CHAPTER-1:

INTRODUCTION

The history of Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan formulates a fascinating aspect of the colonial establishment of the British in India. The state of Mysore witnessed the most formidable colonial resistance ever posed by any Indian princely state. Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan have left behind a great treasure of art. They were constantly involved in battles and hardships yet they showed immense interest in the development of art and architecture. The country had many magnificent big and small forts cleverly, strategically and strongly built. The study of these forts reveal not only contemporary military tactics but also the defense tactics that could with stand the onslaught from within and outside the country.

1.1 HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF HAIDER ALI AND TIPU SULTAN-

A BRIEF POLITICAL HISTORY AND THEIR PERIOD.

Origin:

The history of Tipu Sultan’s Family, until it was raised to prominence by his grandfather, Fath Muhammad, is for the most part obscure. But from some accounts it appears that Tipu was descended from the Quraish of Mecca.¹

The first person of the family about whom some tradition has been preserved was Shaikh Wali Muhammad who, according to Kirmani, came to

Gulbarga from Delhi with his son Muhammad Ali during the reign of Muhammad Adil Shah(1626-56) of Bijapur.²

Soon after, war broke out between the Mughals and the Bijapuri Sultans, and in the conflict all the seven brothers-in-law were killed. After this tragedy Muhammad Ali left Bijapur with his family for Kolar whose chief, Shah Muhammad, having some previous acquaintance with him, received him well, and put him in charge of his property. Besides acting as Shah Muhammad’s agent, Muhammad Ali did some farming and rented fields and gardens.³

Muhammad Ali had four sons, Muhammad Ilyas, Shaikh Muhammad, Muhammad Imam and Fathe Muhammad. When they grew up their father advised them to become devotees like their grand–father. But they preferred the profession of arms. So, after the death of Muhammad Ali in about 1697, his son Fath Muhammad left Kolar to enter the service of Nawab Saadatullah Khan of Arcot, who made him a jamadar and gave him the command of 200 foot and 50 horse. After some time Fathe Muhammad sent for Sayyid Burhan-ud-din, a pirzada the disciple of a Sufi Saint of Tanjore, and married his daughter. As he served the Nawab faithfully, he was raised to the command of 600 foot, 500 horse and 50 rocket men.⁴

However, he next took service with the Raja of Mysore, the Wodiyars probably through the recommendation of his nephew, Haider Saheb, son of Shaikh Ilyas, who was already in the employment of the Raja. But Fathe Muhammad did not stay long in Mysore. Although he was given the title of Naik, yet owing to the dissensions among the various chiefs in Mysore, he

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² Ibid., p. 6.  
³ Ibid. pp.6-7.  
⁴ Ibid. pp.7-10.
became disgusted and left the state. He then entered the service of Nawab Dargah Quli Khan of Sira, who then gave him the command of 400 foot and 200 horse and put him in charge of the fort of Dodballapur. Here in Doddaballapur a son was born to him in 1721 and he was named Haider Ali. He had also another son called Shahbaz, born three years earlier, to Haider Ali.

The rise of Haider Ali (1721-1881) from a minor soldier to virtual sovereign of Mysore can be attributed to a great extent to his dynamic leadership, exceptional military skills and political acumen. Born in 1721 at Budikote (Karnataka), Haider lost his father, Shaikh Fateh Muhammad, at the tender age of five.5

Haider Ali

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Early Life

A few years after the death of Dargah quli Khan his son Abdul Rasul Khan succeeded him at Sira. Meanwhile, conflict between Tahir Khan and Abdul Rasual Khan, aided by Fath Muhammad started resulting in the death of Abdul Rasul Khan. Tahir Khan became the subedar of Sira.\(^6\)

Meanwhile, Fathe Muhammad had died but left some debts borrowed from Rasul Khan. Therefore, Abbas Quli Khan son of Abdul Rasul Khan began to persecute his family by arresting them which was in the fort.\(^7\)

Fathe Muhammad’s widow Majedda Begum informed Haider Saheb, her husbands’s nephew, who was employed in Mysore. Haider Saheb immediately appealed to Devaraj, the dalavayi of the Raja of Mysore, for help. Devaraj wrote to subedar of Sira, who reprimanded Abbas Quli Khan for his highhandedness and ordered him to release the family.\(^8\)

After securing her freedom from the clutches of Abbas Quli Khan, Fath Muhammad’s widow, Majedda Begum, accompanied by her children, proceeded to Bangalore and from there to Srirangapatam.\(^9\)

From then on they began to live under the protection of Haider Saheb, who brought up Haider Ali and Shahbaz as his own children and taught them the use of arms and horsemanship.

