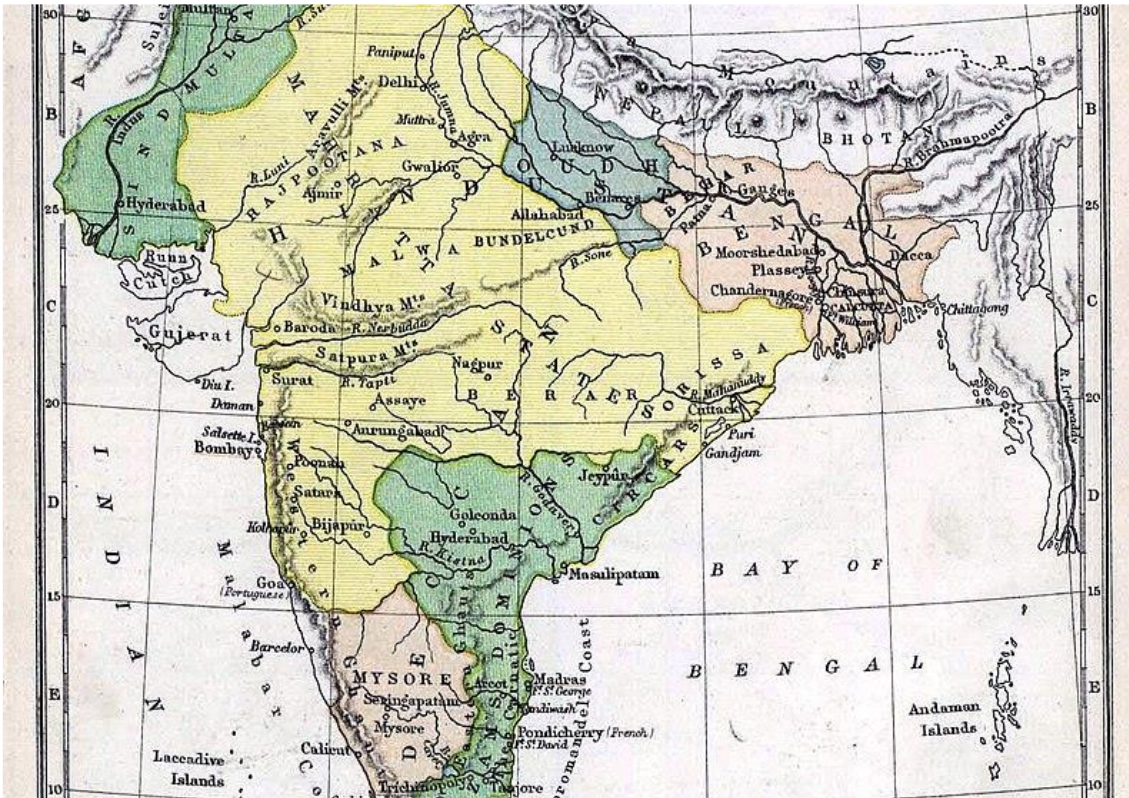


The Rise and Fall of the Maratha Power

Modern Indian History





Evolution of Peshwaship

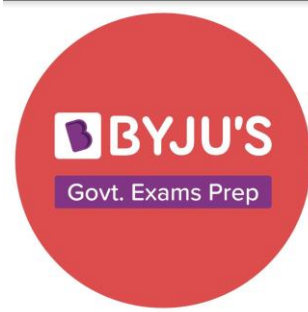
- ❑ **Shahu**, grandson of Shivaji, had been a prisoner of Aurangzeb since 1689.

- ❑ Released in **1707**

- ❑ Soon, a civil war broke out between **Shahu (Satara)** & his aunt **Tara Bai (Kolhapur)**, who had carried out an anti-Mughal struggle since 1700 in the name of her son **Shivaji II** after the death of her **husband Raja Ram**.

Evolution of Peshwaship Continued...

- Arising out of the conflict between Shahu & his rival, a new system of Maratha government was evolved under the leadership of **Balaji Vishwanath**, the **Peshwa** of King Shahu. **(1713)**



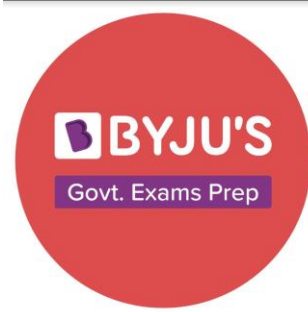
Balaji Vishwanath (1713-1720 C.E.)

