



**RASonly**

# MODERN HISTORY





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**MEDIEVAL HISTORY**

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# PREFACE

Welcome to Medieval History for RAS Preparation – a carefully crafted guide designed specifically for the aspirants of the Rajasthan Administrative Services (RAS) exam. This book is brought to you by **RASonly**, an institution committed to providing comprehensive and high-quality resources tailored to the needs of RAS aspirants.

Medieval history is an integral part of the RAS syllabus, providing insight into India's political, cultural, and social transformations during the medieval period. This book is designed to simplify complex topics while ensuring clarity and depth, giving you a strong foundation in the subject. Whether you are just starting your RAS journey or refining your knowledge, this resource will support you throughout your preparation.

We have structured this book to match the RAS syllabus, presenting historical events, rulers, dynasties, and cultural developments in an easily digestible format. The focus is not only on exam readiness but also on gaining a deeper understanding of India's rich medieval heritage.

At **RASonly**, we emphasize a well-rounded approach to learning. We aim to provide you with not only the information you need for the exam but also the context that makes history relevant and engaging. We hope this book helps you achieve both academic success and a deeper appreciation for India's medieval past.

**Wishing you success and clarity on your journey!**

**RASonly TEAM**

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# THE REVOLT OF 1857

## CHAPTER - 5

### Major Causes

- The British took their first decisive step toward power in North India after the Battle of Plassey in 1757.
- The large-scale 'Revolt' of 1857 was the outcome of the nature and policies of colonial rule put in place after 1757.
- Over time, British expansionism, administrative changes, and economic exploitation harmed every section of Indian society—rulers, sepoys, zamindars, peasants, traders, artisans, pundits, and maulvis.
- Between 1757 and 1857, India saw repeated local uprisings—civil rebellions, peasant and agrarian revolts, religio-political violence, and tribal movements.
- This long-building resentment finally exploded in 1857, shaking the British Empire in India to its core.
- Like earlier uprisings, the 1857 causes arose from every sphere of Indian life—social-cultural, economic, and political—cutting across classes and communities.



### Economic Causes

- Colonial policies of the East India Company broke the traditional economic framework of Indian society.
- **Impact on Peasantry:**
  - The peasantry never recovered from harsh and unpopular revenue settlements.
  - Heavy taxation, even during famine years, pushed peasants to borrow from moneylenders and traders at exorbitant rates.



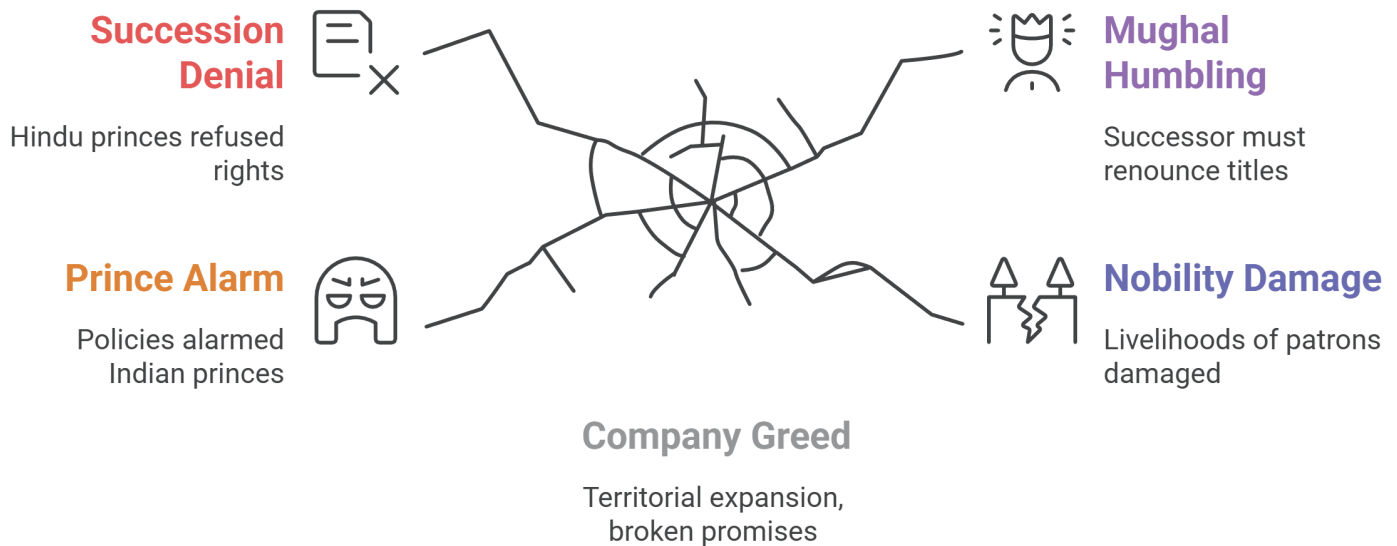
- On default, moneylenders and traders evicted peasants from their land.
- These moneylenders and traders became new landlords, creating enduring problems of rural indebtedness and landlessness.
- The old zamindari order was forced to disintegrate.
- **Impact on Artisans and Handicrafts:**
  - British rule brought severe hardship to artisans and handicraft workers.
  - Annexations cut off princely patronage, as native rulers and nobles could no longer support crafts.
  - British policy discouraged Indian handicrafts while promoting British manufactures.
  - Highly skilled Indian craftsmen were driven to seek other work, but few options existed because the destruction of handicrafts was not matched by modern industrial growth.
- **Impact on Trade and Commerce:**
  - The Indian trading and mercantile class was deliberately weakened; high tariffs were imposed on Indian goods.
  - Imported British goods faced low tariffs, easing their entry into India.
  - By the mid-19th century, India's export of cotton and silk textiles had almost stopped.
  - One-way free trade and refusal to levy protective duties against British machine-made goods destroyed Indian manufacturing.
  - Industrial ruin pushed more people onto agriculture and land, which could not sustain the increased pressure.
  - Uneven growth produced widespread impoverishment.
- **Impact on Landed Aristocracy:**
  - Traditional zamindars frequently lost rights through the administration's use of quo warranto (a legal writ), lowering their village status.
  - In Awadh, the epicentre of the revolt, 21,000 taluqdars had their estates confiscated, leaving them suddenly without income —“ashamed to beg, condemned to penury, unable to work”.
  - These dispossessed taluqdars joined the sepoys to fight the British and recover their lost estates.



