The rebels formally installed Gomdhar Konwar as king at Jorhat.

→ Finally, the Company adopted a conciliatory stance and gave up Upper Assam to **Maharaja Purandar Singh Narendra, reuniting the Assamese ruler with a portion of his realm**.

#### **11. Surat Salt Agitations**

→ **1840**

→ In **1844**, a strong anti-British feeling led to attacks against Europeans by the local Surat populace over the government's decision to raise the salt levy from 50 paise to one rupee.

→ The administration dropped the extra salt fee in response to public outcry.

→ In **1848**, the government was compelled to cancel its plan to implement Bengal Standard Weights and Measures in the face of a persistent campaign of boycotting and passive resistance by the people.

#### **12. Wahabi Movement**

→ **1830-61**

→ **Syed Ahmed of Rai Bareilly**, influenced by the teachings of **Saudi Arabia's Abdul Wahab (1703–87)** and **Delhi's Shah Waliullah**, formed the Wahhabi Movement, which was primarily an Islamic revivalist movement.

→ **Syed Ahmed** denounced Western influence on Islam and called for a restoration to genuine Islam and society as it was in the Arabia of the Prophet's day.

### **13. Rising at Bareilly**

→ **1816**

→ When **Mufti Muhammad Aiwaz**, a revered old man, petitioned the town magistrate in March **1816**, the dispute became religious.

→ The scenario became even worse when a lady was hurt by police while collecting taxes.

→ The Mufti's supporters and the police got into a brutal brawl as a result of this incident.

→ Within two days following the incident, armed Muslims from **Pilibhit, Shahjahanpur, and Rampur rose up in revolt to defend the faith and the Mufti.**

→ The revolt could only be put down with the strong deployment of military troops, which resulted in the deaths of over 300 insurgents, as well as the wounding and imprisonment of many more.

### **❖ Peasant Movements**

➤ Peasant uprisings were demonstrations against evictions, increases in land rents, and the greedy tactics of moneylenders, with the goal of granting peasants occupation rights, among other things.



## **E ▶ ENTRI**

- They were peasant revolts and rebellions, however many of them were led by local leaders.
- The following is a list of peasant movements in India up until the commencement of the **1857 Revolt (and its immediate aftermath)**.
- **Causes of Peasant Movements**
  - Peasant Atrocities: In **Zamindari districts, peasants faced excessive rents, illegal levies, arbitrary evictions, and unpaid labor.**
  - The government charged a high land tax.
  - Massive Losses for Indian Industries: The movements arose as a result of British economic policies that resulted in the demise of traditional handicrafts and other small industries, resulting in the transfer of ownership and overburdening of agrarian land, as well as massive debt and impoverishment of the peasantry.
  - Unfavorable Policies: The British government's economic policies are utilized to protect landlords and moneylenders while exploiting peasants.
  - On several instances, the peasants rose in protest against this injustice.
- **Important Peasant Movements**
  - 1. Narkelberia Uprising**
    - **1782–1831**
    - The Muslim tenants of West Bengal were encouraged by **Mir Nithar Ali (1782–1831)**, also known as Titu Mir, to rise up against landlords, mostly Hindus, who imposed a beard-tax on the Faraizis and British indigo planters.
    - This revolution, which is often regarded as the first armed peasant movement against the British, quickly took on a religious overtone.

→ The uprising ultimately became known as the **Wahhabi Movement**.

## **2. The Pagal Panthis**

→ **1825**

→ **Karam Shah formed the Pagal Panthi**, a semi-religious organization made up primarily of the Hajong and Garo tribes of Mymensingh district (formerly Bengal).

→ However, the tribal peasants banded together under **Karam Shah's son, Tipu, to combat the zamindars' persecution**.

→ From **1825 through 1835**, the **Pagal Panthis** raided zamindars' homes because they refused to pay rent over a set amount.

→ To safeguard these peasants, the government established an equitable arrangement, but the movement was severely quashed.

## **3. Faraizi Revolt**

→ **1838-57**

→ The Faraizis were followers of **Haji Shariatullah of Faridpur in Eastern Bengal**, who created a Muslim sect.

→ They campaigned for fundamental reforms in religion, society, and politics.

→ Shariatullah and his son Mohsin Uddin Ahmad, also known as **Dudu Miyan (1819–62)**, gathered their supporters with the goal of driving the English out of Bengal.

→ The tenants' fight against the zamindars was also backed by the sect.

→ The **Faraizi** uprisings lasted from 1838 to 1857. The majority of Faraizis embraced the Wahhabi movement.

#### **4. Moplah Uprisings**

→ 1921

→ Increased income demands and field size reductions, along with state harassment, culminated in widespread peasant revolt among the Moplahs of Malabar.

→ Between **1836 and 1854**, there were twenty-two rebellions. None of them, however, were successful.

→ The second **Moplah rebellion happened when the Congress and Khilafat** supporters began organizing Moplahs during the **Non-Cooperation Movement**.

→ However, the Congress and the Moplahs were separated by **Hindu-Muslim divisions**. The Moplahs had been defeated by **1921**.

#### **❖ Tribal Revolt**

➤ Tribal movements were the most common, militant, and violent of all movements during British rule.

##### **➤ Causes of Tribal Revolts**

→ Shifting agriculture, hunting, fishing, and the usage of forest products were the tribals' mainstays.

→ The practice of settled agriculture was established with the inflow of non-tribals into the tribals' customary territories.

