

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MANDI
SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

PROPOSAL FOR A NEW COURSE

Course Number	: HS 634
Course Name:	: British Factories in South India
Credits	: 3-0-0-3
Prerequisites	: Consent of the course instructor
Intended for	: PhD
Distribution	: Elective for HSS
Semester	: Odd/Even

Preamble: English factories or the settled commercial establishments of English merchants figure as key institutions in the histories of European interaction with different South Asian societies. This is particularly true to the historical accounts written for those regions which, since the latter half of nineteenth century, had been reorganized as belonging to the 'East Indian Colony' under Victorian England. Deltaic Bengal, Southern Coromandel, Northern Konkan and Saurashtra had provided standard cases for many historians to consider an English trading settlement or the factory a catalytic center of a structural change which *inter alia* integrated pre-capitalist South Asia with Europe. The proposed course seeks to engage with the rich and diverse literature concerning British factories in South India with diverse historiographical orientations. It intends to focus on a set of eighteenth century engagements, involved (or in some cases initiated) by the English factories of Southern India. These include various ventures of trading, political and military constitution and were competitively participated by a wide variety of native and fellow-European interests. Students will also be asked to reflect upon the near-contemporary accounts such as travelogues, East India Company's chronicles and private memoirs etc.

Course Outline: This course makes an in depth analysis of the history of British Factories in South India by focusing on the factories established at Surat, Bombay and Tellicherry on the west coast. The course will also explore the complex relationships between the Mughal state, states in peninsular India, mercantile communities, local lords, supply contractors and producers in order to understand the nature of the East India Company's initiatives in the region.

Course Modules

1. English Trade in South Western India since circa 1650

8 hours

1. Embassy, Trade, and Intra-European Conflict in Greater Mughal World
2. Mughal *farmans* and the Early English Trade
3. The Head Settlement: Surat Factory,
4. Portuguese Goa, Maratha Households and Surat Establishment

5. Pattern of English trade India at the end of the seventeenth century: The Company's posted agents and brokers.

2. The Bombay Establishment

9 hours

1. Genesis of Bombay
2. Settlement-Hierarchy in English Company Trade: Bombay and its 'Outlying Settlements'
3. Gambroon, Aden, Mokha: The Persian-Gulf Scenario
4. Rajapur, Carwar, Tellicherry and Anjengo: Southern Coasting Trade
5. Siddis, Angria and Nayakkas: Trade, Politics and Collaboration

3. Corporate and Private Trade, Interlopers and Pirates

8 hours

1. New and Old East India Companies
2. Rival Concerns: Courtier Association and Separate Stock.
3. The United Company.
4. Private Trade: Robert Cowan, Henry Lawther, John Brddyll, Robert Adams, John Willis and Alexander Orme.
5. English Piracy: Captain Kidd and Country Pirates

4. Life in the time of a Factory.

8 hours

1. Chief and His Council
2. Factors, Linguist and Coolies.
3. Factory and Country Life: Sundry Purchases, Regular Provisions and Military Stores.
4. Company Constabulary in Bombay, Company Dependents in Tellicherry
5. Rival Factories: Dutch in Surat and French in Tellicherry

5. English Factory and Native Population in Tellicherry

9 hours

1. Tellicherry Factory in Early eighteenth century: Tellicherry Consultations
2. Truth ordeals and Hunting Games
3. Country Princes and Rebels
4. Tellicherry Syndicate of Merchants
5. Political Loyalty and Company Raj: 'the end' of eighteenth century.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

(Selections from the following works)

Alexander, P C. 1946. *The Dutch in Malabar: Annamalainagar.*

Alterkar, A S. 1963. *The village communities of Western India:* Bombay.

Anderson, P. 1856. *The English in Western India:* London.

Arasaratnam, S. 1986. *Merchants, companies and commerce on the Coromandel coast 1650-1740:* Oxford

Auber, P. 1835. *Rise and progress of the British power in India,* (2 volumes): London.

Bartolomeo, Fra Paolino. 1800. *A voyage to East Indies,* London.

Bastin, J S. 1960. *The changing balance of the early south-east Asia Pepper trade:* Kuala Lumpur.

Bayly, C A. 1988. *The New Cambridge History of India, vol. II.1: Indian Society and the Making of the British Empire:* Cambridge.