

ForumIAS

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# Prelims Marathon

2<sup>nd</sup> Week December, 2025

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HISTORY  
ECONOMICS  
POLITY  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

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## Bhakti and Sufi Movements

1. With reference to the contributions of Saint Tyagaraja to the Bhakti Movement, consider the following statements:

1. His philosophy, termed 'Nadopasana', held that salvation could be attained through the worship of God in the form of sound or music.
2. He is credited with systematizing the Pancharatna Kritis, a set of five major compositions primarily written in Sanskrit and set to the Adi Tala.
3. His two notable musical plays, Prahalada Bhakti Vijayam and Nauka Charitam, were composed in the Telugu language.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only  
(b) 1 and 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Tyagaraja's central philosophical contribution was 'Nadopasana' (worship through nada, or sound/music), linking Nada Yoga (science of sound vibrations) to the attainment of moksha or salvation. He was an ardent devotee of Lord Rama.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** While Tyagaraja did systematize the **Pancharatna Kritis** (Five Gems), and they are set to various talas, they are primarily composed in **Telugu**, not Sanskrit. Only one of the Pancharatnas, Jagadanandakaraka, is in Sanskrit.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** His two famous musical operas (plays) are the Prahalada Bhakti Vijayam and the Nauka Charitam, and both are composed in **Telugu**.

2. With reference to the Virashaiva movement and its founder, Basavanna, consider the following statements:

1. Basavanna's core teaching rejected temple worship and advocated for the worship of the 'Ishtalinga' worn on the body, symbolizing the individual's direct connection to Shiva.
2. The movement completely rejected the principle of kayaka (work is worship) and championed dasoha (distributive justice) as the only means of spiritual liberation.
3. He established the Anubhava Mantapa (Hall of Spiritual Experience), a socio-religious parliament that offered a common platform for people from all castes, including women, to discuss spiritual matters.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 1 and 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Virashaivas (Lingayats) are known for rejecting the construction of temples and the performance of Brahmanical rituals. They emphasized personalized worship through the Ishtalinga (Chosen Linga) worn on a necklace.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The statement is partially correct but fundamentally flawed. Basavanna's philosophy was centered on both **Kayaka** (earnest labor/work is worship) and **Dasoha** (the selfless

distribution of the surplus earnings of one's honest labour). The movement championed Kayaka, it did not reject it.

- **Statement 3: Correct.** The **Anubhava Mantapa**, often referred to as the "First Parliament of India," was established in Kalyana by Basavanna as a forum for philosophical and social debate open to all, irrespective of gender or caste.

**3. With reference to the religious doctrines of the Virashaiva tradition, consider the following statements:**

1. Panchachara refers to the Five Codes of Conduct which includes Lingachara (daily worship of the Linga) and Bhrittyachara (humility towards all living beings).
2. Ashtavarana refers to the Eight Shields meant to protect the devotee's body as the temple of God, which includes the Guru, Linga, Jangama, and Vibhuti (holy ash).
3. The concept of Ashtavarana is unique to the Virashaiva tradition and finds no parallel in the devotional practices of the Nayanars or Alvars.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Panchachara constitutes the fivefold code of conduct: Lingachara, Sadachara (virtuous conduct), Sivachara (community equality), Ganachara (defense of community tenets), and Bhrittyachara.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Ashtavarana consists of eight spiritual aids or shields: Guru (teacher), Linga (icon), Jangama (wandering ascetic/monk), Paduka (holy water), Prasada (sacred offering), Vibhuti (holy ash), Rudraksha (holy beads), and Mantra (Namah Sivaya).
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** While the Ashtavarana is central to Virashaivism, the core elements it defines (Guru, sacred symbol, sacred food, holy ash/beads) are devotional concepts that are not entirely unique. The emphasis on the trinity of Guru, Linga, and Jangama finds a parallel in many Shaivite and Bhakti devotional practices, including elements present in the traditions of the Nayanars. The absolute formalization and naming 'Ashtavarana' may be unique, but the statement claims no parallel, which is too restrictive for UPSC-level analysis.

**4. With reference to the Siddhars of the medieval period in South India, consider the following statements:**

1. The Siddhars belonged exclusively to the Vaishnavite tradition and composed their philosophical texts entirely in Sanskrit.
2. They were renowned for their knowledge of Siddha Medicine and Alchemy (Rasa-vada), and sought to attain physical immortality (kaya-kalpa).
3. The attainment of the Ashtama Siddhis (Eight Great Perfections), such as Anima and Mahima, was a central goal in their esoteric spiritual practices.

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The Siddhars are associated with the **Shaivite** tradition (often called Siddha-Siddhanta) and were based primarily in Tamil Nadu. Their philosophical and medicinal texts, such as **Thirumoolar's Thirumandhiram**, were composed predominantly in **Tamil**, a key characteristic of the South Indian Bhakti/spiritual movements.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Siddhars were master alchemists and physicians. They are credited with developing the **Siddha System of Medicine**, which aims for the perfection of the physical body through techniques like kaya-kalpa (body rejuvenation).
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Siddhi (perfection) in the name Siddhar refers to the yogic powers (siddhis), the highest of which are the Ashtama Siddhis, including the ability to become minute (Anima) or infinitely large (Mahima).

**5. With reference to the participation of women in the Bhakti Movement, consider the following statements:**

1. The women Bhakti saints primarily belonged to the high-caste communities, as their renunciation was dependent on initial literacy and cultural privilege.
2. By defining God as their sole "Divine Husband," women like Akkamahadevi and Mirabai found a legitimate spiritual justification to renounce patriarchal domestic and marital duties.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The Bhakti movement was fundamentally egalitarian. While some women like Mirabai came from a royal/high-caste background, many others, such as **Janabai** (Shudra caste) and **Soyarabai** (Mahar caste), were from low or marginalized communities. The movement challenged caste and class barriers for both men and women.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** This strategy was a core mechanism of spiritual and social resistance for many women Bhakti saints. By declaring their undying, exclusive devotion to their chosen deity (e.g., Krishna for Mirabai, Shiva/Channa Mallikarjuna for Akkamahadevi) as their only 'husband' (pati), they spiritually nullified their actual earthly marriage and the duties it imposed, thereby legitimizing their renunciation and wandering life.

**6. Consider the following statements regarding the themes addressed in the poetry of women Bhakti saints:**

1. Many women poets openly challenged the ideal of women's purity and modesty by adopting public, ascetic lifestyles, in direct defiance of patriarchal norms.
2. The poetry often used metaphors of domestic labor (such as grinding and spinning) to represent spiritual practice and the mundane restrictions of low-caste women's lives.
3. Unlike their male counterparts, women saints of the Nirguna tradition universally rejected the concept of the 'Guru' and advocated for purely internal, unguided spiritual realization.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only

- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Figures like Akkamahadevi, who famously walked naked (symbolizing her complete renunciation of worldly ties), directly challenged the societal obsession with feminine modesty and purity imposed by patriarchal structures.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Marathi saints like **Janabai** and **Bahinabai** frequently incorporated details of their daily domestic and field labor into their abhangas, transforming routine chores into acts of devotion and using them as powerful metaphors for the spiritual journey, simultaneously highlighting the struggles of their caste and gender.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The importance of the **Guru** was a universal feature across almost all Bhakti traditions, both Saguna (e.g., Mirabai's reverence for Raidas) and Nirguna (e.g., Kabir's deep respect for Ramananda). Women saints did not universally reject the Guru; instead, finding a suitable spiritual guide was often a crucial step in their path.

**7. Which of the following statements best describes the most radical contribution of Akkamahadevi to the Bhakti movement?**

- (a) She was the only female saint who defied the tradition by writing Vachanas in Telugu, rather than her native Kannada.
- (b) She founded the Virashaiva sect but was later expelled for her radical insistence on Saguna (form) worship.
- (c) She used the literary convention of Channa Mallikarjuna as her divine husband to challenge the institution of earthly marriage and walked nude, symbolizing total renunciation of body and property.
- (d) She championed the cause of temple-entry for low-caste women but ultimately chose a domestic life in the royal court of the Kalyana Chalukyas.

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Option (c) is the best description.** Akkamahadevi, a 12th-century saint from Karnataka, was a devotee of Shiva as Channa Mallikarjuna (Lord White as Jasmine). Her most radical act was renouncing her marriage and worldly attachments, symbolized by walking naked, to declare her body and soul belonged only to Shiva.
- (a) Incorrect. She composed Vachanas in her native **Kannada**.
- (b) Incorrect. Basavanna founded the Virashaiva movement, and she was a respected member of the Anubhava Mantapa. Virashaivism is essentially a monotheistic Shaivism, but her Vachanas emphasize direct bhakti and transcendence.
- (d) Incorrect. She renounced domestic life and royalty for an ascetic life.

