



Test Preparation > UPSC CSE > Modern History > Imperialism and Colonialism

Warren Hastings Part 2

LESSON 3 OF 5



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Modern Indian History

**India under
East India Company**

**Warren Hastings
Part - 2**

Warren Hastings Reign (1773-1785)

- ✓ Regulating Act of 1773
- ✓ Establishment of Supreme Court in 1774
- ✓ Act of 1781—Division of power between Governor General -in- council & Supreme Court.
- ✓ Pitt's India Act of 1784
- ✓ Revenue Reforms
- ✓ The Rohilla War of 1774
- ✓ The 1st Maratha War in 1775-1782—Treaty of Salbai in 1782
- ✓ Second Mysore War in 1780-1784
- ✓ Conspiracy against Nand Kumar of Bengal.
- ✓ Conflicts with Chaith Singh of Banaras and Begum of Awadh.
- ✓ Foundation of the Asiatic Society @ Bengal (1784)

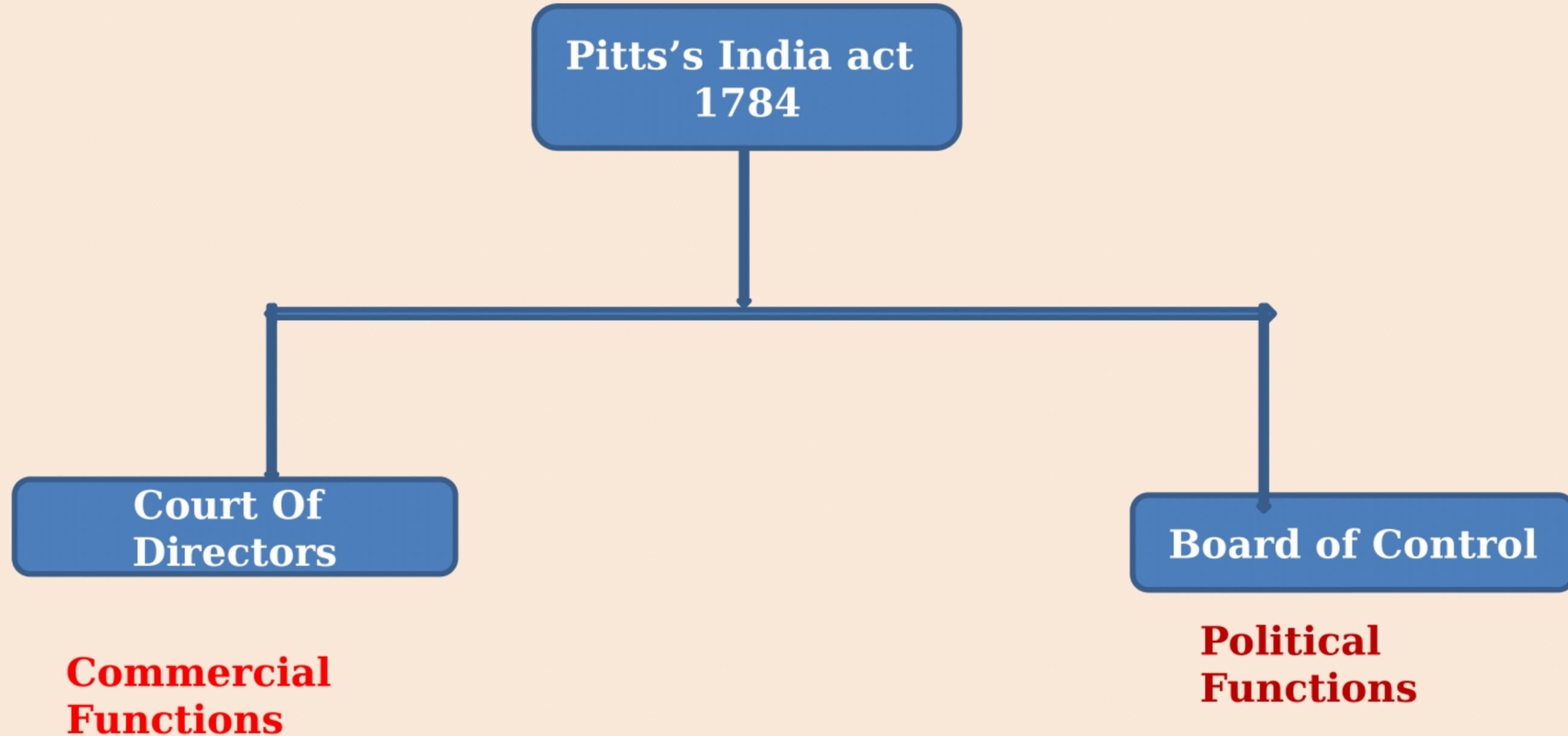
Pitt's India Act 1784

The commercial and political function of the company has been segregated.

- Court of directors would be responsible for commercial function.
- A new body - Board of Control (6 members) has been created to manage the political Affairs of the company appointed by British Crown.
- The Act also empowered the Board of Control to supervise in the matters related to civil, military and revenues.
- Reduced the members of Governor General -in council from 4 to 3

The Act was significant for 2 reasons.

- ✓ The territories of the companies would be termed as 'British possessions in India'
- ✓ British Government has been given supreme control over company's affairs and its administration in India.



Board Of Control has the power to supervise the civil, military and revenue matters of the company

Administrative Reforms

- English Collectors were appointed by in place of Deputy Subhedars .
- Treasury shifted from Murshidabad to Calcutta.(capital in 1772)
- Board of Revenue established.