### Political Causes

- The Company's greedy territorial expansion, and its habit of breaking promises and pledges, bred contempt and cost it political prestige.
- Policies like 'Effective Control' (Subsidiary Alliance) and the 'Doctrine of Lapse' alarmed almost all Indian princes.

- **Denial of Succession Rights:**
  - Hindu princes were refused the right of adoption and succession.
- **Humbling the Mughals:**
  - In 1856, Lord Canning announced that the successor to Prince Faqiruddin (whose claim Lord Dalhousie had conditionally recognized) would have to renounce regal titles and ancestral Mughal palaces.
- **Effect on Nobility and Patrons:**
  - The fall of rulers and the old aristocracy also damaged the livelihoods of those dependent on cultural and religious pursuits.



**Administrative Causes**

- Rampant corruption in Company administration—especially in the police, lower courts, and among petty officials—caused deep resentment.
- Some historians view today’s widespread corruption as a legacy of Company misrule.
- British rule seemed foreign and distant—an ‘absentee sovereignty’—to most Indians.

**Socio-Religious Causes**

- British officials often displayed a superiority complex and racial prejudice toward Indians.
- Christian missionaries, who followed the British flag, were viewed with suspicion.
- These anxieties grew when lands belonging to temples and mosques were brought under taxation.



- Government-backed social reforms—support for women’s education, abolition of sati, and widow remarriage—were widely seen as outside interference in India’s social and religious life.
- The Religious Disabilities Act of 1856 deepened fears by altering Hindu custom: a son who converted to another religion could still inherit the property of his ‘heathen’ father.

### Influence of Outside Events

- The revolt coincided with British military setbacks abroad.
- Defeats in the First Afghan War (1838–42), the Punjab Wars (1845–49), and the Crimean War (1854–56) dented British prestige.
- These losses encouraged a belief that the British could be beaten.

### Discontent Among Sepoys

- Army service rules and cantonment practices increasingly clashed with sepoy’s religious beliefs.
- **Religious Interference:**
  - Bans on caste and sectarian marks angered sepoy’s.
  - Conservative sepoy’s believed rumors about chaplains’ proselytizing (often funded at Indian expense) signaled interference in their faith.
  - For many Hindus then, crossing the seas meant loss of caste.
- **General Service Enlistment Act (1856):**
  - Lord Canning’s government required future Bengal Army recruits to serve wherever ordered, creating resentment.
- **Discrimination and Compensation:**
  - Indian sepoy’s were unhappy with pay compared to the British.
  - A major grievance was ending the foreign service allowance (bhatta) for service in Punjab or Sindh.
  - Racial discrimination in promotions and privileges constantly reminded sepoy’s of subordination.
- **Annexation of Awadh:**
  - As many sepoy’s hailed from Awadh, its annexation intensified their anger.
- **Peasant in Uniform:**
  - The sepoy was essentially a ‘peasant in uniform’, closely tied to rural society and its feelings.
  - Sepoy discontent reflected broader opposition to British rule, helping the movement expand beyond the army.
- **Earlier Army Revolts:**
  - There was a history of sepoy uprisings—Bengal (1764), Vellore (1806), Barrackpore (1825), and during the Afghan Wars (1838–42).

## The Spark: The Greased Cartridges

- Reports of bone dust mixed in atta (flour) and the arrival of the Enfield rifle sharpened sepoys' disaffection.
- The cartridge's greased paper had to be bitten before loading.
- Rumors said the grease contained beef and pork fat—offensive to Hindus and Muslims respectively.
- The Army failed to allay these fears, convincing sepoys that their religion was in danger.
- The cartridges did not create new grievances but acted as the immediate trigger for open revolt.

