

**TRENDS IN INDIAN HISTORIOGRAPHY  
MODULE-IV-HISTORIOGRAPHICAL TRENDS  
IN INDEPENDENT INDIA**



**TOPIC-ANIL SEAL AND C.A BAYLY  
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# ANIL SEAL



- Anil Seal was one of the founders of the New Cambridge school of Indian history. He had his education from graduation level to doctoral work in Cambridge university.
- His work ‘emergence of Indian nationalism: Competition and collaboration in the later Nineteenth century’ published in 1968 is typical example of New Cambridge historical writings
- His another important work is ‘ power, profit, and politics’.
- He edited the work, ‘Locality, Province and Nation’ along with the other two New Cambridge historians, John Gallagher and Gordon John
- Seal, from an imperialist point of view analyses the social roots of the rather confused stirrings towards the political organizations of 1870s and 1880s, which brought about the foundation of Indian National congress.



- Seal, in his article ‘imperialism and Nationalism in India’ published in the journal Modern Asian studies in 1973, states that Indian politics should be studied at each and every level, none of them can be a complete field of study on its own
- He presented the nationalist movement as an elite-driven event that developed from the selfish desires of its political leadership

# C.A BAYLY



- Christopher Alan Bayly is the Co-editor of ‘The New Cambridge History of India.
- He is a Cambridge based British historian specialized in British imperialism in India
- He became the first swami vivekananda professor in south Asian studies at the university of chicago, America.
- His works include; ‘Local roots of Indian politics, Rulers, Townsmen and Bazars and Indian society and making of the British Empire.
- In 2007, he was the first scholar to be knighted ‘for services to history outside of Europe’ There after he became ‘ Sir Christopher Bayly.
- Bayly’s works crossed economic, social, political, cultural and intellectual history, the histories of visual arts and natural sciences.
- In his work, ‘Local Roots of Indian politics’, Bayly explains how local leaders in north India were linked to government institutions, whether



- Municipal or provincial and how they became involved in a wide range of social, religious and political movements, which came into being late in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- His another work, *Rulers, Townsmen and Bazaars* traces the evolution of North Indian towns and merchant communities from the decline of Mughal dominion to the consolidation of British Empire.
- Bayly's *Empire and Information: intelligence Gathering and social communication in India, 1780-1870* published in 1996 is an innovative work with a different perspective.
- He argues that British conquest of India depended principally upon the colonizer's capacity to manipulate Indian knowledge about the Indian world.