

Chapter 2- From Trade to Territory

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Let's Recall

1. Match the following:

Diwani	Tipu Sultan
“Tiger of Mysore”	right to collect land revenue
<i>faujdari adalat</i>	<i>Sepoy</i>
Rani Channamma	criminal court
<i>sipahi</i>	led an anti-British movement in Kitoor

Answer

Diwani	right to collect land revenue
“Tiger of Mysore”	Tipu Sultan
<i>faujdari adalat</i>	criminal court
Rani Channamma	led an anti-British movement in Kitoor
<i>sipahi</i>	<i>Sepoy</i>

2. Fill in the blanks:

(a) The British conquest of Bengal began with the Battle of _____.

► Plassey

(b) Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan were the rulers of _____.

► Mysore

(c) Dalhousie implemented the Doctrine of _____.

▶ Lapse

(d) Maratha kingdoms were located mainly in the _____ part of India.

▶ South-Western

3. State whether true or false:

(a) The Mughal empire became stronger in the eighteenth century.

▶ False

(b) The English East India Company was the only European company that traded with India.

▶ False

(c) Maharaja Ranjit Singh was the ruler of Punjab.

▶ True

(d) The British did not introduce administrative changes in the territories they conquered.

▶ False

Let's Discuss

4. What attracted European trading companies to India?

Answer

European trading companies were attracted to India because of a number of reasons: → Trading with India was highly profitable and fruitful to the businessmen in Europe.

→ The European trading companies purchased goods at cheaper and sold them in Europe at the higher prices.

→ The fine qualities of cotton and silk produced in India had a big market in Europe.

→ Indian spices like - pepper, cloves, cardamom and cinnamon were in great demand in Europe.

5. What were the areas of conflict between the Bengal nawabs and the East India Company?

Answer

In the 18th century, after the death of Aurangzeb, the Bengal nawabs asserted their power and autonomy. Through the eighteenth century, the conflicts between them and the East India Company intensified. The nawabs refused to grant the Company concessions, demanded large tributes, denied it the right to mint coins, and stopped it from extending its fortifications. They claimed that the Company was depriving the Bengal government of huge amounts of revenue, and also undermining their authority by refusing to pay taxes, writing disrespectful letters, and humiliating them and their officials.

On the other hand, the Company declared that its trade was getting ruined because of the unjust demands of the local officials. It believed that trade could only flourish if the duties were removed. To expand trade, it wanted to enlarge its settlements, buy up villages, and rebuild its forts.

6. How did the assumption of Diwani benefit the East India Company?

Answer

The Diwani right to the East India Company benefitted it in several ways: → The Diwani allowed the Company to use the vast revenue resources of Bengal. → The East India Company monopolized trade and began direct plunder of India's wealth. → Revenues from India financed Company expenses. These revenues were used to purchase cotton and silk textiles in India, maintain Company troops, and meet the cost of building the Company fort and offices at Calcutta. → The company used its political power to monopolize trade & dictate terms. They could impose their own prices that had no relation to the costs of production. → The company used revenue of Bengal to finance exports of Indian goods.

7. Explain the system of "subsidiary alliance".

Answer

After the battle of Plassey in 1757, the battle of Buxar in 1764 and gaining the Diwani of Bengal, the company began to expand its rule in many parts of India.

For that it had devised several plans, one among them was the “Subsidiary Alliance”. According to the terms of this alliance -

→ Indian rulers were not allowed to have their independent armed forces. → They were to be protected by the company but pay for the Subsidiary Forces, that the company was supposed to maintain for the purpose of their protection. → If the Indian rulers failed to make payment, then that part of territory was taken away by the company as penalty. For example, in 1801, the nawab of Awadh was forced to give over half of his territory to the Company for failing to pay for the “subsidiary forces”.

8. In what way was the administration of the Company different from that of Indian rulers?

Answer

→ British territories were broadly divided into administrative units called Presidencies. There were three Presidencies like - Bengal, Madras & Bombay whereas under the Indian rulers administration was divided into four parts - District (Zila), Paragana, Tehsil and Villages.

