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Ch: POLITICAL CONDITION IN EIGHTEEN CENTURIES (Note)

Emergence of New States

Through the eighteenth century, the Mughal Empire gradually fragmented into a number of independent, regional states. The states can be divided into three overlapping groups:

- 1. States that were old Mughal provinces like Awadh, Bengal and Hyderabad. Although extremely powerful and quite independent, the rulers of these states did not break their formal ties with the Mughal emperor.
- 2. States that had enjoyed considerable independence under the Mughals as watan jagirs. These included several Rajput principalities.
- 3. The last group included states under the control of Marathas, Sikhs and others like the Jats. These were of different sizes and had seized their independence from the Mughals after a long-drawn armed struggle.