

# HISTORY CHAPTER:- 10

## EIGHTEENTH CENTURY – POLITICAL FORMATION



# INTRODUCTION

- ❖ We will learn the overview of independent and powerful states in the country .
- ❖ We have an understanding of their expressions .
- ❖ The political conditions in the eighteenth century that India changed quite dramatically and within a relatively short span of time .



# THE CRISIS OF THE EMPIRE AND THE LATER MUGHALS

- Emperor Aurangzeb had depleted the military and financial resources of his empire by fighting a long war in the Deccan .
- Peasants and zaminadari rebellions in many parts of north and east India added to these problems.
- They were attempts by powerful chieftains to consolidate their own positions . Mughal authority has been challenged by the rebellious groups in the past as well .
- It became increasingly difficult for later Mughal emperor to keep a check on their powerful mansabdars .



# EMERGENCE OF NEW STATES

- States that were old mughals provinces like Awadh , Bengal and Hyderabad.
- States that had enjoyed considerable independence under the mughals as watan jagirs .
- These included several rajput principalities .
- The last group included states under the control of Marathas , Sikhs and others like jats .



# THE OLD MUGHAL PROVINCES

- ❑ All three states were founded by members of high Mughal nobility who had been governor of large provinces – Sa'adat khan { Awadh } , Murshid Quli khan { Bengal } and Asaf Jah {Hyderabad }.
- ❑ Both Asaf Jah and Murshid Quli khan held a zat rank of 7,000 each , while Sa'adat khan 's zat was 6,000.



# 1. HYDERABAD

- ❑ Nizam - ul –Mulk Asaf jah , the founder of Hyderabad state { 1724 – 1748 }.
- ❑ He was the one of the most powerful member of the court of Mughal emperor Farrukh Siyar .
- ❑ Asaf jah had already gained control over its political and financial administration.
- ❑ Asaf Jah brought skilled soldiers and administrators from northern India who welcomed the new opportunities in the south .
- ❑ He was still a servant of the Mughal emperor , he ruled quite independently without seeking any direction from Delhi or facing any interference .



## 2. AWADH

- Burhan-ul-Mulk Sa'adat Khan was appointed subadar of Awadh in 1722 and founded a state .
- Burhan-ul-Mulk also held the combined offices of subadari , diwani and faujdari .
- Burhan-ul-Mulk tried to decreased Mughal influence in the Awadh .

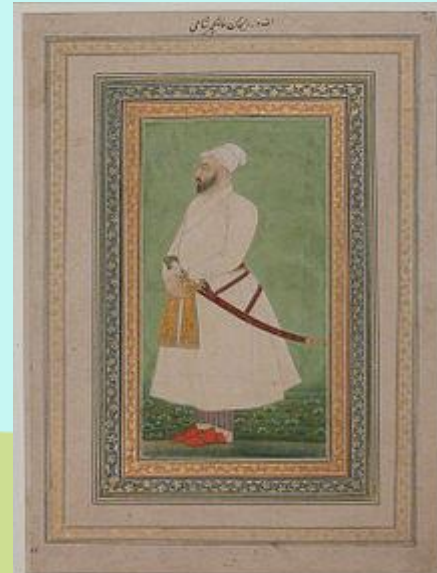


- The accounts of jagirdars were checked to prevent cheating and the revenues of all districts were reassessed by officials appointed by the Nawab's court.
- The right to collect tax to the highest bidders . These “revenue farmers “ {ijaradars} agreed to pay the state a fixed sum of money.
- Local bankers guaranteed the payment of this contracted amount to the state.



### 3. BENGAL

- Murshid Quli Khan who was appointed as the naib , deputy to the governor of the provinces.
- He also commanded for the revenue administration of the state.
- To reduce Mughal influence in Bengal he transferred all Mughal jagirdars to Orissa and ordered a major reassessment of the revenues of Bengal .
- Those unable to pay were forced to sell their lands to larger zamindars .



- ✓ Hyderabad and Awadh as well – was evident in Bengal under the rule of Alivardi khan {r.1740-1756} .
- ✓ During his reign the banking house of jagat Seth became extremely prosperous .



