

COMPREHEHNSIVE COURSE ON MODERN INDIAN HISTORY

18TH CENTURY INDIA LATER MUGHALS DECLINE OF MUGHALS



WORKBOOK- CLASS HANDOUT



***By- Pratik Nayak
(PNLIVE)***



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10 years teaching experience**

BE Civil, M. Planning (CEPT University)

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Sources of Reading-
Pratik Nayak- Workbook
Running notes of the class

Comprehensive Coverage-
Previous Years Questions

Hello Learners- please find this workbook containing topics to covered

This workbook contains the compiled information/facts/analysis sourced from various sources.

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MODERN INDIAN HISTORY

Q. How the British conquest took place?

केक कटेगा सबमे बाटेगा



ऐसा कैसे



Europeans

Princely states

Portuguese

Dutch

French

Others

Later Mughals (Delhi)

Bengal

Deccan

Awadh

Sikh

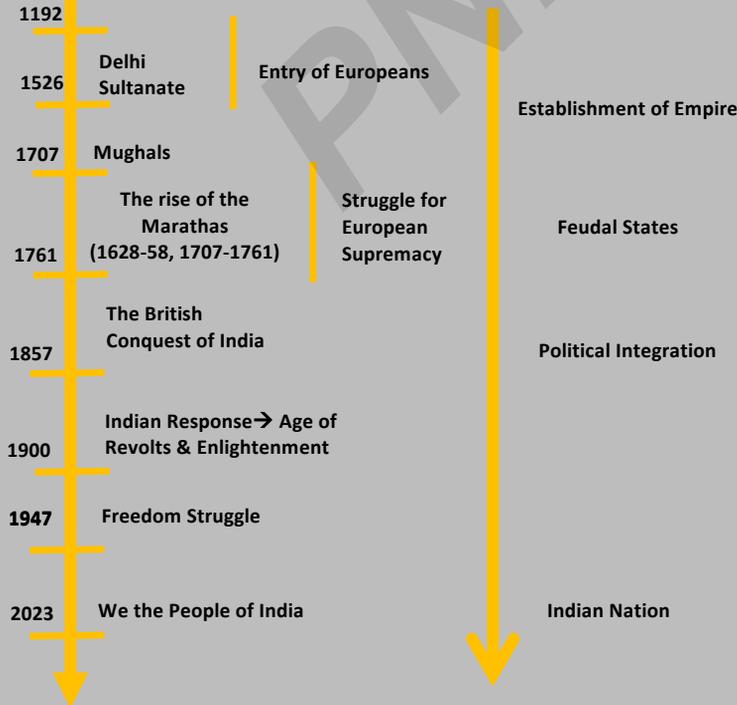
Mysore Marathas

1612

1759

1760

UNDERSTANDING THEMATICALLY

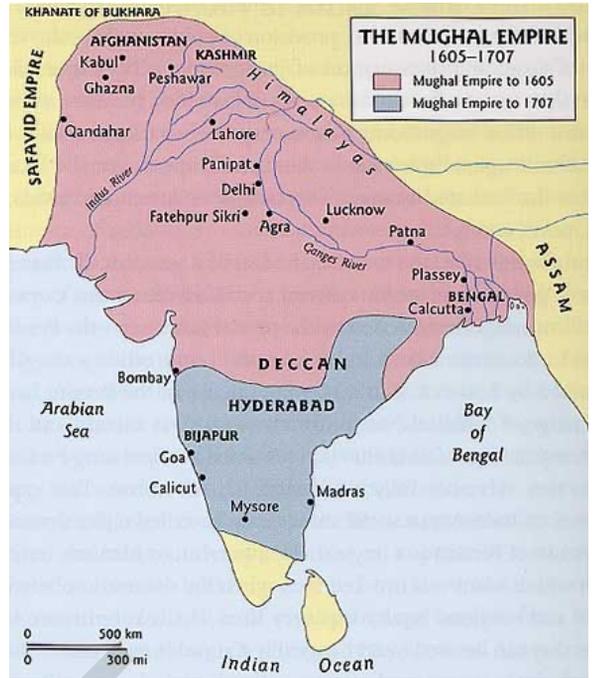


Sil...Sil....what was the contemporary condition...when other Europeans entered & Mughals were ruling at that time

