



India British Period Geography and People

1800 AD – 1947 AD

Hardeep Mann

Trade and the British

August 24, 1608

The British landed on **Indian** Subcontinent at **the** port of Surat, August 24, 1608 AD **for the** purpose of trade, but after 7 years **British** got Royal order (i.e. Farman) **to** establish a factory at Surat under **the** leadership of Sir Thomas Roe (Ambassador of James I).



Disintegration of People, States, Mughal Empire

The Mughals had welcomed the establishment of European trading forts along the coasts of the Indian Subcontinent. European maritime and military power in time dominate the Indian Ocean trade routes.

European chartered trade companies from 15th century begun colonizing the Americas, looking for silver and gold, causing death and destruction. This had become the way of amassing great wealth, for the Merchants, Investors and the European Nation States.

With Europeans connecting the world through sea lanes, the Indian subcontinent became **integrated into the global network**. Through this trade, silver from Spanish America triggered a dispensation of global goods all over the world and Mughal Empire participated without investigating what this would do to the Empire and the Indian Subcontinent.

Colonization by the East Indian company, destroyed the Agrarian Nation states and way of life for its people.

India British Period Geography and People

- Resilient People
- Land redistribution
- Poverty and famines
- Wealth disparity
- Agriculture
- Industry
- Handicrafts
- Commodity

British colonized land and people: Created private land ownership, cash economy, collected taxes and extracted wealth out of Indian Subcontinent

Agriculture and Villages were disrupted

Peasants destabilized - deprived of sustenance – indebtedness - indentured laborers and Famines

