

Pakistan Studies

East India Company and India

India and Europeans

Renaissance in Europe (15th century)

(period of invention, exploration etc)

- ▶ Naval forces: Spain, Portugal, Holland, France and England
- ▶ Vasco Gama: Portugues sailor, landed at Calicut in 1499 and he said I am in search of spices and Christians
- ▶ In England East India Company got the charter for trade in 1600. Mughal ruler Jahangir allowed East India company to establish a factory at Surat in 1613.

Cont---

- ▶ Sir Thomas Roe, ambassador of England (1615–1618) succeeded in getting many facilities from Mughal ruler Jahangir for trade.

Gradually they involved in the internal affairs of India and succeeded in getting hold of different states of India.

- ▶ Bengal captured after battle of Plassey in 1757 and it was first major success of East India Company later they took the control of Mysore (1799), Delhi (1803), Punjab (1849) and other regions.
 - ▶ 1857 India became colony of British Empire
- 

Causes of the First War of Independence (1857)

this was fought jointly by Hindus and Muslims against Britishers. Indians called it First War of Independence but British writers declared it Mutiny or revolt of sepoy.

Political Causes

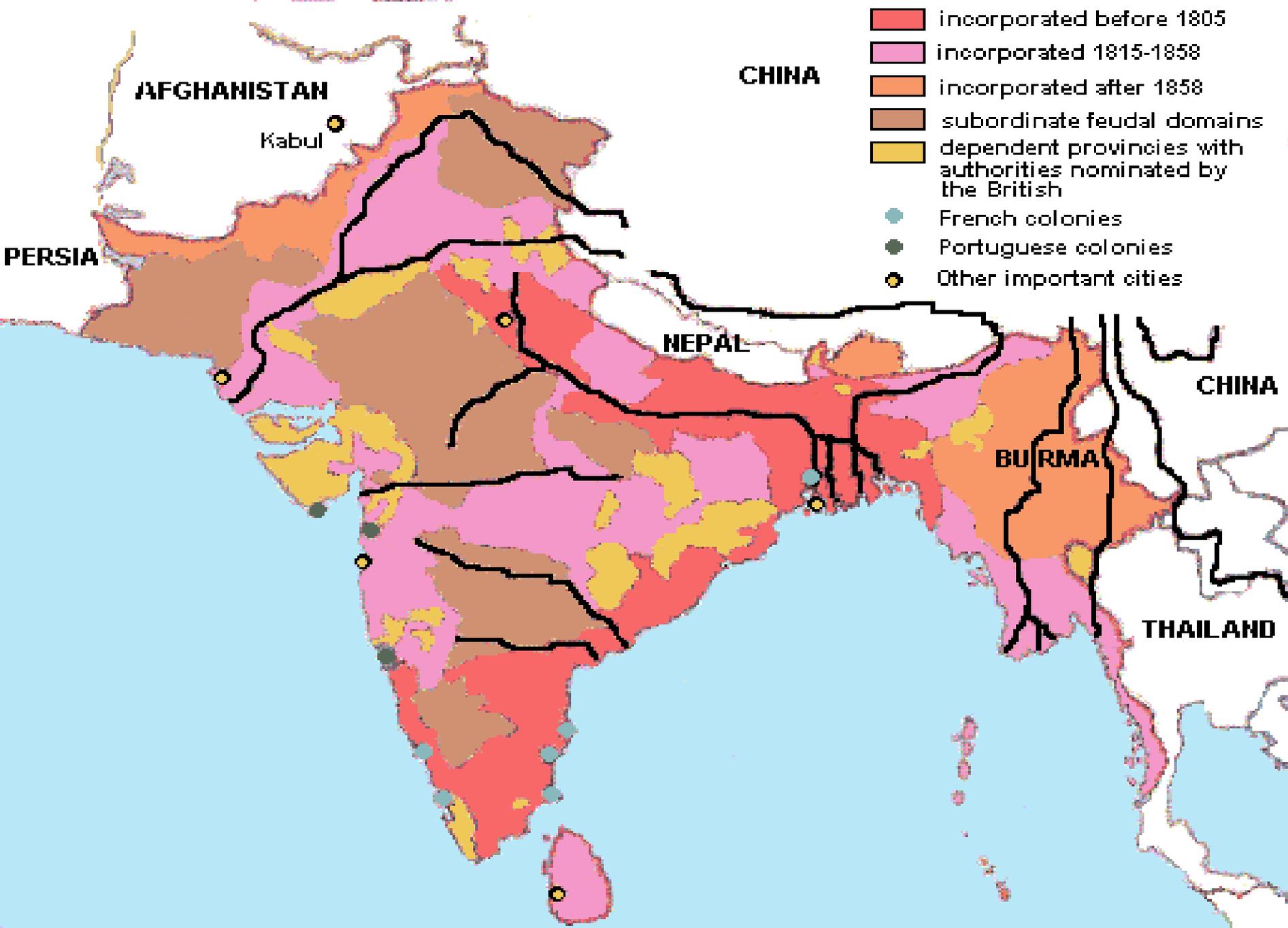
- 1. Bad attitude of British officers towards Mughal family and Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar. There was rumor that Mughal rule would be ended after the death of Bahadur Shah Zafar**