→ The tribal population lost land as a result of this.

→ The tribals were confined to working as agricultural laborers without land.

→ Money lenders were introduced by the British into tribal communities, resulting in serious exploitation of the native tribes.

→ Under the new economic structure, they were forced to work as bonded laborers.

→ The concept of joint ownership of land was supplanted by the concept of private property in tribal communities.

- Forest products, changing agriculture, and hunting techniques were all subject to limitations. For the tribals, this resulted in a loss of livelihood.
- In contrast to mainstream culture, which was characterized by caste and class divisions, tribal life was typically egalitarian. The arrival of non-tribals or outsiders pushed the tribals to the bottom of society's ladder.
- The government established a Forest Department in 1864, primarily to manage the vast riches of Indian forests.
- The Government **Forest Act of 1865** and the **Indian Forest Act of 1878** gave the government total control over wooded territory.
- The Christian missionaries' activity also caused social instability in tribal civilization, which the tribes hated.

➤ Important Tribal Revolts

**1. Paharias Rebellion (1778)**

- Due to their geographical isolation, the **Paharias** had always preserved their independence before the British arrived.
- The Paharias invaded the plains populated by settled agriculturists frequently because their means of existence were insufficient, especially during times of famine.
- These attacks also served as a means of establishing control over the established populations.
- The **British launched a savage onslaught on the Pahariyas in the 1770s**, with the goal of tracking them out and murdering them.
- The Pahariyas uprising, headed by Raja Jagganath in **1778**, is noteworthy. The British began a pacification campaign in the **1780s**.

## **2. Chuar Uprising (1776)**

- The Chuar uprising was a series of peasant rebellions against the East India Company that took place between **1771 and 1809** in the area around the West Bengali villages of **Midnapore, Bankura, and Manbhum**.
- Chuar uprising erupted in response to the jungle zamindars' increased earnings. The money was difficult to generate because the forest region produced little.
- The **East India Company's** tax and administrative policies (including the Permanent Settlement) as well as the police restrictions enforced in rural Bengal rendered the practise of employing local paiks obsolete, since they were eventually replaced by professional police.
- In **1799**, the British violently repressed the insurrection

## **3. Kol Mutiny (1831)**

- The **Kols** were a tribe that lived in the Chotanagpur region.
- **Moneylenders and merchants arrived alongside the British.**
- The Kols were forced to sell their holdings to outside farmers and pay exorbitant taxes as a result.
- As a result, many people became bound laborers.
- The Kols were especially irritated by British judicial policies.
- In **1831-1832**, the **Kols** organized themselves and revolted against the British and moneylenders, resulting in an insurgency.

## **4. Ho and Munda Uprisings (1820–37)**

- The revolt lasted until the Ho tribes were forced to succumb in **1827**.

- However, in **1831**, they staged another insurrection, this time with the help of the **Mundas of Chotanagpur**, to oppose the newly implemented farming tax policy and the influx of **Bengalis** into their district.
- Despite the fact that the uprising ended in **1832**, the **Ho activities continued until 1837**.
- The **Mundas** were not going to remain silent for long

### **5. The Santhal Rebellions (1833; 1855–56)**

- The landlords exploited the Santhals ruthlessly, charging excessive interest rates (often as high as **500 percent**) that insured the tribals would never be able to repay their loans.
- They were stripped of their land and forced to work as bonded laborers.
- Extortion, forcible deprivation of property, abuse and violence, deceit in business agreements, willful trampling of their crops, and so on were all things they had to cope with.
- They assassinated a large number of moneylenders and Company agents. The uprising was ferocious and huge in scope.
- The British brutally quashed the insurrection, killing around **20000 Santhals**, including the two leaders.

### **6. Khond Uprisings (1837–56)**

- Between **1837 and 1856**, the Khonds of the mountainous areas spanning from **Odisha to the Andhra Pradesh** districts of Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam revolted against Company control.
- **Chakra Bisoi**, a youthful raja, led the Khonds, who were supported by the Ghumsar, Kalahandi, and other tribes, in their opposition to the abolition of human sacrifice,

increased taxes, and the arrival of zamindars into their territories.

→ The insurrection came to an end with Chakra Bisoi's disappearance.

### **7. Koya Revolts**

→ The Koyas of the eastern **Godavari** track (now Andhra) revolted in **1803, 1840, 1845, 1858, 1861, and 1862, aided by Khonda Sara leaders.**

→ Under **Tomma Sora, they climbed once again in 1879–80.**

→ Their grievances included police and moneylender persecution, new restrictions, and rejection of their traditional rights to forest regions.

→ After Tomma Sora's death, **Raja Anantayyar** organized another revolt in 1886

### **8. Bhil Revolts**

→ The Bhils of the Western Ghats controlled the mountain routes that connected the north with the Deccan.

→ They rose against Company control in **1817–19** due to starvation, economic suffering, and misgovernment.

→ To quell the insurrection, the British utilized both force and conciliatory measures.

→ The Bhils, however, revolted again in **1825, 1831, and 1846.**

→ Later, a reformer named Govind Guru assisted the Bhils of south **Rajasthan (Banswara and Sunth states)** in organizing to fight for a **Bhil Raj by 1913.**

### **9. Koli Risings**

→ The **Kolis of Bhils** rose up in revolt against the Company's control in **1829, 1839, and again in 1844–48.**

→ They opposed the imposition of Company's control, which resulted in widespread unemployment and the removal of their fortifications.

