

(PAK AFFAIRS)

Q.1. Analyse the factors responsible for the degeneration of muslim society in the 18th century? (20 marks)

Ans

1)

INTRODUCTION

The muslim rule in the sub continent was first time established by Qutub-ud-din-Aibak in 1206, with the beginning of Delhi sultanate. Later, Babar replaced this sultanate with the Mughal Empire, in 1526. The Mughal Empire was at its peak till 1707. But, the muslim rule and society began to degenerate and deoriented by the beginning of the eighteenth century. There were many factors which contributed to this degeneration such as political, economical, social religious, internal as well as external

2) BACKGROUND; ESTABLISHMENT OF MUSLIM RULE IN THE SUBCONTINENT

The muslim rule in the subcontinent was formed by Qutub-din Aibak for the first time with the establishment of Delhi sultanate on 1206. Mughal Empire was then established by Babur. It was the golden age of muslims until 1707. After that, the muslim started facing their downfall.

3) FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEGENERATION OF MUSLIM SOCIETY IN THE SUBCONTINENT IN THE 18th CENTURY

3.1) POLITICAL FACTORS

i) Continuous War of Succession

As there was no law of succession, thus the wars of succession were

fought for to achieve throne. Three sons of Aurangzeb, for instance, fought with one another for to get power.

ii)

Rising of independent rulers;
Another factor which weakened the muslim rule was the rising of independent rulers. The rise of Kalhosa in Sindh, and that of Ali Khan Wardi in Bengal along with others weakened the rule.

iii)

Weak successors of Aurangzeb; The rulers who succeeded Aurangzeb were incompetent. They could not rule the empire efficiently. Besides, they were involved in many luxurious activities. Bahadur Shah II who was the last ruler, therefore became a titular ruler.

iv)

Rising of internal rivals; The rise of internal rivals also threatened

the Empire The rising Marathas and
Jats were threatening & and weakening
the muslim rule.

v) External wars and attacks; The
frequent external attacks also
weakened the Empire. The attacks
by Nadir shah and Ahmed shah
Abdali, for example, shattered the
muslim rule. Other foreign attacks
by Britishers, and France were also
seen by the muslims.

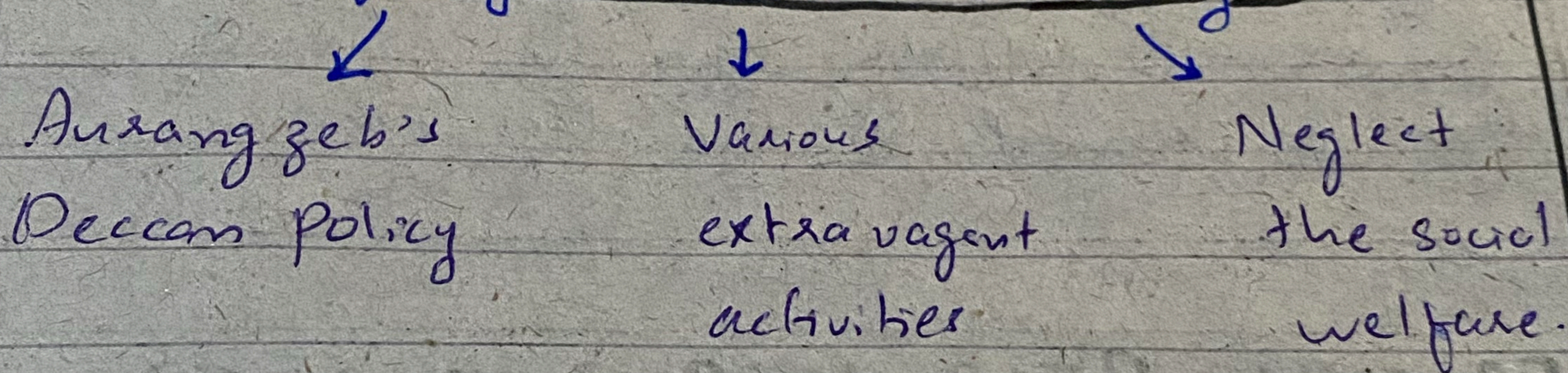
vi) Arrival of the Britishers; Britishers
arrived the subcontinent through
East India Company during the
rule of Jahangir. They started
controlling the ~~entire~~ subcontinent
by and by. Consequently, they
controlled it wholly by 1858
after the war of Independence.

