

COLONIAL EXPANSION - I

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- British expansion in South India was the outcome of the hostilities between the English & the French East India Companies.
- French activities prevailed in Pondicherry(Capital).
- Wielded great influence in the neighboring princely states like Hyderabad & Mysore.
- British east India company was seeking to end competition in order to establish its monopoly in the same region took them in contention with French.

THE ENGLISH & THE FRENCH IN INDIA

- Both the French & the English East India Companies were the products of the rise of mercantile capitalism in Europe
- Preparatory phase when trade with Asiatic & Latin American countries was carried on the process of capital accumulation.
- Trade was carried on in goods which were manufactured in India & for which there was a heavy demand in Europe.
- English Company had a vastly superior infrastructure with much large fleets, the French were deficient even in their knowledge to commerce.
- The English Company was the wealthier body & conducted more frequent voyages — it had a more continuous history of trading with the East.
- French Company was the offspring of state patronage whose revenues were largely drawn from monopoly of the tobacco trade.
- English EIC was a great private corporation, founded & maintained by individual enterprise not dependent in any way on the state.
- In fact the state was in its debt. The impact of these differences was very great
- The French EIC was formed in 1664 whereas the English Company had been formed in 1600 & had begun trade in cloth & calicoes with India in 1613 by an Imperial firman received from Emperor Jahangir.
- They obtained the right to trade only on the Western coast - at Surat, Ahmedabad, Cambay and Goa.
- The French Company also established their first factory at Surat in 1668. But this did not pose a serious threat to the English Company, since they failed to “buy cheap & sell dear” & all they succeeded to reduce the price of European goods & increase that of Indian goods.
- The factory at Surat was succeeded by one at Masulipatam in 1669.

- Then in 1674 Francois Martin founded Pondicherry, which was to become future capital of the French in India.
- It was a rival to Madras - a powerful English settlement – which had very high volume variety of its commerce.
- During 1690 a factory was set up at Chandernagore in the East. It proved no challenge to the English settlement in Calcutta.
- French East India Company declined in the beginning of the 18th century & the factories at Surat and Masulipatnam had to be abandoned.
- However, that was only a temporary setback & by the 1720s, the French Company had staged a comeback with the revival of interest on the part of the French mercantile bourgeoisie in the Company
- The Company was reconstituted; it adopted a new name and was now known as ‘Perpetual Company of the Indies’.
- French naval power was greatly improved-a base being established at Mauritius.
- It was also reported that 10 to 12 ships were being built in English for the French Company.
- In 1725 the French established themselves at Mahe on the Malabar Coast & in 1739 at Karaikal on the East Coast.

THE FIRST CARNATIC WAR (1740-48)

- The scene was thus set for a confrontation between the two forces.
- The opportunity was provided by the outbreak of the war of Austrian Succession in Europe in which the English & the French were in opposite camps.
- French hesitated to get into this rivalry in India – even when it was natural to get into conflict with Britain in India
- Perhaps conscious of their relatively weaker position in India, they tried hard to prevent an extension of hostilities to India.
- The English however in a deliberately provocative manner, seized some French ships off the south-eastern coast of India.
- The French, having no fleet in India, had to wait until the arrival of the fleet from Mauritius.
- French launched an attack on the English by both land & sea, within a week Madras had surrendered to the French & the first Carnatic war had begun.

ROLE OF THE NAWAB OF CARNATIC

- The English appealed to Anwar-ud-din the Nawab of Carnatic, for protection & assistance
- Anwar-ud-din requested Dupleix, the French Governor to raise the siege of Madras.

- But the French were in no mood to accede to his request.
- Since the Nawab had no naval fleet, he was not in a position to intervene effectively.
- He sent an army against the French troops besieging Madras.
- Despite its impressive size his troops suffered an ignominious defeat at the hands of the French.

NO COOPERATION BY ADMIRAL

- This proved that, a small disciplined European force could easily defeat a much larger Indian army
- The initial seizure of Madras had been possible due to the arrival of Admiral La Bourdaunairs' fleet from Mauritius.
- But he refused to cooperate with Dupleix since he felt that he held independent charge & took orders only from the French Govt.
- Dupleix, the French Governor General, struck a deal with the English. Madras would be returned to them on the payment of a ransom amount of 400,000.
- The French Governor-General was not even consulted on the matter.
- If he had way, Madras would not have been returned to the English at any price.
- Dupleix made a fresh attack on Madras in September 1746, which surrendered as easily as in the first instance.
- The English prisoners were marched to Pondicherry
- The French attacked on Fort St. David, a minor English possession to the south of Pondicherry.
- But this time the English were stationed their fleet off the coast of Pondicherry & were able to withstand the French attack effectively.

