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COMING OF EUROPEANS

With the discovery of new sea route via the Cape of Good Hope by **Vasco da Gama** in **c.1498 CE**, many trading companies came to India and established their trading centres. At the outset, they entered India as traders but with the passage of time, in order to safeguard their commercial interests, they tried to dominate the politics of India. Thus, the **commercial rivalry** among the European powers led to **political rivalry** and this not only brought them in conflict with each other but with Indian rulers too.



THE PORTUGUESE

Prince Henry of Portugal encouraged voyages for discovery of sea route to India. The first Portuguese who succeeded in reaching the Cape of Good Hope was **Bartholomew Diaz** in **c.1487 CE**. Later, following his foot steps, **Vasco da Gama** reached the port of **Calicut** on **May 21, 1498 CE** making it a **landmark day** in the history of India's maritime trade. He was warmly received by **Zamorin**, the **Hindu ruler of Calicut** and he returned to Portugal in the next year making **huge profits** from the Indian cargo that was **worth sixty times** the cost of the expedition. In **c.1500 CE**, another Portuguese **Pedro Alvarez Cabral** arrived in India and even **Vasco da Gama** too made a **second trip** in **c.1502 CE**. The Portuguese established trading stations at **Calicut, Cannanore** and **Cochin**.



Vasco da Gama

The first governor of the Portuguese in India was Francis de Almeida. Later in c.1510 CE, the second Governor Alfonso-da-Albuquerque captured Goa from the ruler of Bijapur (during reign of Sikander Lodhi) and thereafter, Goa became the capital of the Portuguese settlements in India. Albuquerque also captured Malacca and Ceylon and built a fort at Calicut. He also encouraged his countrymen to marry Indian women. At the time of his death in c.1515 CE, he left the Portuguese as the strongest naval power in India.

In c.1530 CE, Nino-da-cunha acquired Diu and Bassein from Bahadur Shah of Gujarat. Later, Portuguese settlements were also established at Daman, Salsette and Bombay on the west coast and at San Thome near Madras and Hugli in Bengal on the east coast. However, the Portuguese power declined in India by the end of the 16th century and they lost all their possessions in India except Goa, Diu and Daman. In c.1631 CE, Portuguese lost Hugli during the reign of Shahjahan. In c.1661 CE, Portuguese king gave Bombay as a gift to Charles II of England for marrying his sister. The Marathas captured Salsatte and Bassein in c.1739 CE.



Potato



Tobacco

Portuguese gifts to India

- (i) Cultivation of tobacco and potato
- (ii) Ist Printing press in India (c.1556 CE).
- (iii) Ist scientific work on Indian medicinal plants.

Causes of Decline of Portuguese:

1. Religious Intolerance
2. Piracy
3. Clandestine Practices in Trade.

4. Discovery of Brazil.



THE DUTCH

Ist Dutch Expedition which reached the East Indies was led by **Cornelius Houtman** in **c.1596 CE**. In March **c.1602 CE**, **Dutch East India Company** under the name. Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (VOC) was formed. Interestingly, it is often considered to have been the **first multinational corporation** in the world and also was the **first company to issue stock**. Dutch set up their **first factory** at **Masulipatnam** in **c.1605 CE**. Other Dutch factories were at **Pulicat, Chinsura, Kasimbazar, Patna, Balasore, Surat, Karaikal, Nagapattinam and Cochin**. Infact, **Pulicat** emerged as **headquarters of Dutch operations** in India and from **c.1617 CE**, the **Chief of Pulicat** also functioned as **Dutch Governor** in India and the **factory** at **Pulicat** was known as **Fort Geldria**. However, **Pulicat** was later replaced by **Nagapattinam**.

The **credit of dislodging** the **Portuguese** from India's maritime trade and establishing Indian textiles as the premier export of India **goes to Dutch**. In **c.1619 CE**, the Dutch company **conquered Java** and by **c.1623 CE** effectively controlled the English Competition in the Malaya Archipelago (though by the infamous **massacre of Englishman** at **Amboyna**.) The Anglo-Dutch rivalry lasted for about seven decades during which period the **Dutch lost** their settlements to the **British** one by one and the final collapse of the Dutch came with their defeat by English in the **Battle of Bedara** in **c.1759 CE**.



THE ENGLISH

The English East India Company was formed by a group of merchants known as 'The **Merchant Adventures**' in **c.1599 CE**. In **c.1609 CE**, **Captain William Hawkins** arrived at the court of Mughal Emperor **Jahangir** to seek permission to establish **English trading centre** at **Surat**. But, it **was refused** by the Mughal Emperor **due to Portuguese pressure**.

Later in c.1612 CE, Jahangir issued a *farman* (permission letter) to the English and they established a trading factory at Surat in c.1613 CE. Later in c.1615 CE, Sir Thomas Roe came to Mughal court as ambassador of James I, the King of England and obtained permission from Jahangir to establish English trading factories in different parts of India. Thus, by c.1619 CE, English established their factories at Agra, Ahmedabad, Baroda and Broach.



Thomas Roe at the court of Jahangir

In c.1639 CE, Francis Day obtained the site of Madras from Raja of Chandragiri which was named Fort St. George. Madras soon replaced Masulipatnam as the headquarter of English on the Coromandel coast. The English East India Company acquired Bombay from Charles II, the then King of England on lease at an annual sent of £10 in c.1668 CE and Bombay became the headquarters of the company on west coast. In c.1690 CE, an English factory was established at a place called Sutanuti by Job Charnock. The fortified settlement of Sutanati was named Fort William (Calcutta) which later became the capital of British India. In c.1701 CE, Emperor Aurangzeb ordered the general arrest of all the

Europeans in India due to their aggressiveness on Mughal ships and territory but English could be controlled only for a short time. In c.1715 CE, John Serman (the Governor of Calcutta) and William Hamilton cured Mughal Emperor Farukhshiyar of a disease and gained farman (order which was also called the Magna Carta of the company) in c.1717 CE to establish offices at Bengal, Gujarat and Hyderabad.



THE DANES (FROM DENMARK)

Danes formed an East India Company in c.1616 CE. They established settlement at Tranquebar (Tamil Nadu) in c.1620 CE and at Serampore (Bengal) in c.1676 CE. Serampore was their headquarters in India. However, they failed to strengthen themselves in India and were forced to sell all their settlements in India to the British in c.1845 CE.



