

Why did armies of the British EIC mostly comprising of Indian soldiers win consistently against the more numerous & better equipped army of the Indian rulers. Give reasons.

EIC which came to India in early 17th century with few soldiers for the purpose of trade started territorial expansion & made a strong political setup with their superior army tactics, diplomacy and high level of espionage. In this course they also recruited Indian soldiers in a large number.

Following are the reasons why British EIC mostly comprising of Indian soldiers win consistently against powerful Indian rulers —

1) Great Military Commanders — British were having great military commanders like Robert Clive, Lord Wellesley, Arthur Wellesley

2) Second line commanders — Like Sir Eyre Coote who gave their great contribution to the front commanders.

3) Regular salary — Soldiers were paid regularly unlike Indian rulers soldiers who mostly ~~see~~ fought with non permanent army eg mercenary (Pindari) in case of Maratha who could be manipulated by giving bribes.

4) Disciplined & well trained army — Though army of British constitute less no of soldiers, they all men well disciplined, trained on Spanish line equipped with modern guns, canon etc that the Indians had no match of all —

5) Diplomacy — British used various diplomatic policies to win battles & acquire territory. i.e. subsidary alliance, war indemnity etc

6) Internal Disputes & Battles in between Indian rulers gave an added advantage to Britishers.

7) Lack of Nationalism in Indian soldiers as well as India. rulers gave an edge to Britishers as rulers were easily manipulated to wedge war against another Indian rulers.

8) Indian soldiers were adept to the harsh climate of India & well introduced to the geography of India & politics which helped Britishers in their ambitions.

Though Britishers Etc had an army of some thousands soldiers in the early late 19th century they started recruiting Indians and increased their strength by training them on European line. Socio-political condition provided no sense of Nationalism in these soldiers & economic condition forced them to fight from British side which ultimately fulfilled British dream.