

# General Studies - History

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## NEW STATES

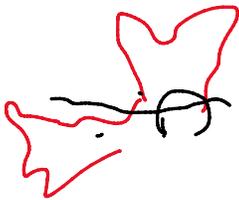
Punjab:

Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Lahore - 1799.

Amritsar - 1802.

Punjab, Kashmir, Peshawar, Multan.



50% of the gross produce was the land revenue.

Sikhs, Gorkhas, Biharis, Oriyas, Pathans, Dogras and Punjabi Muslims.

Factories were set up in Lahore.

↳ employed Muslim gunners

Fakir Aziz Uddin . — Minister

Dewan Dina Nath — Finance Minister.

## British Conquest of Punjab.

Death of Ranjit Singh — 1839.

1. First Anglo Sikh War  
↳ 1845 AD.

Hughes Gough. (leader)

Lord Hardinge (Govn. General).

vs.

Raja Lal Singh and Teg Singh

1846.

one crore rupees to the Britishers.

Kashmir was sold to Gulab Singh.

Second Anglo Sikh War.

(1848-49)

Sikhs lost.

Punjab fell in the hands of the English.

Lord Dalhousie was the Govn. General of India.

The Marathas . (18<sup>th</sup> century).

Shivaji's grandson - Shahu . was released  
by Bahadur Shah.

Civil War (Anti-Mughal struggle).

↳ Shivaji's son — Shivaji II.

Shahu at Satara — aunt Tarabai

Treaty of Wana (1731).

State of Kolhapur — Shivaji II

In 1719, Balaji Vishwanath. (leader). }  
Sayyid Hussain Ali Khan. }  
helped

Sayyid brothers in overthrowing  
Farrokhziyar (Delhi).

1720. Balaji died.  
was succeeded by  
20 yrs old son — Baji Rao I.

1740; when Baji Rao I died;  
Marathas took  
over Malwa, Gujarat and parts of  
Bundelkhand.

Gaekwad, Holkar, Scindia, Bhosle.

The Anglo-Marathas Wars.

cotton trade  
1748 AD to China from Gujarat  
through Bombay.

1st Anglo-Maratha War. (1755-82 AD)

↳ Treaty of Surat (1755 AD)

Raghunath Rao with the Bombay  
Govt.

Treaty of Salbai. (ended the  
war).

The Second Anglo Maratha War.

under Arthur Wellesley (leader).

vs.

Scindia, Bhosles.

Treaty of Deogaon (17<sup>th</sup> December, 1803).  
|  
Bhosle

Treaty of Swaji - Arjangaon  
(30<sup>th</sup> Dec, 1803)

In 1804 AD, Yashwant Rao Holkar

Sir George Barlow vs.

↳ Treaty of Rajpurgat (Rajghat).  
(25<sup>th</sup> Dec, 1805).

The Third Anglo Maratha War. (1817 - 18 AD)

Lord Hastings (Gov. General).

Peshwa attack the British residency at Poona.

↳ Maratha Chiefs.

Baji° Rao II was dethroned  
and sent to Bithur (Kanpur)

Treaty of Mandsor.

↳ Yashwant Holkar

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Kerala.

(18th century)

↳ Calicut      Zamorin, Chirakkal,  
Cochin, Travancore      ↳ (1729).

King Martanda Varma  
↳ defeated Dutch.

Travancore, Kanyakumari, Cochin.  
1763, Calicut.

Haider Ali - 1766. [Kerala, Cochin,  
Zamorin (Calicut)]

Rama Varma.

Malayan Lit in the 18th century

Trivandrum - capital city of Travancore.

↳ Sanskrit scholarship.

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### New States

They were the states set up by the rebels against the Mughal Empire.

### Punjab

The kingdom of Punjab was founded by Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

### Maharaja Ranjit Singh (1780-1839 AD)

He captured Lahore in 1799 and Amritsar in 1802. He soon brought all Sikh chiefs West of the Sutlej under his control and established his own kingdom in the Punjab. Later, he conquered Kashmir, Peshawar and Multan.

### Economic System Under Maharaja Ranjit Singh

Ranjit Singh did not make any changes in the system of land revenue promulgated earlier by the Mughals. The amount of land revenue was calculated on the basis of 50% of the gross produce.

### **Military Under Maharaja Ranjit Singh**

Ranjit Singh built up a powerful, disciplined and well equipped army along European lines with the help of European instructors.

His new army was not confined to the Sikhs. He also recruited Gurkhas, Biharis, Oriyas, Pathans, Dogras and Punjabi Muslims.

Ranjit Singh set up modern industries to manufacture cannon at Lahore and employed Muslim gunners to use them. He possessed the second-best army in Asia, the first being the army of the English East India Company.