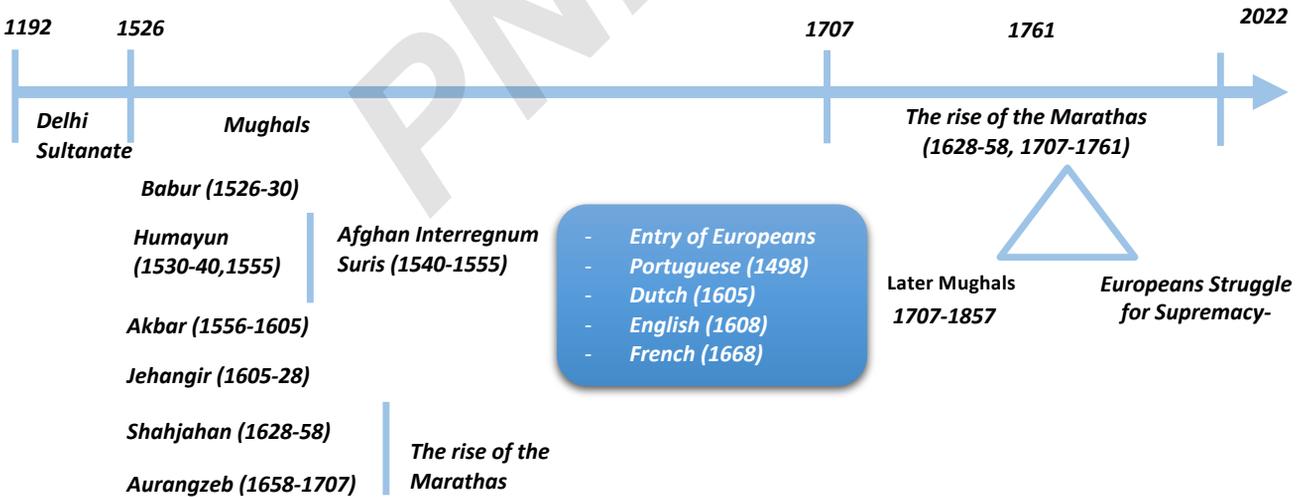
Bhai...other Europeans came in the early part of 17th Century & Mughals were expanding till 18th Century lets' see that



- Entry of Europeans
- Portuguese (1498)
- Dutch (1605)
- English (1608)
- French (1668)



(II) The rise & fall of Mughals- Advantage for the EIC



India in 18th Century

By 1707 Later Mughals came to power

1857

मुझे पता था, यही होने वाला है....



1707 onwards Later Mughals

Provincial Autonomy – Subahdars

1700s Onwards-
Fragmented Polity

Regional States

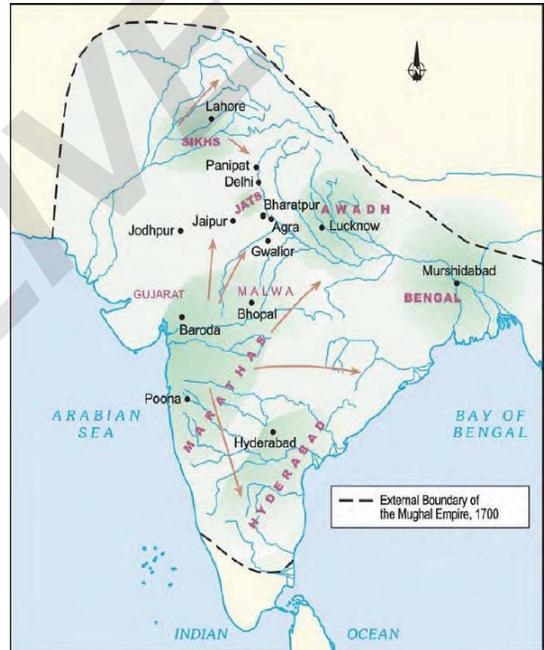
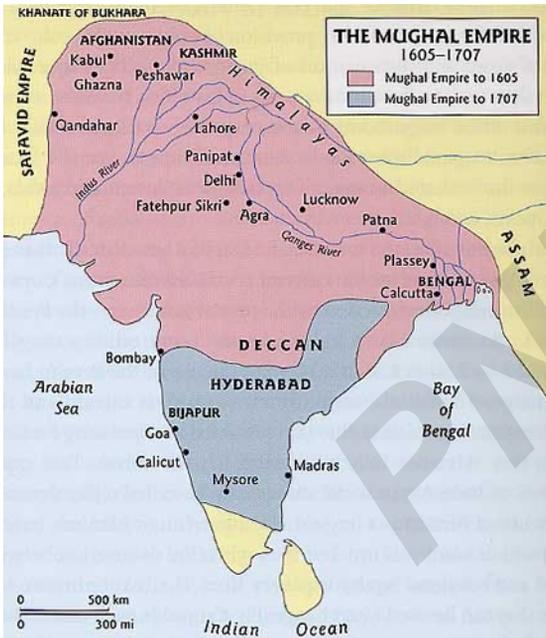
European supremacy

British

French



- Let us first understand the role of later Mughals & Rise of regional states.
- That eventually helped the British.



