

TOPIC # 3

**SUCCESSFUL BRITISH EXPANSION
&
FAILED INDIAN RESISTANCE 1750-1856:
PAST PAPER QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS 2000-2021**

REVIEW OF THE QUESTIONS:

QUESTION NO. 1:-

How successful was Indian resistance to British attempts to take control of Lands in the Sub Continent? Explain your answer.

(14) June 2002 Q.1c

QUESTION NO. 2:-

Why was Britain so successful in expanding its control of the sub-continent between 1750 and 1850?

(7) November 2006 Q.1 b

QUESTION NO. 3:-

Indian resistance to British attempts to take control of lands in the S.C was totally unsuccessful. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.

(14) June 2008, Q.2 c

QUESTION NO. 4:-

Why was Britain successful in increasing its control of some parts of the S.C in the years 1750 to 1850?

(7) June 2009, Q.2 b

QUESTION NO. 5:-

How successful were the British attempts to take control of lands in the S.C between 1750 and 1856?

(14) November 2010 Q.1 c

QUESTION NO. 6:-

Explain why Britain was so successful in extending its control of the S.C between 1750 and 1850.

(7) June 2011, Q.1 b

QUESTION NO. 7:-

How successful were Indian resistance to British attempts to take control of lands in sub-continent between 1750 to 1850? Explain your answers

(14) Nov.2012 Q.1 c

QUESTION NO. 8:

In 1756 the French encouraged the Nawab of Bengal, Siraj-ud-Daulah to attack the East India Company's base at Calcutta. He captured the city but was unable to keep control of it. Robert Clive decided to go to the city with a force of soldiers to re-take it. This led to the battle of Plassey.

(a) Describe the battle of Plassey.

[4] June 2012 Q.1 a

QUESTION NO. 9:-

PAST PAPERS Q & A P1 HISTORY 2059 BY DR. USMAN HAMEED

Who was Rana Ranjit Singh?

(4) June.2013 Q.1 a

QUESTION NO. 10:-

Was the Industrial Revolution in Britain the most important reason why the British were able to take control of India between 1750 and 1850? Explain your answer.

(14) Oct/Nov 2013 Q.1 c

QUESTION NO. 11:-

This question is about the British in India

1 Study the sources (Insert) carefully and then answer the questions which follow.

(a) SOURCE A

Nawab Siraj-ud-Duala opposed the growing British power in Bengal in 1757. Robert Clive, commander of the British East India Company's troops that had just retaken Calcutta from the Nawab, began to re-establish control of Bengal. Clive was heavily outnumbered by the Nawab's forces, but persuaded Mir Jafar, the Nawab's commander, to switch sides and not fight when the two armies met. The Nawab opened the battle with heavy gunfire which went on until it started to rain heavily. Clive's troops covered their cannon and muskets to protect them from the rain, whilst the Nawab's troops did not. When the rain cleared, Clive attacked. The Nawab's troops retreated. 22 of Clive's soldiers were killed and 500 of the Nawab's soldiers were killed.

From Seven Years' War: Battle of Plassey by Kennedy Hickman

According to Source A, what reasons are suggested for the British victory at the battle of Plassey in 1757?

(3) June.2015 Q.1 a

QUESTION NO. 12:-

Why were the British able to take control of India by 1850?

(7) June.2015 Q.1 c

QUESTION NO. 13:-

Who was Tipu Sultan?

(4) June.2015 Q.2 a

QUESTION NO. 14:-

Who was Robert Clive?

(4) November.2015 Q.2 a

QUESTION NO. 15:-

Why was Britain so successful in expanding its control of the sub-continent between 1750 and 1850?

(7) November.2016 Q.2 b

QUESTION NO. 16:-

SOURCE A

The Indian cotton industry

At first the East India Company and the British Parliament discouraged Indian production of cotton goods in order to encourage the growing cotton industry in Great Britain. British policy developed during the nineteenth century to allow Indian people to grow raw cotton in order to supply material for the cotton factories of Great Britain. Orders were sent out to force Indian skilled workers to work in the East India Company's factories. The East India Company was given legal powers to control production in the villages and communities of Indian weavers. Very high tariffs excluded Indian silks and cotton goods from Great Britain but British goods were admitted into India free of duty.

According to Source A, what difficulties did the Indian cotton industry face during the nineteenth century?

(3) May June 2017 Question No. 1 a

QUESTION NO. 17:-

Why Robert Clive was appointed the first Governor of Bengal?

(7)May June 2017 Q. No. 2 b

QUESTION NO. 18:-

Who was Warren Hastings?

(4)Oct Nov.2017 Question No. 3 a

QUESTION NO. 19:-

Why were the Marathas defeated after the decline of the Mughal Empire?

(7)Oct Nov.2017 Question No. 3 b

QUESTION NO. 20:-

PAST PAPERS Q & A P1 HISTORY 2059 BY DR. USMAN HAMEED

How far was Indian resistance to British expansion in the subcontinent successful before 1850?

(14) Oct Nov 2017 Question No. 3 c

QUESTION NO. 21:-

Explain why Robert Clive was successful in the Battle of Plassey in 1757?

(7) June.2019 Q.1 c

QUESTION NO. 22:-

Who was Lord Wellesley?