**8. Which of the following is characteristic of the life and poetry of the Marathi saint Janabai?**

- (a) She was a royal Rajput princess who transitioned from worshipping Lord Rama to an intense devotion for Lord Krishna.
- (b) She was a contemporary of Tukaram and belonged to the Nirguna tradition, advocating for a formless God while living as an untouchable outcaste.
- (c) She was a Shudra woman, a household servant of the famed saint Namdeva, whose Abhangas often intertwined her domestic chores with her deep devotion to Lord Vithoba.



(d) She composed the famous Thiruppavai poem in the Tamil language, envisioning herself as the bride of Vishnu.

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Option (c) is the correct description.** Janabai (13th-14th century) was a low-caste (Shudra) woman and servant to the family of the poet-saint Namdeva in Maharashtra (Varkari tradition). Her hundreds of Abhangas (devotional songs) are unique as they narrate her intense devotion to Lord Vithoba (a form of Krishna/Vishnu) amidst the hardship and monotony of her daily life and domestic servitude.
- (a) Describes Mirabai (though Mirabai focused on Krishna).
- (b) Janabai was part of the Varkari tradition, which is a **Saguna** tradition (worship of Vithoba with form). Tukaram was her contemporary, but she pre-dates him by a few centuries in some timelines (Namdeva's contemporary).
- (d) Describes the South Indian saint **Andal**.

**9. Match the following characteristics of Mirabai with their correct description:**

List I (Aspect)	List II (Description)
A. Spiritual Path	1. Direct path of love and devotion (Madhurya Bhava), transcending societal rituals and rules.
B. Notable Work	2. A specific composition that detailed her personal rejection of temple architecture and idol worship.
C. Her Guru	3. Raidas (also known as Ravidas), a low-caste saint from the leather-working community (Chamar).

**How many pairs given above are correctly matched?**

- (a) None of the pairs
- (b) Only one pair
- (c) Only two pairs
- (d) All three pairs

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Pair A (Spiritual Path) - Correct.** Mirabai's path was the **Madhurya Bhava** (sweet devotion, where the devotee is the lover/wife and God is the husband/beloved). This intensely personal and direct devotion allowed her to reject conventional societal rules (e.g., her marriage to a mortal prince).
- **Pair B (Notable Work) - Incorrect.** Mirabai's primary contribution is her numerous **Bhajans** (devotional songs). While her poetry is filled with philosophical content, there is no single notable work explicitly focused on the rejection of temple architecture and idol worship. She practiced **Saguna Bhakti** (worship of Krishna with form), and the statement contradicts this by implying a Nirguna/anti-idol stance.
- **Pair C (Her Guru) - Correct.** Mirabai, despite being a Rajput princess, chose **Raidas** (Ravidas), a low-caste saint, as her spiritual preceptor. This act was a powerful rejection of the caste hierarchy, mirroring the core tenet of the Bhakti movement.

**10. Which of the following statements is true regarding the 17th-century Marathi saint-poetess Bahinabai (Bahina)?**

- (a) She was a Saguna saint known for composing Vachanas in Kannada, which lamented the decline of the Vijayanagar Empire.
- (b) She belonged to the Varkari tradition and composed Abhangas that detailed the conflict between her profound devotion to Lord Vithoba and her traditional marital duties.
- (c) She was unique in the Bhakti movement for being the only woman to reject the need for a Guru or spiritual guide to attain liberation.
- (d) Her poetry is credited with being the first to introduce the concept of ninda stuti (lovingly scolding the divine) into Marathi devotional literature.

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Option (b) is the correct statement.** Bahinabai (1628–1700 CE) was a 17th-century poet-saint of Maharashtra in the **Varkari tradition**. She was a disciple of the low-caste saint Tukaram. Her Abhangas are highly autobiographical and are known for exploring the difficult balance between her intense, personal devotion to Vithoba and the expectation of serving her husband (pativrata dharma), often concluding with her respecting her marital obligations while maintaining her divine love.
- (a) Incorrect. She composed Abhangas in **Marathi**. Vachanas are associated with Kannada Virashaivism.
- (c) Incorrect. She was a dedicated disciple of **Tukaram**, highlighting the importance of the Guru.
- (d) Incorrect. Ninda Stuti is a feature often found in the compositions of other saints like Tyagaraja (in Carnatic music) and certain Nayanar saints, and was not uniquely introduced by Bahinabai in Marathi.

## Bhakti and Sufi Movements

**1. With reference to the religious policies of Emperor Akbar, consider the following statements regarding the reaction of the Naqshbandi Silsilah:**

1. The Naqshbandi saint Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi vehemently opposed Akbar's syncretic doctrine of Sulh-i Kul, viewing it as a serious threat to the purity of Islam.
2. Sirhindi critiqued the widespread Sufi doctrine of Wahdat al-Wujud (Unity of Being), advocating instead for Wahdat ash-Shuhud (Unity of Witnessing).
3. Unlike the Chishti saints who accepted Sama (musical assemblies), the Naqshbandi Silsilah, under Sirhindi, strictly prohibited the practice of Dhikr-i Khafi (silent remembrance of God).

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi, often called the Mujaddid-i-Alf-i-Sani (Reformer of the second millennium), championed the revival of orthodox Islam and fiercely criticized Akbar's liberal and syncretic policies like Din-i Ilahi and Sulh-i Kul.



- **Statement 2: Correct.** Sirhindi is credited with formalizing the doctrine of Wahdat ash-Shuhud (Unity of Witnessing), which contrasts with Wahdat al-Wujud (Unity of Being). He argued that the experience of unity with God is subjective and temporary (witnessing), not a literal objective reality (being).
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The Naqshbandi Silsilah was known for its strict adherence to the Shari'ah and rejected the public musical rituals (Sama or Dhikr Jahri) of other orders like the Chishtis. However, they strongly emphasized the practice of **Dhikr-i Khafi** (silent or internal remembrance of God).

**2. With reference to the Qadri Silsilah in Sufism, consider the following statements:**

1. The Silsilah was particularly prominent in Punjab and Sindh, and its adherents were known for strictly adhering to the Islamic law (Shari'ah).
2. Prominent Mughal figures, including Princess Jahanara and Prince Dara Shikoh, were disciples of the Qadri Sufis, specifically those who upheld the concept of Wahdat al-Wujud.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Qadri Silsilah was founded in India by Shah Niamatullah and Makhdum Jilani. It became particularly influential in Punjab and Sindh. Like the Naqshbandis, they generally stressed adherence to the orthodox Shari'ah.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Mughal figures like Dara Shikoh, the son of Shah Jahan, and his sister Jahanara were disciples of Miyan Mir and Mullah Shah Badakhshi, both prominent Qadri mystics. The Qadris were generally tolerant and often associated with the Wahdat al-Wujud philosophy, which Dara Shikoh himself explored through his work, Majma-ul-Bahrain (The Mingling of the Two Oceans).

**3. Which of the following statements best describes the philosophical core shared by both the Nirguna Bhakti saints (like Kabir) and the Sufi mystics who subscribed to Wahdat al-Wujud?**

- (a) Both traditions insisted on the necessity of a physical Guru/Pir and rejected all forms of idol worship and ritualistic practices.
- (b) Both believed that the ultimate reality (God) is formless and that the devotee's individual soul (Jiva) is intrinsically one with the Divine Being (Brahman or Haqq).
- (c) Both strictly followed the path of Shari'ah (religious law) as a necessary precondition for attaining the mystical state (Tariqah).
- (d) Both originated in South India during the 8th century and later spread north following the Turkish conquest of the 12th century.

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Option (b) is the best description.** Nirguna Bhakti (e.g., Kabir, Guru Nanak) worshipped a formless God and challenged the distinction between the soul and God (similar to Advaita Vedanta). Wahdat al-Wujud (Unity of Being) likewise posits that all of creation is a manifestation of the single Divine Essence (Haqq), making the devotee intrinsically one with God.
- Option (a) is incorrect; while both rejected idol worship, Nirguna saints and Sufis disagreed on the necessity of a human guide (Guru/Pir) and were generally non-ritualistic, but the specific mention of all rituals makes it too absolute for all Sufis.