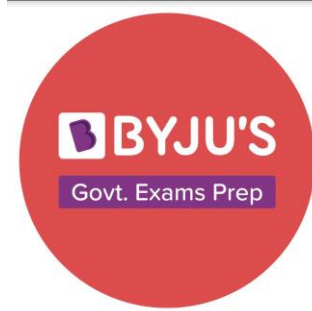


- ❑ Balaji Vishwanath, a Brahmin, started his career as a small revenue official. He played a crucial role in the victory of Sahu over Tarabai in the Battle of Khed in 1707 C.E.
- ❑ After Sahu's (1707-48 CE) coronation as Chatrapathi at Satara, Balaji was made his Sena Karte (organizer of forces)
- ❑ In 1713 C.E., he was raised to the post of Peshwa, this marked the domination of Peshwa supremacy in Maratha politics.
- ❑ Office of Peshwa become hereditary. From now onward Chatrapati become just a figure-head.
- ❑ He is rightly called as 'Second founder of Maratha state'.

Balaji Vishwanath (1713-1720 C.E.) Continued....

- ❑ He was the 1st Maratha official to reach Delhi & involve in the internal matters of the Mughal rulers.
- ❑ He secured the release of Sahu's mother.





Baji Rao I (1720-1740 C.E.)

- ❑ Succeeded by his 20-year old son **Baji Rao I**.
- ❑ The Maratha power **reached its zenith** under him.
- ❑ Bold & brilliant commander & an ambitious & clever statesman.
- ❑ Described as **"the greatest exponent of guerrilla tactics after Shivaji"**.
- ❑ He preached the ideal of **Hindu Padpad Shahi** (All India Hindu Empire). Formulated a policy of Northern expansion so that, **"the Maratha flag will fly from Attock to Cuttack (river Krishna)"**.

Baji Rao I (1720-1740 C.E.) Continued.....

- ❑ He initiated a 'system of confederacy' among the Maratha chiefs – under this system, each Maratha chief was assigned a territory which would be administered autonomously.
- ❑ As a result, many Maratha families like Gaekwad of Baroda, the Bhonsles of Nagpur ,Holkars of Indore, Sindhias of Gwalior & the Peshwas of Poona became prominent.



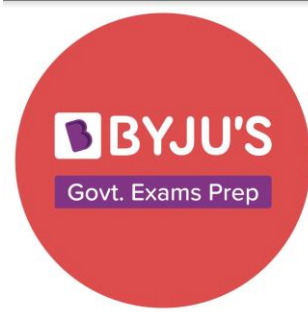
Baji Rao I (1720-1740 C.E.) Continued....



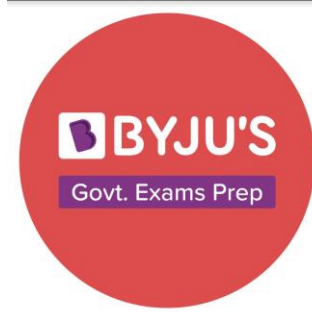
- ❑ 1737-38 C.E: he attacked Delhi & defeated Muhammed Shah .
- ❑ 1739 C.E: He defeated the Portuguese & occupied the parts of Salsette & Bassein.
- ❑ The marriage of Baji Rao I with Mastani a Muslim princess created lot of trouble.

Balaji Baji Rao (1740-1761 C.E.)

- ❑ His 18-year old son **Balaji Baji Rao** (Nana Saheb) was new Peshwa.
- ❑ He **continued** with the policy of northward expansion.
- ❑ **Shahu died in 1749.**



Balaji Baji Rao (1740-1761 C.E.)

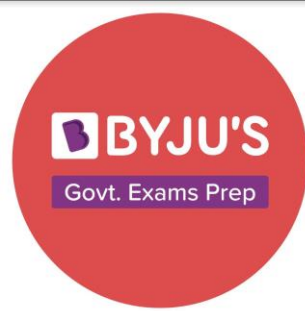


- ❑ Balaji Baji Rao, made Ram Raja (1749-77 C.E.) a **do-nothing king** after Sahu's death.
- ❑ This virtually **seized the Maratha monarchy as a symbol of political authority** & made Peshwas as the **centre of political authority & the official head** of the administration.
- ❑ As a symbol of this fact, **shifted the government** to **Poona**, his headquarters.