FRENCH SUPERIORITY

- The siege of Fort St. David lasted for 18 months.
- After the treaty of Aix-La-Chappelle in 1748 – after conclusion of hostilities in Europe between them.
- English possessions were restored of them.
- The French possessions in North America were also returned to them.
- Despite their naval weakness, French had performed better in the first Carnatic War.
- Due to the lack of cooperation between Dupleix & La Bourdaunairs, the English survived in India.
- According British historian, P.E. Roberts, it is an exaggeration & the war on the Coromandel Coast affected only a single English Presidency & that too the Weakest.
- French military superiority was not only to the English but also to the Indian powers.
- Since India did not possess navies, they could not have a say at all in European conflicts in India.
- In the heyday of the Mughal Empire, Indian princes could expect assistance from the centre but with the disintegration of the Mughal Empire that source of help was no longer available.

- From the first Carnatic War: Dupleix was convinced that, in any quarrel between the Indian princes, his disciplined army would be very useful.

SECOND CARNATIC WAR

- Unlike the first Carnatic war, there was no European war to provide a pretext for the outbreak of hostilities between the English and the French in the second instance.
- It became a life & death struggle for the survival of the English & French EIC in India.
- Carnatic was a province under the subedar of Deccan, i.e., the Nizam of Hyderabad & was ruled by a governor-the Nawab, with his headquarters at Arcot.
- Since the subadar of the Deccan was busy with tackling the Marathas & other forces in Northern India, the Nawab practically enjoyed independent power.
- In 1740, the Marathas had invaded the Carnatic & killed the Nawab-Dost Ali.
- They also took his son-in-law Chanda sahib as prisoner to Satara.
- In 1743 Nizam, appointed Anwar-ud-din Khan as the Nawab of Carnatic.
- In 1748 Chanda sahib was set free by Maratha after seven years of captivity.
- In 1748 Asaf- Jan- Nizam ul Mulk, the Hyderabad Nawab, passed away.
- He was succeeded by his son, Nasir Jang but his grandson, Muzaffar Jang laid claim to the throne on the ground that the Mughal Emperor had appointed him as the Governor of the Carnatic.

INTERVENTION BY DUPLEIX

- Muzaffar Jang found an ally in Chanda Sahib to fight together to gain their respective seats in Hyderabad & the Carnatic
- Dupleix concluded secret treaties with Chandra Sahib & Muzaffar Jang
- In August 1749 the three allies ambushed & killed Anwar-ud-din at the battle of Ambur, located south-east of Vellore.
- His son, Muhammad Ali, fled to Trichinopoly & Chandra Sahib became Nawab of Carnatic.

BRITISH ENTRY

- English invited Nasir Jang, the Nizam of Hyderabad, and persuaded him to crush his enemies in the Carnatic & send some help to Muhammad Ali in Trichinopoly.
- But Nasir Jang's attempts to crush his enemies only resulted in his own death in 1750.
- Muzaffar Jang was released from prison & proclaimed Subedar of the Deccan.
- Dupleix was appointed Governor of all the Mughal Dominions south of the river Krishna. Territories near Pondicherry, Orissa coast & Masulipatnam were annexed to him
- In return at Muzaffar Jang's request, Dupleix placed "Bussy" his best officer, with a French army.

- Saunders, governor of Madras, decided to go to the assistance of Muhammad Ali in 1751.
- French, realised that their siege of Trichy was not proving successful, changed their tactics and were trying to woo Muhammad Ali.
- French persuaded the Nizam of Hyderabad to obtain a new appointment for Ali in any other part of the Deccan
- But British persuaded Muhammad Ali not to give up his claim, but instead to bide his time.
- English sent a detachment to Trichy in May 1751—to help Muhammad Ali against the French.
- Later, Rulers of Mysore, Tanjore and the Maratha chief, Morari Rao, gave help to Muhammad Ali and the English.
- Arcot was successfully occupied by Clive with the help of small British force—consisting of 200 European and 300 Indian soldiers.
- The Nawab after battling for 53 days, managed to win back Arcot.
- The seizure of Arcot demoralised the French – French general Jacques-francois Law, in charge of the siege of Trichy, abandoned his post & fled to Srirangam.
- Law finally surrendered on 9 June 1752. Shortly thereafter a dispirited Chanda Sahib also surrendered to the English. He was beheaded on the orders of the Tanjore generals.
- The English prestige was greatly enhanced by this incident
- Dupleix was devising a fresh strategy.
- He won over Morari Rao, the Maratha chief & the ruler of Mysore & secured the neutrality of the Raja of Tanjore.
- The siege of Trichinopoly was renewed in December 1752 & continued for more than one year, & both sides were successful alternatively.