World Colonized by the Europe Nation States



Naval might of Europe

Corporate Raiders - Trade Plunder Piracy

Wars for domination

Christopher Columbus

Voyage to the Americas 1492



British Merchants defeated
Spanish Armada 1588

Anglo – Dutch wars 1652-1784

Anglo – French wars 1778-1783

Anglo – Swedish wars 1810-1812



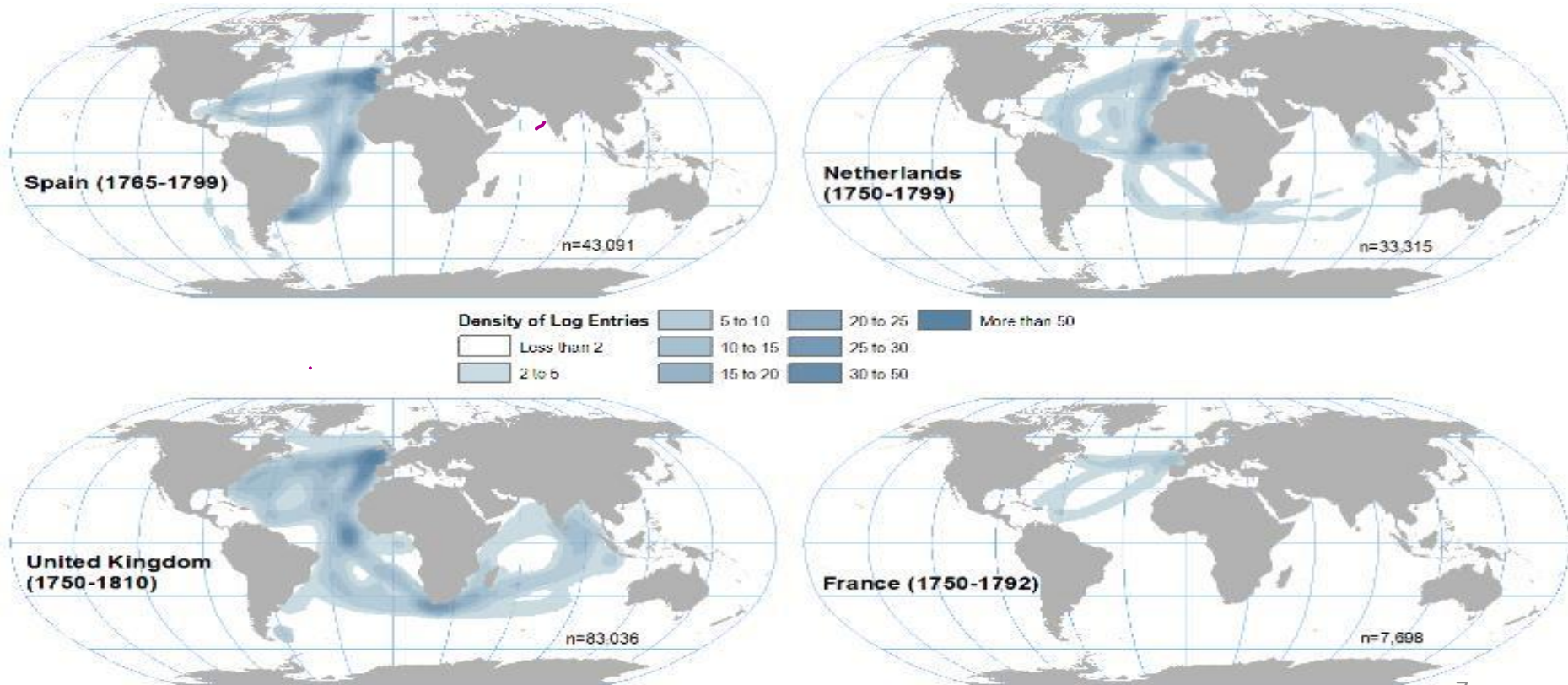
English Revolution 1688

- *Portugal and Spain explores the west coast of Africa 1500s*
- *New types of ships made it possible to open the Atlantic ocean.*

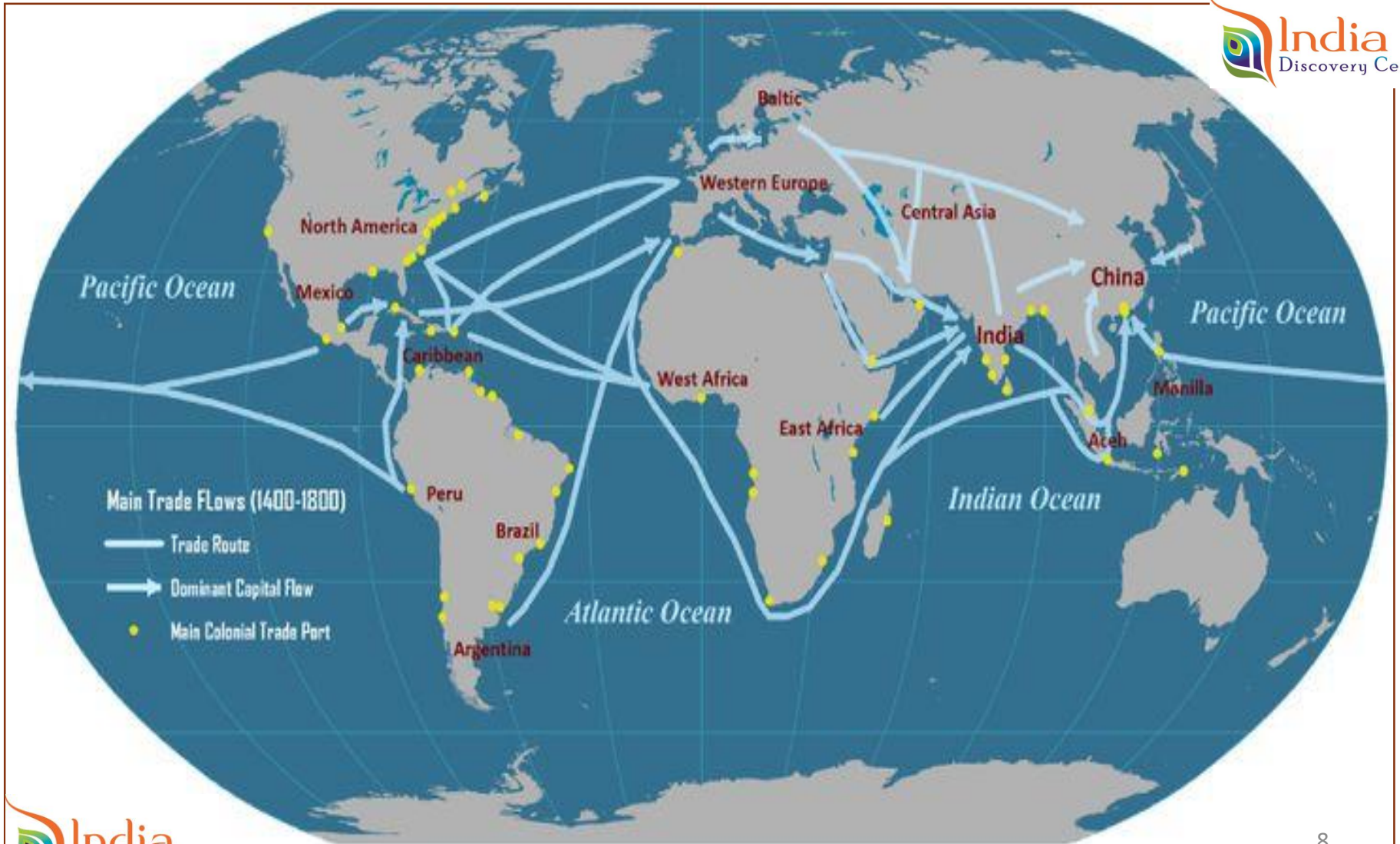
Colonization of lands peoples and resources

