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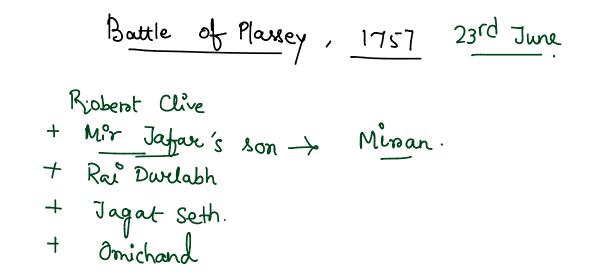
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Hyderabad

The region that is now known as Hyderabad was originally a part of the Mughal Empire. In the 18th century, as the Mughal Empire declined, the Nizam-ul-Mulk, a noble in the Mughal court, established the Asaf Jahi dynasty and became the Nizam of Hyderabad. This occurred in the aftermath of the Mughal emperor granting him the title of Nizam-ul-Mulk and significant autonomy over the Deccan region.

Hyderabad, under the Nizams, became a prominent princely state and remained so during the British colonial period. It was one of the largest and wealthiest princely states in British India. The Nizams of Hyderabad ruled the state, and it had a unique position within the British colonial system, maintaining a degree of internal autonomy under the suzerainty of the British Crown.

Asaf Jah

Asaf Jah is a title associated with the founder of the Asaf Jahi dynasty, which ruled the princely state of Hyderabad. The full title is "Nizam-ul-Mulk, Asaf Jah," and it was granted to Mir Qamar-ud-Din Siddiqi, a prominent noble and administrator in the Mughal Empire.

Mir Qamar-ud-Din Siddiqi was appointed as the Subedar (governor) of the Deccan region by the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb in the late 17th century. His effective administration and military skills earned him the respect of the Mughal court. In 1713, he was granted the title of "Nizam-ul-Mulk" (Administrator of the Realm) and the honorific "Asaf Jah" by the Mughal emperor Farrukhsiyar. This marked the beginning of the Asaf Jahi dynasty.

The Nizams of Hyderabad, starting with Mir Qamar-ud-Din Siddiqi, ruled the princely state of Hyderabad for several generations. The Asaf Jahi dynasty played a significant role in the political landscape of the Deccan region.

The sixth Nizam, Mir Mahbub Ali Pasha, is often associated with the economic and cultural development of Hyderabad. The last Nizam, Mir Osman Ali Khan, ruled until the integration of Hyderabad into the Indian Union in 1948.

Contributions of Asaf Jah:

- 1. Administrative Reforms:
 - Asaf Jah I, also known as Nizam-ul-Mulk, implemented administrative reforms in the Deccan region, bringing stability and order to the territory.
 - The Nizams established a well-organized administrative structure that included revenue systems, judicial institutions, and a strong bureaucracy.
- 2. Cultural Patronage:
 - The Asaf Jahi rulers were patrons of art and culture. They contributed to the development of Urdu language and literature, which flourished under their patronage.
 - Hyderabad became a center for Persian and Urdu poetry, and the Nizams were known for their support of scholars, poets, and artists.
- 3. Architectural Legacy:
 - The Asaf Jahi rulers were responsible for the construction of several architectural marvels in Hyderabad. The city is known for its historic landmarks, including the Charminar, Mecca Masjid, and the Chowmohallah Palace.

- 4. Economic Development:
 - The Nizams undertook economic reforms, encouraging trade and commerce. Hyderabad became a major center for trade, with a flourishing market and diverse economic activities.
 - The development of infrastructure, including roads and irrigation projects, contributed to the economic growth of the region.
- 5. Secular Governance:
 - The Asaf Jahi dynasty was known for its secular governance. Despite being of Turkic origin and holding a predominantly Muslim court, the Nizams ruled over a culturally diverse and multi-religious population.
- 6. Military Achievements:
 - Asaf Jah I played a crucial role in the Mughal military and was appointed as the Subedar of the Deccan for his military prowess.
 - The military strength of the Asaf Jahi dynasty helped maintain stability and protect the state from external threats.
- 7. Establishment of Educational Institutions:
 - The Nizams took an interest in education and established several educational institutions. The Osmania University, founded in 1918, is one of the notable contributions to higher education.
- 8. Legacy of Hyderabad State:
 - The legacy of the Asaf Jahi dynasty continued until the integration of Hyderabad into the Indian Union in 1948. The state's unique cultural and historical identity persists in the present-day state of Telangana.

Nasir Jung

Nasir Jung, whose full name was Mir Ahmed Ali Khan, was a noble and military commander during the period of the Nizams in Hyderabad. He was the son of Nizam-ul-Mulk, Asaf Jah I, the founder of the Asaf Jahi dynasty.

- Nasir Jung became embroiled in the complex succession disputes that often characterized the courts of the Nizams of Hyderabad. After the death of his father, Asaf Jah I, a power struggle ensued among his sons for control over the Nizam's dominions.

