MODERN HISTORY

MODULE - I

(USEFUL FOR CIVIL SERVICES & OTHER STATE EXAMINATIONS)

EDITION 2025

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- *August Offer, CR Formula, Cabinet Mission Plan, etc.*

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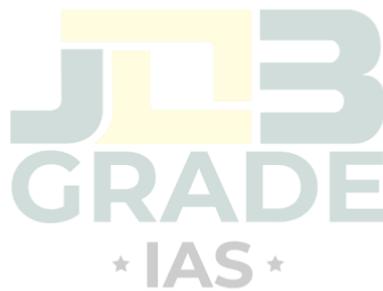
- *Regulating Act (1773)*
- *Pitt's India Act (1784)*
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- *Government of India Acts (1919, 1935)*

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- *Civil Services*
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- *Education Policy*

Fall of Mughals

Bahadur Shah I (1707 AD – 1712 AD)

- Actual name: Mauzzam, also known as Shah Alam I.
- He abolished Jizya again.
- Recognised Raja Ajit Singh as ruler of Malwa.
- Made Guru Gobind Singh a Mughal Mansabdar and released Shahu from Agra jail.
- Nicknamed Shah-i-Bekhabar for his administrative approach.

Jahandar Shah (1712 AD – 1713 AD)

- For the first time, Mughal nobles gained influence in the court.

- Jahandar Shah rose to power with the support of Wazir Zulfiqar Ali.

Farukh Siyar (1713 AD – 1719 AD)

- He came to power with the support of Syed Brothers, known as "kingmakers".
- They led the Hindustani faction.
- In 1715 AD, Banda Bahadur, the last Sikh leader, was executed.
- Farukh Siyar preserved Mughal paintings in the Red Fort.
- He was later killed by the Syed Brothers.

Mohammed Shah (1719 AD – 1748 AD)

- His real name was Roasha Akhtar and he was known as Rangeela.
- The Syed Brothers were killed by the Irani faction led by Sadat Khan and Asaf Jah (Nizam-ul-Mulk).
- The Mughal empire disintegrated:
    - Bengal became independent under Murshid Quli Khan.
    - Sadat Khan founded Oudh (Ayodhya).
    - Asaf Jah founded Hyderabad.
- In 1739 AD, Nadir Shah attacked Delhi, and took the Kohinoor Diamond and Peacock Throne to Persia.

Ahmad Shah (1748 AD – 1754 AD)

- He was influenced by court dancer Uddam Bai.
- He appointed two-year-old infants as Governors of Punjab and Kashmir.

Alamgir II (1754 AD – 1759 AD)

- His real name was Azizuddin.
- The Battle of Plassey (1757 AD) took place during his reign.
- Ahmad Shah Abdali, the Persian king, attacked seven times.

Shah Alam II (1759 AD – 1806 AD)

- His actual name was Ali Guhar.
- Major events during his reign:
    - Third Battle of Panipat (1761 AD)
    - Battle of Buxar (1764 AD)
- In 1765 AD, he granted Diwani rights (revenue collection) in Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa to the East India Company.

- He became a prisoner of the English after the Second Anglo-Maratha War.

Akbar II (1806 AD – 1837 AD)

- He granted the title of 'Raja' to Rammohan Roy.

- He sent Rammohan Roy to London to plead the pension case in the Privy Council.

Bahadur Shah II Zafar (1837 AD – 1857 AD)

- He was the last Mughal emperor.
- He was the nominal leader of the 1857 Revolt.
- Mirza Ghalib, considered the father of modern Urdu poetry, was patronised by him.
- He was exiled to Burma and died in 1865 AD.

Advent of The Europeans

List of European Powers That Arrived in India
1. Portuguese
2. Dutch
3. Danes
4. French

1. Portuguese
Initial Explorations
- **Bartholomew Diaz** was the first European navigator to cross the Equator.
- **Vasco da Gama** discovered the **sea route to India** via the Cape of Good Hope.
- He landed at **Calicut** on **17 May 1498 AD**.
- He was received by the **Zamorin of Calicut**, named **Manuvikrama Varma**.