## **10. Ramosi Risings**

→ The **Ramosis, or Western Ghats** hill tribes, had not accepted British control or the British system of administration.

→ They emerged in **1822** under **Chittur Singh** and devastated the land around Satara.

→ There were other eruptions in **1825–26** under Umaji Naik of Poona and his follower Bapu Trimbakji Sawant, and the unrest lasted until **1829**.

→ The commotion flared again in **1839** at the deposition and exile of Raja Pratap Singh of Satara, and it exploded again in **1840–41**.

→ Finally, a stronger British force was able to restore order in the region.

## **➤ Tribal Revolts in North East**

### **1. Khasi Uprising**

→ After occupying the steep terrain between the Garo and **Jaintia Hills, the East India Company** desired to construct a route connecting the **Brahmaputra Valley** with **Sylhet**.

→ A considerable number of outsiders, including **Englishmen, Bengalis, and plains laborers, were imported to these regions for this purpose.**

→ The **Khasis, Garos, Khamptis, and Singphos banded together under Tirath Singh to drive the outsiders out of the plains.**

→ The movement grew into a widespread revolution against British administration in the region.



→ By **1833**, the overwhelming English armed force had put down the rebellion.

## **2. Singphos Rebellion**

→ The Singphos movement in Assam in early **1830** was quickly put down, but they continued to organize revolts.

→ The British political agent was killed in an insurrection in **1839**.

→ In **1843**, **Chief Nirang Phidu** organized a rebellion that resulted in an attack on the **British garrison** and the deaths of numerous troops.

## ❖ **Sepoy Mutinies**

➤ Before the **Great Revolt of 1857**, a number of intermittent military uprisings occurred in various sections of the kingdom.

### ➤ **Causes of Sepoy Mutinies**

→ Discrimination in pay and promotions.

→ Mistreatment of the sepoys by British officials.

→ The government's refusal to pay foreign service allowance while fighting in remote regions.

→ Religious objections of the **high-caste Hindu** sepoys to **Lord Canning's General Service Enlistment Act (1856)** ordering all recruits to be ready for service.

→ Furthermore, the sepoys shared all of the civilian population's anger and grievances - social, religious, and economic.

→ Over time, the upper caste sepoys' religious convictions had come into conflict with their service circumstances.

→ In **1806**, for example, the replacement of the turban with a leather cockade sparked a revolt at Vellore.

→ Similarly, in **1844**, the Bengal army sepoys revolted about being deployed to distant **Sind**, and in **1824**, the sepoys at

Barrackpore revolted when they were requested to move to Burma since crossing the sea would mean losing caste.

➤ **Important Sepoy Mutinies**

- The Bengal Sepoy Mutiny of **1764**.
- The Vellore Mutiny of **1806**; when the sepoys revolted against interference in their social and religious traditions and raised a banner of revolt, unfurling the flag of the monarch of Mysore.
- The sepoys of the **47th** Native Infantry Unit mutiny in **1824**.
- The insurrection of the Grenadier Company in Assam in **1825**.
- The mutiny of an Indian regiment at Sholapur in 1838.
- Mutinies in the 34th Native Infantry (N.I), 22nd Native Infantry (N.I), 66th Native Infantry (N.I), and 37th Native Infantry (N.I) in 1844, 1849, 1850, and 1852, respectively.

❖ **Significance of the Uprisings**

- The rebels' actions demonstrate that they were clear about their goals and foes.
- Peasant and tribal protest movements have several characteristics that indicate a certain amount of political and social consciousness among them.
- Local factors might have sparked the uprising in several cases. However, as the movement progressed, the movement's goal was enlarged.
- The tyranny of local landowners may have been the immediate background of a movement, but once it began, it became a protest against the **British Raj**.
- **Religious convictions**, ethnic ties, and traditions all helped to mobilize the peasants and cement their bonds.

## **E ▶ ENTRI**

- **Rebels** were frequently driven by their idealized pasts to reclaim their lost pasts.
- To the rebels in the past, the past symbolized freedom from exploitation and injustice.
- The ruling class attempted to characterize the uprisings as a crisis of law and order and a criminal act.
- This is an outright rejection of the peasants' comprehension of their concerns and right to demonstrate.
- However, the rebels did not have a future strategy beyond the restoration of the old order, which is why it is vital to comprehend the area of peasant and tribal activity on its own terms.
- Despite their restricted objectives and limited worldview, the rebels successfully highlighted the colonial rule's unpopularity.

### ❖ **Weaknesses of the Uprisings**

- These uprisings gathered a considerable number of people, although they were localized and took place at various times in different places.
- They originated mostly as a result of local complaints.
- The opposition was semi-feudal in nature, backward-looking, and conventional in viewpoint, and it offered no alternatives to the current social setup.
- If many of these revolts appeared to be similar in their desire to expel foreign control, it was not due to any 'national' drive or collective effort, but because they were rebelling against conditions that were common to them.
- In terms of form and **ideological/cultural substance**, these rebellions dated back centuries.
- Those who were not as difficult or obstructive were pacified by concessions made by the government.
- The techniques and weapons utilized by the warriors in these revolutions were essentially archaic in comparison to the

armaments, strategy, deceit, and chicanery deployed by their opponents.

- Nature of the Revolt

- ❖ 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 organized 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 **Revolt of 1857**, the Indian Insurrection, and the First War of Independence (by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar).