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\(^7\) Haidar-Namah, p. 81.  
\(^8\) Ibid. p.81.  
\(^9\) Kirmani, p.16.
After they grew up they were in search of a job and entered the service of Abdul Wahhab Khan as soldiers, who was the younger brother of Nawab Muhammad Ali of Carnatic and held the Jagir of Chittor.\(^\text{10}\)

Meanwhile, as Haider Saheb acquired wealth and become prosperous and influential in Mysore, he sent for his cousins working at Arcot. On their arrival he presented them to Nanjaraj, the commander-in-chief and younger brother of Devaraj, in the service of Wodeyars of Mysore, who gave them the command of 300 foot and 50 horse.\(^\text{11}\)

On the death of Haider Saheb, his elder cousin son of Fathe Muhammad Shahbaz succeeded to the command of his detachment\(^\text{12}\) under the leadership of Shabaz his younger brother Haidar Ali played very active role.

The dash and courage which he displayed in various engagements, and particularly in the siege of Devanahalli (1749) held by Naraingunda, greatly impressed Nanjaraj who conferred on him the title Kahanand a separate command of 200 foot and 50 horse.\(^\text{13}\)

**Accession**

A cousin helped young Haider Ali to secure employment as a minor soldier in Srirangapatna. Soon, his military skills and charisma drew the attention of Nanjaraja, the commander-in-chief of the Wodeyers of Mysore, who promoted him to a higher rank. This was only the beginning of his political ascent. Haider accompanied Nanjaraja during the siege of

\(^{10}\) Ibid.
\(^{11}\) Ibid., pp. 16-17.
\(^{12}\) Ibid, p.17
\(^{13}\) Haidar-Namah, p.81; Tarikh-i-Tipu, FF-63b-64b.
Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu in 1751-52 and as reward of his successes there, he was elevated to the status of faujdar of Dindigul (Tamil Nadu). It was around this time that he was exposed to European military strategies and techniques. Impressed by the superior defense system and military skills of the French, he invited their engineers to supervise the establishment at Dindigal.¹⁴

His successful campaign against the Nairs, in 1757, brought him other rewards in the form of the fort and district of Bangalore as a jagir, as well as an assignment on the revenues of Coimbatore.¹⁵

Meanwhile, Krishna Raja II, the Maharaja of Mysore, sought the help of Haider Ali to curb the growing power of Nanajaraja who had virtually reduced him to the status of a puppet king. Haider helped the king get rid of Nanjaraja but only to become the de facto ruler of Mysore in 1759. However, in the following year his ambitions met a temporary setback when the widow of Krishna Raja Wodeyar I, Rani Lakshmi Ammanni, along with the diwan Khande Rao, conspired against him. Haider managed to flee to Bangalore but Khande Rao imprisoned Haider’s zenana and his son Tipu, barely six or seven years old, in a house in the fort, near Ganjamgate at Srirangapatna. However, the situation changed in 1761 when he acquired control over the fort of Srirangapatna and regained power. During 1761-1762 A.D., Haider enjoyed the status of virtual sovereign of the state.

¹⁵ Kate Brittlebank, Tipu Sultan’s Search for Legitimacy: Islam and Kinship in the Hindu Domain, Delhi, Oxford Press, 1997, p.37.
Birth of Tipu

Tipu was born to Haider’s second wife, Fatima or Fakr-un-Nissa, on 20th November 1750 A.D at Devanahalli. Haider was particularly careful about the education of his son Tipu.

