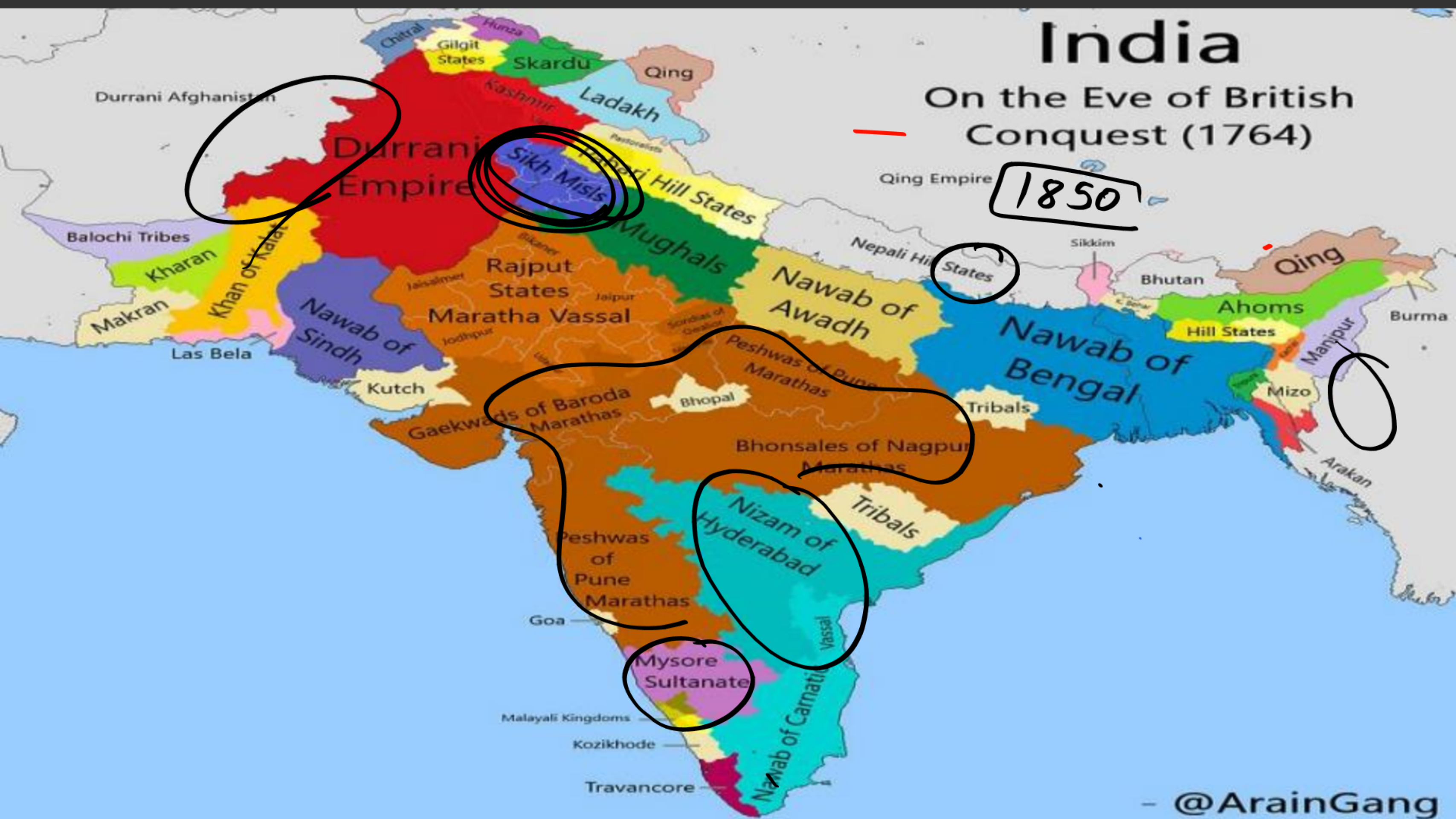
