

Chapter 4

The Colonial Era in India

Section A: Fill in the Blanks

1. Territorial expansion gave colonisers access to new natural resources, markets, and _____ routes.
2. The phenomenon of colonialism declined especially after _____ War II.
3. Vasco da Gama arrived at _____ near Kozhikode in Kerala in May 1498.
4. The Goa Inquisition was established in _____ and abolished in _____.
5. The Dutch East India Company's most significant presence in India was in the _____ region.
6. Rani Abbakka II is reported to have created fireballs out of _____ to set Portuguese ships on fire.
7. The English East India Company was granted a royal charter by _____.
8. The Doctrine of Lapse ignored the Hindu tradition of _____.
9. _____ was the Nawab's military commander who betrayed Siraj-ud-daulah.
10. The British called India the "_____ in the crown of the British Empire."

Section B: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

1. Which of these was a powerful motivation for colonial expansion?

a) Conversion to Christianity ☐	b) Formation of the UN ☐
c) Spread of democracy ☐	d) Space exploration ☐
2. What was a lesser but significant motivation for colonial expansion?

a) Desire for political alliances ☐	b) Scientific inquiry and exploration ☐
c) Establishment of democracy ☐	d) Global climate control ☐
3. The Age of Colonialism began in which century?

a) 12th ☐	b) 15th ☐	c) 17th ☐	d) 19th ☐
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4. The Battle of Colachel was fought between:

a) Dutch and Travancore ☐	b) Portuguese and Travancore ☐
c) French and British ☐	d) British and Marathas ☐
5. Who pioneered the use of Indian sepoys in European-style armies?

a) Vasco da Gama ☐	b) Albuquerque ☐
c) Marthanda Varma ☐	d) Dupleix ☐
6. Who controlled the port town of Ullal in the latter half of the 16th century?

a) Portuguese ☐	b) Rani Abbakka II ☐
c) Rani Abbakka I ☐	d) Neighbouring kings ☐
7. Which year did the Battle of Plassey occur?

a) 1741 ☐	b) 1757 ☐	c) 1798 ☐	d) 1857 ☐
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8. Who led the East India Company's forces in the Battle of Plassey?

a) Warren Hastings ☐	b) Lord Wellesley ☐
c) Lord Dalhousie ☐	d) Robert Clive ☐

9. Which princely state first entered into a subsidiary alliance with the British?
- a) Hyderabad b) Travancore
- c) Mysore d) Jammu & Kashmir
10. The Doctrine of Lapse was introduced in which century?
- a) 17th b) 18th c) 19th d) 20th
11. Which famine killed nearly one-third of Bengal's population?
- a) 1770–1772 famine b) 1876–1878 famine
- c) 1943 famine d) 1783 famine
12. Which Viceroy refused to interfere with food prices during the Great Famine?
- a) Lord Curzon b) Lord Dalhousie
- c) Lord Ripon d) Lord Lytton
13. Which event was the immediate cause of the 1857 revolt?
- a) Greased cartridges b) Annexation of Awadh
- c) Doctrine of Lapse d) Vellore Mutiny
14. Which industry in India suffered heavily due to British import policies?
- a) Shipbuilding b) Textile
- c) Tea plantation d) Oil refining
15. Who was Nana Saheb's military adviser?
- a) Mangal Pandey b) Bahadur Shah Zafar
- c) Tatia Tope d) Sidhu Murmu

Section C: Write T for True and F for False in the boxes provided.

1. The Portuguese were the first European colonial power to arrive in India.
2. The Dutch primarily focused on spreading Christianity in India.
3. The Goa Inquisition was introduced by the French.
4. The Battle of Plassey was fought near present-day Mumbai.
5. The Doctrine of Lapse respected the tradition of adoption in Indian royal families.
6. Subsidiary alliances reduced the cost of empire for the British.
7. Before colonisation, Indian village councils managed disputes and public works.
8. Macaulay believed that Indian literature was equal in value to European literature.
9. Indigo planters in Bengal paid peasants high wages for their work.
10. Queen Victoria promised non-interference in religious matters in 1858.

Section D: Match the Following.

