

Social science History Chapter -2

The Rise and growth of the company power

Exercise's Answers

1. Multiple choice questions:

- (I) Portuguese
- (ii) Surat
- (iii) 1757
- (iv) Seringapatam
- (V) Bengal

2. Very Short Answers:

- (I) Vasco-da-gama was a Portuguese navigator who found out a new sea route to India.
- (ii) The royal charter clearly meant that no other trading group in England could now compete with the East India company.
- (iii) The battle of Plassey was the first major victory of English in India.
- (iv) Tippi sultan was called the 'Tiger of Mysore'.
- (V) A system of alliance introduced by the British Governor-general Wesseley through which the British came to control the affairs of Indian states entering into the alliance without actually annexing them.

3. Short Answers:

- (I) **The political condition after the death of Aurangzeb:**
 - (a) It marked the beginning of a war of succession for the throne of Delhi.
 - (b) The Mughal court also divided into the Turani, the Irani, the Afghani and the Hindustani groups that were constantly fighting and conspiring against one another.
 - (c) Taking advantage of the weak centre, the Mughal Governors of Oudh, Bengal and Deccan freed themselves from the control the central government.
- (ii) **The battle of Plassey established British stronghold in India in the following ways.**
 - (a) The British got a monopoly over trade in Bengal and gradually ousted the French and the Dutch.

(b) Mir Zafar was a puppet in the hands of the English, so they gradually extended their political control over the province.

(c) The rich resources of Bengal made them financially stable to further their political designs in India.

(iii) **The merits and demerits of the subsidiary alliance system:**

(a) The system proved to be very beneficial for the British. The Indian princes were now deprived of any opportunity to join hands against the company.

(b) The Indian rulers had to face the interference to the British residents in their everyday affairs.

(c) The Indian rulers lost their administrative as well as financial independence.

(iv) **The Doctrine of Lapse helped the British in the annexation of Indian States in the following ways:**

(a) According to the doctrine, if the ruler of any dependent state died without a legitimate heir to the throne, then his state would directly be annexed or 'lapsed' to the British empire.

(b) An adopted son was entitled to use the personal property of the deceased ruler, but not his royal status.

(c) The British annexed the States of Satara, Jaitpur, Sambhalpur, Baghat, Udaipur, Jhansi and Nagpur under Doctrine of Lapse.

(v) **The main features of the Regulating Act of 1773 were:**

(a) The Governor of Bengal became the Governor-General of India.

(b) All decisions were to be taken on the basis of majority of votes.

(c) It was strictly laid down no officer of the company would accept any form of bribe or gifts directly or indirectly.

4. Long Answers:

(I) A brief account of Carnatic Wars:

(a) In order to have a monopoly over the trade in India and Eastern Islands, it was necessary for the British to eliminate their rivals.

(b) England and France were traditional rivals in most of the European wars of the eighteenth century.

(c) The conflict of trade interests between them finally ended with the three Anglo-French Wars

or the Carnatic Wars that were fought from 1746 to 1763 in India. They were called the Carnatic Wars as most of them were fought in Carnatic region and other parts of Tamil Nadu.

(d) The Wars finally resulted in the establishment of British power in India.

(ii) **Police reforms introduced by Lord Cornwallis were:**

(a) Governor-General Lord Cornwallis is credited to have established a regular police force in India .

(b) From 1792, every district was divided into a number of thanas. A Daroga was the head of the thana and he was assisted by policemen in the maintenance of law and order.

(c) The Darogas of various police stations were under the District superintendent, who was generally a British.

(d) The Chaukidars (watchman) looked after the villagers . The kotwals maintained law and order in the towns.

5. State True or False :

(I) True

(ii) True

(iii) False

(iv) True

(V) False