



British Colonialism and Its Impact on India

Tariq Ahmad Zai

Research Scholar, School of Studies in Political Science, Vikram University, Ujjain (M.P)
Email: zaitariq786@gmail.com

MUDASIR AHMAD GANAIE

Research Scholar, School of Studies in Political Science, Vikram University, Ujjain (M.P)
Email: maganie27@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Around the 18th Century, a number of noteworthy events took place in the world. One such event was the Industrial Revolution which took place in England. It gradually spread to other countries of Europe also. For the trade purposes, various routes were discovered and one such sea route to India was discovered by a Portuguese called Vasco da Gama in 1498. As a result, the English, French, Portuguese and the Dutch came to India for trade. They also used it to spread missionary activities in India. The beginning of modern period in Indian history began with the coming of these European powers to India. This research article is an effort to know about the evolution and journey of colonialism by the Britishers to India and its impact on the economic, social and cultural spheres of India as well.

Key Words: East India Company, Colonialism, Economic, India, Social, Cultural, Impact.

INTRODUCTION: The European and the British traders initially came to India for trading purposes. The Industrial Revolution in Britain led to the increase in demand for raw materials for the factories there. At the same time, they also required a market to sell their finished goods. India provided such a platform to Britain to fulfill all their needs. The 18th century was a period of internal power struggle in India and with the declining power of the Mughal Empire, the British officials were provided with the perfect opportunity to establish their hold over Indian Territory. They did these through numerous wars, forced treaties, annexations of and

alliances with the various regional powers all over the country. Their new administrative and economic policies helped them consolidate their control over the country. Their land revenue policies help them keep the poor farmers in check and get huge sums as revenues in return. They forced the commercialization of agriculture with the growing of various cash crops and the raw materials for the industries in the Britain. With the strong political control, the British were able to monopolize the trade with India. They defeated their foreign rivals in trade so that there could be no competition. They monopolized the sale of all kinds of raw



materials and bought these at low prices whereas the Indian weavers had to buy them at exorbitant prices. Heavy duties were imposed on Indian goods entering Britain so as to protect their own industry. Various investments were made to improve the transport and communication system in the country to facilitate the easy transfer of raw materials from the farms to the port, and of finished goods from the ports to the markets. Also, English education was introduced to create a class of educated Indians who would assist the British in ruling the country and strengthen their political authority. All these measures helped the British to establish, consolidate and continue their rule over India.

OBJECTIVES: The main objectives of the present research article are:

- To identify the various methods used by the British to colonize India;
- To study the economic impact of British Colonialism on India;
- To describe the impact of British Colonialism on Indian society and culture.

METHODS/WAYS OF COLONIZATION IN INDIA:-

At the point when the modern upheaval began in Europe, the little conditions of that time did not have satisfactory crude materials for their businesses and markets for their completed merchandise. These nations began searching for business sectors in Asia and additionally in Africa. Britain prevailing with regards to controlling exchange with India and built up the East India Company in 1600. The East India Company was kept up by the British government. With its assistance, England was

able to stretch out its regional fringes to the Indian subcontinent. The primary plant was built up at Surat in 1613. In 1615, Sir Thomas Roe got approval from the Mughal ruler Jahangir to open more manufacturing plants at Broach, Ahmadabad and Agra. Their most noteworthy settlement on the southern drift was Madras, where they assembled a delighted processing plant called "Stronghold St. George". This was the primary marked holding gained by the East India Company on Indian soil. Relentlessly, the East India Company broadened its exchanging system. At that point, the East India Company was settled in India. It had additionally prevailing with regards to killing the further contending European forces from India. They likewise began meddling in the political issues of the Indian rulers.

