

How, When and Where

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	How did the British conquer India and establish their rule?

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- Q1. By what criteria do we choose a set of dates as important?
- Ans. The dates we select, the dates around which we compose our story of the past, are not important on their own. They become vital because we focus on a particular set of events as important. If our focus of study changes, if we begin to look at new issues, a new set of dates will appear significant.
- Q2. Why do we try and divide history into different periods?
- Ans. We do so in an attempt to capture the characteristics of a time, its central features as they appear to us. So the terms through which we periodise that is, demarcate the difference between periods become important. They reflect our ideas about the past. They show how we see the significance of the change from one period to the next.
- Q3. How did the British conquer India and establish their rule?
- Ans. British came to conquer the country and establish their rule, subjugating local nawabs and rajas. For this, they established control over the economy and society, collected revenue to meet all their expenses, bought the goods they wanted at low prices, produced crops they needed for export. They also brought changes about in values and tastes, customs and practices.