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The men who ruled India

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Abstract

In the present paper I reviewed a historical Book "The Men Who ruled India" written by Philip Mason and in this work I have focussed policies, programmes, tools and techniques which were accountable for the Legitimacy to British Raj in India. The Book is classical work which fill up lot of gaps in the history of British India. And covers many aspects of British bureaucracy in Indian Subcontinent. The author used ultimate wisdom and experience of a bureaucratic mind in This Book and provides a lot of data, information and Knowledge for a general reader as well as for any researcher mind. The book starts from the interaction between the Britishers and Moguls and give a clear sketch of all modus operandi of Britisher from trader to Ruler.

Keywords: Guardians, traders, ruler, agrarian polices, legitimacy

Introduction

Philip Mason was a British author and Civil Servant who worked as a Civil Servant from 1928 to 1947 in India. He also worked as an Under Secretary in the war department from 1933 to 1936. He was strongly influenced by Octave Mannani's use of The Tempest to illuminate the colonial situation. The author focused on Latin America pattern of dominance he also wrote the book 'The founder in 1953 ' and ' The Guardians' in 1954 and also he wrote the book The man who ruled in India in 1963 and he also wrote book ' the document about the institute of Race relations' He was a very serious Scholar and academic as well as Bureaucratic leader. The author provides great information, knowledge and wisdom about the British imperialism and the different patterns in Indian subcontinent and fills the various gaps for the general Reader as well as a researcher. The author also wrote a popular book the 'Indian Army a matter of honour.

About The Book

The book is a disclosure about Classical heritage of the British programme, policies, tools, technique and traits. The book focused a lot on the delivery of British bureaucrats in Indian Subcontinent. Actually the book is a detailed study about the character, psychology and sociology of English man who founded and developed India from 1600 to 1947 .The book is written through English point of view and in perspective of the moral bases of Imperialism in the Indian subcontinent. The book is basically about the British officials and their records of career and achievements, who spent a lot of time in India, dedicated himself for Britain and made a lot of strategies for the British civilian and British personal. The book provides the strength to the British administrator and weaknesses of the Indian men like Mir Qasim and his role as a traitor in the battle of Place. The book starts with the first landing of a ship in Surat in the reign of Jahangir and how they control Madras, Bombay, and Calcutta. The book focuses upon the life and strategies of the remarkable personalities who were playing a Landmark and proactive role for the establishment of East India Company and the Crown. Basically they were like Robert Clive who established East India Company in dynamic approach and then Warren Hastings came was responsible for self-rule and supported Oriental culture. Elphinston plus an effective role for the foundation of modern education in Indian subcontinent. Land revenue Reform by Lord Monroe and Lord Cornwallis establishment permanent settlement and play a permanent role for establishment of economy of Colonial power. The book believed that the British raj was a blessing and played a very important role for Indian subcontinent it provide a moral basis for the legitimacy of British raj in India the revolt of 1857 and the fashion of Revolt by the British administration the tool technique strategies adopted by military leadership provide the legitimacy as a Guardian for

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the future state to the British raj in India Role of Lord Canning as the great civilian and Lord Curgeon and his Remarkable Role in Delhi darbar. Lord Minto and his role as a beginner of self rule and the development of Panchayati Raj institutions in India. The author also explained the policies and programmes which created and generated the tragedy of the partition of India. The lacuna of this book is that the book is a completely silent About the policies, program and tool and techniques of Indian National Congress and active role India Nationalist leadership and Social and cultural reformist. All in all the book is a detailed appreciation and like a inauguration lecture for the the moral bases of British Raj in Indian subcontinent. The language is very simple, lucid, fruitful and thought provoking.

The main Arguement of The book

The main Arguement of this book Based upon that India were illiterate, unscientific inefficient and traditional as well as living in a closed and outdated society according to author. And Britisher came as a trader and create and generate opportunities, dominate social and cultural ethos and then dominated economy and control the power structures of India and power is master key which play important role to provide moral to immoral and immoral to moral. So the British bureaucrats provided a specific training of discrimination and inferiorities to Indians and established a moral and legal base and legitimacy to British Raj in Indian subcontinent. The book established the theoretical lineage of Anglo-Saxon traditions. This Book is different from writing Marxists historiography, nationalist historiography and Subaltern Historiography.