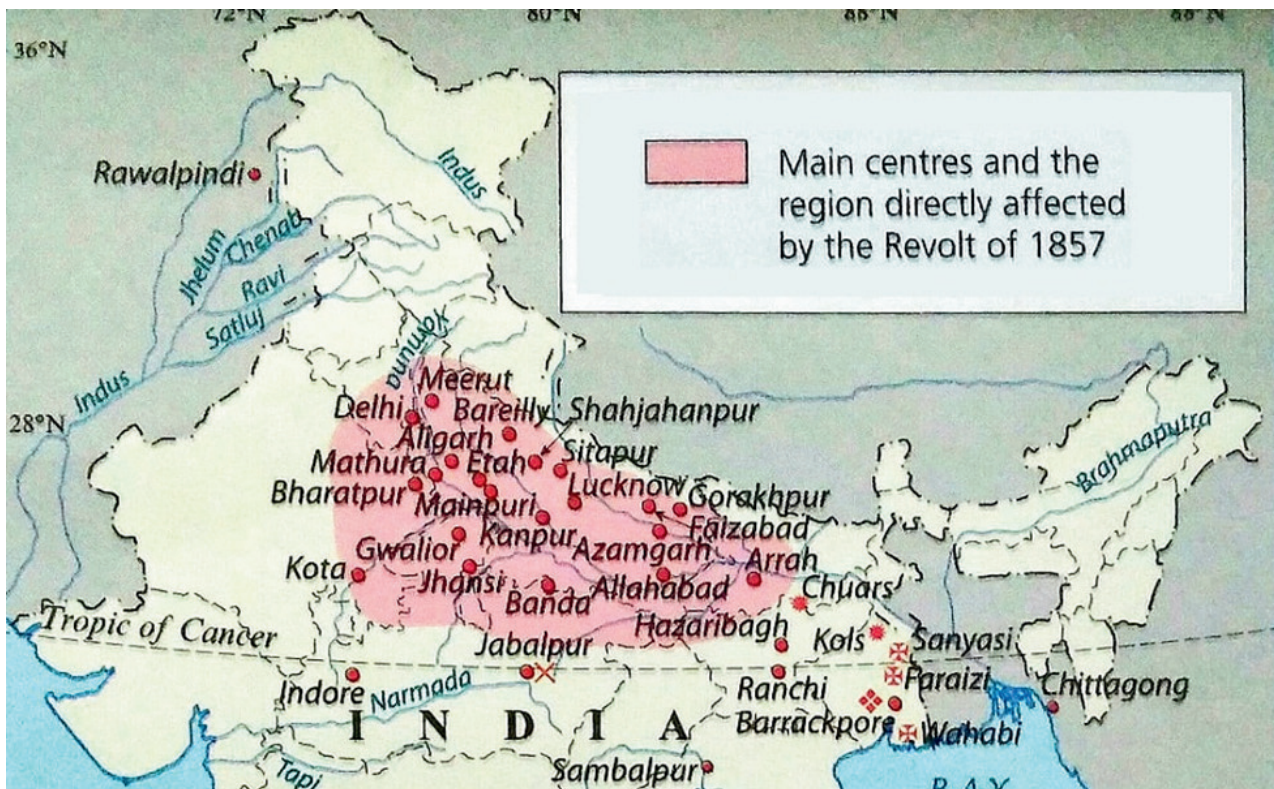


## Beginning and Spread of the Revolt

- **Pre-Meerut Incidents:**
  - Discontent simmered in many cantonments even before Meerut.
  - The 19th Native Infantry at Berhampore (West Bengal) refused the Enfield rifle; they mutinied in February 1857 and were disbanded in March.
  - Mangal Pandey of the 34th Native Infantry at Barrackpore fired at his sergeant major; he was executed on April 8, and his regiment was disbanded in May.
  - The 7th Awadh Regiment defied orders on May 3 and was similarly disbanded.
- **Start at Meerut:**
  - On April 24, ninety troopers of the 3rd Native Cavalry refused greased cartridges.
  - On May 9, eighty-five were dismissed, fettered, and sentenced to ten years' imprisonment.
  - This provoked a general mutiny among Indian soldiers at Meerut.
  - On May 10, they freed their comrades, killed their officers, raised the banner of revolt, and marched toward Delhi after sunset.



• Spread:



- Beginning at Meerut on May 10, 1857, the revolt spread rapidly.
- It ranged from Punjab in the north to the Narmada in the south, and from Bihar in the east to Rajputana in the west.
- Awadh, the Doab, Rohilkhand, Bundelkhand, Central India, East Punjab, and much of Bihar rejected British authority.

**Delhi: The Center of Revolt**

• **Seizure of Delhi:**

- Delhi’s local infantry joined the Meerut sepoys, killed their European officers (including Political Agent Simon Fraser), and seized the city.
- Lieutenant Willoughby, in charge of the magazine, resisted but was overcome.



**Choice of Bahadur Shah II:**

- The aged, powerless Bahadur Shah Zafar, last Mughal emperor, was proclaimed Emperor of India.
- Delhi became the revolt’s headquarters, and Bahadur Shah its symbol.
- Elevating the Mughal ruler acknowledged the Mughal dynasty as India’s traditional unifying symbol.

- This step transformed a soldiers' mutiny into a revolutionary war, as chiefs who joined hastened to pledge loyalty to the emperor.
- It also showed political intent—the British were the common enemy—even though religion played a part.
- After initial hesitation, Bahadur Shah urged Indian rulers to form a confederacy to fight and replace British rule.



● **Leadership at Delhi:**

- Bahadur Shah acted as the symbolic head.
- Real command lay with a soldiers' council led by General Bakht Khan, who brought Bareilly troops.
- A ten-member court (six military, four civil) ran state affairs in the emperor's name.
- Bahadur Shah's age, weak personality, and lack of leadership harmed the revolt at its nerve center.



**Civilian Participation**

- Alongside the sepoys, civilians—especially in Awadh and the North-Western Provinces—rose in rebellion.
- Long-standing grievances erupted into mass resistance, giving the revolt a popular character.
- Shopkeepers, daily wage earners, peasants, artisans, zamindars, priests, mendicants, and civil servants participated widely—this broad base gave real strength.
- **Nature of Civilian Grievances:**
  - Peasants and petty zamindars struck back at moneylenders and zamindars who had displaced them.
  - Rebels destroyed account books and debt records, and attacked British police stations, tehsils, revenue records, and courts.
- **Scale of Losses:**
  - In Awadh alone, over 100,000 civilians reportedly died fighting the English, out of a total of about 150,000 deaths.

**Storm Centres and Leaders of the Revolt**

● **Kanpur:**

- Nana Saheb, adopted son of the last Peshwa Baji Rao II, was the natural leader; he had been banished from Poona and denied the family title.

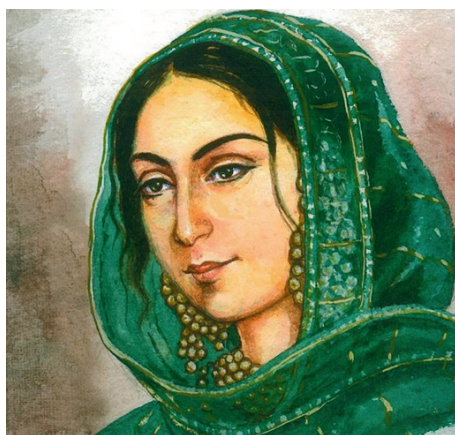


- He expelled the British from Kanpur, proclaimed himself Peshwa, and styled himself governor under Bahadur Shah (recognized as Emperor).
- Sir Hugh Wheeler surrendered on June 27, 1857, and was killed the same day.

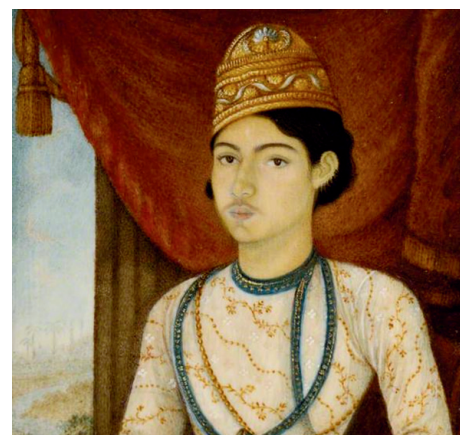


• **Lucknow:**

- Revolt began on June 4, 1857, with strong popular support for the deposed Nawab.



