

## Chapter 1 : What were the Results of the third battle of Panipat War?

*The Third Battle of Panipat saw an enormous number of deaths and injuries in a single day of battle. It was the last major battle between indigenous South Asian military powers until the creation of Pakistan and India in*

The decline was accelerated by the invasion of India by Nadir Shah in 1739. Continued rebellions by the Marathas in the south, and the de facto separation of a number of states including Hyderabad and Bengal, weakened the state further. Mughals had thus become just the titular heads of Delhi. At the same time Punjab saw frequent invasions by Ahmad Shah Abdali, the great Punjabi poet Baba Waris Shah said of the situation, "khada peeta wahy da, baqi Ahmad Shahy da"--"we have nothing with us except what we eat and wear, all other things are for Ahmad Shah". Raghunathrao marched onwards, attacked and conquered Lahore and Peshawar and drove out Timur Shah Durrani. Lahore, Multan, Kashmir and other subahs on the south and eastern side of Peshawar were under the Maratha rule for the most part. In Punjab and Kashmir the Marathas were now major players. Maratha Empire The Marathas had gained control of a considerable part of India in the intervening period. This was the high-water mark of the Maratha expansion, where the boundaries of their empire extended in the north to the Indus and the Himalayas, and in the south nearly to the extremity of the peninsula. This territory was ruled through the Peshwa, who talked of placing his son Vishwasrao on the Mughal throne. In desperation they appealed to Ahmad Shah Abdali, the ruler of Afghanistan, to halt the threat. Vast numbers of elephants, flags of all descriptions, the finest horses, magnificently caparisoned. By the end of Abdali with his Afghan tribes and his Rohilla ally Najib Khan had reached Lahore as well as Delhi and defeated the smaller enemy garrisons. Ahmed Shah, at this point, withdrew his army to Anupshahr, on the frontier of the Rohilla country, where he successfully convinced the Nawab of Oudh Shuja-ud-Daula to join his alliance against the Marathas in spite of the Marathas time and again helping and showing sympathy towards Shuja-ud-daula. However, Shuja was very much ill-treated in the Abdali camp. Suraj Mal, the Jat ruler of Bharatpur, also had joined Bhausaheb but left midway. This combined army of over 50,000 regular troops captured the Mughal capital, Delhi, from an Afghan garrison in December 1757. Bhau ordered the sacking of the already depopulated city. The Jats did not support the Marathas. Their withdrawal from the ensuing battle was to play a crucial role in its result. With both sides poised for battle, there followed much maneuvering, with skirmishes between the two armies fought at Karnal and Kunjpura. Kunjpura, on the banks of the Yamuna River 60 miles to the north of Delhi, was stormed by the Marathas and the whole Afghan garrison was killed or enslaved. Ahmad Shah was encamped on the left bank of the Yamuna River, which was swollen by rains, and was powerless to aid the garrison. The massacre of the Kunjpura garrison, within sight of the Durrani camp, exasperated him to such an extent that he ordered crossing of the river at all costs. Taking a calculated risk, Abdali plunged into the river, followed by his bodyguards and troops. Between 23 and 25 October they were able to cross at Baghpat a small town about 24 miles up the river, as a man from the village, in exchange for money, showed Abdali a way through Yamuna, from where the river could be crossed, [11] unopposed by the Marathas who were still preoccupied with the sacking of Kunjpura. A fierce skirmish ensued, in which the Afghans lost men killed and wounded but drove the Marathas back to their main body, which kept retreating slowly for several days. This led to the partial encirclement of the Maratha army. They were surprised by an Afghan force near Meerut, and in the ensuing fight Bundele was killed. Initially the Marathas moved in almost pieces of modern long-range, French-made artillery. With a range of several kilometres, these guns were some of the best of the time. In one of these Najib lost 3,000 of his Rohillas and was very nearly killed but ran away. Facing a potential stalemate, Abdali decided to seek terms, which Bhau was willing to consider. However, Najib Khan delayed any chance of an agreement with an appeal on religious grounds and sowed doubt about whether the Marathas would honour any agreement. At that time Atai Khan Baluch, son of the Wazir of Abdali, came from Afghanistan with 10,000 cavalry and cut off the supplies to the Marathas. Abdali had also ordered Wazir Shaha Wali Khan Afridi and others to keep a watch in the thorny jungles surrounding Panipat. Thus, all supplies lines were cut. While Sadashivrao Bhau was still eager to make terms, a message was received from the Peshawa insisting on going to war and promising that reinforcements were under way. Unable to continue without supplies or wait

for reinforcements any longer, Bhau decided to break the siege. His plan was to pulverise the enemy formations with cannon fire and not to employ his cavalry until the Afghans were thoroughly softened up. With the Afghans broken, he would move camp in a defensive formation towards Delhi, where they were assured supplies. The left wing consisted of the gardis under Ibrahim Khan. Holkar and Sindhia were on the extreme right. The cavalry was instructed to wait behind the artillery and bayonet-wielding musketeers, ready to be thrown in when control of the battlefield had been fully established. Behind this line was another ring of 30, young Maratha soldiers who were not battle-tested, and then the roughly 30, civilians entrained. Behind the civilians was yet another protective infantry line, of young, inexperienced soldiers. Their left was being formed by Najib and their right by two brigades of Persian troops. Pasand Khan covered the left wing with 5, cavalry, Barkurdar Khan and Amir Beg covered the right with 3, Rohilla cavalry with the choicest Persian horses. Long-range musketeers were also present during the battle. In this order the army of Ahmed Shah moved forward, leaving him at his preferred post in the centre, which was now in the rear of the line, from where he could watch and direct the battle. Early phases Edit Before dawn on 14 January , the Maratha troops broke their fast with the last remaining grain in camp and prepared for combat, coming from their lines with turbans disheveled and turmeric-smearred faces. Seeing that the battle was on, Ahmad Shah positioned his 60 smooth-bore cannon and opened fire. However, because of the short range of the Afghan weapons and the static nature of the Maratha artillery, the Afghan cannons proved ineffectual. The initial attack was led by the Maratha left flank under Ibrahim Khan, who in his eagerness to prove his worth advanced his infantry in formation against the Rohillas and Shah Pasand Khan. Nevertheless, the first Afghan attack was broken by Maratha bowmen and pikemen, along with a unit of the famed Gardi musketeers stationed close to the artillery positions. The second and subsequent salvos were fired at point-blank range into the Afghan ranks. The resulting carnage sent the Rohillas reeling back to their lines, leaving the battlefield in the hands of Ibrahim for the next three hours, during which the 8, Gardi musketeers killed about 12, Rohillas. The sheer force of the attack nearly broke the Afghan lines, and soldiers started to desert their positions in the confusion. Desperately trying to rally his forces, Shah Wali appealed to Shuja ud Daulah for assistance. By noon it looked as though Bhau would clinch victory for the Marathas once again. The Afghan left flank still held its own, but the centre was cut in two and the right was almost destroyed. Ahmad Shah had watched the fortunes of the battle from his tent, guarded by the still unbroken forces on his left. He sent his bodyguards to call up his 15, reserve troops from his camp and arranged them as a column in front of his cavalry of musketeers Qizilbash and 2, swivel-mounted shutarnaals or Ushtranaalâ€™cannonsâ€™ on the backs of camels. The Maratha cavalry was unable to withstand the muskets and camel-mounted swivel cannons of the Afghans. They could be fired without the rider having to dismount and were especially effective against fast-moving cavalry. He therefore sent of his own bodyguards with orders to raise all able-bodied men out of camp and send them to the front. He sent 1, more to any those front-line troops who attempted to flee the battle and kill without mercy any soldier who would not return to the fight. These extra troops, along with 4, of his reserve troops, went to support the broken ranks of the Rohillas on the right. The remainder of the reserve, 10, strong, were sent to the aid of Shah Wali, still labouring unequally against the Bhao in the centre of the field. These mailed warriors were to charge with the Vizir in close order and at full gallop. Whenever they charged the enemy in front, the chief of the staff and Najib were directed to fall upon either flank. With their own men in the firing line, the Maratha artillery could not respond to the shathurnals and the cavalry charge. Some 7, Maratha cavalry and infantry were killed before the hand-to-hand fighting began at around Outflanked Edit Sadashivrao Bhau , seeing his forward lines dwindling and civilians behind, had not kept any reserves, and upon seeing Vishwasrao disappear in the midst of the fighting, he felt he had no choice but to come down from his elephant and lead the battle. The slaves deliberately spread rumours about the defeat of the Marathas. This brought confusion and great consternation to loyal Maratha soldiers, who thought that the enemy had attacked from their rear. Some Maratha troops, seeing that their general had disappeared from his elephant, panicked and began to flee. Abdali had given a part of his army the task of surrounding and killing the Gardis under Ibrahim Khan Gardi , who were at the leftmost part of the Maratha army. Bhausaheb had ordered Vitthal Vinchurkar with cavalry and Damaji Gaikwad with cavalry to protect the Gardis. However, after seeing the