→ Each administrative unit was ruled by a Governor.

→ The supreme head of the administration was the Governor-General, whereas under the Indian Administrative system the supreme head was King or Nawab. → Warren Hastings introduced the new system of justice. Each district was to have two courts- civil & criminal court.

→ The European District Collector presided over civil courts.

→ The criminal courts were still under a Qazi and a Mufti.

→ Under the Regulating Act of 1773, a new supreme court was established.

→ The main figure in an Indian District was Collector.

→ According to his title Collector, his main job was to collect the revenue and the taxes and maintain law & order in his district with the help of judges, police officers and darogas.

9. Describe the changes that occurred in the composition of the Company's army.

Answer

During the eighteenth century, when the East India Company began recruitment for its own army, it started recruiting peasants and began training them as professional soldiers. Like the Mughal army, the Company's army was also composed of the cavalry and the infantry regiments, with the cavalry dominating the army. However, as warfare technology changed during the nineteenth century, the cavalry requirements of the Company's army declined. As the soldiers had to be armed with muskets and matchlocks, the infantry regiments became more important.

Chapter 3- Ruling the Countryside

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Let's Recall

1. Match the following:

<i>ryot</i>	village
<i>mahal</i>	peasant
<i>nij</i>	cultivation on <i>ryot</i> 's lands
<i>ryoti</i>	cultivation on planter's own land

Answer

<i>ryot</i>	peasant
<i>mahal</i>	village
<i>nij</i>	cultivation on planter's own land
<i>ryoti</i>	cultivation on <i>ryot</i> 's lands

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2. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) Growers of woad in Europe saw _____ as a crop which would provide competition to their earnings.
- (b) The demand for indigo increased in the late-eighteenth-century Britain because of _____.
- (c) The international demand for indigo was affected by the discovery of _____.
- (d) The Champaran movement was against _____.

Answer

(a) Growers of woad in Europe saw indigo as a crop which would provide competition to their earnings.

(b) The demand for indigo increased in the late-eighteenth-century Britain because of the expansion of cotton production as a result of industrialisation, which in turn created an enormous demand for cloth dyes.

(c) The international demand for indigo was affected by the discovery of synthetic dyes.

(d) The Champaran movement was against indigo planters.

Let's Discuss

3. Describe the main features of the Permanent Settlement.

Answer

In order to get a stable revenue income, most of the East India Company's officials believed that investment in land had to be encouraged and agriculture had to be improved. This led to introduction of permanent settlement in 1793 → By the terms of the settlement the rajas and taluqdars were recognized as zamindars. → They were asked to collect rent from the peasants and pay revenue to the company.

→ The amount to be paid was fixed permanently.

→ It was felt that this would ensure a regular flow of revenue into the company's coffers and at the same time encourages the zamindars to invest in improving the land.

→ If the zamindars failed to pay the revenue, which they usually did as the fixed revenue was very high, they lost their zamindari.

4. How was the mahalwari system different from the Permanent Settlement?

Answer

<i>Mahalwari Settlement</i>	Permanent Settlement
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The <i>mahalwari</i> system, devised by Holt Mackenzie, came into effect in 1822, in the North Western provinces of the Bengal Presidency.	The Permanent Settlement was introduced in 1793 by Lord Cornwallis.
It was devised as an alternative to the Permanent Settlement.	It was aimed at ensuring stable revenue for the East India Company.
The village headmen were in charge of collecting revenue.	The <i>rajahs</i> and <i>talukdars</i> were in charge of collecting revenue.
The revenue amount was not fixed, and was to be revised periodically. The estimated revenue of each plot within a village was added up to calculate the revenue that each village or <i>mahal</i> had to pay.	The revenue amount was fixed and was never to be increased in the future.

5. Give two problems which arose with the new Munro system of fixing revenue.

Answer

Two problems which arose with the new Munro system of fixing revenue were:
 → Driven by the desire to increase the income from land, revenue officials fixed too high a revenue demand. → Peasants were unable to pay ryats fled the countryside and villages became deserted in many regions.

