

# History

By **Aditya Sir** For Class 8<sup>th</sup>

## Introduction: How, When and Where

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**ONESHOT**   


**Adi Bhaiya**



When any student asks Adi bhaiya 'Why do we study SST?'



-Adi Bhaiya

SST  
↳ WISE

# Topics To Be Covered

**1** How Important are Dates?

**2** Which dates?

event perspective  
6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup>

**3** How do we periodise?

Ancient Medieval

**4** What is colonial?

**5** How do We Know?

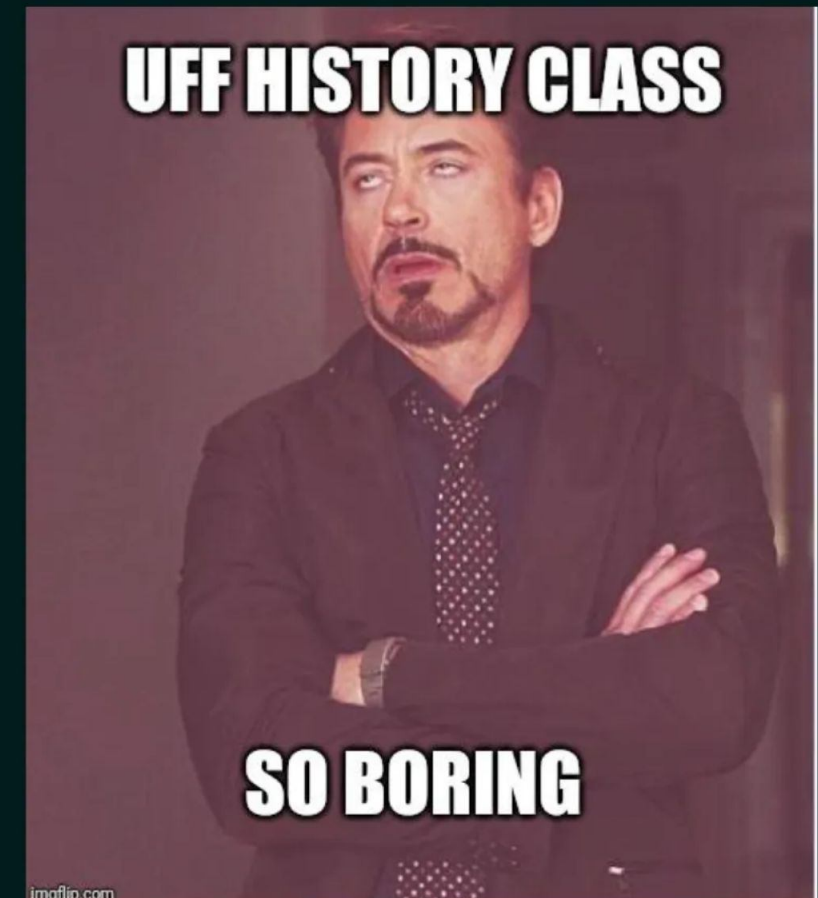
Modern





## How Important are Dates?

- Earlier, history was **synonymous** with dates.
- Previously, history was just about **battles and big events** such as:
  - *The year a king was crowned.*
  - *The year he was married and had a child.*
  - *The year he fought a particular war or battle.*
  - *The year he died.*
  - *The year the next ruler succeeded to the throne.*





