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1. INDIA DURING ADVENT OF EUROPEANS

Factors Responsible for European advent in India:

- Advancement of Europeans in art of ship building and navigation
- Economic development of Europeans.
- Demand for luxuries Indian commodities like spices, calicoes, silk, various precious stones, porcelain, etc.
- Immense wealth of India.

CHRONOLOGY OF EUROPEAN CONQUEST OF ASIA:

The Portuguese (1498) ò the English (1600) ò the Dutch (1602) ò the French (1664)

PORTUGUESE

- **Treaty of Tordesillas (1494)**- between **Portugal and Spain** divided non - Christian world by an imaginary line in the Atlantic **east for Portugal** and **west for Spain**.

Vasco-de-Gama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vasco-de-Gama reached Calicut via cape of good hope in 1498 and was warmly welcomed by Zamorin (Ruler of Calicut). • By 1502, Vasco's second visit led to the establishment of trading stations at Calicut, Cochin and Cannanore and fortification of the same. • Portugal unlike other traders wanted to monopolize trade in India.
Pedro Alvarez Cabral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established first factory at Calicut, in 1500 • Embarked the era of European rule on Indian subcontinent.
Francis - De - Almeida (1505-1509)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Portuguese governor in India, initiated "Blue water policy" (cartaze system) - was to be powerful at the sea instead of building fortresses on Indian land. • Cartaze system: Naval trade license or pass issued by Portugese in the Indian ocean.
Alfonso de Albuquerque (1509- 1515)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considered to be the founder of the Portuguese power in India: captured Goa from Bijapur; persecuted Muslims; captured Bhatkal from Sri Krishna Deva Rai (1510) of Vijayanagara; • Initiated the policy of marrying with the natives of India. • Banned the practice of sati in his area of influence. • Albuquerque died in 1515 leaving Portuguese as strongest Naval power in India.
Nino da Cunha (1529-38)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shifted the capital from Cochin to Goa in 1530. Goa became capital of Portuguese settlements in India. • In his rule, Diu and Bassein came under the Portuguese occupation from Gujarat King Bahadur Shah. • Bahadur Shah got killed in 1537 at Diu while negotiating with the Portuguese. • Pragmatic leader who expanded territory beyond Western coastal region. Portuguese power expanded to eastern coast during his time.

Religious Policy of the Portuguese: Initially, hostile only towards Muslims, later towards Hindus also. In 1579 missionaries were sent to convert the emperor Akbar to Christianity.

FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR DECLINE OF THE PORTUGUESE IN INDIA:

- Emergence of powerful dynasties in Egypt, Persia and north India and the appearance of the Marathas as neighbours;
- Political fears aroused by the activities of Jesuit missionaries, and hatred of persecution (such as inquisition) that caused reaction against Portuguese spiritual pressure;
- Rise of the English and Dutch commercial ambitions challenging the Portuguese supremacy;
- Rampant corruption, greed and selfishness along with piracy and clandestine trade practices of the Portuguese administration in India;

- Diversion of Portuguese colonising ambitions towards the West due to the discovery of Brazil.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PORTUGUESE:

- Portuguese not only initiated what might be called the **European era**, it marked the **emergence of naval power**.
- **Introduction of cannon** on ship
- The Portuguese were masters of improved techniques at sea. Their multi-decked ships were heavily constructed.
- Missionaries and the Church were also teachers and patrons in India of the arts of the painter, carver, and sculptor.
- The **Portuguese skill at organisation**—as in the creation of royal arsenals and dockyards and the maintenance of a regular system of pilots and mapping and pitting state forces against private merchant shipping—was even more noteworthy.
- **Introduced** European art of warfare
- The art of the **silversmith** and **goldsmith** flourished at Goa.

Note: Portuguese were first to come in India and last one to leave India.

Why a Sea Route to India?

- Spirit of renaissance in the 15th-century Europe.
- European economy growing rapidly, leading to prosperity and demand for luxury goods; increase in the supply of meat requiring spices for preservation.
- Capture of Constantinople in 1453, and Syria and Egypt later by the Ottoman Turks calling for a new route to reach India without dealing with Arabs and Turks.
- Venice and Genoa too small to stand up to the Turks.
- Spain and Portugal aided with money and men by the North Europeans and by ships and technical knowledge by the Genoese.
- The Portuguese the pioneers followed by the Dutch, English, Danes and the French respectively to reach India.

DUTCH (NETHERLANDS)

- Cornelis de Houtman was the first Dutchman to reach Sumatra and Bantam in 1596.
- **United East India Company of the Netherlands**, formed in March 1605 by the Charter of Dutch Parliament, had the powers to wage wars, make treaty and build forts.
- Founded their **first factory in Masaulipatam** in Andhra in 1605.
- Subsequently they won over Portuguese & emerged as most dominant European trade power.
- **Pulicat was their main center** in India, later replaced by **Nagapattinam**.
- Dutch carried **indigo** manufactured in the Yamuna valley and Central India, **textiles and silk** from Bengal, Gujarat and the Coromandel, **saltpetre** from Bihar and **opium** and **rice** from the Ganga valley.
- In 1623, a **treaty between British and Dutch** → Dutch withdrew their claim from India and British from Indonesia
- 1650 (17th century), English began to emerge as big colonial power in India.
- Anglo Dutch rivalry lasted for 70 years, during which Dutch lost their settlements to British one by one.
- The Dutch were **not much interested in empire building in India**; their concerns were trade. In any case, their main commercial interest lay in the **Spice Islands of Indonesia** from where they earned a huge profit through business.
- **Decline in India-** The defeat of the Dutch in the **Anglo-Dutch rivalry** and the shifting of Dutch attention towards the **Malay Archipelago**. In **Battle of Bedara (1759)**, the English defeated the Dutch.
- After prolonged warfare, both the parties compromised by which the British agreed to withdraw all their claims on Indonesia, and the Dutch retired from India.