

Battle of Haldighati

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In News: The Battle of Haldighati was a battle fought on 18 June 1576 between Maharana Pratap and the Mughal emperor Akbar's forces. W

Background of Battle of Haldighati

- In 1572, the first emissary sent was Jalal Khan Qurchi. He failed to convince Pratap to accept the overlordship of the Mughals and returned disappointed.
- In 1573, Raja Man Singh of Amer was sent by Akbar, he also failed to convince.
- In Oct. 1573, Akbar made another attempt and dispatched Raja Bhagwant Das, the Kachhwaha chief.
 - Bhagwant Das was more successful than his predecessors Pratap agreed to send his son Amar Singh (Umra) to Mughal court.
 - But Pratap did not agree to personal presence at the Mughal court, which was deemed unsatisfactory by Akbar.
- A final emissary, Todar Mal, was also sent to Mewar but returned without any favourable outcome.

Battle of Haldighati

- Akbar deputed Raja Man Singh against Maharana Pratap, who had set up the capital at Kumbhalgarh from Gogunda.
- Raja Man Singh setup his base at Mandalgarh.
- On 18th of June 1576, battle commenced at Haldighati, around 23 kms north of Gogunda.
- Rana Pratap was assisted by Hakim Khan Sur of Suri dynasty, Bhim Singh of Dodia, Ramdas Rathor (son of Jaimal, who defended Chittor), Bida Mana and his clansmen of Jhala.
- However, the forces of Rana Mewar were outnumbered against the imperial Mughal forces and the Mughal forces

defeated Rana Pratap in the battle of Haldighati.

- Rana Pratap however, escaped from the battle field and took shelter at Koliyari a hilly town in the west of Gogunda (southern Mewar).

Consequences of Battle of Haldighati

- The loss in battle of Haldighati was followed by capture of castles of Gogunda, Kumbhalgarh & Udaipur by Mughals.
- By 1579, focus of Mughals shifted to other parts of the empire and seizing opportunities one by one, Maharana Pratap was able to recover much of the lost territory in the western parts of his kingdom.
- Chittor continued to be in Mughal control.