Political Causes

1. Dalhousies' doctrine of lapse and annexation (Policy of expansion)

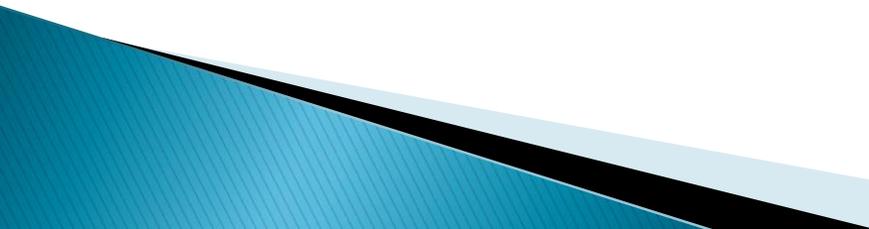
Dalhousie was the viceroy of India (1848 – 1856), according to his policy of doctrine of lapse, in the absence of real son of a head of state adopted son would not inherit the state or appointed as a heir of the state and the East India company will take the control of it.

Satara (1848), Jaitpur and Sambalpur(Odisha) (1849), Nagpur and Jhansi (1854), Tanjore and Arcot (1855), Udaipur (Chhattisgarh) and Oudh (1856)



Economical Causes

1. Higher posts were reserved only for British personnel, and their salary, pension and other grants were much higher than local employees
 2. Adoption of English as an official language (1834), and introduction of western education. This policy closed the door of job opportunities for people who did not have command on English language
- 

1. Introduction of new judicial system which means employment for those who knew English and British law court system and on the other hand the people (specially Muslims) who knew Persian, Urdu and Mughal law court system were out of job market.
 2. New agrarian policy.
 3. Heavy taxation on local industry destroyed it and caused unemployment
- 

Religious Causes

1. Activities of Christian missionaries and support of British personnel.
 2. Interference in religious and cultural customs and rites. (Hindu widows' remarriage Act, ban on child marriages and sati etc)
 3. Criticism on the religious beliefs, rituals and values of Hindus and Muslims in public gathering
- 

Immediate cause

Induction of **greased cartridges** in new rifles, which had coating of fat. There was rumors that cartridges had coating of cow or pig fat

first event of revolt was in third cavalry at Merrut in May 10, 1857

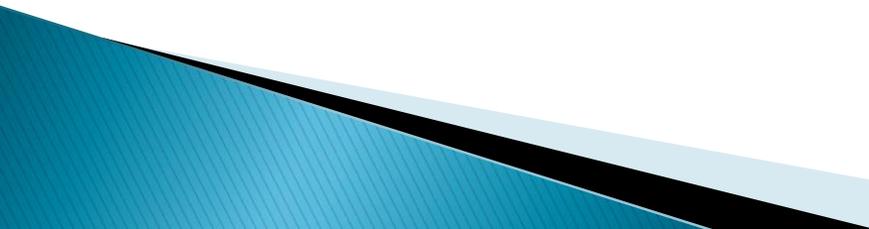
▶ **Centre of movement:**

East Bengal, Bihar, Kanpur (Nana Sahib), Lucknow (Begum of Avadh), Jhansi (Rani Lakshmibai) etc

Causes of failure of Indians

- ▶ Lack of unity among rebels, untrained soldiers, shortage of weapons, no central command, lack of planning etc

consequences

- ▶ Abolishment of Mughal rule
 - ▶ End of East India company rule
 - ▶ India came under the direct rule of British Empire
 - ▶ Guarantee of the rights of appointments in public services
 - ▶ Due regards to ancestral property and ancient rites and customs
 - ▶ Non interference policy in religion
- 

Response on British challenges

- ▶ Participation in new political and administrative system.
 - ▶ Politically conscious Hindu and Muslim.
 - ▶ Struggle for rights through constitutional means.
 - ▶ Recognition of Western educational system and English language
 - ▶ Defense of their religion and culture, norms and values
- 