Gardis fight, they lost their patience, became overenthusiastic and decided to fight the Rohillas themselves. This gave the Rohillas the opportunity to encircle the Gardis and outflank the Maratha centre while Shah Wali pressed on attacking the front. Thus the Gardis were left defenceless and started falling one by one. Bhau and his loyal bodyguards fought to the end, the Maratha leader having three horses shot out from under him. At this stage Holkar, realising the battle was lost, broke from the Maratha left flank and retreated. While 15,000 soldiers managed to reach Gwalior, the rest of the Maratha forces—“including large numbers of non-combatants”—were either killed or captured. The Maratha front lines remained largely intact, with some of their artillery units fighting until sunset. Choosing not to launch a night attack, many Maratha troops escaped that night. Reasons for the outcome Edit Durrani had both numeric as well as qualitative superiority over Marathas. The combined Muslim army was much larger than that of Marathas. Though the infantry of Marathas was organized along European lines and their army had some of the best French-made guns of the time, their artillery was static and lacked mobility against the fast-moving Afghan forces. The heavy mounted artillery of Afghans proved much better in the battlefield than the light artillery of Marathas. They were expecting support from their allies- Rajputs , Jats and Sikhs, but none of them supported Marathas in the battle. The Marathas had interfered in the internal affairs of the Rajput states present-day Rajasthan and levied heavy taxes and huge fines on them. They had also made large territorial and monetary claims upon Awadh. Their raids in the Jat territory had resulted in the loss of trust of Jat chiefs like Suraj Mal. They had, therefore, to fight their enemies alone. Marathas treated Sikhs, who assisted them in their north-west conquest as a non-entity in Punjab affairs. According to an assessment, the Sikhs were ever ready to co-operate with the Marathas, but it goes to the discredit of the Marathas that they did not make a proper confederacy with Sikhs. Each had ambitions of carving out their independent states and had no interest in fighting against a common enemy.

### Chapter 2 : Indian History: The Third Battle of Panipat (Featured)

*The Third Battle of Panipat took place on 14 January , at Panipat, about 60 miles ( km) north of Delhi between a northern expeditionary force of the Maratha Empire and a coalition of the King of Afghanistan, Ahmad Shah Durrani with two Indian Muslim allies—the Rohilla Afghans of the Doab, and Shuja-ud-Daula, the Nawab of Oudh.*

What were the Results of the third battle of Panipat War? The third battle of Panipat has a special place in Indian history. This battle changed the destiny of India. The historians have different views regarding this battle. According to Sar Desai, "though the power of Marathas was lost yet neither Maratha power had been destroyed nor they had changed their ambition of getting whole country. Sarkar had the view, "Marathas were badly defeated in the battle of Panipat. The good leaders of Marathas were killed and the weak leaders like Raghunathrao came into politics. Marathas took time; to be normal and taking advantage of this opportunity the English took Bengal and Mysore from Haider Ali. So it is considered that though the power of Marathas was not finished by the battle, yet it had been certainly weakened. According to Elphinstone, Maratha organisation, was broken due to end of a common terror. The invaders returned after conquering and did not interfere again in matters of India. However, In spite of differences in views, we shall know the situations under these heads:

**Loss of Marathas in a Big Number:** In this battle a big number of Marathas was killed. It would not be exaggeration to say that a generation of Maratha caste ended in this battle. Sarkar wrote, "The crisis fell on whole Maratha empire in this battle and there was not a single house in Maharashtra where was not mourned on the death of a person or head. After the defeat of third battle of Panipat, Marathas lost their sovereignty in Panipat, Doab etc. Before this battle these states sometimes came under sovereignty of Muslims but after this battle Marathas gradually lost their control in North India.

**Deterioration in Power of Peshwa:** The result of this battle was that the power of Peshwa had a big loss, and their power was greatly deteriorated.

**End of Dream of Hindu Empire:** This battle ended the power of Marathas and Hindus by which the dream of Hindu Empire was forgot for a long time from India.

**End of Maratha Co-operative Commission:** In this battle Marathas had a big loss so Maratha co-operation commission ended. After this Maratha Sardars began to quarrel among themselves and the Maratha power completely ended. The destruction done in battle of Panipat broken the dream of establishing Maratha-Sovereignty.

**Moral Fall of Maratha:** Other kings were eager to ally Marathas. But after the defeat in the battle of Panipat, their prestige was lost and their military moral was minimized.

**Fall of Mughal Empire:** Mughal Empire fell by this battle Mughal emperors were only for name, everywhere free rule was established.

**Rise of the English:** Due to internal dispute and anarchy in India, the English had established their influence. Consequently, the foundation of English rule was firmed. This ended the political struggle of Hindu-Muslim and founded an empire which became unbearable for both, the Hindu and the Muslim. Thus, it was proved that old system changes and victory and ferocity should walk together otherwise the result would be the same as happened.

