



## Mains Practice Question

Q. The pursuance of a foreign policy, guided by the interest of British imperialism often led to India's conflicts with neighboring countries. Discuss.

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### Approach

- Start the answer by briefly mentioning the goals of British Foreign policy.
- Discuss the major reasons conflicts due to British Foreign Policy
- Conclude Suitably.

### Introduction

British Foreign Policy was aimed at British expansion and territorial conquests outside India's natural frontiers. These imperialist tendencies clashed with other European imperialist powers, which resulted in conflicts.

### Body

#### Reasons of Conflicts due to British Foreign Policy

- There were many factors that impelled the Government of India to reach out for natural, geographical frontiers for internal cohesion and defence. For example,
  - Political and administrative consolidation of the country;
  - Introduction of modern means of communication;
  - These factors sometimes resulted in border clashes.
- The British Government had as its major aims in Asia and Africa:
  - Protection of the invaluable Indian empire;
  - Expansion of British commercial and economic interests;
  - Keeping other European imperialist powers, whose colonial interests came in conflict with those of the British, at an arm's length in Asia and Africa.

### Conclusion

British foreign policy interests dragged British India into conflicts, While the interests served were British, the money spent and the blood shed was Indian.