6. Why were ryots reluctant to grow indigo?

Answer

The ryots reluctant to grow indigo because:
 → The planters paid a very low price for indigo.
 → The ryots was not in a position to even recover his cost, earning a profit was a far-fetched idea. This meant that the ryot was always under debt.
 → The planters insisted that the peasants cultivate indigo on the most fertile parts of their land, but the peasants preferred growing rice on the best soils as after an indigo harvest, the land could not be used for sowing rice.

7. What were the circumstances which led to the eventual collapse of indigo production in Bengal?

Answer

The ryots began to refuse to grow indigo. They were supported by the village headmen and some zamindars in their fight. The scale of protest was so much that the government had to intervene. The Indigo Commission of set up to enquire into the problems. The Commission accepted the faults of the planters and allowed the ryots to grow whatever they wished. This led to eventual collapse of indigo production in Bengal.

Ch 2 Understanding Secularism

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Exercises

2. Will the government intervene if some religious group says that their religion allows them to practise infanticide? Give reasons for your answer.

Answer

The government in any democratic nation would intervene if some religious group says that their religion allows them to practice infanticide because this tradition goes against the Fundamental Right to Life. It involves the killing of an innocent and is, hence, unacceptable. The government, in this case, interferes by coercion. However, sometimes, the government may also intervene via support. For example, Sikhs in Delhi are excused from wearing helmets on two-wheelers because their religion demands them to wear a turban-a sacred tradition for them.

3. Complete the following table:

Objective	Why is this important?	Example of a violation of this objective
One religious community does not dominate another.		
The State does not enforce any particular religion nor take away the religious freedom of individuals.		
That some members do not dominate other members of the same religious community.		

Answer

(a) This is important to protect the Fundamental Right to Freedom of Religion. Example of violation: the demolition of the Babri Masjid in Ayodhya on 6th December, 1992 by Hindu nationalists.

(b) This is important to uphold the ideals of a democratic nation which allows its citizens freedom to choose whichever religion they wish to follow.

Example: France, in February 2004, banned headscarves and turbans in public places, thereby hurting the sentiments of Muslim and Sikh minorities.

(c) This is necessary to uphold individual freedom in the light of pressure from a group or religious community that one belongs to.

Example, the Christian community is divided into Protestants and Catholics; Irish Catholics are looked down upon and troubled by the officials of the Church of England who are pre-dominantly Protestants.

4. Look up the annual calendar of holidays of your school. How many of them pertain to different religions? What does this indicate?

Answer

Many holidays on a school's annual calendar pertain to different religions. This indicates that India is a secular country where religious freedom is granted to its citizens and all religions are equally respected.

5. Find out some examples of different views within the same religion.

Answer

Among Muslims, many people believe in 'Parda system', whereas many do not approve of it & see it as interference in the freedom of women.

6. The Indian State both keeps away from religion as well as intervenes in religion. This idea can be quite confusing. Discuss this once again in class using examples from the chapter as well as those that you might have come up with.

Answer

→ The Indian State distances itself from the religion and it is not ruled by a religious group & nor does it support any one religion.

→ Equal respect is given to all the religions. In order to prevent domination by one particular community, the state may interfere in the religion.

→ State may interfere in the religion to ensure that all the religions are treated equally.

→ Sometimes, the State may have to intervene in the religion based on 'personal laws' of the communities to ensure that laws relating to equal inheritance are protected.

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7. This poster alongside highlights the need for 'Peace'. It says, "Peace is a neverending process... It cannot ignore our differences or overlook our common interests." Write in your own words what you think the above sentences are trying to convey? How does it relate to the need for religious tolerance?

This chapter had three drawings on religious tolerance made by students of your age. Design your own poster on religious tolerance for your peers.

Answer

'Peace is a never-ending process. It cannot ignore our differences or overlook our common interests.'

The above sentences say that for all the communities to stay together, it is very important that each religious community should respect the other, their interests & their religious practices. We should not feel bound by any law that we need to respect the other religion, whereas, we should work towards decreasing the differences amongst religious communities & work towards bringing peace in the society as a civilized society. Only then, we will be able to enjoy the co-existence of different religions in the society.