**Chapter 3 : Third Battle of Panipat**

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Sidoji Gharage Strength 42, cavalry, 38, infantry in addition to 10, reserves, 4, personal guards and 5, Qizilbash , " pieces of cannon as well as large numbers of irregulars. Thus, totally an army of , The force was accompanied by , non-combatants pilgrims and camp-followers. Thus, totally an army of 70, Casualties and losses Estimates between 20, combatants killed. Another 40,, non-combatants massacred following the battle. Najib-ud-Daula continued to hold this position and more until his death in the year Ahmad Shah Durrani enjoyed the blessings of Muslim theologians and Imams , who would never allow the Maratha to ever control the Mughal court. Also note that "made efforts to support" is not equivalent to "was a commander". From the link "Ghazi-ud-din had put Alamgir II to death in , replacing him with a puppet, but after the battle of Panipat, Ahmad Shah nominated a son of Alamgir II as emperor, with the title of Shah Alam " I ask the author of those references to provide more information such as publishers or dates, or where new copies could be available. I have a major issue with plagiarism concerning this article. On the page [1] the editor writes: Ahmad Shah was encamped on the left bank of the Jamuna River, which was swollen by rains. The massacre of the Kanjpura garrison, within the sight of the Durrani camp, exasperated him to such an extent that he ordered crossing of the river at all costs. In the wikipedia article the text is: In Kunjapura on the banks of the Yamuna River, sixty miles to the north of Delhi, was next stormed by the Marathas and the whole Afghan garrison was killed or enslaved Also see Syed Altaf Ali Brelvi, Life of Hafiz Rahmat Khan p Ahmad Shah encamped on the left bank of the Yamuna River, which was swollen by rains was powerless to aid the garrison. They do need rewording though. The second question is, what is the correct name of the river.? My other main problem is the fact that these references are being quoted through a third person; he said, that he said that he said: The information in the article needs to be properly sourced and cited. Maybe well researched at that but can it be quoted as a reference for an important article like this? Vishwas Patil is an established author. Agreed that the book is a novel. But, the events mentioned in this novel are nothing but facts. The book may be categorized as a novel because it may describe the thought processes, feelings, aspirations, dreams etc. This book is completely based on facts and is backed up by concrete proofs. According to me, the sole purpose of such a book being written as a novel is that people should read it, they should develop interest towards it. Otherwise how different is it going to be from our history text books? Patil himself has said that he has taken some "creative liberties" to write the book. I was present in the audience when he said it. It means he has "manipulated" to some extent. Kindly sign your name on talk and vote pages using four tildes, like this: As i have stated in my edit summaries wikipedia is not a place for original research. All additions need to be sourced and verifiable if they are to remain. They also need to be written from a neutral point of view. The additions, in my opinion, did not meet these policies. The text had a heavy bias towards one side and was unsourced. If you have the sources I would be happy to help you add them in and add the appropriate referenced text. Please try and discuss this before re-adding the text to the article. Can anyone check this? What were they visiting? How were they being provisioned? What were they doing on a field of battle? You could only be so credulous. An English map is required. Anyone can change the current one or get a new one? I will try and improve the article, it needs to be shrunk down and cleaned up reference wise. Someone please tell us if its pov, imaginary I would recommend that you both read WP: BRD " if an article is edited and that edit is reverted, it is time to discuss it on the talk page, not continually edit the article, arguing in edit summaries. Ultimately, there are more important things for all editors here to be focused on. There are parts of the article that require sourcing and apparently some of it might be a WP: Look at the Featured Article review , there are some hefty criticisms and they should be addressed as a priority. Concentrate on the quality of the article. Discuss controversial edits on the talk page to reach a consensus. Good luck, Bigger digger talk The Third battle of Panipat 13 January Please discuss the reasoning behind your positions here and come to a consensus. What are the reasons for removing it? Nishkid64 Make articles, not wikidrama Save the picture on

your computer. See the left margin of the picture Hindus and especially Marathas will find this seriously offensive I do not know how many people have noticed this. I noticed this a few years ago when a copy of this painting was displayed in India and immediately taken off. Though this is a work of art Is the reasoning good enough? This is a free civilized?? Thanks -- Shantanu talk Some articles may include images that some people may find objectionable when they are relevant to the content. It is a painting from the period and offers an artistic depiction of the battle, the best we are going to get, and therefore it should be re-instated in the article. Please see a similar discussion at Talk: Regards, Woody talk The debate on "what is objectionable" varies from culture to culture and civilization to civilization. This will always remain a point of contention. Ravishing women, decapitating people and destroying human lives en-masse was always a been used as a tactic for oppression, terror and establishing power by cultures alien to India be it Hitler, Tamerlane, Chengiz Khan or Atilla and in this case Ahmed Shah Durrani. The graphic depiction of such incidents [which are a fact] would only lead to a further irritations. Ahmed Shah Durrani is hated and despised in India. Pakistan has named one of their missiles weapons Abdali. Now India is not what it used to be 20 years ago. We are in a position of strength say with respect to countries which have Tamerlane, Abdali etc as icons. Nett nett though logical Please feel free to re-install the picture for I will not I am sure you will not fully understand how the feeling is.

**Chapter 4 : Third Battle of Panipat | Revolv**

*The first battle of Panipat saw emergence of the Mughals, mightiest power in Indian History. According to legends it was the oldest Indian battles to have used gunpowder firearms and field artillery.*

Extent of the Maratha Empire , shown here in orange. The Mughal Empire had been in decline since the death of the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb in due to rise of Marathas. The decline was accelerated by the invasion of India by Nader Shah in during the rule of Muhammad Shah who ruled from Continued rebellions by the Marathas in the south, and the de facto separation of a number of states including Hyderabad and Bengal , weakened the state further. Mughals had thus become just the titular heads of Delhi. At the same time Punjab saw frequent invasions by Ahmad Shah Abdali, the great Punjabi poet Baba Waris Shah said of the situation, "khada peeta wahy da, baqi Ahmad Shahy da"--"we have nothing with us except what we eat and wear, all other things are for Ahmad Shah ". Raghunathrao marched onwards, attacked and conquered Lahore and Peshawar and drove out Timur Shah Durrani. Lahore , Multan , Kashmir and other subahs on the south and eastern side of Peshawar were under the Maratha rule for the most part. In Punjab and Kashmir the Marathas were now major players. Maratha Empire The Marathas had gained control of a considerable part of India in the intervening period " This was the high-water mark of the Maratha expansion, where the boundaries of their empire extended in the north to the Indus and the Himalayas, and in the south nearly to the extremity of the peninsula. This territory was ruled through the Peshwa , who talked of placing his son Vishwasrao on the Mughal throne. In desperation they appealed to Ahmad Shah Abdali, the ruler of Afghanistan, to halt the threat. Vast numbers of elephants, flags of all descriptions, the finest horses, magnificently caparisoned By the end of Abdali with his Afghan tribes and his Rohilla ally Najib Khan had reached Lahore as well as Delhi and defeated the smaller enemy garrisons. Ahmed Shah, at this point, withdrew his army to Anupshahr, on the frontier of the Rohilla country, where he successfully convinced the Nawab of Oudh Shuja-ud-Daula to join his alliance against the Marathas" in spite of the Marathas time and again helping and showing sympathy towards Shuja-ud-daula. However, Shuja was very much ill-treated in the Abdali camp. Suraj Mal , the Jat ruler of Bharatpur, also had joined Bhausahab but left midway. This combined army of over , regular troops captured the Mughal capital, Delhi, from an Afghan garrison in December Bhau ordered the sacking of the already depopulated city. The Jats did not support the Marathas. Their withdrawal from the ensuing battle was to play a crucial role in its result. Initial skirmishes Sadashivrao Bhau Ahmad Shah Durrani With both sides poised for battle, there followed much maneuvering, with skirmishes between the two armies fought at Karnal and Kunjpura. Kunjpura , on the banks of the Yamuna River 60 miles to the north of Delhi, was stormed by the Marathas and the whole Afghan garrison was killed or enslaved. Ahmad Shah was encamped on the left bank of the Yamuna River, which was swollen by rains, and was powerless to aid the garrison. The massacre of the Kunjpura garrison, within sight of the Durrani camp, exasperated him to such an extent that he ordered crossing of the river at all costs. Taking a calculated risk, Abdali plunged into the river, followed by his bodyguards and troops. Between 23 and 25 October they were able to cross at Baghpat a small town about 24 miles up the river , as a man from the village, in exchange for money, showed Abdali a way through Yamuna, from where the river could be crossed, [13] unopposed by the Marathas who were still preoccupied with the sacking of Kunjpura. A fierce skirmish ensued, in which the Afghans lost men killed and wounded but drove the Marathas back to their main body, which kept retreating slowly for several days. This led to the partial encirclement of the Maratha army. They were surprised by an Afghan force near Meerut, and in the ensuing fight Bundele was killed. Initially the Marathas moved in almost pieces of modern long-range, French-made artillery. With a range of several kilometres, these guns were some of the best of the time. In one of these Najib lost 3, of his Rohillas and was very nearly killed but ran away. Facing a potential stalemate, Abdali decided to seek terms, which Bhau was willing to consider. However, Najib Khan delayed any chance of an agreement with an appeal on religious grounds and sowed doubt about whether the Marathas would honour any agreement. At that time Atai Khan Baluch, son of the Wazir of Abdali, came from Afghanistan with 10, cavalry and cut off the supplies to the Marathas. Abdali had also ordered Wazir Shaha Wali Khan Afridi and