- Nasir Jung allied himself with his nephew, Muzaffar Jung, against his own brother, Ghazi-ud-Din Khan (known as Salabat Jung), in the succession dispute. The alliance was part of the larger power struggles within the Nizam's court and involved external powers, including the French and the British.

- Nasir Jung played a role in the Carnatic Wars, a series of military conflicts in the Deccan and South India in the 18th century. He was involved in conflicts against Chanda Sahib, a contender for the Nawabship of the Carnatic, with whom the French were aligned.

- Nasir Jung's life came to a tragic end during the Battle of Ambur in 1750. The battle was part of the larger struggle for control over the Nizam's territories, involving rival claimants and their external allies. Nasir Jung was assassinated during the course of the battle.

- Nasir Jung's death did not bring an end to the succession disputes in the Nizam's court. The conflicts continued with further involvement of European powers, particularly the French and the British, in shaping the political landscape of the Deccan.

Muzaffar Jung

Muzaffar Jung, whose full name was Mir Ahmad Ali Khan, was a noble and political figure in the Deccan region during the 18th century. He was a nephew of the first Nizam, Asaf Jah I, and became one of the

key contenders in the succession disputes that characterized the Nizam's court.

- Muzaffar Jung was the son of Nizam-ul-Mulk's brother, Basalat Jung. His birth name was Mir Ahmad Ali Khan, and he later adopted the title Muzaffar Jung.

- After the death of Asaf Jah I, the founder of the Asaf Jahi dynasty, a power struggle emerged among his sons and other relatives for control over the Nizam's dominions. Muzaffar Jung became one of the claimants to the Nizam's throne.

- Muzaffar Jung formed an alliance with his uncle, Nasir Jung, against another claimant, Salabat Jung (Ghazi-ud-Din Khan), who was the brother of Nasir Jung. This alliance was part of the larger political maneuvering in the Deccan, involving both internal and external actors.

- Muzaffar Jung played a role in the Carnatic Wars, a series of conflicts in South India during the 18th century. These wars involved rival claimants to the throne of the Nizam, as well as European powers, particularly the French and the British.

- Muzaffar Jung's life came to a tragic end during the Battle of Ambur in 1751. This battle was a significant conflict in the larger struggle for control over the Nizam's territories. Muzaffar Jung was killed during the course of the battle.

- Muzaffar Jung's death did not bring an end to the succession disputes in the Deccan. The conflicts continued, with further involvement of European powers, especially the French and the British, who sought to influence the political dynamics in the region.

Carnatic

During the period of the Nawabs in the Carnatic region, there were several key developments that influenced the political and cultural landscape. The term "Nawab of the Carnatic" refers to the Muslim rulers who were appointed by the Mughal Empire and later became semi-autonomous governors or nawabs in the Carnatic region

1. **Mughal Influence:**

- The Carnatic region was initially under the control of the Mughal Empire. The Mughals appointed nawabs to govern the region on their behalf, and these nawabs were responsible for collecting revenue, maintaining law and order, and overseeing administrative affairs.

2. **Nawabs of the Carnatic:**

- The most notable among the Nawabs of the Carnatic was Dost Ali Khan, who served as the Nawab from 1710 to 1740. After his assassination, his son-in-law Chanda Sahib and his grandson Muzaffar Jung became important figures in the Carnatic's political landscape.

3. **Carnatic Wars:**

- The Carnatic Wars (also known as the Deccan Wars) were a series of conflicts in the 18th century involving European colonial powers—primarily the British East India Company and the French East India Company. The local rulers and claimants in the Carnatic often aligned themselves with one of these European powers.

4. **Chanda Sahib:**

- Chanda Sahib, who claimed to be the rightful Nawab, received support from the French. He fought against the British-backed claimant, Anwaruddin Muhammad Khan. Chanda Sahib's reign was marked by conflict, including the Battle of Adyar in 1746.

5. **Muzaffar Jung and Salabat Jung:**

- Muzaffar Jung, another claimant to the Carnatic throne, sought the support of the French against his uncle Nasir Jung and his brother Salabat Jung. The conflicts and power struggles involving Muzaffar Jung and Salabat Jung were part of the broader Carnatic Wars.

 The involvement of European powers in the Carnatic Wars had a profound impact on local politics. It weakened the traditional power structures and paved the way for increased European influence in the region.

7. **Treaty of Paris (1763):**

- The Treaty of Paris in 1763, which concluded the Seven Years' War, had implications for the territories controlled by the British and the French in India, including the Carnatic region.

8. **Transition to British Dominance:**

- The Carnatic region eventually came under British control, and the British East India Company emerged as a dominant force in the area. The Nawabs of the Carnatic lost their political significance as the British established direct control.

