

# 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> century, European trading companies began buying Indian textiles for sale in Europe.

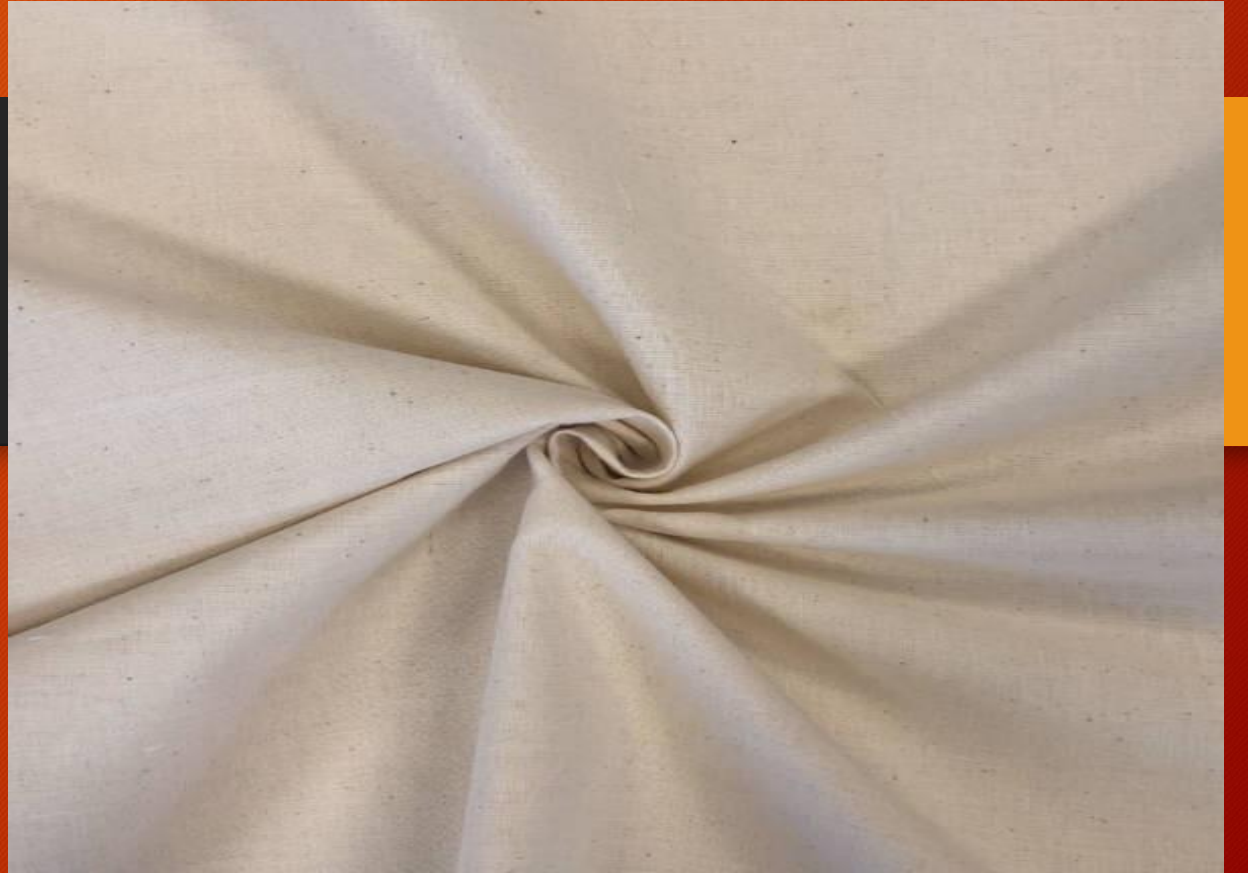




# WORDS TELL US HISTORIES

- 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







List of Goods to be Provided in the Bay of  
Bengall for the Ships going out in the Year 1700.

|          |   | Rs.   | Rs.   | Rs.  |
|----------|---|-------|-------|------|
| Articles | of the Bay, for the Bay of Bengal                       | 6000  | 2000  | 4000 |
| Shirts   | Five each gold thread, four thousand                    | 2000  | 1000  | 1000 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, four thousand                               | 1000  | 500   | 500  |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, eight thousand long, for the Bay            | 6000  | 1774  | 4226 |
| Shirts   | very fine with gold thread, fifteen hundred             | 1000  | 474   | 526  |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, four thousand long, such as ordered by the  | 4000  | 1570  | 2430 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, as by the list, as by the list, for the Bay | 6000  | 1070  | 5030 |
| Shirts   | very fine, such as the King, such as by the King        | 4000  | 430   | 3570 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 1000  | 400   | 600  |
| Shirts   | of the same quality as the first that come by           | 2000  | 700   | 1300 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 4000  | 1000  | 3000 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 2000  | 1100  | 900  |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 20000 | 11000 | 9000 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 10000 | 1100  | 8900 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 6000  | 1700  | 4300 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 4000  | 700   | 3300 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 1000  | 200   | 800  |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 1000  | 200   | 800  |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 4000  | 2000  | 2000 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 6000  | 6000  | 0    |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 2000  | 1000  | 1000 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 1000  | 1000  | 0    |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 10000 | 10700 | 300  |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 1000  | 4000  | 3000 |
| Shirts   | of the Bay, for the Bay                                 | 2000  | 2000  | 0    |





- 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