

Anglo Mysore War

The historical background of the Anglo Mysore war is traced back to 1612 when the Wodeyars established a Hindu kingdom in the Mysore territory. From 1734 to 1766, Chikka Krishnaraja Wodeyar II reigned. With his excellent administrative expertise and military strategy, Haider Ali, who was designated as a military soldier in the troops of the Wodeyars, then became the de-facto leader of Mysore and started the Anglo Mysore wars against the Britishers.

- Under his statesmanship, Mysore surfaced as a daunting power in the other half of the 18th century.
- The vicinity of Mysore to the French and Haidar Ali's influence over the affluent barter of the Malabar coast challenged the English political and commercial aspirations, as well as their power over Madras.
- Following their victory over the nawab of Bengal post the Battle of Buxar, the British concluded a treaty with the Nizam of Hyderabad, convincing him to offer them the Northern Circars in a swap for safeguarding the Nizam from Haidar Ali, who previously had issues with the Marathas.
- The Nizam of Hyderabad, along with the Marathas, and the English, formed an alliance to oppose Haidar Ali.
- Haider used his diplomacy to make the Marathas neutral and turn Nizam into one of his allies against the Nawab of Arcot.

Anglo Mysore War Timeline

- The First Anglo Mysore War (1767-69) - Treaty of Madras
- The Second Anglo Mysore War (1780-1784) - Treaty of Mangalore
- The Third Anglo Mysore War (1789-1792) - Treaty of Srirangapattanam
- The Fourth Anglo Mysore War (1799)

First Anglo Mysore War

The first Anglo Mysore War started in 1767 and lasted until 1769. The causes of the first anglo mysore war were that Haider Ali built a strong army to fight against the Britishers and annexed many southern regions, including Canara, Bidnur, Malabar, Sera, and Sunda. He also took the support of the French army in training his soldiers. That is why the British declared war against Mysore in 1767.

- The war dragged on for another year and a half with no end in sight.
- Haider abruptly changed his tactic and popped up in front of the gates of Madras, having caused absolute chaos and distress.
- This compelled the English to sign the Treaty of Madras with Haidar on April 4, 1769.
- The treaty called for the exchange of detainees and occupied territories.
- Haidar Ali pledged English assistance if he was ever threatened by another power.

Second Anglo Mysore War

The second anglo mysore war took place due to the breach of the Treaty of Madras. This led to severe conflicts between the British and Haider Ali. One event progressed to another, and it led to the 2nd anglo mysore war.

- When the Maratha troops attacked Mysore in 1771, the British broke the treaty of Madras.
- Haider Ali confronted them for breaching his trust.
- Furthermore, Haider Ali discovered the French to be significantly industrious in regards to meeting the army's prerequisites for guns, lead, and saltpetre.
- As a result, he began to import French military supplies to Mysore via Mahe, a French ownership on the Malabar Coast.
- The British were concerned about the two's growing friendship.
- As a result, the British tried to arrest Mahe, who had been under Haider Ali's security. Haider Ali formed a coalition against the British along with the Marathas and Nizam.
- He arranged a joint front with the Nizam and the Marathas against the common enemy - the English East India Company. The second Anglo Mysore war lasted from 1780-1784.
- But he died in 1782 and was succeeded by his son Tipu Sultan.
- Tipu continued the war for another year but absolute success eluded both sides.
- Tired of war, the two sides concluded the peace Treaty of Mangalore.
- By this Treaty it was decided that the English would return Srirangapatnam to Tipu and Tipu would hand over Fort of Badnur to the English.
- **Treaty of Mangalore:** Both sides agreed to a mutual restoration of possessions (barring the forts of Amboorgur and Satgur) and Tipu undertook not to make any claims on the Carnatic in the future. Tipu agreed to release all prisoners of war and he had to restore the factory and privileges possessed by the Company at Calicut until 1779.

Third Anglo Mysore War

The Third Anglo Mysore War was fought between Tipu Sultan and the British. It began in 1789 and ended in Tipu's defeat in 1792. It was started when Tipu struck Travancore, an English ally and the East India Company's only way of sourcing pepper. Tipu considered Travancore's purchase of Jalkottal and Cannanore from the Dutch in Tipu's feudatory state of Cochin to have been an infringement of his sovereign powers.

- The British took Travancore's side and fired at Mysore.
- Tipu's growing power enraged the Nizam and the Marathas, who decided to join the British.
- Tipu Sultan crushed General Meadows' British army in 1790.
- Lord Cornwallis took command in 1791 and led a massive army through Ambur and Vellore to Bangalore and then to Seringapatam.
- They took Coimbatore but lost it again, and finally, with the help of the Marathas and the Nizam, Seringapatam was again attacked by the British.
- Tipu provided strong opposition. However, the odds were heavily stacked against him.
- The Treaty of Seringapatam, signed in 1792, ended the third Anglo Mysore war.
- The alliance of the British, Nizam, and Marathas took over nearly half of Mysorean territory under this treaty.

Fourth Anglo Mysore War

Both Tipu Sultan and the British utilized the years 1792-99 to recover their losses. Tipu accomplished all of the Treaty of Seringapatam's terms and had his sons liberated.

- When the Hindu king of the Wodeyar empire died in 1796, Tipu proclaimed himself Sultan and resolved to exact revenge for his embarrassing defeat in the past Anglo Mysore war.

- Lord Wellesley, a staunch imperialist, took over as Governor General in 1798, succeeding Sir John Shore.
- Wellesley was concerned about Tipu's growing relationship with the French.
- He used the Subsidiary Alliance system to coerce Tipu into submission in order to eliminate his separate status.

Anglo Mysore War: Subsidiary Alliance

In India, Lord Wellesley established the Subsidiary Alliance system in 1798, under which the king of a consorting Indian state was obligated to pay a tax incentive for the upkeep of the British army in exchange for British protection against their adversaries.

- It supplied for the posting of a Resident of the British at the ruler's court, preventing the leader from utilizing any European in his facility without having the British's approval.
- The Nizam of Hyderabad was the first Indian ruler to join the Subsidiary Alliance.
- Those native royals or rulers who registered under the Subsidiary Alliance were not allowed to wage war or open up into dialogue without the British's consent.
- The Subsidiary Alliance was predicated on a non-interference policy in the internal matters of the allied state, although this was a pledge that the British rarely held.
- Fees of the arbitrary and overinflated subsidy inevitably disturbed the state's economy and bankrupted its people.