- Slavery 1619 – 1738 - 20 million people taken from Africa to American Continent
- Decimated the original peoples of the Americas

Density of Ship Log Entries, 1750-1810



Main Trade Routes 1400-1800 Dominant Capital Flows to Indian Subcontinent and China



Internal Strife in the Mughal Empire 1707 to 1757

1707 Aurangzeb's death

War of succession weakened the Empire

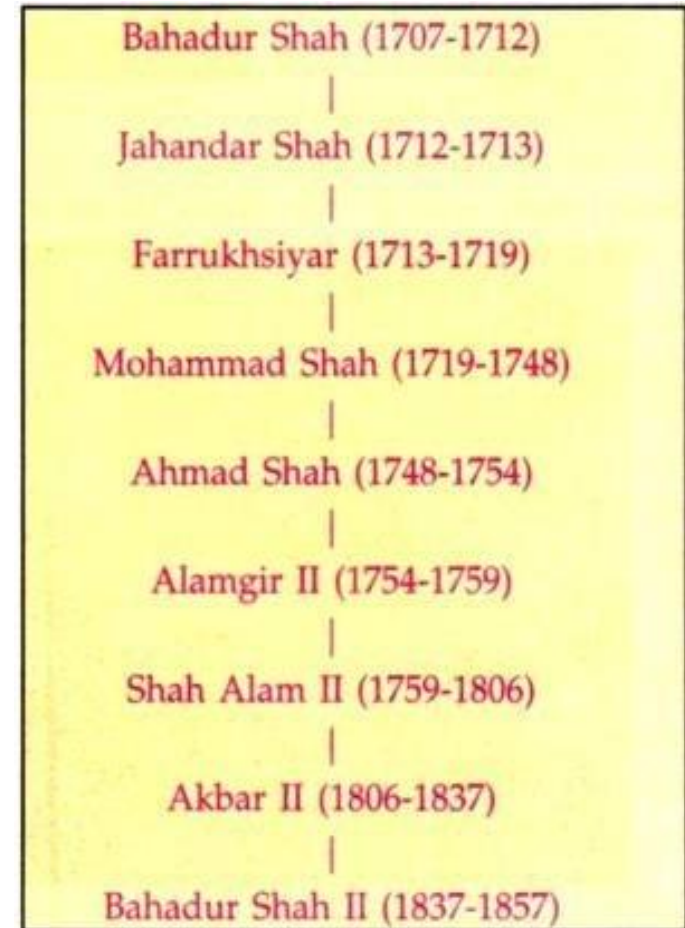
Powerful Nobles, Nawabs, ran the administration, fought against each other to amass great wealth from International trade and Agrarian State taxes. Leaving the Agrarian State vulnerable.