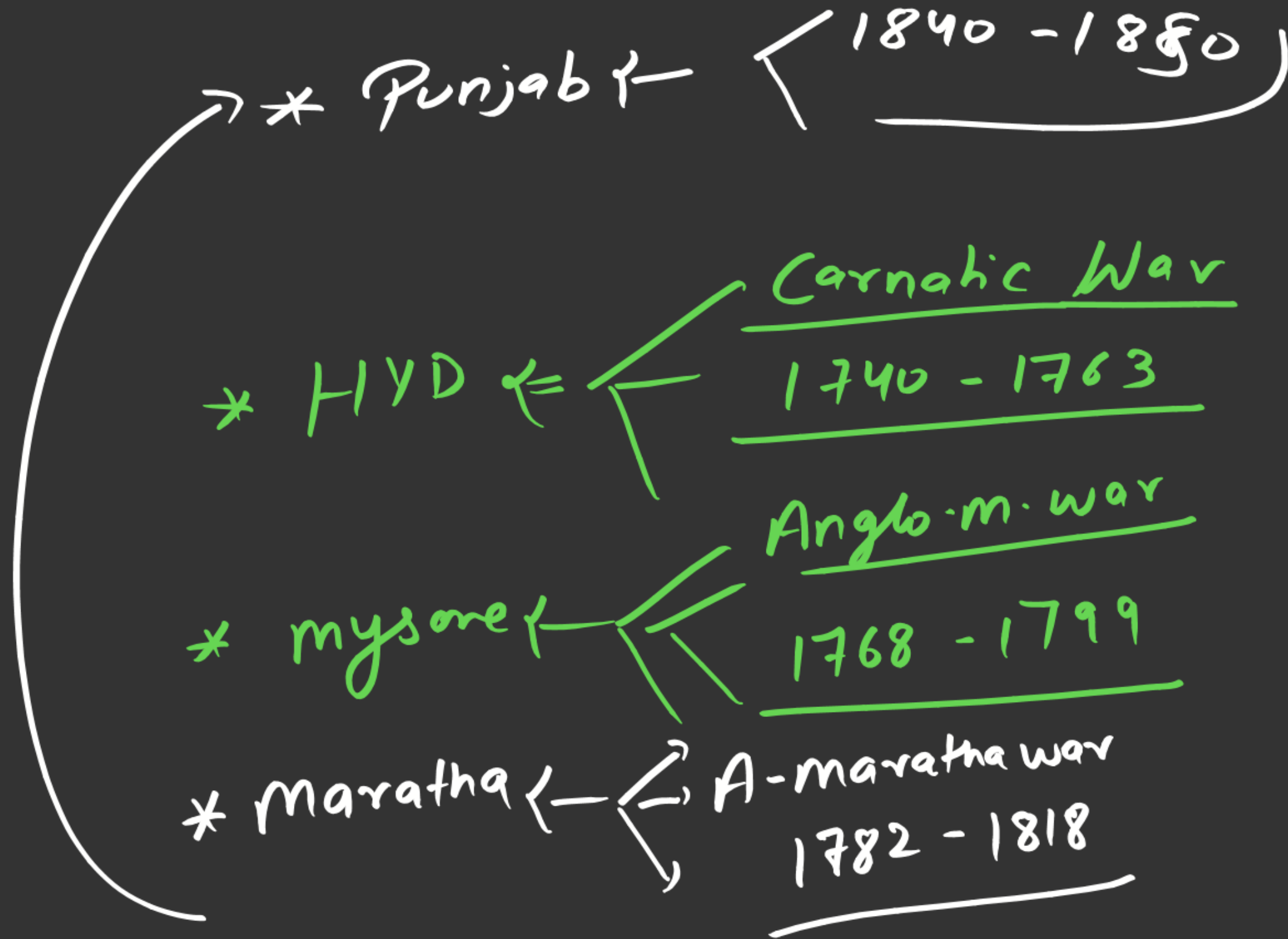