- Begum Hazrat Mahal led, and her son Birjis Qadir was proclaimed Nawab.



- A regular administration was set up, with Hindus and Muslims sharing key offices equally.
- The British Resident Henry Lawrence, Europeans, and loyal sepoys took shelter in the Residency.

- Henry Lawrence was killed during the siege; Brigadier Inglis took command and held out against heavy odds.
- Sir James Outram and Sir Henry Havelock's earlier attempts to retake the city failed.



- Sir Colin Campbell, the new Commander-in-Chief, finally recovered Lucknow in March 1858, though guerrilla activity continued till September.



• **Bareilly:**

- Khan Bahadur, descendant of the former Rohilkhand ruler, took command.
- Dissatisfied with his British pension, he raised an army of 40,000 and resisted strongly.



• **Bihar (Jagdishpur):**

- Kunwar Singh, zamindar of Jagdishpur, led the revolt.
- In his seventies, he blamed the British for depriving him of his estates and joined the sepoys from Arrah and Dinapore (Danapur) without hesitation.



• **Faizabad:**

- Maulvi Ahmadullah of Faizabad, originally from Madras, emerged as a remarkable leader.
- He moved north, fought fiercely, and became an acknowledged head once the Awadh revolt began in May 1857.



• **Jhansi:**

- Rani Laxmibai led the sepoys at Jhansi.
- Lord Dalhousie had denied her adopted son's succession and annexed Jhansi under the 'Doctrine of Lapse', pushing her to resist



- She famously declared, "I shall not give away my Jhansi".
- Tantia Tope, close associate of Nana Saheb, joined her after Kanpur's fall.

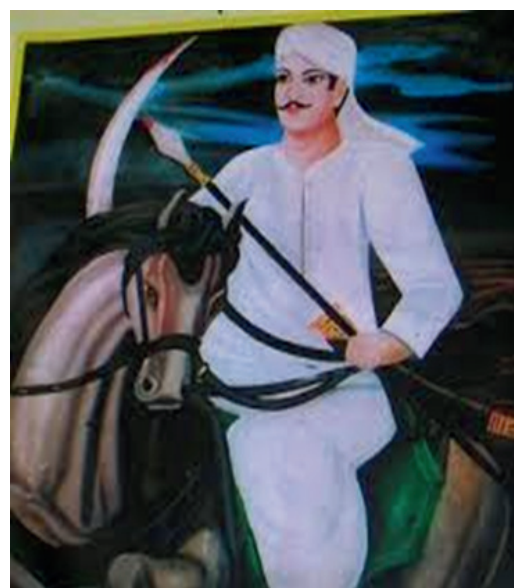


- They advanced to Gwalior, welcomed by Indian soldiers.
- The Scindia ruler sided with the British and took refuge at Agra.
- Nana Saheb was proclaimed Peshwa, with plans to march south.
- Sir Hugh Rose, who defeated her, praised her as "the only man among the rebels".



• **Baghpat (Uttar Pradesh):**

- Shah Mal, a villager of Pargana Baraut, mobilized headmen and peasants of 84 villages (chaurasi desh), marching at night to rouse rebellion.
- People attacked government buildings, destroyed roads and bridges—symbols of British rule—and cut official communications between Meerut and British headquarters.



- Shah Mal sent supplies to Delhi's rebels and turned an irrigation bungalow on the Yamuna into a 'hall of justice' to settle disputes.
- For a short period, locals believed British rule had ended.
- Shah Mal was killed by an English officer, Dunlap, in July 1857; his body was reportedly dismembered and his head displayed to terrorize the populace.



### Suppression of the Revolt

- The British eventually crushed the revolt, though rebels fought on against great odds for more than a year.
- **Delhi:**
  - After prolonged, bitter fighting, the British captured Delhi on September 20, 1857.
  - Siege leader John Nicholson was mortally wounded and later died.
  - Bahadur Shah was captured; the royal princes were seized and publicly shot at point-blank range by Lieutenant Hudson.
  - The emperor was exiled to Rangoon, where he died in 1862, ending the Mughal dynasty.
  - The British exacted terrible vengeance on Delhi's residents; the city's fall removed the revolt's focal point.
- **Kanpur and Central India:**
  - Sir Colin Campbell retook Kanpur on December 6, 1857.
  - Nana Saheb fled to Nepal in early 1859 and was never heard of again.
  - Tantia Tope escaped into Central India's jungles but was captured asleep in April 1859 and executed.
- **Jhansi:**
  - Sir Hugh Rose recaptured Jhansi.
  - Rani Laxmibai died in battle in June 1858.
- **Other Leaders:**
  - By 1859, Kunwar Singh, Bakht Khan, Khan Bahadur Khan of Bareilly, Rao Sahib (Nana Saheb's brother), and Maulvi Ahmadullah had all died.
  - The Begum of Awadh was forced into hiding in Nepal.