(4) June.2019 Q.3 a

QUESTION NO. 23:-

SOURCE A

Fort William, Calcutta, 1756

On the evening of 20 June, some 64 prisoners including two women and several wounded soldier were marched at sword point to the filthy dungeon at Fort William. This was a little cell, measuring 18 feet by 14 feet 10 inches, designed for no more than three petty criminals. The heat at this time of year was suffocating. Prisoners trampled on each other to get nearer one of the two tiny windows or to the small amount of water they had been left. Their guards mocked them as the prisoners gasped for air and pleaded for mercy. At 6 am the next morning, when the door was opened, dead bodies were piled up inside.

Adapted from an essay in History Today, 2006

This question is about the East India Company and its relationship with the subcontinent in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Study the sources (Insert) carefully and then answer the questions which follow.

(a) According to Source A, why did many people die at Fort William in 1756?

[3] May June 2019 Q. 1 a

SOURCE B

Famine in the subcontinent



A print of a contemporary engraving showing the distribution of relief

(B) What can we learn from Source B about famine in the subcontinent during British control?

(5) May June 2019 Q.1 b

QUESTION No. 24:

Was the **India Act of 1784** the main reason why the British were able to expand beyond Bengal between 1784 and 1850? Explain your answer.

(10) May June 2019 Q. No. 1d

QUESTION No. 25:

Who was Mir Qasim?

May June 2020 Q. 2 a 4

QUESTION No. 26:

Explain why Britain was able to expand into the subcontinent between 1750 and 1850.

May June 2020 Q. 2 b 7

QUESTION NO. 25:-

According to SOURCE A,

Why Queen Victoria was made an empress of India?

Oct Nov. 2020 Q. 1 a (3) and b (5)

In 1877, Queen Victoria proclaimed as Empress of India. India was already under crown control after 1858, but this title was a gesture to link the monarchy with the empire further and bind India more closely to Britain.

SOURCE B:



What does Source B tell us about Tipu Sultan?

QUESTION NO. 28:-

Describe the achievements of Rana Ranjit Singh.

(4) June.2021 Q.2 a

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

QUESTION NO. 1:-

**How successful was Indian resistance to British attempts to take control of Lands in the Sub-Continent?
Explain your answer.**

(14) June 2002 Q.1c

BEST ANSWER on INDIAN RESISTENCE:

Indian resistance against British attempts to take control of Indian land was to some extent successful specifically in the beginning. Haider Ali defended his territories in his first three Mysore wars which remained very successful.

In the First Anglo–Mysore War (1767–1769) Hyder Ali gain some measure of success against the British .In the Second Anglo–Mysore War (1779–84) there was a Crushing defeat to British troops by Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan in a number of encounters. Indian territories not only defended but also expanded. In the Third Anglo–Mysore War (1789–1792), Tipu Sultan, the ruler of Mysore and an ally of France, invaded the nearby state of Travancore in 1789, which was a British ally.

Besides that Anglo-Marathan Wars also have a great importance in the perspective of Indian resistance. The first Maratha war lasted for about 7 years (1775–82); defeats to British in some encounters. The second Maratha war during 1803 to 1805 also went in the favour of Indian.

But the Indian resistances were not completely successful. And eventually whole of India went under the British control. In the Battle of Plassey, 1757 Siraj-ud-Daula was defeated and killed. Mir Jafar, the conspirator of the war, became the ruler of Bengal went under British control. Later on in the Battle of Buxar, 1764 Joint forces of Mir Qasim, Shah Alam II and the Nawab of Oudh were also badly defeated.

IN the Fourth Anglo–Mysore War, 1798–99 Tipu killed by joint forces of British and the Nizam of Hyderabad. Mir Sadiq remained the conspirator. That was the great setback for the Indians certainly. Whole of Mysore’s state

was possessed by Company. Anglo-Maratha Wars are also very famous. Although in the first Maratha war Marathas (1775-82) defeated EIC but Marathas couldn't give strong resistance in the 2nd Maratha war and eventually defeated in the third Anglo-Maratha war in 1818. Whole of Deccan was annexed by the British Empire.

Indians also tried to resistance in the form of Sikh wars. The **Anglo-Sikh wars** were a series of 1840s conflicts between the British East India Trading Company and the Empire. There were two **Anglo-Sikh wars**. The First Anglo-Sikh War (1845–1846) and The Second Anglo-Sikh War (1848–1849). The Sikh Empire which was established by Rana Rangit Singh was dissolved after defeat in 1849. Indians were completely lost and defeated after the war of independence 1857. British became the sole power of India,

[ANALYSIS] Indian resistance to defend their lands was not successful due to their disunity and lack of modern military equipment.

QUESTION NO. 2:-

Why was Britain so successful in expanding its control of the sub continent between 1750 and 1850?

(7) November 2006 Q.1 b

MARKING SCHEME

LEVEL 1:

Simplistic statement, for example: They were better fighters.

[1]

LEVEL 2:

Identifies reasons, for example: They captured rich lands and had a better army.

[2-4]

LEVEL 3:

Explains reasons, for example:

British was successful in expanding its control of the sub-continent between 1750 and 1850. Due to the Industrial Revolution, Britain had been able to stockpile weapons which were of superior quality to any of those which the Indians had. Also the troops were better disciplined, trained and organized and were able to establish their superiority without much opposition. British naval power and their superiority in weapon and tactics always gave them a definite upper edge on the local forces.