RECALL OF DUPLEIX

- Dupleix's valiant efforts were not much appreciated by the French authorities.
- They were greatly annoyed at the heavy financial losses that Dupleix's policy involved & decided to recall him.
- On 1 August 1754 Godeau succeeded Dupleix as Governor-General in India.
- He reversed Duplex's policy & reopened negotiations with the British & concluded a treaty.
- The English & the French both agreed not to interfere in the quarrels of native princes & each party was left in possession of the territories.

WHAT WENT WRONG WITH DUPLEIX ?

- Displeasure with his policies in India was only a part of the reason.
- French East India Company was directly controlled by the French Government which had to consider the larger political issues confronting the state.

- It was the fear of serious repercussions in America that prompted the French to suspend hostilities in India.
- British propagandised that Dupleix was trying to sabotage the negotiations.

LIMITED INFLUENCE OF FRANCE

- The work of Dupleix was practically undone.
- His policy influence was maintained at Hyderabad by the officer Bussy
- French nobility was inclined towards British
- Bussy demanded Nizam to hand over the control of Northern districts Mustafa Nagar, Ellore, Rajahmundry & Chicacole – with annual revenue of more than 30 lakhs of rupees – helpful of maintaining the French army in Hyderabad.
- The prestige of the French in India had been greatly enhanced by the dangerous exploits of Dupleix in the second Carnatic War.
- French Government, in the interests of securing “the gains of commerce”, reverse all Dupleix's positions and recall him in disgrace.
- The indecision, lack of energy and cowardice of Law and his colleagues was in sharp contrast to the brilliant genius and bold dash of Clive.

THIRD CARNATIC WAR

- It was not a mere coincidence then that at the outbreak of the Seven Years' War between the English & the French in Europe in 1756
- The English captured Chandernagore.
- Siraj-ud-daula the Nawab of Bengal was enraged at this behavior of the Company & warned the English that he would not tolerate such behavior on the part of either of the European powers.
- He gave shelter to French – English offered him military help in exchange against an impending attack on Bengal by the Mughal heir-apparent .
- This refusal of the Nawab to hand over the French became one of the reasons for war between him and the British.
- In south India, both French & British were in a position to indulge in war immediately. Both were handicapped by lack of resources.
- Nawab was holding control over Calcutta
- British army & naval forces went to recover Calcutta
- An impressive French army under Count de Lally marched for India to attack British but it encountered several difficulties on the way – so they reached India till second half of 1758
- Till then English fleet & army reached Madras, with a lot of men & liquidity.

FRENCH ATTACK IN CARNATIC

- French successfully won the fort St. David – Bussy from Hyderabad had been attacking the English possessions in the Northern areas. He managed to take over all of them including the fort at Vizianagaram on 24 June 1758

- The English were quite justifiably alarmed at their reverses. They even feared a possible expulsion from India.
- According to James Mill, had Dupleix been still the guide & conductor of the enemy's affairs, it is more than probable that their most gloomy apprehensions would have been realised."

PROBLEMS WITH THE FRENCH ARMY

- There were the financial difficulties of the Company
- The rude & haughty behavior of French general towards his troops
- He refused to listen to their advice & thus alienated them.
- Lally's decision to "strike at the root of British power in the Carnatic by reducing Madras" backfired – when he failed to get naval co-operation.
- The French naval forces were commanded by Admiral Comte d'Aché had already suffered defeat at the hands of the English in April 1758.
- Admiral refused to set sail for Madras. Consequently Lally had to postpone his plans for a seizure of Madras
- Lally thought he would solve the financial problems of the French company by forcing the Raja of Tanjore to pay an outstanding amount of 70 lakhs of rupees
- Tanjore was besieged on 18 July 1758 & though the Raja was hardly in a position to offer any resistance, the French could not press their advantage.
- There were a shortage of ammunition; both Lally and his soldiers distrusted each other

THE NAVAL DEBACLE

- Meanwhile the English fleet had inflicted heavy losses on the French fleet in August 1758.
- A dispirited d'Aché resolved to abandon the French naval effort and left the Indian seas in the same month
- This compelled Lally to withdraw from Tanjore, thereby inflicting a heavy blow to his reputation.
- However, Lally continued to challenge the British by conquering minor English Settlements on the Coromandel Coast, so that, at one stage, the English were left only with Madras, Trichy and Chingleput in the Carnatic
- By December 1758 with the onset of the monsoon English fleet had to leave the harbourless Madras

coast, and this gave Lally an opportunity to embark on a fresh siege of Madras.