others to keep a watch in the thorny jungles surrounding Panipat. Thus, all supplies lines were cut. While Sadashivrao Bhau was still eager to make terms, a message was received from the Peshawa insisting on going to war and promising that reinforcements were under way. Unable to continue without supplies or wait for reinforcements any longer, Bhau decided to break the siege. His plan was to pulverise the enemy formations with cannon fire and not to employ his cavalry until the Afghans were thoroughly softened up. With the Afghans broken, he would move camp in a defensive formation towards Delhi, where they were assured supplies. Afghan royal soldiers of the Durrani Empire. Formations The Maratha lines began a little to the north of Kala Amb. The left wing consisted of the gardis under Ibrahim Khan. Holkar and Sindhia were on the extreme right. The cavalry was instructed to wait behind the artillery and bayonet-wielding musketeers, ready to be thrown in when control of the battlefield had been fully established. Behind this line was another ring of 30, young Maratha soldiers who were not battle-tested, and then the roughly 30, civilians entrained. Behind the civilians was yet another protective infantry line, of young, inexperienced soldiers. Their left was being formed by Najib and their right by two brigades of troops. Pasand Khan covered the left wing with 5, cavalry, Barkurdar Khan and Amir Beg covered the right with 3, Rohilla cavalry. In this order the army of Ahmed Shah moved forward, leaving him at his preferred post in the centre, which was now in the rear of the line, from where he could watch and direct the battle. Seeing that the battle was on, Ahmad Shah positioned his 60 smooth-bore cannon and opened fire. However, because of the short range of the Afghan weapons and the static nature of the Maratha artillery, the Afghan cannons proved ineffectual. The initial attack was led by the Maratha left flank under Ibrahim Khan, who in his eagerness to prove his worth advanced his infantry in formation against the Rohillas and Shah Pasand Khan. Nevertheless, the first Afghan attack was broken by Maratha bowmen and pikemen, along with a unit of the famed Gardi musketeers stationed close to the artillery positions. The second and subsequent salvos were fired at point-blank range into the Afghan ranks. The resulting carnage sent the Rohillas reeling back to their lines, leaving the battlefield in the hands of Ibrahim for the next three hours, during which the 8, Gardi musketeers killed about 12, Rohillas. The sheer force of the attack nearly broke the Afghan lines, and soldiers started to desert their positions in the confusion. Desperately trying to rally his forces, Shah Wali appealed to Shuja ud Daulah for assistance. Final phase In the final phase the Marathas, under Scindia, attacked Najib. By noon it looked as though Bhau would clinch victory for the Marathas once again. The Afghan left flank still held its own, but the centre was cut in two and the right was almost destroyed. Ahmad Shah had watched the fortunes of the battle from his tent, guarded by the still unbroken forces on his left. He sent his bodyguards to call up his 15, reserve troops from his camp and arranged them as a column in front of his cavalry of musketeers Qizilbash and 2, swivel-mounted shutarnaals or Ushtranaalâ€™cannonsâ€™ on the backs of camels. The Maratha cavalry was unable to withstand the muskets and camel-mounted swivel cannons of the Afghans. They could be fired without the rider having to dismount and were especially effective against fast-moving cavalry. He therefore sent of his own bodyguards with orders to raise all able-bodied men out of camp and send them to the front. He sent 1, more to any those front-line troops who attempted to flee the battle and kill without mercy any soldier who would not return to the fight. These extra troops, along with 4, of his reserve troops, went to support the broken ranks of the Rohillas on the right. The remainder of the reserve, 10, strong, were sent to the aid of Shah Wali, still labouring unequally against the Bhao in the centre of the field. These mailed warriors were to charge with the Vizir in close order and at full gallop. Whenever they charged the enemy in front, the chief of the staff and Najib were directed to fall upon either flank. With their own men in the firing line, the Maratha artillery could not respond to the shathurnals and the cavalry charge. Some 7, Maratha cavalry and infantry were killed before the hand-to-hand fighting began at around Outflanked Sadashivrao Bhau , seeing his forward lines dwindling and civilians behind, had not kept any reserves, and upon seeing Vishwasrao disappear in the midst of the fighting, he felt he had no choice but to come down from his elephant and lead the battle. The slaves deliberately spread rumours about the defeat of the Marathas. This brought confusion and great consternation to loyal Maratha soldiers, who thought that the enemy had attacked from their rear. Some Maratha troops, seeing that their general had disappeared from his elephant, panicked and began to flee. Abdali had given a part of his army the task of surrounding and killing the Gardis under Ibrahim Khan Gardi , who were at the

leftmost part of the Maratha army. Bhausaheb had ordered Vitthal Vinchurkar with cavalry and Damaji Gaikwad with cavalry to protect the Gardis. However, after seeing the Gardis fight, they lost their patience, became overenthusiastic and decided to fight the Rohillas themselves. This gave the Rohillas the opportunity to encircle the Gardis and outflank the Maratha centre while Shah Wali pressed on attacking the front. Thus the Gardis were left defenceless and started falling one by one. Bhau and his loyal bodyguards fought to the end, the Maratha leader having three horses shot out from under him. At this stage Holkar, realising the battle was lost, broke from the Maratha left flank and retreated. While 15,000 soldiers managed to reach Gwalior, the rest of the Maratha forces—“including large numbers of non-combatants”—were either killed or captured. The Maratha front lines remained largely intact, with some of their artillery units fighting until sunset. Choosing not to launch a night attack, many Maratha troops escaped that night. Reasons for the outcome Durrani had both numeric as well as qualitative superiority over Marathas. The combined Afghan army was much larger than that of Marathas. Though the infantry of Marathas was organized along European lines and their army had some of the best French-made guns of the time, their artillery was static and lacked mobility against the fast-moving Afghan forces. The heavy mounted artillery of Afghans proved much better in the battlefield than the light artillery of Marathas. They were expecting support from their allies—Rajputs, Jats and Sikhs—but none of them supported Marathas in the battle. The Marathas had interfered in the internal affairs of the Rajput states present-day Rajasthan and levied heavy taxes and huge fines on them. They had also made large territorial and monetary claims upon Awadh. Their raids in the Jat territory had resulted in the loss of trust of Jat chiefs like Suraj Mal. They had, therefore, to fight their enemies alone.

