

Southwest and Central Asia

- ❖ Major reasons for European interest in the region
- ❖ European powers in Mesopotamia
- ❖ European powers in Afghanistan

European interests in Southwest Asia

- 🇬🇧 Britain: interested in securing overland trade routes for spice trade and oil.
- 🇩🇪 Germany: interested in building and securing the Berlin to Baghdad railroad (which extended from Baghdad to the Persian Gulf).
- 🇷🇺 Russia: interested in controlling a warm water port and wanted access to economic opportunities developed by British and Dutch.

The Ottoman Empire was well-established in what was known as Mesopotamia and Babylonia by the 1500s. This region was critically important because it connected Europe to the eastern spice trade.



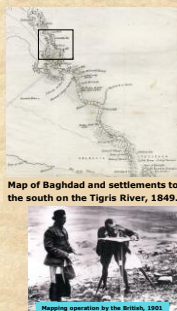
Crimean War: March 1853-April 1856

- 🇷🇺 Russia wanted to sell grain in the Mediterranean but the region was controlled by the Ottoman Empire
- 🇬🇧 When the war broke out, Britain and France joined with the Ottoman Empire to stop Russian expansion
- 🇫🇷 Florence Nightingale established modern nursing techniques in the battlefield
- 📰 First war covered by journalists
- 🇷🇺 Russia was defeated
- 🇬🇧 Exposed weakness of the Ottoman Empire



Florence Nightingale

- 🇬🇧 The British established a presence in Mesopotamia through the British East India company.
- 🇬🇧 Mesopotamia (known today as Iraq) lay on one of the trade and communication routes between India and Britain. Because of this, Mesopotamia (Iraq) was important to the company.
- 🇬🇧 Between 1835 and 1837, the British government supported the surveying of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.



Map of Baghdad and settlements to the south on the Tigris River, 1849.



Surveying operation by the British, 1831

British economic and political interests in Mesopotamia (Iraq) centered around securing land route to China for trade purposes and protecting British oil interests in southwest Asia from possible takeover by Russia.



Anglo-Persian Oil

↓ In 1909 a wealthy Englishman, William Knox D'Arcy, founded the Anglo-Persian Oil company in southwest Persia.

↓ The company promised Winston Churchill, the First Lord of the Admiralty, that they would supply Britain with oil. In exchange the British government gave Anglo-Persian Oil monetary support.

↓ The British government acquired controlling interest and became the hidden power behind the oil company.



Members of the Anglo-Persian oil company's staff being entertained at luncheon by the Kashguli khans at their winter camp.



Transporting pipes to construct an oil pipe line, 1910



Digging oil wells, 1910

Germany developed close relations with the Ottoman Empire after the Russo-Turkish War of 1877-78. Under Kaiser Wilhelm II, Germany supplied the Ottoman Empire with weapons and military training.



Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm II in Istanbul, Turkey, 1880

🇩🇪 The German Empire worked with the Ottoman Empire in Mesopotamia.

🇩🇪 Germany began construction on a railroad to link Berlin to the Persian Gulf.

🇩🇪 The railroad would help Germany with its East African colonies due to its close proximity to East Africa.



A German narrow gauge somewhere along the Baghdad line, 1915

Timeline: Imperialist Powers in Iraq (Mesopotamia)

- 1763 English East India company establishes a factory in Basra
- 1798 British agents appointed to Baghdad
- 1802 British open consulate in Baghdad
- 1836 British steamboats appear on Iraqi rivers
- 1861 British lay Telegraphic wire
- 1899 Germans build Konya to Baghdad railway
- 1902 Germans extend railway to Basra
- 1909 Anglo-Persian Oil established in southwest Asia
- 1912 Turkish Petroleum Company (TPC) established
- 1914 Anglo Persian oil buys 50% of TPC

Britain entered Afghanistan to secure it as part of a land trade route into the "Yellow Kingdom" (China) and as a show of force to the Russians. The British feared Russia would expand south toward a warm water port and threaten to overtake its (Britain's) interests in southwest Asia.



Afghanistan's location in Central Asia made it a buffer between the Russian Empire and British India.


British and Indian authorities were anxious to ensure that a pro-British Emir was on the throne at Kabul.

The British took the threat of a Russian invasion of India seriously.