Analysis of Chapters

The Book starts from a detailed and digestible and knowledgeable introduction.

There are five chapters in the book in which there are four or five individual sub chapters and which provides lot of details about the from the East India Company to the Partition of India in detailed and informative and Analytical way.

- First chapter ' Under the Mughals (1600-1751) explain the initial struggle of the founders like Sir Thomas Roe, Captain Hawkins, Job charnock and Peter Mundi etc and their interactions with Mughals. The author explained the initial struggle of British personalities and their remarkable role and lifestyle and contribution in a very effective in a way to have a small beginning of East India Company and conundrum with French. The Surat, Revolution at Bombay and Madras also explain in very effective way .In the second chapte the story of how the merchant of East India Company became from trader to Ruler in a dynamic style.
- The second Chapter is "Trader to Ruler -1751 to 1798,the main argument is a how Britishers became traders to ruler and how they won the two battle like battle of Placey and Battle of the Buxsar, how they enter in the internal matters of Nawabs and brainwashed the Mir Jafar who played a role of traitor for Sirajudaula. Treaty of Allahabad, Role of Robert Clive, Wensitart, John Shore and Lord Cornwallis also explained in an effective way and explained intricacy about the British administration and Indian perspective.
- The third is very dynamic and very close to me and enjoyed the chapter. I read the chapter repetitively. The

chapter is 'The Golden Age (1798-1858) covered a long period of historical development of Colonialism. This chapter covered the vivid story of colonial and described the role of Munro and his experience with peasants settlement in effective way. The work of Malcolm in Central India and Elphinston and his interaction and conundrum with the Marathas. The established a of civil services in India and established of Fortune William college in Calcutta and Hailesbury college in London. George Thomason and his policies about the Northwest frontier also explained in this book in very informative way. So this chapter is really very dynamic in nature.

- The fourth chapter was about a new experience for the people of India. The name of the Chapter- 1858-1909.The chapter discribes the fifty years of British Raj as a guardians and caretaker of the people of India. The Guardian 1858 to 1909 was the first experience of the British government as a liberal conservative conservatism in which they successfully suppressed the mutiny and they became the guardian of the people of India they established the district officers for the diverse control of situations at Micro and and Macro level. The strategy for control the famine also discussed and specific polices for the frontier and specifically for the north west frontier also discussed. It also covered the case study of Burma as well as nor west frontier and the importance of Burma and North west frontier for the legitimacy of British Raj in India. The chapter showed the varied and rich bureaucratic experience of The author.
- The fifth chapter is also provide a lot of information and wisdom. The fifth chapter titles as "The demission of Power 1909-1947.In this chapter the lot of reforms and act like Marle Minto reform, Simon Commission and, Round table conferences and Govt of India act discussed in a diverse way and covered all aspects. The Role of Indian National Congress was discussed .This chapter is also a very wide and vast chapter and it shows the experience of the author is ignited the mind and his rich experience as a senior bureaucrats especially in the war department of the Britishers in India their strategic their tactics their sense of a record in the evidence and record the because Britishers was a very greater record keeper and they know very well how to convert information in to the product of colonialism.

Future scope of the book and who would benefit from the Book

This Book is not a tradition book but a paradigm shift in the field of academic history and it provides a many tools and techniques hoe to write history in a scientific way. This book not provided only social and political history but it discussed in detail about the bureaucratic reforms for the modernization of India. The book discussed about famines, initialization of public, health, sanitation, Hygein, waterworks, bridges, canal colonies roads, railways, military, police Administration, telegraph etc in a chronological way. So the book provides a lot of systematic Secondary information for a researcher. The book also provided a lot of notes and reference for further reading and analysis. The book can be used as a text book for undergraduates and post graduate students of any university

for the conceptual building.

Conclusion

So in conclusion after a carefully reading, analysis of the Book "The men who ruled India "We can say that the book a good piece of research and a chronological Survery from East India company to Partition of India. And the book that the history is the study of tripple Ps, like Personality, Period and places. The book provides a lot of Information about all all structural and function aspects of Tripple Ps. But many times the book provides a moments of sadness when some prejudices of Author reflect that the blessings of British empire style and the book ignored the spirit of Nationalism and Communalism in Indian subcontinent. So the book need more interpretation and moral explanation also.

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