

## AN ANALYSIS OF IMPERIALISTIC SCENARIO IN INDIA

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### ABSTRACT

The arrival of the Mughals on the axis of India is considered to be a new chapter in Indian History, but, at the same time the Mughal Empire established by Babar is found in its high state from 1526 to 1707. But in the closing year of the reign of Aurangzeb (1658-1707). The downfall of massive and such huge and mighty large empire had started. It was tottering to its fall and what was required only a small and soft push for its final demise Subedars who had become mighty by that time and become corrupt strove to be freed. They were pre-destined to become the prey of British Empire of India. In Bengal the independent Nawab was ready to raise his head. The similar situation was in Oudh. The Bundela, The Jats, The Sikhs, they all made their independent states despite of being huge and tiny states, but they completely estranged them selves from the supermacy of the Mughals. The same scenario was in the Deccan and South. After the crumbling of Mughal Empire it became cumbersome task to ruled over and control the successor states (in South like) of Bahmani Kingdom, especially over Bijapur and Golkunda was not in shape and it became ineffective.

**KEYWORD:** Supermacy, Mughals, Bhamani Kingdom, Rule, Empire, Hindustan

### INTRODUCTION

The whole mughal dynasties was about to fall in the lap of maratha, It would have been passed into their hands not in the hands of Britishers. If they had not been shattered, divided and subdued the maratha confideracy. At the dawn of Britishers<sup>2</sup>, In the south the Nizam and his associates, the Nawab of Arcot, were trying their hard to assert themselves, Apart from this the Mysore Empire was emerging as single formidable powers and baffeling the other states (Kindom). The survival of fittest concept became indomitable among the princess of mughals and the powerful mughal nobles started making king of their own choice, Hindustan left orphan without a strong and influential ruler who could have done work of consolidation of shattered nation<sup>3</sup>. P. Spear sums up, It was in this way that the british proved to be the residuary legatees of the unclaimed estate of Hindustan". It was into this India from apart by involving in Political affairs, the Europeans came for trading but succeeded with the flag of India. Britishers advent of India started by taking advantages of already involved stages in conflict with each-others by supporting one or the other in succession of throne.

It is still a point of discussion whether the British conquest of India was accidental or properly planned. In general, there are two theories according to first one John Seeley "British conquest of India was made blindly, unintentionally and accidentally" and in a fit of absent-mindedness<sup>6</sup>. British came India to pursue their business dreams they had no political views according to that Britishers came full planned with the intention of occupying the whole Indian-territories. But

none of the theories seems to be completely Justifiable. It would be correct to say that British came as a traders to India, conquest started accidental but in later stages it went forward with minute planning and its execution which was initially started in 17th century with yearning of Britishers to have trade with India<sup>7</sup>.

Coming of the Europeans, with weaking of Muhgal Empire during 18th century. European outcasted the Mughal Princess in every aspects, The English success of the Mughal Empire is only the past of the inevitable domination of all Africa and Asia by the European Nation<sup>11</sup>. Which is only another way of saying that the progressive races are the conservative ones, Just as enterprising families are constantly replacing sleepy self-satisfied one in the leadership of our society.

"The Mughal Empire and with it Maratha overloadship of Hindustan fell because of the rottenness at the core of Indian Society. The rottenness showed itself in the form of decline and disintegration of Mughal Empirer". The roots of the disintegration of Mughal Empire may be found in the Medieval Indian Economy the stagnation of Trade, Industry and Scientific development, within the limits of that economy. The inability of Mughal to accomodate Maratha and to adjust their claims within the Framework of Mughal Empire, critics of Jagirdari etc. The political condition of India was in turmoil and tangled completely. British took the due advantages of it.

For the ease of convenience we can divide imperialistic period in major two parts. The first from 1757-1857 and the other one is 1857-1947 (Till the Independence). The Battle of Plassy 23 June, 1757 was fought between clive and the Nawab of Bengal. Clive won the battle by bluffing and Treachery, Mir Jafar (commander in-Chief of Nawab's Army), Manik Chand (Nawab's officer incharge of Culcutta), Rai Durlabh and Jagat Seth bankers of Bangal were left Nawab side and joined hands with Clive and that is how Clive won the battle of Pallasey in the snap of finger. The battle of Plassey had an importance in more aspects than one. It established English in Bengal relentless, hard to shaken off by any other mighty power. This battle was just skirmishes.

### **The Revolt of 1857**

At that time many British people preferred to see the events largely as a military mutiny- understandably as any wider interpretation would have cast doubts on the nature of the Raj<sup>22</sup>.

The attitude of English was limitless over the years Britishers suppressing policies instigated and provoked Indians, their expansionist policies, economic explotation and innovation in economy tremendously affected the people of India. The anger and infuriation of people resulted in many small-small mutiny in various part of the country. But it took exploitative from and burst out in 1857 which has shaken the wall and very existance of English in India.