Portuguese Settlements and Trade
- In **1502 AD**, the **Portuguese established settlements** at **Cochin**, **Calicut**, and **Cannanore**.
- **Cochin** remained the **main centre of Portuguese trade** in India until **1530 AD**.
- **Vasco da Gama** was **buried at Cochin**.

Governors
➜ **Francisco de Almada**

- ◆ First **Portuguese Governor** in India
- ◆ Introduced the **Blue Water Policy**

➜ **Alphonso de Albuquerque**

- ◆ Second **Portuguese Governor**
- ◆ **Conquered Goa** from the **Sultan of Bijapur** in **1510 AD**
- ◆ Promoted the idea of a **'Portuguese Empire in India'**
- ◆ Encouraged **conversions** and **forced marriages**

➜ **Nino de Cunha**

- ◆ Shifted the **capital** from **Cochin to Goa**
- ◆ During **Alfonso de D'Souza's** tenure, **St. Xavier**, the **Jesuit missionary**, visited India

Settlements
- **West Coast**: Ormuz, Dabool, Cambay, Surat, Goa, Daman and Diu, Salsette, Bassein, Kalyan
- **East Coast**: Santhome (near Chennai), Hugli (in Bengal)
- **Malabar Coast**: Cochin, Calicut, Cannanore

Trade
- Their major trade was in **spices**
- They were the first to start a **licensing system** and follow **monopolistic trade**
- Licences issued by the Portuguese were called **Cartazes**

Downfall of the Portuguese in India
- In **1612 AD**, **Captain Best** of the **English** defeated the Portuguese in the **Battle of Swally**, leading to the loss of **Surat**

- In **1622 AD**, **Ormuz** was lost to the **Dutch**
- In **1631 AD**, **Hugli** was lost
- In **1661 AD**, **Mumbai** was given to **Prince Charles II of England** as **dowry**,

after his marriage to **Portuguese Princess Catherine of Braganza**
- In **1663 AD**, **Cochin** was lost to the **Dutch**

In **1739 AD**, **Peshwa Bajirao I** occupied the **Salsette** and **Bassein** islands. The Portuguese were left with only **Goa**, **Daman**, and **Diu** up to **1961 AD**.

2. Dutch

- The **Dutch East India Company** was founded in **1603 AD**.
- Their first settlement in India was **Machilipatnam**, captured in **1605 AD**.
- Until **1689 AD**, **Pulicat** was the main centre of **Dutch trade**; afterwards, **Nagapatnam** became their main trade centre.

Other Settlements:
- **Bhimunipatnam** (near **Visakhapat-nam**) was the **first Municipal Corporation** in India.
- In **Bengal**: **Cassimbazar**, **Chinsurah**, **Hugli**, **Dacca**, and **Patna** (in **Bihar**).
- On the **West Coast**: **Ormuz**, **Cambay**, **Surat**, and **Broach**.
- In the **North**: **Agra**.
- On the **Malabar Coast**: **Cochin** was of prime importance.

The **Dutch** traded mainly in **textile and indigo**. The best indigo came from **Bayana**, **Sarkaz** (Gujarat), and **Agra**. They conducted **Intra-Asian** and **Euro-Asian** trade (India to Indonesia and Indonesia to Europe). **Batavia** in **Indonesia** was the main Dutch trade centre in Asia, so it was called **Batavian Trade**.

Anglo-Dutch Rivalry

- In **1622 AD**, **23 English merchants** were killed by the Dutch at **Ambayani** in Indonesia (**Ambayani Massacre**).

- In retaliation, the English defeated the Dutch in the **Battle of Bédara** in **1759 AD**.
- The Dutch **surrendered all settlements in India** in exchange for English settlements in **Indonesia**.