Sil...Sil...ye kya ho gaya...halat badal gaye...zazbaat badal gaye....

Haahaa...hota hai...hota hai...ye Itihaas hai mere dost.....



Post Aurangzeb- 1707 Onwards ???

New Developments- Features of early 18th Century



Decline started from Aurangzeb's reign itself

Deccan Ulcer=Spanish Ulcer

Weak Successors of Aurangzeb

This proved advantageous for the Europeans

During their conflicts there was no central authority to stop them

In fact they emerged as kingmakers during internal conflicts

Golu, baat mat pucho...Mughal rraja shah e alam se shah e palam bann gaye

Sil...Sil....what was the situation in 18th Century India ?



On one side, Bahadur Shah-I (Later Mughal King) no position to militarily enforce its regulations on the other parts of the empire

**provincial governors started to assert their authority
Formation of Regional Kingdoms took place**

**c.1707 and 1761 CE
resurgence of regional identities and highlighted a sorry state of affairs- Rise of Regional Kingdoms- Political Fragmentation**

Growth of the Marathas- Peshwaship & Confederacy

Mughal Court → factions among the nobles

Foreign Invasions taking place-

1739- Nadir Shah

1761- Ahmed Shah Abdali

Economic decline going on- continuous wars

Stagnation in Agriculture

18th Century- Dark age debate ?

Role of Kingmakers in 18th Century ?

Nobility class-

**Irani- Shia- Asad Khan/Zulfikar Khan
Turani- Sunni- Feroz Jung & Nizam ul Mulk Asaf Jah**

Afghan- Sunni - Rohillas

Hindustani – Indian origin Muslims- Sayyid brothers

Held important positions in the Mughal court

Played role in the Mughal court politics

Eg. Zulfikar Khan, Sayyid brothers,

Q. Clarify how mid-eighteenth century India was beset with the spectre of a fragmented polity. (GS-2017)

Q. How the rise of princely states took place?

- **Mughal Empire – Weak by 1707**

18th Century political fragmentation

- **Later Mughals very weak**
- **Hence emergence of regional kingdoms**

Successor states

Originally part of Mughal

- **Hyderabad**
- **Carnatic**
- **Bengal**
- **Awadh**

New States

- **Marathas**
- **Sikhs**
- **Afghans**
- **Jats**
- **Result of rebellion by local chiefs**

Independent States

- **Mysore**
- **Kerala**
- **Rajput**
- **Nominally part of Mughal**
- **Completely independent by 18th century**

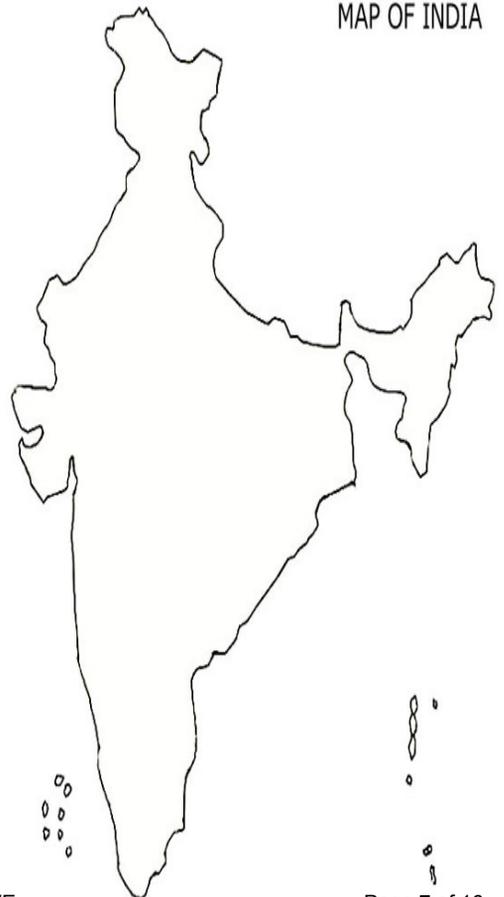
Golu, uske liye humein later Mughals and 18th Century India ko padhna padega....



Sil...Sil....what was the impact of this fragmentation ?