Nadir Shah ran sacked the Imperial Capital Delhi

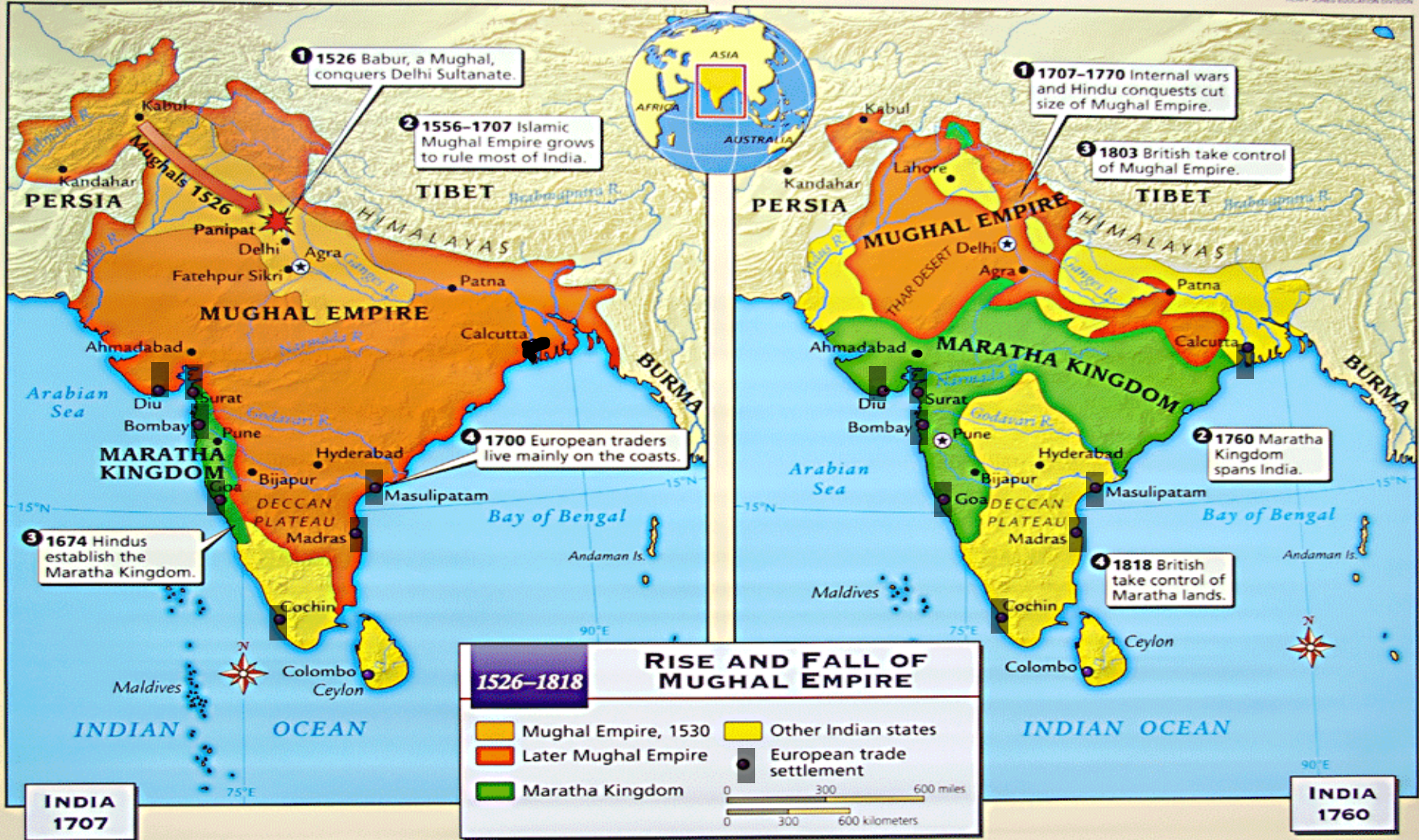
Ahmed Shah Abadali raided eight times.

Hyderabad, Carnatic, Bengal, Awadh, Mysore, Rajput Kingdoms, Punjab, Marathas broke away.

East India Company strengthened her forts at the ports, militarized, stepped in and took power.



Succession after 1707 to 1857



British Occupation and Colonization

**Agrarian Nations
Lose Territory and Sovereignty
British Occupy Land, People
and collect tax**

1851, East India Company's holdings across the sub-continent:

*[Bengal Presidency](#) with its capital at [Calcutta](#)
[Bombay Presidency](#) with its capital at [Bombay](#)
[Madras Presidency](#) with its capital at [Madras](#)
[North-Western Provinces](#) with the seat of the
 Lieutenant-Governor at [Agra](#) 1834.*



British Occupation and Rule

Permanent Land Settlement 1786

Lord Cornwallis

Builds the political and economical frame work for the Indian Colony

- *land ownership*
- *civil administration*
- *taxation*
- *policing*
- *Judicial system*
- *Central administration*
- ***Beginnings of Colonial India***



**Zamindari System
(Permanent Settlement)**

www.clearias.com

- *Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Varanasi*
- *Zamindar become owners of land*

Rent/tax:

- *British receive 89%*
- *Zamindar 11%*
- *Peasant became landless*

Replaced the Agrarian System and customary laws

Local Money Lenders - Rural Indebtedness

Banya Class

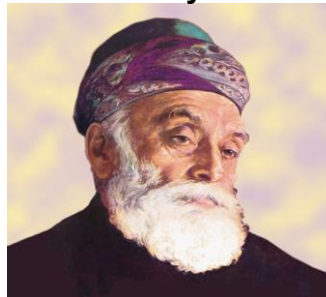
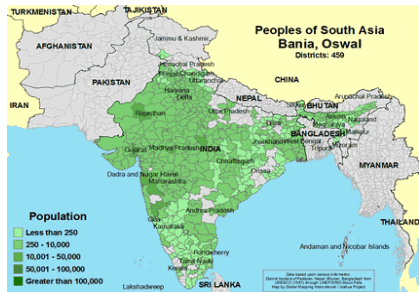
- Marwari
 - Oswal
 - Parsis
 - Gujarati Jain Merchants
 - House of Jagat Seths
 - Virji Vora
 - Shantidas
- By 1911, the rural indebtedness was estimated as 300 crore.
 - by 1937 it rose to 1,800 crore



Virji Vora

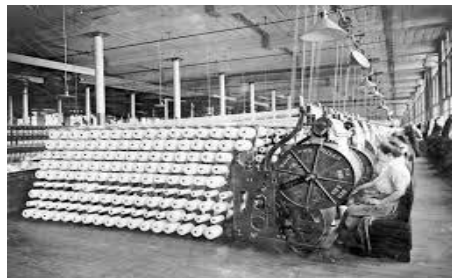
Oswals 459 Districts

Jamsetji Tata



British Industrial Revolution

1852-1883 Industry and Machine Manufacturing



India
Raw Material
Exported

- Jute
- Cotton
- Silk
- Wool
- Saltpeter
- Grains
- Indigo
- Teak

England
Commodities
Exported

- Cotton Cloth
- Wool Cloth
- Silk Cloth
- Ships
- Trains
- Iron
- Steel products
- Weapons

People in new Professions

New class emerged:

New Landlords

New Elites

Administrators

Clerks

Educators

Police

Bankers

Industrialist

Managers

Workers

Military

Journalist

Civil Servants

Lawyers

Judges

- City population compete for jobs

People in Agriculture

Peasant

Women

Black smiths

Artisans

Potters

Weavers

- Villages lose their independence
- Tribe Habitats threatened (forests)

New Zamindars, Bhadaraloka enter into relationships with British Empire beginnings of a new India

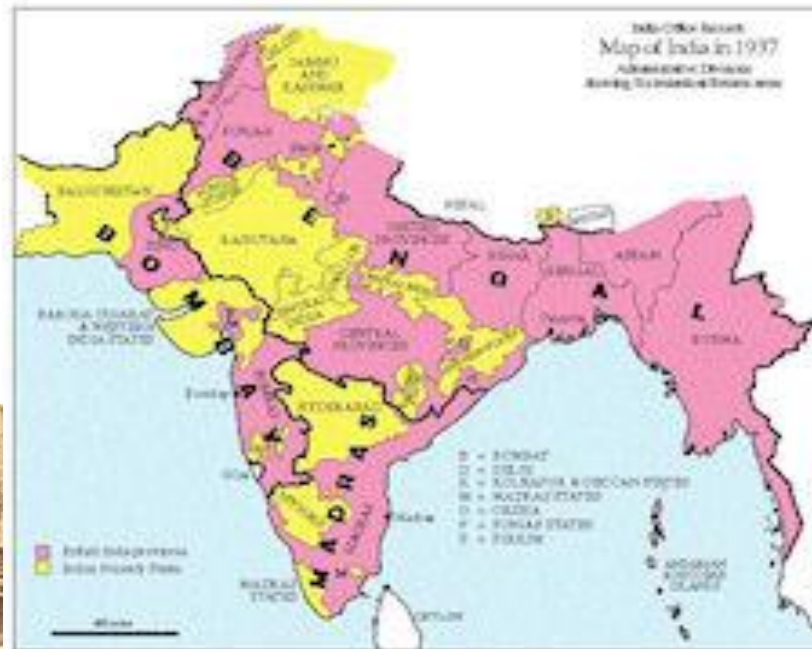


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Indian Subcontinent Princely States

- 565 princely states.
- 40% area
- 23% population.
- Important states were [Hyderabad](#), [Mysore](#) [Travancore](#) [Jammu and Kashmir](#) [Sikkim](#) and [Indore](#) in Central India.