A British military envoy was sent to Kabul to gain support of the Emir, Dost Mohammed in 1837.



Afghan Emir, Dost Mohammed



The First Afghan War 1839-42

In spring 1839 British-Indian forces entered Afghanistan. Kandahar was taken without a fight and Dost Mohammed fled from Kabul. The British installed Shah Shuja as Emir, who was cooperative with British but not well-liked by the Afghan people. In 1841 British troops prepared to withdraw from Afghanistan. However, popular opposition to Shah Shuja grew into an insurrection. British diplomats were murdered and the British lost its grip on the area.

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In January 1842, the British garrison marched out of Kabul and came under immediate attack in the mountainous terrain. Only a few survivors escaped. A national uprising ensued with Afghans fighting the British. The war was a complete failure for the Brits. Shah Shuja was murdered and Dost Mohammed returned to the throne.





Dost Mohammed

Kabul's natural defenses

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British & Afghan War 1878-1880

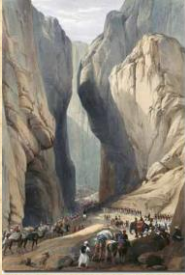

Emir of Afghanistan, Sher Ali, was visited by a Russian mission but he refused to accept a British envoy. The British decided to replace him. In November 1878 the British invaded at three points: Kandahar, Khyber Pass, and along the Kurram Valley towards Kabul. Sher Ali fled from Kabul and was replaced as Emir by his son, Yakub Khan, who signed the Treaty of Gandamak with Britain and accepted a British envoy. In September 1879, following a mutiny in the Afghan Army, the British envoy and his escort were murdered. Abdur Rahman, a nephew of Sher Ali, took power and agreed to abide by the terms of the Treaty of Gandamak.



British officer in Afghanistan, 1880

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In 1880, the British left Afghanistan in the hands of Abdur Rahman who agreed to conduct his foreign policy through the Government of India.

Bolan Pass in Afghanistan

British map of the City of Kabul, Afghanistan, 1840

16

Russia turned to Asia for a warm water port


Russia was effectively a landlocked country because its ports were frozen for a majority of the year. The desire to have accessible ports year-round led Russia to expand to a warm water port.




Imperial Guard under Peter the Great

17

By 1914, Russia's extensive empire consisted of 81 provinces (guberniyas) and 20 regions (oblasts). Its territory reached east-west from Europe to the Pacific coast and from the Kara Sea in the north to the edge of the Ottoman Empire in the south.



Imperial Horse Guard officers camped while on maneuvers in Krasnoe Selo, Finland, in 1912

18

The British believed the Russians were interested in extending their territory south into India for raw materials, and to gain access to established trade networks.



Alexander II
Mikhaevich
(1818-1881)-
Emperor from
1855



Alexander III
Alexandrovich,
Emperor from
1881-1894



Possible routes of
Russians to India
and to the Persian
Gulf/Arabian Sea

At the turn of the 20th century, Russia had gained room to maneuver in Asia. Russia's uncoordinated and aggressive moves under Tzar Nicholas in the region ultimately led to the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905).



Grenadier of
the Imperial
Guard, St.
Petersburg,
Russia



Tzar Nicholas II
Alexandrovich (1868-
1918) - last Russian
emperor, ruled from
1894 to 1917.

Southeast Asia and China

- ❖ British colonies: Burma, Singapore
- ❖ French colonies: Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia
- ❖ Siam
- ❖ China



Burma, 1880



Burma

Burma, on the eastern border of India, was naturally of importance to Britain. By 1886, all of Burma was under British control.



British cannon in Burma, 1880



Singapore, 1850



Singapore

The island of Singapore guards the entrance to the Strait of Malacca, one of the world's most vital trade routes.

The British East India Company set up a factory in Singapore in 1819. Singapore became an important trade center and naval base for the British Empire in the 19th century.

France took over the countries of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia in mid-1800s, known as Indochina. Indochina was a source of rubber and spices.



Scenes from Indochina, 1890



As the need for tires grew in the new auto industry, rubber from Indochina became even more valuable.



Harvesting rubber in Vietnam, 1900

25

Like the British in India, the French developed the transportation and communication structure in Indochina. Because of the mountainous terrain of central Vietnam, the south and north never established strong connections.