*Third battle of Panipat has great significance in the history of south-Asia, this battle occurred in the mid of 18 th century. This battle was a colossal defeat for the Marathas which is unprecedented in Indian history.*

Militarily, the battle pitted the artillery and cavalry of the Marathas against the heavy cavalry and mounted artillery zamburak and jezail of the Afghans and Rohillas led by Abdali and Najib-ud-Daulah , both ethnic Afghans. The battle is considered one of the largest and most eventful fought in the 18th century,[9] and has perhaps the largest number of fatalities in a single day reported in a classic formation battle between two armies. The specific site of the battle itself is disputed by historians, but most consider it to have occurred somewhere near modern-day Kaalaa Aamb and Sanauli Road. The battle lasted for several days and involved over , troops. Protracted skirmishes occurred, with losses and gains on both sides. The forces led by Ahmad Shah Durrani came out victorious after destroying several Maratha flanks. The extent of the losses on both sides is heavily disputed by historians, but it is believed that between 60,â€™70, were killed in fighting, while the numbers of injured and prisoners taken vary considerably. Shejwalkar, whose monograph Panipat is often regarded as the single best secondary source on the battle, says that "not less than , Marathas soldiers and non-combatants perished during and after the battle. This period is marked by the rule of Peshwa Madhavrao , who is credited with the revival of Maratha domination following the defeat at Panipat. In ,ten years after Panipat, he sent a large Maratha army into northern India in an expedition that was meant to re-establish Maratha domination in that area and punish refractory powers that had either sided with the Afghans, such as the Rohillas, or had shaken off Maratha domination after Panipat. Crippled by Madhavrao untimely death at the age of 28, infighting ensued among Maratha chiefs soon after, and they ultimately met their final blow at the hands of the British in Finally, in , Baji Rao defeated the Mughals on the outskirts of Delhi and brought much of the former Mughal territories south of Delhi under Maratha control. Both of them have now reached Peshawar with a few broken troops So Ahmad Shah Durrani has returned to Kandahar with some thousand broken troops.. Thus all have risen against Ahmad who has lost control over the region. We have decided to extend our rule up to Kandahar. In he raised an army from the Pashtun and Baloch tribes and made several gains against the smaller Maratha garrisons in Punjab. He then joined with his Indian alliesâ€™the Rohilla Afghans of the Gangetic Doabâ€™forming a broad coalition against the Marathas. The Marathas, under the command of Sadashivrao Bhau , responded by gathering an army of between 45,â€™60,, which was accompanied by roughly , non-combatants, a number of whom were pilgrims desirous of making pilgrimages to Hindu holy sites in northern India. The Marathas started their northward journey from Patdur on 14 March Both sides tried to get the Nawab of Awadh, Shuja-ud-Daulah, into their camp. By late July Shuja-ud-Daulah made the decision to join the Afghan-Rohilla coalition, preferring to join what was perceived as the "army of Islam". This was strategically a major loss for the Marathas, since Shuja provided much-needed finances for the long Afghan stay in North India. Rise of the Marathas Grant Duff, describing the Maratha army: Vast numbers of elephants, flags of all descriptions, the finest horses, magnificently caparisoned This was the high-water mark of the Maratha expansion, where the boundaries of their empire extended in the north to the Indus and the Himalayas, and in the south nearly to the extremity of the peninsula. This territory was ruled through the Peshwa , who talked of placing his son Vishwasrao on the Mughal throne. However, Delhi still remained under the nominal control of Mughals, key Muslim intellectuals including Shah Waliullah and other Muslim clergy in India who were alarmed at these developments. In desperation they appealed to Ahmad Shah Abdali, the ruler of Afghanistan, to halt the threat. Afghan royal soldiers of the Durrani Empire. By the end of Abdali with his Afghan tribes and his Rohilla ally Najib Khan had reached Lahore as well as Delhi and defeated the smaller enemy garrisons. Ahmed Shah, at this point, withdrew his army to Anupshahr, on the frontier of the Rohilla country, where he successfully convinced the Nawab of Oudh Shuja-ud-Daula to join his alliance against the Marathas. Suraj Mal the Jat ruler of Bharatpur also had joined Bhausahab initially. This combined army captured the Mughal capital, Delhi, from an Afghan garrison in December Bhau ordered the sacking of the already depopulated city. The Jats did not support the Marathas. Their withdrawal from the

ensuing battle was to play a crucial role in its result. Dattaji was killed in the battle. Kunjpura, on the banks of the Yamuna river 60 miles to the north of Delhi, was stormed by the Marathas and the whole Afghan garrison was killed or enslaved. Ahmad Shah was encamped on the left bank of the Yamuna River, which was swollen by rains, and was powerless to aid the garrison. The massacre of the Kunjpura garrison, within sight of the Durrani camp, exasperated Abdali to such an extent that he ordered crossing of the river at all costs. Taking a calculated risk, Abdali plunged into the river, followed by his bodyguards and troops. Between 23 and 25 October they were able to cross at Baghpat a small town about 24 miles up the river, unopposed by the Marathas who were still preoccupied with the sacking of Kunjpura. Raghunathrao asked for large amount and an army, which was denied by Sadashivrao Bhau, his cousin and Diwan of Peshwa, so he declined to go. Sadashivrao Bhau was there upon made commander in chief of the Maratha Army, under whom the Battle of Panipat was fought. A fierce skirmish ensued, in which the Afghans lost men but drove the Marathas back to their main body, which kept retreating slowly for several days. This led to the partial encirclement of the Maratha army. They were surprised by an Afghan force near Meerut, and in the ensuing fight, Bundele was killed. This was followed by the loss of a contingent of 2, Maratha soldiers who had left Delhi to deliver money and rations to Panipat. Initially the Marathas had moved in almost pieces of modern long-range, French-made artillery. With a range of several kilometres, these guns were some of the best of the time. In one of these Najib lost 3, of his Rohillas and was very nearly killed himself. Facing a potential stalemate, Abdali decided to seek terms, which Bhau was willing to consider. However, Najib Khan delayed any chance of an agreement with an appeal on religious grounds and sowed doubt about whether the Marathas would honour any agreement. At that time Atai Khan Baluch, son of the Wazir of Abdali, came from Afghanistan with 10, cavalry and cut off the supplies to the Marathas. His plan was to pulverise the enemy formations with cannon fire and not to employ his cavalry until the Afghans were thoroughly softened up. With the Afghans broken, he would move camp in a defensive formation towards Delhi, where they were assured supplies. The two armies came face-to-face around 8: The left wing consisted of the Gardis under Ibrahim Khan. Holkar and Sindhia were on the extreme right. The cavalry was instructed to wait behind the artillery and bayonet-wielding musketeers, ready to be thrown in when control of the battlefield had been fully established. Behind this line was another ring of 30, young Maratha soldiers who were not battle-tested, and then the civilians. Many were ordinary men, women and children on their pilgrimage to Hindu holy places and shrines. Behind the civilians was yet another protective infantry line, of young, inexperienced soldiers. Their left was being formed by Najib and their right by two brigades of troops. Pasand Khan covered the left wing with 5, cavalry, Barkurdar Khan and Amir Beg covered the right with 3, Rohilla cavalry. Long-range musketeers were also present during the battle. In this order the army of Ahmed Shah moved forward, leaving him at his preferred post in the centre, which was now in the rear of the line, from where he could watch and direct the battle. They emerged from the trenches, pushing the artillery into position on their prearranged lines, some 2 km from the Afghans. Seeing that the battle was on, Ahmad Shah positioned his 60 smooth-bore cannon and opened fire. The second and subsequent salvos were fired at point-blank range into the Afghan ranks. The resulting carnage sent the Rohillas reeling back to their lines, leaving the battlefield in the hands of Ibrahim for the next three hours, during which the 8, Gardi musketeers killed about 12, Rohillas. The sheer force of the attack nearly broke the Afghan lines, and the Afghan soldiers started to desert their positions in the confusion. Desperately trying to rally his forces, Shah Wali appealed to Shuja ud Daulah for assistance. By noon it looked as though Bhau would clinch victory for the Marathas once again. The Afghan left flank still held its own, but the centre was cut in two and the right was almost destroyed. Ahmad Shah had watched the fortunes of the battle from his tent, guarded by the still unbroken forces on his left. He sent his bodyguards to call up his 15, reserve troops from his camp and arranged them as a column in front of his cavalry of musketeers Qizilbash and 2, swivel-mounted shutarnaals or Ushtranaalâ€™cannonsâ€™ on the backs of camels. The Maratha cavalry was unable to withstand the muskets and camel-mounted swivel cannons of the Afghans. They could be fired without the rider having to dismount and were especially effective against fast-moving cavalry. Abdali therefore, sent of his own bodyguards with orders to raise all able-bodied men out of camp and send them to the front. He sent 1, more to punish the front-line troops who attempted to flee the battle and kill