Column A

- Portuguese pass system for ships
- Capital of Portuguese India
- First French trading post in India
- Gross domestic product
- Synonym for 'traitor' in India
- Term used by Clive to describe Bengal
- Decorative design standing out in relief on cloth

Column B

- Surat
- Mir Jafar
- Paradise
- Cartaz
- Embossed
- Goa
- GDP

Section E: Short Answer Questions

1. Define colonialism in your own words.

Ans. _____

2. Name any four major European colonial powers mentioned in the passage.

Ans. _____

3. What was the Goa Inquisition?

Ans. _____

4. Name two tribal uprisings mentioned in the text.

Ans. _____

5. What was the Doctrine of Lapse?

Ans. _____

6. Who were the two heroines mentioned in the passage?

Ans. _____

7. What was the main cause of the Indigo Revolt?

Ans. _____

8. What was the main goal of Macaulay's 1835 education policy?

Ans. _____

9. Why was the term "Sepoy Mutiny" rejected after Independence?

Ans. _____

10. What happened to India's share in world GDP during colonial rule?

Ans. _____

Section F: Long Answer Questions

1. Discuss the political, economic, and cultural impacts of colonial rule on colonised regions.

Ans. _____

2. Compare the approaches of the Portuguese, Dutch, and French towards Indian society.

Ans. _____

3. Describe the strategies used by the British East India Company to expand its power in India.

Ans. _____

4. Explain the link between the drain of India's wealth and Britain's Industrial Revolution.

Ans. _____

5. How did the British reshape India's economy to serve their imperial interests?

Ans. _____

SECTION G: Give One word Answer.

1. Term for falsely portraying someone in a very negative light – _____
2. Religion, along with Christianity, that spread through colonisation in the 1st millennium CE – _____
3. European power mentioned last in the list of colonisers – _____

4. King who defeated the Dutch at Colachel
5. Disciplined Indian infantry trained by the French
6. Series of wars between Britain and France in India
7. Temple destroyed in Pondicherry in 1748
8. Traditional dance-drama form through which Rani Abbakka's stories are remembered
9. Historian who authored Poverty and Un-British Rule in India
10. The system of local self-governance dismantled by the British

SECTION H: Give reason.

1. Why was India attractive to European colonial powers?

Ans.

2. Why did the Dutch decline in India?

Ans.

3. Why is the British conquest of India considered unusual?

Ans.

4. Why was Lord Lytton criticised during the Great Famine of 1876–1878?

Ans.

5. Why were railways primarily built in India during colonial rule?

Ans.

Answer

Section A: Fill in the Blanks

- | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| 1. Trade | 2. World | 3. Kappad | 4. 1560, 1812 | 5. Malabar |
| 6. coconut shells | 7. Queen Elizabeth I | 8. adoption | 9. Mir Jafar | 10. jewel |

Section B: Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

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|----------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 1. a) Conversion to Christianity | 2. b) Scientific inquiry and exploration | 3. b) 15th |
| 4. a) Dutch and Travancore | 5. d) Dupleix | 6. c) Rani Abbakka I |
| 8. d) Robert Clive | 9. a) Hyderabad | 10. c) 19th |
| 11. a) 1770–1772 famine | 12. d) Lord Lytton | 13. a) Greased cartridges |
| 14. b) Textile | 15. c) Tatia Tope | |

Section D: True/False

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|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. True | 2. False | 3. False | 4. False | 5. False |
| 6. True | 7. True | 8. False | 9. False | 10. True |

Section C: Match the Following

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|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 → d | 2 → f | 3 → a | 4 → g | 5 → b | 6 → c | 7 → e |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|

Section E: Short Answer Questions

1. Colonialism – A system where one country controls and exploits another for its own benefit, often through political domination and economic exploitation.
2. Four colonial powers – Portuguese, Dutch, French, British.
3. Goa Inquisition – A religious tribunal established by the Portuguese in 1560 to enforce Catholic orthodoxy and punish heresy, abolished in 1812.
4. Two tribal uprisings – Santhal Rebellion, Munda Uprising.
5. Doctrine of Lapse – British policy allowing annexation of states without a male heir, ignoring adoption rights.
6. Two heroines – Rani Abbakka I, Rani Abbakka II.
7. Main cause of Indigo Revolt – Forced cultivation of indigo at low prices, leading to peasant debt and hardship.
8. Macaulay's goal in 1835 – To create an English-educated Indian class serving colonial administration.
9. Term "Sepoy Mutiny" rejected – Because it downplayed the revolt's widespread nature and nationalist character.
10. India's share in GDP – Declined drastically from being one of the highest in the world to a fraction by 1947.

Section F: Long Answer Questions

1. Political, economic, cultural impacts – Foreign governance replaced traditional systems; economies exploited for raw materials; suppression of local culture; promotion of Western education; long-term inequalities after decolonisation.
2. Approaches of Portuguese, Dutch, French – Portuguese interfered in religion; Dutch focused on trade with little religious interference; French mainly traded but sometimes acted against local religion (e.g., temple destruction).
3. British East India Company strategies – Divide and rule, alliances with rival states, Battle of Plassey conspiracy, Doctrine of Lapse, subsidiary alliance system.