

## Political Formation in Eighteenth Century India

### Exercises

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#### Short answer questions:

1. Who were the Later Mughals?
2. Who were the Peshwas?
3. Which Mughal ruler was exiled to Burma and by whom?
4. What do you understand by the term Succession states?
5. Who was Tipu Sultan?
6. Why was Nadir Shah's invasion a blow to the Mughal Empire?
7. How did Tipu Sultan die?
8. Which strong personalities had an impact of Shivaji?
9. What was Shivaji's dream?

## Solutions

### Short-answer questions:

1. After the death of Aurangzeb, the kings who came to the throne were known as the Later Mughals.
2. The Peshwas or Prime minister of the Maratha kingdom was appointed to act as the head of the state in times of emergency in the kingdom. With time, the Peshwas became the real rulers of the empire while the successors of Shivaji were just nominal heads of the state. The office of Peshwas became hereditary.
3. Bahadur Shah Zafar was exiled to Burma by the British.
4. The post Mughal era saw the rise of small regional succession states. This was because the Later Mughals were weak, the empire was very huge and the distant areas were difficult to manage. Governors were appointed to look after the areas which were distant from the Mughal capital. However, they declared themselves independent from the Mughals and established their own states.
5. Tipu Sultan was the ruler of Mysore who fought against the British valiantly.
6. Nadir Shah invaded and plundered the Mughal Empire and carried away treasures worth crores of rupees. He also carried away the Peacock throne and the Koh-i-noor diamond. This invasion resulted in a loss of prestige of the Mughal Empire and revealed its weakness.
7. Fighting with all his valour, Tipu Sultan eventually died defending his capital, Seringapatam in 1799.
8. Shivaji's mother Jijabai and his teacher, Dada Konddev ji had a deep impact on him.
9. Shivaji's dreamt of building a Maratha empire by uniting all the Marathas under one independent kingdom.