without mercy any soldier who would not return to the fight. These extra troops, along with 4, of his reserve troops, went to support the broken ranks of the Rohillas on the right. The remainder of the reserve, 10, strong, were sent to the aid of Shah Wali, still labouring unequally against the Bhau in the centre of the field. These mailed warriors were to charge with the Vizier in close order and at full gallop. Whenever they charged the enemy in front, the chief of the staff and Najib were directed to fall upon either flank. Some 7, Maratha cavalry and infantry were killed before the hand-to-hand fighting began at around . The slaves deliberately spread rumours about the defeat of the Marathas. This brought confusion and great consternation to the Maratha soldiers, who thought that the enemy had attacked from the rear. Some Maratha troops, seeing that their general had disappeared from his elephant, panicked and began to flee. Bhausahab had ordered Vitthal Vinchurkar with cavalry and Damaji Gaikwad with cavalry to protect the Gardis. However, after seeing the Gardis fight, they lost their patience and decided to fight the Rohillas themselves. Thus, they broke their position and went all out on the Rohillas. The Rohilla riflemen started accurately firing at the Maratha cavalry, which was equipped only with swords. This gave the Rohillas the opportunity to encircle the Gardis and outflank the Maratha centre while Shah Wali pressed on attacking the front. Thus the Gardis were left defenseless and started falling one by one. Bhau and his royal Guard fought till the end, the Maratha leader having three horses shot out from under him. At this stage, Holkar, realising the battle was lost, broke from the Maratha left flank and retreated. Choosing not to launch a night attack, many Maratha troops escaped that night.

**Chapter 6 : Talk:Third Battle of Panipat - Wikipedia**

*The Third Battle of Panipat was a major battle of Indian history, fought on 14th January It was fought between the Afghan forces of Ahmad Shah Durrani along with his local Rohilla and other Pathan and Oudh allies, against the Maratha Empire.*

This battle was a colossal defeat for the Marathas which is unprecedented in Indian history. The time period in which this battle was fought is of great importance, because this is the time when sub-continent was going through a transitional phase. The course and history of south-Asia changing, it was the time in which the glory of Mughal Empire was about to fade away, other powers in sub-continent were emerging in order to replace the Mughal rulers. French, British, Sikhs, Marathas and other independent groups were rising to claim the throne which was about to be vacated by Mughals due to their inefficiency and apathetic behavior. Third battle of Panipat occurred when the Mughal Empire was disintegrating due to weakness of central power many skirmishes, uprisings, revolts, and battles took place at that time. Panipat battle ground is of great importance because three battles were fought there, Panipat is 90 Km away from Delhi. This battle is also of great importance that after this battle colonial rule starts in Indian sub-continent. Due to fragility of central authorities in sub-continent, it was also subjected to foreign invasions. Third battle of Panipat is a core example of foreign invasion. Another factor which brought this invasion was scuttling rule of Muslims in India in response to the atrocities made on Muslims by Marathas, Sikhs etc weak Muslim rulers invited Abdali to save them. This battle was fought between king of Afghanistan named Ahmed Shah Abdali and Maratha forces which were the main actors to scuttle the Mughal rule and tried to take over the Mughal crown. Ahmed shah invaded India many times; Ahmed Shah invaded Punjab for the first time in January then in , , , , , and Afghan army enters India in in Karnal without any apparent resistance by this time Marathas had captured Delhi. But when Afghan forces gradually started to approach towards centre skirmishes started between Maratha and Afghan forces. This was the time when both forces started making allies and partners and perceived war as a final and inevitable solution in the shape of Panipat battle. Since Marathas had strained relations with almost all other groups so it helped them very little in this regard, whereas, Ahmad Shah won support of Shuja-uddin- Duala, Rajputs, and Jatts. The main factor which strengthened Afghans was the support of Muslim rulers such as Najib-ud-Daulah and Shuja-ud-Daulah. In Afghan forces marched to Shahdara near Delhi river Jumna divides both armies on each side. The course of battle starts on 27th March when Marathan army begins its advance from Deccan to reach Delhi and in October they reached Delhi. This was the time when small conflicts occurred between them. On 26th October Afghans drove Marathan forces to Panipat ground. Ahmad Shah took his position 5 miles south to Jumna River and created a complete blockade of Marathan camps. Skirmishes continued till November. Ahmad did not make any advance on Marathan forces albeit it was continuously advised by his allies to finish of the enemy. Marathas wanted to make settlement with Afghans but allies did not accept their proposal. Due to the failure of negotiations it made Marathas desperate and they launched a sudden offensive upon Afghan forces on 6th January It was the day when conclusion of this battle was drawn; Ahmad Shah kept his nerves and composure and handled this sudden attack professionally. Afghan forces responded really well to the initial cannon attack inflicted by Marathan forces. Initially Marathan forces got edge due to their surprising attack and movement but very quickly Afghan army led by French trained general Gardi was able to overpower them. Both the belligerents possessed decent set of strengths Marathas got robust artillery and Afghan got modern war equipments so both forces seemed to be at par with each other. Marathas faced wrath of Afghans and got slaughtered like animals 40, Marathas were made prisoners and colossal number of casualties occurred. Sadashiv Rao was killed and Marathas faced a complete defeat by Afghan invaders, which paralyzed Marathan power for next 10 years. Third battle of Panipat is a demonstration of victory of invaders which could be capitalized by the struggling Muslim rulers but unfortunately they did not take this advantage.

Chapter 7 : Third Battle of Panipat - Infogalactic: the planetary knowledge core

Third Battle of Panipat Museum à•à• à²à¼à– à®à°à¼à à¥(à, à•à¥† à–à¥,à” à¥,à¥† à•à¼à²à¼ à²à¼à¼à¼ à¼à® à¼à¥•à”à¼à à¼à¼ à¼à¼ à¼à¼€ à¼à¼œà¼à¥(à, à¼,à¥† à¼à¥•à¼à¼.

