**8th June, 2020 JESUS AND MARY SCHOOL & COLLEGE Module-3**

**CLASS 8**

**HISTORY/CIVICS**

**INDIA IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY**

**EXPLANATION-1**

The period of the Great Mughals, which began in 1526CE with Babur’s accession to the throne, ended with the death of Aurangzeb in 1707CE. Aurangzeb’s death marked the end of an era in Indian history. When Aurangzeb died, the empire of the Mughal was largest in India. Yet within about 50 years of his death, the Mughal Empire disintegrated.

Later Mughal –Decline of the Mughal empire

There was no law of succession among the Mughal, hence when a king died, there was a war amongst the possible contenders for the throne in which several princes and nobles were killed. Further, the weak and incapable successors of Aurangzeb fell prey to court intrigues and conspiracy. The nobles began to play the role of king makers. After the death of Aurangzeb, a war of succession broke out among his sons and finally one of his eldest son prince Muazzam who was 65 year old ascended the throne under the name of Bahadur Shah followed a policy of compromise and conciliation and tried to conciliate the Rajputs, the Marathas, the Bundelas, the Jats and the Sikhs,but he had to face a revolt from the Sikhs.He could not control the rising power of the Marathas and the Sikhs. He died in 1712 and was succeeded by his son Jahandar Shah, who was weak and incompetent. He was controlled by nobles and could manage to rule only for one year. Farrukhsiyar ascended the throne with the help of the Sayyid brothers who were popularly called the ‘King makers’. He was controlled by Sayyid brothers who were the real authority behind Mughal power. When he tried to free himself from their control, he was killed. Farrukhsiyar’s reign lasted for six years. The next notable king raised to the throne was Muhammad Shah, grandson of Bahadur Shah, ascended the throne at the young age of 17. Taking advantage of the weak rule of Muhammad Shah, some powerful and ambitious nobles established virtually independent states. Thus Murshid Quli Khan in Bengal, Saadat Khan in Awadh and Chin Qilich Khan or Nizam-ul-Mulk in Hyderabad became independent,they all offered but nominal loyalty to the Mughal Emperor. The Mughal Empire practically broke up. Muhammad Shah’s long reign of nearly thirty years was the last chance of saving the empire. A strong ruler could have saved the dynasty, but Muhammad Shah was not equal to the task. He neglected the affair of the state and never gave full support to able wazirs.

**WORKSHEET-5**

Q.1 In which year Aurangzeb died?

Q.2Who was the eldest son of Aurangzeb?

Q.3 How many year old was Prince Muazzam?

Q.4 When did Bahadur Shah die?

Q.5 Who succeeded Bahadur Shah?

Q.6 Name the grandson of Bahadur Shah?

Q.7 Who was popularly known as king makers?

Q.8 How many years old was Muhammad Shah when he sat on the throne?

Q.9 Who declared independent state n Bengal?

Q.10 How many year did Muhammad Shah rule?

**EXPLANATION-2**

Nadir Shah Invasion

The selfish activities of the noble made the empire weak to foreign invasions. The condition of India with its incompetent rulers, weak administration and poor military strength attracted foreign invaders. Nadir Shah,the ruler of Persia, attacked Punjab in 1739 CE. Muhammad Shah was easily defeated at Karnal and imprisoned. Nadir Shah marched towards Delhi. Nadir Shah was a ferocious( dangerous) invader. He massacred(killed in large number)thousands of people in Delhi. Delhi looked deserted for days . Muhammad Shah, however was reinstated on the throne. Nadir Shah carried with him the Kohinoor diamond and the Peacock throne of Shah Jahan .By plundering a big city like Delhi, he got enormous wealth. Nadir Shah’s invasion gave a crushing blow to the already tottering Mughal Empire has hastened the process of its disintegration. Muhammad Shah’s kingdom was practically confined to Delhi and its neighbourhood. He died in 1748 CE.

Invasion of Ahmad Shah Abdali

In 1761, during the reign of Shah Alam 2nd, Ahmad Shah Abdali, the independent ruler of Afghanistan, invaded India. Marathas also extended their influence up to Delhi, so a war fought between Ahmad Shah Abdali and the Marathas in 1761 is known as the Third battle of Panipat. Marathas were completely defeated. Thus Ahmad Shah Abdali’s invasion further weakened the Mughal Empire.

The growth of independent kingdoms

With decline of the Mughal Empire, a number of provinces separated from the empire and several independent states came into existence.

Hyderabad

The state of Hyderabad was founded by Qamar-ud-din Sddiqi, who was appointed viceroy of the Deccan, by Emperor Farrukhsiyar in 1712CE. He established a virtually independent state but returned to Delhi as the wazir during the reign of Emperor Muhammad Shah. In 1724CE,he was reappointed viceroy of the Deccan with the title of Asaf Jah. He founded the Asaf Jah dynasty. His successors were known as the NIzam of Hyderabad.

Bengal

Bengal in the 18th century comprised Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. Murshid Quli Khan was the diwan of Bengal under Aurangzeb. Farrukhsiyar appointed him governor of Bengal in 1717CE. Taking advantage of the growing weakness of the Central authority, Murshid Quli Khan became practically independent.

Awadh

Awadh comprised Benaras ,Kanpur,Lucknow,Faizabad and some districts near Allahabad. Saadat Khan Burhan-ul-Mulk was appointed governor of Awadh by the Mughal Emperor Muhammad Shah, in 1722 CE. But he soon became independent.

Marathas

Shauh, the son of Shambhaji was released by Azam Shah, was proclaimed the Emperor of the Marathas. But the charge of state was left in hands of his chief minister, the ‘Peshwa’, Balaji Vishwanath. The Marathas expanded their territory. They marched to Delhi in 1719. The Mughal Emperor was forced to recognise the right of Marathas to collect Chauth and Sardeshmukhi taxes. This enhanced the prestige of Marathas. The Marathas forced the Deccan state to pay taxes. Even the Nizam and the powerful nawab of Bengal were not spared. The Nizam had to cede vast territories and Nawab Alivardi Khan ceded Orissa to Marathas in order to save himself from Marathas in order to save himself from Marathas invasions.

**WORKSHEET-6**

Q1. Who was the ruler of Persia?

Q2. In which year Nadir Shah attacked on Punjab?

Q3. Where was the battle fought between Muhammad Shah and Nadir Shah?

Q4. When Adil Shah attacked on India?

Q5. Who was the Independent ruler of Afghanistan?

Q6. In which year third battle of Panipat was fought and between whom?

Q7. Who was the founder of the state of Hyderabad?

Q8 .Who was the founder of Asaf Jha dynasty?

Q9.Who was Diwan of Bengal under Aurangzeb?

Q10. Who was appointed the Governor of Bengal by Farrukhsiyar?