### **Administration Under Maharaja Ranjit Singh**

Ranjit Singh had great capacity for choosing his ministers and officials. His court was full of outstanding men.

He was tolerant and liberal in religious matters. He patronised not only Sikh but also Muslim and Hindu holy men. Many of his important ministers and commanders were Muslims and Hindus.

The most prominent and trusted of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's ministers was Fakir Aziz Uddin, while his Finance Minister was Dewan Dina Nath.

The Sikh peasants were as much oppressed by Sikh chiefs as was the Hindu or Muslim peasant. In fact, the structure of Punjab as a state under Ranjit Singh was similar to the structure of the other Indian states of the 18th century.

### **British Conquest of Punjab**

The process of decline of Sikh Empire began with the death of Ranjit Singh in 1839.

Plans and counter plans of various groups to capture the throne of Lahore provided an opportunity for decisive action by the English.

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Sikh army was led by Raja Lal Singh and Teg Singh.

The end of the First Anglo-Sikh war forced the Sikhs to sign a humiliating treaty in 1846, which included war indemnity of more than one crore rupees to the English.

Since, the Sikhs were not able to pay entire war indemnity, Kashmir including Jammu was sold to Gulab Singh.

After the defeat of Sikhs in **Second Anglo-Sikh War** (1848-49), Punjab fell into the hands of English. Lord Dalhousie was the Governor-General of India at that time.

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## **The Marathas**

They were another powerful regional kingdoms to arise out of a sustained opposition to the Mughal Rule.

The Maratha Confederacy was a dominating power in many regions of India during the 18th Century. The rule of Marathas presented perhaps the most formidable challenge to Mughal Rule both in Deccan and in the North.

When Aurangzeb died after 40 years of futile warfare in the Deccan, the Marathas still remained to be subjugated and after his death Shivaji's grandson Shahu was released by Bahadur Shah.

The Maratha Kingdom was, however, certainly weakened and the process was further worsened due to the civil war between Shivaji's grandson Shahu at Satara and his aunt Tarabai at Kolhapur who had carried out an Anti-Mughal struggle since, 1700 in the name of her son Shivaji II.

The contest with the Tarabai faction was settled later in the Treaty of Warna in 1731, which gave the state of Kolhapur to Shivaji II.

In 1719, Balaji Vishwanath, as the head of Maratha force accompanied Sayyid Hussain Ali Khan.

They helped the Sayyid Brothers in overthrowing Farrukhsiyar in Delhi. After that Peshwa secured a Mughal Sanad (imperial order) recognising Shahu's right to Chauth and Sardeshmukhi (one-fourth and one-tenth respectively) in six Mughal provinces of Deccan, Chauth of Malwa and Gujarat and independent status in Maharashtra.

After Maratha civil war was brought to an end, the control of the state gradually passed on from the line of Shivaji to that of the Peshwas.

After Balaji Vishwanath died in 1720, he was succeeded as Peshwa by his 20 year old son Baji Rao I.

By 1740, when Baji Rao died, the Marathas had won control over Malwa, Gujarat and parts of Bundelkhand.

The Maratha families of Gaekwad, Holkar, Scindia and Bhosle came into prominence during this period in the short period of 20 years.

In the crucial **Third Battle of Panipat**, the Maratha forces under Sadashiv Rao Bhao were routed by Abdali and this marked the beginning of the decline of Maratha power.

## **The Anglo-Maratha Wars**

Apart from their territorial ambitions, the major reason for the British intervention in Maratha state was primarily commercial.

The sudden growth in the company's cotton trade after 1784 AD to China from Gujarat through Bombay, motivated the British authorities to play a more interventionist role in the region.

### **The First Anglo-Maratha War** (1775-82 AD)

- The war began with the Treaty of Surat (1775 AD) which was signed by Raghunath Rao with the Bombay Government to seige the throne with the help of English troops and ended with the Treaty of Salbai (1782 AD).

### **The Second Anglo- Maratha War** (1803-05 AD)

The second phase of the struggle between the British and the Marathas was intimately connected with the circumstances created by the growing French power for the company in India.

In the war, the well-prepared and organised army of the English under Arthur Wellesley defeated the combined armies of Scindias and Bhonsle and forced them to conclude separate subsidiary treaties with the British.

Bhonsle signed the Treaty of Deogaon (17th December, 1803) and Scindia signed the Treaty of Surji-Arjangaon (30th December, 1803).

- In 1804 AD, Yashwant Rao Holkar made an attempt to form a coalition of Indian rulers to fight against the British. His attempt however, proved to be unsuccessful and after being defeated, he was forced to conclude with Sir George Barlow the Treaty of Rajpurghat or Rajghat (25th December, 1805). Thus, the war finally resulted in the establishment of British influence on the Maratha empire.