Threat : Ahmad Shah Abdali

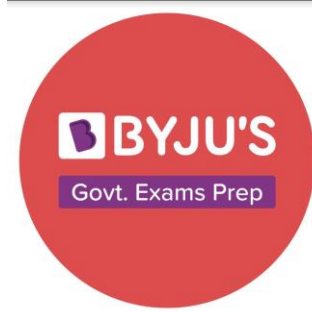
- ❑ **1752:** An agreement was made between Mughal & Marathas, that, in lieu of **chauth of North-west province**, Marathas will have to **defend the Mughal** from any **threat internal** or **external**.
- ❑ Brought the Marathas in **direct conflict with Abdali**.
- ❑ Peshwa dispatched a powerful army under the nominal command of his **minor son Vishwas Rao (son of Nana Saheb)**, the actual command being in the hands of his cousin **Sadashiv Rao Bhau (Cousin of Nana Saheb)**.

Threat : Ahmad Shah Abdali Continued....



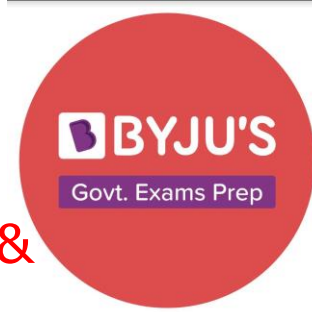
- ❑ Contingent of European style infantry & artillery commanded by **Ibrahim Khan Gardi**.
- ❑ Balaji Baji Rao, though conquered lot of territories, **lacked his father's diplomatic skills**.
- ❑ He had **cultivated animosity** of all neighboring rulers.
- ❑ Marathas under Balaji Baji Rao **became everybody's enemy & nobody's friend**. They had attacked everyone including Rajputs, Jats, Bengal & Orissa.

Threat : Ahmad Shah Abdali Continued....



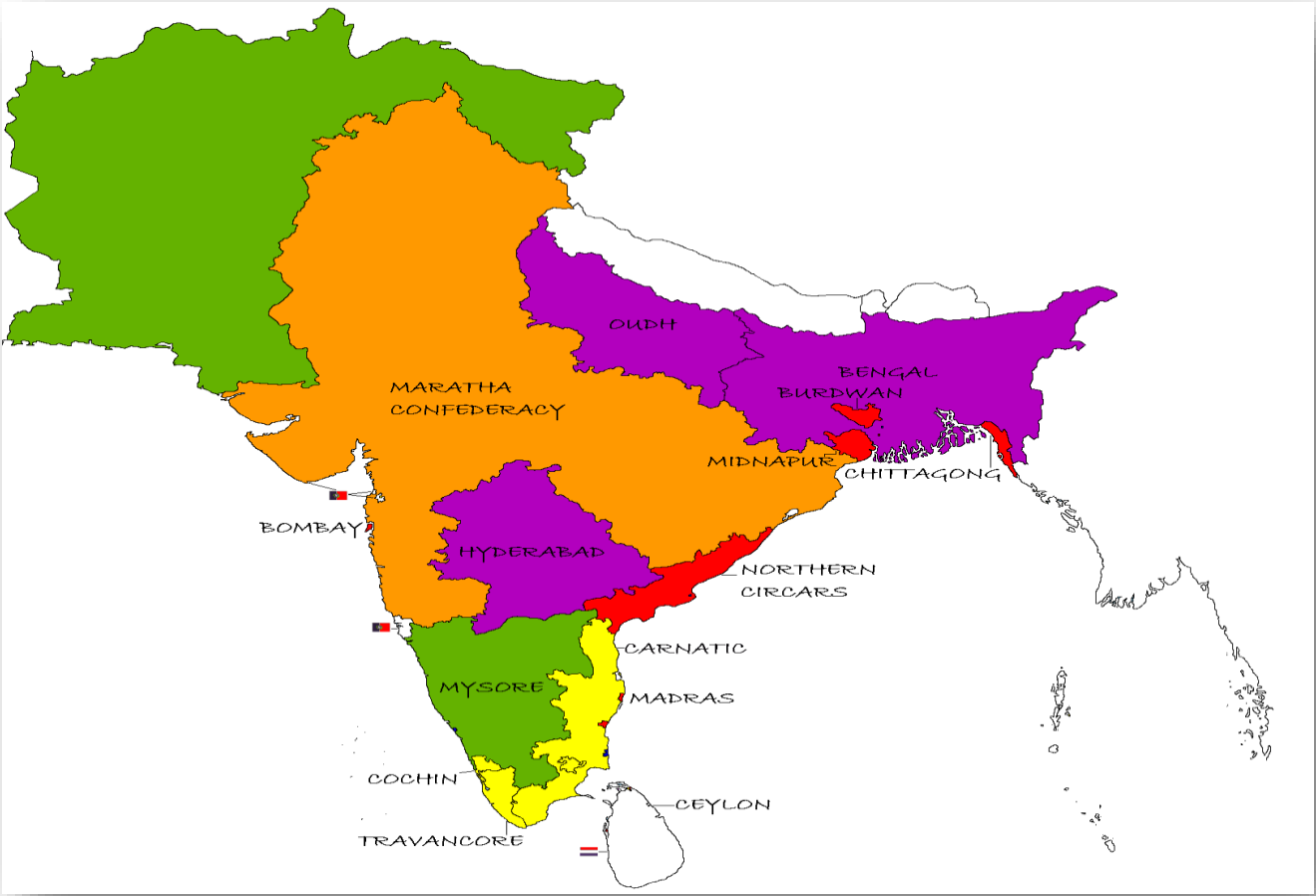
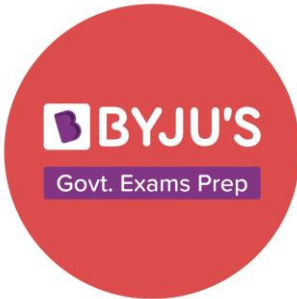
- ❑ The Marathas now tried to find allies among the northern powers.
- ❑ They had to fight their enemies all alone, except for the weak support of **Imad-ul-Mulk**.