- ❖ **Causes of The Revolt**

- 1. 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.

## **2. 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

## **3. 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.

#### **4. Military Causes**

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

#### **5. Immediate Cause**

- **The Revolt of 1857** eventually broke out over the incident of greased cartridges.
- A rumor 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.

## ❖ Centers of The Revolt

### 1. Lucknow

- It was the capital of **Awadh**.
- **Begum Hazrat Mahal**, one of the beggars of the ex-king of Awadh, took up the leadership of the revolt.

### 2. Kanpur

- The revolt was led by **Nana Saheb**, the adopted son of **Peshwa Baji Rao II**
- The victory was short- lived. Kanpur was recaptured by the British after fresh reinforcements arrived.
- The revolt was suppressed with terrible vengeance.
- Nana Saheb escaped but his brilliant commander **Tantia Tope** continued the struggle.
- Tantia Tope was finally defeated, arrested and hanged.

### 3. Jhansi

- The twenty-two-year-old **Rani Lakshmi Bai** led the rebels when the British refused to accept the claim of her adopted son to the throne of Jhansi.
- She fought gallantly against the British forces but was ultimately defeated by the English.

### 4. Gwalior

- After **Rani Lakshmi Bai** escaped, she was joined by Tantia Tope and together they marched to **Gwalior** and captured it.
- Fierce fighting followed where the Rani of Jhansi fought like a tigress but died, fighting to the very end.
- **Gwalior** was recaptured by the British.

### 5. Bihar

- The revolt was led by **Kunwar Singh** who belonged to a royal house of **Jagdispur, Bihar**.

<b>Places of Revolt</b>	<b>Indian Leaders</b>	<b>British Officials who suppressed the revolt</b>
Delhi	Bahadur Shah II	John Nicholson
Lucknow	Begum Hazrat Mahal	Henry Lawrence
Kanpur	Nana Saheb	Sir Colin Campbell
Jhansi & Gwalior	Lakshmi Bai & Tantia Tope	General Hugh Rose
Bareilly	Khan Bahadur Khan	Sir Colin Campbell
Allahabad and Banaras	Maulvi Liyakat Ali	Colonel Ocell
Bihar	Kunwar Singh	William Taylor

### ❖ Suppression and The Revolt

- The Revolt of **1857** lasted for more than a year. It was suppressed by the middle of 1858.
- **On July 8, 1858**, fourteen months after the outbreak at Meerut, peace was finally proclaimed by **Lord Canning**.

### ❖ Results of The Revolt

- **End of company rule:** the great uprising of **1857** was an important landmark in the history of modern India.
- **Direct rule of the British Crown:** India now came under the direct rule of the British Crown
- Religious tolerance: it was promised and due attention was paid to the customs and traditions of India.
- Administrative change



➤ Military reorganization

- Colonial State

- ❖ The British colonial rule in India is generally divided into **three stages**

- 1. First stage(1757-1813) represents the mercantile phase**

- This 'mercantilist' phase was marked by direct plunder and the East India company's monopoly trade functioning through the investment of surplus revenues in the purchase of Indian finished goods for export to **England and Europe**.
- During the mercantile phase the aim of all activity was to accumulate wealth. In order to pursue a favorable trade, the British company started aggressive policies in India.
- The government passed the Regulating Act and the Pitt's India Act to gain more and more direct control over the affairs of the company. The company officials transferred their fortunes acquired in India to England. The financial bleeding of India started with the British gaining hegemony over Indian territories.
- New revenue settlements were imposed upon the agrarian structure.
- They fought several wars, crushed many princely States and brought them under colonial authority. Soon the mercantile phase came to an end.

- 2. Second stage(1813-1860) represents the free trade phase**

- By the dawn of the 19th century, the British became an industrial power following the Industrial Revolution in England. It was in need of raw material to feed its industries. **The emerging capitalist class found the Company a stumbling block for its market.**

- During this period, India was converted rapidly into a market for British textiles and a great source for raw materials. Traditional handicrafts were thrown out of gear
- The Company's monopoly in India was bitterly attacked by the British industrial community. Thus, the need for raw material and markets for the British manufactured goods resulted in the formulation of free trade policy towards India.
- The special feature of this policy was that it was a one way traffic wherein British goods entered India virtually free while Indian products entering Britain faced high tariffs.
- The protective policy towards British trade was thoroughly guarded, leaving India-made products to face stiff competition.
- Revenue and expenditure policies of the Britishers were also exploitative in nature. Huge expenditure (**expenditure on army, pensions and salaries of Englishmen, etc.**) incurred by the British imperial power had been borne by Indians by paying high doses of taxes.

