

# **Spread of British Empire**

- **In 1617 Jahangir granted permission to British to trade freely in return for protection from Portuguese**
- **Emperor of Bengal Siraj-ud-Daula refused the British permission to trade**
- **Robert Clive led and won the “Battle of Plassey” to defeat Siraj and was named the First Governor of Bengal in 1757.**
- **British fought 7 year war with French and established their rule over Bengal**
- **By 1850 EAC controlled most of Indian sub-continent including present day Pakistan and Bangladesh.**

# **First War of Independence 1857**

- **British levied huge taxes on farmers of Bengal.**
- **Refused to recognize adopted children as heirs to the throne**
- **Built army of Indian soldiers from different religions ( Hindu and Muslim)and castes( Brahmins and Lower caste).**
- **Soldiers furious about mixing of castes and cartridges for guns coated with animal fat from cows and pigs.**

# Start and spread of the war

- ***Mangal Pandey*** defied the British order and was hanged
- Defiance spreads to other regions but was not unanimous.
- ***Queen of Zansi***
- ***Tantya Tope and Nanasaheb Peshwa***

# **Result and Consequences**

- **Rebellion failed** due to lack of command and coordinated effort
- Last Mughal emperor **Bahadurshah Zafar sent in exile** to Burma
- **EAC rule ended** and Queen Victoria took over as Empress of India
- **British army was reorganized** and got stronger with increased ratio of British to Indian soldiers

# **The British Raj - after 1857**

- **Governing of India was organized at 3 levels- Imperial Gov ( London), Central Gov(Calcutta) and Provincial Gov.**
- **Viceroy was appointed to rule India as representative of the Queen.**
- **Viceroy consulted Imperial Gov in London on policy changes for governing India.**

# **Pros of British Rule**

- **Inftra-structural reforms**- Railways, Bridges, Roads, Postal Services and Telegraph, Educational Institutes- Universities, Medical Colleges and Hospitals
- **Social Reforms**- end of Sati tradition, remarriage of widows
- **Political Reforms**- Self Governing Act- Indians elected to legislative councils

# Cons of British Rule

- *Divide and Rule*- turned Indian people against each other
- *Spread Christianity* by converting Hindus to Christians sometimes by trickery
- *Levied heavy taxes* on farmers
- Took cheap raw material from India to bring back expensive finished goods- did not develop skilled labor in India and drained Indian wealth.