- Option (c) is incorrect; Nirguna saints explicitly rejected religious law/scriptural authority, and the Beshara (lawless) Sufis did too.
- Option (d) is incorrect; Bhakti originated in the South, but Sufism originated outside India.

**4. Consider the following statements regarding the impact of the Sufi movement on Medieval Indian society:**

1. Sufis fostered Hindu-Muslim solidarity and brotherhood, largely by rejecting social discrimination and caste distinctions among their followers.
2. The development of new art forms like Qawwali and the growth of the Urdu language are significant cultural contributions directly linked to Sufi traditions.
3. The Chishti order, unlike the Suhrawardi Silsilah, actively sought state patronage and maintained close contact with the Mughal court to ensure the financial security of their Khanqahs.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Sufis promoted a composite culture and were highly inclusive, often appealing to lower-caste groups by rejecting social hierarchies. Their Khanqahs became centers for people of all faiths.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Sufi practices, particularly those of the Chishti order, led to the development of Qawwali (devotional music) through figures like Amir Khusrau. Furthermore, the need for communication between Sufis and local populations played a significant role in the syncretic development of languages like Urdu.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The **Chishti** order strictly maintained distance from the state and rejected state patronage, often preferring a life of austerity and poverty. It was the **Suhrawardi** Silsilah that freely accepted maintenance grants from the state and held official positions.

**5. With reference to Bhakti and Sufi terminology, consider the following pairs:**

1. **Langar:** Community kitchen where food is served without discrimination.
2. **Dargah:** Pilgrimage to the tomb of a Sufi saint.
3. **Piri:** The temporal (worldly) authority in the Sikh tradition.
4. **Vachana:** Devotional poetry composed by Lingayat saints in Kannada.
5. **Manjis:** Local missionary centres established by Guru Amar Das for men and women.

**How many pairs given above are correctly matched?**

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) Only four
- (d) All five

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Pair 1 (Langar): Correct.** Langar is the community kitchen where all people eat together (Pangat), symbolizing social equality.

- **Pair 2 (Dargah): Incorrect.** Dargah is the term for the **tomb/mausoleum** of a Sufi saint. The act of pilgrimage to the Dargah is called **Ziyarat**.
- **Pair 3 (Piri): Incorrect.** Piri represents **spiritual authority**, while **Miri** represents temporal (worldly/military) power in the Sikh tradition established by Guru Har Gobind.
- **Pair 4 (Vachana): Correct.** Vachana literature is the unique form of devotional poetry in Kannada associated with the Lingayat movement, spearheaded by Basavanna.
- **Pair 5 (Manjis): Correct.** Guru Amar Das established 22 Manjis (missionary centres) for men and a similar system of Piri for women to organize the faith.

**6. With reference to the teachings of Guru Nanak Dev, the founder of Sikhism, consider the following statements:**

1. He emphasized the principle of Kirat Karna, which means sharing one's earnings with others.
2. He established the twin institutions of Sangat and Pangat to promote social equality and universal brotherhood.
3. He rejected the authority of the Vedas and the path of asceticism, advocating instead for an ethical, householder's life.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Kirat Karna means **Earning one's livelihood honestly and diligently**. The principle of **sharing one's earnings** with others is called **Vand Chhakna**.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Sangat (sitting in congregation) and Pangat (eating together in the same line - Langar) were central to Nanak's movement to eliminate caste and class distinctions.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Guru Nanak rejected the traditional paths of renunciation (asceticism) and the authority of sacred texts like the Vedas, advocating for spiritual devotion (Nam Japna) while living a disciplined, worldly life (householder's life).

**7. Consider the following statements regarding the early Sikh Gurus:**

1. Guru Angad Dev compiled the hymns of Guru Nanak in a new script known as Gurmukhi.
2. Guru Amar Das established the Manji and Piri system to organize the Sikh community and strengthen the institution of Langar.
3. Guru Amar Das appealed to Emperor Akbar for the removal of the pilgrimage tax on Hindus.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All three
- (d) None

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Guru Angad Dev, the second Guru, invented and popularized the Gurmukhi script and compiled the writings of Guru Nanak.

- **Statement 2: Correct.** Guru Amar Das, the third Guru, organized the community by establishing the Manji (for men) and Piri (for women) systems to spread the faith, which led to the strengthening of the Sikh organizational structure and the Langar.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Guru Amar Das successfully appealed to Emperor Akbar to remove the discriminatory tax on Hindu pilgrims.

**8. With reference to Guru Ramdas and Guru Arjan Dev, consider the following statements:**

1. Guru Ramdas laid the foundation for the city of Amritsar and started the compilation of the Adi Granth.
2. Guru Arjan Dev introduced the Dasvandh (one-tenth of income) system and completed the construction of the Harmandir Sahib.
3. Guru Arjan Dev became the first Sikh Guru to be executed by the order of the Mughal Emperor Jahangir.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Guru Ramdas, the fourth Guru, founded the city of Amritsar (Ramdasapur) and started the construction of the Sarovar (holy tank). The **compilation of the Adi Granth** was done by his son, **Guru Arjan Dev**.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Guru Arjan Dev, the fifth Guru, completed the Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple) and reorganized the contribution system by formalizing the voluntary donation of **Dasvandh** (one-tenth of income or service).
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Guru Arjan Dev was executed by the order of Emperor Jahangir in 1606 CE, marking him as the first great martyr (Shaheedan-de-Sartaj) in Sikh history.

**9. Consider the contributions of the Sikh Gurus from the 6th to the 8th:**

1. Guru Har Gobind militarized the Sikhs, adopting the two swords of Miri (temporal power) and Piri (spiritual authority), and built the Akal Takht.
2. Guru Har Rai was known for giving shelter to Prince Dara Shikoh, the son of Shah Jahan, who was fleeing his brother Aurangzeb.
3. Guru Har Krishan was the youngest Guru and was summoned to Delhi by Emperor Aurangzeb under charges of blasphemy.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Guru Har Gobind (6th Guru) initiated the militarization of the Sikh community following his father's martyrdom, symbolically wearing two swords (Miri for temporal authority and Piri for spiritual authority), and establishing the **Akal Takht** (Throne of the Immortal).
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Guru Har Rai (7th Guru) maintained the armed Sikh retinue and gave refuge to Prince Dara Shikoh, a liberal Muslim intellectual and rival of Aurangzeb.

- **Statement 3: Correct.** Guru Har Krishan (8th Guru) was installed at the age of five (the youngest Guru). He was indeed summoned to Delhi by Aurangzeb, though the charge was more generally related to anti-Islamic blasphemy and the growing influence of the Sikhs.

**10. With reference to the later Sikh Gurus, consider the following statements:**

1. Guru Tegh Bahadur was martyred in Delhi by the order of Aurangzeb for defending the right of Kashmiri Pandits to practice their own religion.
2. Guru Gobind Singh established the Khalsa Panth in 1699 by initiating the Panj Pyare and introducing the concept of the Five Ks.
3. Guru Gobind Singh compiled his own compositions into the Dasam Granth and declared the Guru Granth Sahib as the eternal Guru of the Sikhs, ending the lineage of human Gurus.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Guru Tegh Bahadur (9th Guru) was executed in Delhi under the orders of Emperor Aurangzeb for resisting the forced conversion of Kashmiri Pandits, upholding the principle of religious freedom.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Guru Gobind Singh (10th Guru) created the Khalsa (the pure) in 1699, initiating the first five men (Panj Pyare) with Amrit and institutionalizing the **Five Ks** (Kesh, Kangha, Kara, Kirpan, Kachchera) as articles of faith.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Guru Gobind Singh is credited with compiling his own compositions (like Jaap Sahib and Zafarnama), which form the basis of the **Dasam Granth**. Most importantly, he finalized and enshrined the **Guru Granth Sahib** as the eternal and final Guru of the Sikhs, ending the line of human successors.

## The Advent of Europeans in India

**1. Consider the following events and their associated years:**

I.	European Action/Company	II.	Year
A.	The Portuguese captured Goa from the Sultan of Bijapur.	1.	1602
B.	The English East India Company received its Royal Charter.	2.	1664
C.	The Dutch East India Company (VOC) was formed.	3.	1510
D.	The French East India Company was established under Colbert.	4.	1600

**Which of the following options correctly matches the European action with its corresponding year?**



- (a) A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2
- (b) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1
- (c) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2
- (d) A-2, B-4, C-3, D-1

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **A-3 (1510):** Alfonso de Albuquerque captured Goa in 1510.
- **B-4 (1600):** Queen Elizabeth I granted the Charter to the English East India Company in 1600.
- **C-1 (1602):** The Dutch East India Company (Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie - VOC) was formed in 1602.
- **D-2 (1664):** The French East India Company (Compagnie des Indes Orientales) was established by Colbert, the minister of King Louis XIV, in 1664.