Education

Although himself illiterate, Haidar appointed able teachers to give his son the usual scholastic education of a Muslim prince. Tipu was also taught riding, shooting and fencing, and attended his father in military reviews in order to acquire knowledge in discipline and the art of war, especially as practiced by the Europeans. His military preceptor was Ghazi Khan who was the best partisan officer in Haidar’s service.16

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The First Anglo-Mysore War

Causes

The circumstances leading to the First Anglo-Mysore war in 1767 make an interesting event in the history of Mysore. As a senior cavalry officer of the Raja of Mysore, Haider Ali had established warm relations with the French allies of his royal patron. He provided valuable assistance to the French against the British in the Third Carnatic War (1758-63). In 1761, when Haider Ali himself became the military dictator of Mysore the French influence in his court continued to increase. He enjoyed ‘the reputation of being closely united to the French’, the political rivals of the British in Carnatic, and ‘is said to have given protection, and gathered the scattered remnants of the French nation in India.’

Hyder Ali
Haider Ali enraged the British still further by giving shelter to one, Mahfuz Khan, the elder brother and staunch enemy of Muhammad Ali, who was under the British protection. Similarly, Haider was said to have rendered help of Raja Saheb, a son of Chanda Saheb, which was disliked by British. Early in 1766, Haidar Ali invaded the Malabar, which alarmed the British about his ever-increasing activities for self-aggrandisement. And yet, ‘the wily Afghan chief’ had the audacity to keep the foreign colonialists on the his right side by proposing an alliance with them to fight against the anti-British Muslim chiefs and the Marathas in the Deccan. In one of his diplomatic exchange with the British envoy, he wrote:’ I have got a large force. The English have the same. If both be united, the Mogullians(viz, the erstwhile Mughal nobles) and the Marathas can do nothing. If there be an occasion on that side, my troops will go to their assistance, and if on my side, their troops will come to my assistance.’

In the absence of mutual faith between the two parties, however, the proposed friendship between Haider Ali and British never materialized. Haider Ali’s growing power became a source of anxiety not only to the British but also to Nizam Ali of Hyderabad and the Marathas. All of these four powers took many precautions in the arena of south Indian politics in making or breaking alliances with or against one another. Nizam Ali had been thoroughly humbled by the Marathas at Rakshasbhuvan in September 1763, and thereafter, the two powers maintained friendly relations with each other. Nizam was, however, won over the British through a secret diplomacy by signing a treaty of friendship with him on 12 November 1766, with the clandestine intentions of forging an alliance against Haider Ali. The Peshwa Madhav Rao now being favorably disposed towards the Nizam, it was expected that the Marathas
would also join their front against Haider, but the British hopes belied them. As soon as Haider Ali got an inclination about it, he hastened to make peace with the Marathas, though at a heavy price, and detached the Nizam marched upon Carnatic early in 1767 and invested the fort of Kaveripatnam. It signaled the outbreak of the First Anglo-Mysore War.

Course

About that time, Colonel Smith, the senior most British officer at Madras, had but only a small number of troops under his command. Therefore, instead of going to the relief of Kaveripatnam, he made a diversion towards Trinomali to make a junction with the forces of Wood, who was coming from Trichinopoly. Their rivals, on the receipt of intelligence, intercepted the army of Smith at Changama. In the bloody carnage that followed, Haider Ali and Nizam Ali suffered a defeat with a heavy loss of 1500 soldiers killed or wounded. The British columns of Smith and Wood did make a junction at Trinomali and inflicted yet another defeat on their foes on 26 September 1767. Because of the heavy rains, Haider Ali had to make a hasty retreat from the war and so did the British troops. In the brief disengagement that followed, the Nizam was once again won over by the British to their side by offers of liberal terms in February 1768. In order to please the Nizam of Hyderabad, the Company alluded to his regal status as the overlord of the Deccan, and agreed to pay tribute to him for the ‘Northern Sarkars’. In the treaty, Haider Ali was referred to as ‘Haider Naik, a rebel’, and the English expressed their solemn resolve to wrest Carnatic and Balaghat from him, which they intended to retain, in return for payment of a handsome tribute of seven lakh per annum to the Nizam. The high contrasting parties’ entered into an offensive and defensive alliance with each other.
The terms of the treaty, as concluded by the English with the Nizam, ‘infuriated’ Haider Ali, and he single-handed fell upon the British possessions undaunted. In March 1769, he suddenly ‘made appearance under the walls of Madras’ and challenged them for a fight. The British were too terrified to take the filed against him and asked for terms. The war was brought to a close by the Treaty of Madras in April.

