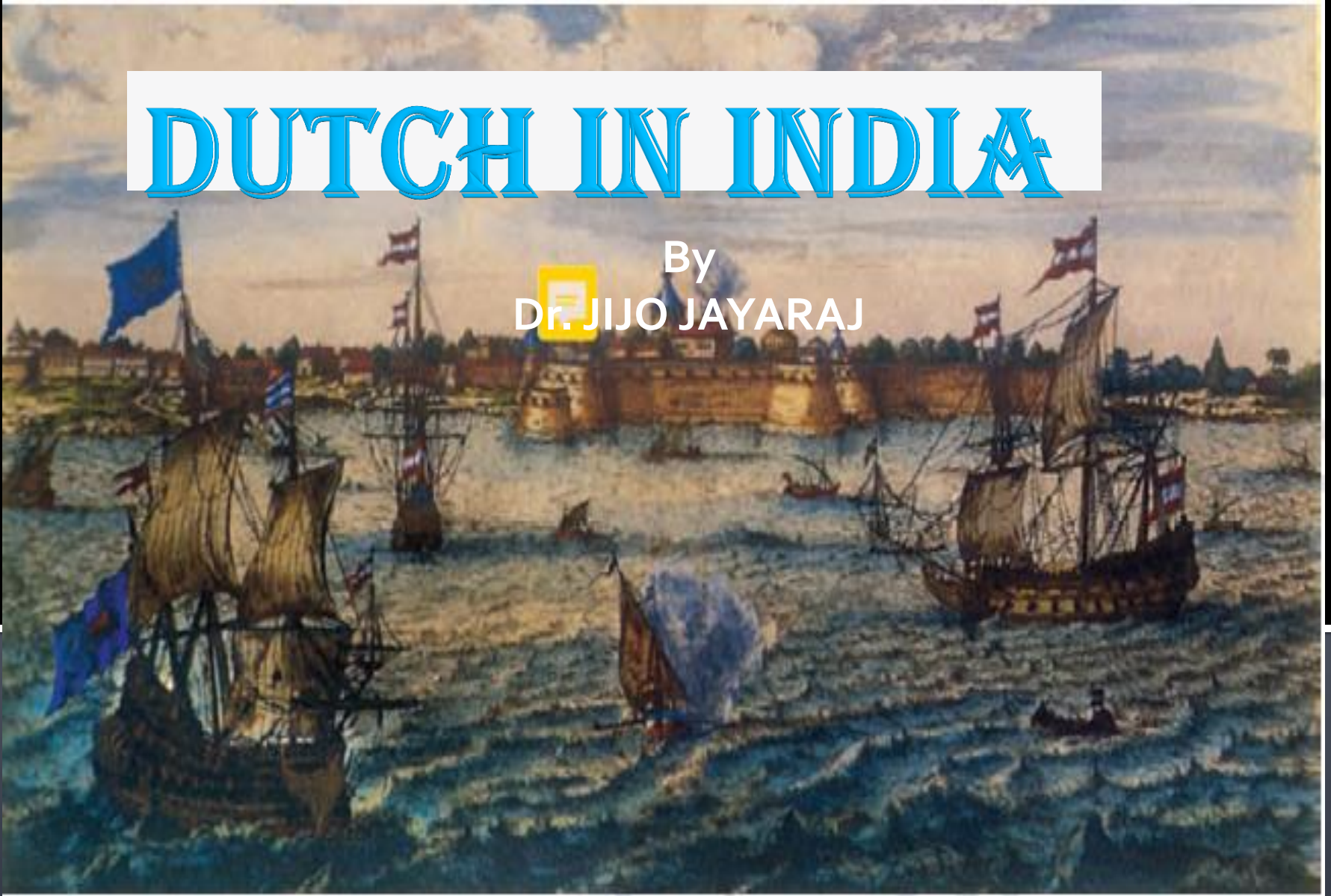


# DUTCH IN INDIA

By  
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# DUTCH

- The **Dutch** were another European force who reached India **following the Portuguese**.
- **Kochi and Kollam** were the chief **trade centres** of the Dutch.
- It was **Van Rhee**, a **Dutch Governor** who initiated the compilation of '**Hortus Malabaricus**', a book on the **medicinal plants of Kerala**. He completed the book with the help of **Itti Achuthan Vaidyar**.
- The Dutch fought with **Marthanda Varma**, the **King of Travancore** following the **disputes over trade**.
- The Dutch were **defeated** in the **Battle of Kolachel in 1741**. They lost their ground in India with this war.
- The Dutch were also called '**Lanthans**'.

# DUTCH

- Dutch East India Company (*Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie* or VOC in Dutch) is considered to be the **first multinational corporation** of the world.
- It was also the **first company to issue stock**.
- It was the **first company** that was given power to engage itself in colonial activities including **waging a war and execute the convicts, mint the coins and establish the colonies**.
- This company did wonders in **India and Indonesia** for 2 centuries but later the pompous **acronym** of VOC became *Vergaan Onder Corruptie* meaning “**marred by the Corruption**”.
- The Dutch East India Company was created in 1602 as “**United East India Company**” and its first **permanent trading post** was in **Indonesia**.