British India Colonial Army

- Indian War of Independence 1857
- British employed 1.4 million personal
- 100 cantonment towns built
- Colonial Army fought wars for the British



Struggle for Freedom

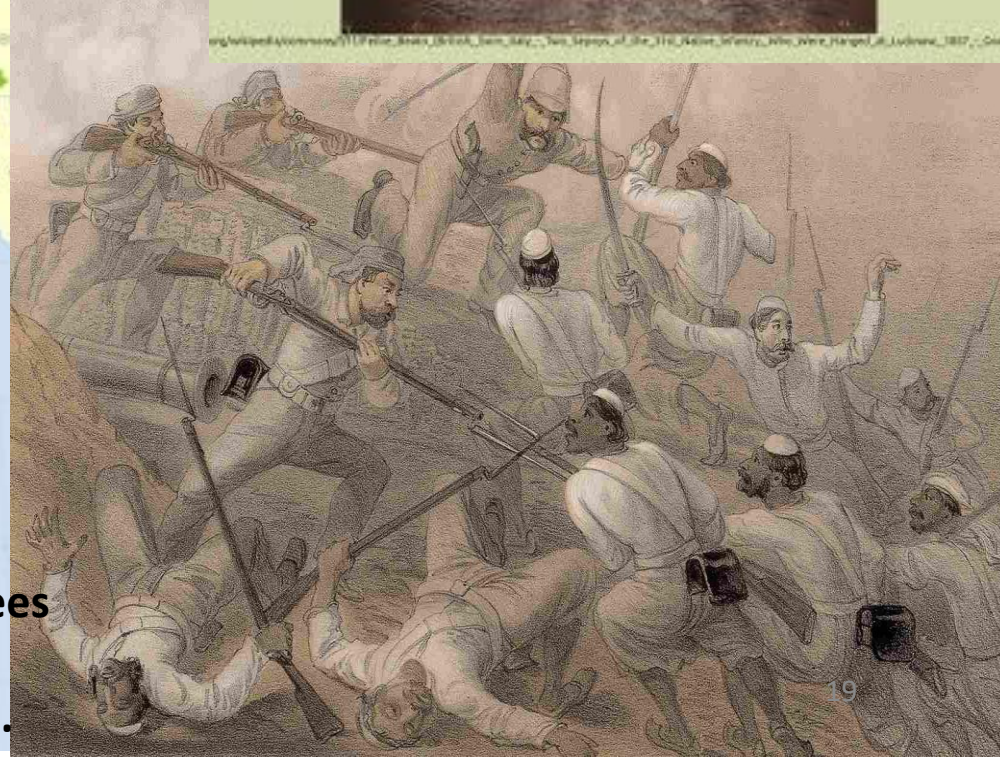
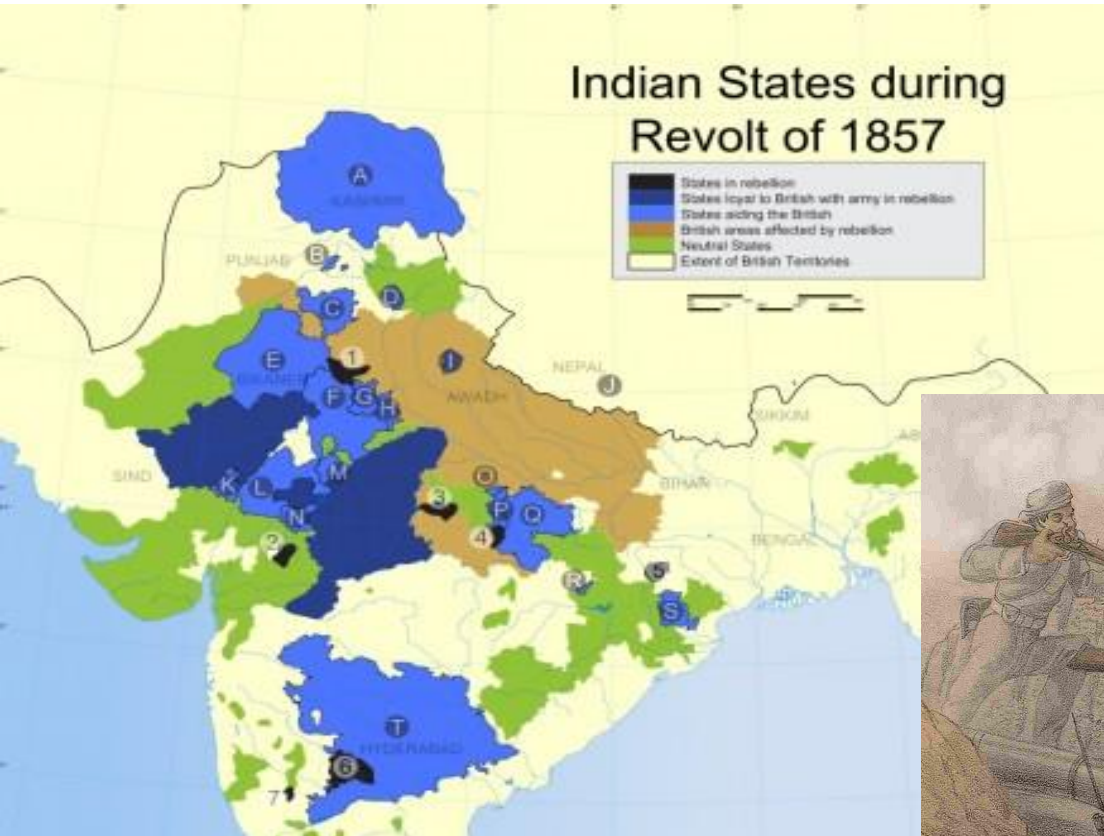
- 1774-79: Halba rebellion in Dongar (By Halba tribes in Bastar **Chhattisgarh**) against British armies and the Marathas.
- 1778: revolt of the Pahariya Sardars of **Chota Nagpur** against the British Government.
- 1784-1785: Uprising of the **Koli Mahadev** tribes in **Maharashtra**.
- 1789: revolt of the Tamar of Chota Nagpur against British.
- 1794-1795: the Tamars revolted again.
- 1798: The revolt of the tribals against the sale of **Panchet** estate.