Bengal

The period of the Nawabs in Bengal refers to a time when the Mughal emperor appointed nawabs or governors to administer the Bengal province on behalf of the Mughal Empire. The Mughal Empire's decline in the 18th century led to a significant shift in power dynamics, and the nawabs played a crucial role in the administration and governance of Bengal.

1. **Murshid Quli Khan:**

- Murshid Quli Khan is often considered the first Nawab of Bengal. He played a pivotal role in stabilizing the administration of Bengal during the late 17th and early 18th centuries. His appointment marked a transition from the Mughal system of subadari (provincial governorship) to the nawabi system.

2. **Shift in Power:**

- The appointment of nawabs signaled a shift in power from the Mughal emperor to the regional rulers. While the nawabs were technically appointed by the Mughal emperor, they often enjoyed significant autonomy in practice.

3. **Siraj-ud-Daulah:**

- Siraj-ud-Daulah, who became the Nawab of Bengal in 1756, is a prominent figure in Bengal's history during this period. His reign is marked by the Battle of Plassey in 1757, a significant event that led to the establishment of British dominance in Bengal.

4. **Battle of Plassey (1757):**

- The Battle of Plassey was fought between the forces of the British East India Company, led by Robert Clive, and the army of Siraj-ud-Daulah. The British victory at Plassey had far-reaching consequences, effectively establishing British control over Bengal.

5. **East India Company's Economic Influence:**

- During the Nawab era, the East India Company's economic influence in Bengal grew significantly. The Company engaged in trade, collected revenue, and gradually extended its control over various aspects of Bengal's administration.

6. **Dual System of Government:**

- The British implemented the "Dual System" of government, where they nominally recognized the authority of the nawab but, in reality, controlled key aspects of administration and revenue collection.

7. **Nawab Nazim and Nawab Nizam:**

- Over time, the Mughal emperor granted the nawabs the titles of "Nawab Nazim" and "Nawab Nizam," signifying their role as the governor of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa. However, their authority continued to be eroded by the growing power of the British East India Company.

8. **Decline of the Nawabs:**

- The decline of the nawabs became more pronounced in the 18th century, with internal conflicts, conspiracies, and external pressures contributing to their diminishing authority.

9. **Battle of Buxar (1764):**

- The Battle of Buxar solidified British control over Bengal. The defeat of the combined forces of the nawabs of Bengal, Awadh, and the Mughal emperor by the British marked a turning point in Indian history.

Awadh

The Nawabs of Awadh, also known as Oudh, played a significant role in the history of the region during the 18th and 19th centuries. Awadh was a princely state in northern India, and the Nawabs were the rulers appointed by the Mughal Empire until the decline of Mughal authority.

1. **Early Nawabs:**

- The establishment of Nawabi rule in Awadh can be traced back to the mid-18th century. The first Nawab of Awadh was Saadat Ali Khan, who was appointed by the Mughal Emperor Muhammad Shah in 1722.

2. **Burhan-ul-Mulk (Safdar Jung):**

- Safdar Jung, also known as Burhan-ul-Mulk, served as the Viceroy of Awadh during the later years of the Mughal Empire. He played a crucial role in stabilizing the administration of Awadh.

3. **Shuja-ud-Daula:**

- Shuja-ud-Daula is one of the most well-known Nawabs of Awadh. He ruled from 1754 to 1775 and played a significant role in regional politics, particularly during the Battle of Buxar in 1764.

4. **Battle of Buxar (1764):**

- The Battle of Buxar had repercussions for Awadh, as Shuja-ud-Daula, along with the Nawabs of Bengal and the Mughal Emperor, faced defeat against the British East India Company. The British victory had significant consequences for the political landscape of northern India.

5. **Wazir Ali and Saadat Ali Khan II:**

- After Shuja-ud-Daula's death, his son Wazir Ali became the Nawab, but his reign faced challenges, including conflicts with the British. Saadat Ali Khan II succeeded Wazir Ali but his rule was marked by British interference in Awadh's internal affairs.

6. **Treaty of Allahabad (1765):**

- The Treaty of Allahabad in 1765 marked a turning point for Awadh. The treaty allowed the British East India Company to establish a resident at the court of the Nawab and exert influence over Awadh's administration.

7. **Integration into the British Empire:**

- Over time, the Nawabs of Awadh faced increasing pressure from the British East India Company. The British progressively took control of Awadh's administration, leading to the annexation of the state in 1856 by the East India Company.

8. **1857 Rebellion:**

- The annexation of Awadh by the British was a contributing factor to the Indian Rebellion of 1857. The last Nawab, Wajid Ali Shah, played a symbolic role in the rebellion, which sought to challenge British rule in India.

9. **End of Nawabi Rule:**

- After the suppression of the rebellion, the British formally ended the Nawabi rule in Awadh. Wajid Ali Shah was exiled to Calcutta (now Kolkata), and Awadh was absorbed into the British Empire.