British applied their strength in the sub-continent while fighting against different rulers. The battles of Plassey against Sir Ud Doula and Buxar against Mir Qasim gave the British the vast riches of Bengal and favorable trading rights with the local Nawabs. This provided massive new resources which the British could use to consolidate control.

The British also introduced governors-general into the provinces who administered them on British lines and provided yet more control. The British army using its vast local resources and superior weapons and skills was increasingly taking control of more land including Deccan, Mysore, Sind and Punjab as well from the great might of Sikhs. Thus the British gradually expanded their control of the S.C between 1750 to 1850.

[5-7]

QUESTION NO. 3:-

Indian resistance to British attempts to take control of lands in the S.C was totally unsuccessful. Do you agree? Give reasons for your answer.
(14) June 2008, Q.2 c

MARKING SCHEME

LEVEL 1:

Simplistic statement.

[1–2]

The British imposed their will on the sub-continent.

LEVEL 2:

Description of annexation

[3–6]

Outlines the events in Bengal, the Punjab, NWFP and Sindhi.

LEVEL 3:

Explains successes OR failures

[7–10]

LEVEL 4: Explains successes AND failures

[9–13]

Successes:

Power of Marathas

Early successes of Tipu Sultan

Ranjit Singh 1799-1839

Failures:

Strength of British army

Eventual failure of Siraj, Qasim, Tipu, Marathas,

Conquests of British against Amirs in Sindh and Sikhs in Punjab

LEVEL 5:

As Level 4 – also produces a judgement or evaluation [14]

QUESTION NO. 04:-

Why was Britain successful in increasing its control of some parts of the S.C in the years 1750 to 1850?

(7) June 2009, Q.2 b

BEST ANSWER on BRITISH EXPANSION:

British was successful in expanding its control of the sub-continent between 1750 and 1850 due to their Industrial Revolution, Britain had been able to stockpile weapons which were of superior quality to any of those which the Indians had. Also the troops were better disciplined, trained and organized and were able to establish their superiority without much opposition. British naval power and their superiority in weapon and tactics always gave them a definite upper edge on the local forces.

British applied their strength in the sub-continent while fighting against different rulers. The battles of Plassey against Sir Ud Doula and Buxar against Mir Qasim gave the British the vast riches of Bengal and favorable trading rights with the local Nawabs. This provided massive new resources which the British could use to consolidate control.

The British also introduced Governors-General into the provinces that administered them on British lines and provided yet more control. The British army using its vast local resources and superior weapons and skills was increasingly taking control of more land including Deccan, Mysore, Sind and Punjab as well from the great might of Sikhs. Thus the British gradually expanded their controls of the S.C between 1750 to 1850. The Indian states were disunited politically and militarily and these also supported British victories.

QUESTION NO. 5:-

How successful were the British attempts to take control of lands in the S.C between 1750 and 1856?

(14) November 2010 Q.1 c

BEST ANSWER ON SUCCESSFUL BRITISH EXPANSION

LEARN IT and REWRITE IT:

PLASSEY

BUXER

MYSORE

DECCAN

SINDH

PUNJAB

The British were almost completely successful in taking control of lands in the S.C between 1750 and 1856. The British had come to India for trade and to increase and ensure their trade they found it necessary to have political control of lands in the sub-continent.

The first opportunity came in 1757 when battle of Plassey took place. In this battle the forces of the East India Company under **Robert Clive** met the army of **Siraj-ud-Doula**, the Nawabs of Bengal. Clive had 800 Europeans and 2200 Indians whereas Siraj-ud-doula in his entrenched camp at Plassey was said to have about 50,000 men with a train of heavy artillery. The aspirant to the Nawab's throne, **Mir Jafar**, was induced to throw in his lot with Clive, and by far the greater number of the Nawab's soldiers were bribed to throw away their weapons, surrender prematurely, and even turn their arms against their own army. Siraj-ud-Doula was defeated. Battle of

Plassey marked the first major military success for British East India Company. It was followed by battle of **Buxar**. **General Major Hector Munro** at Buxar defeated the confederate army on 22 October, **1764**. **Mir Kasim** fled and died in 1777. After winning the Battle of Buxar, the British had earned the right to collect land revenue in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. This development set the foundations of British political rule in India.

The British wanted full control of south India to ensure their spice trade. **Lord Wellesley** became the Governor General of India in 1798. **Tipu Sultan** tried to secure an alliance with the French against the English in India. Wellesley questioned Tipu's **relationship with the French** and attacked **Mysore in 1799**. The fourth Anglo-Mysore War was of short duration and decisive and ended with Tipu's death on May 4, 1799 who was killed fighting to save his capital (sirangapatam) (MIR SADIQ). Besides that **Marathas** were also defeated and Maratha power destroyed by British in several wars during 1817- 1818. **Holkar's** forces were moved at Mahidpur December 21, 1817 and **Baji Rao II**, who was trying to consolidate Marathas, finally surrendered in June 1818. British abolished the position of Peshwa and Marathas were limited to the small kingdom of Satara. This ended the mighty Maratha power.

