



SNBP International & Senior Secondary School, Chikhali, Pune.

Affiliation No. 1130703

Academic session 2024-25

NOTES-8 (Term 2)

Subject: SST

Prepared On: 29/10/2024

Started notes in Class on: _____

Prepared by: Ms. Misba B.

Ls no8 – Beginning of the British Rule in India

PRE ACTIVITY: Write few lines about Vasco da gama.

NEW WORDS: prosperous, Portugal, monopoly, ambitious, rivals, concerned, business, fortifications, privileges, bribes, levy, landowners, systematically, exploited, resentment

SHORT ANSWERS:

1. Why did the East Indian Company come to India?

Ans1. The East India Company came to India primarily to trade in spices, silk, cotton, and other valuable goods. They aimed to establish a profitable trading network in the Indian market, which was rich in resources.

2. Where did they set up their first trading post? Where else did they expand their territory?

Ans2. The East India Company set up its first trading post in **Surat** in 1608. Over time, they expanded their territory by establishing additional trading posts and settlements in cities such as **Bombay (Mumbai), Calcutta (Kolkata), Madras (Chennai), and Cochin**. They gradually gained control over various regions through diplomacy and military force.

3. Who was ruling India when the East India Company came here?

Ans3. When the East India Company was established, India was ruled by the **Mughal emperor Akbar** in the late 16th century.

LONG ANSWERS:

1. How did the East India Company expand its influence in India?

Ans1. The East India Company expanded its influence in India through a combination of diplomacy, military might, and strategic alliances.

i. Initially, the Company established trading posts and negotiated trade agreements with local rulers. However, with the decline of Mughal Empire the Company began to use military force to assert control.

ii. Notable battles, such as the Battle of Plassey in 1757 and the Battle of Buxar in 1764, allowed the Company to defeat rival powers and establish political authority over large territories.

iii. Additionally, the Company used divide-and-rule tactics, fostering rivalries among local states to prevent united resistance against its expansion.

2. What led to the Battle of Plassey?

Ans2. The Battle of Plassey, fought in 1757, was primarily a result of political strategies and the rivalry between the British East India Company and the Nawab of Bengal, Siraj ud-Daula. The Nawab opposed the Company's growing power and influence in Bengal, which

threatened his sovereignty. The issue rised when Siraj ud-Daula attacked Fort William, prompting the Company to seek support from local allies. The Company forged an alliance with Mir Jafar, a discontented general of the Nawab, promising him the position of Nawab in exchange for his support. The subsequent betrayal during the battle allowed the Company to defeat Siraj ud-Daula and install Mir Jafar as a puppet ruler, significantly increasing the Company's control over Bengal.

3. How did the English defeat the French?

Ans3. The English defeated the French in India primarily through superior military strategies and effective leadership during the colonial conflicts known as the Carnatic Wars (1746–1763). The English East India Company utilized strong naval power, better resources, and alliances with local rulers. Key victories in battles such as the Battle of Plassey and the capture of French territories in the south, including Pondicherry, weakened French influence. The Treaty of Paris in 1763 formalized British dominance in India by ending the Seven Years' War, allowing the British to consolidate their control over the territories previously held by the French.

4. Describe the battle of Buxar?

Ans4. The Battle of Buxar, fought in 1764, was a decisive confrontation between the British East India Company and a coalition of Indian rulers, including Shuja-ud-Daula, the Nawab of Oudh; Mir Qasim, the Nawab of Bengal; and the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II. The British, under the command of Major Hector Munro, sought to reaffirm their control following the victory at Plassey. The battle was characterized by well-coordinated military tactics by the British, who outmaneuvered the larger Indian forces. The defeat of the Indian coalition at Buxar solidified British dominance in Bengal and marked a turning point in the Company's rule, leading to the formalization of British control over Bengal and the recognition of the Company's right to collect taxes, laying the foundation for British colonial rule in India.

POST ACTIVITY:With the help of a World map trace the route that Vasco da Gama took from Portugal to Calicut via the Cape of Good Hope.

SUBJECT TEACHER

HOD

COORDINATOR

PRINCIPAL