### **3. Third stage(1860 onwards ) represents the finance capital phase**

- During this phase, finance-imperialism began to entrench itself through the managing agency firms, export-import firms, exchange banks, and some export of capital.
- Britain, of course, kept India as her most important colony where the British capital could hope to maintain a haven. For her survival, Britain decided to make massive investments in various fields (**rail, road, postal system, irrigation, European banking system, and a limited field of education, etc.**) in India by plundering Indian capital. It

is said that 'railway construction' laid the foundation for a new stage of colonial exploitation

- With the opening up of the country, private capitalist investment from Britain came to India. But unfortunately, such British investment was not meant for India's industrial development.
  - The basic motive behind such investment was the commercial penetration of India, its exploitation as a source of raw materials and markets for British manufactures.
  - This was, in fact, one of the principal contradictions of imperialism-colonialism in India.
  - Britain's supremacy in the world economy for nearly 200 years lay in the utter neglect and plunder of her most important colony India. India's economic life was redirected towards servicing the interests of British imperial power. Internal needs of the country were of no concern to the lone colonizer of the world
- Revenue settlements
    - ❖ Land revenue was one of the major sources of income for Britishers in India. There were broadly three types of land revenue policies in existence during the British rule in India.
    - ❖ Before independence, there were three major types of land tenure systems prevailing in the country
      - 1. The Zamindari System**
        - The zamindari system was introduced by **Lord Cornwallis** in **1793** through Permanent Settlement that fixed the land rights of the members in perpetuity without any provision for fixed rent or occupancy right for actual cultivators.
        - Under the **Zamindari** system, the land revenue was collected from the farmers by the intermediaries known as Zamindars.

- The share of the government in the total land revenue collected by the zamindars was kept at **10/11th**, with the remainder going to zamindars.
- The system was most prevalent in **West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, UP, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.**
- **Issues with the Zamindari System**
  - **For the Cultivators:**
    - ★ In villages, the cultivators found the system oppressive and exploitative as the rent they paid to the zamindar was very high while his right on the land was quite insecure.
    - ★ The cultivators often had to take loans to pay the rents, and failing to pay the rent, they were evicted from the land.
  - **For the Zamindars:**
    - ★ The revenue had been fixed so high that the zamindars found it difficult to pay, and those who failed to pay the revenue lost their zamindari.
    - ★ The zamindars were not so keen about improving the land. As long as they could give out the land and get rent, they preferred it.
  - **For the Company:**
    - ★ By the first decade of the 19th century, cultivation slowly expanded and prices rose in the market.
    - ★ Although this meant an increase in the income of Zamindars, it was no gain for the company since it could not increase a revenue demand that had been settled permanently.

## **2. The Mahalwari System**

## **E ▶ ENTRI**

- By the early **19th century**, the Company officials were convinced that the system of revenue had to be changed again.
- The revenues cannot be fixed permanently at such a time when the Company needed more money to meet its expenses of administration and trade.
- In **1822, Englishman Holt Mackenzie** devised a new system known as the Mahalwari System in the North Western Provinces of the Bengal Presidency (most of this area is now in Uttar Pradesh).
- Under the Mahalwari system, the land revenue was collected from the farmers by the village headmen on behalf of the whole village (and not the zamindar).
- The entire village was converted into one bigger unit called '**Mahal**' and was treated as one unit for the payment of land revenue.
- The revenue under the Mahalwari system was to be revised periodically and not fixed permanently.
- The system was popularized by **Lord William Bentick** in **Agra and Awadh and was later extended to Madhya Pradesh and Punjab.**
- **Issue with the Mahalwari System**
  - A major drawback of the system was that the survey was practically based on faulty assumptions which left a space for manipulations and corruption.
  - At times, it made the Company spend more for the collection than the revenue collected. Consequently, the system was regarded as a failure.

### **3. The Ryotwari System**

- In the British territories in southern India, there was a move away from the **idea of Permanent Settlement.**

- A system that came to be known as the Ryotwari System, was devised by **Captain Alexander Read** and **Sir Thomas Munro** at the end of the **18th century** and introduced by the latter when he was governor of **Madras Presidency (1819–26)**.
- Under the **Ryotwari system**, the land revenue was paid **by the farmers directly to the state**.
- In this system, the **Individual cultivator called Ryot had full rights regarding sale, transfer, and leasing of the land**.
- **The ryots could not be evicted from their land as long as they paid the rent**.
- It was prevalent in most of southern India, **first introduced in Tamil Nadu. It was later extended to Maharashtra, Berar, East Punjab, Coorg and Assam**.
- The advantages of this system were the elimination of middlemen, who often oppressed villagers
- **Issues with the Ryotwari System**
  - This system gave much power to subordinate revenue officials, whose activities were inadequately supervised.
  - The system was dominated by the mahajans and moneylenders who granted loans to cultivators by mortgaging their land.
  - The moneylenders exploited the cultivators and evicted them from their land in case of loan default.
- Western Education
  - ❖ The History of Education policies in British India can be classified into two – **before 1857 (under the English East India Company)** and **after 1857 (under the British Crown)**.
  - ❖ **Education policies in India under the English East India Company**
    - 1781

## **E ▶ ENTRI**

- Governor-General of Bengal, **Warren Hastings** established **Calcutta Madrasa for Islamic law studies**.
- It was the first educational institute established by **East India Company (EIC)** governance.
- 1784
  - Asiatic Society of Bengal was founded by William Jones to understand and study the history and culture of India.
  - During this period **Charles Wilkins translated Bhagwat Gita to English**.
- 1791
  - The resident of Benares, Jonathan Duncan founded the Sanskrit college for the study of Hindu laws and philosophies.
- 1800
  - **Governor-General Richard Wellesley** founded the **Fort William College in Calcutta** to train the civil servants of EIC in Indian languages and customs.
  - But this college was closed in **1802** due to disapproval of the British administration in England on Indianising the English civil servants.
- **THE CHARTER ACT OF 1813**
  - **This was the first noted step towards modern education in the country by the British.**
  - This act set aside an annual sum of **Rs.1 lakh** to be used in educating the Indian subjects.
  - During all this time the **Christian missionaries were active in mass educating the people but they concentrated more on religious teachings and conversions.**
- **MACAULEY'S MINUTES / THE ENGLISH EDUCATION ACT OF 1835**