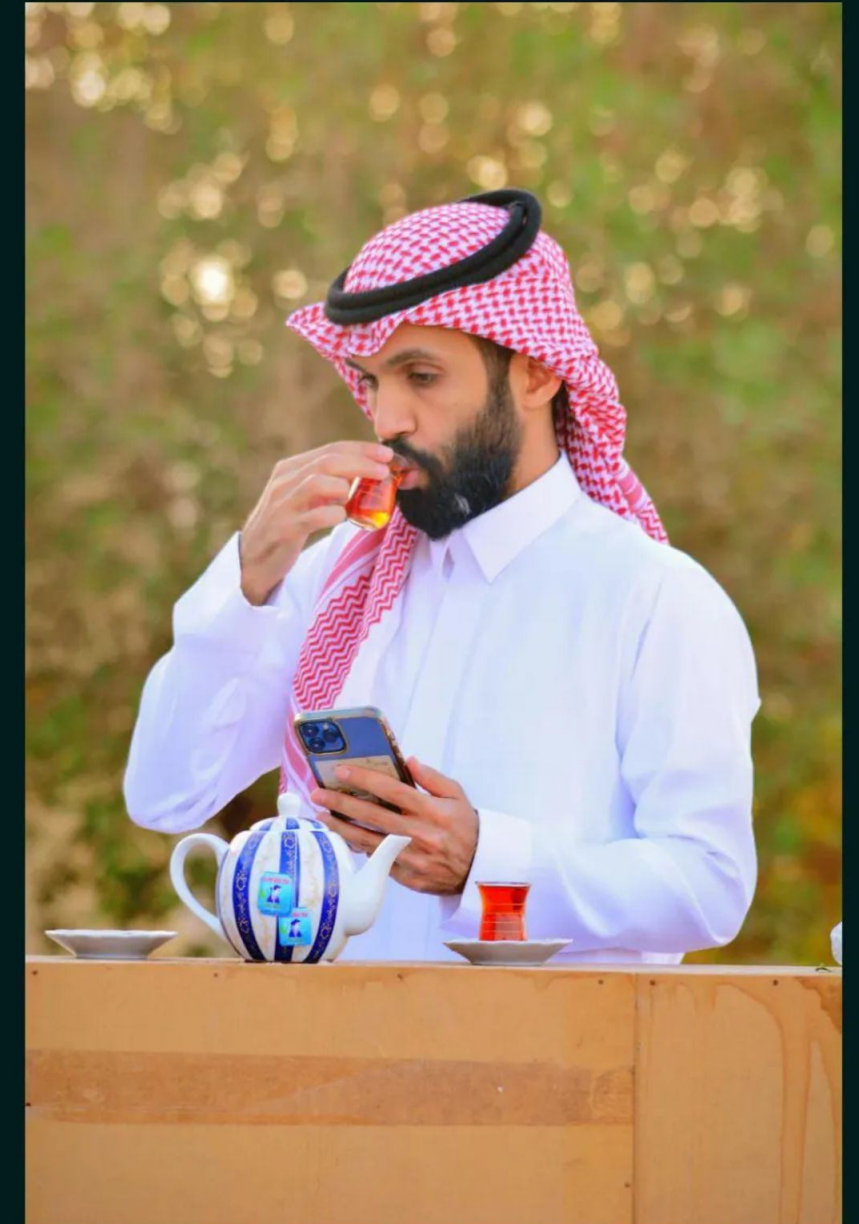
## How Important are Dates?



# BUT

NCERT

- History is about finding out how things were in the past and how things have changed.
- Now, historians look more towards why and how things happen and not on when things happened.





## Which dates?



- Dates become important in history only when **connected to key events or themes.**
- British historians **focused on** Governor-Generals and Viceroy, so their histories **only highlighted British actions and achievements.**
- When we **change our focus** to Indian perspectives, a new set of dates and events **become significant**, and we need a new way of writing history.