French train running through Annam province, 1900



French overseer at pepper plantation, 1900

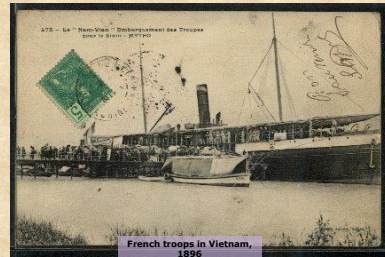
26

The French dealt harshly with Vietnamese pirates and insurgents. By the late 1800s, it was not uncommon to see prisoners in "tiger cages" or to have public beheadings of those who defied French authority.



27

A strong French military presence helped keep the insurgents under control.



French troops in Vietnam, 1896

28

The Kingdom of Siam was threatened by the British in Burma and the French in Indochina.



Today Siam is known as Thailand.

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King Mongkut and his son Chulalongkorn, 1851


King Mongkut (reigned 1851-1868) and his son Chulalongkorn (reigned 1868-1910) ruled Siam (today Thailand) during the period British and French forces took over neighboring nations.

In the 1880s Chulalongkorn implemented the reforms vital for the kingdom to survive the threats and demands of Western nations:

- ▣ gradual abolition of slavery
- ▣ creation of a modern army
- ▣ overhaul of the revenue system
- ▣ reorganization of the provincial administration
- ▣ development of a modern education system

30

Chulalongkorn also improved transportation within the nation. The Burma-Siam-China Railway helped Siam become a partner for European powers in southeast Asia. Siam gained sufficient Western support to retain its independence during an era where hostile European nations were carving up the world.



Burma-Siam-China Railway


31



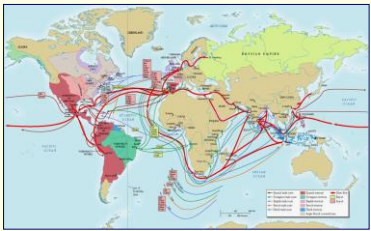
The British in India



33




The World in 1600




The Dutch East India Company

- The Dutch East India Company was established in 1602, during the age of mercantilism.
- The government of the Netherlands granted it a 21-year monopoly to carry out colonial activities in Asia.
- It is considered to be the first multinational corporation in the world, and also the first company to issue stock.
- The company was granted the authority to maintain an army, conduct war, make treaties, coin money, and establish colonies.



The Extent of the Dutch East India Company, with Company Flag

A corporation is a legal entity which acts as a legal personality, separate from its shareholders.



Dutch East India Company Stock Certificate

35

The Dutch East India Company

- Created in 1602 to control the spice trade in southeast Asia
- First multinational corporation
- First corporation to issue stocks
- Traded throughout Asia
- Used silver from Spanish mines in Peru and copper from Japan to trade with India and China for textiles
- Brought European ideas and technology to Asia
- Dominant European force in Asia for nearly 200 years




Company logo



D.E.I.C. bond, November 7, 1623

36



The British East India Company: 1600 - 1857

The British East India Company: The World's Largest Monopoly

- The British East India Company was an early joint-stock company similar to the Dutch East India Company.
- The company traded in cotton, silk, indigo dye, saltpeter, tea and opium with British colonies and trading partners.
- It was formed by royal charter in 1600, which provided a 21-year monopoly of trade with the British colony in India.
- The Company went on to establish colonies in British Malaya, Burma, Ceylon, Hong Kong and Singapore.



British East India Company, London



British East India Company Fort in Calcutta, India

38

- Pressure from other entrepreneurs led Parliament to open India to new investment in 1694, ending a 100-year monopoly.
- However, the Company bought out the competition and regained its monopoly by 1708.
- By 1720, the Company controlled all imports from British India, amounting to 15% of total British imports.
- In 1760 Sir Robert Clive led the Company's army to victory over France and its Indian allies, giving the Company near-complete control over all Indian exports.





Sir Robert Clive

39

- In 1773, to improve the British government's balance of trade with China, the Company increased its illegal trade in opium from Bengal to China.
- China responded with military action, but was defeated by the British.
- England gained the port city of Hong Kong and stepped up its trade in opium.



Opium is a narcotic drug produced from the sap of the opium poppy.