British wanted to make sure that Afghanistan didn't fall into Russian hands. British agreed with Ranjit Singh (ruler of Punjab) that Afghanistan should remain independent. A rebellion broke out in Afghanistan in 1841 in which British troops were killed. British felt that their pride had been hurt in Afghanistan and decided to turn in Sindh. Sindh was ruled by collection of **Amirs** who had signed a treaty with British in 1809. British General **Sir Charles Napier** provoked the Amirs of Sindh so much that they attacked British residency in 1843. Amirs were defeated and Sindh was annexed by British. **Punjab** was the next target. Ranjit Singh had signed a perpetual friendship in 1809 but after his death in 1839, the rival chiefs argued themselves over who should be a king. Army attacked British possessions south of River Sutlej and provoked the British to invade Punjab. War began but British remained victorious. Gulab Singh Dogra, a chief who helped the British and was given Kashmir as a reward. In 1849, after a revolt against British, Punjab, NWFP were annexed and became part of British Empire on 30 March 1849. Hyderabad, Deccan, Oudh and the local Nawabs had been forced to sign treaties with EIC; this gave their external affairs to Britain.

In 1852, the British annexed several Indian states under doctrine of lapse. In 1852 Governor **General Dalhousie** extended British control by applying **Doctrine of Lapse** which was that when a ruler died without a natural heir, the British would annex his lands. Due to this Satara, Nagpur and Jhansi came to British hands. Nawab of Oudh died in 1856 and he had the natural heir but instead of that his land was grabbed by the British.

Thus British were successful but **few losses** were there for British. Like Haider Ali defended his territories in his first three Mysore wars which remained very successful. In the First Anglo-Mysore War (1767-1769) Hyder Ali gain some measure of success against the British. In the Second Anglo-Mysore War (1779-84) there was a Crushing defeat to British troops by Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan in a number of encounters. Indian territories not only defended but also expanded. In the Third Anglo-Mysore War (1789-1792), Tipu Sultan, the ruler of Mysore and an ally of France, invaded the nearby state of Travancore in 1789, which was a British ally.

Besides that Anglo-Marathan Wars also have a great importance in the perspective of Indian resistance. The first Maratha war lasted for about 7 years (1775-82); defeats to British in some encounters. The second Maratha

war during 1803 to 1805 also went in the favour of Indian. Rana Ranjit Singh, king of five rivers solely and wholly ruled over Punjab for 40 years even without British interference.

Level 5: Analysis

QUESTION NO. 6:-

Explain why Britain was so successful in extending its control of the S.C between 1750 and 1850.

(7) June 2011, Q.1 b

ANSWER GIVEN IN MARKING SCHEME

The battles of Plassey and Buxar gave the British the vast riches of Bengal and favourable trading rights with the local nawabs. This provided massive new resources which Britain could use to consolidate its control.

The British also introduced governor-generals into the provinces who administered them along British lines and provided yet more control.

The British army, using its vast local resources and superior weapons and skills, was increasingly taking control of more land.

QUESTION NO. 7:-

How successful were Indian resistance to British attempts to take control of lands in subcontinent between 1750 to 1850? Explain your answers

(14) Nov.2012 Q.1 c

MARKING SCHEME

LEVEL 1:

Simplistic statement. [1–2]

The British imposed their will on the sub-continent.

LEVEL 2:

Description of annexation [3–6]

Outlines the events in Bengal, the Punjab, NWFP and Sindhi.

LEVEL 3:

Explains successes OR failures [7–10]

LEVEL 4:

Explains successes AND failures [9–13]

Successes:

Power of local Nawabs

Early successes of Tipu Sultan

Ranjit Singh

Marathas

Failures:

Strength of British army
Eventual failure of siraj, Qasim,,Tipu ,Marathas ,
Conquests of British against Amirs in Sindh and Sikhs in Punjab

LEVEL 5:

As Level 4 – also produces a judgement or evaluation [14]

QUESTION NO. 8:

In 1756 the French encouraged the Nawab of Bengal, Siraj-ud-Daulah to attack the East India Company's base at Calcutta. He captured the city but was unable to keep control of it. Robert Clive decided to go to the city with a force of soldiers to re-take it. This led to the battle of Plassey.

(a) Describe the battle of Plassey.

(4)June 2012 Q.1 a

ANSWER GIVEN IN MARKING SCHEME

1757, French encouraged Siraj-ud-Daulah to attack EIC base at Calcutta. Captured city but couldn't keep hold of it, Clive arrived with EIC soldiers and bribed Jafar, one of Siraj's key men. He was made Nawab of Bengal as a reward for turning against Siraj who was defeated by Clive. Body found in a river after battle. As a result of battle, EIC controlled trade in Bengal, Clive made Governor of Bengal.

QUESTION NO. 9:-

Who was Rana Ranjit Singh?

(4) June.2013 Q.1 a

ANSWER GIVEN IN MARKING SCHEME

Maharaja Ranjit Singh (13 November 1780 – 27 June 1839) was the founder of the Sikh Empire, which came to power in the Indian subcontinent in the early half of the 19th century. The empire, based in the Punjab region, existed from 1799 to 1849. Ranjit Singh was succeeded by his son, Kharak Singh.

QUESTION NO. 10:-

Was the Industrial Revolution in Britain the most important reason why the British were able to take control of India between 1750 and 1850? Explain your answer.