**2. With reference to the factors that propelled the European Age of Exploration and the subsequent arrival in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The primary goal was to bypass the effective trade monopoly held by Arab merchants and the city-states of Venice and Genoa over the Eastern spice trade.
2. The Fall of Constantinople in 1453 completely blocked all pre-existing trade routes, both land and sea, between Europe and Asia, thus mandating the discovery of a new sea route.
3. The Portuguese were driven by a Militant Christianity objective, which included finding the mythical Christian kingdom of 'Prester John' in Africa to form an alliance against the Islamic powers.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The desire to cut out the expensive Arab and Italian middlemen and establish a direct trade link for spices and luxury goods was the overwhelming economic motive.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The fall of Constantinople severely restricted the overland routes and significantly increased the costs of trade handled by middlemen, but it did not 'completely block' all routes, nor did it directly stop all established maritime trade in the Indian Ocean. It was a catalyst, not a complete barrier.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The Portuguese drive was a blend of "Gold and God" (Estado da Índia was an attempt to establish a Christian empire), and the search for the legendary Prester John in the East was a genuine, though ultimately failed, initial motive.

**3. With respect to the influence of the European Renaissance on the Portuguese ventures in the East, consider the following statements:**

1. The Renaissance fostered a spirit of secular humanism which ensured that the Portuguese mission in India was confined strictly to commerce, free from any religious proselytisation agenda.
2. The intellectual curiosity and scientific advancements triggered by the Renaissance led to significant improvements in nautical sciences and shipbuilding technology, making long-distance oceanic travel viable.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** While the Renaissance sparked new intellectual ideas, the Portuguese voyages were not purely secular. The state-sponsored mission in the East, known as the Padroado Real, explicitly included the objective of propagating Christianity and combating Islamic dominance, making the agenda a blend of religious and commercial goals.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The spirit of inquiry and discovery, coupled with royal patronage (like Prince Henry the Navigator), led to the development of better maps, navigational instruments (like the astrolabe), and superior ship designs (like the Caravel), which were essential for crossing the Cape of Good Hope.

**4. Consider the following statements regarding the economic impetus for the Portuguese push for a direct sea route to India:**

1. The immediate financial viability was confirmed when Vasco da Gama's first voyage returned a profit of approximately sixty times the cost of the entire expedition.
2. The expanding economic growth in Europe created a huge demand for Oriental goods, which exacerbated the problem of bullion drain to the East via the traditional, expensive trade routes.
3. The Portuguese crown reserved the trade of certain high-value commodities like spices, horses, copper, and silver as a 'royal monopoly' to control the market and maximize state revenue.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The massive profit from Vasco da Gama's initial consignment of spices proved the direct route was highly lucrative and justified the subsequent, massive investment in armadas.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Increased demand for goods like pepper, silk, and cotton meant that large quantities of gold and silver bullion had to leave Europe to pay for them, a situation mercantilist European states sought to correct by establishing direct trade.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The Portuguese monarchy declared a state monopoly over the most profitable items to prevent internal competition and ensure that the state, not private merchants, controlled the bulk of the wealth.

**5. With reference to the quest for commercial dominance among the European powers in the Indian Ocean, consider the following statements:**

1. The Dutch, through the efficient functioning of the VOC, emerged as the dominant European power in the Indian Ocean region by the mid-17th century, though their focus gradually shifted more towards the Indonesian Archipelago.

2. The English East India Company's successful defeat of the Portuguese naval squadron in the Battle of Swally (1612) was instrumental in securing a Farman from the Mughal Emperor Jahangir to establish a permanent factory at Surat.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Dutch, with their joint-stock company structure and superior naval power, successfully displaced the Portuguese from many of their Asian posts, though their economic priority was the highly lucrative spice production of the East Indies.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The English victory at Swally (off the coast of Surat) demonstrated to the Mughal authorities that the Portuguese naval forces were not invincible, which convinced Jahangir to grant a formal Farman for an English factory at Surat in 1613.

**6. With reference to the early European trading system in India, consider the following statements:**

- 1. A 'factory' essentially functioned as a heavily fortified warehouse complex managed by a 'Factor', which included offices, residential quarters, and storage for goods meant for export.
- 2. The goods transported from Europe to India often included heavy, low-value items like timber, copper, and building materials, which were essential to serve as ballast for the return journey's high-value cargo.
- 3. The establishment of direct trade routes led to the immediate and complete cessation of all long-distance maritime trade previously conducted by Indian and Arab merchants.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The European 'factory' was the primary hub of their trading operations, serving as an administrative and logistical centre, often fortified for security against rivals (both Indian and European).
- **Statement 2 is correct.** This practice of carrying low-value, heavy cargo (known as 'reverse trade') was common in pre-modern seafaring, as it provided necessary stability (ballast) for the ships, which would otherwise be too light after unloading the valuable Indian cargo.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** While European interference, particularly by the Portuguese through the Cartaz system, severely disrupted and taxed the trade of Indian and Arab merchants, it did not lead to its complete and immediate cessation. Local trade networks and powerful Indian rulers continued to operate, sometimes by paying for the Portuguese pass or by force.

**7. Consider the following statements regarding the key features of Portuguese trade in India:**

- 1. The Portuguese attempted to enforce a complete and exclusive royal monopoly on the import of war-horses into India, which was successful throughout the 16th century, crippling the cavalry of the Deccan Sultanates.

2. The most valuable commodity exported from the Malabar Coast to Lisbon was black pepper, followed by other spices like cinnamon and cloves.
3. The Portuguese are responsible for introducing several key commercial crops from the New World, such as tobacco, cashew, and chili peppers, to the Indian subcontinent.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** While the Portuguese claimed a monopoly over the horse trade (a critical strategic item), it was not completely successful. Indian rulers and nobles often bypassed or defied the Portuguese permit system, continuing to import horses from places like Hormuz.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Pepper was the "king of spices" and the primary driver of the Portuguese voyages, generating enormous profits upon sale in Europe.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The Portuguese played a crucial role as intermediaries, bringing New World plants like potato, sweet potato, tobacco, cashew, and chili from the Americas to their colonies in Asia, including India.

**8. With reference to Francisco De Almeida, the first Viceroy of Portuguese India (1505-1509), consider the following statements:**

1. His primary mandate from the Portuguese crown was to consolidate the position of the Portuguese and destroy the naval power of Muslim traders by seizing key choke points like Hormuz, Aden, and Malacca.
2. He advocated for and strictly adhered to the 'Blue Water Policy' (Cartaze System), which prioritised naval supremacy in the Indian Ocean over the acquisition of extensive land territories in India.
3. He was defeated and killed in a naval battle off Diu by the combined fleet of the Sultan of Gujarat and the Mameluke Sultan of Egypt.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Almeida's mission was strategic and explicitly aimed at undermining the existing Muslim trade network by gaining control of the entrances to the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The 'Blue Water Policy' was Almeida's vision to make the Portuguese masters of the Indian Ocean by focusing on sea power rather than costly and vulnerable territorial expansion on the subcontinent.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Almeida's son was killed in the initial defeat off Diu in 1507. However, Almeida avenged this defeat by crushing the combined fleet in the decisive Battle of Diu in 1509, securing Portuguese naval dominance. Almeida himself died in a skirmish with indigenous people at the Cape of Good Hope while returning to Portugal in 1510.

**9. With reference to Alfonso de Albuquerque, who succeeded Almeida as Governor, consider the following statements:**

1. He is widely regarded as the real founder of the Portuguese power in the East, having captured Goa from the Sultan of Bijapur in 1510, making it the first European sovereign possession in India.
2. He systematically enforced the Cartaz (naval pass) system, making it a major source of revenue and a tool for asserting Portuguese maritime control in the Indian Ocean.
3. His social policy included the attempt to blend with the local populace by encouraging Portuguese men to marry Indian women, while simultaneously persecuting Muslims during the conquest of Goa.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The capture of Goa and Malacca established Albuquerque's reputation and gave the Portuguese a permanent territorial base and capital, marking a shift from Almeida's pure sea-power policy.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** While Almeida proposed the concept, Albuquerque expanded and institutionalised the **Cartaz** system for all non-Portuguese ships, forcing them to pay duty and obtain a license.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Albuquerque promoted inter-marriage to secure a permanent population base loyal to Portugal, while his actions against Muslims in Goa were often brutal, showing a blend of pragmatic and religiously motivated policies.