# DUTCH BEGINNING

- The main objective of the Dutch remained aggressive in **eliminating the Portuguese and British merchandise powers from India and South East Asia**, and they were successful in abandoning the Portuguese as most dominant power in the European Trade.
- When the established a factory in Pulicat, in 1610, it became their main center of activities. It was later known as **Fort Geldria.**
- While the Portuguese suffered because of the bad successors of Albuquerque and their severity and intolerance, the Dutch failed due to the rising English and French powers and their corruption.
- The Government of Netherlands also interfered a lot which ultimately caused the Dutch to get extinct from India.
- From 1638-1658, the Dutch were able to **expel the Portuguese from the Ceylon.**
- In **1641, they occupied Malacca.**
- In **1652, they were able to capture the Cape of Good Hope.**

# DUTCH BEGINNING

- Since the middle of the sixteenth century the Dutch had also been making sustained attempts to find out a route to India and the East.
- As early as in 1565 they had opened up by trade with Russia and begun to explore, through land, eastwards towards China.
- In 1593, under the famous William Barents, they made their first determined effort to reach Asia by the north-east passage.

# DUTCH EXPEDITION

- The first Dutch expedition which successfully reached the East Indies was that of Cornelius Houtman in 1596.
- He concluded a treaty with the ruler of Bantam in Java and opened up the Spice Archipelago to Holland.
- His voyage was mainly due to the impetus given to voyages of discovery and exploration by Huyghen van Linschoten who had come to Goa in 1583, lived there till 1589, and on his return to Holland published a book dealing with the sea-routes to the East.

# Huyghen van Linschoten

- Linschoten's book, published in 1596, produced a great sensation in **Western Europe** and was **translated into several languages**.
- He was, in fact, Holland's pioneer in the matter of the discovery of commercial possibilities in India and the East.
- The translation of his book into **English in 1598** might be said to have given a direct impetus to the foundation of the English East India Company.

# Ralph Fitch

- **Ralph Fitch**, an English traveller, who had reached India by the **Euphrates valley** and **Ormuz**, and had visited **Goa and Agra, Bengal, Burma and Malacca**, returned to England in 1591, with an **account of the magnificent possibilities of commerce in the East**.
- Fitch was to England what Linschoten was to Holland; and both succeeded in rousing the spirit of their respective nations.



# DUTCH- FACTORIES

- Masulipatam (1605),
- Pulicat (1610),
- Surat (1616),
- Bimilipatam (1641),
- Karikal (1645),
- Chinsura (1653),
- Kasimbazar,
- Baranagore,
- Patna,
- Balasore,
- Negapatam (all in 1658) and
- Cochin (1663).

# TRADING DEPOTS

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- Nagapatam in Madras,
- Cochin
- Surat,
- Cambay,
- Broach
- Western India.

# MORE TRADING POINTS

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- Ghinsura in Bengal,
- Agra in Uttar Pradesh and
- Patna in Bihar.

# COMMODITIES

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- Indigo
- Saltpetre
- Opium
- Raw Silk
- Cotton
- Cinnamon
- Pepper Etc.

# The Nature of the Dutch Trade

- The Dutch, on the one hand, **dislodged the Portuguese from India's maritime trade**, and on the other, they gave a new **direction and commodity structure to India's foreign trade**.
- The Dutch instead of the s Foes, greatly **promoted the export of textiles, which they considered more lucrative**.
- Gradually **the Indian textiles found wide acceptance** in far flung parts of the world.
- By the third quarter of the **17th century**, the **popularity of Indian textiles had become sufficiently established** as to extend their use to the luxury end of the market.
- The **number of cotton goods** sold in Amsterdam alone the Dutch Company during 1684-89 came to 1 12 million pieces.
- Other commodities exported by the Dutch were indigo, saltpetre and Bengal raw silk. The credit for making Indian textiles the premier export from India goes to the Dutch.

# The Nature of the Dutch Trade

- The **export of Indian textiles to Europe** made such a p impact that in England the whole trade with India was severely denounced thus:
- *"The English character was ruined; honest English looms were idle by reason of Indian silks and shawls".*
- **But the English o succeeded in ousting the Dutch from India's foreign trade**, succeeded in reversing this situation completely in their favour —rendering the over-worked Indian looms idle and the weavers unemployed.

# CLIMAX

- The climax of the Dutch East India Company was in 1669, when it was the richest private company of the world with 150 merchant ships, 40 warships and 50 thousand employees and an army of 10 thousand soldiers.
- In India, the most important event was the **Battle of Colachel** in 1741, which was fought between the Dutch East India Company and State of Travancore army.
- This was a major defeat of a European power in India and marked beginning of the end of the Dutch Influence.
- Following the corruption and bankruptcy, the Dutch East India Company was formally dissolved in 1800.
- The Dutch influence from India had finished long ago but they were **dominant in Indonesia**.
- The government of the Netherlands established the Dutch East Indies as a nationalized colony later which was more or less the within the boundaries of the modern Indonesia.

# CONCLUSION

- In March, 1602, by a charter of the Dutch parliament the Dutch East India Company was formed with powers to make wars, concluded treaties, acquire territories and build fortresses.
- In the 17th century, they supplanted the Portuguese as the most dominant power in European trade with the East, including India.
  - Pulicat was their centre in India till 1690, after which Negapatam replaced it.
  - In the middle of the 17th century (1654) the English began to emerge as a formidable colonial power.
  - After 60-70 years of rivalry with the English, the Dutch power in India began to decline by the beginning of the 18th century.
  - Their final collapse came with their defeat by the English in the battle of Bedera in 1759.
  - One by one the Dutch lost their settlement to the English and their expulsion from their possessions in India by the British came in 1795.