- But the problems of the French army had not been effectively tackled and the siege of Madras continued for three months.
- It had to be finally withdrawn when the English fleet returned in February 1759.
- Lally unwisely prevailed upon Bussy to leave Hyderabad, leaving the French forces there under incompetent commanders.
- English occupied Rajahmundry and Masulipatam and in 1759 concluded a favourable treaty with Nizam Salabat Jang.
- French influence in the Deccan had thus been irretrievably lost.

BATTLE OF WANDIWASH

- The decisive battle of the third Carnatic War was Fought at Wandiwash on 22 January 1760.
- In the next three months General Eyre Coote's army totally routed the French army under Lally
- Only Jinje & Pondicherry were under French possession
- On May 1760, the English laid siege to Pondicherry.
- Lally made alliance with Nawab Haider Ali of Mysore, but they failed to work on concerted plan of action & Haidar's contingent ultimately returned to Mysore without fighting a single battle.
- French capital of Pondicherry surrendered on 16 January, 1761. The city was completely destroyed by the victors.
- Shortly thereafter Jinje and Mahe were subjugated
- French general Count de Lally after being detained as an English prisoner of war for two years, he was allowed to return to France at the end of the Seven Years War. But later executed in Bastille.
- The Peace of Paris treaty restore the French Factories in India but the French East India Company formally ended its career in 1769.
- French Crown maintained the French factories in India for the benefit of private traders.
- It was a feeble effort and the French, like their Portuguese and Dutch counterparts in India, confined themselves to "country trade"
- Their dependence on the English : – Their business transactions were in collaboration either with the English Company directly or with its officials or private English traders residing in India.

COLONIAL EXPANSION –II

- The course of the events of 1750s is decided by the commercial rivalry between the British & the Bengal Nawabs
- The personal incompetence of Nawabs was not a decisive factor for this rivalry .
- Degeneration in the administration which started in the 18th century contributed to the final collapse of the Bengal polity.
- Occupation & consolidation of British was creation of alternative hegemony in Awadh against the Mughals & Awadh rulers.

- After the Battle of Buxar in 1764, the use of force by East India company remained minimal.

PRE-BRITISH BENGAL

- European economy underwent transformation from feudalism to capitalism – resulted in a competition among all European powers to control it.
- In this process of imperialists expansion of 17th century, Bengal became the hunting ground of the Dutch, the French & the English companies.
- Bengal had capacity to be the hinterland, for British industrialisation, so it attracted many foreign companies.
- Francois Bernier, a traveler who visited India during Aurangzeb's reign wrote a famous proverb used by Europeans for Bengal – “kingdom of Bengal has a hundred gates open for entrance, but not one for departure”.
- Export products from Bengal to Europe (18th century) : – raw products, such as, saltpetre, rice, indigo, pepper, sugar, silk, cotton textiles, handicrafts etc.
- Bengal goods forms nearly 60% of British imports from Asia (18th century).
- Regular contact of the English with Bengal started in the 1630s.
- First English company in the east was set up at Balasore in Orissa in 1633, then at Hugli, Kasimbazar, Patna & Dacca.
- By 1690s East India company got zamindari rights of the three villages of Sutnati, Calcutta & Govindpur
- The annual investment of the Company in Bengal turned to £ 150,000 in 1680.
- The provincial governors were not in favour of monopoly & privilege for East India Company.
- Provincial administration always pressurised the company to more for its trade in Bengal.
- Murshid Quli Khan – an independent authority over Bengal, opposed the privileges enjoyed by East India company. Because of the loss that resulted to the treasury.
- Mid of the 18th century marked the tussle between the local govt in Bengal & East India company
- The stability of Nawab's rule was dependent on:
 - The support of powerful local aristocracy.
 - The support of Hindu Mutasaddis – controlling the financial administration.
 - The support of the big Zamindars, for the supply of revenues & army & to maintain law & order.
 - The support of the bankers & business houses, particularly the house of the Jagat Seths; the largest financial house in Bengal was also needed.
- All these different groups had different interests & expectations from the Nawab.
- The stability of Nawab's regime depended on maintaining proper balance among these various interest groups.