**10. With reference to Nino da Cunha (Governor, 1529-1538), consider the following statements:**

1. He transferred the headquarters of the Portuguese government in India from Cochin to the more strategically located Goa.
2. He acquired the island of Bassein and the strategically vital port of Diu through treaties with Bahadur Shah, the Sultan of Gujarat.
3. He secured a strong foothold in Eastern India by expanding Portuguese influence in Bengal, establishing Hooghly as their main trading settlement in the region.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Nino da Cunha formally shifted the capital from Cochin to Goa in 1530, solidifying Goa's importance as the centre of the Portuguese Estado da Índia.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Taking advantage of Bahadur Shah's conflict with the Mughal Emperor Humayun, da Cunha negotiated a treaty to acquire Bassein in 1534 and then Diu in 1535.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Da Cunha was instrumental in expanding Portuguese presence into the eastern coast and Bengal, with Hooghly becoming the central point for their operations in that region.



## The Portuguese in India

1. With reference to the political power and regions of influence of the Portuguese Estado da Índia, consider the following statements:

1. The territorial influence of the Portuguese was restricted to the Malabar and Konkan coasts, with the Bay of Bengal region serving only as a temporary trade outpost without any sovereign authority.
2. The highest administrative official, the Viceroy, held authority over both the civil government and the Church's missionary activities through the system of Padroado Real.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** While the Portuguese sovereign territory (Goa, Daman, Diu) was primarily on the Western Coast, their influence and settlements extended significantly to the Bay of Bengal, notably in **Hooghly** and **Chittagong (Porto Grande)**. In these Eastern settlements, they exercised considerable, though often quasi-sovereign, authority before their expulsion from Hooghly by Shah Jahan in 1632.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The **Viceroy** (later Governor) was the head of the Estado da Índia (State of India) and represented the Portuguese Crown. This role encompassed temporal (civil/military) and spiritual jurisdiction, as the Portuguese Crown held the right of **Padroado Real** (Royal Patronage) over the Catholic missions in the East.

2. With reference to the diplomacy and administrative structure of the Portuguese in India, consider the following statements:

1. The Portuguese administrative structure, Estado da Índia, was entirely funded by the profits from the Cartaz system, making it financially independent of the Portuguese crown.
2. The policy of inter-racial marriage encouraged by Alfonso de Albuquerque was primarily intended to create a loyal, mixed-race population capable of defending Portuguese territories.
3. The Portuguese consistently maintained a policy of friendship with the great Indian powers, such as the Mughals, ensuring their coastal presence was never seriously challenged.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** While the Cartaz system (naval pass) was a major source of revenue (fees and customs), the Estado da Índia also received significant subsidies and capital from the Portuguese Crown, especially for military and infrastructure projects. It was never entirely financially independent.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Alfonso de Albuquerque encouraged Portuguese soldiers to marry local Indian women, mainly widows of Muslim soldiers killed in the capture of Goa. This was a deliberate strategic

policy to create a stable, locally rooted, and loyal Portuguese-Christian population base for defense and administration.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The Portuguese often adopted a policy of armed neutrality or confrontation. They engaged in constant conflict with the Deccan Sultanates (e.g., Bijapur, which they took Goa from) and had serious clashes with the Mughals, most notably leading to their expulsion from Hooghly by Shah Jahan in 1632.

**3. With reference to the religious policy of the Portuguese Estado da Índia, consider the following statements:**

1. The Portuguese policy of Padroado Real strictly separated commercial interests from religious proselytisation, confining the latter to missionary societies.
2. The infamous **Goan Inquisition** was introduced by the Portuguese primarily to check the influence of the Jesuits, who were seen as a threat to the Viceroy's authority.
3. The policy of destroying temples and forcing conversions was enforced most rigorously in their core sovereign territories like Goa and Bassein, but less aggressively in trading settlements like Hooghly.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The Padroado Real (Royal Patronage) was the absolute opposite; it was the mechanism that **integrated** the Church and the State, making the propagation of Christianity a core function of the colonial administration, inseparable from commercial objectives ("Gold and God").
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The Goan Inquisition (formally established in 1560) was a tribunal established by the Holy Office (Church) to enforce Catholic orthodoxy, primarily targeting 'heretics' (new converts reverting to old faiths) and non-Christians (Jews, Hindus, Muslims) by prosecuting blasphemy and idolatry. It was not primarily aimed at the Jesuits, who were themselves major proselytisers.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The state-backed persecution (such as temple destruction and forced conversions) was most aggressive and systematic in areas where the Portuguese had absolute sovereignty, like the island of Goa and Bassein, where they could bypass local Indian authority. In trading posts (like Hooghly or Diu), their reliance on local rulers or the Mughals often necessitated a more cautious approach.

**4. Which of the following factors contributed to the decline of the Portuguese power in India?**

1. The loss of Hooghly in 1632 to the Mughals, resulting from the Portuguese refusal to abandon slave trading and piracy, severely crippled their trade base in the Eastern Indian market.
2. The union of the crowns of Spain and Portugal in 1580 made Portuguese possessions a legitimate military target for Spain's rivals, notably the Dutch and the English.
3. The Portuguese commercial structure failed to adopt the highly efficient **Joint Stock Company** model, thereby limiting their ability to raise large-scale public capital and disperse financial risk.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan ordered the Governor of Bengal to expel the Portuguese from Hooghly in 1632, largely due to their engaging in piracy and kidnapping (slave trade). This loss was a major blow to their trade in Bengal.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** For sixty years (1580–1640), Portugal was ruled by the Spanish Hapsburg monarchs. This political union dragged Portuguese interests into the wars between Spain and the rising naval powers, Britain and the Netherlands, making Portuguese colonies prime targets for attack.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The Portuguese ventures were state-controlled as the **Casa da Índia** (Royal Exchange) managed trade, which lacked the massive, flexible capital generation and distributed risk management inherent in the Joint Stock Companies (like the English EIC and Dutch VOC). This institutional weakness was a major cause for their economic failure against the newer European powers.

**5. Consider the following events associated with the rise and decline of Portuguese power in India:**

Event	Year
A. Portuguese lose control of the key strategic port of <b>Hormuz</b> in the Persian Gulf.	1. 1498
B. Vasco da Gama arrives at Calicut.	2. 1510
C. Alfonso de Albuquerque captures <b>Goa</b> from the Bijapur Sultan.	3. 1622
D. Portuguese are expelled from <b>Hooghly</b> by the Mughal Emperor.	4. 1632

**Which of the following options correctly matches the event with its corresponding year?**

- (a) A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4  
 (b) A-2, B-4, C-1, D-3  
 (c) A-3, B-1, C-4, D-2  
 (d) A-4, B-3, C-2, D-1

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **A-3 (1622):** The Portuguese lost Hormuz (the gateway to the Persian Gulf) to a combined Persian and English (EIC) force in 1622. This was a critical early blow to their maritime control.
- **B-1 (1498):** Vasco da Gama arrived at Calicut in 1498, marking the beginning of the European maritime era in India.
- **C-2 (1510):** Alfonso de Albuquerque captured Goa in 1510.
- **D-4 (1632):** The Portuguese were driven out of Hooghly by Shah Jahan's forces in 1632.

**6. With reference to the practices of the Portuguese that strained relations with the Mughal Empire, consider the following statements:**

1. The Portuguese practice of kidnapping children, especially Hindu and Muslim women, from the areas around their trading settlements for sale as slaves was a major cause for Mughal intervention.

2. Mughal Emperors, particularly Akbar, strongly objected to the establishment of the **Inquisition** in Portuguese territories and used this religious repression as a pretext for the first military conflict against the Portuguese.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The rampant practice of slave trade and piracy (selling kidnapped people from Bengal as slaves in other Portuguese possessions) was the immediate and primary provocation that led Emperor Shah Jahan to launch an attack and expel the Portuguese from Hooghly in 1632.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** While Akbar was critical of the forced conversions and the rigid policies of the Portuguese, he never used the Goan Inquisition as a pretext for war. Akbar, in fact, initially had relatively amicable relations with the Portuguese and invited Jesuits to his court at Fatehpur Sikri. The major military clashes happened much later, primarily under Shah Jahan, and were provoked by piracy and the slave trade.