WARREN HASTINGS





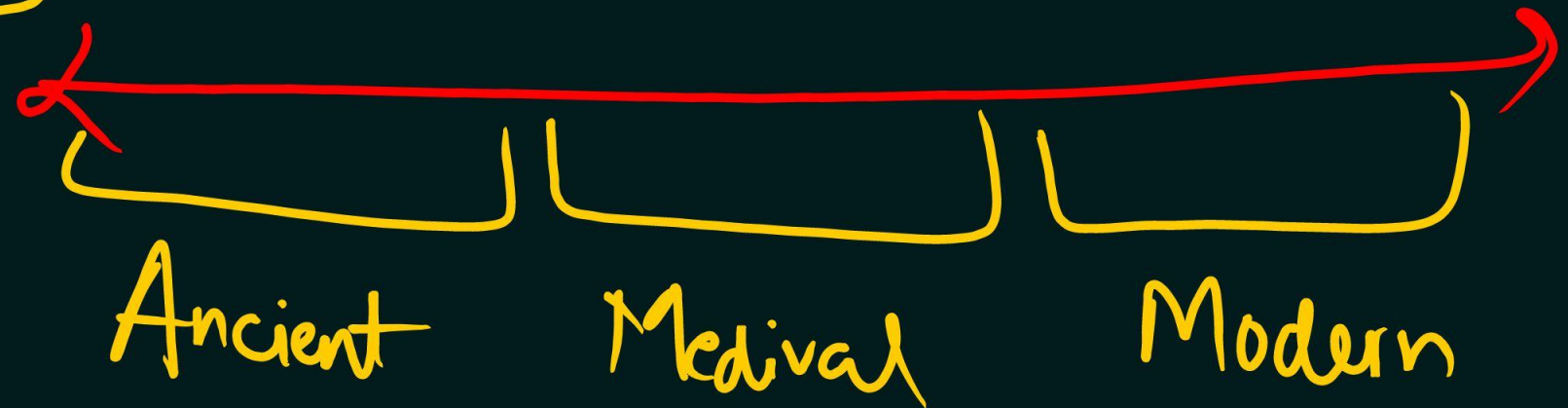
## How do we periodise?



- We divide history into different periods to focus on its central features.
- So the way we divide it becomes really important.
- As they reflect our ideas about Past.

Most important features.

Periodisation





# British classification of Indian History



- In 1817, James Mill, a Scottish economist and political philosopher, in his book 'A History of British India' **divided Indian history into three periods:**
  - Hindu 1
  - Muslim 2
  - British 3
- According to Mill, **all Asian societies were at a lower level of civilisation than Europe.**





## Another Classification of Indian history

- Historians have usually divided Indian history into **'ancient'**, **'medieval'** and **'modern'**.

**This division too has its problems !!**

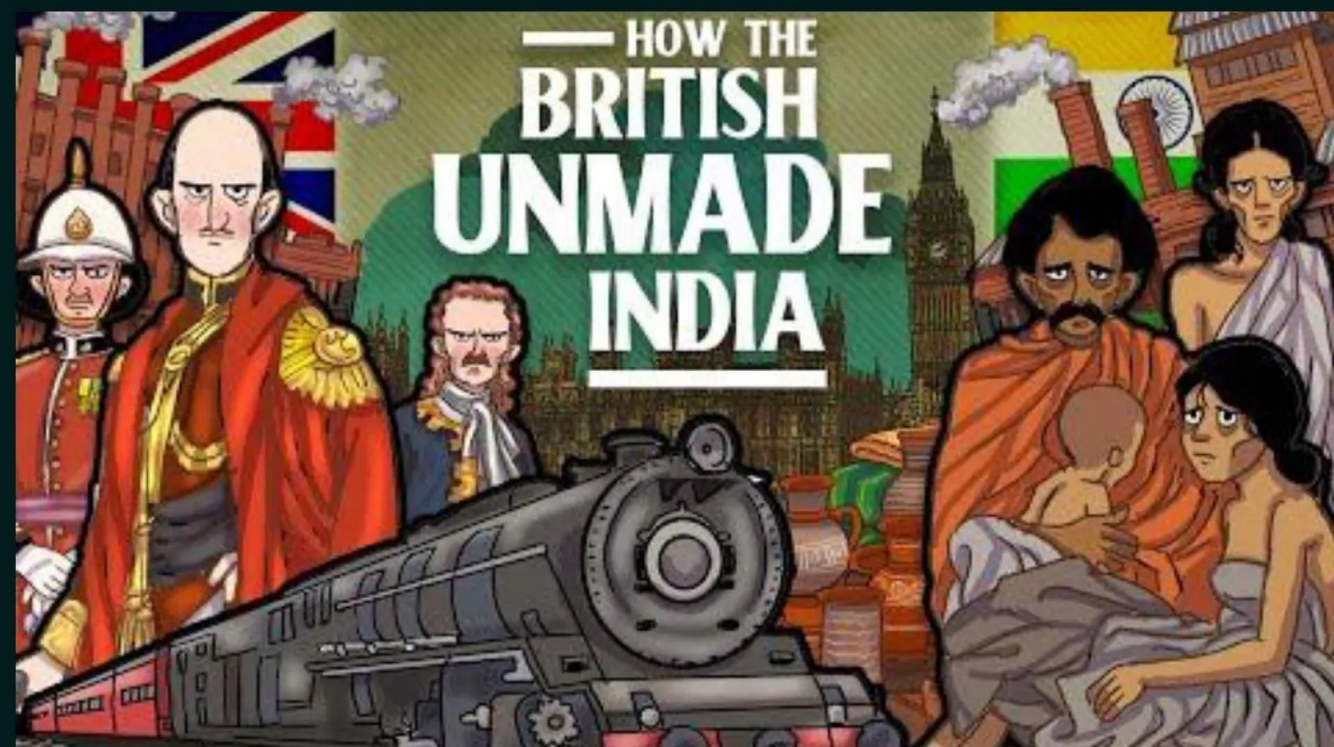
- Because this periodisation is borrowed from the West where the modern period was associated with the growth of all the forces of modernity – science, reason, democracy, liberty and equality.