(14)Oct/Nov 2013 Q.1 c

LEVEL 4: Explains the Industrial Revolution and other reasons

[9–13]

The **Industrial Revolution** provided vast wealth and profit but depended upon the import of raw materials. Raw cotton was imported from India and no imports of finished cotton goods were allowed. This had a terrible effect on the cotton industry in India and as a result it collapsed. Britain now controlled the cotton trade making vast profits but none was invested in India.

A network of roads and later railways served to reinforce Britain's control of India which was essential to assist trade and control the land. In order to further reinforce its control, Britain established an administrative system that took over all duties and responsibilities of the East India Company and imposed government control through an efficient administrative system, that featured such **personalities** as Lord Wellesley, Robert Clive and Warren Hastings as Governors General, who through their administrative skills were further able to exert greater control of India.

The conquest of large areas of India further strengthened British control of India. India was not a united nation and the British army did not meet much resistance. The manufacture of weapons in Britain aided this control.

Candidates may also consider such factors as education, religious and social reforms during this. However any of these factors must relate to the notion of control as in the question, in order to reach level 3 or 4.

LEVEL 5:

As Level 4 – also produces a judgement or evaluation

QUESTION NO. 11:-

This question is about the British in India

1 Study the sources (Insert) carefully and then answer the questions which follow.

(a) SOURCE A

Nawab Siraj-ud-Duala opposed the growing British power in Bengal in 1757. Robert Clive, commander of the British East India Company's troops that had just retaken Calcutta from the Nawab, began to re-establish control of Bengal. Clive was heavily outnumbered by the Nawab's forces, but persuaded Mir Jafar, the Nawab's commander, to switch sides and not fight when the two armies met. The Nawab opened the battle with heavy gunfire which went on until it started to rain heavily. Clive's troops covered their cannon and muskets to protect them from the rain, whilst the Nawab's troops did not. When the rain cleared, Clive attacked. The Nawab's troops retreated. 22 of Clive's soldiers were killed and 500 of the Nawab's soldiers were killed.

From Seven Years' War: Battle of Plassey by Kennedy Hickman

According to Source A, what reasons are suggested for the British victory at the battle of Plassey in 1757?

(3) June.2015 Q.1 a

ANSWER GIVEN IN MARKING SCHEME

Clive persuaded Mir Jafar to switch sides
Nawab's opening gunfire was ineffective
Nawab didn't cover their cannon and muskets when it rained
English soldiers knew how to prepare for battle in the rain better
Nawab's muskets were useless due to the wet powder
Mir Jafar's men unwilling to fight against the British
Jafar had turned traitor
Been corrupted by the British
Nawab had 500 casualties to Clive's 22
It was raining
The Nawab's troops retreated.

QUESTION NO. 12:-

**Why were the British able to take control of India by 1850?
(7) June.2015 Q.1 c**

MARKING SCHEME

LEVEL 1:

Simplistic answer
[1]

They were better.

LEVEL 2:

Identifies reasons

[2-4]

They built roads and railways and had a good army.

LEVEL 3:

Explains reasons

[5-7]

The British built a huge network of roads and later railways that meant that communication and transport links between cities became better, soldiers could travel much more easily from trouble spot to trouble spot.

It also benefitted British trading links which in turn produced more wealth. The battles of Plassey and Buxar also gave the British the vast riches of Bengal and favourable trading rights with the local nawabs. This provided massive new resources which Britain could use to consolidate its control.

The British also introduced governor-generals into the provinces who administered them on British lines and provided yet more control. The British army using its vast local resources and superior weapons and skills were increasingly taking control of more land.

QUESTION NO. 13:-

Who was Tipu Sultan?

(4) June.2015 Q.2 a

He was Son of Haider Ali of Mysore, both of whom resisted British rule. Tipu received support from the French and the British were concerned about this. He was known as the Tiger of Mysore and ruled there from 1782 to 1799.

He won important victories against the British in the Second Anglo-Mysore War, and negotiated the 1784 Treaty of Mangalore with them. He remained an enemy of the British, but In the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War, the combined forces of the British and the Nizam of Hyderabad defeated Tipu and he was killed on 4 May 1799, while defending his fort of Srirangapatam.

QUESTION NO. 14:-

Who was Robert Clive?

(4) November.2015 Q.2 a

ANSWER GIVEN IN MARKING SCHEME

Robert Clive became a general in EIC armed forces in India defeated the French, Plassey 1757 showed qualities as a soldier and leader by defeating Nawab of Bengal. Made Governor of Bengal and enabled British supremacy there, increased power of merchants and established Oudh as a buffer state between Bengal and the Marathas. Introduced a number of reforms – dual system government, civil reforms, abolition of private trade system, Society of Trade, military reforms etc. Made Lord Clive, accused ‘plundering India’ but found not guilty. Became addicted to opium and in 1773 committed suicide.

QUESTION NO. 15:-

Why was Britain so successful in expanding its control of the sub-continent between 1750 and 1850?

(7) November.2016 Q.2 b

MARKING SCHEME

LEVEL 1:

Simple statement [1]

They were stronger

LEVEL 2:

Identifies reasons [2–4]

They captured rich lands and had an experienced army

LEVEL 3:

Explains reasons [5–7]

- The battles of Plassey and Buxar gave the British the riches of Bengal and favourable trading rights with the local nawabs
- This provided massive new resources, which the British could use to consolidate control
- The British also introduced governor-generals into the provinces who administered them on British lines and provided yet more control.

- The British army using its vast local resources and modern weapons and military skill were taking control of even more land.