# THE WATAN JAGIRS OF THE RAJPUTS

- ❖ These influential Rajput families claimed the subadari of the rich provinces of Gujarat and malwa .
- ❖ Raja Ajit Singh of jodhpur held the governorship of Gujarat and sawai raja jai Singh of amber was governor of malwa .
- ❖ These offices were renewed by emperor jahandar shah in 1713 .
- ❖ Nagaur was conquered and annexed to the house of Jodhpour , while amber seized large portion of bundi.
- ❖ Sawai Raja Jai Singh founded his capital at Jaipur and was given the subadari of agra in 1722.
- ❖ Marathas campaigns into Rajasthan from the 1740s put serve pressure on these principalities and checked their further expansion .





DERMOT O'KANE  
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# SEIZING INDEPENDENCE

## 1. THE SIKHS

- ❖ The organization of sikhs into a political community during the seventeenth century helped in regional state building in the punjab .
- ❖ The Sikhs organized themselves into a number of bands called jathas and later on misls .
- ❖ Their combined forces were known as the grand army [dal khalsa].
- ❖ The sikhs territory in the late eighteenth century extended from the Indus to Jamuna .
- ❖ Then they divide into different rulers :-
  - ❖ 1. Maharaja Ranjit Singh , reunited these groups and established his capital at Lahore in 1799.



# SIKHS

## GURU GOBIND SINGH

- Several battles were fought by Guru Gobind Singh against the Rajput and mughal rulers both before and after the institution of the khalsa in 1699.
- He was died in 1708 .
- Banda bahadur was captured in 1715 and executed in 1716.
- A system called Rakhi was introduced , offering protection the cultivators on the payment of a tax of 20 per cent of the produce .
- Guru Gobind Singh had inspired the khalsa with belief that their density was to rule .





# AHMAD SHAH ABDALI

- ❑ Ahmad Shah Abdali who had seized the rich province of the Punjab and the sarkar of Sirhind from the Mughals .
- ❑ The Khalsa declared their sovereign rule by striking their own coin against in 1765.
- ❑ This coin bore the same inscription as the one on the orders issued by the Khalsa in the time of Banda Bahadur .



## 2. MARATHAS

- The Marathas was another powerful regional kingdom to arise out of a sustained opposition to mughal rule .
- Shivaji (1627-1680) carved out a stable kingdom with the support of powerful warrior families (deshmukhs).
- Shivaji used the forces to challenge the Mughals in the peninsula.
- After Shivaji's death, effective power in the Maratha state was wielded by a family of Chitpavan Brahmanas who served Shivaji's successors as Peshwa .
- Poona became the capital of the Maratha kingdom .



- After raiding Delhi in 1737 the frontiers of Maratha domination expanded rapidly: into Rajasthan and the Punjab in the north; into Bengal and Orissa in the east; and into Karnataka and the Tamil and Telugu countries in the south.
- These military campaigns also made other rulers hostile towards the Marathas. As a result, they were not inclined to support the Marathas during the third battle of Panipat in 1761.



- They allowed Maratha chiefs (sardars) like Sindhia of Gwalior, Gaekwad of Baroda and Bhonsle of Nagpur the resources to raise powerful armies.
- Ujjain expanded under Sindhia's patronage and Indore under Holkar's



# MUGHALS

- ❖ Between 1720 and 1761, the Maratha empire expanded. It gradually chipped away at the authority of the Mughal Empire.
- ❖ Malwa and Gujarat were seized from the Mughals by the 1720s.
- ❖ By the 1730s, the Maratha king was recognized as the overlord of the entire Deccan peninsula.
- ❖ He possessed the right to levy chauth and sardeshmukhi in the entire region.



# HOW SILK WAS PRODUCED

- The silk produced in the Chanderi region now found a new outlet in Poona, the Maratha capital.
- Burhanpur which had earlier participated in the trade between Agra and Surat.
- Now it is expanded its hinterland to include Poona and Nagpur in the south and Lucknow and Allahabad in the east .



# THE JATS

- ❑ the Jats consolidated their power during the late seventeenth and eighteenth-centuries. Under their leader, Churaman, they acquired control over territories situated to the west of the city of Delhi.
- ❑ The Jats were prosperous agriculturists, and towns like Panipat and Ballabgarh became important trading centres in the areas dominated by them.
- ❑ Under Suraj Mal the kingdom of Bharatpur emerged as a strong state.
- ❑ When Nadir Shah sacked Delhi in 1739, many of the city's notables took refuge there.
- ❑ His son Jawahir Shah had 30,000 troops of his own and hired another 20,000 Maratha and 15,000 Sikh troops to fight the Mughals.



**THANK YOU**