THE FRENCH

The French East India Company, '*Les compangnile des Indes Orientales*', was formed in c.1664 CE by Colbert, a minister under Louis XIV. In c.1668 CE, Francis Caron established the first French factory in India at Surat. Later, Maracara set up a factory at Masulipatinam in c.1669 CE. Later, in c.1673 CE Francois Martin founded Pondicherry (Fort Louis), the headquarters of the French possessions in India and became its 1st governor too. In c.1690 CE, Chandranagore in Bengal was acquired from Shaista Khan then Mughal governor. Other French factories in India were Mahe, Balasore, Qasim Bazar and Karaikal. The arrival of Joseph Français Dupleix as French governor in India in c.1742 CE saw the beginning of Anglo-French conflict which resulted in famous Carnatic Wars.



Dupleix



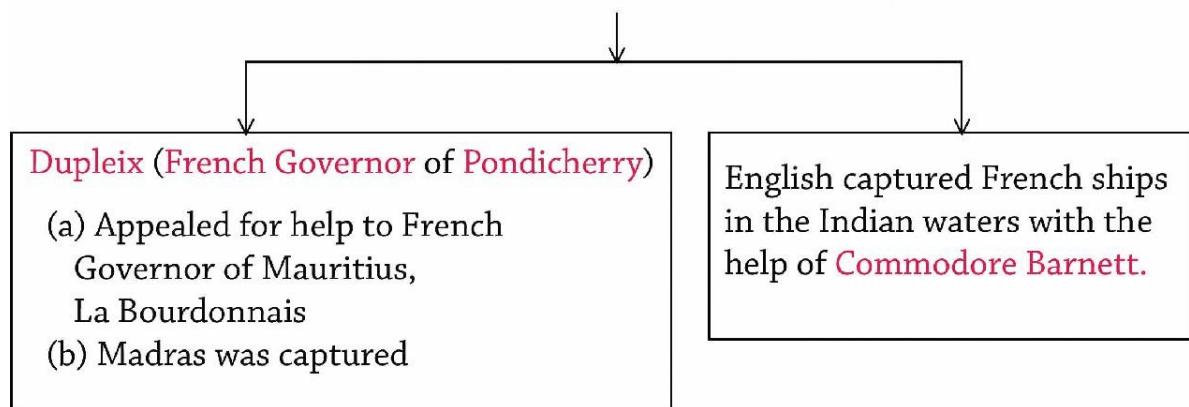
ANGLO-FRENCH RIVALRY



Carnatic Wars

In the beginning of the 18th century, the English and the French were **competing with each other** to establish their supremacy in India.

1. Ist Carnatic War (c.1746-1748 CE)



Cause of Ist Carnatic War

In c.1742 CE, war broke out between France and Britain in Europe over **Austrian war of Succession** and in c.1746 CE English started the war in India.



Important Battles and treaty pertaining to Ist War.

1. a **Battle of Adyar** (c.1746 CE) (**Exposed indiscipline of Indian Army**)
 - i. Fought between **French** and **Mehfuz Khan** (representative of Nawab **Anwar-ud-din**) to capture/restore **Madras** in which a **small army of French defeated a huge Indian army.**

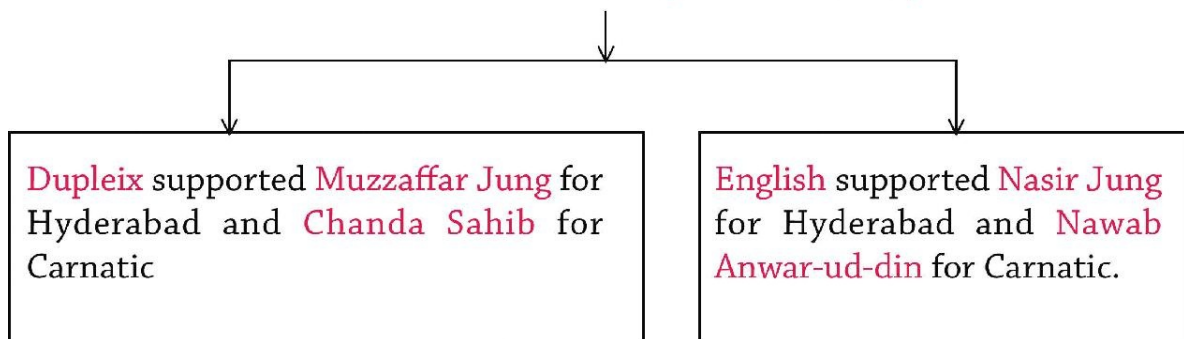
- 1.b **Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle** (c.1748 CE)

↗ **Madras** was restored to **English.**

→ **Louis-burg** in **North America** was given to **France.**

(Austrian war or succession ended in Europe so battle also stopped in India)

2. IInd Carnatic War (c.1748-1754 CE)



Cause of IInd Carnatic War

Nizam of Hyderabad died in c.1748 CE and this resulted in a **war of succession** and both English and French supported opposite camps.



Important Battles and Treaty pertaining to IInd War

- (a) **Battle of Ambur** (c.1749 CE)

French side **defeated Anwar-ud-din** at **Ambur** and his son Mohammed Ali escaped to Tiruchirapalli for safety and surrendered to English.

Meanwhile, **Chanda Sahib**, the **Nawab of Carnatic** rewarded **Dupleix** by given Valudanoor, Villianoor and Bahur, near Pondicherry and marched towards Tiruchirapalli to capture Muhammed Ali.