See Article History This contribution has not yet been formally edited by Britannica. Articles such as this one were acquired and published with the primary aim of expanding the information on Britannica. Although these articles may currently differ in style from others on the site, they allow us to provide wider coverage of topics sought by our readers, through a diverse range of trusted voices. These articles have not yet undergone the rigorous in-house editing or fact-checking and styling process to which most Britannica articles are customarily subjected. Interested in participating in the Publishing Partner Program? Battles of Panipat, , , three military engagements, important in the history of northern India , fought at Panipat , a level plain suitable for cavalry movements, about 50 miles 80 km north of Delhi. This was due to the resourcefulness of its commander, Babur , demonstrated in his use of field fortifications and his instinctive sense of the value of the firepower of gunpowder. The victory enabled him to lay the foundations for the Indian Mughal Empire. A descendant of Timur , Babur became a refugee at the age of twelve when the Uzbeks seized Samarkand in At age fifteen he was back with his own warband. He laid siege to his home city, but without success. Undaunted, he headed south into Afghanistan. Increasingly, however, he found himself tempted by the unimaginable wealth of India. In the years that followed, he mounted a series of incursions into the Punjab. These territories had for three centuries belonged to a Muslim empire, the Delhi sultanate. At this time, the sultanate was under the control of an Afghan elite. A capricious and divisive ruler, Sultan Ibrahim Lodi had alienated many of his nobles. It was indeed a local lord in Hindustan who, in , invited Babur to undertake a full-scale invasion. Although he clearly was attracted by the idea of invasion, Babur was in no hurry. His army numbered only 10, men, so he made sure that they were well equipped and superbly trained before committing to his assault on Hindustan. He took the time to train them in the use of gunpowder weapons, while making sure their skills in traditional steppe warfare were not neglected. Only at the end of did he embark on his invasion. His army swept aside the Afghan force that marched out to meet it, so Sultan Ibrahim himself led a second army into the field, taking up a position at Panipat, to the north of Delhi. On 12 April , Babur found himself confronted with an enormous multitude: Unfazed, he set about constructing an impromptu fortress on the open plain, tying carts together and fronting them with earthen ramparts as protection for his cannon and for his musketeers with their matchlocks. As the days passed and a hesitant Sultan Ibrahim stayed his attack, Babur was able to consolidate his position still further. He dug trenches and felled trees, constructing barriers to the left and right, while leaving gaps through which his cavalry could charge. On 21 April, Ibrahim finally made his move. As they milled about in confusion, the Mughal cavalry came wheeling in from the wings: Unable either to advance or retreat, the Afghan army was cut down cruelly. Not only was Babur now the undisputed ruler of Hindustan, but also the road to Delhi and the domains of the sultanate lay wide open. On the basis of this victory, he was able to establish a glorious new ruling line. This victory marked the beginning of the Mughal Empire in India. Mughal, unknown; Afghan, 20,â€”50, Fighting on a field that had proved so propitious for his grandfather, the young Akbar won a vital victory over the powerful Hindu ruler, Hemu. Rebuilding his forces in exile, he eventually took back his realms fifteen years later, leaving his son and successor, Akbar, with a great empire. Aged just thirteen, Akbar seemed singularly ill-equipped to cope with this threat. However, he had rare giftsâ€”and the support of his guardian, the accomplished general Bairam Khan. Hemu had unstoppable momentum, it seemedâ€”having already taken Agra and the strategic fortress of Tughlaqabad, in October he captured Delhi. On 5 November , the scene was set for the Second Battle of Panipat. Repeated elephant charges failed to break the resolve of the outnumbered Mughal soldiers. An inspiring figure, Hemu led from the front, perched high up on an elephant, an important talisman for his troops. He was also a tempting target for the Mughal archers, and initially they showered him with shafts to no avail, so impregnable was the headto-foot armor he was wearing. Eventually, though, one arrow found its way in through an eye-slit and killed him. Seeing their leader fall, the Hindus broke and fled. The third battle Jan.

Ahmad declared a jihad and launched a campaign that captured large parts of the Punjab. The Marathas responded by raising a large army, under the command of Sadashivrao Bhau, and recaptured Delhi. At the same time, he led an army of 40, into the south to trap the Maratha army in the Punjab. However, he was undermined by rivalries within his ranks and the need to protect many civilians. The smaller Durrani army took advantage and routed them. Bhau escaped, to die sometime later, but the Maratha army had been destroyed and the unity of the empire was broken. This began 40 years of anarchy in northwestern India and cleared the way for later British supremacy. Maratha, 40, casualties and 30, captured of 80,; Durrani, 5, casualties of 40,â€™75,

### Chapter 8 : Third Battle of Panipat - Simple English Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*The first battle of Panipat won Babur the throne of Bharat, the second confirmed Mughal (corruption of Mongol) rule for the next + years and the third ironically ensured chaos into which stepped in the East India Company of England.*

Thus, totally an army of , The force was accompanied by , non-combatants pilgrims and camp-followers. Thus, totally an army of 70, Casualties and losses Estimates between 20, and 40, combatants killed. Another 40,, non-combatants massacred following the battle. The battle is considered one of the largest fought in the 18th century, [5] and has perhaps the largest number of fatalities in a single day reported in a classic formation battle between two armies. Finally, in , Baji Rao defeated the Mughals on the outskirts of Delhi, and brought much of the former Mughal territories south of Delhi under Maratha control. He then joined with his Indian allies—the Rohilla Afghans of the Gangetic Doab—forming a broad coalition against the Marathas. The Marathas started their northward journey from Patdur on the 14 March Both sides tried to get the Nawad of Awadh, Shuja-ud-Daulah, into their camp. This was strategically a major loss for the Marathas, since Shuja provided much needed finances for the long Afghan stay in North India. The slow-moving Maratha camp finally reached Delhi on 1 August , and took the city the next day. However, Abdali daringly crossed the river Yamuna on the 25 October at Baghpat, cutting off the Maratha camp from their base in Delhi. This eventually turned into a two-month-long siege led by Abdali against the Marathas in the town of Panipat. At this the Afghans were considerably more effective, so that by the end of November they had cut off almost all food supplies into the besieged Maratha camp which had about , to ,, most of whom were non-combatants. According to all the chronicles of the time, food in the Maratha camp ran out by late December or early January and cattle died by the thousands. Reports of soldiers dying of starvation began to be heard in early January. On 13 January the Maratha chiefs begged their commander, Sadashiv Rao Bhau, to be allowed to die in battle than perish by starvation. The next day the Marathas left their camp before dawn and marched south towards the Afghan camp in a desperate attempt to break the siege. The two armies came face-to-face around 8: The specific site of the battle itself is disputed by historians, but most consider it to have occurred somewhere near modern-day Kaalaa Aamb and Sanauli Road. The battle lasted for several days and involved over , troops. Protracted skirmishes occurred, with losses and gains on both sides. The extent of the losses on both sides is heavily disputed by historians, but it is believed that between 60,–70, were killed in fighting, while the numbers of injured and prisoners taken vary considerably. In , 10 years after Panipat, he sent a large Maratha army into North India in an expedition that was meant to re-establish Maratha domination in North India and punish refractory powers that had either sided with the Afghans, such as the Rohillas, or had shaken off Maratha domination after Panipat. The success of this campaign can be seen as the last saga of the long story of Panipat.

**Chapter 9 : Third Battle Of Panipat Modern History NCERT Notes**

*Battles of Panipat, ( , , ), three military engagements, important in the history of northern India, fought at Panipat, a level plain suitable for cavalry movements, about 50 miles (80 km) north of Delhi.*