- **Governor-General William Bentick's** tenure saw more funds being allocated to education, and the policies were based on the recommendation of Macauley's minute.
- We have to remember that **Thomas Macauley** had no knowledge or value for Indian and oriental literature and considered western science to be superior to all.
- He had famously said that **“a single shelf of a good European library was worth the whole native literature of India and Arabia”**.
- The gist of the minute is
  1. Government should spend resources for teaching western sciences and literature in English alone.
  2. English should be made the medium of education in schools and colleges.
  3. Elementary schools were not given importance, rather more schools at district levels and colleges were suggested to be opened. Hence, mass education was neglected.
  4. Downward filtration theory: The British decided to educate a small section of upper and middle-class Indians who would be the bridge between the masses and the government. And this educated would spread western education to the masses gradually
- **Adam's** report on vernacular education in Bengal and Bihar was published in **1835, 1836, and 1838** which pointed out the defects in the system of vernacular education.

➤ **WOOD'S DESPATCH OF 1854**

- It is also known as the **‘Magna Carta of English education in India’** was the first comprehensive plan to envisage mass education in India.



- It prompted the government to take responsibility for education and suggested grants in aid to encourage private enterprises to invest in education.
  1. Vernacular languages should be used in primary schools in villages.
  2. Anglo-vernacular high schools
  3. Affiliated college at the district level
  4. Universities in presidency towns
  5. Gave impetus to female education and vocational training.
  6. Laid down that there should be secular education in government schools
- **Viceroy Mayo's** term saw the establishment of **Rajkot** college in **Kathiawar in 1868** and **Mayo college of Ajmer in 1875** for the political training of the Indian princes and elites

❖ **Education policies in India under the Royal Crown of British**

➤ **1882: HUNTER COMMISSION ON INDIAN EDUCATION**

- It recommended more government efforts for the improvement of mass education through vernacular languages
- **Transfer of control of primary education to the new district and municipal boards.**
- **Encourage female education outside presidency towns also.**
- **Secondary education should be divided into 2 categories-**
  - **Literary ( leads to university through entrance exam)**
  - **Vocational (for commercial jobs)**

➤ **1902: RALEIGH COMMISSION**

## **E ▶ ENTRI**

- Viceroy **Curzon** believed that universities were the factories producing students with revolutionary ideologies; hence he constituted the commission to review the entire university education system in India.
- The recommendation of the commission led to the universities act of **1904**.
- **1904: INDIAN UNIVERSITIES ACT**
  - The Act brought all Indian universities under the control of the government
  - **More attention to study and research in universities rather than revolutionary activities**
  - **The number of fellows were reduced and were to be nominated by the government**
  - **The government acquired veto power against university senate decisions.**
  - **Stricter affiliation rules.**
- **1913: GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION ON EDUCATION POLICY**
  - The government refused to adhere to the demand by leaders of the national movement to introduce compulsory primary education in British India; they did not want the responsibility of mass education.
  - But announced a future policy for the removal of illiteracy.
  - Provincial governments were asked to take responsibility to provide free elementary education to poorer and backward classes.
  - Quality of secondary education and private efforts to be improved.
  - One university is to be established in each province.
- **1917-19: SADDLER UNIVERSITY COMMISSION**

## **E ▶ ENTRI**

- It was originally set up to study and report the causes behind the poor performance of Calcutta University, however it ended up reviewing all the universities in the country.
- **It said that the improvement of secondary education is necessary for the improvement of university education.**
- **School should be completed in 12 years-**
- Students enter university after the intermediate stage (not matric) for a 3-year university degree.
- This would better prepare students for university and make them at par with university standards.
- It will provide collegiate education to those not taking up university degrees.
- **Separate board for secondary and intermediate education.**
- **University should function as a centralized and resident teaching autonomous body.**
- **Focus on female education, applied scientific and technical education, teachers training.**
- **1916-21:** 7 new universities came up at Mysore, Patna, Benares, Aligarh, Dacca, Lucknow, and Osmania.
- **1920:** The **Saddler commission** recommendations were handed over to the provincial government as education was shifted under provinces in the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms. This caused a financial crunch in the education sector
- **1929: HARTOG COMMITTEE**
  - Provide primary education but not need a compulsory education system.
  - Only deserving students should be allowed to study in high schools and intermediate stages whereas average students should be diverted to vocational courses.

→ Restricted admissions in university to improve standards.

➤ **1937: WARDHA SCHEME OF BASIC EDUCATION BY THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (INC)**

→ Congress organized a national conference on education in Wardha and formulated a committee under Zakir Hussain for basic education.

→

→ The scheme focused on “learning through activity” which was based on Gandhi's ideas published in Harijan.

→ **Basic handicrafts should be included in the syllabus**

→ **First 7 years of school to be free and compulsory**

→ **Hindi as medium till class 7 and English from class 8 onwards.**

→ These ideas were not implemented due to the resignation of the congress ministries due to the start of World War II.

➤ **1944: SERGEANT PLAN OF EDUCATION BY THE CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

→ Free primary education for 3-6 years age group.

→ Compulsory education for 6-11 years age group

→ High school to selected students of 11-17 years age group.