(b) **Battle of Arcot** (c.1751 CE)

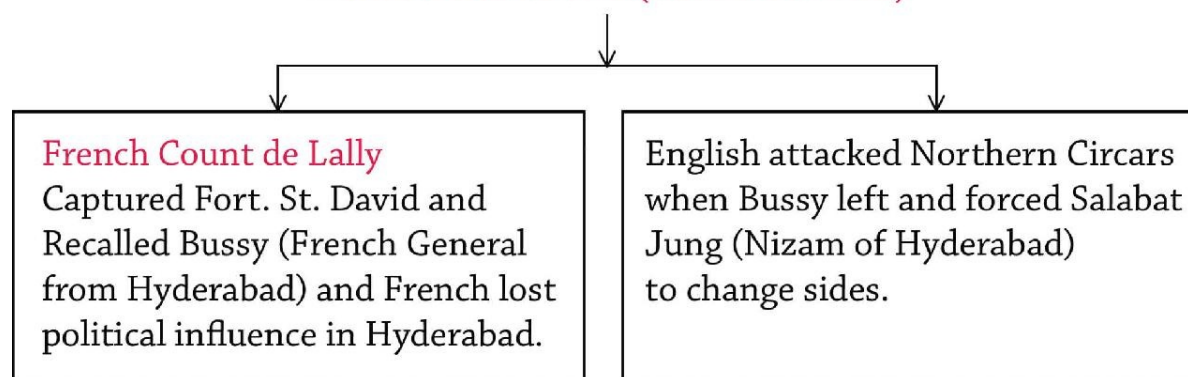
Robert Clive (an English officer) suggested a plan to attack **Arcot** (capital of **Carnatic**) which was approved by Governor Saunders and an army with Robert Clive and Major Lawrence. Clive captured Arcot and earned the tag of **Hero of Arcot**. Meanwhile, **French forces** and **Chanda Sahib** were defeated at Arni and Kaveripakkam. Chanda Sahib was beheaded in c.1752 CE. Since Dupleix failed to capture Tiruchirapalli, he was recalled to France in c.1754 CE.

(c) **Treaty of Pondicherry**

- (i) **French possessions** were given back to the **France**.
- (ii) English emerged as winner in Carnatic.

Since Nazir Jung (British ally), lost his life in an encounter in c.1750 CE, so Muzaffar Jung became Nizam and he amply rewarded French.

3. **IIIrd Carnatic War (c.1756-1763 CE)**



Cause of IIIrd Carnatic War

The Third Carnatic War broke out due to the outbreak of the Seven Year War (c.1756–1763 CE) in Europe.



Important Battles and treaty pertaining to IIIrd War

3. (a) **Battle of Wandiwash** (c.1760 CE)

- i. **English** general **Eyre Coot** *defeated* Count de Lally.
- ii. Count de Lally even **surrendered Pondicherry**

(b) **Treaty of Paris**

- Pondicherry, Karaikal and other French possessions were returned to the French on condition that they should not fortify them.
- Ended the **French ambition** in India.

The different **causes** for the **French failure** in **Anglo-French rivalry** can be summed up as follows:

1. **Commercial** and **naval superiority** of the English.
2. **Lack of support** from the **French government**.
3. French had support only in the Deccan but the **English** had a strong base in Bengal.
4. English had three **important ports** – Calcutta, Bombay and Madras but French **had only one Pondicherry**.
5. Difference of opinion between the French Generals.
6. England's victory in the European wars decided the destiny of the French in India.



BRITISH CONQUEST IN INDIA

In c.1705 CE, Aurangzeb appointed **Murshid Quli Khan** as **Governor of Bengal** and later placed Orissa under his authority. Murshid Quli Khan shifted capital from Dacca to Murshidabad and after death of Aurangzeb, founded an independent state.

Murshid Quli Khan → **Shuja-ud-din Khan** (Son-in law of Murshid Quli Khan) → **Sarfarz Khan** (Son of Shuja-ud-Khan) → **Alivardi Khan**



Battle of Plassey (c. 1757 CE)



Paved the way for foundation of British Rule in India.



Siraj-ud-daulah

(Was captured and was put to death by Miran, Mir Jafar's son)

Robert Clive and MirJafar
(Commander in chief of Siraj)



Lord Clive meeting with Mir Jafar after the Battle of Plassey



Background of Plassey

Death of Alivardi Khan

Siraj-ud-Daulah (His grand son)

- came in conflict with British as was against misuse of *Dastaks* (i. e. seals of trading)
- Prevented English from fortifying Fort William.
- Attacked British factory at Cassim Bazar on their refusal of not fortifying and captured Fort William
- Black Hole tragedy (wherein many English prisoners were holed up in in one room and as a consequence, died of suffocation).

Battle of Plassey which resulted in victory of Mir Jafar.

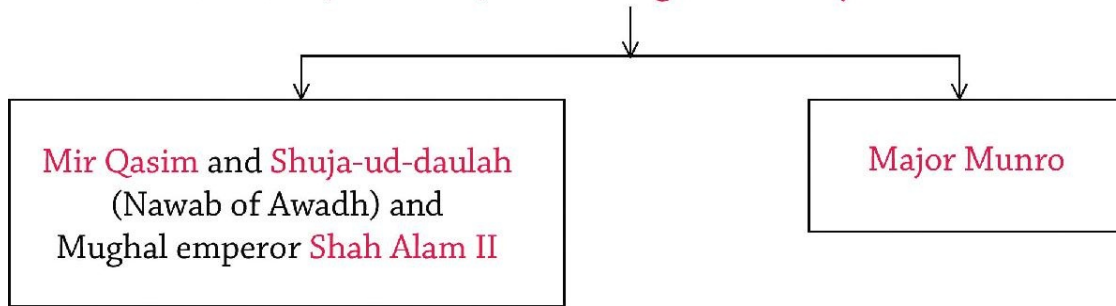
- Robert Clive was appointed governor of Bengal (c.1758-1760 CE) and he consolidated the British power both in Bengal and in Deccan.
- Clive introduced a new administrative system in Bengal called Dual government in which:
 - Nominal Head – Nawab of Bengal
 - Real Power – English
- This dual government was ended by Warren Hastings.

Mir Jafar

Mir Qasim (His son-in-law)

- As Mir Jafar was not able to satisfy the demands of the English, he was forced to resign in c.1760 CE and Mir Qasim was put on throne who proved to be an efficient and strong ruler.
- He checked the misuse of the farman of c.1717 CE (granted by Emperor Farrukhsiyar) by the company officials as they used to evade customs duty.

Battle of Buxar (c.1764 CE) – Made English virtually the masters of Bengal.