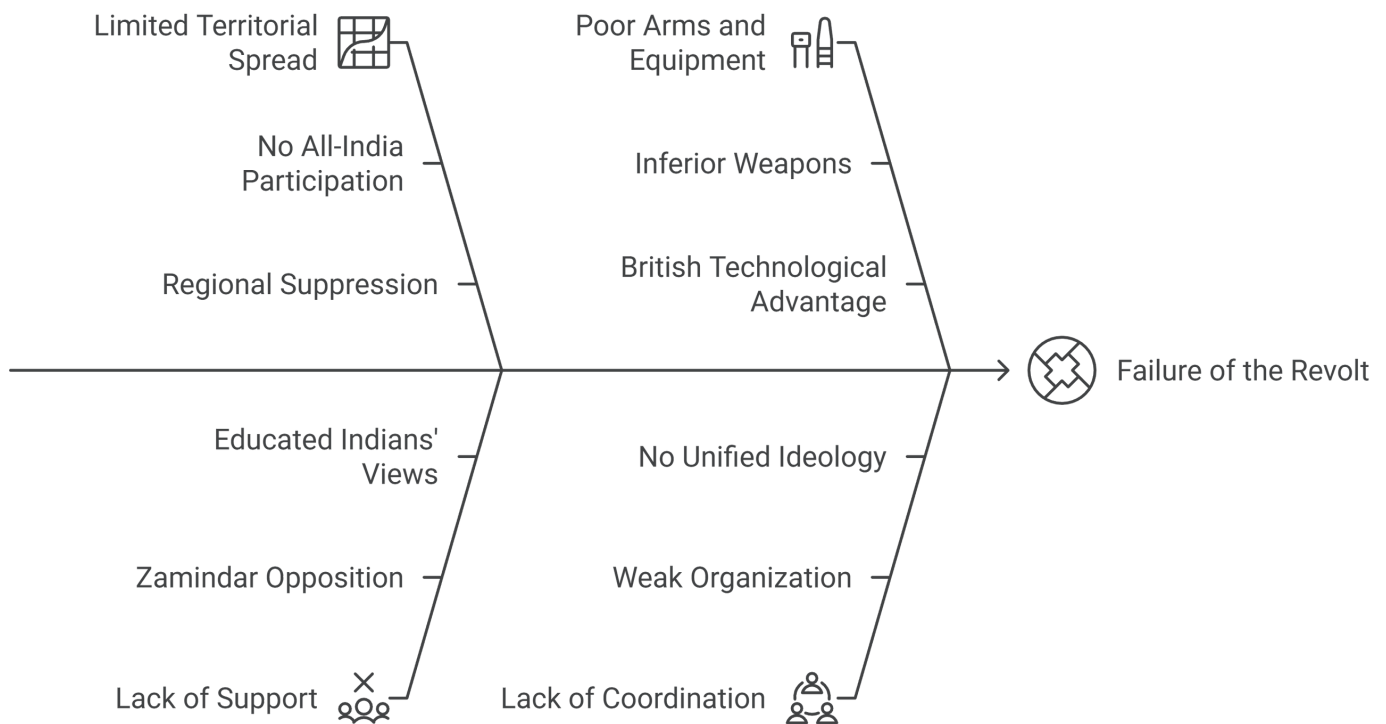


- **Banaras:**
  - Colonel Neill ruthlessly crushed a planned rebellion, executing suspected rebels and disorderly sepoys.
- **Re-establishment of Authority:**
  - By the end of 1859, British authority was fully restored.
  - Enormous sums of money, troops, and weapons were poured into India—the cost of repression was later recovered from Indians themselves.

## Reasons Why the Revolt Failed

- **Limited Territorial Spread:**
  - There was no all-India participation; the east, south, and west were largely unaffected.
  - No more than one-fourth of India's area and about one-tenth of its population were impacted.
  - Earlier brutal suppression of regional uprisings may explain some non-participation.
- **Lack of Support from Certain Classes:**
  - Several classes and groups opposed or stayed away from the revolt.
  - Big zamindars acted as “break-waters to the storm”; even Awadh taluqdars withdrew once promised restoration of confiscated lands.
  - Moneylenders and merchants, targets of rebel anger, felt safer under British protection.
  - Educated Indians often saw the revolt as backward-looking, feudal, and conservative—hoping instead that the British would bring modernization.
- **Refusal of Indian Rulers to Join:**
  - Many rulers refused or even aided the British—Holkar of Indore, Scindia of Gwalior, Maharaja of Kashmir, Patiala's ruler, Sindh's rulers, and several Sikh chiefs.
- **Poor Arms and Equipment:**
  - Indian forces mostly had swords and spears, with few muskets and guns.
  - European soldiers used superior weapons like the Enfield rifle.
  - The electric telegraph kept British commanders constantly informed of rebel plans and movements.
- **Lack of Coordination and Central Leadership:**
  - The revolt suffered from weak organization, poor coordination, and no central command.
  - Principal rebel generals—Tantia Tope, Nana Saheb, Kunwar Singh, Laxmibai—were generally outmatched by British commanders.
  - The Company benefited from leaders of exceptional ability—Henry Havelock, John Nicholson, the Lawrence brothers, and James Outram.
- **No Unified Ideology:**
  - Rebels lacked a clear understanding of colonialism and had no forward-looking program, coherent ideology, or common political-social alternative.
  - Diverse groups with different grievances could not easily unite.
  - With modern nationalism still unknown, unity was difficult and perhaps impossible at that historical stage.

### Analyzing the Failure of the Revolt



### Hindu-Muslim Unity Factor

- Hindus and Muslims cooperated fully—among leaders, soldiers, and ordinary people—throughout the revolt.
- All rebels accepted Bahadur Shah Zafar, a Muslim, as emperor.
- Hindu sepoys at Meerut first marched to Delhi, the Mughal capital.
- Mutual respect prevailed—cow slaughter was immediately banned in rebel-held areas.
- Leadership showed this unity—Nana Saheb’s aide Azimullah was a Muslim propaganda expert; Afghan soldiers strongly supported Rani Laxmibai.
- Maulana Azad later noted two clear facts about 1857: Hindu-Muslim unity and deep loyalty to the Mughal Crown.
- Events of 1857 indicate that politics and society before 1858 were not fundamentally communal or sectarian.

### Nature of the Revolt: Differing Views

- **Sepoy Mutiny View:**
  - British historian Sir John Seeley called it a “wholly unpatriotic and selfish Sepoy Mutiny” with no native leadership or popular support.



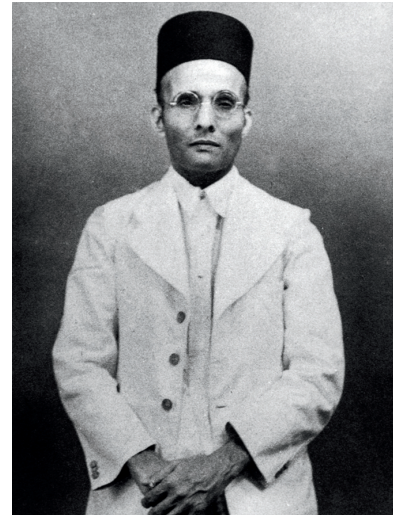
- **Military Outbreak with Popular Aura:**
  - Dr. K. Datta viewed it mainly as a military rising, used by discontented princes and landlords hurt by the new order—giving it a popular color in some areas.
- **Localized and Restricted:**
  - Dr. Datta and Dr. R.C. Majumdar argued it was never all-India in scope; it was poorly organized, localized, and lacked unity.