Treaty of Madras

The President of the British settlement at Madras concluded a humiliating treaty with Haider Ali on 3 April 1769, which provided for the exchange of the prisoners of war and restoration of all the territories by both the parties. The British ‘lost all the provinces which they had seized’, and they also promised to help Haider Ali if he was attacked by any other power.

Results

Haider Ali’s reputation soared very high and he returned to Mysore in triumph. The British gained nothing but impoverishment from the First Anglo – Mysore War. The clandestine dealings and subsequent conflagration with Haider Ali and the Nizam of Hyderabad were rather contradictory. In 1771, the Marathas invaded Mysore and Haider Ali asked the British for help according to the terms of this treaty but they did not come for support. On account of this breach of faith, Haider Ali became an avowed enemy of the British; he never forgave their treacherous conduct and struck against them a decade later.\(^\text{17}\)

\(^{17}\) Jaswant Lal Mehta, Advanced Study in the History of Modern India, 1707-1813, pp.541-543
The Second Anglo-Mysore War

Causes

That the British had no intention of honoring the terms of the treaty soon became evident during the war of Haider Ali with the Marathas in 1770, when, even after repeated requests by Haider, they did not extend their support. As a result, Haider had to suffer a severe defeat and accept a humiliating peace in July 1772. This event, along with others, paved the way for the Second Mysore War (1780-1784) where his son Tipu was to play a decisive role. Tipu accompanied his father during the campaign against Malabar in 1763. He also played a crucial role in winning over the Nizam during the first Mysore War, fought zealously with his father at Madras in 1769 and participated in the Mysore-Maratha War of 1770-1772.

By now, Tipu had enough experience both in terms of military tactics and political diplomacy to present a brave front to the British at the time of the second Mysore War.

Events happening in Europe played a crucial role in instigating the second Mysore War. The British camp in India was all set to wage a war against France as an extension of the war between the two countries that had commenced in 1778. The British marched to the French seaport Mahe without the permission of Haider. Haidar took the event as a violation of the terms of the treaty and an encroachment on his domain, since Mahe was located at the Malabar Coast, which was part of Mysore. Haider preferred to answer in the form of war. A powerful alliance of the Nizam, the Marathas and Haider was formed with intent to attack all the British possessions in India. Haider’s main target was Arcot.
Course

The bone of contention of the Second Mysore War was the struggle of mastery over southern Indian between Haider Ali and Nawab Muhammad Ali Walajah of Arcot. The two dominant European powers, England and France also participated in this war. Haider prepared for war against Muhammad Ali and marched towards Arcot. On receiving news of Haider’s siege of Arcot Muhammad Ali requested his ally the English, for military assistance. The English readily agreed to support Muhammad Ali. According to the strategy the forces of Major General Sir Hector Munro, the commander-in-chief, were to form a junction with the forces of Colonel Baillie at Conjeevaram. However, Haider detached Tipu Sultan to block the way of Colonel Baillie and prevent both the British forces from combining. Tipu Sultan was given command of a powerful army to attack Colonel Baillie who was in the vicinity of Perambakum just 14 miles away from Sir Hector Munro Colonel Baillie had exhausted his ammunition and provisions so he wrote to General Munro”.. that on a review of his corps after the action he found it was not in his power to join but hoped to see the General at Perambakum…” After receiving Colonel Baillie’s note Munro sent a detachment under the command of Lt. Colonel Fletcher. This detachment had skillfully evaded the enemy and joined Baillie at Perambakum. Late that evening Baillie proceeded towards Conjeevaram and decided to halt for the night much against the advice of Lt. Col. Flecher. Next morning they had hardly proceeded two miles when Tipu’s forces engaged them in battle.