Treaty of Allahabad (c.1765 CE)

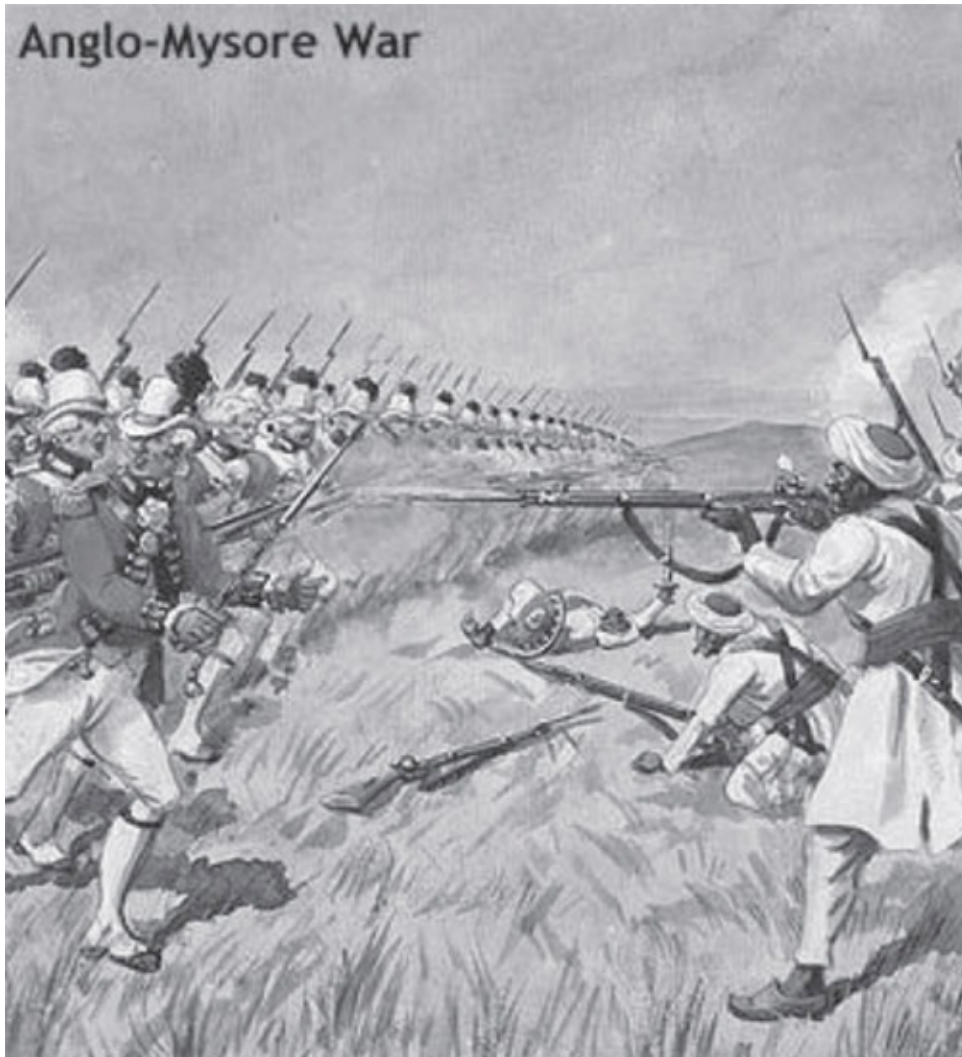
- Province of Awadh returned to Shuja-ud-daulah but he had to pay Rs 50 lakhs to English. Shuja-ud-daulah was forced to maintain English troops for the defence of his state.
- Shah Alam was forced to grant the diwani rights of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa to the English. Districts of Kara and Allahabad were given to Shah Alam and English accorded pension of Rs 26 lakhs per year to him.

Mir Jafar

Nizam-ud-daulah (after Mir Jafar's death)



Battle of Buxar



Anglo Mysore war



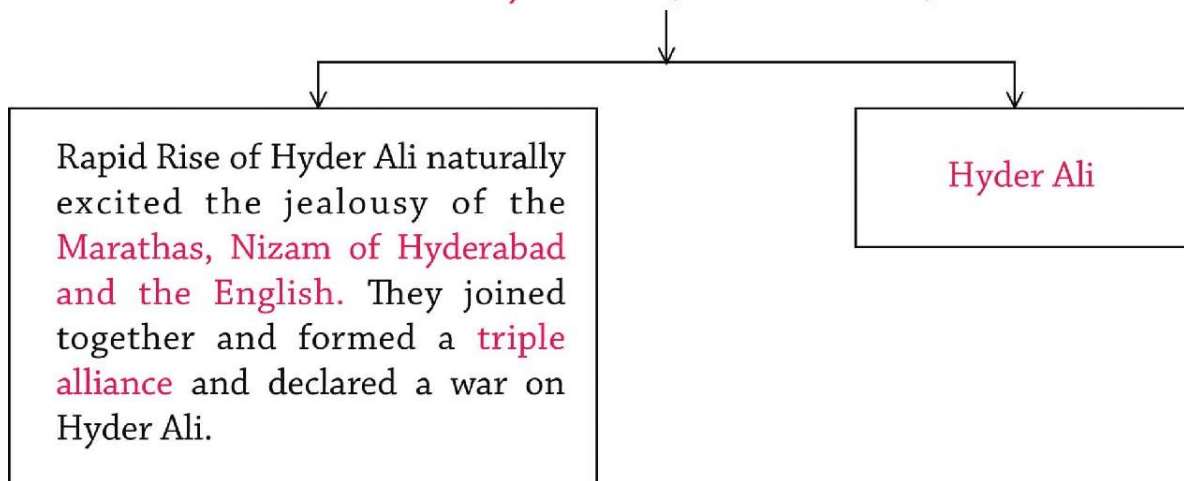
CONQUEST OF MYSORE

Hyder Ali, son of a faujdar of Mysore army was born in **c.1721 CE**. By his hard work and determination he become commander in chief of the army and when the ruler of Mysore died, he proclaimed himself as the ruler and became Sultan of Mysore. Hyder Ali was an able general and he strengthened his army by **including French soldiers**.