MAP OF INDIA



Q. Before going through fragmentations- lets's see the story of Later Mughal Kings – what happened to them ?

How the Mughal empire declined ?

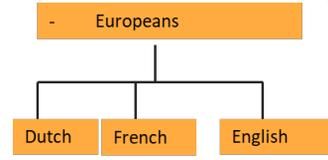
India in 18th Century

Later Mughals (1707-1857)



Growth of Maratha Empire

Struggle for European Supremacy

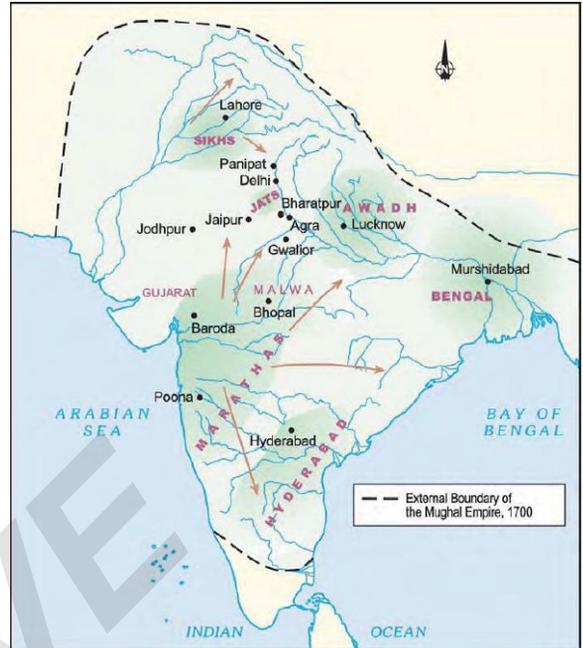


1. 1707-1712 → Bahadur Shah-I (Shah Alam-I)

- Killed own bro came to power-
- Muhammad Azam- Battle of Jaju
- Kam Baksh- Hyderabad



- Reversal of Aurangzeb's policies
- policy of compromise towards the nobles
- Land grants in the form of Jagirs
- Real power- Wazir → Zulfiqar Khan (Irani)
- Tolerant attitude,
- Released Chatrapati Shahu from captivity
- Mansab to Guru Gobind Singh, rebellion of Banda Bahudar(defeated hum at lohgarh)
- Jats- Charuman & Bundelas- Raja Chatrasal
- Independence of Mewar , made peace with the Rajputs
- Called as (Shah-I-Bekhabar) by Khafi Khan
- Constant infighiting- court Politics
- 1712- Jahandar came to power



Khafi Khan wrote- Muntakhab-al Lubab – a Persian language book about the history of India during the Mughal period, completed in 1731

2. Jahandar Shah (1712-13)

- Came to power- fight with bro's
- Helped by zulfiqar khan (wazir)- Irani
- reversed many policies of Aurangzeb
- friendly relations with the Rajputs, the Marathas,
- title of Mirza Raj Sawai on Jai Singh of Ambar- governor of Malwa and
- gave the title of Maharaja to Ajit Singh- governor of Gujarat
- Fought against Banda Bahadur
- Improving finances, controlling Jagirs & mansabdars
- Started revenue farming- Ijarah
- Affair with lal kanwar

Growth of Maratha Empire

-Balaji Vishwanath
-Chhatrapati Shahu

Agreement with Marathas-
Granted Chauth and Sardeshmukhi of Deccan recognized

- Toppled by nephew(brother' son) - Farruk Siyar at Agra
- Zulfikar also executed

3. Farruk Siyar (1713- 19)

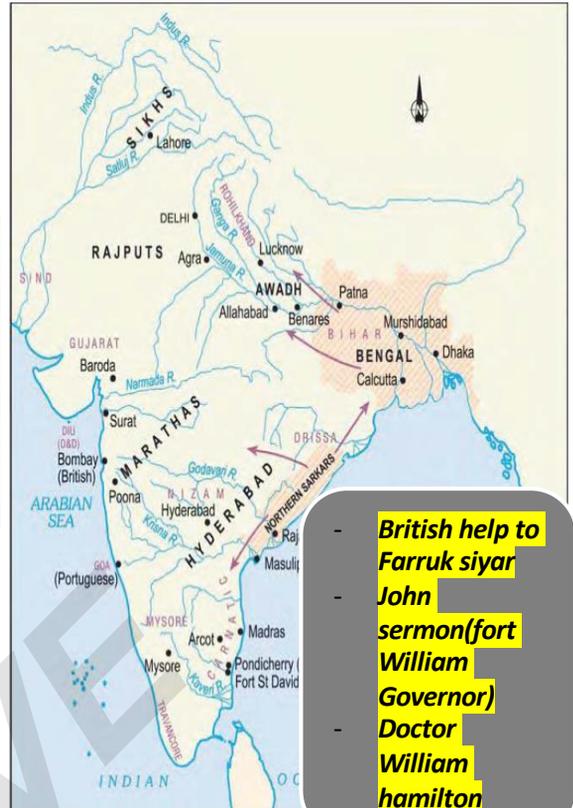
-Played big role in british conquest
 -came to the throne with the help of **Saiyyad brothers**