Tribal Wars against the British Empire



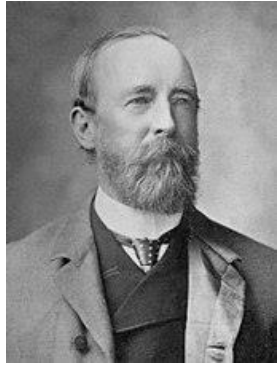
Struggle for Freedom

Thousands of people executed



- Muslims soldiers fought in large numbers
- Most effected by the British in 1857
- GT Road Muslims bodies hung lined on trees
- Were out casted from civil services
- Not allowed to enter Delhi for many years.

Indian National Congress



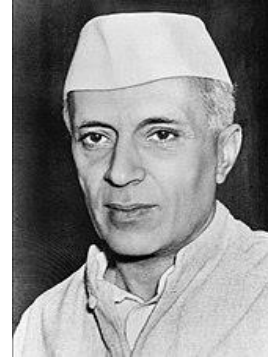
Octavian Hume



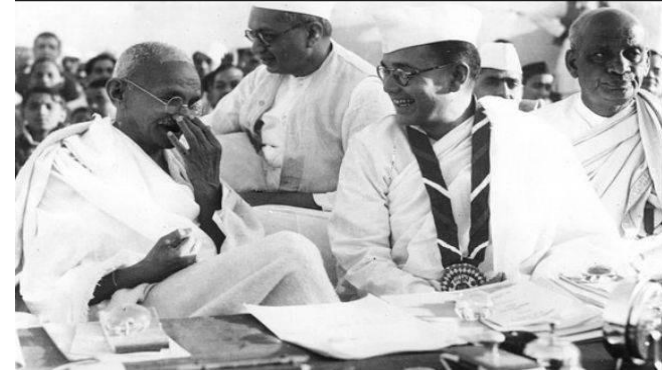
Womesh Bonnerjee



Gopal Krishna Gokhale



Jawaharlal Nehru



Gandhi

One of the world's largest and oldest political parties. Indian National Congress was formed on December 28, 1885, by British civil servant Allan Octavian Hume.

Women in the struggle for Freedom



Ghadhar Movement and Migration

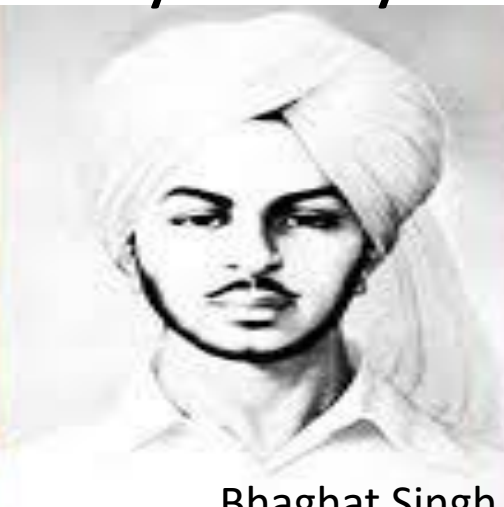


The Ghadhar Party an Indian revolutionary organization
Headquartered in San Francisco, United States.