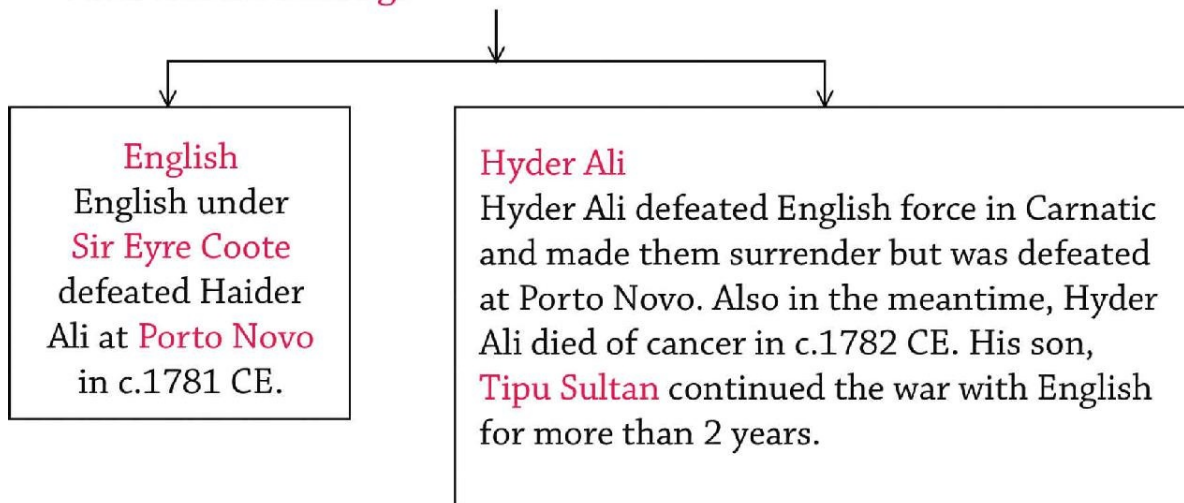
Hyder Ali

1. Ist Mysore war (c.1767-1769 CE)



By diplomacy, Hyder Ali won over Marathas and Nizam and the Ist Mysore War ended with the **defeat of the British** and they were forced to sign **Treaty of Madras**. Both sides restored each others conquest and promised mutual help in case of an attack by third party.

2. IInd Mysore war (c.1780 – 1784 CE): During the time of Lord Warren Hastings



Cause of IInd Mysore War

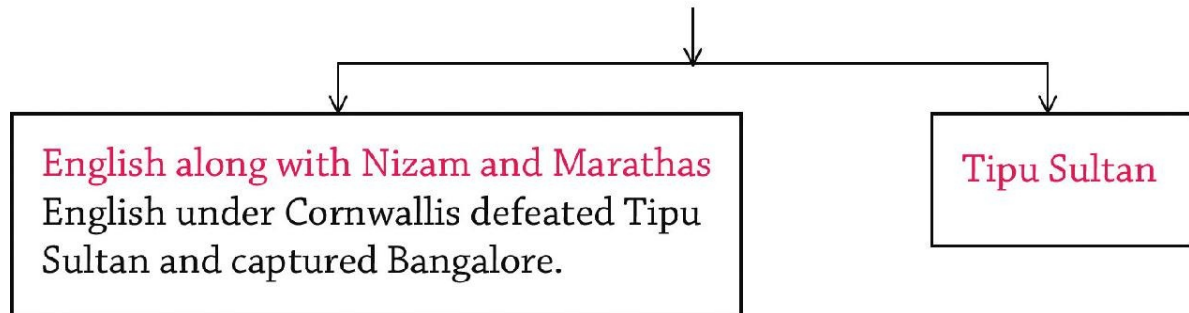
- Mysore was attacked by Marathas in c.1771 CE. As per treaty of Madras, English (Under Verelst) did not help Hyder Ali. So Hyder Ali wanted an opportunity to strike at English.
- When Mahe, a French possession in the dominion of Hyder Ali was attacked by the English, Hyder Ali declared war on

the English in c.1780 CE.

Treaty of Mangalore (c.1784 CE)

Both sides agreed to exchange the captured territories and war prisoners.

3. IIIrd Mysore War (c.1786-1793 CE): During the time of Lord Cornwallis



Cause of IIIrd Mysore War

- Tipu conquered Travancore which was friendly State of British.

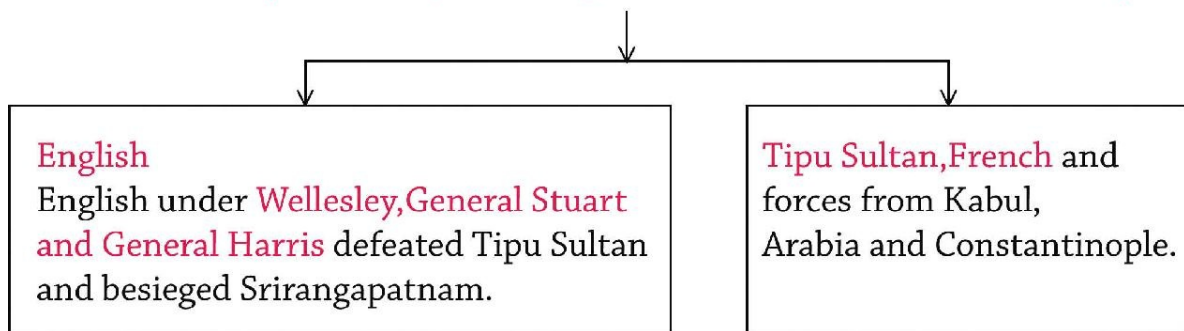
Treaty of Seringapatnam

- Tipu **lost half his territory**, i. e. Malabar, Coorg, Dindugal, Baramahal (now Salem and Erode).
- Tipu was compelled to pay **huge war indemnity** of 3 crore rupees and **had to surrender two of his sons** as hostages to the English until he paid the indemnity.



Tipu Sultan

4. IVth Mysore War (c.1799 CE): During the time of Lord Wellesley



Cause of IVth Mysore War

Tipu refused to accept Subsidiary Alliance of Lord Wellesley.

Results of the War:

- Tipu fought bravely but died in the battle and English annexed large portions of Mysore. Central part of Mysore was given to Krishna Raja of Wadiar dynasty.
- Tipu's family was removed from Srirangapatnam and sent to Vellore prison.



