1. Compare and contrast the main features of the Permanent Settlement and the Mahalwari settlement. Were they able to fulfill their objectives?

Ans: Permanent Settlement had some special features i.e.
- The reminders and revenue collectors were converted into so many landlords. They were not only to act as agents of the Government in collecting land revenue from the ryot, but also to become the owners of the entire land (over which they were collecting revenue). Their right of ownership was made hereditary and transferable.
- On the other hand, the cultivators were reduced to the low status of mere tenants and were deprived of long-standing rights to the soil and other customary rights.
- The use of the pasture and forest lands, irrigation canals, fisheries, and homestead plots and protection against enhancement of rent were some of the cultivators’ rights which were sacrificed.
- In fact the tenancy of Bengal was left entirely at the mercy of the zamindars. This was done so that the zamindars might be able to pay in time the exorbitant land revenue demand of the Company.
- The zamindars were to give 10/11th of the rental they derived from the peasantry to the state, keeping only 1/11th for themselves. But the sums to be paid by them as land revenue were fixed in perpetuity.
- At the same time, the zamindar had to pay his revenue rigidly on the due date even if the crop had failed for some reason; otherwise his lands were to be sold.
- John Shore, the man who planned the Permanent Settlement and later succeeded Cornwallis as Governor-General, calculated that if the gross produce of Bengal be taken as 100, the Government claimed 45, zamindars and other intermediaries below them received 15, and only 40 remained with the actual cultivator.

Effect of Permanent Settlement:
- Absentee Landlordism: Since zamindars were assured of their ownership of lands, many of them stayed in towns. They entrusted rent collection to agents who even extracted illegal taxes besides the legal ones from the tenets.
- After increase in prices, company suffered financial loss because land productivity was high while income from it was meagre.

Ryotwari System
- It was introduced in Bombay, Madras, Assam and Berar. Sir Thomas Munro introduced it in Madras. It was during the term of Lord Hastings.
  - Since there were no zamindars in south India, the company recognised the peasant as the proprietor.
  - Under the Ryotwari system, a direct settlement was made between the government and the ryot / cultivator.
  - The revenue was fixed for a period from 20 to 40 years, where every individual was responsible for payment of revenue.
  - The revenue was fixed on the basis of quality of the soil and the nature of crop. It was based on the scientific rent theory of economist Ricardo.

Impact of Ryotwari system:
- Even while the position of cultivator became more secure, but the rigid system of revenue collection forced ryots into the hands of moneylender.
- Since the government itself became a big zamindar, it had right to enhance revenue at will. The cultivator was left at the mercy of the collecting officers.
- The ryotwari system was introduced in the Madras and Bombay presidencies between 1792 and 1827. Here, the middlemen or the zamindars were removed. The settlement was made directly between the Company and the ryot or the cultivator, who paid the government about half the value of the crop. The revenue amount was revised after 20 or 30 years depending on the fertility of the soil. This system was different from the Permanent Settlement of Bengal as it gave more security to the cultivators.

2. Discuss the salient aspects of the Hyderabad administrative setup.

Ans: Hyderabad State, also known as Hyderabad Deccan, was a former country and Indian princely state located in the south-central region of India with its capital at the city of Hyderabad. It is now divided into Telangana state, Hyderabad-Karnataka region of Karnataka and Marathwada region of Maharashtra. The state was ruled from 1724 until 1948 by a hereditary Nizam who was initially a Mughal governor of the Deccan before becoming independent. Hyderabad gradually became the first princely state to come under British paramountcy signing a subsidiary alliance agreement. After the Partition of India, Hyderabad signed a standstill agreement with the new dominion of India, continuing all previous arrangements except for the stationing of Indian troops in the state. Hyderabad's location in the middle of the Indian union, as well as its diverse cultural heritage, was a driving force behind India's invasion and annexation of the state in 1948. Subsequently, the Nizam signed an instrument of accession, joining India.

After Indian Independence (1947–48)
- Hyderabad State was founded by Mir Qamar-ud-din Khan who was the governor of Deccan under the Mughals from 1713 to 1721. In 1724, he once again resumed rule under the title of Asaf Jah. His other title, Nizam ul-Mulk (Order of the Realm), became the title of his position “Nizam of Hyderabad”. By the end of his rule, the Nizam had become independent from the Mughals, and had founded the Asaf Jahi dynasty.
- Following the decline of the Mughal power, the region of Deccan saw the rise of Maratha Empire. The Nizam himself saw many invasions by the Marathas in the 1720s, which resulted in the Nizam paying a regular tax to the Marathas. The major battles fought between the Marathas and the Nizam include Palkhed, Rakshashbhuwan, and Kharda, in all of which the Nizam lost. Following the