

Rise of British Supremacy: A Backgrounder (Emergence of Imperialism in Europe and the Arrival of Europeans in India)

The third theme of the 18th-century Indian polity was the rise of the British supremacy in India. It inaugurated a new phase in the history of India. For the purpose of your convenience, this theme has been dealt with in two chapters. In this chapter, you learn about why and how the British came to India. In the subsequent chapter, you become familiar with how the British subsequently expanded their influence.

The British came to India in the context of the emergence of capitalism and modern imperialism in Europe. Both these systems had deep roots in the past patterns of European socio-economic evolution. Thus, the first half of the chapter provides you a brief survey of socio-economic developments in Europe from the 14th to the 19th century leading to the emergence of capitalism and imperialism in Europe. It introduces you to the decline of feudalism in Europe and the emergence of new ideas which prompted the geographical discoveries, overseas trade and colonisation, thus helping you understand the nature of British imperialism in India.

In the 14th century, significant changes occurred in Europe. Capitalism began replacing the feudal economy and society. This opened a new chapter in the history of the world. This is because capitalism as a system is based on profit making. It is always looking for new markets and more profits. Capital accumulates and seeks outlets for reinvestment for future profits. Expansion of capitalist system, therefore, was worldwide, engulfing many other economies, societies and cultures. Thus, the second half of the chapter introduces you to the 15th century when the Europeans went out in the world.

Henceforth world history got closely related to developments in Europe. Industrial Revolution and capital formation in Europe led to the search for new markets. Asia and Africa were the ideal grounds for colonial powers to make their fortune. Different trading companies were formed in Europe to carry out external trade. Soon there was clash of interests and struggles started among the colonial power—the Portuguese, the Dutch, the French and the English. From this struggle, the English East India Company emerged victorious and established its monopoly over Indian trade.

EMERGENCE OF CAPITALISM AND IMPERIALISM IN EUROPE

Socio-Economic Changes in Europe (14th Century Onwards)

One of the significant landmarks of the 18th century was the competition among various European colonial powers to establish their hegemony over the Indian subcontinent. Why did the various European countries jump into fierce competition to establish a colonial empire? This can be understood in the context of socio-economic developments of Europe from the 14th century onwards which led to expansion of European nations for trade and markets, finally giving rise to European capitalism and imperialism.

The prominent socio-economic changes may be understood as follows:

- The European feudal crisis (14th century)
- Renaissance and Reformation (14th to 16th century)
- Geographical Exploration and Colonisation (15th century)
- Merchant Capitalism (16th and 17th centuries)
- Emergence of Organised Trade: Joint Stock Companies and Chartered Companies (17th century)
- Mercantilism (17th century)
- Scientific Ideas and Industrial Revolution (18th century)

Together the above changes accounted for commercial revolution in Europe (16th and 17th centuries) and culminated in the transformation of Europe from merchant capitalism to industrial capitalism.

European Feudal Crisis (14th Century)

Feudalism had been in existence for about a thousand years and was the dominant social system in medieval Europe. Under this system, the nobility held lands from the Crown in exchange for military service, and vassals were in turn tenants of the nobles, while the peasants (serfs) had to live on their lord's land and give him homage, labour, and a share of the produce, notionally in exchange for military protection.

Hence, the whole of feudal society was based on ties of dependence. The strong needed the weak as dependents to serve them. The economy and society was primarily land-based. The bottom of the social hierarchy consisted of peasants or serfs who were bound to serve their masters or lords. These lords in turn served their overlords. The Christian church with its clergy was extremely powerful in the feudal society.

By the 14th century, limits to growth of feudal society had been reached and the feudal society of Europe was in a crisis. Technology and resources could not keep pace with the rise in population. Accordingly, when Black Death (plague) spread from 1348 onwards, it wiped out people in large numbers, abandoning of cultivable land and decline in agricultural production. Consequently, the income of the feudal lords also declined and they reacted by attempting a tightening of their feudal control over the peasants. The peasants resisted and the 14th and 15th centuries were marked by a series of peasant rebellions all over Europe.

The crisis was particularly intense in Western Europe (broadly the area west of River Elbe consisting of countries like England, France, Holland, Spain and parts of Germany and

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Scandinavia). Here the hold of feudal lords weakened and serfdom declined after the feudal crisis, leading to the emergence of nation-states under **strong monarchs**. On the contrary, in Eastern Europe (the region of present day Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, former USSR, etc.) the landlords succeeded in subjugating the serfs and serfdom consolidated after the crisis. As a result of this, Eastern Europe lagged behind Western Europe in trade, industry and urbanisation.

As a result of the feudal crisis, agriculture became less profitable, whereas gains in **trade and commerce** increased substantially. For instance, in Italy (also the birthplace of Renaissance) the merchants had been prospering immensely since the 11th to 12th century by supplying various artisanal goods and luxury items to Europe. **Marco Polo** (1254-1324) emerged as a legendary Italian merchant who travelled to China and fascinated Europeans with his travel tales. Italy also enjoyed a geographical advantage in the Mediterranean as it was connected by both land and sea routes to the East. By 1500 AD Italy had emerged as the most prosperous state in Europe with flourishing trade centres, including Venice, Milan, Florence, Geneva and others.

Renaissance and Reformation (14th–16th century)

Renaissance was a period (14th–16th century) of great social and cultural change that spread across Europe from its birthplace in Italy. Some historians consider the European Renaissance as the dawn of the Early Modern Era. The term 'Renaissance' is derived from the French word meaning '**rebirth**'. It was a period characterised by **innovation, imagination and creativity**. The Renaissance was also a time during which Europe's classical past was revisited and reinvigorated. The most notable changes were experienced in the fields of art and architecture, literature, philosophy and science. Naturally, renaissance led to the questioning of orthodox beliefs and decline in the influence of the Catholic Church.

The Reformation was a 16th-century movement for the reform of abuses in the Roman Church ending in the establishment of the Reformed and Protestant Churches. Such a development had widespread impact and Reformation emerged as a religious, political, intellectual and cultural upheaval that splintered Catholic Europe, setting in place the structures and beliefs that would define the continent in the modern era.

In the 14th century, Europe simultaneously entered the period of Renaissance and its feudal society was being questioned and transformed in many ways. Europeans, particularly the rising class of traders and bankers (who constituted the new middle class of Europe), began to question the subordination of the individual to the hierarchies of the feudal age.

Geographical Exploration and Colonisation (15th Century)

Several factors contributed in the discovery of new routes and lands.