## Another Classification of Indian history

- Many historians refers British rule period as '**colonial**' because in this rule:
  - People did not have **equality, freedom or liberty.**
  - **No economic growth** and progress took place.





# What is colonial?

- **Colonialism** = when one country conquer another.
- British came to conquer and control :
  - Defeated local rulers.
  - Took control of economy and society.
  - Collected taxes to fund their own rule.

I ♥ India  
Gore





# Impact of British Rule



- British rule changed:
  - **Economy** – Indians forced to grow export crops.
  - **Society** – customs and values altered.
  - **Culture** – British tastes and systems imposed.

Such wide-reaching changes define colonial rule.





How do We Know?



# "Sources of Modern Indian History"

Modern History

- To study the last 250 years, historians use:

① Official British records ✓

② Unofficial personal accounts ✓

③ Survey

- Together, they give a fuller picture of history. ✓



# British Administrative Records



- British documented everything:

- Instructions, plans, investigations, agreements.
- They believed writing was important for governance
- Built record rooms to preserve documents.

All official activities

everything in Writing





# Importance of Surveys



- British wanted to know the land to control it.
- Conducted extensive surveys:
  - Mapping, soil quality, local flora/fauna.
  - Revenue surveys in villages.
- From 1800s, regular Census every 10 years:
  - Recorded caste, religion, occupation, etc.
- Other surveys:
  - Botanical, zoological, forest, archaeological, anthropological.

Census

→ Counting Population

Survey

collect Data

(Key results)  
Insights



## What Official Records Don't Reveal

- These records show only the official viewpoint.
- Do not explain:
  - What people thought ?
  - How events affected common lives ?
  - Cannot reflect emotions, resistance, local changes. ?



