

## **Glimpses of the Past Summary In English**

1757-1849

In India of 1757, the East India Company was in a strong position. Compared to the Indian Princes, they had superior weapons. Besides Indian Princes were short-sighted in their approach to the events of the time. Indian princes were fighting each other. They often sought the help of the Company to defeat other princes. This worked in favour of the company. It could easily subdue these princes one after the other. However, the brave Tipu Sultan of Mysore fought the British. He died in the battle-field fighting the English.

The general reaction to the British rule was not the same everywhere in India. There were some who thanked British for ushering in an era of peace. Others bemoaned that the country was subjected to foreign rule.

1765-1836

The social fabric was in bad shape. Religious leaders preached absurd practices like untouchability and child-marriage. In truth Indians had lost their self-respect. The British scorned them. The farmers and the artisans were the worst hit. Heavy taxes ruined the farmers. The British cut the thumbs of expert artisans. The British used every method to make maximum profits. The imports from England became tax-free.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1772-1833)

Ram Mohan Roy understood what was wrong with the country. He tried to reform the society. He taught people that the main precepts of all religions were the same. He 1757-1849 emphasised the practical use of knowledge. He went to England. There he reminded the British that rulers too had a duty towards their subjects. He started newspapers in India. The suspicious British stopped them in 1823.

Oppression (1765-1835)

In 1818, a resolution was passed. Under it an Indian could be jailed without trial in a court. The British officers drew large salaries. Besides, they made fortunes in business. By 1829, Britain was exporting goods

worth seven crore rupees to India. Even the British Governor General of India, Bentinck reported to England. "The bones of cotton weavers are bleaching the plains of India." Thus the British prospered on the ruins of Indian industry.