18 Wilks, I, p.685.
19 Kirmani., p102.
In the meantime, Haider Ali unobserved by Munro followed with his cavalry and formed a junction with Tipu. After perceiving a formidable force collecting before him Baillie ordered his troops to form an oblong infantry square. Haider looked to the position of the British camp. He then commenced the bombardment form his artillery units. This made it impossible for Colonel Baillie to join the main army. Nevertheless, the Colonel with his limited arms and ammunition stood firm in the battlefield. The domination army of Haider blew up the last tumbrel and destroyed the British artillery. This resulted in the exhaustion of their ammunition. The event provided Tipu an opportunity to penetrate the infantry square and dilute the resistance of the British forces with the powerful attack of his cavalry. From the other side the French corps under Mon. Lally surrounded them. At the same time, Haider's canons continuously fired upon them. In such a critical condition, Colonel Baillie once again formed an infantry square. However, he had to surrender himself. The survivors, including Colonel Baillie, Captain David Baird and Captain John Lindsay were consigned to one of the prisons of Haider.\textsuperscript{20} Thus ended the Battle of Pollilur.

Tipu’s army confronted Baillie’s troops at Pollilur, 10 miles northwest of Conjeevaram. It was here that the significant second Mysore war took place. Colonel Baillie and General Bird were among the two hundred soldiers arrested as war prisoners. From Pollilur, Tipu’s forces proceeded to occupy Arcot and Ambur and waged successful campaigns. On the other hand, Sir Eyre Coote at Porto Novo defeated Haider while he was trying to crush the British power on coramandal Coast.

\textsuperscript{20} During the peace treaty of 1784, Baird was released and 15 years later, he led the final attack on Srirangapatna


Haider’s Death

Haidar had been suffering from carbuncle since November 1782. His health continued to deteriorate and he dies on the morning of December 7, 1782, at Narasingarayanpet near Chittoor at the age of 60.\textsuperscript{21}

The real fact is that before he died Haidar sent for his secretary and ordered him to write to Tipu that he should immediately return to him after making suitable arrangements for the defence of his Malabar possessions.\textsuperscript{22}

On the night of December 9 Haidar’s body was deposited in a large chest and sent under an escort as if it were a valuable treasure being deposited in the tomb of Fath Muhammad.\textsuperscript{23}

It was afterwards removed to Seringapatam and was buried in the grand mausoleum built by Tipu.

Tipu, with the consent of the loyal ministers of his father, ascended the throne with the title of Nawab Tipu Sultan Bahadur. Kirmani Writes” on a Saturday, in the commencement of the year 1197, Hijri, he was seated on the throne of dignity and majesty, and the offerings of felicitation on his accession were presented.”\textsuperscript{24}

Subsequent to the death of his father and his accession to the throne, Tipu issued farmans to the commanders of all the forts, the farmers and the collectors of the revenue. They were informed of the latest development and were promised continuity of the privilages that they had

\textsuperscript{21} Bowring, Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan, Delhi, 1969, p. 104.
\textsuperscript{22} Kirmani, p.248
\textsuperscript{23} Kirmani, pp.249-250; Haidar-Namah, p.100.
\textsuperscript{24} Ibid, p.3.
enjoying during his father’s reign. An astute statesman, he took the measures to avoid any instance of unrest during the change of regime. It was about the time that the commander-in-chief of the French army dispatched Count Dupleix along with two thousand French troops to support the Sultan.

“He (Tipu) inherited a powerful kingdom which extended from the Krishna in the north to Dindigal in the south, about 400 miles in length, and from Malabar in the west to the sloping Ghats in the east, about 300 miles in width.” Subsequent to coronation, Tipu had to continue war with the British as they threatened to occupy Mangalore and Bedanore in his absence. Meanwhile, he had to face yet another setback when the rani of Mysore, Lakshmi Ammanni conspired against him and provided financial support to the British to restore the dynasty of wodeyars. However, the attempts of the Rani to overthrow Tipu failed completely. Yet another blow was to fall from the French side. After the news of peace between England and France in Europe, in June 1783, the French were willing to accept the peace proposals of English in India as well.
The French commander Bussy, who arrived in India in March 1783 with 27 ships and 5000 troops to support Tipu, was particularly interested in restoring peace with the British.  