BRITISH STRUGGLE WITH MARATHAS

1. Ist Maratha War (c.1775 – 1782 CE): During the reign of Warren Hastings



Background

In c.1772 CE, Madhava Rao (Maratha Peshwa) died who had no issue

Narayan Rao, younger brother of Madhava Rao succeeded to the throne but his Uncle Raghunath Rao alias Raghoba murdered him

and announced himself next Peshwa, but Maratha leaders disregarded authority of Raghoba and under able leadership of **Nana Phadnavis** appointed Madhava Rao Narayana, the infant son of Narayan Rao.



Nana Phadnavis

Madhava Rao Narayana (Son of Narayan Rao)

- Infuriated by this harsh treatment, **Raghoba went to British**

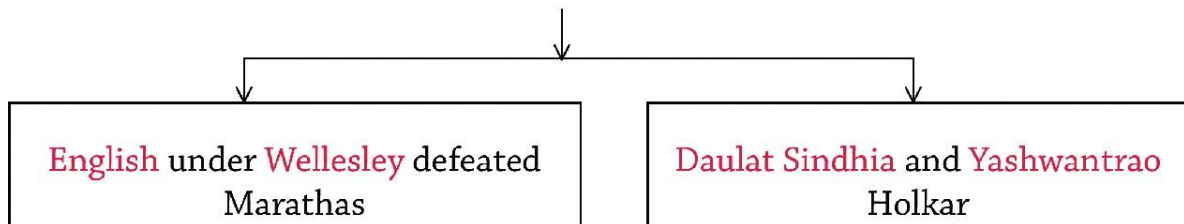
to seek their help for obtaining Peshwaship. To fructify their agreement, Treaty of Surat was signed between Raghoba and Bombay Governor, without the knowledge of Warren Hastings. Raghoba agreed to hand over islands of Salsette and Bassein to British.

- Battle at Talegaon (c.1776 CE) was fought in which Marathas defeated British and Treaty of Purandhar (c.1776 CE), was signed much to the advantage of Marathas and Nana Phadnavis position was raised among Marathas .

Later, Treaty of Salbai (c.1782 CE) was signed between Marathas and British

- It gave British 20 years of respite from Maratha's menace
- English returned all the Maratha territories except Salsette.
- Raghoba was granted pension of 3 lakh a year.

2. IInd Maratha War (c.1803-05 CE)



Cause of IInd Maratha War

Great Maratha statesman Nana Phadnavis died in c.1800 CE and after his death, war broke out between Bhonsle and Sindhia. Peshwa Baji Rao II (weak ruler) approached English for protection.

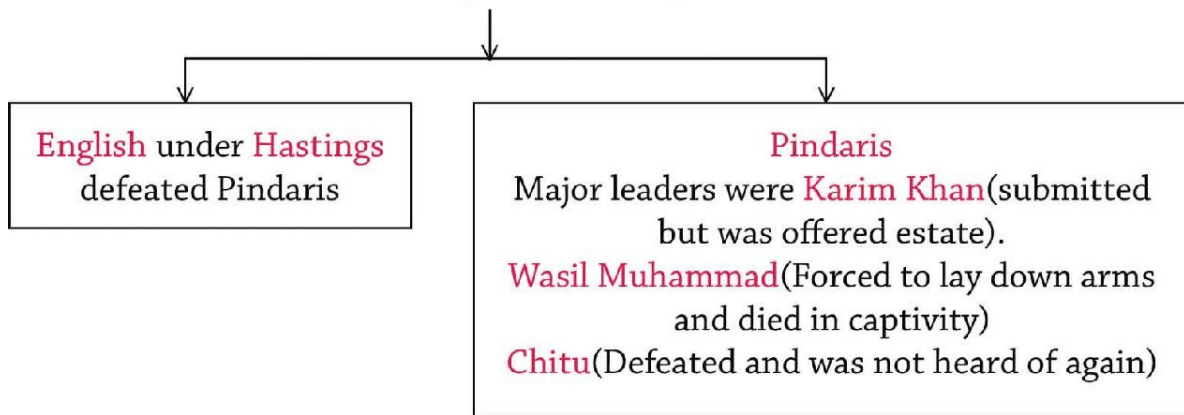
2. a) Treaty of Bassein (c.1802 CE)

English defeated combined armies of Sindhia and Bhonsle under Wellesley and forced them Subsidiary Alliance. But, British failed to defeat Holkar. So, Treaty of Rajpurghat (c.1806 CE) was signed and Wellesley was recalled from India.

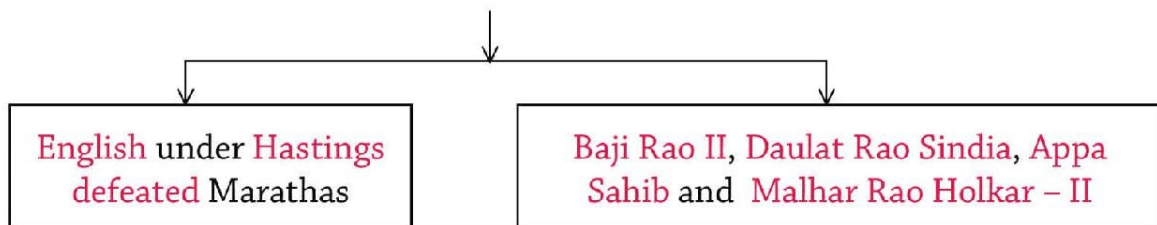
Pindari War (c.1817-18 CE)

Hastings assembled a large force to round up and exterminate seemingly lawless Pindaris and their chiefs.

Pindari War (c.1817-18 CE)



3. IIIrd Maratha War (c.1817-18 CE)



Results of the War:

- To satisfy Maratha pride, a small state of Satara was created under Pratab Singh, a descendent of Shivaji.
- Baji Rao II was given annual pension of 8 lakh rupees.
- Bombay Presidency was formed in this region.
- In c.1818 CE, British become supreme rulers in India.