- **Italian and Arab monopoly over old trade routes:** Soon the other countries of Europe had become eager to break the Italian monopoly over trade. But in 1453, Constantinople was captured by the Ottoman Turks and the old Red Sea Trade route now became a state monopoly of the Islamic rulers. Other known routes were also controlled either by the Arabs or the Italians who refused to share them with emerging European nations. In such circumstances, the Western European states, particularly Portugal and Spain, were keen to search for new routes to India and the Spice Islands in Indonesia (then known as East Indies).

- **The rise of nation-states:** The rise of nation-states under strong monarchs in the 15th century also promoted geographical explorations and most of the early European explorers were state sponsored.
- **Renaissance:** Renaissance had generated a great spirit of adventure and enquiry among the people of Western Europe. Technological advancements in the form of availability of compass, gunpowder and maps also fostered the spirit of travel and exploration.
- **Spirit of 'God, Glory and Gold':** The explorers were also driven by the zeal to spread Christianity in new lands, return home with fabulous riches and achieve glory, popularly known as the spirit of 'God, Glory and Gold'.

- In 1487, **Bartholomew Diaz** of Portugal reached the southernmost tip of Africa (named Cape of Good Hope).
- In 1492, **Christopher Columbus** of Spain set out to reach India but discovered America instead.
- In 1498, **Vasco da Gama** of Portugal discovered a new sea route from Europe to India and became the first European to reach India by sea. From Africa, he sailed via the Cape of Good Hope and continued to India, reaching Calicut. He returned with a cargo which sold for 60 times the cost of his voyage! (Read Ahead: The Arrival of Europeans)

Merchant Capitalism (16th–17th Century)

This was clearly an age of the merchant. The geographical explorations and new colonies had opened vast opportunities for profits. The capital accumulated by the merchant class from trade profit was termed as merchant capital, hence this earliest phase in the development of capitalism is termed as merchant capitalism.

Capitalism now began to replace feudal economy and society, giving rise to **commercial revolution** in Europe. The term is used to denote a series of changes which brought about tremendous expansion of market and money economy. For instance, use of currency became widespread and began replacing the age-old barter system. By 1600, almost all major cities of Europe got connected with postal service. Urbanisation picked up and cities like London, Paris and Amsterdam grew at a very fast pace.

In addition to the merchants, capital was also being accumulated by craftsmen who showed enterprise and profited from the expanding market. In fact, Industrial growth and manufacturing in the era of merchant capitalism has also been termed as **proto-industrialisation** as it created conditions for the emergence of full-fledged factory-based Industrial Revolution in the late 18th century.

Emergence of Organised Trade: Joint Stock Companies and Chartered Companies (17th Century)

The 17th century saw the emergence of more sophisticated business organizations such as the Joint Stock Companies and Chartered Companies. A major advantage of a Joint Stock Company was that a much larger amount of capital could be raised and the high risks and costs could be shared by the shareholders. The Chartered companies were authorised by the government which often granted them monopoly of trade with a particular country. Several such companies were established such as the **English East India Company (1600)** and the French East India Company

(1664). As a result of these developments, the 17th and 18th centuries witnessed an enormous increase in world trade.

Mercantilism (17th Century)

In the 17th century, Europe was swayed by a set of economic ideas and practice known as mercantilism. It is an economic theory which states that trade generates wealth and is further stimulated by the accumulation of profitable balances, which a government should encourage by means of protectionism. In fact, mercantilism can be understood as the economic counterpart of the spirit of aggressive nationalism.

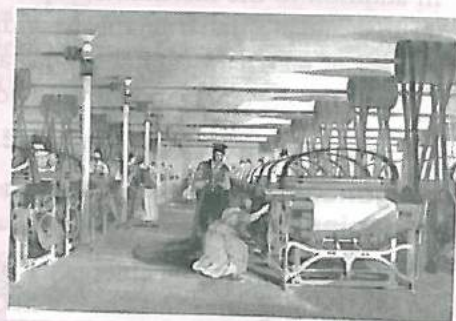
Its ideas and policy prescription are summarised as follows:

- That the volume of world trade is more or less fixed and the state should endeavour to gain as large a share of this trade as possible.
- That gold and silver were the most desirable forms of national wealth and if a state did not possess them naturally then the chief way of obtaining them was trade.
- That for accumulation of wealth or precious metals, the state should ensure a favourable balance of trade.
- That the state should impose high tariffs to reduce imports of manufactured goods and lower tariffs to encourage import of cheap raw materials.
- That the state should promote exports, especially of manufactured goods through measures like granting monopolies and regulating the guilds.
- Acquisition of colonies was desirable both as a market for exports and as source of supply of raw material. For acquisition or protection of colonies, wars could be waged if required.

Naturally, mercantilist period was a period of **accumulation of capital** in Europe which proved to be a vital requirement for the forthcoming Industrial Revolution in the 18th century (Much of this capital was extracted from the colonial trade carried out in America, Africa and India. Hence, much of the commercial supremacy of the English and the French was based upon their colonial trade during the mercantile era).

Scientific Ideas and Industrial Revolution (18th Century)

The Industrial Revolution which began in **Britain** (1760–1840) was marked by the transition to new manufacturing processes. This transition included shifting from hand-production methods to machine-based production, the development of machine tools, new chemical manufacturing and iron production processes, the increasing use of steam power and the rise of the factory system. Textiles were the dominant industry of the Industrial Revolution in terms of employment, value of output and capital invested; the textile industry was also the first to use modern production methods. Britain was the first to undergo industrialisation and most of the important technological innovations were British.



Industrial Revolution
(Illustration of power loom weaving)

Factors that contributed to Industrial development in Britain:

- **Britain's expanding trade:** Britain's overseas trade had been expanding rapidly in the past decades thanks to its growing influence and the acquisition of new colonies all over the world including, Africa, West Indies, Latin America, Canada, Australia, China and India, providing unlimited opportunities for export. This raised the demand for production which necessitated new inventions.
- **Role of British government:** The government in Britain, at the time, was under the influence of commercial and manufacturing interests and extended determined support for markets and colonies.
- **Scientific discoveries and inventions:** the desire of British manufacturers to increase production for the expanding markets pushed them to utilize the existing technology and even to seek new inventions. Thus, it is noteworthy that it was not the scientific inventions that brought about Industrial Revolution, but the need of British manufacturers to increase production.
- **Role of scientific ideas:** At the same time, scientific ideas contributed to the Industrial Revolution by making the society more receptive to new inventions and discoveries. Scientific outlook was immensely enriched by thinkers such as Nicholas Copernicus, Isaac Newton, Galileo, James Watt and others. The Spinning Jenny was developed by **James Hargreaves** (1765) which increased the artisans spinning capacity by a hundred times. Now one person could do the work of eight persons. Richard **Arkwright's** water frame turned the jenny into a commercial proposition. **Crompton's** mule was a further improvement. The use of power looms developed in the 1780s and this led to a rapid increase in Britain's cotton exports which served as the main vehicle of the Industrial Revolution in Britain (and had significant impact on the industry and society of a colony like India). The invention of steam engine by **James Watt** (1790s) proved a boon for many industries. Use of steam power in shipping revolutionised maritime transport. Finally, the railways ushered in an altogether new era in land transport.
- **Role of increasing population:** Population in Britain increased rapidly after 1740 and began to meet the need for the growing industries for more and cheap labour (Industrial Revolution in turn also aided population growth and it doubled in the 50 years after 1780).
- **Role of accumulated capital:** By now, sufficient capital had accumulated in Britain for investment in the factory system. Further, this capital was now concentrated not in the hands of feudal elements who would waste it in luxurious living, but in the hands of the merchants who were keen in investment in trade and industry. Here again, the wealth drawn from colonies, including from the plunder of Bengal (1757) aided immensely in the Industrial Revolution in Britain (1760).