Apart from the British, Bussy also negotiated diplomatic contacts with other Indian powers such as the Nizam of Hyderabad. An illustration from the manuscript of Tuzuk-i-Asafia shows him presenting a letter to Nizam Ali Khan (1762-1803).  

Refering to the role played by Bussy, B. Sheikh Ali is of the opinion that, ”In reality Bussy was anxious to play the role of a peace-maker and thus enhance his prestige. With the signing of the armistice on August 2, 1783 he accomplished his first objective. He turned than to bring about general peace, for which he sent his agents both to Tipu and to the British at Madras. Neither of them showed any inclination to accept his mediation. He was sadly

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disappointed in his attempt. His anxiety to cover his military failure by diplomatic success in India failed miserably.”

However, if Tipu was facing difficulties, the British situation too, was not very satisfactory. The war had brought about serious deficits on the Company’s finances and Tipu Sultan weakened their morale by capturing Mangalore and Bernore. The result was the treaty of Mangalore was signed between the two opponents on March 11, 1784. The treaty recognized Tipu as the master of all the territories that belonged to his late father.

\[27 \text{Sheikh Ali.B, op. cit., p.9.}\]
From 1784 to 1787 A.D, the years following the restoration of peace with the British, were marked by the sultan’s war with the Marathas and the Nazam along with crushing of the rebellions, the most significant being the of Coorg. He further established contacts with foreign powers such as France, Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan. In June 1784, the Marathas, upset with the Treaty of Mangalore, formed an alliance with the Nizam who was never comfortable with the growing power of Mysore. In 1786, the two waged war on Tipu. Tipu was busy crushing the rebellion of Coorg when he received the news of the war and immediately marched to Adoni, which was a strong frontier post of Nizam Ali, south of the river Tungabhadra. It was held by Mhabat Jung, nephew of Nizam Ali, who was residing at Adoni with his family.
“Tipu having resolved on the reduction of the fort, encompassed it on all sides and went about making his approaches and keeping up a continual fire of cannon and mortars, with a view eventually to draw off the confederates to the assistance of Mohabat Jung and his harem and force them to an accommodation. At the same time, amohabat ajung, on his part, giving orders for the regulation and security of the fort, put up a desperate defence at the head of 7,000 horse and foot, repelling the several columns of assault with great slaughter. Tipu, having mounted batteries near the ditch, was employed in a similar assault of another breach but was repulsed with the same energy and effect”\(^\text{28}\)

The Battle of Adoni is beautifully illustrated in the Nizam’s court chronicle Tuzak-i-Asafia Falio No 321B is magnificently illustrated painting of the siege of Adoni. The text primarily narrates that the Asafi forces bravely confronted the attack by Tipu Sultan and that the seizure of the fort continued for a month. Nizam’s army gallantly faced the uninterrupted firing of the forces of Tipu. He intended to damage the fort and breach its wall. However, the task became formidable due to serious resistance by the Nizam’s army.

**The Third Mysore War (1790-1792):**

The third Mysore war (1790-1792) broke out in May 1790. The British forces were divided in three parts: the Central Army, The Bombay Army and The Grand Army.\(^\text{29}\)

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\(^{29}\) Robert Home, Select Views in Mysore; The country of Tipu Sultan from Drawing taken on the spout, London, 1794, p.37.
These battalions were also expected to later help the Grand Army that intended to reduce Coimbatore and the Eastern Ghats, under the leadership of General Meadows. The Marathas and the Nizam were given charges of attacking the territories of Tipu that were near their respective kingdoms. All these forces were ultimately to meet at Srirangapatana, the Capital of the Mysore kingdom, to deliver the final blow to the Sultan on Mysore. 

On the 13th of May, the confederacy led by the Lord Cornwallis encamped about nine miles east of Srirangapatana. A fierce battle took place between the two sides. However, due to shortage of provisions and the rising

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30 Ibid.
level of river Kaveri, the allied forces had to quit the vicinity of Srirangapatna on the 6th of June 1791. In early March, when the allied forces attacked the Bangalore Fort, Tipu was campaigning near Pondicherry and could not reach in time to defend it.