- The common people had no place in this power equation between the ruler and the interest groups.
- They were the victims of the growing demands of the Zamindars but there was no protection from the administration.
- There was no initiative on the part of the rulers to involve the people in the anti-imperialist struggle.

CONQUEST OF BENGAL

- 1757 to 1765 is the history of gradual transfer of power from the Nawabs to the British.
- During this short period of eight years three Nawabs, Siraj-ud-daula, Mir Jafar & Mir Kasim ruled over Bengal
- But they failed to uphold the sovereignty of the Nawab

SIRAJ-UD-DAULA & THE BRITISH

- Siraj-ud-daula succeeded Alivardi Khan as Nawab of Bengal in 1756
- His succession was opposed by :-
 - 1) His aunt Ghaseti Begum
 - 2) His cousin Shaukat Jang (Purnea Governor)
 - 3) A dominant group in the Nawab's court (Jagat Seth, Umichand, Raj Ballabh, Rai Durlabh, Mir Jafar)
- Under Siraj-Ud-Daula's reign, his tension with EIC increased due to
 - 1) The fortification around Calcutta by the English Company without the permission of the Nawab.
 - 2) The misuse of the Company's trade privilege by its officials for their private trade.
 - 3) The English Company at Calcutta had given shelter to Krishna Das, son of Raj Ballabh, who fled with immense treasures against the Nawab's will.
- EIC was worried about the alliance between Siraj & French East India Company
- Siraj-ud-daula's attack on the English fort at Calcutta precipitated an open conflict.
- Robert Clive made a secret alliance with the conspirators of the Nawab's camp
- It was not the British superiority but the conspiracy of the Nawab's officials that helped the English in winning the battle.
- Siraj was murdered by the order of Mir Jafar's son Miran.

MIR JAFAR

- Mir Jafar was promised the Nawabship by Clive before the battle of Plassey – as a reward for his support to the British against Siraj.
- Mir Jafar was made to pay a heavy price to his English friends for their favour
- He paid out about Rs. 17,50,000 to British in presents & compensation
- Zamindars like Raja Ram Sinha of Midnapore, Hizir Ali Khan of Purnea refused to accept him as their ruler.
- Mir Jafar's soldiers were not getting salary regularly were in a rebellious mood.

- He believed that Rai Durlabh instigated the rebellion of Zamindar against him.
- There was an attempt by the Mughal Emperor's son who later on became Shah Alam to capture the throne of Bengal.
- The financial position of the Nawab was also weak, because of the demands of the Company & mismanagement of resources.
- All these made Mir Jafar more dependent on the English Company. But the Company was unhappy with the Nawab for some reasons
- Mir Jafar, was in collaboration with the Dutch company so British East India Company was unhappy
- The death of Miran, son of Mir Jafar, again created a conflict over the question of succession.
- The fight was between Miran's son and Mir Kasim, the son in-law of Mir Jafar.
- Vansittart the Governor of Calcutta took the side of Mir Kasim
- They signed a secret agreement to support Mir Kasim, to the Nawabship of Bengal, he had to pay huge amount of money in return to company
- The rebellion of Mir Jafar's army for their due salary made it easier for the British to force Mir Jafar to step down.

MIR KASIM

- Kasim also had to pay huge sums of money to Company
- He had to give three districts of Burdwan, Midnapore and Chittagong to the English Company.
- After coming to throne of Bengal, Kasim shifted the capital from Murshidabad to Monghyr in Bihar in order to keep a safe distance from the Company at Calcutta
- He re-organised the bureaucracy by assigning key posts to his favourite people.
- He reorganised the army to enhance its efficiency

MIR KASIM :- REASONS FOR CONFLICT WITH COMPANY

- Deputy governor of Bihar, Ram Narayan, who was supported by company, refused to submit his account to Kasim, created bitterness between Kasim & company
- Private trade generated by company officials by misusing the dustak or trade permit grew the tension between company & kasim
- Company servants were not paying any duty on their goods. Whereas local merchants had to pay duty.
- Ignoring the officials of the Nawab company officials forced the local people to sell their goods at low prices.
- Mir Kasim had failed to fulfil the expectations of company, so they started searching for a suitable replacement of Mir Kasim.
- Mir tried to put up a united resistance against the British with the help of the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam & Shuja-ud-daula of Awadh.