Ch 3 Why Do We Need a Parliament?

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Exercises

1. Why do you think our national movement supported the idea that all adults have a right to vote?

Answer

Under colonial rule, the people had lived in fear of the British govt. & did not agree with many of the decisions that they took.

→ But they faced great danger if they tried to criticise these decisions. → The freedom movement changed this situation & the nationalists began to openly criticise the British govt & make demands. → They demanded that there be elected members in the legislature with a right to discuss the budget & ask questions.

That is why nationalist movement supported the idea of universal adult franchise, so that the people can take part in the decision making of the country.

Ch 2 Land, Soil, Water, Natural Vegetation and Wildlife Resources

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Exercises

1. Answer the following questions.

(i) Which are the two main climatic factors responsible for soil formation?

Answer

Temperature and rainfall are the two main climatic factors responsible for soil formation.

(ii) Write any two reasons for land degradation today.

Answer

Deforestation and the indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides and fertilisers in agricultural lands are two factors contributing to land degradation.

(iii) Why is land considered an important resource?

Answer

Land is considered as an important resource as it provides habitation to a wide variety of flora and fauna. Also used by Human beings for various purposes such as agriculture, forestry, mining, building houses and roads, and setting up industries.

(iv) Name any two steps that government has taken to conserve plants and animals.

Answer

Two steps that the government has taken to conserve plants and animals: → Has set up national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and biosphere reserves for protecting natural vegetation

and wildlife; for example, the Kaziranga National Park in Assam. → Has banned the killing of lions, tigers, deer, great Indian bustards and peacocks. It has also prohibited the trade of the species of plants and animals protected under the international agreement CITES.

(v) Suggest three ways to conserve water.

Answer

Three ways to conserve water: → Rainwater harvesting.

→ Lining irrigation canals to avoid seepage of water. → Replenishing ground water by promoting afforestation.

2. Tick the correct answer.

(i) Which one of the following is not a factor of soil formation?

- (a) Time**
- (b) Soil texture (c) Organic matter**

▶ (b) Soil texture

(ii) Which one of the following methods is most appropriate to check soil erosion on steep slopes? (a) Shelter belts (b) Mulching (c) Terrace cultivation

▶ (c) Terrace cultivation

(iii) Which one of the following is not in favour of the conservation of nature?

- (a) Switch off the bulb when not in use (b) Close the tap immediately after using**
- (c) Dispose polypacks after shopping**

▶ (c) Dispose polypacks after shopping

3. Match the following.

(i) Land use	(a) Prevent soil erosion
(ii) Humus	(b) Land suitable for agriculture
(iii) Rock dams	(c) Productive use of land
(iv) Arable land	(d) Organic matter deposited on top soil
	(e) Contour ploughing

Answer

(i) Land use	(c) Productive use of land
(ii) Humus	(d) Organic matter deposited on top soil
(iii) Rock dams	(a) Prevent soil erosion
(iv) Arable land	(b) Land suitable for agriculture

4. State whether the given statements are true or false. If true, write the reasons.

- (i) Ganga-Brahmaputra plain of India is an overpopulated region.
- (ii) Water availability per person in India is declining.
- (iii) Rows of trees planted in the coastal areas to check the wind movement is called intercropping.
- (iv) Human interference and changes of climate can maintain the ecosystem.

Answer

- (i) This statement is true. Plains and river valleys offer suitable land for agriculture. Hence, these are densely-populated areas of the world.
- (ii) This statement is true. Though water is present in abundance, fresh water is a scarce resource. Water availability is a serious problem in many regions of the world. Due to the

wastage of water, deforestation, and the pollution and depletion of fresh water reserves (such as rivers and ground water), the availability of water is fast declining.

(iii) This statement is false. The described process is called shelter belts. Intercropping is the process in which different crops are grown in alternate rows, and are sown at different times to protect the soil from rain wash.

(iv) This statement is false. Human interferences and climatic changes for the most part adversely affect the balance of the ecosystem.