





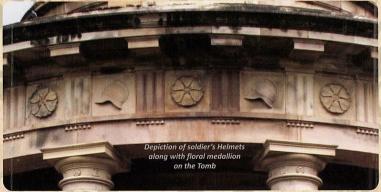




Lord Cornwallis is known as a great administrator and a successful commander-in-chief in the history of India during British period. He was appointed Governor General of India twice. The first tenure from September 1786 to October 1793 is remembered for his valuable contributions towards revenue reforms, judicature system and the second Mysore war. It was he who introduced the system of permanent land settlement which is a landmark in the history of revenue reforms. His great reform in judicature was the establishment of *Nizamat sadar adalat* or the Supreme Court of criminal judicature at Calcutta. Further, he separated the functions of District Collector and Judge. It is believed that the foundation stone of civil administration in India was laid by his predecessor Hastings whereas the superstructure was raised by Cornwallis. He is known for his successful campaign of second Mysore war during 1790-92 in which he personally led the British army.

The reign of his successor John Shore (1793-98) was almost uneventful. But the time of Lord Wellesly the next Governor General (1798-

1805) was full of wars and conquests which caused a financial strain and administrative chaos in the country. In these circumstances Cornwallis was again sent to India for the second time in July 1805 to tighten the administration and



establish peace at any cost. But unfortunately he could not serve longer. Only after ten weeks while travelling on his mission to north-west he died at Ghazipur on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1805 in the 67<sup>th</sup> year of his age. The British inhabitants of Calcutta erected this monument in his honour.

The tomb consists of a lofty dome supported by twelve columns erected on a 3.66 meters high circular platform, about 19.30 meters in diameter. The square structure of white marble raised at the center of the platform bears the bust of Lord Cornwallis with a Hindu and a Muslim man on either side shown in the attitude of mourning, below which is an epitaph in English. The other side of this structure depicts a European and a native soldier paying homage with an epitaph below in Urdu. The exterior of upper portion of the tomb has been ornamented with army cap and floral motifs. The circular iron railing around the tomb with its gate towards south-east is beautifully fabricated with spears, bows & arrows, swords and inverted cannons.