

From Trade to Territory

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- Q1. What is the policy of paramountcy?
- Ans. Under Lord Hastings a new policy of "paramountcy" was initiated. Now the Company claimed that its authority was paramount or supreme, hence its power was greater than that of Indian states. In order to protect its interests it was justified in annexing or threatening to annex any Indian kingdom. This view continued to guide later British policies as well.
- Q2. Write a short note on Warren Hastings.

Ans. <u>Warren Hastings</u>

i. Warren Hastings (Governor-General from 1773 to 1785) was one of the many important figures who played a significant role in the expansion of Company power.

ii. By his time the Company had acquired power not only in Bengal, but also in Bombay and Madras.

iii. Warren Hastings, the first Governor-General, introduced several administrative reforms, notably in the sphere of justice.

- Q3. Explain the system of "subsidiary alliance".
- Ans. According to the terms of this alliance, Indian rulers were not allowed to have their independent armed forces. They were to be protected by the Company, but had to pay for the "subsidiary forces" that the Company was supposed to maintain for the purpose of this protection. If the Indian rulers failed to make the payment, then part of their territory was taken away as penalty. The states which had to lose their territories on this ground were Awadh and Hyderabad.