Earlier we saw how Britain's expanding overseas trade pushed Industrial Revolution. But that's not all; Industrial Revolution itself began to strengthen overseas trade and colonialism. As England's industrial manufactures developed, correspondingly the need to import manufactured goods from abroad was reduced. Soon the manufacturers fully supplied the internal market of England and now began to seek export markets. Such export markets initially existed in Europe, but later

as industrialisation began to spread in the European continent, export markets could be found only in less-developed colonial countries which had not yet undergone modern industrialisation. These countries, including India, were converted into almost exclusively agricultural goods exporting and industrial goods importing countries. A classic example of this conversion was India—from being a major exporter of cotton textiles in 18th century to being a major importer from England in 19th century.

Thus, the industrial revolution transformed Europe from merchant capitalism to industrial capitalism. While the merchant capitalist interests lay in promoting trade in goods (goods which included industrial manufactures such as cotton textiles produced by Indian manufactures) from countries like India to Europe, the industrial capitalist interests lay in promoting Europe's exports of industrial goods.

The merchant capitalists invested capital in industries and used wage labour and strove to make profits in the market. The mechanisation process brought about a rapid rate of capital accumulation. Between 1820 and 1845, the net output of cotton industry grew by about 40%, whereas its wage cost increased by only 5 per cent. This further accelerated accumulation of capital in the hands of the merchants who now began to look for opportunities of reinvestment.

ARRIVAL OF THE EUROPEANS (15TH CENTURY ONWARDS)

We have already seen that the 14th century onwards, significant changes occurred in Europe. After the feudal crisis, agriculture became less profitable as compared to gains in trade and commerce. Italy, the birth place of renaissance, had been prospering since the 11th to 12th century by supplying various artisanal goods to Europe from the East. Other European countries soon became eager to break the Italian monopoly over trade and began their search for new routes to India and the Spice Islands in Indonesia, then known as East Indies.

Italian and Arab monopoly over old trade routes, the rise of nation-states under strong monarchs, renaissance and spirit of 'God, Glory and Gold' were among the several factors that contributed in the discovery of new routes and lands and search for colonies. Asia and Africa were the ideal grounds for colonial powers to make their fortune. The Portuguese were the first ones to arrive, followed by the Dutch, the English, the Danes and the French.

Different trading companies were formed in Europe to carry out external trade. Industrial Revolution and capital formation in Europe led to the search for new markets and further strengthened the colonial pattern. Soon there was clash of interests and struggles started among these colonial powers. From this struggle, the English East India Company emerged victorious and established its monopoly over Indian trade.

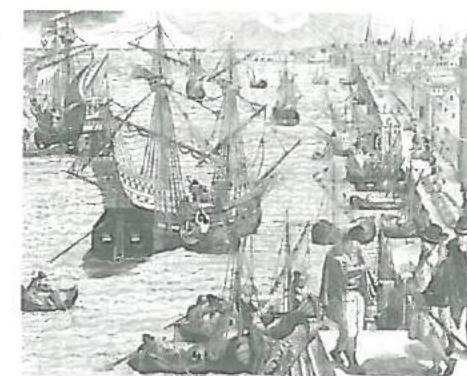
The Portuguese

The Portuguese were the first ones to arrive on the Indian scene. The reasons for arrival of the Portuguese in India were both economic as well as religious. They had come to seek spices especially pepper as well as to destroy the monopoly of Arabs and Italians over trade with the East. They

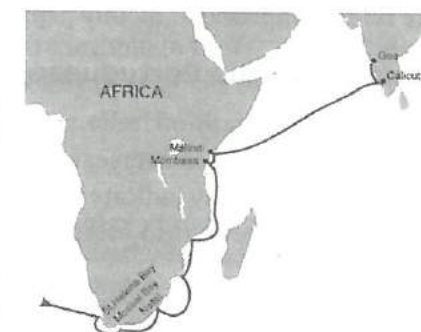
also wished to spread Christianity in Asia and Africa and restrict the increasing influence of Arabs and Turks. Prior to the Portuguese, trade in the Indian Ocean was a monopoly of Arab merchants. But within 15 years of their arrival, the Portuguese completely destroyed Arab trade and established their control over Eastern trade which lasted nearly a century.

Early Efforts

- Prince Henry the Navigator:** Prince Henry of Portugal, nicknamed the 'Navigator' had become obsessed with the idea of finding a sea route to India. He was keen to circumvent the Muslim-dominated route of the Red sea. However, Prince Henry died before his dream could be fulfilled. He is remembered as a great patron and sponsor of voyages than as a sailor.
- Bartholomew Diaz (1487):** In 1487 Bartholomew Diaz reached the southernmost tip of Africa (which he named Cape of Storms) and became the first known European to reach the Indian Ocean from the Atlantic! The Portuguese later renamed the cape as 'Cape of Good Hope' as it represented the opening of a new route to the East! Diaz later used his experience in the construction of a ship which was later used by Vasco da Gama.
- Vasco da Gama (First Portuguese India Armada, 1498):** Piloted by a Gujarati named Abdul Majid, Vasco da Gama sailed from the Cape of Good Hope and continued to India, reaching Calicut (Kozhikode) in 1498. He thus discovered a new sea route from Europe to India and became the first European to reach India by sea! This opened a new chapter in the history of India's trade relations with Europe. Vasco da Gama led two Portuguese India Armadas (or fleet of warships), the first and the fourth, sent under the patronage of King Manuel I of Portugal and was well received by the Zamorin (ruler) of Calicut, Manna Vikrama. Vasco da Gama returned with a cargo which sold for 60 times the cost of his voyage!
- Pedro Alvarez Cabral (1500):** In 1500, Pedro Alvarez Cabral led the Second India Armada (Portuguese mission) with the aim of making a treaty with the Zamorin of Calicut and setting up a Portuguese factory. However, Cabral ran



Depiction of a Portuguese Armada



Route followed by Vasco Da Gama in 1498



Vasco Da Gama lands at Calicut

into a **conflict with the local Arab Merchants** who then attacked the Portuguese factory at Calicut, killing more than 50 Portuguese. Outraged, Cabral captured ten Arab merchants' ships anchored in the harbour, massacred nearly 600 Arabs on board and confiscated the cargo before putting the ships on fire.