**7. With reference to the impact of the Portuguese on naval warfare and military technology in India, consider the following statements:**

- 1. The Portuguese introduced heavy, long-range naval artillery which gave them a decisive advantage against the traditional light vessels and short-range cannons of the Indian navies.
- 2. Indian rulers, especially the Zamorin of Calicut and the Sultan of Gujarat, were quick to adopt the Portuguese deep-sea naval doctrine and successfully countered their maritime superiority by the end of the 16th century.
- 3. The Portuguese were the first to formalize and systematically enforce the **Cartaz** system, a naval passport required for non-Portuguese vessels in the Western Indian Ocean.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Portuguese technological superiority lay in their ship design (e.g., the heavily armed Caravel and Galleon) and the placement and use of heavy cannons, which allowed them to fight in the open sea, unlike the traditional coastal navies of Indian powers.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** While Indian powers fought back (e.g., the Kunjali Maraikkars of Calicut), they were generally unable to match the holistic Portuguese system of deep-sea warfare, training, and logistics. The Portuguese maintained naval supremacy in the Indian Ocean for nearly a century (until the Dutch and English arrived).
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The Portuguese established the Cartaz (license or pass) system, which was fundamental to their strategy of controlling the sea lines of communication and extracting revenue. Any non-Portuguese vessel had to purchase a Cartaz and carry Portuguese goods in its cargo, or risk being seized as a pirate.

**8. With reference to the Portuguese influence on shipbuilding in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The Portuguese introduced significant technical improvements to Indian shipbuilding, including the shift from traditional coir ropes to iron fasteners for assembling ship planks.
2. The port of Bassein, under Portuguese control, emerged as a major center for constructing their large Armadas (fleets), relying heavily on the skilled Indian shipwrights.
3. The Portuguese monopoly on timber and naval stores from their territories resulted in the immediate cessation of all large-scale indigenous shipbuilding along the Konkan and Malabar coasts.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Portuguese brought superior European shipbuilding techniques, including the use of iron nails and fasteners, which produced sturdier, long-distance vessels compared to the traditional Indian vessels that used coir to sew planks together.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Bassein, Daman, and Goa became important shipbuilding and repair centers for the Portuguese fleets. Indian shipwrights were highly valued for their skill, and the Portuguese relied on them to build or repair their vessels.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** This statement exaggerates the Portuguese control. While Portuguese activities disrupted and challenged local trade, indigenous shipbuilding remained vibrant in many areas (like Gujarat, Bengal, and the Coromandel Coast). Historical accounts (including those by Bipan Chandra) confirm that European companies often **purchased ships made in India** for their own operations, indicating strong, ongoing local production.

**9. With respect to the artistic and cultural influence of the Portuguese in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The Portuguese introduced the distinct **Baroque** style of architecture, which is prominently seen in the churches and religious structures of Goa, such as the Basilica of Bom Jesus.
2. The influence of Portuguese decorative art can be seen in the adoption of azulejos (painted ceramic tiles) in various buildings along the Western Coast.
3. The architectural legacy of the Portuguese led to the development of the distinctive **Indo-Saracenic** style, which was characterized by their blending of Islamic and Indian elements in their factory construction.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Baroque style, known for its dramatic use of light, heavy ornamentation, and curved lines, was the predominant style introduced by the Portuguese, especially visible in their churches in Goa, which is now a UNESCO World Heritage site.



- **Statement 2 is correct.** Azulejos (tin-glazed ceramic tilework) is a major hallmark of Portuguese and Spanish decorative art. This tradition was brought to India and can still be seen in many old Indo-Portuguese houses and structures in Goa and other settlements.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The **Indo-Saracenic** style is a specific architectural style that emerged much later, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, primarily associated with the **British** colonial period, blending European, Mughal, and Hindu architectural traditions. The Portuguese did not originate this style.

**10. With reference to the non-commercial contributions of the Portuguese to the Indian Subcontinent, consider the following statements:**

1. The Portuguese established the first printing press in India at Goa in the mid-16th century, primarily to print religious literature and grammars in local languages like Konkani and Tamil.
2. The introduction of New World crops like chili, potato, and tobacco by the Portuguese was restricted to the coastal regions and had negligible impact on the agricultural patterns of the vast interior of India until the 19th century.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The first printing press in India was brought by the Portuguese Jesuits to Goa in **1556**. The initial publications included Christian religious texts and later, grammars and vocabularies in local languages (like Konkani and later in Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam in their southern missions) to aid missionary work.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** This statement contains a crucial factual error. The New World crops introduced by the Portuguese (such as chili, potato, tobacco, tomato, cashew, and guava) were highly successful and spread relatively **quickly and deeply** into the agricultural and dietary patterns of the vast Indian interior, long before the 19th century. They became essential commercial and dietary staples across the subcontinent.

## English and the French in India

**1. With reference to the position of the English East India Company (EIC) in India by the mid-18th century, consider the following statements:**

1. The EIC's financial power was superior to that of the most influential Indian merchant houses, allowing them to dictate terms of trade.
2. The EIC faced significant naval opposition from the Maratha naval chiefs, particularly the Angres of Colaba, which challenged the Company's maritime dominance on the Western Coast.
3. The EIC's territorial settlements, including Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta, were governed by separate administrative councils, collectively known as Presidencies, which operated independently of each other.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** While the EIC had immense capital, the wealth of individual Indian banking and merchant families, such as the **Jagat Seths** of Bengal, was often greater than the entire EIC's trading stock and assets in India during the early 18th century. The EIC's advantage was its organized power and political backing, not necessarily superior wealth to all Indian merchants.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The Angres (Kanhoji Angre and his successors) maintained a powerful naval force that consistently challenged and raided European shipping, including that of the EIC, throughout the first half of the 18th century.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Bombay, Madras (Fort St. George), and Calcutta (Fort William) were established as three independent administrative and military centers, each managed by a Governor (President-in-Council) and known as the three **Presidencies**.

**2. With reference to the establishment and nature of the French East India Company (Compagnie des Indes Orientales), consider the following statements:**

1. The French Company was the first European trading entity in India that was entirely owned, financed, and controlled by the State, under the policy of Mercantilism enforced by Colbert.
2. The Company's initial attempts to secure a foothold in India were unsuccessful until the establishment of the permanent factory at Surat in 1668.
3. The structure of the French Company, being state-controlled, granted it an advantage over the privately managed English EIC, as it had immediate access to royal military resources.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) 1 and 3 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The French Company was established in 1664 by Jean-Baptiste Colbert, the finance minister of King Louis XIV. It was a State undertaking, financed by the State and high-ranking officials/nobles, unlike the independent joint-stock structures of the English and Dutch companies.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** After a failed attempt in Madagascar, the first French factory in India was permanently established at **Surat in 1668** by François Caron.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The state-controlled structure was ultimately a **disadvantage**. While it provided initial capital and military support, it suffered when the French monarchy faced financial crises or European wars, lacking the flexible capital, efficient management, and continuous interest of the EIC's private shareholders.

**3. With reference to the French trading centres in India, consider the following statements:**

1. The chronology of acquiring key settlements places the establishment of their headquarters at Pondicherry before the commencement of their trade at Masulipatnam.
2. Pondicherry, the chief French settlement in India, was originally acquired from the Sultan of Golconda by François Martin.
3. The French factory at Chandernagore in Bengal was secured through a Farman from the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb, and unlike the English, they were strictly forbidden from carrying out any fortification.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect (Chronology Fails).** The French established a factory at **Masulipatnam** in **1669** (second French factory after Surat). Pondicherry was acquired and developed by François Martin starting in **1673**. Thus, Masulipatnam came before Pondicherry as a settlement.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Pondicherry (formerly a small village) was acquired from Sher Khan Lodi, a **subordinate of the Sultan of Bijapur**, who then controlled the region (Golconda's influence was also in the region, but the grant was from Lodi, a sub-ruler). By the 1680s, the French were dealing with the Gingee Kingdom, an offshoot of Vijayanagara, before eventually coming under the influence of the Nawab of Arcot (Carnatic). The statement is generally accepted as correct in the context of acquisition from a local power figure.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Chandernagore was secured in **1690-92** from the Mughal Governor of Bengal. Like the English at Fort William, the French also built a fort, **Fort d'Orléans**, thus they did carry out fortification, which was a source of friction with the local powers.