Combat at Guangzhou During Opium Wars




Flag of the British East India Company

40

British East India Company


- Granted a Royal Charter by Queen Elizabeth I in December 1600, to trade with India
- Joint-stock company where investors buy into it
- Royal Charter gave the company a monopoly on all trade in the East Indies
- Over time the British East India Company became an unofficial extension of the British government
- Shaped and applied Britain's colonial and commercial policies








41

European settlements in India (1501 - 1739 CE)

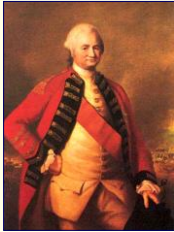


Map created by:
<http://www.history.upenn.edu/coursepages/hist086/material/schmidt26a.jpg>
<http://www.colonialvoyage.com/>

42

Sir Robert Clive



1-G






Robert Clive was appointed to the East India Company's civil service at Madras in 1743.

His greatest success was the Battle of Plassey and the recapture of Calcutta from Siraj-ud-Daulah in 1757.


After that encounter, the company began to be an imperial power more than a trading company.



44

Battle of Plassey: 1757




1-H


1773 In 1773 the British Parliament passed the Regulating Act for India which required the East India Company to appoint an official to be Governor-General of all the districts controlled by the Company (which in 1773 comprised Bengal, Oudh and the Carnatic).

1784 The British government appointed a council of four men to advise and control the Governor-General.

1785 British judges were sent to India to administer the British legal system.



Company arms and flag



46





British East India Company Agents



1-E





Sir Warren Hastings



r. 1773 - 1784

The Bengal Famine

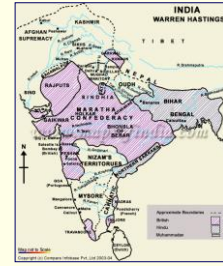
- ▬ The British East India Company was responsible for governing Bengal.
- ▬ The Company raised land taxes to 50% of agricultural production.
- ▬ The Company had a monopoly over rice and controlled its supply.
- ▬ The Company left no rice reserves for the Bengali people.
- ▬ A three-year drought, from 1778 to 1780, caused widespread famine and starvation.
- ▬ An estimated 10 million people – one third of the population – died.



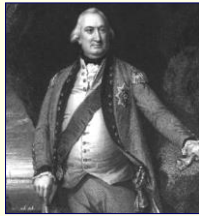
East Bengal, 1860

49

India in mid-18c



Lord Cornwallis



r. 1786 - 1793

1-J

Lord Bentinck



r. 1828 - 1835

1-K

British Soldiers in India, 1830s



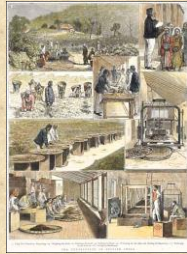
Britain gained a source of raw materials as well as a market to sell manufactured goods in India.



'The East offering its riches to Britannia' from the head offices of the British East India Company, 1778.

54

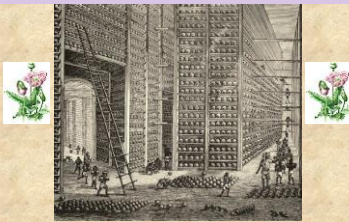
Tea was cultivated in India for export to Britain. There it would become a trade commodity on the British market.



Coffee House in British India



Opium balls, such as these in an 1828 British warehouse in Patna, British India, were a great source of income for the British. This opium was awaiting shipment to China. Opium was made from poppies, shown on either side of the warehouse sketch.



The British East India Company set up trading outposts at Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras.

By the mid 1800s, the company controlled a large area of India, and treated India as its own private colony.

In 1857 Indian soldiers rebelled against the company. After that incident, the British government took direct control. British military and mercantile goals were intertwined.



Sepoys of the East India Company fighting during an Indian revolt, 1857-58.



East India company merchant in India, 1850s.

The British military presence in India directly supported British trade.



In the long run, the British were active rulers in India.

They kept public order and ended many local wars.

The British military also trained local Indians to become soldiers.

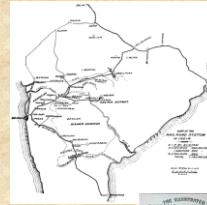


Indian soldiers recruited to fight for the British army, 1902.