ANGLO-SIKH WARS

Death of Ranjit Singh in c.1839 CE was followed by political instability. Next three rulers Khanak Singh, Nao Nihal Singh and Sher Singh were murdered within next 6 years (c.1839-45 CE). In such unstable environment, without much effective control over army Dalip Singh, 5 year old son of Ranjit singh, ascended the throne in c.1845 CE. However, British encirclement of Punjab had started from c.1833 CE, when they appointed British Residents at Ludhiana and Sindh.

ANNEXATION OF SINDH



(C.1843 CE)



Causes for Annexation:

- (i) Commercial possibilities of the Indus.
- (ii) British fear of expansion of Russian Empire towards east.
- (iii) British desire to increase influence in Persia and Afghanistan through control over Sindh.

Earlier Background according to time line:

c.1809 CE: Lord Minto sent an ambassador to the Amirs and concluded a friendship treaty with them.

c.1831 CE: Journey of Alexander Burnes up the Indus on his way to Lahore.

c.1832 CE: Treaty by Lord Bentinck by which roads and rivers of Sindh were opened to English trade.

c.1839 CE: Lord Auckland forced the Amirs to sign Subsidiary Alliance and Lord Ellenborough unnecessarily provoked the Armies and people of Sindh into a war.

c.1842 CE: Appointment of Sir Charles Napier as British Resident in place of Major James Outram.

c.1843 CE: Charles Napier, destroyed *Imamgarh*, the famous desert fortress. In retaliation of this, Baluchis attacked the British Resident and declared war on British. The Battle of Miani ensued in which Baluchi army was defeated by Napier and some amirs had to surrender. Later, Battle of Dabo happened in which Napier defeated Sher Muhammad (Amir of Mirpur) and thus Sher Muhammad was expelled from Sindh resulting in formal annexation of Sindh (c.1843 CE). Napier was appointed as Ist Governor of Sindh and interestingly he sent a telegram to the British headquarters exclaiming, *I have Sin (ne)d*.

After the annexation of Sindh a series of battle happened between British and Sikh Rulers which form part of Ist Anglo Sikh War (c.1845-

1846 CE):

- a. **Battle of Muduks (c.1845 CE)** was fought between **Lal Singh** (Prime Minister of Sikhs) and **Sir Hugh Gough** in which Sikh Army was defeated
- b. **Battle of Ferozepur (c.1845 CE)** was fought between Sikh Army under **Tej Singh** (got defeated) and **British**.
- c. **Battle of Buddewal (c.1846 CE)** was fought between **Ranjeet Singh Maihithia** (got defeated) and **Harry Smith**.
- d. **Battle of Guns/Battle of Sabraon (c.1846 CE)**: One of the **decisive battle** fought between British (**Harry Smith**) and **Sikhs**. The British emerged victorious and they not only crossed Sutlej but **occupied Lahore** too. This resulted in signing of **Treaty of Lahore (c.1846 CE)** according to which:
 - Jalandhar Daob was given to British along with a demand for payment of 1 ½ crore to be paid to British. Sikhs paid only half of this amount and for settling the rest they **sold Kashmir to British** who **sold it further to Gulab Singh**.
 - Appointment of **British Resident** at **Lahore** (**Sir Henry Lawrence**)
 - Recognition of Dalip Singh and Rani Jind Kaur by British.

Maharani Jind Kaur, who was acting as regent of her son, Dalip Singh, had believed that, as stipulated in the treaty of Lahore, the British force would leave Lahore. But the British, instead of quitting, started strengthening their authority over Lahore administration. This led to the signing of the **Treaty of Bhairawal (c.1846 CE)** also known as **IInd Treaty of Lahore** through which Rani Jind Kaur was removed and a **regency council for Punjab** was set up (consisting of 8 sikh sardars) and presided over by Sir Henry Lawrence and British force was stationed at Lahore for which Sikhs also needed to pay 22 lacs. The treaty of Bhairawal transformed the **Sikh kingdom** into a **virtual British protectorate**. Thus, ground for another confrontation was set.

Thus, in order to avenge humiliation of Ist war and also bad treatment accorded to Rani Jind Kaur, **IInd Anglo Sikh war (c.1848-49 CE)** occurred. The IInd War resulted in **annexation of Punjab** by **Lord**

Dalhousie in c.1849 CE and Dalip Singh and Rani Jind Kaur were transported to England. A board of 3 commissioners was established consisting of:



- **Henry Lawrence**
- **John Lawrence**
- **Charles G Mansel**

In c.1853 CE, this board was abolished and a **chief commissioner** for Punjab (**Sir John Lawrence**) was appointed.

Chronological Order of Major Events

Ist Carnatic War (c.1746-48 CE)

- **Dupleix** and **Barnett**
- Battle of **Adyar**
- **Treaty of Aix-La-Chapelle** (c.1748 CE)

IInd Carnatic War (c.1748-54 CE)

- **Dupleix + Chanda Sahib + Muzzafar Jang** vs **English+Nasir Jung+Nawab Anwar-ud-din**
- Battle of **Ambur** (c.1749 CE)

- Battle of Arcot (c.1751 CE)
- Treaty of Pondicherry

IIIrd Carnatic War (c.1756-63 CE)

- Count de Lally (French) vs General Eyre Coote (English)
- Battle of Wandiwash (c.1760 CE)
- Treaty of Paris

Battle of Plassey (c.1757 CE)

- Siraj ud-daulah vs Robert Clive + Mir Jafar

Battle of Buxar (c.1764 CE)

- Mir Qasim + Shuja-ud-daulah + Shah-Alam II vs English + Mir Jafar
- Treaty of Allahabad (c.1765 CE)

Ist Mysore War (c.1767-69 CE)

- Hyder Ali vs English
- Treaty of Madras (c.1769 CE)
- Ist Maratha War (c.1775-82 CE)
- Maratha Nana Padhnavis vs English + Raghoba (Under Lord Warren Hastings).
- Treaty of Surat (c.1775 CE)
- Battle of Talegaon (c.1776 CE)
- Treaty of Purandhar (c.1776 CE)
- Treaty of Salbai (c.1782 CE)

IIInd Mysore War (c.1780-84 CE)

- Hyder Ali vs English
- Treaty of Mangalore (c.1784 CE)

IIIrd Mysore War (c.1786-1793 CE)

- Tipu Sultan vs English+Nizam+Marathas (Under Cornwallis)
- Treaty of Seringapatnam (c.1793 CE)

IVth Mysore War (c.1799 CE)

- Tipu Sultan+French vs English (Under Lord Wellesley)

IInd Maratha War (c.1803-05 CE)

- Baji Rao II + British vs Holkar+ Sindhia (under Lord

Wellesley).