- Nawab's allowance reduced to half from 32 lakhs.
- Stopped the Annual Payment of Rs.26, lakhs to Mughal Emperor.

Revenue Reforms

- English Land Revenue Officers were appointed
- Land Revenue Settlement for 5 years
- Appointment of Zamindars (Rai Rayan) for settlement for 1 year instead of 5 years

Judicial Reforms

- The judicial system under the Nawab and Zamindars has been abolished.
- Civil courts were established under the Collectors in each districts and Criminal courts under Indian judges.
- 2 Appellate courts were established in Calcutta to hear the appeals from the district courts.
- The highest Civil court of Appeal was 'Sadar Diwani Adalat' and for highest criminal appeals the court was termed as 'Sadar Nizamat Adalat'
- Hindu and Muslim laws has been taken into account to assist in the hearings.
- Manu smriti and Quran—translated from Sanskrit and Persian to English.
- Code of Hindu Laws was translated in English by Halhed.

Trade Reforms.

- Abolished the dastak system (free passes) thus controlled the internal trade.
- Custom duties reduced and a uniform tariff of 2.5% has been implemented to Indian and foreign traders.
- Private trade continued among EIC employees however up to a certain limit.
- Introduced pre postage system, new Bank was also set up.
- Improved the police and dacoits were suppressed.

Rohilakhand

- The state of Rohilkhand came into being when a massive migration took place from Afghanistan in the mid 18th century because of political and economic breakdown in Afghanistan.
- Ali Muhammad Khan took advantage of the weak rulers of North India following Nadir Shah's invasion, set up a small kingdom of Rohilkhand at the foothills of the Himalayas, between Kumaon (North) and the Ganga (South).
- They suffered a lot from the Marathas, Jats and the Nawab of Awadh, followed by the annexation of Rohilkhand by the English.

