

The Maratha War of Independence

Chapter 9: The Maratha War of Independence · Topic 1

Key Concept

After Sambhaji's capture and execution by the Mughals, the Marathas continued their resistance under new leadership, refusing to surrender.

This period, sometimes called the Maratha War of Independence, saw prolonged guerrilla warfare against the powerful Mughal Empire.

Despite facing a much larger and more resourced Mughal army, the Marathas persisted, eventually wearing down Mughal resources and morale.

This determined resistance ultimately weakened the Mughal Empire and paved the way for continued Maratha influence in India.

Quick Revision Notes

- After Sambhaji's capture/execution, resistance continued.
- New leadership emerged, refused to surrender.
- This period: Maratha War of Independence.
- Featured prolonged guerrilla warfare.
- Against the powerful Mughal Empire.
- Despite Mughal's larger, resourced army.
- Marathas persisted, wore down Mughal resources.
- This weakened Mughals, aided Maratha influence.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research Sambhaji's capture and its aftermath.
- 2 Discuss the guerrilla warfare tactics used in this period.
- 3 Discuss why the Marathas persisted despite challenges.
- 4 Research the outcome of this war on the Mughal Empire.
- 5 Draw a timeline of this period.
- 6 Explain the significance of this resistance in your own words.