- **Not First, Not National, Not a War of Independence:**
  - Dr. R.C. Majumdar maintained it was neither the first, nor national, nor a war of independence, since large areas stayed uninvolved and many did not participate.
- **Feudal Uprising:**
  - Jawaharlal Nehru considered it essentially feudal, with some nationalistic strands (Discovery of India). M.N. Roy called it feudalism’s last stand against commercial capitalism.



- **War of Independence:**
  - V.D. Savarkar (The Indian War of Independence, 1857) described it as a planned national war for self-rule sparked by a nationalist upsurge.



- **Fight for Religion to War of Independence:**
  - Dr. S.N. Sen (1857) believed it began as a religious fight but ended as a war for independence.



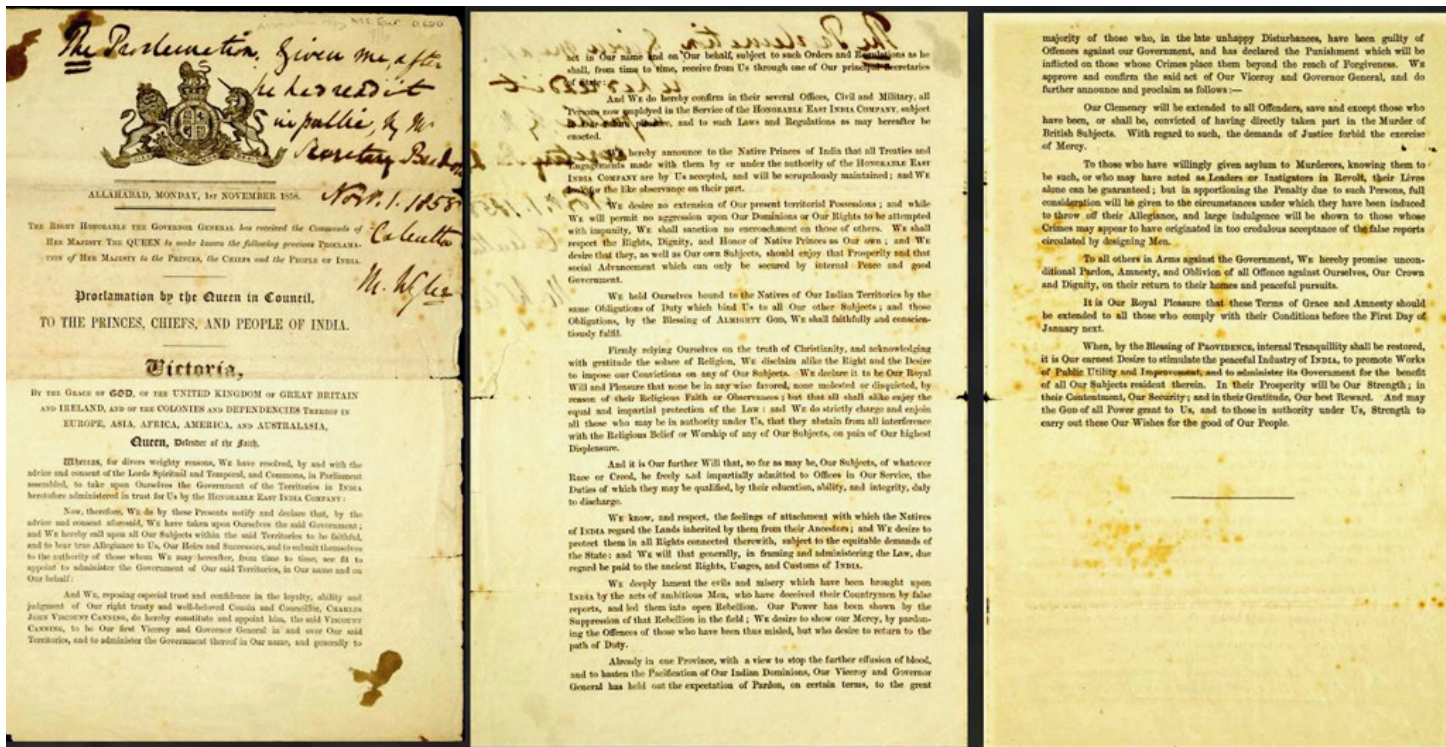
- **Soldier-Peasant Combine:**
  - Marxist historians saw it as a “soldier-peasant democratic combine” against foreign and feudal bondage—though critics note many leaders were themselves feudal.

- **Combined Attempt:**
  - S.B. Chaudhuri termed it the “first combined attempt of many classes” to challenge foreign rule—a distant but real precursor to the later freedom struggle.
- **Inherent Nature:**
  - Although seeds of anti-imperialism and nationalism existed, common nationhood was not inherent, and participants likely did not feel a unified national identity.
- **More Than a Mutiny, Less Than a War of Independence:**
  - Stanley Wolpert concluded it was “far more than a mutiny, ... yet much less than a first war of independence”.

### Consequences of the Revolt

- The revolt became a watershed, forcing major changes in British policy and administration.
- **End of Company Rule and Transfer of Power:**
  - Even before full suppression, the British Parliament passed the Act for the Better Government of India on August 2, 1858.
  - Company rule ended; direct governance shifted to the British Crown.
  - A Secretary of State for India, a British Cabinet member, was appointed.
- **Queen’s Proclamation (November 1, 1858):**
  - At a durbar in Allahabad, Lord Canning announced the Crown’s assumption of Indian governance.
  - The Governor-General also became the ‘Viceroy’.
  - The proclamation promised an end to annexations and respect for native princes’ dignity and rights.
  - Indian states acknowledged the paramountcy of the British Crown and were treated as parts of a single charge.
  - Religious freedom without state interference was assured.
  - It promised equality of opportunity in government service regardless of creed or race, and equal, impartial legal protection.
  - Indian rights, usages, and customs would be respected in law-making and administration.
  - Bernard Cohn observed that by vesting sovereignty in their monarch, the British shifted from ‘outsiders’ to ‘insiders’.