On February 5, 1792 after reducing a number of forts, the British returned to encamp in the neighborhood of Srirangapatana to launch another attack. This time their campaign was successful and they managed to occupy a large part of the island near Lalbagh, which was on the eastern side. Tipu had to propose peace to Lord Cornwallis and the later agreed to meet his envoys Ghulam ali Khan and Ali Reza.

As agreement had been arrived at on all points, Tipu signed the Preliminary Treaty on February 23, and on the morning of the 24th hostilities ceased. The Preliminary Treaty consisted of the following article:

1. One-half of the kingdom, which was in Tipu Sultan’s possession before the war, was to be ceded to the allies from the countries adjacent to their respective boundaries, according to their discretion.
2. Three crores and thirty lakhs of rupees were to be paid by Tipu Sultan either in gold mohurs, pagodas or bullion. One crore and sixty five lakhs to be paid immediately and the rest in three installments, of not exceeding four months each.
3. All prisoners belonging to the four powers and held since the time of Haidar Ali were to be released.
4. Two of the three eldest sons of Tipu Sultan were to be given as hostages for the due performance of the treaty.31

31 Aitchison, treatise, ix, pp. 210-11.
5. The terms of the peace were harsh as the Treaty of Srirangapatana that concluded the war not only inflicted huge territorial and financial losses that broke the back bone of the Mysore state but also landed a severe personal blow to the Sultan as he had to surrender two of his sons, Abdul Khaliq and Muiz-ud-din as hostages. The princes were released in March 1794.

In this painting Ghulam Ali is shown seated on a higher level. However, he is offering the sons of his master to Lord Cornwallis with his forward, pointing hands. Tipu’s supporters are shown demoralized. On the other hand the, the members of the retinue of Lord Cornwallis are shown standing triumphantly.
The surrender of two sons of Tipu Sultan, 1802. J. Rogers after Henry Singleton, Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad.

The Reception of the Mysorean Hostage Princes by Marquis Cornwallis, 26 February 1792, by Robert Home.
The event of British triumph remained a celebrated theme of depiction among western painters even after the final defeat of the State of Mysore in 1799.

This was painted by Robert Home, the official war artist between 1792 and 1795. In this painting, the princes are shown along with native guardians and a British officer within a well-furnished room. In this painting ghulam Ali is shown seated on the chair in relaxed manner. British officer is shown conversing with Ali Reza Khan, behind ghulanm Ali. The artist tried to convey, in a subtle manner, the benevolent treatment meted out to the hostages by the British.

**Fourth Anglo Mysore war**

**Causes**

Tipu Sultan tried to improve the military, economic and administrative system of the state of Mysore and also sent an embassy to Mauritius, maintained contact with Napoleon in France, as well as Zaman Shah in Afghanistan, in order to form an alliance and gain military help.
Napoleon's landing in Egypt in 1798 was intended to further the capture of the British possessions in India, and the Kingdom of Mysore was a key to that next step, as the ruler of Mysore, Tipu Sultan, was a staunch ally of France. Even though Horatio Nelson crushed Napoleon's ambitions at the Battle of the Nile, three armies – one from Bombay and two British (one of which contained a division that was commanded by Colonel Arthur Wellesley, the future 1st Duke of Wellington). Lord, Wellesley, who became Governor General in 1798, used Tipu’s attempt to contact foreign powers was considered as a violation of the treaty of Srirangapatana. It was considered as an excuse for the final attack at Srirangapatna.

Tipu tried his best to come to an understanding with Wellesley; but having failed in his efforts, and learning that the English armies were closing in upon him from all sides, he prepared himself for resistance.

**Course**

Leaving a small force under Purnaiya and Sayyid Saheb to watch the movements of Harris and harass him during his march, he left the neighborhood of Maddur, where he say encamped with about 11,800 men, and on February 28, 1799, marched swiftly to the east in order to strike a decisive blow at Stuart by a surprise attack.