3.2) ECONOMIC FACTORS

- i) Economic backwardness; Government
treasury was empty:

The muslims were facing economic
stagnation. Government treasury was
empty due to several reasons.
Aurangzeb's Deccan policy was one of
these reasons.

Reasons for the emptiness of government's treasury



3.3) RELIGIOUS FACTORS; RELIGIOUS DECLINE

Religious decline and waywardness
from the true teachings of Islam
was another factor which contributed
to the degeneration of muslims.

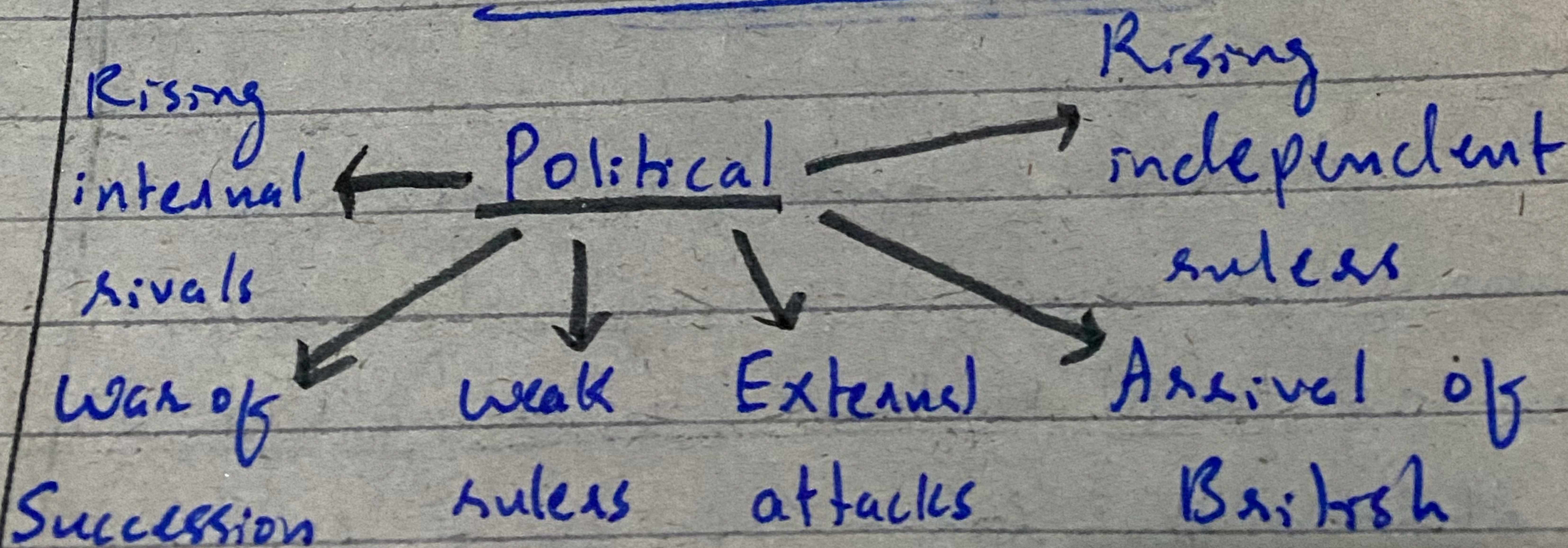
in the subcontinent. Besides, the British missionaries tried to adulterate Islam as well.