### **The Third Anglo-Maratha War (1817-18 AD)**

The third and the final phase of the struggle began with the coming of Lord Hastings as the Governor-General in 1813, who resumed the aggressive policy of Wellesley and was determined to proclaim the British Paramountcy in India.

The Peshwa, who was agitated by the rigid control exercised by British resident, attacked the British residency at Poona. He was joined by other Maratha Chiefs.

However, the British were determined to prevent the Peshwa to exert his authority again on the Maratha confederacy and the battles that followed undermined the power and prestige of the Marathas.

The Maratha confederacy was dissolved and the Peshwa, Baji Rao II was dethroned and pensioned off at Bithur near Kanpur.

A subsidiary treaty known as the Treaty of Mandsor was signed with Holkar. To satisfy the Maratha pride, Pratap Singh, a descendant of Shivaji was made the ruler of a small kingdom of Satara founded out of the Peshwa's lands.

### **Kerala**

At the beginning of the 18th century Kerala was divided up among a large number of feudal chiefs and rajas.

The four most important states were those of Calicut, under the Zamorin, Chirakkal, Cochin and Travancore. Following are the two most prominent kings that ruled over Kerala:

#### **King Martanda Varma**

- The kingdom of Travancore rose into prominence after 1729 under King Martanda Varma, one of the leading statesmen of the 18th century.

He subdued the feudatories, conquered Quilon and Elay Adam and defeated the Dutch, thus ending their political power in Kerala.

He organised a strong army on the Western model with the help of European officers and armed it with modern weapons. He also constructed a modern arsenal.

He used his new army to expand Northwards and the boundaries of Travancore soon extended from Kanyakumari to Cochin. He undertook many irrigation works, built roads and canals to encourage foreign trade.

By 1763, all the petty principalities of Kerala had been absorbed or subordinated by the three big states of Cochin, Travancore and Calicut.

Haider Ali began his invasion of Kerala in 1766 and in the end annexed Northern Kerala up to Cochin, including the territories of the Zamorin of Calicut.

Rama Varma

Rama Varma was successor of Martanda Varma. He was a poet, scholar, musician, renowned actor and a

man of great culture.

He conversed fluently in English. He took a keen interest in European affairs and regularly read newspapers and journals published in London, Calcutta and Madras.

#### Malayalam Literature in 18th Century

The 18th century saw a remarkable revival in Malayalam literature. This was due in part to the rajas and chiefs of Kerala who were great patrons of literature. Trivandrum, the capital of Travancore, became a famous centre of Sanskrit scholarship in the second half of the 18th century.

#### The Jats

The agriculturists Jat settlers living around Delhi, Mathura and Agra had revolted against the oppressive policies of Aurangzeb. However, the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb suppressed the revolt but the area remained disturbed.

Though originally a peasant uprising, the Jat revolt was led by zamindars. Sooner, it became predatory. The Jat state of Bharatpur was set up by Churaman and Badan Singh. Jat power reached its highest glory under Suraj Mal (1756-1763).

Some important leaders of the community were as follows:

#### **Gokla**

He was the zamindar of Tilpat, who provided leadership to the Jat uprisings in 1669 AD. The uprising was suppressed by the Mughal Governor, Hasan Ali Khan.

#### **Rajarama** (1670-1688 AD)

He was the Zamindar of Sinsani. He provided leadership to the Jat uprisings in 1685 AD, which was suppressed by Raja Bishan Singh Kachwaha of Amber.

#### **Churaman** (1690-1721 AD)

He obtained Mansab from the Mughal ruler Bahadur Shah I and established the State of Bharatpur. He served in Bahadur Shah's campaign against Banda Bahadur.

#### **Badan Singh** (1722-1756 AD)

He was the nephew of Churaman. Ahmad Shah Abdali gave him the title of Raja. He may be regarded as the real founder of the Jat States of Bharatpur.

#### **Suraj Mal** (1756-1763 AD)

- Suraj Mal compelled the Mughal authorities to recognise him by successfully withstanding a siege by Abdali's army. He supported the Marathas in the Third Battle of Panipat.

He tried to lay the foundation of an enduring state by adopting the Mughal revenue system.

But after his death in 1763, the Jat state declined and was split up among petty zamindars most of whom lived by plunder.

#### **Rohilakhand**

Muhammad Khan Bangash established his control over the territory around Farrukhabad (between what are now Aligarh and Kanpur).

During the collapse of administration following Nadir Shah's invasion, Ali Muhammad Khan carved out a separate principality, known as Rohilakhand in 1741, at the foothills of the Himalayas between the Ganga in the South and the Kumaon hills in the North.

- The Rohilas clashed constantly with Awadh, Delhi and the Jats.