3rd Battle of Panipat (1761)

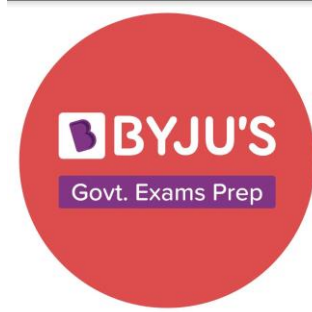


- ❑ 14 January 1761
- ❑ Peshwa's son Vishwas Rao , Sadashiv Rao Bhau & numerous other Maratha commanders perished on the battle field as did nearly 28,000 soldiers.
- ❑ Those who fled were pursued by the Afghan cavalry & robbed & plundered by the Jats, Ahirs, & Gujars of the Panipat region.
- ❑ The Peshwa, who was marching north to render help, was stunned by the tragic news. Already seriously ill, Balaji Baji Rao end was hastened & he died in June 1761.

India in 1761

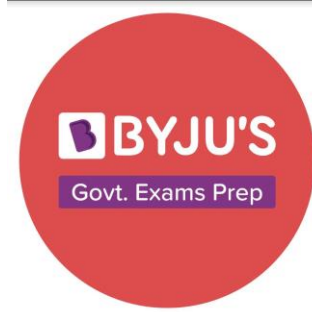


Madhav Rao I (1761-72)



- ❑ **1761:** The 17 year old **Madhav Rao** became the Peshwa in after the death of his father Balaji Bajirao.
- ❑ **Raghunath Rao became his regent** & the de facto ruler of the state.
- ❑ He was a **talented soldier & statesman**.
- ❑ Within short period of 11 years, he restored the lost fortunes of the Maratha Empire.
- ❑ He died in **1772**.

Maratha Kingdom (1772-1818)



❑ Successors-

- ❖ Narain Rao (1772-74)
- ❖ Madhav Rao (1774-95)
- ❖ Baji Rao II (1796-1818)

❑ This period shows rapid decline of Maratha kingdom, due to internal feuds & prolonged war with the English.

Background: 1st Anglo- Maratha War

- After the death of Madhav Rao Peshwa, his brother Narayanrao became Peshwa.
- However, Raghunathrao, had his nephew assassinated in a palace conspiracy & declared him as Peshwa, although he was not the legal heir.
- Narayana Rao's widow, Gangabai, gave birth to a posthumous son, who was legal heir to the throne - **'Sawai Madhavrao'**.