English

- **John Minden Hall** was the first Englishman to visit **India in 1599 AD**, in **Akbar's court at Agra**.
- In **December 1600 AD**, the **English East India Company** was founded as a **joint-stock company**.
- **Queen Elizabeth I** granted **monopoly rights for 15 years** by Charter.
- In **1604 AD**, **James I** extended the monopoly **indefinitely**.
- First factory/settlement at **Machilipatnam in 1611 AD**, with permission from **Quli Qutb Shah of Golconda**, via **Golden Farman**.
- In **1639 AD**, **Francis Day** got permission from **Raja of Chandragiri** to settle at **Chennapatnam (Chennai)**.
- In **1655 AD**, **Chennai/Madras** became the first **English Municipality**.

- In **1658 AD**, **Madras Presidency** was formed; **Francis Day** became the **first President**.
- In **1633 AD**, first settlement in **Bengal** at **Harihara**.
- **George Boughton** treated **Suja** (Doctor Diplomacy).
- In **1653 AD**, English settled at **Dacca, Hugli, Cossimbazar, Chinsurah, Patna**.
- In **1692 AD**, **Job Charnock** fortified **Sutanuti, Gobindapur, Kalikatta**, forming **Calcutta**.
- In **1658 AD**, **Madras Presidency** was formed with **Francis Day** as the **first President**.
- In **1633 AD**, the English established their **first settlement in Bengal** at **Harihara**.
- **George Boughton** was the doctor who treated **Suja** (**Doctor Diplomacy**).
- In **1653 AD**, the English settled at **Dacca, Hugli, Cossimbazar, Chinsurah**, and **Patna**.
- In **1692 AD**, **Job Charnock** fortified **Sutanuti, Gobindapur**, and **Kalikatta**, forming the city of **Calcutta**.
- In **1700 AD**, the English constructed **Fort William** at **Calcutta**, and the **Bengal Presidency** was created with **Charles Eyre** as the **first President**.
- In **1667 AD**, **Bombay** became the **main centre of English trade** on the **West Coast**.

English trade
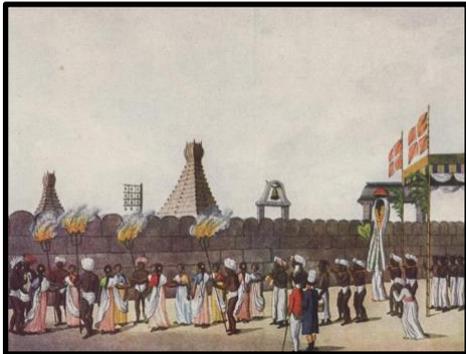Their main trade item was **printed textiles** known as **Calicos**.

Anglo-Mughal Relations
- **Captain Hawkins**, **Captain Edwards**, and **Sir Thomas Roe** were the English ambassadors to visit the court of **Jahangir**.
- In **1690 AD**, **Aurangzeb** defeated the **English** but allowed them to trade on the

condition of paying **Rs. 3000 per annum**.

- In **1717 AD**, **Mughal Emperor Farrukh Siyar** issued the **Golden Farmana**, exempting the **English** from **customs duties** in **Deccan** and **Gujarat**.
- The **Farmana** was granted to **Sir John Surman's** delegation.

4. Danes

- **Danish East India Company** was founded in **1616 AD**.
- Their two settlements in India were **Tranquebar** (near **Chennai**) and **Serampur** (in **Bengal**).
- Among all Europeans, the **Danes** were the foremost promoters of **Christianity** in India.

5. French

- **French East India Company** was founded in **1664 AD** by **Jean Colburt**, Finance Minister of **Louis XIV**.
- The French founded their **first settlement at Surat** in **1666 AD** with the help of **Francois Karan**.
- Other settlements were **Machilipatnam, Pondicherry, Yanaon, Mahe, Karaikal**, and **Chandernagore**.
- The city **Pondicherry** was the **main centre of French trade**, developed by **Francois Martin**.

Anglo-French Rivalry / Carnatic Wars

First Carnatic War (1746 AD – 1748 AD)

- **Dupleix**, the **French Governor**, promoted the concept of a **'French Empire in India'**.
- The war began with the **Austrian War of Succession** between **England** and **France** in Europe.
- **Dupleix** defeated the English and captured **Fort St. George (Madras)**.
- **The Nawab of Carnatic**, **Anwaruddin**, supported the English.
- In the **Battle of Santhome (1747 AD)** near **Adyar (Chennai)**, Dupleix defeated Anwaruddin's army.
- The war ended with the **Aix-la-Chapelle Treaty / Paris Treaty** signed in **1748 AD**.