→ Improve technical, commercial, and arts education

→ Focus on teachers' training, physical education, and education of mentally and physically handicapped.

● Economic Impact of colonialism

❖ **Deindustrialisation**

➤ **One Way Free Trade**

→ After the **Charter Act of 1813**, which allowed one-way free trade for British citizens, cheap and machine-made imports flooded the Indian market.

## ENTRI

- On the other hand, Indian products found it increasingly difficult to enter European markets.
- Tariffs of nearly **80%** were imposed on Indian textiles, making Indian cloth no longer affordable.
- After **1820**, Indian exports were virtually barred from European markets. The Indian market was inundated with low-cost British-made clothing.

### ➤ **No Modern Industrialisation**

- The loss of traditional livelihoods in India was not accompanied by an industrialisation process, as it had been in other rapidly industrializing countries at the time.
- This resulted in India's deindustrialization at a time when Europe was experiencing a renewed Industrial Revolution.

### ➤ **Ruralisation**

- Ruralisation - Another feature of deindustrialisation was the decline of many cities and a process of ruralisation of India.
- Many artisans, faced with diminishing returns and repressive policies, abandoned their professions, moved to villages, and took to agriculture. This resulted in **increased pressure on land**.
- An overburdened agriculture sector was a major cause of poverty during British rule and this upset the village economic set-up.

### ❖ **Impoverishment of Peasantry**

- The government had imposed the Permanent Settlement system in large parts because it was only interested in maximizing rents and securing its share of revenue.
- The transferability of land was one feature of the new settlement that caused great insecurity among the tenants, who lost all of their traditional land rights.
- The government spent very little on increasing land productivity.

## **E ▶ ENTRI**

- With increased power, the zamindars resorted to summary evictions, demanded illegal dues, and 'begar' to maximize their share of the produce and had no incentive to invest in agricultural improvement.
- **Overburdened peasants were forced to turn to moneylenders in order to pay their zamindar dues.**
- To clear his debts, the moneylender, who was often also the village grain merchant, forced the farmer to sell his produce at low prices.
- The powerful **moneylender could also sway the judiciary and the law in his favor.**

### **❖ Rise of Intermediaries, Absentee Landlordism, and Ruin of Old Zamindars**

- By **1815**, half of Bengal's total land had passed into new hands—merchants, moneylenders, and other wealthy urban dwellers.
- With increased powers but few or no avenues for new investments, the new zamindars resorted to land grabbing and sub-infeudation.
- The increase in the number of intermediaries who had to be paid led to absentee landlordism and increased the burden on the peasant.
- Because there was such a high demand for land, prices rose, as did the peasant's liabilities.
- The zamindar had no incentive to invest in agricultural improvement because he had no traditional or benevolent ties with the tenants.
- **The zamindars' only interests were in the continuation of British rule and in opposing the national movement.**

### **❖ Deterioration of Agriculture**

## ENTRI

- The cultivator lacked both the means and the motivation to invest in agriculture.
- The zamindar had no ties to the villages, and the government spent little money on agriculture, technology, or mass education.
- All of this, combined with land fragmentation caused by sub-infeudation, made it difficult to introduce modern technology, resulting in a perpetually low level of productivity.

### ❖ Famine and Poverty

- The recurrence of famines became a regular feature of daily life in India.
- These famines were caused not only by a lack of foodgrains, but also by the poverty unleashed by colonial forces in India.
- Famines killed approximately **2.8 crore people between 1850 and 1900**

### ❖ Commercialisation of Agriculture

- Agriculture had previously been regarded as a way of life rather than a business venture. **Commercial considerations began to have an impact on agriculture.**
- Certain specialized crops began to be grown for sale in national and even international markets, rather than for consumption in the village.
- Cotton, jute, groundnut, oilseeds, sugarcane, tobacco, and other commercial crops were more profitable than foodgrains.
- Perhaps the commercialisation trend reached its pinnacle in the plantation sector, i.e., tea, coffee, rubber, indigo, and so on, which was dominated by Europeans and the produce was for sale in wider markets.
- Commercialisation appeared to be a forced process to the Indian peasants.

## ENTRI

- Given his subsistence level, there was little surplus for him to invest in commercial crops, while commercialisation linked Indian agriculture to international market trends and fluctuations.
- Cotton, for example, pushed up prices in the 1860s, but this mostly benefited the intermediaries, and when prices fell in 1866, it hit the cultivators the hardest, causing heavy indebtedness, famine, and agrarian riots in the Deccan in the 1870s.
- As a result, the cultivator hardly fared any better as a result of the new commercialisation trend.

### ❖ Destruction of Industry

- **The destruction of India's textile competition is a clear example of the country's de-industrialization.**
- The British stopped paying for Indian textiles in pounds, instead paying with Bengal revenue at very low rates, further impoverishing the peasants.
- A thriving shipbuilding industry was destroyed. Surat and Malabar on the western coast, as well as Bengal and Masulipatnam on the eastern coast, were well-known for their ship-building industries.
- The Company granted a monopoly on trade routes to British ships, while Indian merchant ships plying along the coast were subjected to heavy duties.
- The British stifled the growth of **India's steel industry.**
- Industries such as the Tatas, which began producing steel after much difficulty obtaining the necessary permissions, were hampered by the requirement to produce steel of a higher standard for British use.
- Because the firms were unable to produce the lower quality steel at the same time, they were excluded from the larger market that demanded the lower quality steel.