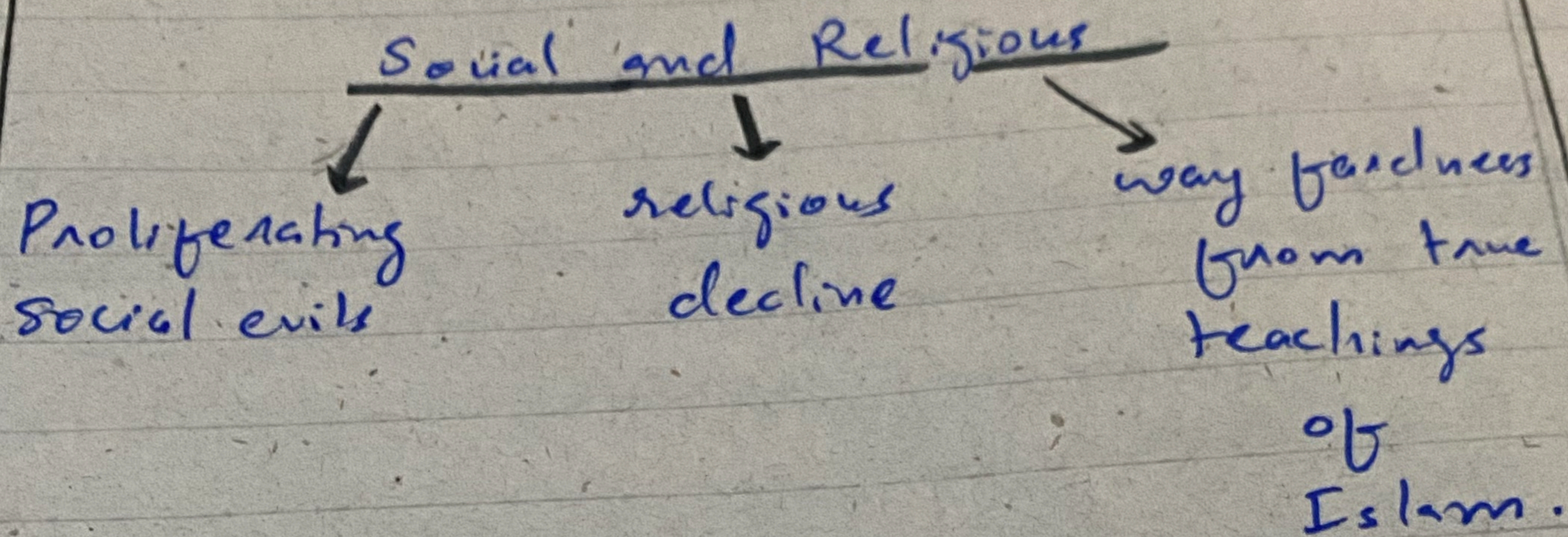
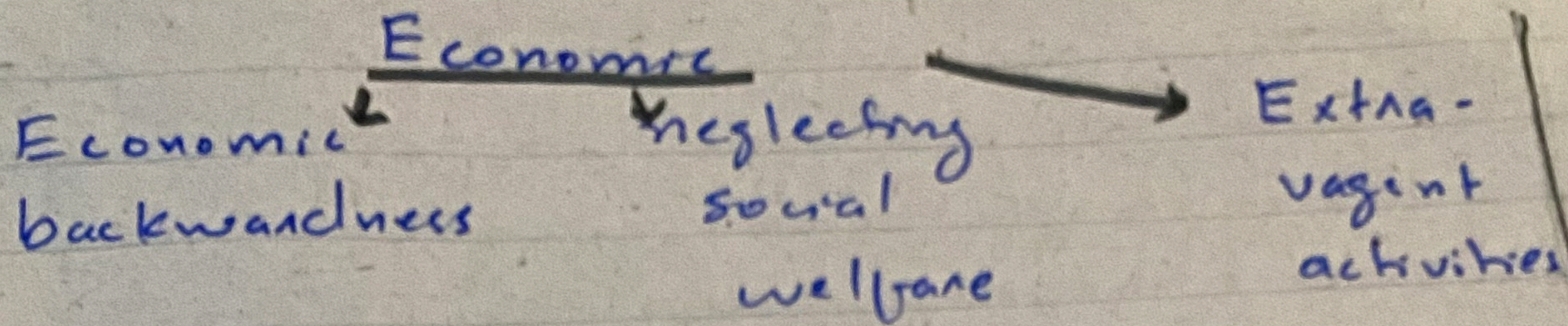
3.4) SOCIAL FACTORS;

i) Prevailing social evils and neglecting social welfare activities;

Another reason for the degeneration of muslim society was the prevailing social evils like practising easy money. Moreover, the neglect of social welfare by the rulers also contributed to the degeneration.

FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEGENERATION OF MUSLIM SOCIETY





4)

CONCLUSION

The muslim rule lasted for many years in the subcontinent due to the efficient rulers. However, this rule started to weaken by the Eighteenth century because of inefficient rulers and other reasons.