In 1696, the East India Company formed three towns into a city in Bengal and named it Kolkata. The Company additionally assembled a fortress around this city known as Fort William. Amid the nineteenth century, there were numerous of all shapes and sizes autonomous states in India. These states had their own rulers, dialect, culture and economy. These states were consistently at war with each other. It was not stunning that they fell as a simple prey to the European powers especially the British. The clashes of Plassey (1757) and Buxar (1764) gave the ground to the British accomplishment in India. With the assistance these fights, a long period of British political control over India started. The Battle of Plassey was won by the British in Bengal. Mir Jafar was influenced the new Nawab of Bengal by the British, as



an end-result of which they to take a tremendous measure of cash and also the domain of 24 Parganas from the Nawab. However, Mir Jafar was not ready to make more installments to Britishers. Thus, he was supplanted by Mir Qasim who turned out to be a solid ruler. Mir Qasim was not prepared to meet their requests for more cash or control. Accordingly, Mir Qasim was evacuated and Mir Jafar was made the Nawab by and by. Mir Qasim at that point held hands with the Nawab of Awadh Shiraj-ud-daula and the Mughal ruler Shah Allam II in plotting against the British, the fight occurred at a place called Buxar on October 22, 1764. Their annihilation ended up being decisive. In any case, the British adequately picked up control over Bengal; the burden of British run all through India was not a simple occupation. Various provincial forces restricted them and attempted to oppose the endeavors of regional extension of the British.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF BRITISH COLONIALISM ON INDIA:-

The Industrial unrest has helped the English shippers aggregate a considerable measure of capital from the nations of Asia, Africa and America. They now needed to put these riches in setting up ventures and exchange with India. The large scale manufacturing of merchandise through machines that we witness today was started through the Industrial Revolution which happened first in England amid the late eighteenth and the mid nineteenth century. This prompted a monstrous increment in the yield of completed items. The East India Company helped in financing and growing their mechanical base. Amid this time, there was a

class of producers in England who benefitted more from assembling than exchanging. They were keen on having more crude materials from India and also sending their completed merchandise back. Amid the period in the vicinity of 1793 and 1813, these British makers had propelled a crusade against the organization, its exchange syndication and the benefits it appreciated. In the long run, they got accomplishment in abrogating the East India Company's imposing business model of Indian exchange. With this, India turned into a monetary province of Industrial England.

Textile Industry and Trade

Prior, Indian handloom had a major market in Europe. Indian materials, for example, cotton, cloth, silk and woolen products as of now had advertises in Asia and Africa. With the happening to industrialization in England, the material business there made critical progress. There was presently a switch of the heading of material exchange amongst Britain and India. There was a tremendous import of machine made garments from English processing plants to the business sectors of India. This import of vast measure of items fabricated by mechanical weavers England prompted increment danger for the workmanship ventures as the British merchandise were sold at a substantially less expensive cost. The British prevailing with regards to offering their merchandise at a shoddy cost as remote products were sans given passage in India without paying any obligation. Then again, the crafted works of India were saddled intensely when they were conveyed of the nation. In addition, under the weight of its industrialists, British



government frequently forced a defensive tax on Indian materials. Subsequently, inside a couple of years, India from being an exporter of garments turned into an exporter of crude cotton and a merchant of British garments. This inversion had a mammoth effect on the Indian handloom weaving industry prompting its virtual breakdown. It likewise made joblessness for an expansive group of weavers of India. Huge numbers of them moved to provincial territories to chip away at their properties as agrarian workers. This thus put expanded weight on the country economy and job. This procedure of uneven rivalry looked by the Indian handloom industry was later named by the Indian patriot pioneers as de-industrialization.

To change India into a customer of British products was the principle point and target of the British. Thus, material, metal work, glass and paper ventures were soon out of work. By 1813, the Indian crafted works lost both their local and in addition remote market. Indian merchandise couldn't contend with the British plant made items where machines were utilized. These business sectors were currently caught and consumed by Britain by methods for war and colonization. From an exporter India turned into a merchant of these products. They removed cash from the Indian rulers, dealers, zamindars and even the everyday citizens. Added to this deplete were the benefit made through exchange and furthermore the compensations of the authorities. It was obvious that their financial arrangements were

intended to serve the interests of the East India Company and later the British Empire.

