

# Syllabus Essentials



**English** 

Weekly Compilation [6th-12th April, 2025]





## **Zonal Councils**

- Type: Statutory (Extra-constitutional) body.
- Established Under: States Reorganisation Act, 1956 (7th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1956).
- Objective: Promote cooperation and coordination among States, Union Territories (UTs), and the Centre.

#### **Zones & Councils**

#### Divided into Five Zones:

- · Northern, Central, Eastern, Western, Southern
- One Zonal Council for Each Zone

### Nature of the Body

- Function: Deliberative and advisory
- Recommendations: Not binding
- Meeting Frequency: At least twice a year

### Composition

Chairman: Union Home Minister

#### Members:

- · Chief Ministers of all states in the zone
- · Two other ministers from each state in the zone
- Administrator of each UT in the zone







## **Doctrine of Lapse**

#### About

- A policy devised by Lord Dalhousie, Governor-General of India (1848-56).
- Used to regulate succession in Hindu Indian princely states.
- Part of the larger Doctrine of Paramountcy, asserting British supremacy.

## **Key Principle**

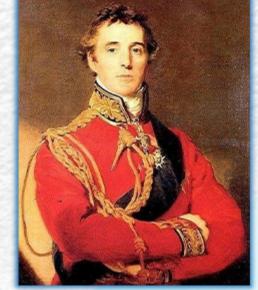
- According to Hindu law, rulers without natural heirs could adopt sons.
- Dalhousie claimed the British right to approve or reject such adoptions.
- In absence of a natural or approved adopted heir, the state would be annexed by the British.

## **Motive Behind the Policy**

- Dalhousie believed Western (British) rule was superior and should be extended.
- Aimed to expand British territories by taking over "leaderless" states.

#### States Annexed Under the Doctrine

Satara (1848), Jaitpur & Sambalpur (1849),
Baghat (1850), Chota Udaipur (1852),
Jhansi (1853) and Nagpur (1854).







## Causes of Mughal Downfall

#### Weak Rulers

Later Mughals were ineffective and neglected administration.

## **Succession Disputes**

Wars of succession weakened the empire.

## **Noble Degeneration**

Internal conflicts among nobles hurt the empire.

## Decline of the Army

Weakened military power contributed to downfall.

## Overexpansion

The vast empire became hard to govern.

## Aurangzeb's Religious Policy

· Alienated Rajputs, Sikhs, Jats, and Marathas.

## Failure in Deccan

Aurangzeb's Deccan campaign drained resources.

#### **External Invasions**

 Invasions by Irani and Durrani kingdoms weakened the empire.







## **Archaean Rock System**

**Period of Formation:** Formed around **4 billion years ago**, during the cooling and solidification of molten magma.

#### **Features:**

- Azoic (no fossils).
- Crystalline (volcanic origin).
- Foliated (thin sheet-like layers).
- Contorted and faulted due to tectonic forces.
- Often formed as plutonic intrusions (deep volcanic rocks).

### **Major Rocks:**

- **Gneiss**: Covers two-thirds of **Peninsular India**, with mineral compositions varying from **granite** to **gabbro**, exhibiting foliated or banded structures.
- Schists: Mostly crystalline rocks.

#### Location:

 Himalayas, Central and Southern Peninsular India Orissa, Meghalaya, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Chotanagpur Plateau (Jharkhand), Bundelkhand.

### Significance:

 Contain important minerals like mica, talc, hornblende, chlorite.







## **Dharwar Rock System**

**Period of Formation:** Formed over **3 major cycles** between **3,100 million years ago** to **1,000 million years ago**.

### **Features:**

- Formed by metamorphosis of Archaean gneisses and schists.
- The most ancient metamorphosed sedimentary rock system.

## **Major Rocks:**

Hornblende, Schists, Quartzites, Phyllites, Slates,
Crystalline Limestones, Dolomites.

### Location:

Dharwar-Bellary-Mysore belt (Karnataka), Jharkhand,
Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Himalayas.

## Significance:

 Economically important for minerals like iron ore, manganese, copper, lead, gold, etc.





Stay Tuned!