

Chapter – 02 History

From Trade to Territory

- Aurangzeb was the last powerful Mughal ruler.
- **East India Company comes East:**
 - (i) In 1600 royal charter granted to East India Company granting the sole right to trade with the East.
 - (ii) East India Company bought goods at a cheap price and sold them at higher price in Europe.
 - (iii) Cotton and silk produced in India had a big market in Europe.
 - (iv) Pepper, cloves, cardamom and cinnamon were in great demand.
- **East India Company begins Trade in Bengal:**
 - (i) In 1651, the first English factory was set up on the banks of river Hugli.
 - (ii) Aurangzeb issued a farman granting the company the right to trade duty free.
 - (iii) The company tried to press for more concessions and manipulate existing privileges.
- **How did Trade Lead to Battles:**
 - (i) After the death of Aurangzeb, the Bengal Nawabs asserted their power and autonomy.
 - (ii) The Nawabs of Bengal refused to grant the company concessions.
- **The Battle of Plassey:**
 - (i) On 23rd June 1757, Battle of Plassey was fought and was the first major victory of English in India.
 - (ii) Alivardi Khan died in 1756 and Sirajuddaulah became the Nawab of Bengal.
 - (iii) In 1757, Robert Clive led the Company's army against Sirajuddulah at Plassey.
 - (iv) Main reason for defeat of the Nawab was that the forces led by Mir Jafar, one of Sirajuddaulah's commanders, never fought the battle.
 - (v) Mir Jafar was promised by Clive to be made Nawab after crushing Sirajuddaulah.
- **The Battle of Buxar:**
 - (i) After the defeat at Plassey, Sirajuddaulah was assassinated and Mir Jafar was made the Nawab.
 - (ii) Mir Jafar was just a puppet in the hands of Britishers.
 - (iii) In 1764, the battle of Buxar was fought between Britishers and Mir Qasim.
 - (iv) In 1765 Mir Jafar died.
 - (v) In 1765, the Mughal emperor appointed the company as the Diwan of the provinces of Bengal.
- **Company Officials became 'Nabobs':**
 - (i) In 1764, Robert Clive was appointed Governor of Bengal.
 - (ii) 'Nabobs'-an anglicized version of the Indian word Nawab.
- **Company Rule Expands:**

- (i) The process of annexation of Indian states by the East India Company from 1757 to 1857 brought forth some key aspects like the company rarely launched a direct military attack on as unknown territory.
 - (ii) After battle of Buxar, the company appointed residents in Indian states.
 - (iii) The company forced the states into a 'subsidiary alliance'.
 - (iv) The Nawab of Awadh and the Nizam of Hyderabad were forced to cede territories and accept the subsidiary alliances.
- **Tipu Sultan-'The Tiger of Mysore':**
 - (i) Tipu Sultan was the son of Haidar Ali, ruler of Mysore.
 - (ii) Tipu Sultan ruled Mysore from 1782 to 1799.
 - (iii) Four wars were fought between Britishers and Mysore and were known as the Anglo-Mysore wars(1767-1769, 1780-84, 1790-92 and 1799).
 - (iv) In 1799, the Britishers won the battle of Seringapatam against Mysore.
 - (v) Tipu Sultan was killed defending his capital Seringapatam.