● **Vasco da Gama (Fourth Portuguese India Armada, 1502):** In 1502, Vasco da Gama revisited India and set up the following:

- In 1503, the 1st Portuguese factory was set up at **Cochin** (Kochi).
- In 1505, the 2nd factory was set up at **Cannanore** (or Kannur).

Soon, Calicut, Cochin, Cannanore and Quilon (Kollam) became important trading centres of the Portuguese. The Portuguese trading points or factories on land were called **Feitorias**—these were unfortified trading outposts which also served as bases for naval fleet called armadas. The early spice trade comprised of mainly pepper and cinnamon.

Formation of the Portuguese State of India (Estado da India, 1503–04)

The Portuguese State of India was meant to be a governing body of the various Portuguese fortresses and colonies overseas and it was required to function under a Viceroy. In effect, the formation of this body indicated that the Portuguese would no longer be content with mere spice trade but would set out to establish a Christian Portuguese state in the East and launch a **holy war against Islam** there.

Portuguese Governors

Francisco De Almeida (1505–09): Almeida was appointed as the first **Portuguese Viceroy of India** for a term of three years and sent with sufficient armed ships to protect Portuguese interests. He was directed by the government to build such Portuguese fortresses that would aim to establish Portuguese control over trade of the Indian Ocean. He adopted the '**Blue Water Policy**' aimed at establishing naval supremacy of the Portuguese in the Indian Ocean, rather than over land. He is credited with the construction of **Fort Anjediva** on Anjediva Island lying at the border of Muslim Bijapur and Hindu Vijayanagar states.

In 1508, Portuguese fleet was attacked by joint Muslim naval force (Gujarat Sultanate and Mameluk Egyptian fleet) at **Chaul and Dabul**, with Almeida's son losing his life in the battle of Chaul. Almeida, however, defeated the joint force in the **Battle of Diu**, thus establishing Portuguese supremacy over Indian Ocean.

Alfonso-De-Albuquerque (1509–15): He was the greatest Portuguese Viceroy in India and is also called as the real **founder of Portuguese power in India**. He set up his headquarter at **Cochin**.

In 1509, Albuquerque conquered **Diu** and in 1510 he conquered **Goa** from the Sultan of Bijapur. With the victory of Goa, regional kingdom of the Portuguese in India was established and Goa became 'the first bit of Indian territory to be under the Europeans since the time of Alexander



Alfonso-De-Albuquerque

the Great'. Under Albuquerque, the Portuguese established their domination over the entire Asian coast from Hormuz in Persian Gulf to Malacca in Malaya and the Spice Islands in Indonesia. They shied away neither from waging wars nor from piracy and plunder for expanding their influence. In Bengal, **Hooghly and Balasore** became the Portuguese trading centres.

Albuquerque thus made the Portuguese strong in India. He was an efficient administrator and integrated the locals into the administration. He wanted to establish permanent Portuguese settlements in India and with this aim in mind he encouraged his countrymen to marry Indian women and propagate **Christianity**. He also **abolished sati** in regions under his control.

Nino de Cunha (1529–38): He was the next major Portuguese Governor after Albuquerque. In 1530, he transferred the government head office from **Cochin to Goa**, thus making Goa the official capital of the Portuguese in India.

In this way, the Portuguese succeeded in establishing their foothold in India. One of the main reasons for the success of Portuguese on the sea was the inability of Mughals to develop a strong navy. Southern India was also outside the direct territorial influence of the Mughals, thus allowing the Portuguese to establish control.

Cartaze System: This was a method used by Portuguese to extract money from Indian ships. Under this system, captains of all Indian ships sailing to a destination not reserved by the Portuguese were obliged to buy passes or license from the Viceroy of Goa. In the absence of a pass, their ships could be seized by the Portuguese.

Decline of the Portuguese

Several factors contributed to the decline of the Portuguese. The Viceroys who came after Albuquerque were weak and inefficient. Also in 1661, Portugal was at war with Spain and needed support from England. This led to the marriage of Princess Catherine of Portugal to Charles II of England and as dowry the insular and less inhabited areas of southern Bombay were handed over to the English (the Portuguese managed to retain all the mainland territory north of Bandra up to Thane and Bassein). This marked the beginning of the strong English presence in India.

Reasons for Decline of the Portuguese

1. After Albuquerque, the Portuguese administration in India became inefficient because his successors were weak & inefficient.
2. The Portuguese society was dominated by the aristocracy and merchants did not enjoy the social influence necessary to mould state policy according to their interests, making it difficult for Portugal to maintain its maritime empire.
3. The Portuguese officials were neglected by the home government. Their salaries were low which encouraged them to indulge in corruption and malpractice.
4. The Portuguese proved to be intolerant and fanatic in matters of religion. They resorted to forcible conversions to the Christian faith which made the natives hostile.

- The Portuguese drew a very thin line between trade and piracy, which also aroused the hostility of the natives.
- In 1580 Portugal was merged with Spain which dragged Portugal into Spain's wars with England and Holland, badly neglecting the Portuguese interest in India.
- Portuguese discovered Brazil which diverted their imperial interests away from India.
- Lastly and most importantly, the Portuguese power declined in the face of stiff competition from other Europeans powers who came behind them. The Dutch gained control over Indonesia and the British over India, Sri Lanka and Malaya.

By mid-17th century, the Portuguese finally left India. But three of their settlements, namely Goa, Diu and Daman remained in their hands till 1961. In this way, Portuguese were not only the first to come to India but also the last ones to leave India.

The Impact of Portuguese

The Portuguese control of the Indian Ocean had significant socio-political, religious and economic consequences:

- The Portuguese began to **propagate Christianity** in the Malabar and the Konkan coast. Missionaries like St. Francis Xavier, Father Rudolf & Father Monserette played a leading role in propagating the Christian faith. In 1540, all temples of Goa were destroyed.
- The Missionaries started schools and colleges along the west coast, where education was imparted in the native language.
- The missionaries undertook research on Indian history and culture. Fa Heras has made a deep study on the Indus Valley Civilisation.
- The Portuguese brought the **printing press** to India. The Bible came to be printed in the Kannada and Malayalam language.
- The Portuguese introduced into India several types of **crops, fruits & vegetables** which they had obtained from different countries. These included—potato, sweet potato, tobacco, corn, lady's finger, chilly, pineapple, papaya, sapota, leechi, orange, black pepper, groundnuts, cashew, almonds, etc.
- Portuguese influence also established the significance of navy in sea trade.