India

On the Eve of British
Conquest (1764)

1850





India on the Eve of British Conquest

1. Challenges before the Mughals

• External Challenges

1. **Nadir Shah**, the Persian emperor, attacked India in 1738-39, conquered Lahore and defeated the Mughal army at Karnal on February 13, 1739.
2. Muhammad Shah was captured, and Delhi looted and devastated
3. According to an estimate, apart from the Peacock Throne and the Kohinoor diamond, seventy crore rupees were collected from the official treasury and the safes of the rich nobles.
4. **Ahmad Shah Abdali** (or Ahmad Shah Durrani), who was elected the successor of Nadir Shah after the latter's death in 1747, invaded India several times between 1748 and 1767. 1761

• Weak Rulers after Aurangzeb—An Internal Challenge

1. **Bahadur Shah I (1709–March 1712)** After a nearly two-year-long war of succession, the 63-year-old Prince Muazzam, the eldest son of Aurangzeb, became the emperor, taking the title Bahadur Shah. He was later called Bahadur Shah I). He had killed his brothers Muhammad Azam and Kam Bakhsh in the war of succession. Khafi Khan gave the title of Shah-i-Bekhabar to Bahadur Shah.
2. **Jahandar Shah (March 1712–February 1713)** With the help of Zulfikar Khan, Jahandar Shah became the emperor. Zulfikar Khan was appointed prime minister.
3. **Farrukhsiyar (1713–1719)** After killing Jahandar Shah with the help of Sayyid brothers—Abdulla Khan and Hussain Ali (known as 'King Makers'), Farrukhsiyar became the new emperor. He followed a policy of religious tolerance by abolishing Jaziya and pilgrimage tax. In 1717, he gave farmans to the British. In 1719, the Sayyid brothers, with the help of Peshwa Balaji Vishwanath, dethroned Farrukhsiyar. Later, he was blinded and killed

1. **Rafi-ud-Darajat (February 28 to June 4, 1719)** He ruled for the shortest period among the Mughals.
2. **Rafi-ud-Daula (June 6 to September 17, 1719)** The Sayyid brothers placed Rafi-ud-Daula with the title Shah Jahan II on the throne. The new emperor was an opium addict.
3. **Muhammad Shah (1719-48)** 1739
 - After the death of Rafiud-Daula, Raushan Akhtar became the choice of the Sayyid Brothers. Muhammad Shah, as he came to be known in history, was given the title of **'Rangeela'** due to his **luxurious life-style**.
 - Muhammad Shah, with the help of Nizam-ul-Mulk, killed the Sayyid Brothers.
 - In 1724, Nizam-ul-Mulk became the wazir and founded the independent state of Hyderabad.
 - In 1737, Baji Rao I, the Maratha Peshwa invaded Delhi with a small army of 500 horsemen.
 - In 1739, Nadir Shah defeated the Mughals in the **Battle of Karnal** and later imprisoned Muhammad Shah and annexed areas west of the Indus into the Persian empire
4. **Ahmad Shah (1748-1754)**
5. **Alamgir II (1754-1758)** Alamgir II was a grandson of Jahandar Shah. Ahmed Shah Abdali, the Iranian invader, reached Delhi in January 1757. During his reign, the **Battle of Plassey was fought in June 1757**
6. **Shah Alam II (1759-1806)** His reign saw two decisive battles—the **Third Battle of Panipat (1761)** and the **Battle of Buxar (1764)**. In 1765, according to the terms of **Treaty of Allahabad (August 1765)**, he was taken under the East India Company's protection and resided at Allahabad
7. **Akbar II (1806-37)**
8. **Bahadur Shah II (1837-1857) Bahadur Shah II or Bahadur Shah Zafar** (Zafar being his surname) was the last Mughal emperor. **The Revolt of 1857** had made a futile attempt to declare him the Emperor of India. He was captured by the English and sent to Rangoon where he died in 1862