● **Army Reorganization (Division and Counterpoise):**

- The army, the revolt's spearhead, was completely reorganized.
- British military policy adopted "division and counterpoise" since Indian loyalty could no longer be trusted.
- Europeans were increased; Indian numbers were sharply reduced.
- Separate units by community, caste, or region implemented divide-and-rule.
- Recruitment favored 'martial' races of the north-west frontier, Nepal, and Punjab, who had remained loyal.
- The army was kept apart from civilians.
- The Army Amalgamation Scheme (1861) transferred Company's European troops to Crown service.
- All Indian artillery units (except a few mountain batteries) were disbanded; higher army posts and artillery were reserved for Europeans.
- Until the early 20th century, Indians were barred from the king's commission; even a new English recruit outranked an Indian with a viceroy's commission.

● **The White Mutiny:**

- Some European troops, formerly under Company service, resisted transfer to the Queen's Army.
- This discontent was called the White Mutiny.
- Company 'European Forces' had received batta (extra allowances), which stopped after the transfer.
- Their demands for an enlistment bonus or discharge were granted; many chose to return home, fearing rejection by the Queen's Army.

- **End of Reformist Zeal and Rise of Autocracy:**

- The earlier reformist spirit of Victorian liberalism faded; many British liberals now considered Indians unfit for reform.
- A 'conservative liberalism' took hold, backed by England's aristocratic and conservative classes, urging non-interference in India's traditional social structure.
- The reform era ended.
- The Raj grew more autocratic, denying educated Indians a share in power.
- This frustrated the Indian middle classes and helped kindle modern nationalism.

- **Economic Exploitation and Social Deterioration:**

- 'Divide and rule' intensified as communities and classes were pitted against each other.
- Though annexations ceased, systematic economic plunder advanced without fear.
- Socially, conditions worsened irreparably.
- The Indian Civil Service Act of 1861 projected equality under the Queen, but rules effectively kept higher services a British preserve.

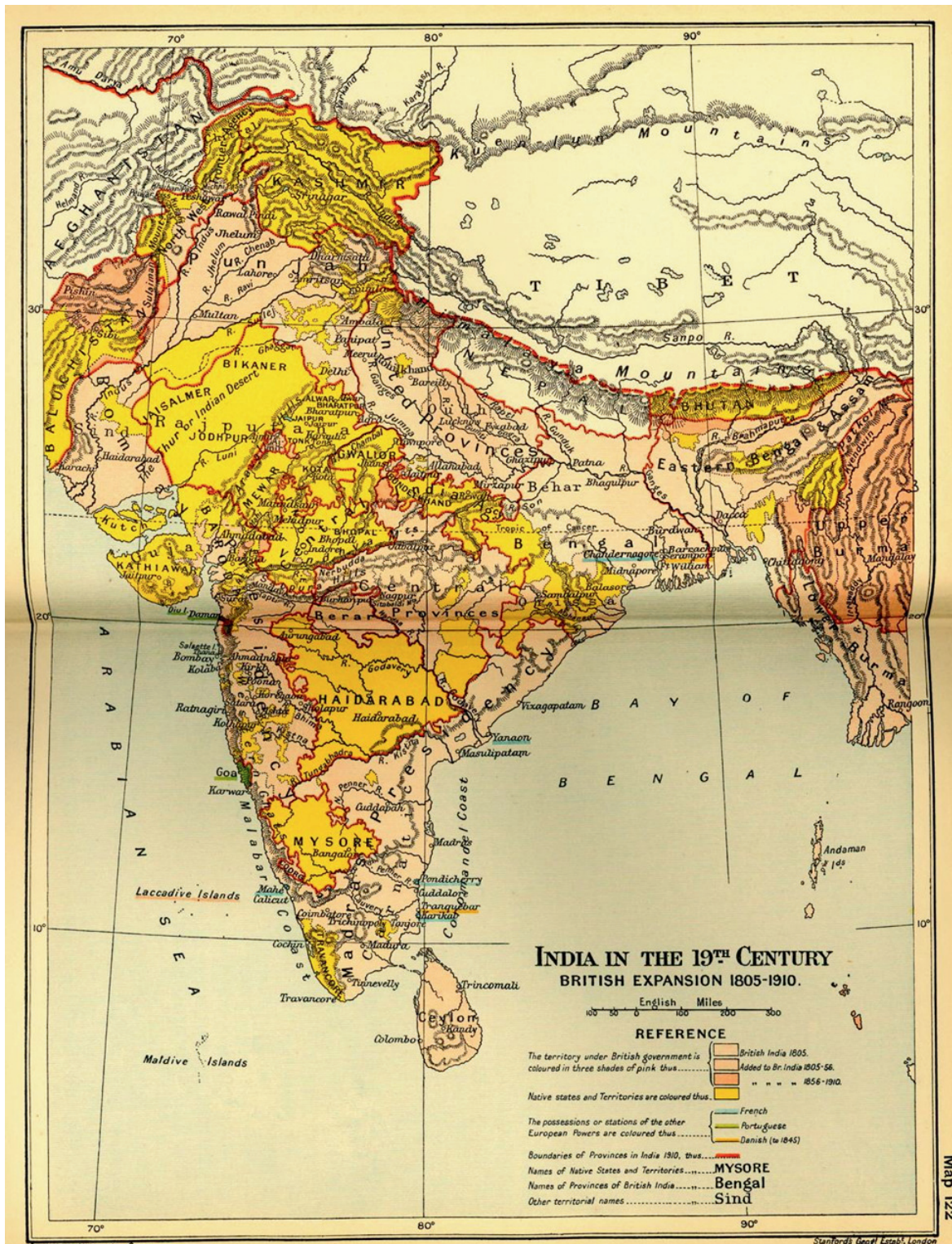
- **Racial Hatred:**

- Mutual suspicion and racial hatred—perhaps the worst legacy—deepened between English and Indians.
- British journals depicted Indians as subhuman, needing superior force.
- Imperialists showered contempt and insults on Indians, widening the ruler-ruled gulf.
- Governance was remodeled on a 'master race' ideology, justifying the 'White man's burden'.