Tipu remained at Periapatam until March 11, 1799 and then marched to Seringapatam to refit. From there he set out to meet Harris who was advancing on his capital. Harris had left the neighbourhood of Bangalore on the 16th March, 1799 and had reached Kanksnhslli on the 21st March. He had then marched to Maddur river, which he had.
During the war, rockets were again used on several occasions. One of these involved Colonel Arthur Wellesley, later famous as the First Duke of Wellington. Wellesley was defeated by Tipu's Diwan, Purnaiya, at the Battle of Sultanpet Tope. Quoting Forrest,

At this point (near the village of Sultanpet, there was a large tope, or grove, which gave shelter to Tipu's rocketmen and had obviously to be cleaned out before the siege could be pressed closer to Srirangapattana island. The commander chosen for this operation was Col. Wellesley, but advancing towards the tope after dark on the 5 April 1799, he was set upon with rockets and musket-fires, lost his way and, as Beatson politely puts it, had to "postpone the attack" until a more favourable opportunity should offer.\textsuperscript{32}

The following day, Wellesley launched a fresh attack with a larger force, and took the whole position without losing a single man.\textsuperscript{33} On 22 April 1799, twelve days before the main battle, rocketeers worked their way around to the rear of the British encampment, then 'threw a great number of rockets at the same instant' to signal the beginning of an assault by 6,000 Indian infantry and a corps of Frenchmen, all directed by Mir Gulam Hussain and Mohomed Hulleen Mir Miran. The rockets had a range of about 1,000 yards. Some burst in the air like shells. Others, called ground rockets, would rise again on striking the ground and bound along in a serpentine motion until their force was spent. According to one British observer, a young English officer named Bayly: "So pestered were we with the rocket boys that there was no moving without danger from the destructive missiles ...". He continued:

The rockets and musketry from 20,000 of the enemy were incessant. No hail could be thicker. Every illumination of blue lights was accompanied by a shower of rockets, some of which entered the head of the column, passing through to the rear, causing death, wounds, and dreadful lacerations from the long bamboos of twenty or thirty feet, which are invariably attached to them.

During the conclusive British attack on Srirangapattana on 2 May 1799, a British shot struck a magazine of rockets within Tipu Sultan's fort, causing it to explode and send a towering cloud of black smoke with cascades of exploding white light rising up from the battlements. On the afternoon of 4 May when the final attack on the fort was led by Baird, he was again met by "furious musket and rocket fire", but this did not help much; in about an hour's time the fort was taken; perhaps within another hour Tipu had been shot (the precise time of his death is not known), and the war was effectively over.\(^{34}\)

**Result**

In the final attack in which the Sultan was killed on May 4, 1799. Thus, the fourth Mysore War sealed the fate of the dynasty of Haider Ali and Tipu Sulatan.

Today, the spot where Tipu's body was discovered under the eastern gate has been fenced off by the Archaeological Survey of India, and a plaque erected. The gate itself was later demolished during the 19th century to lay a wide road.

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\(^{34}\) Narasimha Roddam (2 April 1985) Rockets in Mysore and Britain, 1750–1850 A.D., National Aeronautical Laboratory and Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore 560017 India, Project Document DU
One notable military advance championed by Tipu Sultan was the use of mass attacks with iron-cased rocket brigades in the army. The effect of the Mysorean rockets on the British during the Third and Fourth Mysore Wars was sufficiently impressive to inspire William Congreve to develop the Congreve rockets.
The storming of Srirangapatna in the salar jung Museum are based on the final attack and fall of Srirangapatna in 1799. These paintings were made in 1800 after a panorama by Robert Ker Porter which was about 120 feet long and covered 2,550 square feet of canvas. The painting was accidentally destroyed by fire. Apparently, the original version was painted by the young artist in only six weeks. The painting depicted several hundred figures with nearly twenty portraits of British officers.\(^{35}\)

Though the Sultan died while trying to leave from the water gate of the fort and not in any direct combat, the British artists never missed an opportunity to convey that the British forces killed him. Some artists have shown Tipu in an ignominious manner while fighting the British. One of the reasons could be that though Mysore was ultimately defeated, it had always been the most difficult hurdle in the British imperialist policy and their campaign against Mysore had given a serious blow to their resources.