Mian Ghulam Shah Kalhoro Strength 40, cavalry, 15, infantry, 15, Pindaris and pieces of artillery,. The force was accompanied by , non-combatants pilgrims and camp-followers. Thus, totally an army of 70, Thus, totally an army of , Who was Ahmad Shah Abdali? Ahmad Shah was the first emir of Afghanistan and he inherited the throne of Abdali tribe of Afgans. Ahmad Shah later renamed his ancestry as Durrani. Ahmad Shah was the leader of his tribesmen and served Nadir Shah, the King of Persia, who conquered most of Afghanistan and part of India. Between and Ahmad Shah invaded Punjab six times and was also able to seize and sack Delhi. Although Ahmad Shah was a powerful military leader, he never permanently ruled in India and subsequently withdrew into Afghanistan. Najib Khan was shrewd enough to understand changed ground realities after third battle of Panipat. His opposition to signing of treaty, with Marathas was the main cause of battle being fought at Panipat. He not only provided, Ahmed Shah Abdali, with 40, Rohilla troops but also 70 guns to the combined forces. After the war he was made vizier of Mughal emperor Describing the Maratha Army The Maratha Army consisted of the artillery in front, protected by infantry, pike men, bowman and musketeers. The cavalry was instructed to wait behind the artillery and bayonet holding musketeers and they were ready to charge when control of battlefield is fully established. Behind the line were thirty thousand young men who were not that expert in fighting and then about thirty thousand civilians. This civilian line consisted of many middle class men, women, children who took this as an opportunity to visit pilgrimage to visit holy places and shrines and also Aryavarta Aryan Land. Behind the civilian line there was another protective infantry line composed of comparatively young and experienced soldiers. The left wing consisted of the gardis under Ibrahim Khan. Holkar and Sindhia were on the extreme right. Pasand Khan led the left wing, which was composed of well-chosen Afghan horsemen. This way the army moved forward with the Shah at the center so that he could watch and control the battle. Initial Skirmishes Battle of Kunjpura The Marathas attacked the Afghan garrison on the banks of the river Yamuna at Kunjpura, north of Delhi, and killed or enslaved them. The Yamuna was in spate and Abdali, who was on the other side, could not do anything to save them. Along with his soldiers, he took a risk, reached the south of Delhi and crossed the Yamuna there, where it was relatively easier. He wanted to encircle Marathas. The Marathas were unaware of this as they were preoccupied with the skirmish at Kunjpura. One should learn from a setback and improve; one must have the determination to win. Similarly, one may need to take snap decisions depending on the situation. An individual with a good network and a company that has good market intelligence can get the latest information, which could be crucial in planning and providing competitive advantage. When the stakes are high, lack of intelligence can invariably prove fatal, as in the case of how Abdali crossing the Yamuna went unnoticed by the Marathas. Next Strategy of Marathas after Abdali crossed Yamuna When the Marathas realised that the south of the Yamuna was captured by Abdali, they dug their heels in near Panipat to deny him access to Afghanistan. Slowly, Abdali encircled the Maratha army and cut off their supply line. The Afghans continued to get the supplies they needed due to their agreements with a few north Indian kingdoms. Therefore, their need to open up the route towards Afghanistan was not that urgent. But it was a desperate situation for the Maratha army who were expecting reinforcements from the south of the Narmada instead of the neighbouring states. This upfront analysis may trigger a new partnership or alignment which could benefit the company. Both wars and businesses can benefit from a deep multi-step scenario analysis. Abdali sensed a deadlock and decided to sign a peace treaty with the Marathas. The Marathas were keen as well, but Najib Khan advised against the treaty and prevailed upon Abdali to delay his decision. Empower and trust your team members. How did things happened? The very initial scene Before dawn on January 14, the Maratha forces emerged from the trenches, pushing the artillery into position on their pre-arranged lines, some 2km from the Afgans. Seeing that the battle was on, Ahmad positioned his 60 smoothbore cannon and opened fire. However, because of the short range of the weapons, the Maratha lines remained untouched. Ahmad then launched a

cavalry attack to break their lines The Maratha artillery was doing its job, but Abdali was too indecisive to come all the way into the field. It seemed like an old fashioned slug-fest the Marathas were sure to win. Then disaster struck when the head of the Maratha cavalry decided to attack before being ordered to. Eventually, the deteriorating situation forced the Marathas to attack the Afghans before their reinforcements arrived. The Marathas had better French guns and made significant progress. Ibrahim Gardi played a key role in getting early breakthroughs for the Marathas. By noon, it appeared that the Marathas would win. Faced with imminent defeat, Abdali called on his highly trained reserve soldiers and cannon-mounted camels. From these camels, they could fire artillery which would go over their own infantry and started decimating the Maratha army. The Maratha artillery, initially used to weaken the enemy defence, was now placed behind the infantry and thus became ineffective. Besides, Bhau did not have any significant reserves that could join them with artillery for a counter-attack. By the end of the day, the Marathas had lost the battle. Appointing of Sadhashivrao as Supreme Commander was a mistake? He had also advised Bhau that instead of going forward to Panipat, they should wait for the enemy to come in their stronghold where it would become easy for them and difficult for Abdali. Even this advise was rejected by Bhau. It is written by many historians that he fought courageously in the battle-field. It is also written that Sadashivrao Bhau had entrusted him the job of saving Parvatibai as soon as told to do so. When Vishwasrao was killed and Sadashivrao Bhau felt they were about to be defeated he sent a message to Malharrao to immediately act as per directions and leave the battlefield. Malharrao acted as per the directions of Sadashivrao and saved Parvatibai. Malharrao was considered to be the right hand man of Peshwa. Others who escaped from this battle were Mahadji Shinde and Nana Phadnawis. Role of Scindia in final phase In the final phase the Marathas, under Scindia, attacked Najib Khan whom he had a personal enmity with. However, Najib successfully fought a defensive action keeping Scindias forces at bay. Reasons for Failure of Marathas!!! They revolted, and started looting and pillaging the Maratha civilians inside the encirclement. This caused brought confusion and great consternation to loyal Maratha soldiers, who thought that the enemy has attacked from behind. He left instructions with his bodyguards that, if the battle were lost, they must kill his wife Parvati bai, as he could not abide the thought of her being dishonoured by Afgans. Some Maratha soldiers, seeing that their general had disappeared from his elephant, panicked and began to flee. Vishwasrao, the son of Prime Minister Nanasahab, had already fallen to Afgan sniper fire, shot in the head. Sadashivrao Bhau and his bodyguard fought to the end, the Maratha leader having three horses shot out from under him. Thus, they broke the round circle i. This gave opportunity to the Rohillas to encircle the Gardis and outflank the Maratha centre while, Shah Wali pressed on attacking the front. Thus, the Gardis were left defenceless and started falling down one by one. They had a large army, but very few allies. Most of the kings from the Jat, Sikh and Rajput kingdoms did not support the Marathas as they resented the heavy tax imposed on them during the Maratha capture of north India. A few of them even struck favourable agreements with Abdali. Making matters worse was the suffocating odour of the rotting corpses of men and animals from the fighting of the previous months. There are some verbs in Marathi language related to this loss as "Panipat zale"[a major loss has happened] This verb is even today used in Marathi language. Many historians, including British historians of the time, have argued that had it not been for the weakening of the Maratha power at Panipat, the British might never have had a strong foothold in India. Aftermath of the Panipat War. However, after a few years under Peshwa Madhav Rao, they recaptured Delhi and retained it till To rise after a fall requires grit and determination. Many Maratha generals were subsequently tortured and executed by the victorious army. The Marathas were back in action just four years later, because they were more or less a loose confederacy A far better showing on the whole compared to usual one hit and a kingdom story of earlier 2 Panipats. The women were raped, many committed suicide because of constant rapes perpetrated on them. All of the prisoners were exchanged or sold as sex slaves to Afganistan or North India, transported on carts, camels and elephants in bamboo cages. Defeat of Marathas in the battle of Panipat saw a new beginning of the colonial rule in India. Sold at several hundred outlets along the highway, it is a mix of mango, lemon, chilly, ginger and lotus stem immersed in oil. But the soil of Panipat has been marinated in blood, not oil, for the last years. Sometimes coveted for its own worth, at others as the last hurdle on the road to Delhi, Panipat has always favoured the invader. Lodhis, Mughals, Surs, Marathas and Abdalis have tested their power on its

dusty plain, with the outsider winning each time. The Maratha leader Sadashiv Rau Bhau is believed to have fallen at this spot, changing the course of the battle against Ahmed Shah Abdali. Its very true that we lost the battle..