Prelim Capsule

The Portuguese

Year	Personality	Important Events
	Prince Henry the Navigator	He was a key figure in the early days of the Portuguese Empire and in the 15th-century European maritime discoveries and expansion. He is remembered more as a great patron and sponsor of voyages than as a sailor. He was nicknamed 'Navigator'.

1487	Bartholomew Diaz	He reached the southernmost tip of Africa (which he named Cape of Storms) and became the first known European to reach the Indian Ocean from the Atlantic. The Portuguese later renamed the cape as 'Cape of Good Hope'.
1498	Vasco da Gama	He headed the First Portuguese India Armada . He sailed from the Cape of Good Hope and continued to India, reaching Calicut (Kozhikode) . He, thus, discovered a new sea route from Europe to India and became the first European to reach India by sea. He was piloted by a Gujarati named Abdul Majid . He led two Portuguese India Armadas, the first and the fourth. He was sent under the patronage of King Manuel I of Portugal. He returned with a cargo which sold for 60 times the cost of his voyage.
1500	Pedro Alvarez Cabral	Cabral ran into a conflict with the local Arab Merchants .
1502	Vasco da Gama	In 1503, 1 st Portuguese factory was set up at Cochin (Kochi) . In 1505, 2 nd factory was set up at Cannanore (or Kannur).
1503-04	Portuguese State of India	
1505-1509	Francisco De Almeida (1 st Portuguese Viceroy)	He was the 1st Portuguese Viceroy of India . He adopted the ' Blue Water Policy ' aimed at establishing naval supremacy of the Portuguese in the Indian Ocean. He is credited with the construction of Fort Anjediva . In 1508, Almeida defeated the joint Muslim naval force (Gujarat Sultanate and Mameluk Egyptian fleet) in the Battle of Diu .
1509-1515	Alfonzo-De-Albuquerque	He is known as the real founder of Portuguese power in India. He set up his headquarter at Cochin . In 1509 he conquered Diu . In 1510 he conquered Goa from the Sultan of Bijapur. He encouraged his countrymen to marry Indian women and propagate Christianity . He abolished sati in regions under his control.
1529-1538	Nino de Cunha	In 1530 he transferred the government head office from Cochin to Goa .

The Dutch (Netherland/Holland)

As Portuguese power wavered in the aftermath of the Spanish union, the Dutch took over from them. The Dutch came to India for trade. They were innovative people in business as well as in shipping techniques. They had designed the **fluitship** (the Fluyt) which was much lighter and

required a smaller crew, thus reducing its operating costs. These ships proved to be superior to the bulkier and slower Portuguese ships eventually.

Cornelius de Houtman (1596)

In 1596, Cornelius de Houtman was the **first Dutch traveler** to reach India.

Dutch East India Company (1602): In 1602, the Dutch East India Company was formed and the Dutch Parliament gave it a charter empowering it to make war and peace with other states, acquire territories and build fortresses. But the main interest of the Dutch was in the Indonesian archipelago and the Spice Islands and not India. They soon pushed out the Portuguese from the Malay Straits and the Indonesian Spice Islands of Java and Sumatra and even defeated English attempts there. However, they discovered that Indian trade was necessary to carry out trade with South-West Asia, as there was a good demand of Indian cloth there. In return, Indians demanded pepper and spices. Hence, the credit of first making 'Indian cloth' as an item of export goes to the Dutch.

Dutch Factories

- In 1606, the first Dutch factory was established at **Masulipatnam** in Andhra.
- The second factory was set up at **Pettipoli (Nizampatam)**.
- In 1610, the Dutch signed a treaty with the king of Chandragiri and established their headquarters at **Pulicat**. Here they minted their gold coins called pagodas.
- They soon established trading depots at Surat, Broach, Cambay and Ahmedabad in Gujarat, Cochin in Kerala, Nagapatnam (or Nagapattinam) in Madras, Masulipatnam in Andhra, Chinsura (Gustavus fort) and Peepli in Bengal, Mahe on the Malabar Coast, Agra in Uttar Pradesh and Patna in Bihar.
- Dutch factories were also established at Kasimbazaar, Karaikal, Balasore, Baranagore and Golconda.
- In 1690, the Dutch headquarters were transferred from Pulicat to **Nagapattinam**.

The head of Dutch factories were called **factors** who were classified as traders and the Dutch Model of Trade was based on Cartel or Cooperative System. The Dutch struck many decisive blows to the Portuguese at Goa, Malabar, Ceylon, Malacca, Colombo and Cochin and virtually replaced the Portuguese. But meanwhile, an important rival, the English had emerged.

Anglo-Dutch Rivalry

In 1623, **Amboyna massacre** took place in Indonesia where the Dutch killed 10 Englishmen and 9 Japanese. After this massacre, the Dutch began to restrict themselves to Malay Archipelago and the English to India. In 1759, the Dutch were defeated by the English in the decisive **Battle of Bedara** (Bengal), ending the Dutch power in India (the English, however, had to bitterly contest another European rival, the French, before emerging fully victorious by the end of the 18th century).



Chinsura, the Dutch Settlement (Bengal),

Prelim Capsule

The Dutch (Netherland/Holland)

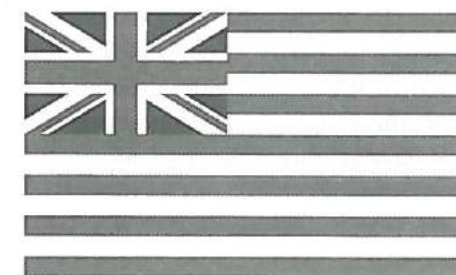
1596	Cornelius de Houtman	He was the first Dutch traveler to reach India.
1602	Dutch East India Company	1 st Dutch factory was established at Masulipatnam in Andhra (In 1606) 2 nd factory was set up at Pettipoli (Nizampatam) .
1610		The Dutch signed a treaty with the king of Chandragiri and established their headquarters at Pulicat . Here they minted their gold coins called pagodas.
1623		Amboyna massacre took place in Indonesia where the Dutch killed 10 Englishmen and 9 Japanese.
1690		The Dutch headquarters were transferred from Pulicat to Nagapattinam .
1759		The Dutch were defeated by the English in the decisive Battle of Bedara (Bengal), ending the Dutch power in India

The English

English East India Company (1600–1717)

England too had become impatient to participate in the profitable Asian trade. In 1599, a company to trade with the East was formed under the auspices of a group of merchants known as the Merchant Adventurers. The Company popularly came to be known as the East India Company (or EIC, nickname- John Company).