- But he failed to protect his throne & the battle of Buxar (1764) completed the victory & the domination of the British in eastern India.

RESURRECTION OF MIR JAFAR

- Mir Jafar was brought back to the throne of Bengal.
- He agreed to hand over three districts-Midnapore, Burdwan and Chittagong to the English & free trade except a duty of 2% on salt
- But Mir Jafar was in bad health and he died shortly. His minor son Najim-ud-daula was appointed Nawab.
- The real administration was carried on by a Naib-Subedar, 'who would be appointed or dismissed by the English.
- In the summer of 1765 Clive came back as the Governor of Bengal.
- On August 1765, Clive underwent an agreement with the Mughal emperor Shah Alam who was a prisoner of Shuja-ud-daula, the Nawab of Awadh since 1761
- Under the agreement, emperor granted by a royal declaration, the Diwani of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa to the East India Company – in return Allahabad & the adjoining territories, were given to Shah Alam.
- Defence, law & order and the administration of justice remained in the hands of the Nawabs
- But the Nawabs had virtually lost their military power after the battle of Buxar.

SIGNIFICANCE OF BRITISH VICTORY

- British established their political supremacy in Bengal by winning two battles, one at Plassey (1757) & the other at Buxar (1764).
- Undermined the position of the Nawab in Bengal.
- There was not much change in the government & the Nawab still remained the supreme authority.
- Nawab became dependent on the Company's authority
- Company began to interfere in the appointment of Nawab's officials
- Internal rivalry within the Nawab's administration was exposed
- Conspiracies of the British rivals weakened the the administration.
- English East India Company established their monopoly over Bengal trade & control the polity of Bengal also.
- The victory of the British in this battle proved the superiority of the British force

POST-MUGHAL SUCCESSOR STATES

- Taking advantage of the weakness of the central authority, a large number of independent & semi-independent states arose all over India
- Some as a result of the assertion of autonomy by governors of Mughal provinces and others as the product of rebellion against Mughal authority
- In North India, Awadh, Rohillas, Jats & Sikhs were the prominent examples.

- They formed different alliances to assert & consolidate their territorial control.
- Even though the power of the Mughal house over its subordinate ruling groups declined, Mughal sovereignty was still universally recognized.
- All powers seeking to establish their rule in the 18th century India needed to acquire imperial titles & rights. Because
 - 1) Reasons for this were more material than simply a belief in the divine major tradition.
 - 2) Mughal rule had trained executive & financial officials which the regional rulers could not do.
 - 3) In the states like Awadh, the local rule was established in the name of the Mughals & repudiation of Mughal authority would have incited the taluqdars to assert their independence.

AWADH

- The Company's fortunes improved dramatically when Clive in collaboration with the influential Indian merchants and nobles, defeated the Nawab of Bengal Siraj-Ud- Daulah in 1757 at Plassey & installed a puppet Nawab, Mir Jafar, in his place.
- Bengal, one of the wealthiest provinces of India generated ,Rs. 30 million land revenues, by natural irrigation, supported the poorer presidencies of Bombay & Madras but also helped to recruit more army
- By securing Diwani rights of Bengal, Bihar & Orissa & by forcing a subsidiary alliance on the Awadh Nawab, the Company created a buffer between its territories & the more turbulent regions of west.
- The army which fought the British in Buxar in October 1764 was basically an Awadh army composed of the Mughal, Durrani & local Awadhi troops.
- Lacking in a centralized command & prone to mercenary activities like the looting of both the Company's & Nawab's baggage trains – right in the midst of the battle, this army symbolised the Awadhi society as a whole.
- The Awadh elites consisted of three basic strata, each different from the other in tradition and culture
 - i) the Awadh dynasty its high officials were Shia Muslims, who were an insignificant part of the population & considered themselves as part of the Mughal imperial service elite;
 - ii) the castes of scribes Kayasthas & Khatris, who predominated in the Awadh administration.
 - iii) the Rajput & Brahmin landholders who were dominants as local zamindars though they had very limited place in the provincial administration.
- It is not only the tensions between the central and local power, and also the assertion of independence, by the zamindars, which tended to weaken the regime.
- About eighty percent of all the zamindars, both Hindus & Muslims, asserted that they had been

established in their estates prior to the arrival of Saadat Khan, the founder of the Awadh dynasty.