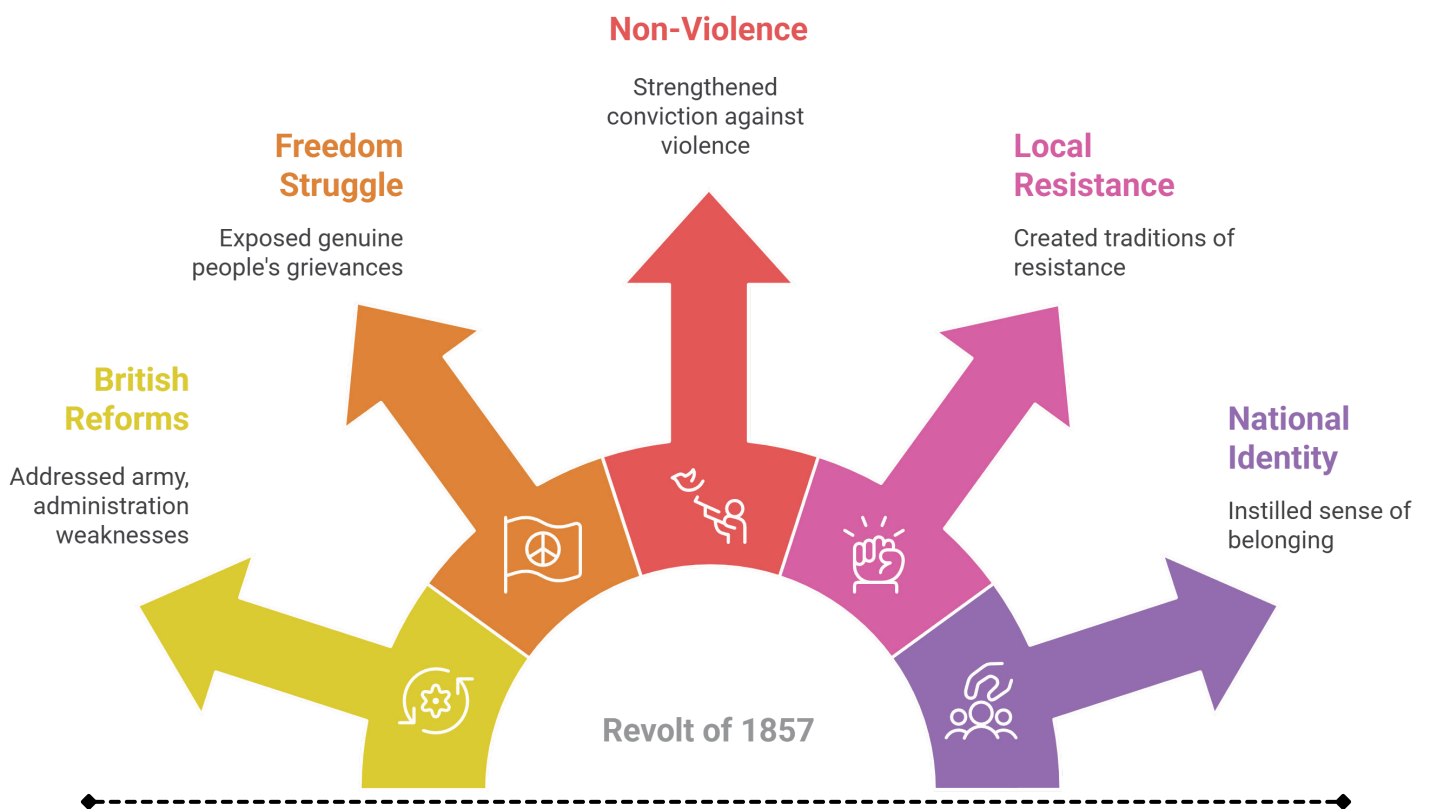
**NOTE** – The “White Man’s Burden” is a concept popularized by Rudyard Kipling’s 1899 poem, which justified European imperialism as a moral duty. It suggested that white colonizers had a responsibility to “civilize” and uplift non-Western peoples, portraying colonized societies as backward or childlike. In essence, it masked exploitation and domination under the guise of humanitarian benevolence.

**Significance of the Revolt**



- **For the British:**
  - The revolt exposed major weaknesses in the Company's army and administration, which the British promptly addressed.
- **For the Indians:**
  - The revolt shaped the freedom struggle's course by laying bare the genuine grievances of people and sepoys.
  - It showed clearly that India's primitive arms could not match Britain's advanced weaponry.
  - The brutality on both sides horrified Indian intellectuals, strengthening the conviction that violence should be avoided in the struggle for freedom.
  - The growing educated middle class preferred orderly, non-violent methods.
  - Crucially, 1857 created local traditions of resistance that later aided the national movement.
  - It helped instill among Indians a sense of belonging to one country.

### The Revolt of 1857's Impact on India



## RAS PRACTICE QUESTIONS

### SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS (15 words)

- Q1. What was the immediate cause of the Revolt of 1857?
- Q2. Name two economic grievances that created unrest before 1857.
- Q3. What was the General Service Enlistment Act (1856)?
- Q4. Who were the chief leaders of the revolt at Kanpur and Lucknow?
- Q5. Mention any two causes of the sepoys' disaffection.
- Q6. What was the outcome of the Revolt in Delhi?
- Q7. Who led the uprising in Jhansi, and why did it occur?

### LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS (50 words)

- Q1. Explain the economic causes of the Revolt of 1857.
- Q2. Discuss the political causes of the Revolt of 1857.
- Q3. Describe the socio-religious factors behind the Revolt.
- Q4. What were the immediate events that led to the outbreak at Meerut?
- Q5. Write short notes on any two leading centres of the Revolt.
- Q6. Why did the Revolt of 1857 fail?
- Q7. What changes followed the Revolt of 1857 in India's governance?

### ANALYTICAL/ESSAY-TYPE QUESTIONS (100 words)

- Q1. Analyse the multiple causes of the Revolt of 1857.
- Q2. Describe the course and geographical spread of the Revolt of 1857.
- Q3. Evaluate the leadership and popular participation in the Revolt.
- Q4. Critically examine the reasons for the failure of the Revolt.
- Q5. Discuss the nature of the Revolt of 1857 as interpreted by historians.
- Q6. Assess the consequences and significance of the Revolt of 1857.