1st Anglo- Maratha War



- 12 Maratha chiefs, led by **Nana Phadnavis** directed an effort to name the infant as the new Peshwa & rule under him as regents.
- Raghunathrao, unwilling to give up his position of power, sought help from the British at Bombay & signed the **Treaty of Surat** (1775).
- But the British Calcutta Council condemned the Treaty, sending Colonel Upton to Pune to annul it & make a new treaty with the regency.
- **Treaty of Purandar** (1776) annulled that treaty, Raghunathrao was pensioned & his cause abandoned, but the revenues of districts were retained by the British.

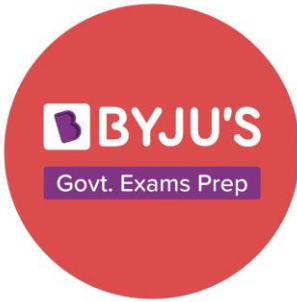
- **Treaty of Salbai** (1782): After the British defeat, Warren Hastings through Mahadji Sindhia proposed a new treaty between the Peshwa and the British that would recognize the young Madhavrao as the Peshwa & grant Raghunathrao a pension.



2nd Anglo Maratha War(1803-05)

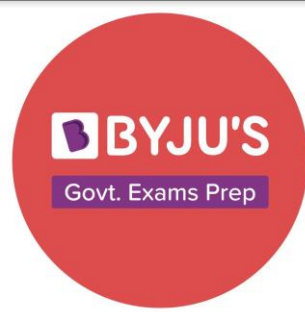


- Sawai Madhav Rao died in 1795.
- Succeeded by the worthless **Baji Rao II**, son of Raghunath Rao.
- Marathas were the only major Indian power left outside the sphere of British control.
- Wellesley now turned his attention towards them & began aggressive interference in their internal affairs.



- British divided, the warring Maratha sardars through clever diplomacy & then overpowered them in separate battles during the second Maratha War.
- October 1802: Baji Rao II & Sindhias were defeated by Yashwantrao Holkar, at the Battle of Hadapsar near Poona.
- Peshwa fled to British protection & in December concluded the **Treaty of Bassein** with the Company ceding territory for the maintenance of a **subsidiary force** & agreeing to treaty with no other power.

Second Anglo-Maratha War (1803–1805) Continued...



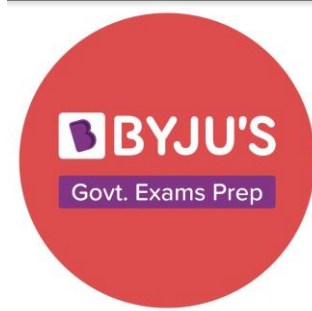
- ❑ December 17 1803: **Raghoji II Bhonsle** signed the **Treaty of Deogaon** with the British after the Battle of Adagaon/Argaon .
- ❑ 30 December 1803; **Daulat Scindia** signed the **Treaty of Surji-Anjangaon**
- ❑ **Wellesley** turned to Holkar, but **Yeshwant Rao Holkar** proved more than a match for the British.
- ❑ He began hostilities with the British by securing the alliance of the **Raja of Bharatpur**.

- On the other hand, shareholders of Company discovered that policy of expansion through war had increased debt from £ 17 million in 1797 to £ 31 million in 1806.
- Moreover, Britain's finances were getting exhausted at a time when **Napoleon** was once again becoming a major threat in Europe.

Outcome

- Bhonsle & Sindhia became subsidiary allies of the Company.
- Again the **blind Emperor** of India became a **pensioner** of the Company.
- The Peshwa became a disgruntled puppet in their hands.
- Directors of the Company felt that time had come to check further expansion, to put an end to ruinous expenditure.
- Wellesley was therefore recalled from India

Third Anglo-Maratha War (1817-1818)



- ❑ **Last bid** by Marathas to overthrow the British.
- ❑ The lead in organizing a **united front of the Maratha chiefs** was taken by the Peshwa who was smarting under **the rigid control exercised by the British Resident**.
- ❑ Peshwa attacked the **British Residency at Poona** in November 1817.

Result

□ Kingdom of **Satara** was founded & given to the descendant of **Shivaji** who ruled it, as a complete dependent of the British.