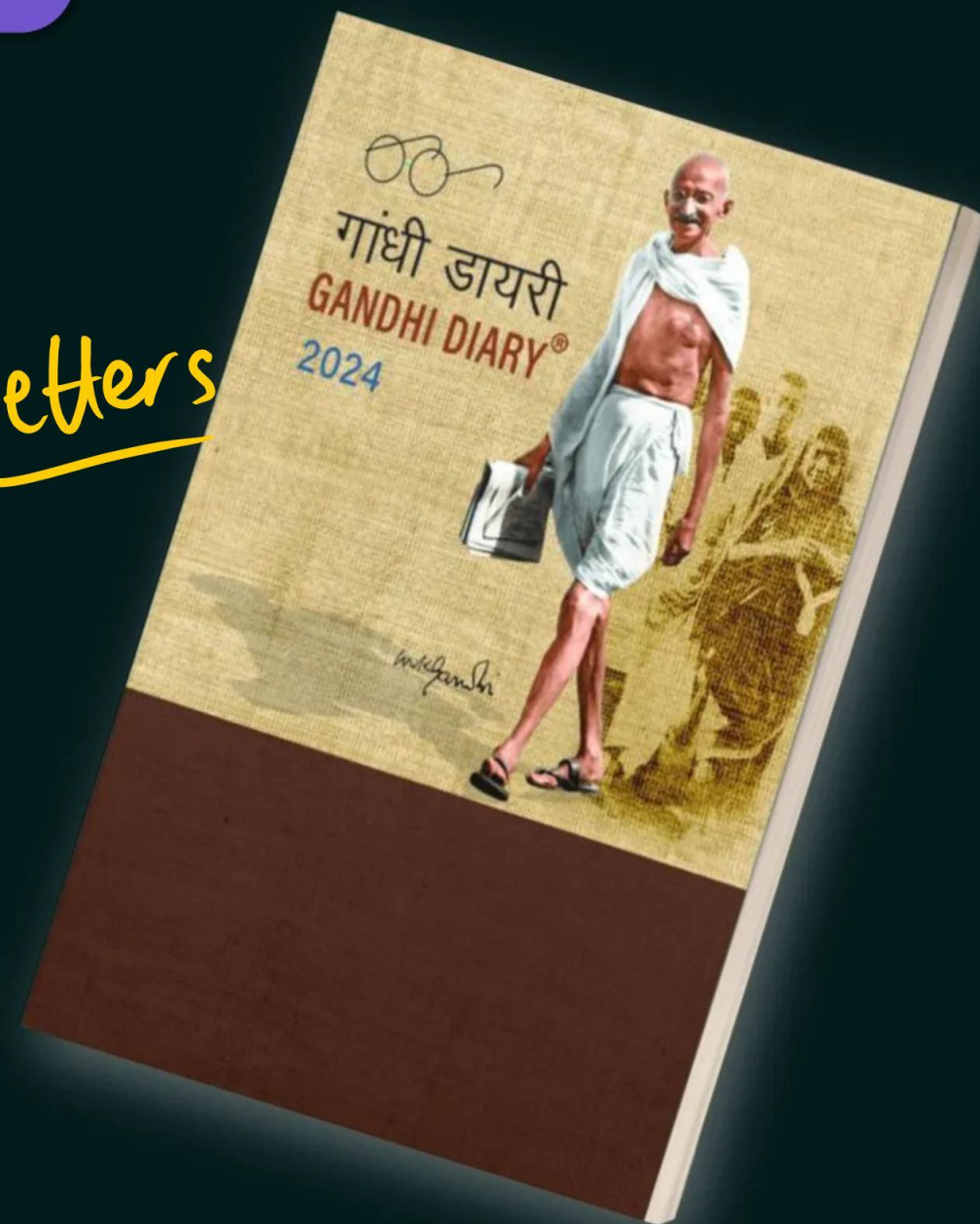


# Unofficial Records & Their Limits



- To understand people's experiences, historians use:
  - Diaries, travel accounts, autobiographies.
  - Local newspapers, poems, reformist writings.
- But these too have limitations:
  - Made only by the literate few.
  - Leave out tribals, peasants, workers, the urban poor.
- History must include voices from all sections of society.