In 1600, The East India Company was granted a **royal charter** by Queen Elizabeth giving it the exclusive privilege of trading east of the Cape of Good Hope for a period of 15 years. As compared to the Dutch Company, it was a much smaller concern. Its chief asset was its simple organization—a court of 24 directors elected annually by the general court of shareholders. In the beginning, the English Company concentrated on **spice trade**. The initial voyages of the Company were made to the Spice Islands in Indonesia. Soon the English discovered the importance of Indian goods especially textiles as a barter commodity for spice trade. Thus, in 1608, Surat in Gujarat was established as the trade transit point and the company ships were docked there. The Company now planned to open a factory at Surat in Gujarat and Captain Hawkins was sent-



Flag of English East India Company

Captain Hawkins (1608)

In 1608, Captain William Hawkins was sent as a representative of the English Company to the Court of **Jahangir** to obtain permission to open a factory at Surat. Hawkins was the **first Englishman** to set foot on Indian soil (Surat, 24 August 1608). He could speak Turkish language and he came in a ship named '**Hector**'. He arrived at Surat and from there he went to the **court of Jahangir** at Agra in 1609. The English Company was given permission by a royal farman to open factories on the west coast. But the English were not satisfied with this concession as they wanted permission for the whole of the country. Moreover, Hawkins had to leave Agra owing to Portuguese intrigue and the English realized that they would first have to deal with the Portuguese before gaining favours from the Mughals.

English Factories

A factory was merely a trading post within which were located the warehouses, offices and houses of the company's employees. It is noteworthy that no manufacturing activity was carried out in this factory.

Early Factories

- In 1611, the English opened their first factory in the south at **Masulipatnam** (Machilipatnam). In 1611 itself, the English defeated the Portuguese in the **Battle of Swally Hole** near Surat. This convinced Jahangir and, the English were allowed to set up a permanent factory at **Surat** in 1613.
- In 1615, taking the policy of expansion further, **Sir Thomas Roe** was sent by King James I as an **ambassador to the court of Jahangir**. Roe was successful in obtaining royal farman permitting the British to trade and establish factories in all parts of the Mughal Empire.

Soon the English began to feel insecure in the absence of fortified settlements and made an attempt to fortify Surat (in 1625) but the Mughals frustrated the attempt and imprisoned the English. The English then decided to shift their focus to South India to avoid direct confrontation with the Mughals. Conditions in South India were more favourable to the English as they did not have to face a strong Indian government there. The great Vijayanagara kingdom had been overthrown in 1565 and its place had taken up by relatively smaller and weaker states.

Madras

- In 1632, **Sultan of Golconda** issued a Golden Farman in favour of the English, permitting them to trade freely from the ports of Golconda on annual payment of 500 pagodas.
- In 1639, Francis Day was able to obtain **Madras** on lease from the Raja of Chandragiri and shifted the centre of their activity to Madras. The Raja allowed the English to fortify Madras, to administer it and to coin the money on the condition that the English



Fort St. George (Madras)

will pay him half the customs revenue of the port. Thus the English set up a factory and built a small fort around it called **Fort St. George**.

- In 1690, the British bought the Fort Devanampatnam, near Madras, and renamed it as **Fort St David**.

Bengal

- In 1651, at **Hugli**, the first English factory in Bengal was set up upon receiving permission from Sultan Shuja (second son of Emperor Shah Jahan), the Subahdar of Bengal. In 1658, all establishments of the Company in Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Coromandel Coast were brought under the control of Fort St. George.
- In 1690 Job Charnock established a factory at **Sutanuti** which was fortified in 1696 and called **Fort William**.
- In 1698 the English Company obtained from Subahdar of Bengal Azim-us-Shan, the zamindari (i.e. right to collect revenue) of the villages of **Sutanuti, Kalikata and Gobindapur** on payment of ₹1,200 to the previous proprietors. In 1700, the Bengal factories were placed under Fort William. Soon the villages grew into a city known as Calcutta.

Bombay

In 1662, King Charles-II of England received Bombay as **dowry** on marrying a Portuguese princess. In 1668, the Crown transferred it to the Company on an annual rent of ten ponds and it was soon fortified in the wake of threats from the rising Maratha power. Bombay quickly replaced Surat as the principal depot of the Company on the West coast.

English and the Mughals**Internal Developments of the Company**

Between 1615 and 1686, the company grew from strength to strength. In 1625, the Governors and Directors of the company were given judicial powers. In 1661, the company was empowered to send ships of war with men and ammunition for the safety of its possessions overseas. In 1683, it got full powers to declare war and make peace, to raise and maintain an army. As early as the 1680s, the Company had plans to secure English dominion in India and was determined to make Indians pay for the conquest of their own country. On several occasions, the Court of Directors wrote to the Company authorities advising them to adopt such a civil and military policy that would secure a large revenue and enable the English to maintain their force and make English a nation in India.

Aurangzeb

In 1688, hostilities between the English and the Mughal authorities first broke out when the English captured Hugli and declared war on Emperor Aurangzeb. The English had seriously misjudged the situation and underestimated Mughal strength; they were soon defeated and driven out of the factories in Bengal. Realising that they were not yet strong enough to fight the Mughal power, they once again decided to rely on humble entreaties and flattery and get concessions from the Mughal emperor. Aurangzeb too readily pardoned the English for their mistake as he

saw that foreign trade benefitted Indian artisans and merchants and enriched the state treasury. He therefore permitted them to resume trade on payment of ₹1.5 lakh as compensation.

Farrukhsiyar

In 1717, The East India Company succeeded in securing valuable privileges under a royal farman, **Farman of 1717**, by the Mughal Emperor Farrukhsiyar. It is also described as the Magna Carta of the Company.

The farman was granted because earlier in 1714, William Hamilton, a surgeon in the British East Indian Company had successfully cured Farrukhsiyar of a disease (swelling in the groin). After successful treatment, the Farrukhsiyar finally arranged his marriage to the daughter of Raja Ajit Singh of Jodhpur, which had been delayed by the illness. The farman was instrumental in increasing the Company's stronghold in Bengal which later colonised Bengal followed by the rest of India.

Provisions of the Farman

The farman confirmed the privileges granted in 1691 and extended them to Gujarat. It contained following provisions:

- The British were allowed duty-free trade in Bengal in lieu of an annual payment of ₹30,000.
- Exemption from payment of all dues at Surat in lieu of one-time settlement of ₹10,000.
- The Company retained its old privilege of exemption from payment of all dues at Hyderabad and for Madras was required to pay only the existing rent.
- The Company was allowed to rent more territory around Calcutta.
- The Company was allowed to use their own currency (minted at Bombay) throughout India.
- The Company was also granted the right to issue passes or dastaks for the movements of such goods.
- The Company's servants were also permitted to trade but were not covered under this farman and were required to pay the same taxes as Indian merchants. (However, the dastaks were later misused by the Company's servants to carry out private trade. The Company's servants were paid low salaries and their real income came from the permission the Company granted them to carry on private trade within the country, even as trade between India and Europe was reserved for the Company).