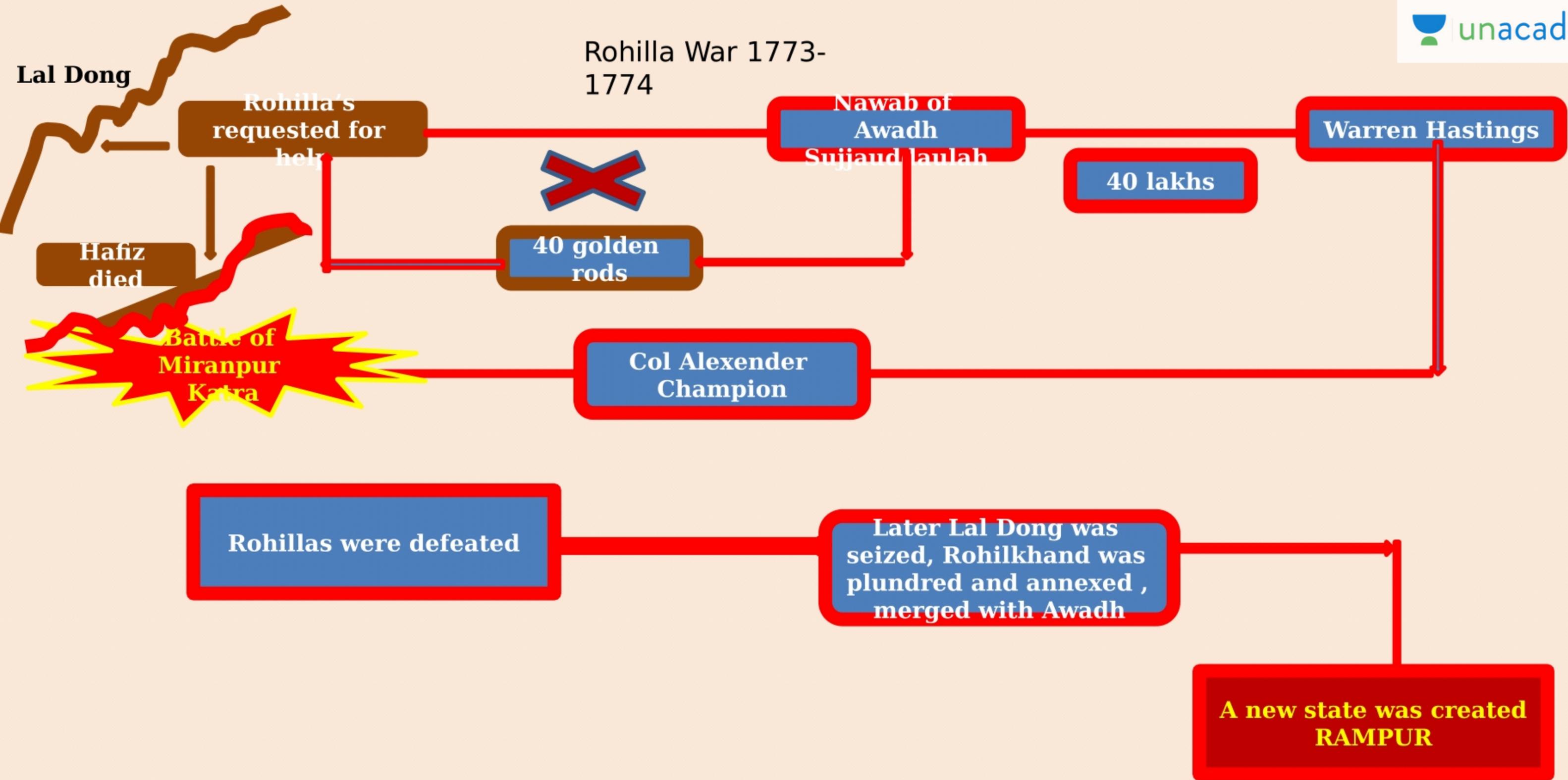
Rohilla War (1773-1774)

- They were the Afghan highlanders settled in Rohilkhand , having been driven by the Marathas, they requested help to the Nawab of Awadh (Shujauddulah), who demanded 40 golden rods which was refused by the Rohilla chief Hafiz Rahmat Ali Khan.
- The Nawab who was an ally of EIC seek help from Warren Hastings who helped him with his troops in return of 40 lakhs.
- The Rohillas were attacked by Colonel Alexander Champion on 23rd April 1774 at the Battle of Miranpur Katra. In this decisive battle Hafiz died and made the remaining Rohillas flee to the mountains near Lal Dong.
- Later in Oct 1774 EIC seized Lal Dong.Rohilkhand was plundered , annexed and merged with Awadh.
- A new state was set up as Rampur

✓ **The war became a matter of Westminster politics during his impeachment. He was charged of destroying a nation by Edmund Burke and Thomas Macaulay.**

✓ **Hastings justified that the Rohillas were a threat to Awadh hence it was annexed.**

Rohilla War 1773-1774



Thank You....