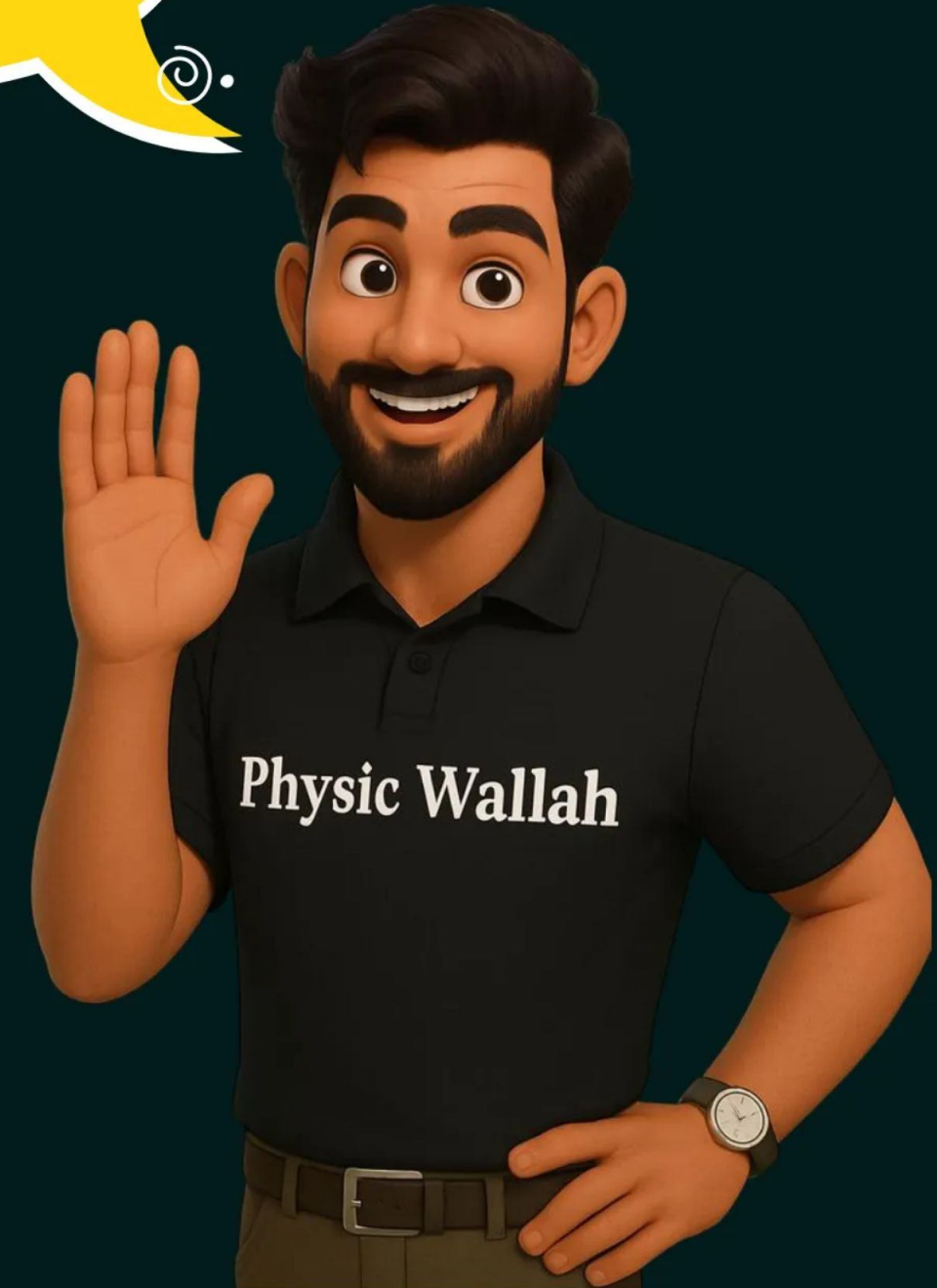
Letters





**Hi Fi!**

**Maza Aaaya?**



H.W (OP)

Q1. What were the problems with  
James Mill's Classification?

Q2. Why did Britishers used Surveys?

# Thank You!

**Phir  
Milenge** ❤️