Land Revenue Policy and Land Settlements

Since antiquated circumstances, the principle wellspring of job for the general population was horticulture. Subsequently, arrive impose had shaped a chief wellspring of income for every one of the heads everywhere throughout the world. In the eighteenth century, the primary control of the Indian individuals was agribusiness. Amid British administer, income from arrive continued expanding, and the explanations behind this were many. Prior the British had come to exchange with India. Gradually they needed to overcome the tremendous domain of India for which they required a considerable measure of cash. They likewise required cash for exchange, activities of the organization and additionally for the cost of running the organization. The British did various land income tests which made hardship cultivators. They extricated charges from the agriculturists to back their strategies and war endeavors. Immediate and backhanded means were completed to realize this accumulation of income for the British. This influenced the lives of the general population who couldn't meet their day by day needs since they needed to give the landowners and the gatherers their offer in the delivery. Neighborhood organization neglected to give alleviation and common equity to the country and needy individuals.

Ruler Cornwallis presented the Permanent Settlement in Bengal and Bihar in 1793. It influenced the landowner or zamindar



to store a settled measure of cash in the state treasury. Consequently, they were perceived as innate proprietors of land. This made the zamindar the proprietor of the land. The measure of income to be paid toward the East India Company was settled for a timeframe which made the British fiscally secured. Presently they knew ahead of time with reference to how much income was rolling in from the State. The zamindar likewise knew how much income was to be paid. So to get surplus income for themselves they requested that the workers increment generation. In any case, if the zamindar neglected to pay the settled income on time his property was sold off to another zamindar. The British remained to profit by this settlement as the new class of zamindars that developed moved toward becoming their political partners. They bolstered the British in the midst of need and went about as a cradle amongst them and the workers. This class, actually, upheld the British against the flexibility development.

In 1822, the British presented the Mahalwari Settlement in the North Western Provinces, Punjab, the Ganga Valley and parts of Central India. Here the premise of evaluation was the result of a mahal or bequest, which might be a town or a gathering of towns. Here every one of the proprietors of mahal was mutually in charge of paying the whole of income surveyed by the legislature. Sadly it conveyed no advantage to the workers as the British requests were high. The Ryotwari Settlement was presented in the start of the nineteenth century in numerous parts of Bombay and Madras Presidencies.

Here, the land income was forced straightforwardly on the ryots, the individual cultivators, who really took a shot at the land. The laborer was perceived as the proprietor of the land as long as he could pay the income yet the misuse proceeded with the high income requests.

Commercialization of Agriculture

The presentation of a substantial number of business yields, for example, tea, opium, cotton, jute, coffee, indigo, sugarcane and oilseed was the another major monetary effect of the British approaches in India. Various types of business crops were presented with various expectations. Indian opium was utilized to adjust the exchange of Chinese tea with Britain in the last's support. The market for opium was entirely controlled by British dealers which did not leave much extension for Indian makers to harvest benefit. Indians were compelled to deliver indigo and offer it on the conditions directed by the Britishers. Indigo was sent to England and utilized as a coloring specialist for fabric delivered in British towns. Indigo was become under an alternate framework where all ranchers were constrained to develop it on 3/twentieth piece of their territory. Unfortunately development of Indigo left the land fruitless for a few years. This made the ranchers hesitant to develop it. In the tea estates proprietorship changed hands regularly. The laborers on these estates worked under a ton of hardships. Commercialization of horticulture additionally upgraded the speed of exchange of possession of land subsequently expanding the quantity of landless workers. It additionally got a substantial number of



dealers, merchants and go between who additionally abused the circumstance. The laborers now relied upon them to offer their deliver amid reap time. Since the workers now moved to business crops, sustenance grain generation went down. Thus, less sustenance stock prompted starvations. It was consequently not astounding that the laborers revolted. There was a huge empty of riches out of India to Britain because of the different monetary arrangements. Additional budgetary weight was put on India because of uses on compensations, benefits and preparing of military and regular citizen staffs utilized by the British to administer India. On the off chance that these riches were put resources into India it could have helped greatly enhanced the economy in India.