Second Carnatic War (1749 AD – 1754 AD)

- The war began with a **civil war at Hyderabad**.
- The **French supported Muzaffar Jung**, while the **English supported Nasir Jung**.
- In **Carnatic**, the **French supported Chanda Sahib** and the **English supported Anwaruddin**.
- **Dupleix** defeated the English in the **Battle of Ambur (1749 AD)**.
- **Muzaffar Jung** was later killed by the **Nawabs of Kurnool and Cuddapah**.

- The French then declared **Salabat Jung** as the **Nawab of Hyderabad**.
- In **1751 AD**, **Salabat Jung** gave away the **Northern Circars (Coastal Andhra districts)** to the **French**.
- In **1751 AD**, **Robert Clive**, an accountant in the **East India Company**, captured **Arcot**, the **capital of Carnatic**, and held it for **53 days**. Following this, **Dupleix was suspended**.
- The war ended with the **Pondicherry Treaty in 1754 AD**.

Third Carnatic War (1756 AD – 1763 AD)

- It began with the **Seven Years' War** between **England** and **France** in **Europe**.

- **Bussy**, the French Commander, was defeated by **Colonel Forde** in the **Battle of Chendurti (1757 AD)**; the French lost **Hyderabad**.
- The **Battle of Wandiwash** (also spelled **Vandavasi**) on **22 January 1760** was the most decisive.
- The French navy under **Count de Lally** was crushed by **Colonel Eyre Coote**.
- This battle **ended French ambitions** in **India**.
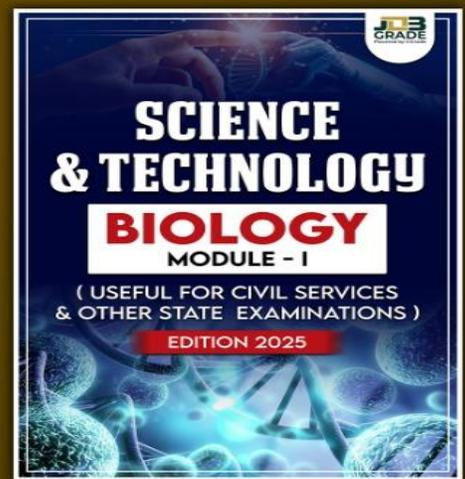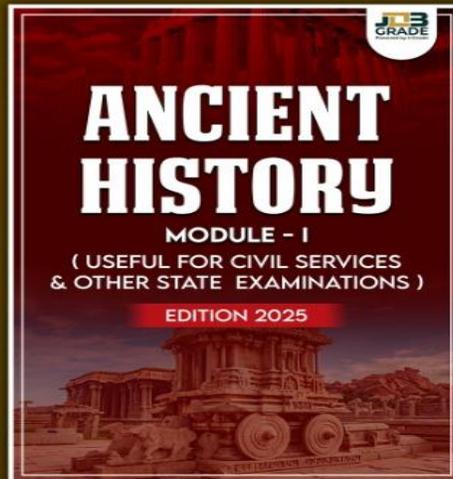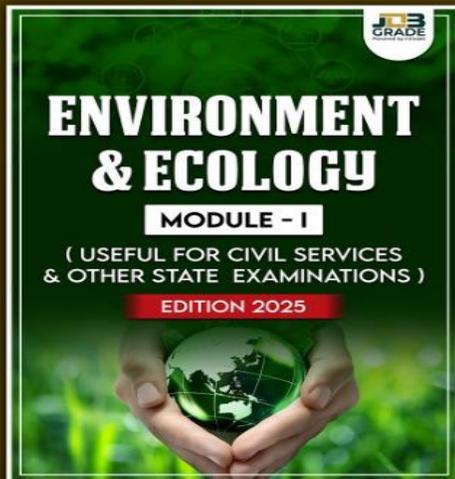- The war concluded with the **Treaty of Paris (1764 AD)**.

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