### ❖ Late Development of Modern Industry



## ENTRI

- Modern machine-based industries did not emerge in India until the second half of the nineteenth century.
- Cowasjee Nanabhoy established the first cotton textile mill in Bombay in 1853, and the first jute mill in Rishra (Bengal) in 1855.
- However, the majority of modern industries were foreign-owned and managed by British companies.
- In the nineteenth century, Indian-owned industries emerged in cotton textiles and jute, and in the twentieth century, in sugar, cement, and other industries.
- Credit problems, no tariff protection from the government, unequal competition from foreign companies, and stiff opposition from British capitalist interests who were backed by strong financial and technical infrastructure at home were all disadvantages for Indian-owned industries.

### ● Drain Theory

#### ❖ Theory - Background

- According to the mercantilist theory, an economic drain occurs when gold and silver leave the country as a result of an unfavorable trade balance.
- In the **50 years preceding the Battle of Plassey**, the **East India Company imported bullion worth \$20 million** into India to balance its exports against Indian imports.
- Following the Battle of Plassey, the situation was reversed, and the drain of wealth was directed outward as England gradually gained monopolistic control over the Indian economy.
- So, the **'drain of wealth' from India to England began after 1757 (Battle of Plassey)**, when the Company gained political power and the servants of the Company gained a **'privileged status'** and, as a result, **wealth through dastak, dastur, nazrana, and private trade.**

## **E ▶ ENTRI**

- The British government enacted a number of measures to restrict or prohibit the importation of Indian textiles into the country.
- Aside from other measures, the British government prohibited the wearing or use of Indian silks and cotton in **England in 1720, imposing a penalty on both the weaver and the seller.**

### ❖ Theory - Features

- **The exploitation of Indian resources was a hallmark of the colonial period.**
- Britain's primary motivation for conquering India was to own a constant source of cheap raw materials to feed its own industrial base in Britain.
- Indians's income was spent on costly imports of finished goods from Britain, making Britain richer at the expense of India.
- Furthermore, the **British government used Indian labor to expand its colonial base outside of India.** Indians were paid less than their British counterparts to serve in the British army.
- The British Government's war and administrative expenses to manage the colonial rule in India were paid for with revenue collected from India and the export surplus generated by India's foreign trade.
- As a result, **British rule drained Indian wealth to serve its own interests.**

### ❖ Theory - Process

- **The revenues collected from India were used to pay the salaries and pensions of British civil and military officials working in India, the interest on loans taken out by the Indian government, and the profits of British capitalists in India.** This was one method by which money was being sucked out of India.

## **ENTRI**

- The drain manifested itself as an excess of exports over imports for which India received no economic or material benefit.
- **Remittances to England by European employees for the support of their families and the education of their children—a feature of the colonial system of government.**
- Employees of the East India Company remitted savings because they preferred to invest at home.
- Remittances for the purchase of British goods desired by British employees, as well as purchases of British goods in India
- The government made purchases of stores made in Great Britain.
- Interest charges on public debt held in Britain (which excluded interest payment on railway loans and other debts incurred for productive works).
- Private fortunes amassed by the Company's servants in the form of illegal gifts and perquisites from Indian princes and other Bengal residents.
- Employees of the company earned a lot of money by participating in the inland trade.
- The **East India Company** provided military assistance to the Indian Princes in their struggle for power against a rival claimant. A large portion of this money ended up in the pockets of British citizens.
- Economic nationalists argued that the main goal of British policy in India was to turn India into a valuable market for the home country and to transform India into a supplier of cheap and secure raw material producing agrarian country.

### ❖ **Factors that caused External Drain**

- External rule and administration in India.
- Funds and labor needed for economic development was brought by immigrants but India did not draw immigrants.

## ENTRI

- All the civil administration and army expenses of Britain were paid by India.
- India was bearing the burden of territory building both inside and outside India.
- India was further exploited by opening the country to free trade.
- Major earners in India during British rule were foreigners. The money they earned was never invested in India.
- India was giving a huge amount to Britain through different services such as railways, roads, etc.
- The East India Company was buying products from India with that money and exporting it to Britain.

### ❖ Theory - Consequences

- A large portion of these resources, which could have been invested in India, were taken and siphoned off to England.
- The government's massive public debt and interest payments necessitated an increase in the tax burden on the people of India, which was highly regressive in nature.
- According to Dadabhai Naoroji's estimates, the tax burden in India in **1886 was 14.3 percent of total income, which was significantly higher than the 6.93 percent in England.**
- These tax proceeds were mostly used to pay off British creditors rather than for Indian social services and welfare.
- This type of drain of tax proceeds from India impoverished India's agriculture, industry, and trading activities, and was largely responsible for the country's economic stagnation in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- The drain of wealth slowed capital formation in India because the majority of the surplus went outside the country, whereas the same portion of wealth accelerated the growth of the British economy.

## **ENTRI**

- The surplus from the British economy was re-entered into India as finance capital, further draining the country's wealth. This had a huge impact on income and employment opportunities in India.
- The drain effectively depleted India's productive capital, resulting in a capital shortage that hampered industrial development.
- Although the British undertook the responsibility of maintaining law and order, centralized political and judicial administration, road, railways, etc, the extent of draining out of resources was excessive leading to stagnation of the economy.
- Dadabhai Naoroji contended that what was being drained out was "potential surplus" that, if invested in India, could generate more economic development.