-**Saiyyad Abdullah Khan – Wazir**
 -**Hussain Ali Khan – Mir Bakshi**
Tolerance & reconciliation
 -reconcile with the **Rajputs, the Marathas, and the Jats**
 -**execution of Banda Bahadur- 1716**
 - **Abolished Jaziya & Pilgrim tax**

- **1719- treaty with Peshwa Balajivishanath**
- **Murder of Farruk Siyar**
- **Farruk Siyar- Farmaan to East India company**
- **1715- Farruk Siyar- Medical Treatment Needed**
- **Helped by British official**
- **1717- Granted Farman**



**Contemporary Europeans-
 Expansion of British-Dutch-French**



Mughal Emperor gave to EIC Privileges in Bengal, Gujarat and Hyderabad
 Bengal- EIC's imports and exports - annual custom duty Rs. 3000
 EIC – can issue dastak (permits)
 EIC to rent more lands around Calcutta
 Hyderabad- freedom from duties and rent only in Madras
 Surat- Annual duty of Rs. 10000
 No other duties to be paid
 EIC servants also permitted to trade and pay same taxes as Indian merchants
 EIC Coins minted in Bombay- can be used as currency all over Mughal Empire

Bengal Governor- Murshid Quli Khan Subahdar will be called nawabs. Hence Enlarged post After sometime-

By 1719- Farruk was trying to get rid of Sayyids Hence- sayyids invited the Marathas Farruk was blinded & killed- 1st time in the history of Mughals

4. Rafi-us-Darajat (c.1719 CE)

King makers- Sayyid Brothers
Revolt by Grandson of Aurangzeb- Nikusiyar
Died of Tuberculosis

Sayyid Brother's as King Makers

5. Rafi-us-Daula (c.1719 CE)
Supplanted by Sayyid Brothers
Revolt by a noble- Hussain Ali Imprisoned – Nikusiyar
Took title of Shah Jahan-II
Died of TB

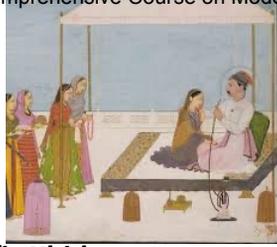


6. Mohammed Shah Rangeela (1719-1748)
18 years old- Roshan Akhtar
Son of Jahan Shah
Kathak Dancer

Finally dislodged the Sayyid Brothers
Rise of Nizam ul Mulk & Muhammad Amin Khan

But the king- Muhammad Shah was weak
Development of new states →

6. Mohammed Shah Rangeela



Why Rangeela-

Fond of wine and women

Dancing girl- Koki Jiu, Eunuch Hafiz Khidmatgar khan

But due to this- fragmentation of state took place

Development of new states →

- Marathas(1737)- Baj Rao-I
- Bengal(1717)- Murshid Quli khan
- Awadh(1722)- Saadat khan
- Hyderabad(1724)- Nizam ul mulk

- Nizam ul Mulk- joined as wazir in 1722 but due to court issues he left for Hyderabad

Invasion of Nadir Shah – why ?

By 1739- invaded India

-Peshawar- Lahore- Karnal

Battle of Karnal

Rangeela initially helped by Nizam ul Mulk

But Awadh Nawab- Sadat Ali khan who initially came to help rangeela but later on defected towards

-Rangeela- defeated, 25 crore to be paid

- Total 70 crore+ looted

Territories taken away – revenues

Massacre & looting on mass level

Kohinoor Diamond, Peacock throne

Weakness of India-

Impoverishment of nobles

Ahmed Shah Abdali joined this invasion

Was proclaimed King of Afghanistan in 1748

He kept on invading India between- 1748 to 1767

Contemporary Europeans- British vs French → Conflict
1st Carnatic War- 1744 to 1748



रंगीला, तलवार नहीं मारेंगे, हम कह के लेंगे



Nadir Shah attacks Delhi

The devastation of Delhi after Nadir Shah's invasion was described by contemporary observers. One described the wealth looted from the Mughal treasury as follows:

sixty lakhs of rupees and some thousand gold coins, nearly one crore worth of gold-ware, nearly fifty crores worth of jewels, most of them unrivalled in the world, and the above included the Peacock throne.

