French astronomers in India during the 17th - 19th centuries

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The contributions made by French astronomers from India are reviewed. The French were more successful on the scientific front than on the colonial. The first telescopic discovery from India was made by a French Jesuit priest, Father Jean Richaud (1689). Surprisingly the first ever modern worthwhile map of India was prepared in France by D'Anville (1752). All Indian maps until 1905 used the value of Madras longitude derived by a Frenchman, John Warren (1807). And finally, the first ever discovery from India - and of singular importance - in the then new field of astrophysics, was also due to a visiting Frenchman, Janssen (1868).

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During the 17th century the population of England and Wales grew steadily. It was about 4 million in 1600 and it grew to about 5 1/2 million by 1700. During the 17th century England became steadily richer. Trade and commerce grew and grew. By the late 17th century trade was an increasingly important part of the English economy. On a more cheerful note in the 17th century in many towns wealthy people left money in their wills to provide almshouses where the poor could live. A history of English society. London in the 17TH century. In 1600 Westminster was separate from London. However in the early 17th century rich people built houses along the Thames between the two. In the late 17th century many grand houses were built west of London. During the 17th cent. influences from Lithuania and Poland brought about a humanistic interest in classical antiquity that was to culminate in the Westernization of Russia under Peter the Great. In 1712 Peter moved his capital from Moscow to St. Petersburg and began the transformation of a mud flat on the coast of Finland into a sparkling European city. The term may be derived from the French words rocaille and coquille ..... The Nineteenth Century. During the 19th cent. there was a revival of medieval Russian architecture. A romantic school of painting arose in the early years of the century, and pictorial epics were produced by Karl Briullov (1799–1852), F. A. Bruni (1800–1875), and A. A. Ivanov (1806–58).