Farman as Source of Conflict

This farman became a perpetual source of conflict between the Company and the Nawabs of Bengal. The strong Nawabs of Bengal such as Murshid Quli Khan and Alivardi Khan objected to the English interpretation of the farman of 1717. They exercised strict control over the English traders and prevented them from misusing the dastaks.

Despite strong political control by native rulers, commercial affairs of the company flourished. Madras, Bombay and Calcutta became the nuclei of such activities. Large number of Indian merchants and bankers were attracted to these cities. As far as the company's servants are

concerned, they were keen to take up service in India despite low salaries. This was because they were permitted to carry on private trade in India on payment of same taxes as Indian merchants.

Prelim Capsule

The English

Year	Personality	Important Events
1600	The English Company	The Company was granted a royal charter by Queen Elizabeth giving it the exclusive privilege of trading east of the Cape of Good Hope for a period of 15 years.
1608	Captain Hawkins	He was sent as a representative of the English Company to the Court of Jahangir to obtain permission to open a factory at Surat. He was the first Englishman to set foot on Indian soil. He could speak Turkish language and he came in a ship named ' Hector '. He arrived at Surat and from there he went to the court of Jahangir at Agra in 1609. He obtained permission to open factories on the west coast but the Company not satisfied as it wanted permission for the whole of the country.
1611	—	The English opened their 1 st factory in the south at Masulipatnam . The English defeated the Portuguese in the Battle of Swally Hole near Surat.
1613	—	The English were allowed to set up a permanent factory at Surat .
1615	Sir Thomas Roe	He was sent by King James I as an ambassador to the court of Jahangir . Roe was successful in obtaining royal farman permitting the British to trade and establish factories in all parts of the Mughal Empire.
1632 (Madras)	—	Sultan of Golconda issued a Golden Farman in favour of the English, permitting them to trade freely from the ports of Golconda on annual payment of 500 pagodas.
1639	Francis Day	He was able to obtain Madras on lease from the Raja of Chandragiri. The English set up a factory and built a small fort around it called Fort St. George .
1651 (Bengal)		First English factory in Bengal was set up at Hugli upon receiving permission from Sultan Shuja, the Subahdar of Bengal.
1658		All establishments of the English Company in Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Coromandel Coast were brought under the control of Fort St. George.

1690	Job Charnock	He established a factory at Sutanuti which was fortified in 1696 and called Fort William .
1696	—	Sutanuti factory was fortified and called Fort William .
1698	—	The English Company obtained from Subahdar of Bengal Azim-us-Shan, the zamindari of the villages of Sutanuti , Kalikata and Gobindapur .
1700	—	The Bengal factories were placed under Fort William. Soon the villages grew into a city known as Calcutta .
1662 (Bombay)	—	King Charles-II received Bombay as dowry on marrying a Portuguese princess. In 1668 the King transferred Bombay to the Company on an annual rent of ten ponds.
1717	—	Farrukhsiyar granted the English Company valuable trading privileges under the Farman of 1717 described as the Magna Carta of the Company.

THE DANES

The Danes came from Denmark and they were a minor colonial power to set foot in Indian soil. The Danish East India Company was established in 1616 and they set up trading outposts in 1620 at Tranquebar near Tanjore (Tamil Nadu). In 1755, they founded a colony called **Fredricknagore** near Serampore in Bengal. Occupied twice by the English, the Danish colony failed as a commercial venture. In 1777, the Danish company went bankrupt and Serampore was transferred to the Danish Crown. However, Serampore became a safe haven for missionaries in India and earned immense fame for the cultural and educational activities of the missionaries. In 1845, Denmark ceded Serampore to Britain, thus ending nearly 150 years of Danish presence in Bengal.

THE FRENCH

The French were the **last** of the European colonial powers to set foot in India. They were also keen on profiting from the Asian trade.

The French Trading Company (1664)

In 1664, **Colbert** formed the *Compagnie des Indes Orientales*. The French trading company (under the governorship of Colbert) was granted a license by King Louis IV to trade with India and the East Indies.

French Factories

- In 1667, the first French factory was set up at **Surat** with Francis Caron as its Director General.

- In 1669, a factory was set up at **Masulipatam**.
- In 1672, Caron was replaced by Francois Martin who received a village as grant from the King of Bijapur Sher Khan Lodhi and founded it as **Pondicherry**. Pondicherry later emerged as the French capital in India.
- In 1674, the French also received a site near Calcutta from the ruler of Bengal where they built the town of **Chandernagore** (1690–92).
- In 1693, the Dutch snatched Pondicherry but it was restored to the French under the **Treaty of Reswick**. In this way, the French East India Company established its firm base in Chandernagore and Pondicherry.
- The French also acquired control over Islands of **Mauritius** and **Reunion** in the Indian Ocean.
- Between 1697 and 1739, the French further consolidated their position by adding several bases including **Mahe**, **Karaikal**, **Balasore** and **Kasimbazar**.

The real trouble started when the French won control of Tanjore which the British considered vital for their trade security. (Read about the Anglo–French rivalry in the upcoming chapter).

Prelim Capsule

The French

Year	Personality	Important Events
1664	French trading company	Colbert formed the <i>Compagnie des Indes Orientales</i> . The French trading company (under the governorship of Colbert) was granted a license by King Louis IV to trade with India and the East Indies.
1667	Francis Caron (Director General)	He set up 1 st French factory at Surat .
1669	—	A factory was set up at Masulipatam .
1672	Francois Martin	He received a village as grant from the King of Bijapur Sher Khan Lodhi and founded it as Pondicherry which later emerged as the French capital in India.
1674	—	The French received a site near Calcutta where they built the town of Chandernagore (1690–92).
1693	—	The Dutch snatched Pondicherry but it was restored to the French under the treaty of Reswick .
1697–1739	—	Other French factories- Mahe , Karaikal , Balasore and Kasimbazar .

PATTERN OF EUROPEAN TRADE

In the 16th century, when European powers first started trading with India, they had few goods to offer (only wine and oil) in return for Indian commodities. For nearly three centuries, they struggled with the problem of financing an adverse balance of trade with Asia. In the beginning, they used **gold and silver** to pay for their imports from the East. However, the European companies were severely criticised for doing so as flow of bullion out of the country was considered bad under mercantilist beliefs. It was only in the 18th century that a final solution came when the English began receiving Bengal revenues and revenues from export of opium to China.