Another account described the invasion's impact upon Delhi:

(those) ... who had been masters were now in dire straits; and those who had been revered couldn't even (get water to) quench their thirst. The recluses were pulled out of their corners. The wealthy were turned into beggars. Those who once set the style in clothes now went naked; and those who owned property were now homeless ... The New City (Shahjahanabad) was turned into rubble. (Nadir Shah) then attacked the Old quarters of the city and destroyed a whole world that existed there ...



Fig. 1
A 1779 portrait of Nadir Shah.

7. Ahmad Shah (c.1748–54 CE)

*Son of Rangeela- Kudisya Begum aka Udham Bai (Dancer)- title- Qibla-i-Alam
She controlled the state along with
Invasion of Ahmed Shah Abdali – surrender of Punjab & Multan to Afghans*

Imad ul Mulk aka Feroz Jung 3 (grandson of asaf jah) appointed as Mir Bakshi

*Treaty with the Marathas- Peshwa- Balaji Baji Rao (Nanasaheb)
Imprisoned by wazir Imad ud Mulk- blinded the king
He became the king maker*

8. Alamgir II or Aziz ud Din (c.1754–59 CE)

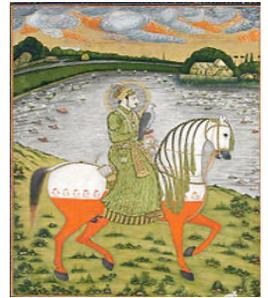
*Appointed by Imad ul Mulk
Son of Jahandar Shah*

*Invasions continued- Ahmed Shah Abdali – 1757
Rise of the Rohillas- Afghan chiefs near Delhi- Najib Khan Rohila and Timur Khan-
son of Abdali and Viceroy of NW*

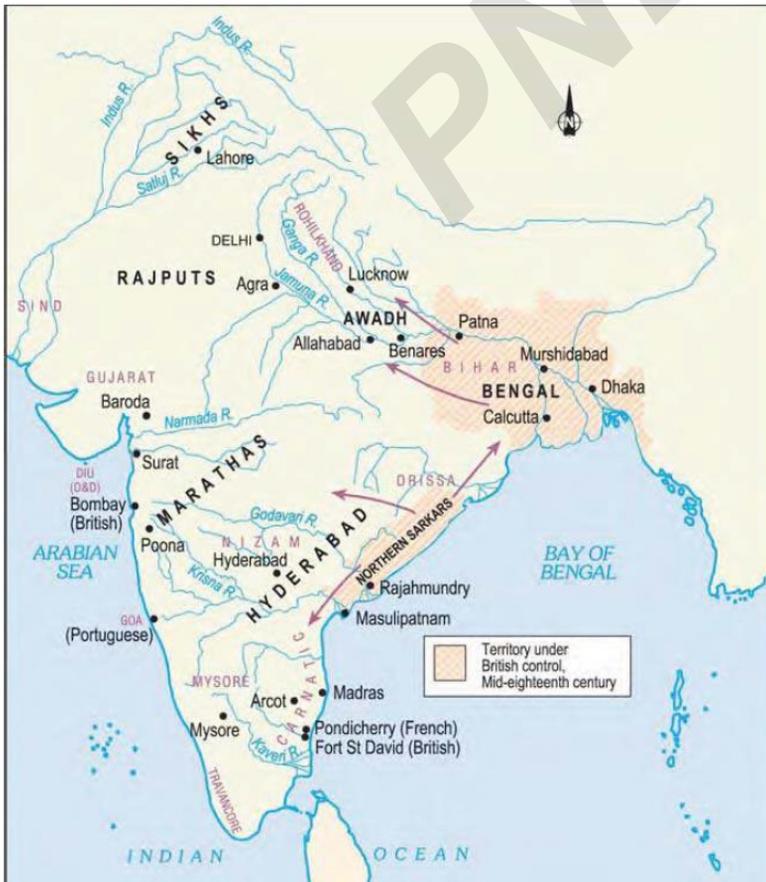
*Hence called Marathas for help- they apointed Adina Bega as governor of NW –
all this culminated in 1761- 3rd Battle of Panipat
Murdered by wazir- Imad ul Mulk- once gain puppet ruler*

Shah Jahan III- 1759-60

*Son of Kam Baksh
Puppet of Imad ud Mulk but removed by the Marathas*



Imad ud Mulk as Kingmaker ?