The causes of the revolt as both the Historian, English and Indians gave emphasis the importance of Army discontentment and the greased cartridges affairs as the most recent causes which ultimately led to the revolt of 1857. But most of the Modern Indian Historians have established beyond that 'the greased Cartridge' was not only the vital cause of this upsurge, But we need to visit the past and see this from different angle, when we analyse the last 100 years of Rule of British. From Plassey (1757) to the rebellion of Mangal Pandey. When the livid

Soldier Mangal Pandey revolted on 29 march, 1857, and killed his adjutant. The greased cartridge and the mutiny of soldiers was mere the small fire which exploded inflammable material which accumulated from last 100 years of Raj of English in the form of Political, Economic, Social and Religious. Political causes subsidiary alliance of Lord Wellesley was initiated to control the states of India with the sole purpose of slowing disbanding Indian states. Under the Dalhousie, it reached its peak. He introduced the doctrine of lapse forgetting all type of morality. This created havoc and dissatisfaction among the princely states. The fear was very obvious among the natives, It become clear by the statement of Charles Napier: "Were I Emperor of India for 12 years No Indian Prince should exist. The Nizam should be no more heard and Nepal would be ours."

Nana Saheb Peshwa's pension was discontinued on the basis that he was the adopted son fo Bajirao II, The Rani of Jhansi whose adopted son was not allowed to sat on throne, Emperor Bahadur Shah of Delhi, who forcefully asked to vacant his palace, Kunwar Singh of Jagdishpur, whose Jagir had been confiscated. The feelings of muslim was also deeply hurt.

Alexander Duff The mohammadans have for the last hundred years not ceased to pray, alike privately in their houses and publically in their mosques throughout India for the prosperity of the House of Timur or Timurlane, whose lineal representative is the titular emperor of Delhi. Administrative causes were obvious the introduction of the British system of administration was resented by the privileges classes of the old regime. It instilled them with real fear that their all privileges and rights slowly will be snatched off. In the military the highest attainable past for the Indian was upto Subedar whose salary was only 60 & 70 Rs, and in civil services that of Sadar Amin on salary of 500 per month. Promotion chances were nill. It is true that Charter Act 1833 provided that, No Indians or natural-born subject of the crown resident of the India should be reason only of his religion, place of birth, descent, colour or any of them, be disqualified for any place of office or employment under the company.

In Economic causes, People were in a grave situation they were suffering like hell. It was all because of their Revenue system. In the new acquired land they introduced those system which were extracting the huge amount of Revenue from the people who were involved in Agriculture. There was a grave economic distress among the people the high demand of revenue destituted the agriculture and left people to die with taxes. England begun with depriving Indian cotton from the European market and Jampacked Indian markets with cotton.

## **CONCLUSION**

In the later years, the trend came to dominate the work of Historians associated with the subaltern studies. Some time doubts became so deep that it questioned the need for the writing of History itself. By analysing the different theories of Historiography, we finally, reach to the conclusion that 'The task of the Historians is not to remember the past as it is in Cecon's thinking, but to reconstruct or a remake it by using archeological and other date much as the natural scientists were using date as the basis of scientific theory.

The benefit for historiography were the unintended results of the scientific revolution.

Marxism is a dominant presence in the field of Indian Historiography in the post Independence period. Various Historians either came directly within its fold or have been impressed or influenced by its certain degrees. It had a huge impact on most of trends of Indian

Historiography in one or other way. So, it becomes imperative to discuss about important historians within marxist traditions in modern Indian Historiography.

### **Modern India and Marxist Historiography:-**

Marxist historical works on Indian History covers the most of aspects of Indian Society, Economy and Politics under Imperial rule. It implemented marxist analysis to numerous development in the colonial economy, to the problem of peasantry, to the national movement and to the communal problems.

R.P. Dutt's book 'India Today', The books which heralded the beginning of Marxist historiography in India were India today by R.Palme Dutt and Social background of Indian-nationalism by A.R. Desai. India today was first written for the famous left book club of England and it was published in the year 1940, Later, the Indian edition was published in 1947 after almost seven years of its original publication.

As far as India Today is concerned, it is considered as a one of the first major works on Marxist interpretation of Modern India. He used extensively. The economic and political areas raised questioned by nationalists from Dadabhai Naroji onwards to have a detailed picture of the English exploitation of India and its wealth.

This books talks about National-Movement and severely criticized the leadership of Gandhi Ji, for his acts of omission and commission, his instant readiness to Patch-up and compromise with british imperialism and his failure to mobilize the masses even when opportunity backoned. However, It made corrections about the CPI's filt towards the Pakistan demand in the most persuasive manner.

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