- Treaty of Bassein (c.1802 CE)
- Treaty of Rajpuraghat (c.1806 CE)

Pindari War (c.1817–18 CE)

- British vs Pindari

IIIrd Maratha War (c.1817-18 CE)

- Baji Rao II + Daulat Rao + Appa Sahib + Malhar Rao vs British (under Lord Hastings)

Annexation of Sindh (c.1843 CE)

Ist Anglo Sikh War (c.1845-46 CE)

IIInd Anglo Sikh War (c.1848-49 CE)



Questions from last year's Prelims

2010

1. With reference to Pondicherry (now Puducherry), consider the following statements:
 1. The first European power to occupy Pondicherry were the Portuguese.
 2. The second European power to occupy Pondicherry were the French.
 3. The English never occupied Pondicherry.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2 and 3

2008

2. The ruler of which one of the following States was removed from power by the British on the pretext of misgovernance?
- (a) Awadh
 - (b) Jhansi
 - (c) French
 - (d) Satara

2008

3. Who among the following Europeans were the last to come to pre-independence India as traders?
- (a) Dutch
 - (b) English
 - (c) French
 - (d) Portuguese

2008

4. Consider the following statements:
- 1. Robert Clive was the first Governor-General of Bengal.
 - 2. William Bentinck was the first Governor-General of India.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) Both 1 and 2
 - (d) Neither 1 nor 2

2008

5. Which one of the following was the first fort constructed by the British in India ?
- (a) Fort William

- (b) Fort St. George
- (c) Fort St. David
- (d) Fort St. Angelo

2004

6. Consider the following statements:-

1. In the third battle of Panipat, Ahmed Shah Abdali defeated Ibrahim Lodi.
2. Tipu Sultan was killed in the Third Anglo Mysore War.
3. Mir Jafar entered in a conspiracy with the English for the defeat of Nawab Siraj-ud-daulah in the Battle of Plassey.

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3
- (d) None

2004

7. Which of the following Pairs are correctly matched?

List I

List II

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| 1. AD 1767-69 | First Anglo-Maratha War |
| 2. AD 1790-92 | Third Mysore War |
| 3. AD 1824-26 | First Anglo-Burmese War |
| 4. AD 1845-46 | Second Sikh War |

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:-
Codes:-

- (a) 2 and 4
- (b) 3 and 4
- (c) 1 and 2
- (d) 2 and 3

2003

8. With reference to the entry of European powers into India which one of the following is not correct?
- (a) The Portuguese captured Goa in 1499.
 - (b) The English opened their first factory in south Indian at Masulipatnam.
 - (c) In Eastern India, the English company opened its first factory in Orissa in 1633.
 - (d) Under the leadership of Dupleix, the French occupied Madras in 1746.

2003

9. In India, among the following locations, the Dutch established their earliest factory at
- (a) Surat
 - (b) Pulicat
 - (c) cochin
 - (d) Cassimbazar



Answers

- 1. (a)
- 2. (a)
- 3. (c)
- 4. (b)
- 5. (b)
- 6. (b)
- 7. (d)
- 8. (a)
- 9. (b)



Questions from last year's Mains

1. Critically examine the following statements in about 150 words each:
 - (a) "Annexation of Punjab was part of a broad north-west frontier policy set in motion after the exit of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. " (2015, History optional).
2. Critically examine the following statements in about 150 words each:
 - (a) "Plassey did not complete the British conquest of India. Had the English been convincingly defeated in any subsequent battle in India, then (the battle of) Plassey would have remained as a minor episode in the history of India. " (2014, History optional)



Practice Questions (Prelims)

1. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the code given below the lists:

List I		List II			
Ist Mysore War		1. Treaty of Salbai			
II nd Mysore War		2. Treaty of Madras			
IIIrd Mysore War		3. Treaty of Mangalore			
Ist Maratha War		4. Treaty of Seringapatnam			
Code:	A	B	C	D	
a	2	4	3	1	
b	2	3	4	1	
c	1	4	3	2	

d 1 3 4 2

2. Who among the following was appointed as Chief Commissioner of board in Punjab in c.1853 CE?

- (a) John Lawrence
(b) Henry Lawrence
(c) Charles G Mansel
(d) Charles Napier

3. Consider the following :

1. The Treaty of Aix la Chapelle was signed after Ist Carnatic War.
2. The Treaty of Pondicherry was signed after IInd Carnatic War.
3. The Treaty of Paris was signed after IIIrd Carnatic War. Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

4. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the code given below the lists:

List I

List II

Battle of Plassey

1. Ranjeet Singh Maihithia vs Harry Smith.

Battle of Buxar

2. Siraj ud-daulah vs Robert Clive + Mir Jafar

Battle of Talegaon

3. Shuja-ud-daulah +Shah-Alam II vs English + Mir Jafar

Battle of Buddewal

4. Marathas vs English

Code:

A

B

C

D

a

2

4

3

1

b

2

3

4

1

C

1

4

3

2

d

1

3

4

2

5. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the code given below the lists:

List I

Dual Government

Ist Maratha War

IIInd Maratha War

IIIrd Maratha War

Code:

a

b

c

d

A

2

2

1

1

List II

1. Robert Clive.

2. Lord Hastings

3. Lord Wellesley

4. Lord Warren Hastings

B

4

3

4

3

C

3

4

3

4

D

1

1

2

2

6. Arrange the following chronologically :

(a) Battle of Plassey

(b) Carnatic Wars

(c) Ist Mysore War

(d) Ist Maratha War

(a) a, b, c, d

(b) b, a, c, d

(c) a, b, d, c

(d) b, a, d, c



Answers

1. (b)
2. (a)
3. (d)
4. (a)
5. (c)
6. (b)



Practice Questions (Mains)

1. Both Haider Ali and Nana Phadnavis could not reap much dividends from their early victory over the British. Do you agree. Substantiate your answer?
2. Explain the conquest of India by British citing important wars and treaties.