The period of 1720s-1760s
Rising period of the Maratha Empire
The British also consolidated their bases
Mughals were confined to regions around Delhi

Contemporary Europeans-
British vs French → Carnatic Wars

British Conquest of Bengal- 1757
Battle of Plassey

British defeated the Dutch- 1759
Battle of Wandiwash

9. Aligauhar/Shah Alam II (c.1759–1806 CE)

Son of Alamgir II

Installed by Marathas- Sadashiv Bhau

**Empire from Red fort to Palam
'Shah-e-Palam'**

The rise of the Marathas & Decline- Nana Saheb

Third Battle of Panipat- 1761

**Abdali recognised him as emperor and Najib ud Dualah as
Mir Bakshi**

But the Afghans continued to create havoc around Delhi

Abdli also invaded again

Najib ud Daulh- son Zabita Khan controlled Delhi

Shah Alam-2 left Delhi - stayed in Awadh till 1772

Issue- took part in Battle of Buxar- 1764

Robert Clive made him signed- Treaty of Allahbad (1765)

Diwani rights granted to EIC- Bengal, Bihar and Odissa

Kora and Allahabd given to Shah Alam 2



**Controlled by the wazir – Shuja ud Daula
remained a refugee with Shuja-ud- Daula of Awadh
Returned to Delhi-1771 with the help of Marathas – Mahadji
Shinde (scindia)- he was given administration of Delhi**

**Mughal vs Afghan conflict continued - 1770's & 1780's
Zabita Khan & his son Ghulam Qadir removed from Delhi**

**1788- Ghulam Qadir Rohilla entered delhi
Blinded the emperor**

**Hence Shah Alam 2- title- Blind Mughal emperor
Scindia's once again came to rescue of Shah Alam 2**

**1803- scindia's lost influence over Delhi after getting
defeated at the hands of EIC- 2nd Anglo Maratha War
Came under the control of the EIC
Next kings came under direct british control**

**Contemporary EIC-
British vs French → End of Carnatic
Wars- defeat of French @ Wandiwash-
1760**

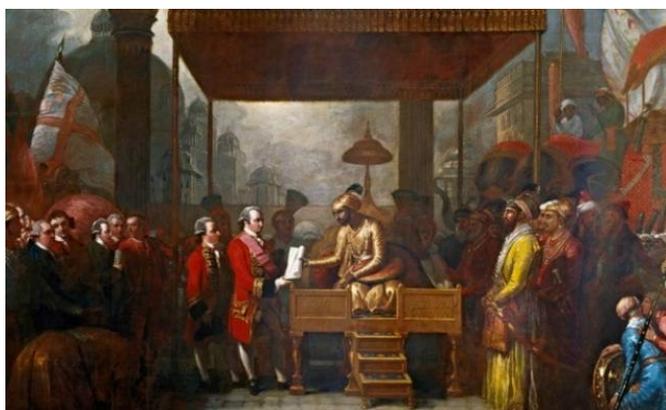
**Battle of Buxar-1764
Treaty of Allahbad**

**Anglo-Maratha War- 1st and 2nd war
1775 to 1806**

**Anglo Mysore War-4 wars
1766 to 1799**

**Sil sil. Iska
matbal kya
hota hain**

**Sultanat e
Shah e Alam,
Az Dilli ta
Palam**



10. Akbar II (c.1806–1837 CE)

Puppet into the hands of the EIC
 Lord Hastings took away the privileges
 Gave the title 'Raja' to Ram Mohan Roy
 Wrote poetry
 Hindu+Muslim unity → Phoolon ki sair
 EIC became equal to Mughal
 Not adding Mughal name to EIC coins

आज से तुम राजा



हम शहशाह ए हिंदुस्तान है



11. Bahadur Shah II/Zafar (c.1837–57 CE)

Power limited till Shahjahanbad
 Nominal head
 Participated in the revolt of 1857 with Bakh Khan
 Later on deported to Rangoon
 Urdu poetry- title 'Zafar'

Contemporary East India Company

1. Role of Governor Generals-
 Lord Wellesley (1798-1805)
 Lord Hastings (1813-1823)

Charter Act of 1813-
 3rd Anglo-Maratha War- 1818
 Anglo-Nepal War- 18
 Anglo Burma War- 1824-26
 Charter Act of 1833- Governor General of India

Anglo-Afghan War- 1836-42
Annexation of Sindh- 1843
Anglo-Punjab War- 1844-49

Lord Dalhousie- 1848-56
Doctrine of Lapse & Annexation of Princely States
Revolt of 1857

Q. Decline of the Mughals ?

Sil sil. What reasons can summarised for the decline of Mughals ?