**4. Which of the following contributed to the early setbacks of the French East India Company in India before the arrival of Dupleix?**

1. The loss of Pondicherry to the Dutch in 1693, which temporarily disrupted their main base of operations.
2. The company's capital was heavily drawn from the national treasury, which frequently prioritized the funding of Louis XIV's wars in Europe over colonial trade.
3. A major conflict with the Nawab of the Carnatic, which led to a trade embargo on all French goods in the Deccan.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** During the Nine Years' War in Europe, the Dutch captured Pondicherry in 1693. Though it was restored by the Treaty of Ryswick (1697), this loss was a significant setback.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Being a state-backed enterprise, the French Company's financial health was directly tied to the State's finances. Louis XIV's expensive wars meant that the Company often lacked continuous funding and strong policy backing, leading to commercial stagnation.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The major military conflicts with the Nawab of the Carnatic (e.g., the Battle of St. Thome) occurred **after** Dupleix's arrival and the outbreak of the First Carnatic War (1746), not during the early establishment phase (1660s-1720s).

**5. Which of the following factors were instrumental as underlying causes for the Anglo-French conflicts (Carnatic Wars) in India?**

1. The strategic necessity for both powers to establish political control over the Nizam of Hyderabad and the Nawab of the Carnatic to secure exclusive trading privileges.
2. The global rivalry between Britain and France, which meant that any conflict in Europe would inevitably spill over into their respective colonies in India and North America.
3. The immense profits generated by the textile trade from the Coromandel Coast and Bengal, which made the region the most important theatre for European commercial dominance.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The weakening of the Mughal authority after Aurangzeb created a power vacuum. Both European powers realized that securing a friendly, dependent native ruler was the only way to gain exclusive and lasting commercial advantages and prevent the other power from doing the same.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The Carnatic Wars were essentially the Indian echoes of European conflicts (like the War of the Austrian Succession and the Seven Years' War). This global rivalry was the most persistent underlying factor.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** While spices were important for the Dutch, for the English and French, the Coromandel Coast (Madras, Pondicherry) was crucial for its fine cotton textiles (Calico). This economic prize was the main goal that spurred the political and military competition.

**6. In the context of the Anglo-French struggle for supremacy in India during the mid-18th century, consider the following statements:**

1. The French military strategy under Dupleix focused on establishing territorial control and political influence over native rulers, a policy the English initially avoided.
2. The English possessed a clear advantage in naval power throughout the conflicts, allowing them to effectively sever the French line of communication with Europe when necessary.
3. The defeat of the French was a direct result of Dupleix's failure to secure any of the key Presidency towns of the English—Madras, Bombay, or Calcutta.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Dupleix was the first European Governor to systematically pursue a policy of interfering in native disputes to acquire political and financial power, transitioning from a mere trading company to an indigenous political power. The English copied this strategy later.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** British naval superiority was a decisive factor, especially during the Third Carnatic War. The ability of the Royal Navy to blockade French ports and reinforcements proved fatal to the French cause.

- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** Dupleix did capture Madras in the First Carnatic War (1746). He was later compelled to return it by the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle (1748), but the claim that he "failed to secure any" is factually wrong. The ultimate cause of French defeat was financial and governmental support, not the failure to capture one specific fort.

**7. With reference to the events of the First Carnatic War (1746–1748), consider the following statements:**

1. The war commenced with the French capturing the principal English trading centre of Madras with the help of naval support from the French admiral La Bourdonnais.
2. The Nawab of the Carnatic, Anwar-ud-din, intervened after the fall of Madras, ordering the French to restore the settlement to the English.
3. The French victory in the Battle of Wandiwash was the decisive event that secured the French hold on the Carnatic region, compelling the Nawab to withdraw his forces.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (a)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The war began in India when the French, under Dupleix and Admiral La Bourdonnais, successfully besieged and captured Madras in 1746.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The Nawab intervened because the European powers were fighting on his territory without his permission. Dupleix promised the Nawab that he would hand over Madras to him, but reneged on the promise after the capture, leading to the Nawab's military intervention.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The Battle of Wandiwash was the decisive event of the **Third** Carnatic War (1760), where the English decisively defeated the French, not the First. The decisive military battle of the First Carnatic War involving the Nawab was the **Battle of St. Thome (Adyar)**.

**8. With reference to the First Carnatic War (1746–1748) and its conclusion, consider the following statements:**

1. The primary political cause of the war was the dynastic dispute over the succession to the Nizamship of Hyderabad, which fueled European intervention.
2. The war concluded without any territorial changes in India, as both sides restored each other's captured posts.
3. The final treaty was part of a larger European settlement aimed at resolving the conflict arising from the War of the Austrian Succession.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**



- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The dynastic dispute over Hyderabad's succession (and the Carnatic) was the primary cause of the **Second** Carnatic War (1749-1754). The First Carnatic War was primarily caused by the outbreak of the **War of the Austrian Succession** in Europe.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The war did result in territorial changes, but they were temporary and then reversed. The core result was the restoration of captured places. By the **Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle (1748)**, Madras (captured by the French) was restored to the English, in exchange for the French receiving Louisbourg in North America. Thus, while the status quo in India was restored, the result of the war was an exchange of territories defined by the European peace.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle (1748) was an international treaty that resolved the War of the Austrian Succession in Europe, and the terms relating to India (restoring Madras) were merely an annex to the larger European agreement.

**9. Which of the following statements correctly represents the significance and consequences of the First Carnatic War?**

1. The Battle of St. Thome/Adyar established the principle that European powers were militarily superior to Indian rulers' armies, shattering the long-held military prestige of the Nawab of the Carnatic.
2. It solidified the Anglo-French rivalry in India by demonstrating that the European conflict could be effectively waged on Indian soil, independently of Indian political intervention.
3. The war served as a clear proof that the coastal trading ports could be used as springboards for territorial expansion and political maneuvering in the Deccan hinterland.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** In the Battle of St. Thome, a small, highly disciplined French force (approx. 930 soldiers) decisively defeated the large army (approx. 10,000 soldiers) of Nawab Anwar-ud-din. This demonstrated the immense tactical and training superiority of European forces over traditional Indian armies.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The war proved that the disputes that began in Europe could be transplanted to India, and the European powers, using their own resources, could fight each other irrespective of local Indian consent or intervention.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Dupleix's success in capturing Madras and then defending his gains against the Nawab proved that the fortified coastal settlements were not just commercial hubs but crucial military bases from which political and territorial ambition could be launched.

**10. With reference to the Second Carnatic War (1749–1754), consider the following statements:**

1. The war was characterized by Dupleix's policy of exploiting the succession disputes in both the Nizamship of Hyderabad and the Nawabship of the Carnatic.
2. The initial French success involved placing their nominees, Muzaffar Jang and Chanda Sahib, on the thrones of Hyderabad and Arcot, respectively, confirming their dominant position in the Deccan.
3. The turning point in the war was Robert Clive's successful siege and defense of Arcot, which diverted the French and Chanda Sahib's forces and neutralized the French strategic advantage.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only

- (b) 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Second Carnatic War was a direct result of European intervention in the domestic political struggles: the Nizam succession after the death of Nizam-ul-Mulk, and the Nawab succession after the death of Anwar-ud-din.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The French initially achieved great success, leading to the murder of the incumbent Nawab (Anwar-ud-din) and the ascension of the French nominees: Muzaffar Jang in Hyderabad and Chanda Sahib in Arcot (the Carnatic).
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The siege of Arcot (1751) led by Robert Clive, where a tiny English force held out against a large Indian and French army, was a legendary turning point. It forced the main French and Carnatic forces to lift the siege of Trichinopoly and neutralized the power of Chanda Sahib, effectively changing the military tide of the war.

### The English, The French, and The Danes

**1. With reference to the significance and long-term consequences of the Second Carnatic War (1749–1754), consider the following statements:**

1. The war permanently established the European doctrine of interfering in the succession disputes of local Indian rulers to gain political and financial concessions.
2. The conclusion of the war led to the Treaty of Pondicherry, which restored the political status quo in the Carnatic and resulted in the recall of the French Governor Dupleix.
3. The political losses suffered by the French were compensated by massive financial indemnities paid by the English to the French government, ensuring long-term commercial parity.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The war demonstrated that political influence was key to commercial success. Dupleix's model of "subsidiary alliances" (supporting a claimant in exchange for territory/revenue) was validated, and the English fully adopted and perfected it later.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The Treaty of Pondicherry (1754) nominally restored the status quo ante bellum (position before the war) and forbade the Companies from further interfering in native politics. The French government, unhappy with the war's cost and the political nature of Dupleix's operations, recalled him.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** There was no provision for massive financial indemnities from the English to the French to ensure parity. The financial strain on the French was one of the major reasons for the recall of Dupleix and the subsequent weakness of the French Company.

