

WEAVERS, IRON SMELTERS AND FACTORY OWNERS

MODULE I

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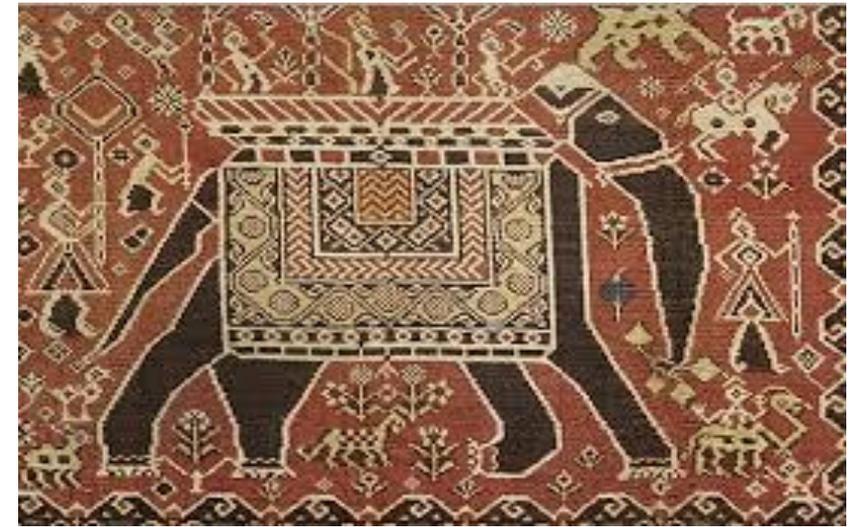


- This chapter tells the story of the crafts and industries of India during British rule by focusing on two industries namely TEXTILES and IRON AND STEEL.
- Both these industries were crucial for the industrial revolution in the modern world.
- Mechanised production of cotton textiles made Britain the foremost industrial nation in the 19th century.
- When iron and steel industry started growing from 1850s, Britain came to be known as the “WORKSHOP OF THE WORLD.”

- The industrialisation of Britain had a close connection with the conquest and colonisation of India.
- In the 18th century, the company was buying goods in India and exporting them to England and Europe, making a huge profit.
- British industrialists began to see India as a vast market for their industrial products.
- Manufactured goods from Britain began flooding India.
- We will explore a question in this chapter i.e. How did this affect Indian crafts and industries?

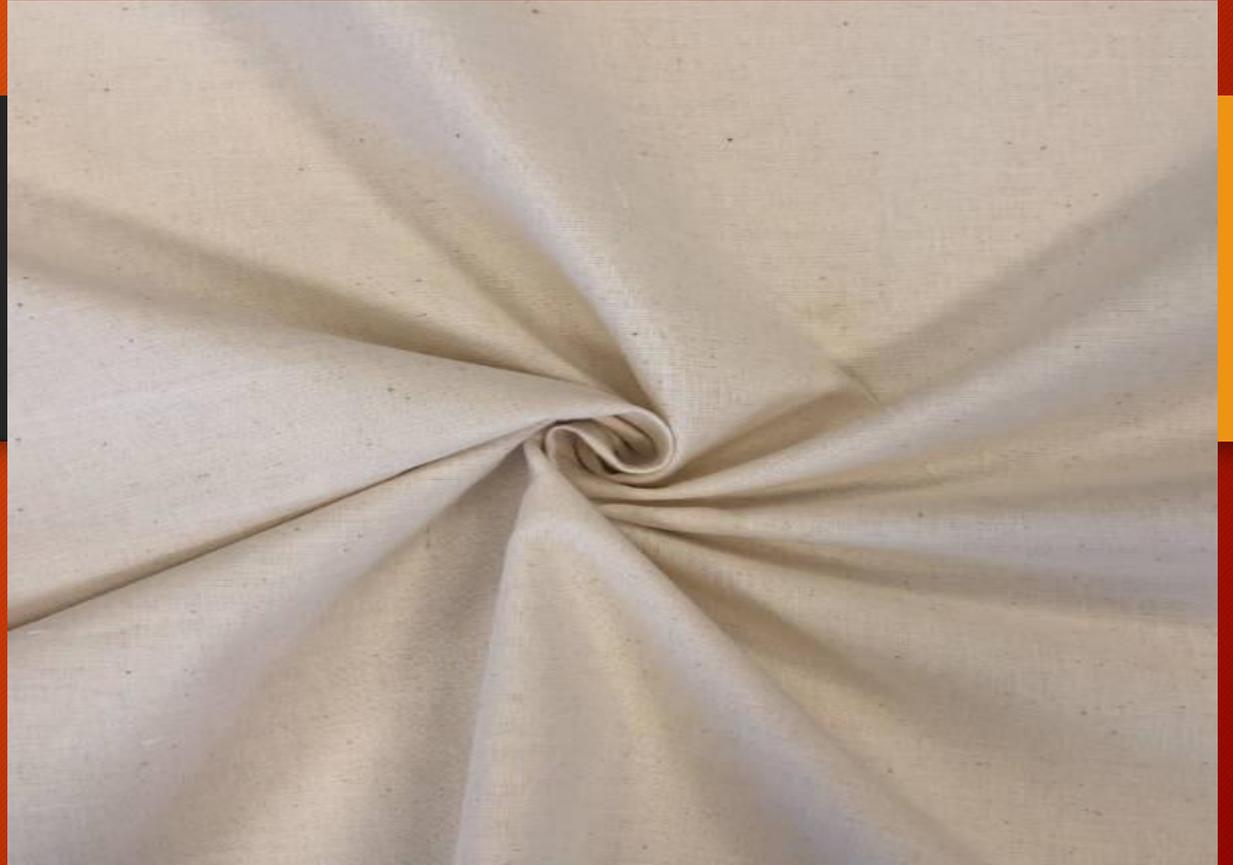
INDIAN TEXTILES AND THE WORLD MARKET

- The Indian textiles had long been renowned both for their fine quality and exquisite craftsmanship.
- They were extensively traded in Southeast Asia (Asia, Sumatra and Penang) west and central Asia.
- From 16th century, European trading companies began buying Indian textiles for sale in Europe.



WORDS TELL US HISTORIES

- European traders first encountered fine cotton cloth from India carried by Arab merchants in Mosul in present day Iraq. So, they began referring to all finely woven textiles as "MUSLIN".
- The Portuguese who landed in Calicut for spices on Kerala coast, took back cotton textiles along with spices to Europe called "CALICO" (derived from Calicut).
- There were other names for cotton cloth called CHINTZ, COSSAES (or KHASSA) and BANDANA



- Do you know where the English term CHINTZ come from?
- It is derived from the Hindi word CHHINT, a cloth with small and colourful flowery designs.
- Rich people of England including the Queen herself wore clothes of Indian fabric.
- The word BANDANA now refers to any brightly coloured and printed scarf for the neck or head. Originally the term derived from the word “bandhna” (Hindi for tying).
- The widespread use of such words shows how popular Indian textiles had become in different parts of the world.





THANK YOU