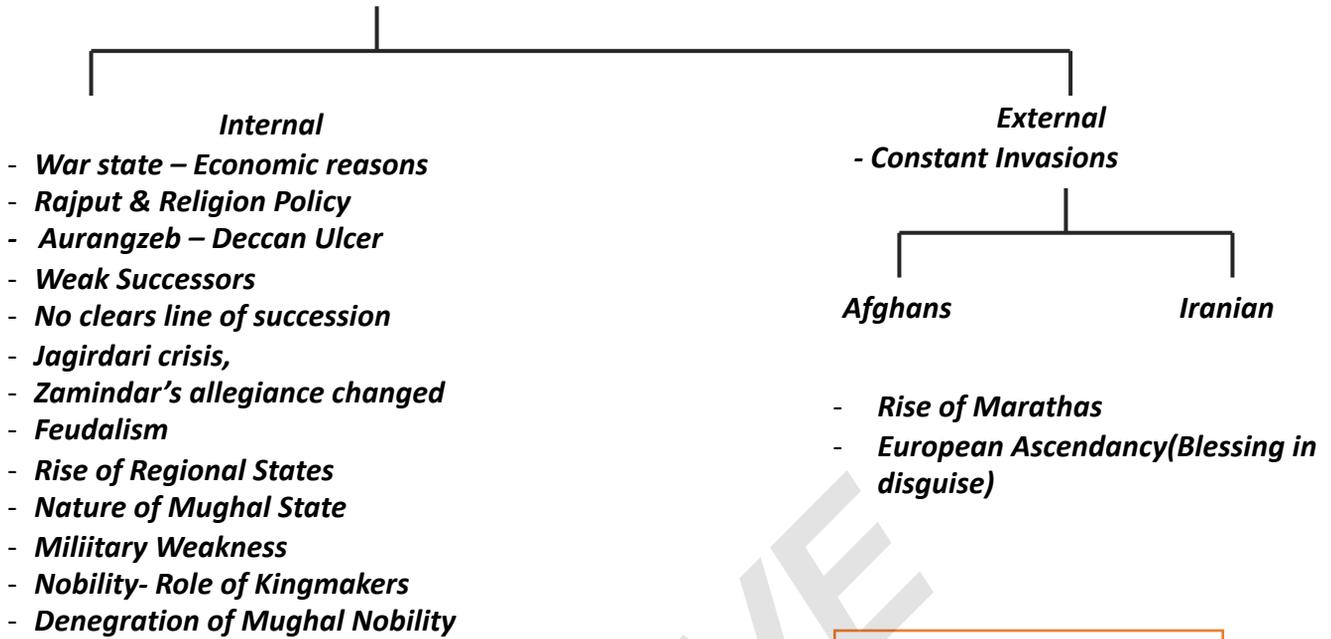
Golu... there were many- can be classified as Internal & external both

18th Century- Fragmented Polity



Q. Decline of the Mughals ?

Q. Decline of the Mughals & its outcome



crisis of the jagirdari system and affected every branch of state activity- Satish Chandra

Economic and Administrative causes of Upheaval- Irfan Habib

Rottenness of the core- Military and Political Selfish nobles Weak royalty Short-sightedness -Sir Jadunath Sarkar

Military inefficiency- it lost military energy Hence it collapsed- William Irvine

Ruined in the reign of Aurangzeb- Bigotry and religious policy Financial crises Rise of marathas- Shivajii - Sidney Owen

Rich harvests and empty coffers

The following is a contemporary writer's account of the financial bankruptcy of the empire:

The great lords are helpless and impoverished. Their peasants raise two crops a year, but their lords see nothing of either, and their agents on the spot are virtual prisoners in the peasants' hands, like a peasant kept in his creditor's house until he can pay his debt. So complete is the collapse of all order and administration that though the peasant reaps a harvest of gold, his lord does not see so much as a wisp of straw. How then can the lord keep the armed force he should? How can he pay the soldiers who should go before him when he goes out, or the horsemen who should ride behind him?

18th Century- Fragmented Polity

Sil sil, samjh gaya.... woh toh mere se bhi bade wale golu the

Golu, samajh mein aaya why the Mughals decline



**Q. Clarify how mid-eighteenth century India was beset with the spectre of a fragmented polity.
(GS-2017)**

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