British Conquest of Bengal

1701

- Bengal on the Eve of British Conquest

Portrait	Titular Name		Personal Name	Birth	Reign	Death
Nasiri dynasty						
1	Jaafar Khan Bahadur Nasiri	<u>Murshid Quli Khan</u>	1665	1717–1727		June 1727
2	Ala-ud-Din Haidar Jung	<u>Sarfaraz Khan</u>	After 1700	1727–1727 (for few days)		29 April 1740
3	Shuja ud-Daula	<u>Shuja-ud-Din Muhammad Khan</u>	circa 1670	1 July 1727 – 26 August 1739		26 August 1739
4	Ala-ud-Din Haidar Jung	Sarfaraz Khan	After 1700	13 March 1739 – 29 April 1740		29 April 1740

- In 1741, **Alivardi Khan**, the Deputy Governor of Bihar, **killed the Nawab of Bengal Sarfaraz Khan** in a battle and certified his own position as the new Subahdar of Bengal by paying a large sum of money to the Mughal Emperor, Muhammad Shah
- Alivardi Khan ruled for 15 years, during which he fought off the Marathas
- But he died in April 1756 and was succeeded by his grandson, **Siraj-ud-daula**, the son of Alivardi's youngest daughter.

Challenges Before Siraj-ud-daula

1. The English fortified Calcutta without the nawab's permission.
2. Thus, when Siraj attacked and seized the English fort at Calcutta,
3. **'Black Hole Tragedy'** Siraj-ud-daula is believed to have imprisoned 146 English persons who were lodged in a very tiny room due to which 123 of them died of suffocation. 20 June 1756

The Battle –

- The arrival of a strong force under the command of **Robert Clive** at Calcutta from Madras strengthened the English position in Bengal.
- Clive forged a secret alliance with the traitors of the nawab – **Mir Jafar**, **Rai Durlabh**, **Jagat Seth** (an influential banker of Bengal) and **Omichand**.
- So the English victory in the Battle of Plassey (June 23, 1757) was decided before the battle was even fought.

- **Significance of Battle of Plassey**

- Mir Jafar became the Nawab of Bengal. ✓
- He gave large sums of money plus the zamindari of 24 parganas to the English
- Mir Jafar was increasingly irritated by the interference of Clive.
- He entered into a conspiracy with the Dutch at Chinsura. But the Dutch were defeated and humbled by the English forces at Bedara in November 1759

- **Mir Kasim**

- Mir Kasim shifted the capital from Murshidabad to Munger in Bihar.

- **The Battle of Buxar**

- The combined armies of Mir Kasim, the Nawab of Awadh and Shah Alam II were defeated by the English forces under Major Hector Munro at Buxar on October 22, 1764 in a closely contested battle. The English campaign against Mir Kasim was short but decisive

- **The Treaty of Allahabad**

- Robert Clive concluded two important treaties at Allahabad in August 1765—one with the Nawab of Awadh and the other with the Mughal Emperor, Shah Alam II.
- Nawab Shuja-ud-Daula agreed to:
 - (i) surrender Allahabad and Kara to Emperor Shah Alam II;
 - (ii) pay Rs 50 lakh to the Company as war indemnity;
- Shah Alam II agreed to: (i) reside at Allahabad, to be ceded to him by the Nawab of Awadh, under the Company's protection; (ii) issue a farman granting the diwani of Bengal,
- Mir Kasim, the dethroned Nawab of Bengal, spent the rest of his life in abject misery as a homeless wanderer and died in June 1777

$B + A + M$ ←

1757/1764

BENGAL = BR



1764-1772 \Leftarrow Robert clive

1770 \leftarrow

1772 \Leftarrow 1773

Regulating Act - 1773

1701



✓ R-1
1773 Act

* Warren Harding