□ Lord Hastings **compelled Sindhia to accept British suzerainty** & defeated the armies of the **Peshwa, Bhonsle & Holkar.**

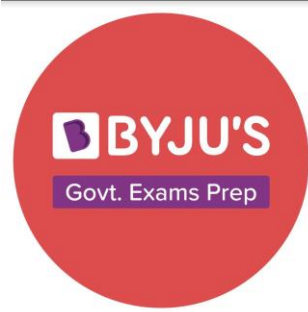
□ **Holkar & Bhonsle** accepted subsidiary forces.

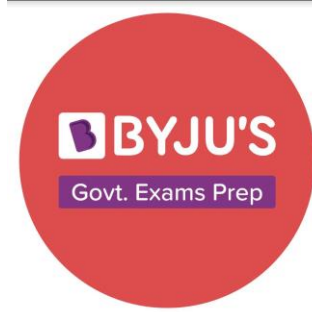
□ Peshwa was **dethroned & pensioned** off at **Bithur**

□ **Maratha confederacy dissolved & peshwaship abolished.**

Subsidiary Alliance

- The doctrine was introduced by
- Early in his governorship, he adopted a policy of non-intervention in the princely states, but he later adopted the policy of forming subsidiary alliances.
- This policy was to play a major role in British expansion in India.





Subsidiary Alliances with states

- Hyderabad (1798)
- Mysore (1799)
- Tanjore (1799)
- Awadh (1801)
- Peshwa (1801)

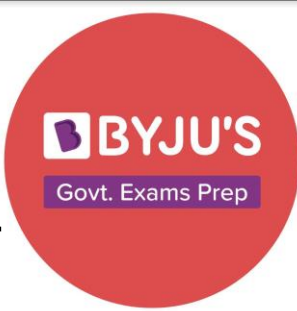
- Bhonsle of Berar (1803)
- Sindhia (1804)
- Jodhpur (1818)
- Jaipur (1818)
- Bharatpur (1818)



Modern Indian History

Anglo-Sikh War

The Sikhs



- ❑ Founded at the end of the 15th century by **Guru Nanak**, the religion spread among the Jat peasantry & other lower castes of the Punjab.
- ❑ The transformation of the Sikhs into a militant, fighting community was begun by 6th Sikh Guru- **Guru Hargobind (1606-1645)**.
- ❑ It was, however, under the leadership of 10th Guru- **Guru Gobind Singh (1666-1708)** that they became a political & military force.
- ❑ 1699 onwards: Guru waged constant war against Aurangzeb.

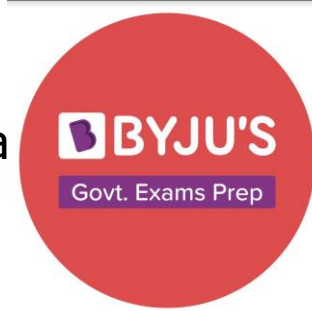
The Sikhs

❑ After Aurangzeb's death, Guru Gobind Singh joined Bahadur Shah's camp as a noble of the rank of 5000 *zat* & 5000 *sawar*.

❑ Accompanied him to the Deccan where he was treacherously murdered by one of his Pathan employees.



Banda Bahadur

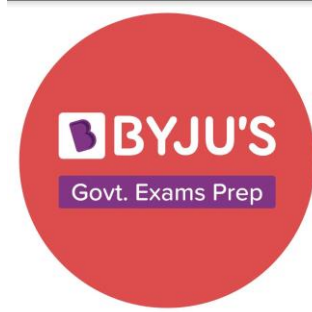


- ❑ Rallied the Sikh peasants of the Punjab & carried on a vigorous though unequal struggle against the Mughal army.
- ❑ Was captured in 1715 & put to death.
- ❑ The invasions of Nadir Shah & Ahmad Shah Abdali
- ❑ With the withdrawal of Abdali from Punjab, they began to fill the political vacuum.
- ❑ Between 1765 & 1800 they brought the Punjab & Jammu under their control.
- ❑ 12 misls or confederacies which operated in different parts of the province.

Ranjit Singh



- **Sukerchakia** Misl.
- He soon brought all Sikh chiefs west of the Sutlej under his control & established his own kingdom in the Punjab.
- He captured Lahore in 1799 & Amritsar in 1802. Later, he conquered Kashmir, Peshawar & Multan.
- **Treaty of perpetual friendship** with English in 1809.