- Saadat Khan, upon his appointment as subedar of Awadh, acted always in the name of the Mughal Emperor and began his term of office with a punitive tour of his new province at the head of a military expedition
- Thus, the dynasty derived its legitimacy from the Mughals, & enforced it locally through show of strength.
- When they were defeated and dominated by the British after 1764 & when they repudiated the Mughal authority in 1819, the Awadh rulers were left with little else to generate loyalty among their subjects.
- Even when they assumed the leadership of the revolt against the British in 1857 in Awadh, they had to act in the name of the Mughals.

SUBSIDIARY ALLIANCE TO THE EAST INDIA COMPANY

- Under the subsidiary alliance Shuja-ud-Daula had to
 - a) Cooperate for mutual defence
 - b) Allow free trade to company
 - c) Pay Rs. 50,00,000 as war debts.
- Under the subsidiary alliance, the Nawab agreed to
 - the permanent stationing of a contingent of British force in his territory and
 - paid Rs. 21,000 per month per brigade.
 - for maintaining a fixed number of British Resident
 - assured that he would not employ any European in his service without the consent of the British.
- Extraterritoriality, coupled with resources of manpower & money mobilised in Awadh proved crucial in redrawing the political map of India.
- The armies recruited from Awadh & Bihar & supported by the money exacted from the Bengal & rulers of Awadh helped the Company in winning repeated victories over the Marathas & the Sikhs & led to its emergence as the paramount power in India.
- The Company, through the Resident stationed at the Awadh capital, increasingly encroached upon the powers of the rulers
- By the beginning of the nineteenth century many of the high officials, courtiers & the large landholder of the Awadh reposed faith in the Company & considered it as the real source of power.
- Even the Nawabi family, like Asaf-ud-Daula and Saadat Ali Khan, relied on Company's intervention for securing the position of Nawabi
- Company, by manipulation & show of force, had acquired so much authority that the annexation of Awadh in 1856 became a logical conclusion.

RESISTANCE BY THE AWADH REGIME: 1765- 1775

- In spite of their subordinate status within the subsidiary Alliance system, the Awadh rulers asserted their independence in many respects.

- Shuja-ud-Daula, despite company's protests, managed to raise an army of 100,000, all uniformed & trained in European fashion.
- He also retained 150 French officers, numbering & controlling an advanced artillery unit.
- Moreover, he, with Company's help, annexed Rohilkhand & Etawah in 1774.
- He restricted the trade by the Company & other Europeans in Awadh territory
- Article 8, of the Treaty of Allahabad of 1765, between company & Nawab, allowed duty-free trade by English merchants & their agents. But Shuja strongly objected to it.
- But he was persuaded to allow merchants with Company dastaks, to enter & set up business.
- Although exempted from tariffs, these traders refused to pay any transit & sales duties
- Faced with Nawab's strenuous protests, the Company banned all its own traders & agents — also withdrew all protection from free merchants in Awadh & Benars in May 1768.
- The profits from this trade were so good for the British merchants that they agitated against the ban, back home in England.
- Court of Directors in London had to lift the ban in 1771.
- Shuja again objected & threatened to withdraw from the Alliance.
- The new Governor General, Warren Hastings, promise that "no English gentlemen should reside in his country & that he would never interfere in any disputes between the English gumashtas & his people".
- This meeting between Warren Hastings & Shuja-ud-Daula in 1773 in Benaras erected a trade barrier that closed Awadh to the commercial penetration of the East India Company until 1801.

WEAKENING OF THE AWADH DEFENCE

- After the death of Shuja-ud-Daula in 1775, his son Asaf-ud-Daula tried to gain control of Awadh – But Mughal practice denied any dynastic continuity at the provincial level.
- Asaf had to compete with other aspirants - To secure the Nawabi he signed an agreement with the East India Company – which, proved to be very harmful for the state.
- According to the agreement : –
 - 1) Company received many concessions
 - 2) Got Banaras region
 - 3) Agreed to pay an increase of 50,000 rupees, per month as subsidy for the Company's brigade in Awadh.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN ASAF & COMPANY

- 4) Agreed for taking consent of the company to appoint any European into his service or for their dismissal & residence
- 5) He had to place his relationship with the Company above his ties to the Mughal Emperor.

