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Medieval History : Ahom Kingdom - Part XI

LESSON 22 OF 22



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Assam History

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Medieval History

Ahom Kingdom – Part XI

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Hi, I am Bhaskarjyoti Hazarika !

- ✓ Graduated from Assam Engineering College
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- ✓ Love creative arts and travelling
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Ahom Kingdom

Fall of Ahom Kingdom and Treaty of Yandaboo

Fall of Ahom Kingdom

- In April 1817 A.D, Burmese army returned and soon after their departure, **Barbarua** quarreled with **Badan Barphukan**.
- The kings mother **Numali Rajmao, Nirbhay Narayan Bargohain** took side with Barbarua.
- Finally **Badanchandra** was assassinated in **1818 A.D**
- **Ruchinath Burghagohain** decided to place **Brajnath Singha** in Ahom throne. But he was ineligible and his son **Purandar Singha** was chosen to the throne.
- Chandrakanta Singha was captured and **mutilated** and made ineligible for further accession to the throne.

Second Burmese Invasion

- Soon Burmese king came to know about the assassination Barphukan, a huge force was sent under **Alu Mingi** and they reached Assam in **Feb, 1819 A.D.**
- **It was the second Burmese invasion to Assam.**
- In the battle near Nazira, initially Ahom army successfully resisted the Burmese. But later the Ahom army retreated and Burmese Army advanced to Jorhat
- **Purandar Singha** and Ruchinath fled to Guwahati. **Purandar Singha** reached Calcutta and appealed the British East India company to assist him but they refused to intervene.

Second Burmese Invasion

- Chandra Kanta Singha was once again restored to the throne by the Burmese. He was only nominal ruler and the real authority was vested on Burmese commandar. In **1819 A.D** Alu Mingi returned by retaining few Burmese army in Ahom kingdom under **Mingimaha Tilowa**
- After the departure of the Burmese, Chandra Kanta Singha sought to raise a **fort at Jaipur** against further Burmese invasion. It was supervised by **Patal Barbarua**.
- In **1821** Burmese Monarch **Bagyidaw** sent a Burmese force with presents of ornaments and dress to Chandrakanta Singha.

Third Burmese Invasion

- The Burmese force soon reached near Jaipur and seeing such preparations for the fort they killed Patal Barbarua
- Chandrakanta got afraid of this hostile move and in **Feb, 1821 A.D** he fled to Guahati. The Burmese tried to convince him to return but failed.
- **In 1821 A.D**, the Burmese placed **Jogeswar Singha** as a nominal king and the real authority was vested on Burmese commandar Mingimaha Tilowa.
- Chandrakanta Singha crossed the border and entered Bengal where he collected arms and men to fight the Burmese.

Fall of Ahom Kingdom

- In 1822 A.D, **Mingimaha Bandula** arrived in Assam with a large reinforcement.
- In **April, 1822 A.D**, the **battle of Mahgarh** took place between **Chandra Kanta Singha** and **Burmese** but Chandrakanta was defeated
- In **June, 1822 A.D**, Chandrakanta fought the last **battle of Hadirachaki** and there also he got defeated.
- Chandra Kanta fought with exemplary bravery but he was badly defeated due to **shortage of ammunition**.
- **After battle of Hadirachaki, the Burmese formally took over Ahom kingdom.**

Period of Burmese rule (*Manor Din*)

- The period from 1821 to 1824 is called period of Burmese rule.
- During this period, the Burmese devastated the country and committed atrocities by plunder and killing of innocent people. People were burnt alive, some portions of their bodies were cut off alive . Their oppression was so horrific that can not described.
- In addition to that, the **Singphos** allied with Burmese and made constant raids and carried of helpless Assamese people as their Slaves.
- Even after so many years Burmese left, people remembered *Manor Din* or *Manor Upodrob* with horror.

Friction between Burmese and British

- The Burmese started demanding the surrender of refugees including Chandrakanta Singha, and their supporters.
- In that time, the border conflict in the East India Company's Chittagong frontier with the Burmese empire also took serious turn
- Bengal was the most prized possession of British and anticipating a Burmese invasion on Bengal, British Governor General Lord Amherst decided to fight.
- **Governor General Lord Amherst** declared war on the **5th of March 1824** against **Burma (Myanmar)** under the command of **General Archibald Campbell**

Anglo Burmese War

- The British army entered Goalpara frontier of Assam, defeated the small Burmese garrisons in Lower Assam and advanced to Upper Assam.
- The British Army in Brahmaputra Valley was led by a civilian(agent of Governor General) **David Scott** , **Colonel Rechards** and **Captain Neufville**
- At first British troops occupied **Moramukh** – main establishment of Burmese.
- On **Jan 21, 1825** British Army occupied **Rangpur** and martial law was declared. David Scott was appointed as civil officer in charge of civil matters and Col. Richards in charge of the army.
- The **Burmese** and their ally **Singphos** were driven out of Assam

Anglo Burmese War

- In **1824 Colonel Innes** with the help of Gambhir Singh driven out the Burmese from Manipur
- In June, 1825 **Captain Neufville** defeated the allies of Burmese and Singphos. The **Burmese** were expelled and Singphos submitted. In that mission, **Captain Neufville** rescued around Six thousands Assamese captives.
- The British Army also invaded Burma and in **Battle of Yangon** and **Battle of Prome**, the Burmese were badly defeated.
- *Narrative of Burmese War* by **Wilson** provides a detailed account of **Anglo Burmese war**

Treaty of Yandaboo, 1826

- Finally on **24 February, 1826** a treaty of peace and friendship was concluded between the British and the Burmese at **Yandabo**
- **By this treaty of Yandaboo**, the **Burmese monarch** renounced all claims upon and promised to refrain from all interference with **Assam, Manipur** and Arakan and also recognised Gambhir Singh as the Raja of Manipur.
- **British** kept **Assam** under its occupation. It was constituted as province of Assam and British administration was introduced.

THANK YOU

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