- Built up an army along European line with the help of European instructors.
- It is said that he possessed the second best army in Asia.
- He set up modern foundries to manufacture cannon at Lahore & employed Muslim gunners to man them.

Conquest of Punjab

- Ranjit Singh died in June 1839.
- Followed by political instability & rapid changes of government.



- September 1843: **Duleep Singh**, youngest son of Maharaja was proclaimed the king with **Rani Jindan** as regent & Hira Singh as Wazir (who was murdered later).
- Selfish & corrupt leaders came to the front.
- Ultimately, power fell into the hands of the brave & patriotic but utterly indisciplined army.

First Anglo-Sikh War (1845-1846)

- ❑ The corrupt chiefs & officials conceived the idea of saving themselves by embroiling army in a war with the British.
- ❑ The **PM Raja Lal Singh** & the **Commander-in-Chief Tej Singh**, were secretly corresponding with the enemy.
- ❑ The danger from the foreigner united the **Hindus, the Muslims & the Sikhs**.
- ❑ War between the two was thus declared in **1845**.
- ❑ Punjab Army was forced to concede defeat & sign a humiliating treaty.



Treaty of Lahore

- Sir **Henry Lawrence** was appointed at the Lahore Darbar to control the policies.
- Dalip Singh, was recognized as Raja & Jullundur Doab was added to the British territory.
- **Limited the Sikh army** to a specified number.
- From now on the British Resident became the real ruler of the Punjab.



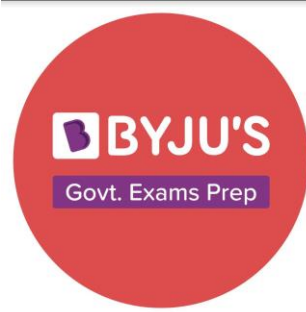
Second Anglo Sikh war (1848-49)



- ❑ **First major conflict** during the period of **Lord Dalhousie**.
- ❑ After the **treaty of Lahore**, **Rani Jindan** realized the true intentions of the English.
 - ❖ The Sikh Sardars were **discontent with the British control** over Punjab.
 - ❖ The **immediate cause** for the English Company's invasion was the **revolt of Mulraj, the Governor of Multan**.

Outcome

- In March 1849, **Dalhousie** annexed Punjab under the Treaty of Lahore & pensioned off Dalip Singh to England along with his mother Rani Jindan.
- Therefore, Punjab became a British province.
- Although Patiala & some other small states retained their rulers after recognizing sovereignty of the British.
- The **Kohinoor** diamond was also taken from him.



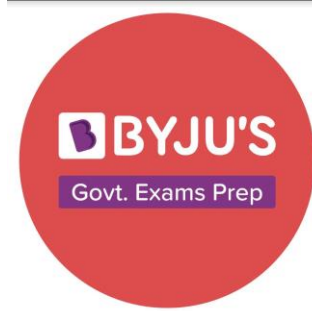
Doctrine of lapse

- Was an annexation policy purportedly devised by Lord Dalhousie.
- According to the Doctrine, any princely state or territory under the direct influence (paramountcy) of the British East India Company, as a "vassal" state under the British Subsidiary System, would automatically be annexed if the ruler "died without a direct heir".



- Also any princely state or territory would automatically be annexed if the ruler was “manifestly incompetent”.
- Thus the British decided whether potential rulers were competent enough.
- **Awadh** (1856)-on charge of mal-administration

Doctrine of Lapse



- Company took over the princely states of **Satara** (1848) , Jaitpur & Sambalpur (1849), Bhagat (1850), Udaipur (1850), Nagpur (1854) & **Jhansi** (1855) , Tanjore & **Arcot** (1855)

Rani Channamma

- **1st** Indian Woman ruler to lead an armed rebellion against the British East India Company.
- Rani Chennamma (queen of Kitturu) led the **Kitturu Rebellion** (1824) against the Company.
- She led a war against British forces when not many rulers were familiar with the evil designs of the British.
- The princely state of Kitturu was taken over by the Company in **1824** by imposing the '**doctrine of lapse**', even before it was officially articulated by Lord Dalhousie.



Who among the following was the first European to initiate the policy of taking part in the quarrels of Indian prince with a view to acquire territories?

(a) Clive

(b) Dupleix

(c) Albuquerque

(d) Warren Hastings