QUESTION NO. 16:-

SOURCE A

The Indian cotton industry

At first the East India Company and the British Parliament discouraged Indian production of cotton goods in order to encourage the growing cotton industry in Great Britain. British policy developed during the nineteenth century to allow Indian people to grow raw cotton in order to supply material for the cotton factories of Great Britain. Orders were sent out to force Indian skilled workers to work in the East India Company's factories. The East India Company was given legal powers to control production in the villages and communities of Indian weavers. Very high tariffs excluded Indian silks and cotton goods from Great Britain but British goods were admitted into India free of duty.

According to Source A, what difficulties did the Indian cotton industry face during the nineteenth century?

(3)May June 2017 Question No. 1 a

- Indian production of cotton goods was discouraged – in favour of British Industry
- Only allowed to grow raw cotton to supply British looms.
- Skilled workers had to work in East India Company (EIC) factories.
- EIC controlled Indian weaving production.
- Very high tariffs prevented Indian silk and cotton from entering Britain.
- No duty on British goods reaching India.

QUESTION NO. 17:-

Why Robert Clive was appointed the first Governor of Bengal?

(7)May June 2017 Q. No. 2 b

BEST ANSWER

LEARN IT:

- The EIC recognized the contribution that their employee, Robert Clive made to their power and profits. In the 1750s the company began to fortify their important posts at Calcutta. This went against an agreement they had made with the Nawab of Bengal, Siraj ud Daulah. An angry Siraj marched on Calcutta and seized the Company's Fort William. It was June 1756, at the peak of summer, that the tragedy of the Black Hole took place, when captured British residents were locked up in a small room and by morning 23 of the 64 captives were found dead .This was used to whip up anger against Siraj.
- Clive commanded the British army to victory at the battle of Plassey in1757 and established relations with Mir Jafar. The battle increased Clive's reputation and his importance to the East India Company (EIC) because he became the foremost commander of British forces in India. The battle was also a success for the EIC because they now controlled the profitable trade in Bengal. Gradually, with this success EIC expanded its influence towards South and Western part of India.

- As a reward for being considered responsible for the EIC growth immense fortunes, especially in Bengal Clive's reputation and importance was further enhanced by his success at the battle of Buxar in 1764 which increased British control of eastern India. Kasim defeat at Buxer made certain that the British, thanks to Clive, were firmly in control of eastern India. The Company rewarded Clive by appointing him as the first Governor of Bengal. He demanded and received huge payments from the Nawab and other princes for himself and the company. It was Clive who laid the foundations for British rule in India.

QUESTION NO. 18:-

Who was Warren Hastings?

(4)Oct Nov.2017 Question No. 3a

- 1782, first Governor General / Viceroy of India
- British / English statesman
- Introduced a number of reforms in administration, revenue, finance, commerce and the judiciary
- Developed policies relating to Oudh and Rohilla
- Involved in several wars including the Anglo-Maratha and the Anglo-Mysore
- A patron of the arts

QUESTION NO. 19:-

Why were the Marathas defeated after the decline of the Mughal Empire?

(7)Oct Nov.2017 Question No. 3 b

- The Marathas controlled vast lands that had been part of the Mughal Empire, but they found it difficult to control and administer. This led to problems in fighting off threats from other armies confirming that the empire was now **too big** for them to protect or defend.
- Maratha families began to show more loyalty to local rulers rather than the Maratha leaders in the capital city of Pune. As a result, cracks began to show in Maratha unity and control. Their grip on the empire was weakened.
- The invading Afghans defeated the Maratha army at Panipat in 1761, thousands of soldiers and important administrators were killed, ending Maratha control. The afghan army was made up of 42000 cavalry supported by infantry and other fighters. The Marathas were equipped with 55000 cavalry and infantry and thousands of irregulars. Ahmed shah Abdali the afghan leader was a military genius. It was his tactical skills that achieved victory. For the Marathas it was a dreadful day, their army was totally destroyed and thousands of them were killed. Among the dead were important Maratha leader. The united power of Maratha leaders in Pune was cracked. The Maratha Peshwa's heir was also killed and Peshwa also died soon afterwards. The battle of Panipat 1761 therefore ended the ambitions of Marathas.

QUESTION NO. 20:-

How far was Indian resistance to British expansion in the subcontinent successful before 1850?

(14)Oct Nov 2017 Question No. 3c

MARKING SCHEME

Level 5: Explains with evaluation 14/14

Indian success

- Tipu the Sultan of Mysore held off British attempts to overthrow him towards the end of the eighteenth century, matching British weapons with rockets, cannons and muskets.
- Titu Mir raised an army of 15 000 against the British. He built a bamboo fort at Narkelbaria in 1831 and defeated the British forces sent to destroy it.
- The British were unwilling / unable to annex the Punjab in the lifetime of Ranjit Singh (the leader of the Sikhs who occupied the Punjab). He halted British expansion through treaties and agreements with them.

British success

- Conquests of the British against weaker opposition who were disunited with different religions and cultures and were unable to work together
- The strength of the British army was eventually overwhelming.

QUESTION NO. 21:- Explain why Robert Clive was successful in the Battle of Plassey in 1757?

(7) June.2019 Q.1 c

Level 3: Explains reasons 5–7 (Five marks for one explanation, six marks for two explanations, **seven** marks for three explanations)

e.g.