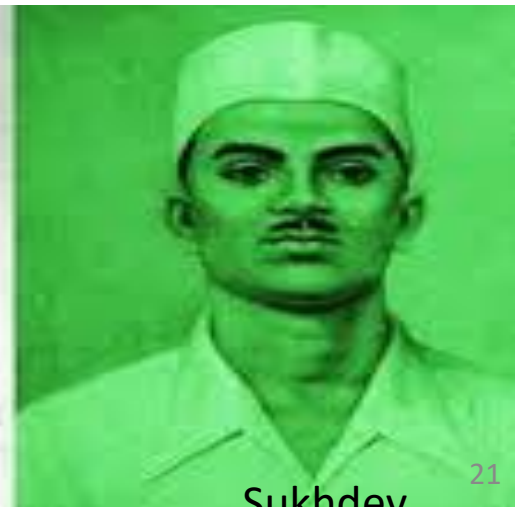
Kirthi Kisan Party and youth movement



Rajguru



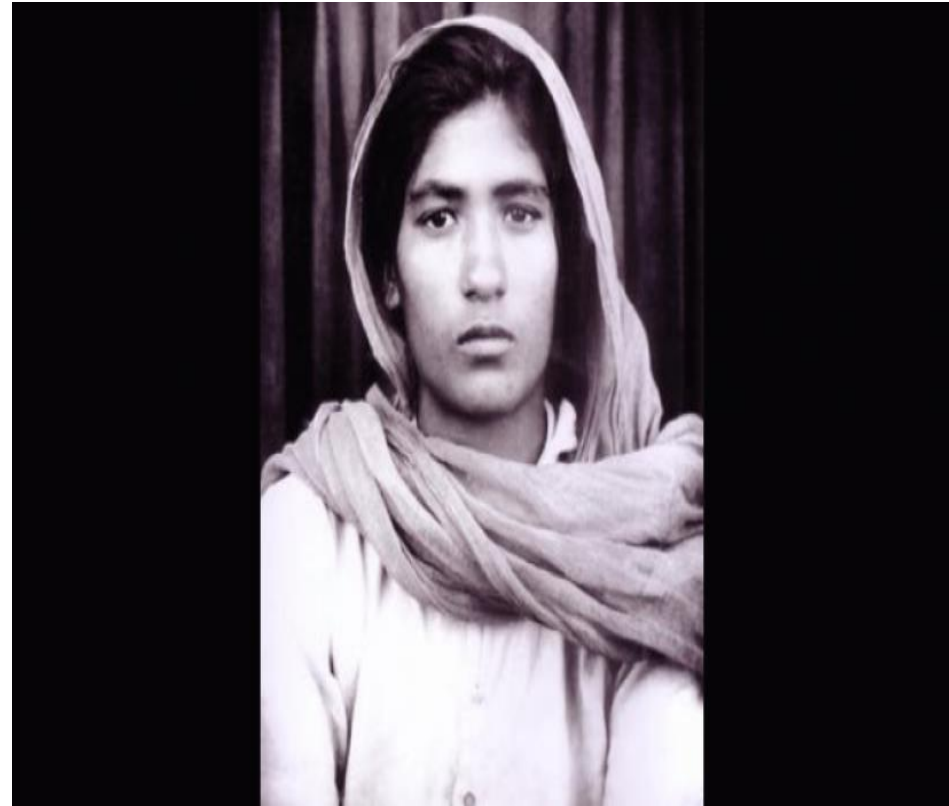
Bhaghat Singh



Sukhdev

Indebtedness in Punjab and a wave of Migration

- [Peasants in the Agarain States were under great debt.](#)
- Gulab Kaur at young age of 22 left for the Philippines with Mann Singh her husband. In Manila joined the Ghadhar Party. Was sentenced to two years in prison in Lahore for seditious acts. Lived the rest of her life in her village.



Village Bakshiwala in Sangrur district of Punjab

Dalits finding Space and Belonging



Dr. Ambedkar

Indian National Army 1942

Rash Behari Bose

Subhash Chandra Bose



Conclusion

- End of the Mughal Empire
- Colonized
- Dismantled Agrarian Nations in the Indian Sub-continent
- Land relations from communal to Individual (private property) Peasant Landlessness
- British colonial Political System
- New Indian elite class
- Leaving issues of Dalits, Women, Peasants and workers unresolved and exploited.

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