Rise of the New Money-lending Class

Time bound and extraordinary request of income by the British government constrained the laborers to take advances from the moneylenders. These moneylenders frequently abused the laborers by charging high financing costs. They frequently utilized out of line implies like false bookkeeping, produced marks and thumb impressions. The new legitimate framework and the arrangement presented by the British just helped the moneylenders who were either neighborhood dealers or proprietors. Much of the time, the laborers neglected to pay back the advance with full intrigue. Accordingly, their territories bit by bit go under the control of the cash loaning class.

Rise of the New Middle Class

A noteworthy effect of the British run in our nation was the start of another working class.

With the ascent of the British business interests, new prospects opened to a little India and the World through the Ages area of the Indian individuals. They frequently went about as the operators and mediators of the British dealers and in this way made tremendous fortunes. The new landed nobility, which appeared after the presentation of Permanent Settlement, additionally shaped a piece of this new class. A noteworthy area of the old landowning gentry lost responsibility for arrives and much of the time was supplanted by another class of land proprietors. These individuals got some English instruction and turned into the new first class. With the spread of British power, new occupation chances were additionally made. Indian culture saw the presentation of new law courts, government authorities and business offices. The English instructed individuals normally got the fundamental support from their provincial rulers. In this manner, another expert and administration holding working class was likewise made by the British, aside from those with landed interests.

Transport and Communication

In India the methods for transport around then were bullock trucks, camels and pack creatures. Britain then again required railroads that associated the crude material delivering regions with the sending out ports and to encourage the development of British products to various parts of the nation and additionally convey crude materials to the ports. The immense system of railroads that we witness today was spearheaded amid the last 50% of the nineteenth century. This



opened road for British financiers and speculators to put surplus riches and material in the development of railroads. Railroads profited the British business people in two imperative ways. In the first place, it made exchanging products substantially less demanding and gainful by interfacing the inner markets with the ports. Also, the rail motors, mentors and the capital contribution for working of rail lines originated from Britain. The British entrepreneurs who put resources into railroads were additionally ensured a base benefit of 5% by the administration. These organizations were additionally given free land with a rent of 99 years. Despite the fact that the railroads were set up for the upside of British exchange, they additionally assumed a huge part in the national arousing of the nation. However the British had never foreseen, the broad transport organizes and enhanced instruction brought individuals and thoughts nearer. Amid British administer, India took thoughts of freedom, uniformity, human rights, science and innovation from the West. This quickened the procedure of modernization.

SOCIO-CULTURAL IMPACT OF BRITISH COLONIALISM ON INDIA:-

Indian culture experienced numerous progressions after the British came to India. In the nineteenth century, certain social practices like female child murder, youngster marriage, sati, polygamy and an unbending position framework turned out to be more pervasive. These practices were against human respect and qualities. Ladies were oppressed at all phases of life and were the distraught area of the general public. They

didn't approach any advancement chances to enhance their status. Training was restricted to a modest bunch of men having a place with the upper stations. Brahmins approached the Vedas which were composed in Sanskrit. Costly ceremonies, forfeits and practices after birth or demise were laid out by the clerical class. At the point when the British came to India, they brought new thoughts, for example, freedom, correspondence, opportunity and human rights from the Renaissance, the Reformation Movement and the different upsets that occurred in Europe. These thoughts spoke to a few areas of our general public and prompted a few change developments in various parts of the nation. At the cutting edge of these developments were visionary Indians, for example, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Aruna Asaf Ali and Pandita Ramabai. These developments searched for social solidarity and strived towards freedom, correspondence and crew. Numerous lawful measures were acquainted with enhance the status of ladies. For instance, the act of sati was prohibited in 1829 by Lord Bentinck, the then Governor General. Dowager Remarriage was allowed by a law goes in 1856. A law goes in 1872, endorsed between standing and between collective relational unions. Sharda Act was passed in 1929 anticipating chill.