- Clive used both military strategy and clever tactic of bribing the Nawab's key man, mir jafer. Jafer's defection weakened the Nawab's army, which Clive was able to use to his advantage. Jafer intently did not mobilize his troops when the battle began. Clive persuaded one of the Nawab's key men, Mir Jafar, to side with the British.
- In the course of the battle, heavy rainfall affected the scenario. Clive acting cleverly and ordered his men to cover their cannon when it rained. So, the dry cannons of Clive's army out fired the Nawab's cannons. Nawab's soldiers continued to fire aimlessly even during the rain. As a result their weapons became wet .Clive ordered his soldiers to start firing against enemy and won smoothly.
- Clive was an experienced soldier and experienced military commander as he had fought the French in southern India. His victorious journey started from his victory in the battle of Arcot in 1751.in this he defeated the combined army of the Nawab of Carnatic and French EIC. This gave him more confidence against Nawab of Bengal whom he eventually defeated in 1757. He used tactics of warfare, this helped to defeat the Nawab.

QUESTION NO. 22:-

Who was Lord Wellesley?

(4) June.2019 Q.3 a

Level 1: One mark for each relevant point, two marks for a developed statement 1–4

e.g.

- Governor General of India in 1798.
- Wellesley persuaded local princes / rulers to sign subsidiary alliances.
- Local rulers were also forbidden to make any other alliances.
- In 1799 Wellesley invaded Mysore killing Tipu Sultan and gaining control of his lands.
- Wellesley also defeated the Nawabs of Oudh and took control of their territory.

QUESTION NO. 23:-

SOURCE A

Fort William, Calcutta, 1756

On the evening of 20 June, some 64 prisoners including two women and several wounded soldier were marched at sword point to the filthy dungeon at Fort William. This was a little cell, measuring 18 feet by 14 feet 10 inches, designed for no more than three petty criminals. The heat at this time of year was suffocating. Prisoners trampled on each other to get nearer one of the two tiny windows or to the small amount of water they had been left. Their guards mocked them as the prisoners gasped for air and pleaded for mercy. At 6 am the next morning, when the door was opened, dead bodies were piled up inside.

Adapted from an essay in History Today, 2006

This question is about the East India Company and its relationship with the subcontinent in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Study the sources (Insert) carefully and then answer the questions which follow.

(a) According to Source A, why did many people die at Fort William in 1756?

(3)May June 2019 Q. 1 a

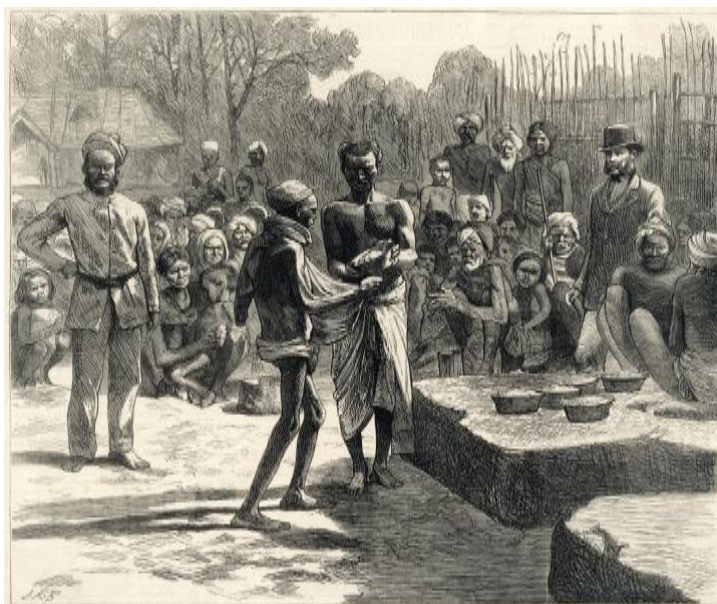
Level 1: One mark for each relevant statement identified from the source, two marks for a developed statement from the source 1–3

e.g.

- Several were already wounded
- Conditions in the cell were dirty, would have infected soldiers' wounds
- Lack of fresh air / suffocation
- Lack of water / dehydration
- Trampled to death trying to reach water / fresh air
- Crushed to death in overcrowded cell
- Guards showed no interest in prisoners' welfare

SOURCE B

Famine in the subcontinent



A print of a contemporary engraving showing the distribution of relief

(B) What can we learn from Source B about famine in the subcontinent during British control? [5]

May June 2019 Q.1 b

Level 3: Inference(s) supported by detail from the source and / or contextual knowledge 4–5

(Four marks for one supported valid inference, five marks for two or more supported valid inferences)

e.g.

- Food was being given to a man who looks very weak suggesting that the famine has been going on for a long time.
- The problem of hunger was widespread because many people of different ages, men, women and children, were affected and were waiting for relief.
- Famine must have been a serious problem because relief has been organized.
- People are looking underfed / malnourished and are waiting for the distribution of food which is being given out to these people in the source.
- The man in the bowler hat is an official observing / involved in or supervising the process, which shows that the British were involved with the distribution of relief.