**2. With reference to the political background preceding the Third Carnatic War (1758–1763), consider the following statements:**

1. The war in India was immediately triggered by the outbreak of the Seven Years' War in Europe.
2. At the start of the conflict, the French had a dominant political position in the Deccan, having established a French contingent under Bussy at the court of the Nizam of Hyderabad.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (c)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Like the First Carnatic War, the Third was an echo of a European conflict, the **Seven Years' War (1756–1763)**. The declaration of war between Britain and France in Europe automatically extended the fighting to their colonial territories, including India.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Despite the setbacks in the Second War, the French, under the able General Bussy, had maintained a significant subsidiary force at the court of the Nizam, Salabat Jang, thereby controlling a large, strategically important territory known as the **Northern Circars**. This was a key asset for the French at the beginning of the Third War.

**3. With reference to the causes and conclusion of the Third Carnatic War, consider the following statements:**

1. A major strategic cause was the English victory at the Battle of Plassey (1757), which gave them crucial financial resources from Bengal to fund their campaigns in the South.
2. The war was formally concluded by the Treaty of Paris (1763), which compelled the French to completely relinquish all their trading settlements in India.
3. The French loss in the war resulted in the English seizing control of the Northern Circars from the Nizam of Hyderabad, which had previously been under French influence.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Battle of Plassey (1757) gave the English control over Bengal's vast revenues, providing the vital financial war chest necessary to defeat the French in the south, a clear advantage the French lacked.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** The Treaty of Paris (1763) allowed the French to **regain** their factories/settlements (Pondicherry, Chandernagore, etc.) for commercial purposes, but they were strictly **forbidden from fortifying** them or maintaining large armies, effectively ending their political power.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** After defeating the French (Bussy) and removing the French presence from Hyderabad, the English secured the strategic and revenue-rich Northern Circars from the Nizam.

**4. Consider the following events and their chronology during the Anglo-French conflict in India:**

1. The defeat of the French Commander Count de Lally in the Battle of Wandiwash was followed chronologically by the capture of the English factory at Calcutta.
2. Count de Lally's centralized command structure, which led to the recall of Bussy from the Nizam's court, significantly weakened the French position in the Deccan.
3. The final action that marked the end of the war in India was the French surrender of their chief settlement of Pondicherry after a prolonged siege by the English forces.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect (Chronology Fails).** The capture of the English factory at Calcutta (by Siraj-ud-Daula) occurred much earlier in **1756** (leading to the Black Hole tragedy), which was before the Battle of Wandiwash in **1760**.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Count de Lally, upon his arrival, centralized military control and insisted on recalling Bussy from Hyderabad in 1758 to participate in the attack on Madras. This decision was a strategic blunder as it immediately led to the Nizam siding with the English, and the French lost the Northern Circars.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Following the decisive defeat at Wandiwash (1760), the French forces retreated to Pondicherry, which was then besieged by the English under Sir Eyre Coote. The fall of **Pondicherry in 1761** was the final military action that effectively sealed the fate of the French in India.

**5. With reference to Joseph François Dupleix and his role in the Anglo-French struggle, consider the following statements:**

1. Dupleix successfully established the first political arrangement where a European power provided military support to an Indian ruler in exchange for revenue and political influence.
2. His failure was largely financial, as the French government refused to fund a war of territorial expansion and relied on him to generate revenue from Indian sources, unlike the EIC.
3. Dupleix was the first European to consistently employ the policy of recruiting and effectively training Indian soldiers (sepoys) in the European fighting method.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Dupleix pioneered the **subsidiary system** model, using his European-trained forces (including sepoy) to intervene in local politics and gain territorial and revenue concessions from Indian princes.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The state-controlled French Company was risk-averse, and the French Crown was reluctant to finance Dupleix's territorial wars in India, viewing them as unprofitable deviations from trade. The English EIC, though private, was financially more independent and resourceful.

- **Statement 3 is correct.** Dupleix is credited with systematically organizing and using large, trained contingents of Indian soldiers (sepoys) to fight European-style battles, a military innovation immediately adopted by the English.

**6. The ultimate success of the English over the French in the mid-18th century can be attributed to which of the following reasons?**

1. The English EIC possessed strategic naval superiority, particularly in the Indian Ocean, which ensured a continuous supply of men and matériel from Britain.
2. The English base in Bengal provided immense and uninterrupted financial backing, while the French base in the Carnatic was constantly exposed to military challenges.
3. The English military command was more competent and consistent, benefiting from leaders like Robert Clive, Eyre Coote, and Stringer Lawrence, unlike the frequent changes and centralization errors in the French command.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The supremacy of the Royal Navy meant that the English could reliably resupply their forces and cut off French communications and reinforcements, a decisive factor in the Third Carnatic War.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The acquisition of Bengal's financial resources (after Plassey and Mir Jafar's payments) gave the English an economic edge that the French, reliant on the less profitable and more unstable Carnatic, could never match.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The English had a steady stream of skilled military leaders. Conversely, the French suffered due to the state's mismanagement (recalling Dupleix) and the poor judgment of the final commander, Count de Lally (centralizing command and recalling Bussy).

**7. Which of the following commodities formed the most significant part of European exports from India during the 17th and 18th centuries?**

1. Indigo and Opium from the Bengal region.
2. Silk and Saltpetre from the Bengal and Bihar regions.
3. Fine cotton textiles (Calico and Muslin) from the Coromandel Coast and Bengal.

**Select the correct answer using the code given below:**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (d)**

**Explanation:**

All three statements are correct and represent the major exports from India sought by European trading companies:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** **Indigo** (for dyes) and **Opium** (traded primarily to China later, but initially managed by the companies) were major exports from the Gangetic plains, including Bengal.



- **Statement 2 is correct.** **Raw Silk** from Bengal was a prime export. **Saltpetre** (potassium nitrate), vital for manufacturing gunpowder, was considered a highly strategic commodity and was a major export from the Bihar region.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Indian **cotton textiles** (like Muslin from Dacca and Calico from the Coromandel Coast) were in massive demand across Europe, forming the bulk of the initial European commercial activity in India.

**8. Which of the following pairs of Indian trading settlements were formerly under the control of the Danish East India Company?**

- (a) Porto Novo and Masulipatnam
- (b) Tranquebar and Serampore
- (c) Pondicherry and Chandernagore
- (d) Cochin and Nagapatnam

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

The Danes established their settlements at Tranquebar (Tharangambadi, Tamil Nadu, 1620) and later at Serampore (near Calcutta, Bengal). Their presence was minimal compared to the other major European powers. They finally sold all their Indian settlements to the British East India Company in 1845.

**9. With reference to the factors that led to the English dominance in India over other European powers, consider the following statements:**

1. The English East India Company's structure as a **Joint Stock Company** provided financial stability and continuous investment, unlike the State-controlled nature of the French Company.
2. The ability to manufacture high-quality, lightweight artillery and muskets locally in India gave the English a technological edge over the French, who relied on expensive imports.
3. The control of key naval bases such as Bombay, which gave the English an advantage on the Western Coast, was crucial in controlling the movement of European fleets.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The private, joint-stock nature of the EIC meant its operations were insulated from the bankruptcies and political crises of the British Crown, providing consistent, business-driven funding, a clear advantage over the crisis-prone French State-backed company.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** While English artillery and engineering were superior, both English and French forces initially relied heavily on imports for sophisticated European weapons. The technological superiority was a combination of superior training, discipline, and logistics, not primarily localized manufacturing.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The strategic location of Bombay on the Western Coast gave the English a vital, defensible port and repair facility, which was particularly important for naval logistics and protecting the sea lanes from European rivals.

**10. With reference to the political and economic environment faced by the English East India Company (EIC) in Britain, consider the following statements:**

1. The EIC enjoyed the unanimous support of the British Parliament and faced no political challenges to its trade monopoly until the passing of the Regulating Act of 1773.
2. The Company faced persistent and powerful opposition from rival groups of merchants and the political establishment, leading to the creation of a rival company in 1698 which eventually merged with the EIC.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Correct Answer: (b)**

**Explanation:**

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The EIC's monopoly was fiercely contested almost from the beginning. It faced continuous domestic political opposition from rival merchants (the **Interlopers**) and groups in Parliament who sought to challenge the trade privileges, long before the Regulating Act.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The political and commercial struggles resulted in the establishment of a rival company, the 'English Company Trading to the East Indies,' in 1698. The two were finally forced to merge in 1708 (as 'The United Company of Merchants of England Trading to the East Indies') by government intervention, which demonstrates the significant opposition the EIC faced at home.