

Colonial India

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Overview of colonial India

Company rule 1757 - 1857

- ▶ Company as trading organisation
- ▶ Company as Imperial organisation
- ▶ Transition to colonisation

Crown rule 1857 - 1947

- ▶ Structural changes
- ▶ Deindustrialization
- ▶ Globalization

East India Company

- ▶ United company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies
- ▶ A joint stock company created by royal charter signed by queen Elizabeth on 31st December 1600. 218 investors subscribed a total of £68373, sufficient only for journey forward and back home from spice islands
- ▶ Management

General court of proprietors (body of shareholders)

Court of director (executive body)

- ▶ Overseas personnel

President

Councillors

Trade between west and East

- ▶ In age of absence of refrigeration technology the spices grown in East Indian countries was the chief source of reservation of flesh.
- ▶ The the Dutch and Portuguese merchants traded with East Indian countries like Indonesia known as spice Islands and received return as much as 400 % on there investment when selling spices in European countries.
- ▶ European merchants traded spices And as payment exchanged Indian textiles and manufactures With Indonesian.
- ▶ The trade between Europe and India was present even before the establishment of mughal empire in 1526. Portuguese explorer Vasco da gama discovered and all route see via cape of good hope and docked at Calicut of Kerala in 1498 the European traders were engaged in overland trade via various trade route.
- ▶ The spice trade was dominated by Duych merchants. British being a late entrant could not challenge their trade. They turned their attention to other commodities like Indian textile their arrival at Surat also give them access to Indian spice trade.

Company's advance in India

- ▶ 1600 received royal charter for trade with East India and for East countries
- ▶ 1608 granted permission to set up trading post factory in Surat.
- ▶ 1612 battle of Swally : naval battle between East India Company and Portuguese traders in Surat region which sort the company to secure a major victory
- ▶ 1623 unable to make headway in Japan the company closed their trading posts. Amboina massacre : rivalry between Dutch and English came to a head when Dutch executed many English prisoners
- ▶ 1634 Mughal emperor invited East India Company to trade in Bengal region
- ▶ 1640 company established Saint George's trading centre in Madras
- ▶ 1667 cloth makers in England attacked India House in London claiming Indian clothes were threatening their livelihoods
- ▶ 1668 King Charles II gave Bombay which he had acquired from the Portuguese as part of his wife's dowry to the East India Company
- ▶ 1670 Charles II granted the company the right to acquire territory, mint coin and command for troops, fortresses to make laws and use force to protect assets
- ▶ 1682 an attempt by the company to obtain trading rights throughout the Mughal empire was unsuccessful
- ▶ 1690 the company established a trading post in Calcutta
- ▶ 1696 company built Fort William in Calcutta.

Company's advance in India

- ▶ 1698 company was floated in a joint venture between current stakeholders and the state
- ▶ 1700 Chinese tea was extremely popular in England East India Company began using proceeds from illegal opium to pay for the tea in silver
- ▶ 1720 company imports of Indian goods into the UK amounted for 15% off all imports
- ▶ 1746 French captured Madras
- ▶ 1750 the number of troops owned by the company reached 3000
- ▶ 1757 battle of Plassey Robert Clive defeated Nawab of Bengal
- ▶ 1763 the number of troops owned by the company reached 26 thousands battle of Buxar Mir Qasim defeated Allahabad treaty Diwani rights to collect revenue in Bengal.
- ▶ 1773 Regulating Act it established parliament ultimate control over the company a governing council was established in Calcutta led by Warren Hastings
- ▶ 1778 company troops reached 67000
- ▶ 1784 Pitt's India Act set up board of control to oversee administration finances and diplomatic functions and military expansion of company
- ▶ 1813 East India Company Act ends monopoly rights
- ▶ 1823 Assam tea was discovered by two employees Charles Alexander and Robert Bruce
- ▶ 1833 East India Company Act ends all trade monopoly
- ▶ 1848 a botanist Robert Fortune was hired to use Chinese tea plantation in India beginning of Darjeeling tea.
- ▶ 1853 Government of India Act
- ▶ 1857 the Mutiny
- ▶ 1858 Government of India Act East India Company was nationalised

Precolonial India

- ▶ Agrarian economy
- ▶ Village community
- ▶ Handicrafts (Urban and Rural handicrafts)
- ▶ Towns (religious, capitals and commercial towns)
- ▶ Trade (Domestic and Foreign trade)
- ▶ Commerce
- ▶ Transport

Transition to colonisation

- ▶ New property rights
- ▶ Land tenure
- ▶ uniform Currency
- ▶ Laws and Acts
- ▶ Judicial system
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Governance
- ▶ Trade partnerships

Great Divergence between West and East

- ▶ Emergence of World inequality between Europe and Asia in 18th century is a major economic phenomena in modern times.
- ▶ Theories of economic history

Market formation

Institutions

Political systems

Resource endowment

Indian Narrative

- ▶ Imperialist views
- ▶ Nationalist views
- ▶ Leftist views