The impact of the efforts made by these frequent individuals, reform societies, and religious organisations was felt all over and was most evident in the national movement. Women started getting better education opportunities and took up professions and public employment outside their homes. The role of women like Captain



Laxmi Sehgal of Indian National Army (INA), Sarojini Naidu, Annie Besant, Aruna Asaf Ali and many others were extremely important in the freedom struggle.

Social and Cultural Policy

The British had come to India with the idea of making enormous profits. This meant buying of raw materials at very cheap rates and selling finished goods at much higher prices. The British wanted the Indians to be educated and modern enough to consume their goods but not to the extent that it proved detrimental to British interests. Some of the Britishers believed that Western ideas were modern and superior, while Indian ideas were old and inferior. This was, of course, not true. Indians had a rich traditional learning that was still relevant. By this time in England there was a group of Radicals who had a humanistic ideology towards Indians. They wanted India to be a part of the modern, progressive world of science. But the British government was cautious in undertaking rapid modernization of India. They feared a reaction among the people if too much interference took place with their religious beliefs and social customs. The English wanted perpetuation of their rule in India and not a reaction among the people. Hence, though they talked about introducing reforms, in reality very few measures were taken and these were also half-hearted.

Education Policy

The British took a keen interest in introducing the English language in India. They had various motives for doing so. Educating Indians in the English language was a part of their strategy. The Indians would be ready to work as clerks on low wages while for the same work the British would demand much higher wages. This would reduce the expenditure on administration. It was also expected to create a class of Indians who were loyal to the British and were not able to relate

to other Indians. This class of Indians would be taught to appreciate the culture and opinion of the British. In addition, they would also help to increase the market for British goods. They wanted to use education as a means to strengthen their political authority in the country. They assumed that a few educated Indians would spread English culture to the masses and that they would be able to rule through this class of educated Indians. The British gave jobs to only those Indians who knew English thereby compelling many Indians to go in for English education. Education soon became a monopoly of the rich and the city dwellers.

Effect of the Reform Movement

How the socio-religious change developments did prompted the national development? The relentless endeavors of the reformers had enormous effect on the general public. The religious change developments ingrained in the psyches of Indians more prominent sense of pride, fearlessness and pride in their nation. These change developments helped numerous Indians to grapple with the cutting edge world. The reformers felt that cutting edge thoughts and culture could be best assimilated by coordinating them into Indian social stream. They helped other compatriots to value that every advanced thought were not against Indian culture and qualities. The presentation of current training guided the Indians towards a logical and discerning way to deal with life. Individuals turned out to be more aware of their way of life as Indians which was eventually in charge of their unified battle against the British in the opportunity development of India.



English Administration and Judicial System

The Indians thought that it was hard to change in accordance with the new arrangement of organization presented by the British. The Indians were denied political rights and the British officers treated them with hatred. Indians were rejected from every single higher position in the common organization and military. The British likewise presented another arrangement of law and equity in India. A chain of importance of common and criminal courts was set up. The laws were arranged and endeavors were likewise made to isolate the legal from the official. Endeavors were made to build up the 'Lead of Law' in India. However, this exclusive helped the British to appreciate subjective powers and to meddle with the rights and freedoms of the Indians. The law courts were not effectively available to the average folks. Equity turned into an exorbitant issue. The new legal framework likewise segregated amongst Europeans and Indians.

CONCLUSION: The British came to India as brokers, yet additionally had regional desire. They step by step picked up control over the entire of India by utilizing different means like direct success, addition and discretion. English manage deeply affected the political and social existence of the Indians. The British run had influenced all of Indian life. This political control likewise implied a long drawn communication between two particular societies. A few changes were purposely acquainted with reinforce the British political and exchanging interests. In any case, there were others that happened as a

result of the association between the Indian and the western societies. Countless and Europeans remained in our nation amid this period which additionally brought social change.

The monetary effect of British govern was most expansive. It crushed the conventional economy of India and depleted India's riches to Britain. The monetary arrangements of the British likewise influenced the classes of laborers, craftsmans unfavorably.

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