QUESTION No. 24:

Was the India Act of 1784 the main reason why the British were able to expand beyond Bengal between 1784 and 1850? Explain your answer. (10)May June 2019 Q. No. 1 d

Level 5:

Explains and makes judgement / evaluation 10
(As top of Level 4 plus judgement / evaluation)

Level 4:

Explains WHY the India Act AND other factors were important in the British expanding beyond Bengal between 1784 and 1850

6–9

(Two explanations, one on the India Act and one on other factors, are worth six or seven marks. Additional explanations on the same two factors cannot be awarded more than eight marks. Explanation of all factors is worth nine marks)

e.g.

India Act of 1784(Pitt's India Act)

- This act empowered the British government to take direct control of Indian possessions. This made the position of Governor General a royal appointment. Lord Cornwallis was appointed to this position in 1786.
- A Board of Control replaced the East India Company's Board of Directors, changing it from a trading concern to a sovereign body in which the Crown had direct control of Bengal.
- A police system was developed to help in the administering of justice and maintaining law and order.

Other reasons:

• Lord Cornwallis introduced the Permanent Settlement in 1793 making **zamindars** of Bengal landowners, subject to their payment of a fixed sum to the British. In 1793 this amounted to some 10% of the total sum collected by the zamindars. The Permanent Settlement secured the financial interest of the East India Company and helped Bengal to become the wealthiest province in India, allowing the British to extend their control.

• Local rulers were persuaded to sign **subsidiary alliances** by Lord Wellesley who became Governor General in 1798. The local ruler continued to run their affairs while British soldiers offered protection. In return for this protection the ruler paid towards the cost of the soldiers and accepted a British resident adviser. This consolidated Britain's power in India at little cost and extended British control. Nizam of Hyderabad became the first victim of this policy. In 1798 the Nizam was detached from the French and was also barred from making any alliance with marathas. In 1799 Tipu sultan was also defeated and killed and eventually Mysore was annexed by lord Wellesley.

• **The annexation of land.**

The Nawab of Oudh was forced to accept this policy in 1801 and Maratha Peshwa Baji Rao ii also subjugated his state in 1802. other Maratha states like Bhosle, Sindia and Holkers also surrendered in 1803. The Marathas were decisively defeated in the 3rd Anglo Maratha war in 1817-18. The British army occupied Delhi in 1803 and shifted the Royal Mughal family from red fort to Qutab sahib. This way several states came under the British rule.

The British finally turned towards NW India. In order to undo the damage to their prestige by their defeat in Afghanistan in 1841, the British provoked the Amirs of Sindh who attacked British residency. The British under Sir Charles Napier retaliated with full force and annexed Sindh in 1843.

The Punjab was annexed by exploiting the chaos in Sikh Durbar following the death of its strong ruler, Ranjit Singh. The ambitious rival chiefs attacked the British possessions south of river Sutlej, giving British an excuse to invade Punjab. After the treaty of Lahore of 1846 the British helped by a Hindu chief Gulab Singh Dogra, annexed Kashmir that was given to Gulab Singh as a reward. Finally Punjab and NWFP were annexed fully on 30th March 1849.

Conclusively, Pitt's India act seems to be the decisive factor in the British expansion in India because it laid down a strong foundation on which was erected the building of all future victories of the British.

QUESTION No. 25:

Who was Mir Qasim?

May June 2020 Q. 2 a 4

- Nawab of Bengal in 1760, succeeding Mir Jafar ;
- With the support of EIC, he confiscated lands and wealth of people in Bengal to give to the British;
- Eventually he tried to stop British influence in Bengal;
- 1764 Mir Qasim fought Clive at Buxar, but was defeated.

QUESTION No. 26:

Explain why Britain was able to expand into the subcontinent between 1750 and 1850.

May June 2020 Q. 2 b 7

- The building of railways meant that soldiers could be transported more easily around the country to establish control. Trade also benefitted from good communications;
 - The battles of Plassey and Buxar gave the British Bengal and favorable trading rights with the local nawabs. This provided new resources, which the British used to consolidate control;
- The British also introduced Governor-Generals into the provinces who administered their province on British lines, providing more control. This enabled further expansion.

QUESTION NO. 27:-

According to SOURCE A,

Why Queen Victoria was made an empress of India?

Oct Nov. 2020 Q. 1 a (3) and b (5)

In 1877, Queen Victoria proclaimed as Empress of India. India was already under crown control after 1858, but this title was a gesture to link the monarchy with the empire further and bind India more closely to Britain.

SOURCE B:



What does Source B tell us about Tipu Sultan?

I can infer from source B the level of bravery and courage of Tipu Sultan as he is resisting a tiger. The source shows tiger's size same as that of Tipu which symbolizes that Tipu was equivalent to a Tiger. That's why he was called the tiger of Mysore. Tipu has inflicted wounds on his enemy. This can be seen as the Tiger's mouth is bleeding while on the other hand Tipu remains unshaken and fearless

QUESTION NO. 28:-

Describe the achievements of Rana Ranjit Singh.

(4)

June.2021 Q.2 a

Maharaja Ranjit Singh (13 November 1780 – 27 June 1839) was the founder of the [Sikh Empire](#), which came to power in the [Indian subcontinent](#) in the early half of the 19th century. The empire, based in the [Punjab region](#), existed from 1799 to 1849. He annexed Punjab , Kashmir and most part of Afghanistan. His expansion also worried Britain .he signed a treaty with Britain in 1809.Ranjit Singh was succeeded by his son, [Kharak Singh](#).