As far as items of trade were concerned, **Indian spices** were the most sought after commodity in Europe, especially pepper. Towards the end of the 17th century, cotton textiles, silk, indigo and saltpeter gradually rose in importance in place of spices. The increase of imports of Indian textiles alarmed indigenous Englishmen who began pressurising the government to prohibit such imports. This led to the passing of protectionist regulations in England from 1700 onwards. (Note- Saltpeter, KNO₃ or Shora was an important ingredient in the manufacture of gunpowder. Being a heavy material, it was also used to stabilise the ships. Patna emerged as a major centre of saltpeter).

The change in European economy due to growth of **industrial capitalism** also affected its politico-economic relations with India. The industrial capitalists soon began resenting East India Company's monopoly over Indian trade. Ranging from Adam Smith (Wealth of Nations 1776) to various business lobbies, all attacked the Company's monopoly rights ultimately leading to the abolition of monopoly of the East India Company in Indian trade in 1813 and in China trade in 1833. Sometimes it was the English trade that followed their flag, sometimes the other way round, but together they ensured the rise of the British Empire in India.

To sum up, in this chapter, you read about the transformation which occurred in Europe since the 15th century. The growth in trade and commerce was accompanied by the European nations' search for potential colonies in Asia, Africa and America. Different trading companies were formed to carry out external trade. Various European East India Companies arrived in India as well. However, owing to clash of interests, many sided struggles started among the Portuguese, the Dutch, the English, the Danes and the French. Subsequently, English and the French East India Companies emerged as the main contenders in India. Read about this Anglo-French rivalry and the final victory of the English East India Company in the next chapter.



Previous Years' Questions – Preliminary Exam

- Which one of the following pairs is not correctly matched? [UPSC 1999]

(a) Jehangir : William Hawkins	(c) Shahjahan : Tavernier
(b) Akbar : Sir Thomas Roe	(d) Aurangzeb : Manucci
- In India, among the following locations, the Dutch established their earliest Factory at [UPSC 2003]

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| (a) Surat | (b) Pulicat |
| (c) Cochin | (d) Kasimbazar |
- With reference to the entry of European powers into India, which one of the following statements is not correct? [UPSC 2003]

(a) The Portuguese captured Goa in 1499.
(b) The English opened their first factory in South India at Masulipattanam.
(c) In Eastern India, the English company opened its first factory in Odisha in 1633.
(d) Under the leadership of Dupleix, the French occupied Madras in 1746.
 - Which of the following is the correct statement? [UPSC 2005]

(a) The modern Kochi was a Dutch Colony till India's Independence.
(b) The Dutch defeated the Portuguese and built Fort Williams in the modern Kochi.
(c) The modern Kochi was first a Dutch Colony before the Portuguese took over from them.
(d) The modern Kochi never became a part of the British Colony.
 - In the year 1613, where was the English East India Company given permission to set up a factory (trading post)? [UPSC 2006]

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| (a) Bangalore | (b) Madras |
| (c) Masulipattam | (d) Surat |

- Which one of the following was the first Fort constructed by the British in India? [UPSC 2007]

(a) Fort William	(b) Fort St George
(c) Fort St David	(d) Fort St Angelo
- Who among the following Europeans were the last to come to pre-independence India as traders? [UPSC 2007]

(a) Dutch	(b) English
(c) French	(d) Portuguese
- With whose permission did the English set up their first factory in Surat? [UPSC 2009]

(a) Akbar	(b) Jahangir
(c) Shahjahan	(d) Aurangzeb
- With reference to Pondicherry (now Puducherry), consider the following statements: [UPSC 2010]

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



Practice Questions – Preliminary Exam

- Arrange the following in chronological order, as per their arrival in India-

1. English	2. Dutch
3. Portuguese	4. Danes

 Select the correct answer from the following options:

(a) 1, 2, 3 and 4	(b) 4, 3, 2 and 1
(c) 3, 2, 1 and 4	(d) 2, 3, 1 and 4
- Which of the following factors contributed to the discovery of new trade routes to India and the East Indies?

1. The rise of nation-states under strong monarchs
2. Capture of Constantinople by the Ottoman Turks
3. Zeal to spread Christianity
4. Renaissance in Europe

Select the correct answer from the following options-

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

3. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the English East India Company?

1. It was a joint stock company
2. It was granted a royal charter giving it the exclusive privilege of trading east of the Cape of Good Hope for a period of 15 years.

3. Its first factory was set up at Masulipatnam

Select the correct answer from the following options:

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

4. Examine the following statements with regard to European explorers:

1. Christopher Columbus of Portugal set out to reach India but discovered America instead.
2. Vasco da Gama of Portugal discovered a new sea route from Europe to India.

Which of the above is/are true?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) both (d) neither

5. Consider the following statements with regard to the Portuguese:

1. They were the first European colonial power to set foot on Indian soil.
2. The reasons for arrival of Portuguese in India were both economic as well as religious.

Which of the above is/are true?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) both (d) neither

6. Find the odd one out-

- (a) Bartholomew Diaz
(b) Francisco De Almeida

- (c) Alfonso-De-Albuquerque
(d) Nino de Cunha

7. Which of the following is not true regarding the Dutch colonial history in India?

1. First Dutch factory was established at Masulipatnam in Andhra.
2. Amboyna massacre took place in Indonesia where the Dutch killed 10 Portuguese.
3. The Dutch were defeated by the English in the Battle of Bedara.

Select the correct answer from the following options:

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

8. With regard to battles fought by the British in India, consider the following statements-

1. The English defeated the Portuguese in the Battle of Swally Hole.
2. The English defeated the Danes in the Battle of Bedara.

Which of the above is/are incorrect?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) both (d) neither

9. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

1. Chinsura- Danes
2. Bombay- English
3. Karaikal-French
4. Serampore- Dutch

Select the correct answer from the following options:

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

10. 1. Caron received a village as grant from the King of Bijapur Sher Khan Lodhi and founded it as Pondicherry.

2. Francis Day obtained Madras on lease from the Raja of Chandragiri.

Which of the above statements is are true?

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



Practice Questions – Main Exam

1. Critically evaluate the arrival and establishment of various European powers in India.
2. Discuss how the socio-economic conditions of Europe and the Indian subcontinent led to the arrival of Europeans in India.
3. Can it be said that socio-political conditions in southern India provided a better ecosystem for Europeans to gain a foothold in India? Discuss.

Answers

Previous Years' Questions – Preliminary Exam

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

Practice Questions – Preliminary Exam

- | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (d) | 3. (d) | 4. (b) | 5. (c) |
| 6. (a) | 7. (c) | 8. (b) | 9. (c) | 10. (c) |