- Company consolidated its position into further north .
- Company demanded tankhwahs, or assignments of revenues which would transfer them directly to the Company, bypassing the Awadh regime.
- This drew the Company deeply into the Awadh administration.
- Company specified the districts it wished to be assigned, involved itself in the appointment of revenue agents in those districts
- After Asaf's death in 1797, Company's interference in the affairs of state increased
- Wazir Ali, Asaf-ud-Daula's son and proclaimed heir, did not suit the Company because of his anti-Company view.
- He was deposed in January 1798 by the Company & Saadat Ali Khan, was made the Nawab.
- Company preferred cash payments to land.
- The annual subsidy to the Company's troops stationed in Awadh was increased by 20 lakh rupees bringing the annual payments to a minimum of 7,600,000 rupees.

TREATY OF 1801

- Nawab was obliged to pay 12,00,000 rupees to the Company for the costs of its exertions in putting him in his nephew's place
- Governor-General Lord Wellesley, forced the Nawab to sign a new treaty in 1801, according to which he had to cede the Doab, Gorakhpur and Rohilkhand to the Company.
- Awadh army was drastically reduced to less than one-tenth of its previous size.
- The Company took responsibility for defending the Awadh territories
- Awadh ruler was hung at partial autonomy for his administrative affairs - while he was advised by company officials - it became foundation of Awadh annexation in 1856

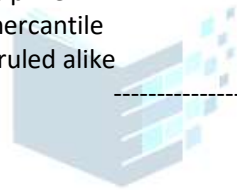
DECLINE OF AWADH 1801-1856

- Company started gradual annexation & built an alternative source of authority inside Awadh.
- The sepoys from Awadh, in the Company's armies, represented the lowest rung of it.
- British legitimacy till 19th century reached so high that, Bahu Begum mother of Asaf-ud-Daula, made a will in Company's name, mentioning that, all her property would go to the Company after her death.
- The Company official encouraged Ghazi-ud-Din Haider to declare his independence & repudiate the sovereignty of the Mughal Emperor in 1819.
- By declaring formal independence the Nawab set an example.
- While Ghazi-ud-Din Haider had used the title, Padshah-i-Ghazi (Emperor of the Warriors for Faith) & Shah-i-Zaman (Lord of the Age), his son & successor Nasir-ud-Din Haider was forced by the Company to change these to the more

circumscribed Padshah-i-Awadh (Emperor of Awadh) & Shah-i-Jahan (Lord of the World).

EXPANSION IN THE NORTH

- After the conquest of Etawah and Rohilkhand by Shuja-ud-Daula in 1774 and the incorporation of Rohilkhand in the Company's territory in 1801, only the Punjab, was left
 - After the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh in June 1839, the Punjab was beset by political instability
 - Kharak Singh, Nav Nihal Singh, Chand Kaur, Sher Singh & finally Dalip Singh were brought to the throne
 - Since the 1830s the British were interested in the Punjab.
 - When Henry Fane, the Commander-in Chief of the British forces was invited to attend the marriage ceremony of Ranjit Singh's grandson, he estimated the forces necessary to overcome the Punjabi army.
 - Conquest of Punjab was discussed by the Governor General Ellenborough with the Home Government in October 1843
 - But due to the weakening of British Indian army after 5 years' war in Afghanistan, conquest of Punjab was delayed.
 - The repeated changes in the govt of the Punjab, the corruption among the officials, indiscipline in the army & the disenchantment of the mercantile class lowered the morals of the rulers & ruled alike
- Company found important allies in the higher rungs of the Punjab government, Prime Minister Raja Lal Singh, the Commander-in-Chief Misar Tej Singh, a leading Sardar of the Lahore durbar Dogra Raja Gulab Singh etc.
 - The first war between the Company & the Punjab was declared on 13 December 1845.
 - The Company's army was almost routed, but the conspiracies of Lal Singh helped them survive.
 - Lal Singh, wrote that, Cunningham, failed the Sikh army at a critical moment.
 - Because of failure of leadership, Punjab army was defeated & was forced to sign the humiliating treaty of Lahore on 8 March, 1846.
 - The British annexed the Jalandhar Doab & handed over Jammu & Kashmir to Raja Gulab Singh for a cash payment of five million rupees.
 - The Punjab army was reduced to 20,000 infantry and 12,000 cavalry and a strong British force was stationed at Lahore
 - Another treaty was signed on 16 December 1846 which gave the British Resident at Lahore extensive authority (through a council of Regency) over all matters in every department of the state.
 - In the Campaign of 1849 the Sikh forces were decisively defeated and Punjab was annexed



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