Many British families moved to India as their permanent home. They imported European culture with them. They established factories, hospitals, and schools in India. Indians were not treated equally by the British.



61



It was important for the British to have a strong network of transportation and communication in India. They designed India's railroad system, brought telegraph and telephone technology, a postal system, news reporting, and banking.



62

Coins of the British East India Co.



1719 coin



1804 coin

Why was Britain so successful in India by the end of the 18c??

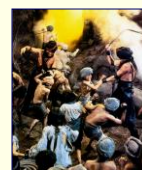



14

Outlawing *Suttee* (*sati*)

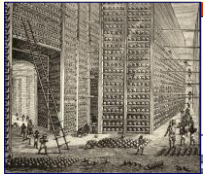


Fighting the *Thuggees*







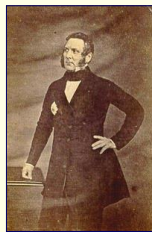
British Opium Warehouse in Patna, India



Selling Patna Opium in China





Lord Dalhousie

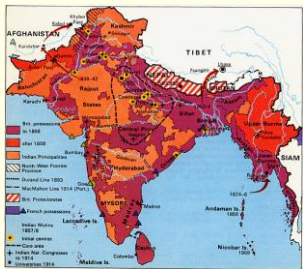


r. 1848 - 1856


1-L





India: 18c-early 19c





Sir Raghbir Singh, Maharaja of Bundi





The Maharaja of Pannah





The Palace of the Nawab of Moorshedabad, Bengal - 1858







Sepoy soldiers



1-F



The Sepoy Mutiny: 1857



2-A

By the middle of the 19th century, the Company ruled over 1/5 of the world's population.

Sepoys (Indian soldiers in the Company's army) revolted against the Company in the Indian Rebellion of 1857.

The revolt forced England to send regular troops to suppress the rebels.


Because of the revolt, Parliament nationalized the Company in 1858.

The Company continued in the tea trade until it was dissolved on January 1, 1874.

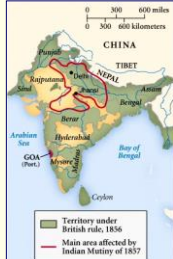



75


Indian Rebellion





Areas of the Sepoy Mutiny, 1857




857



The Siege of Lucknow

Execution of Sepoys: "The Devil's Wind"




2-B





**The Raj:
"Jewel in the Crown"
of the
British Empire**





**1876: Queen Victoria
Becomes
"Empress of India"**


2-D




Queen Victoria in India



PAX BRITANNICA



**Queen Victoria:
Receiving the Crown of India**




**Sikhs – Bengal Cavalry of
the British Army**



2-E



15th Ludhiana Sikhs, 1889



Sikh-Cyber Museum

**Assorted British Soldiers,
1890s**









**British
Colonial Life
During the Raj**

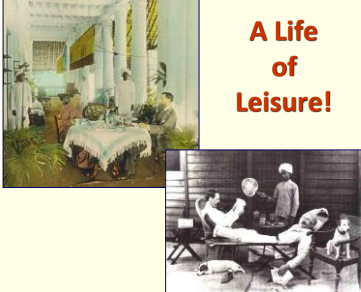











Bengal Medical Service, 1860




**A Life
of
Leisure!**



**Br. Viceroy's Daughter:
Simla, 1863**

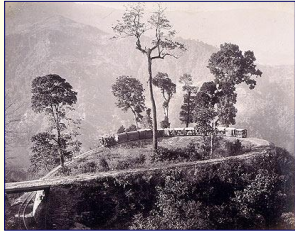

Lady Curzon, 1904




Living Like a Maharajah





Darjeeling Railroad, 1880s





Simla: Little England in the mountains of India





Karachi, 1896




Procession of the *Rajahs*, New Delhi, 1902






Victoria Station, Bombay







**Chartered Bank of Calcutta,
1915**






**Theosophical Library –
Madras, 1913**

**What were the
BENEFITS of
British rule in
India??**

2-F



**What were the
major
LIMITATIONS of
British rule in
India??**

2-G



**The
Rise of
Indian
Nationalism**



the Indian National Congress

- 1885 → The Indian National Congress was founded in Bombay.
- *swaraj* → "independence."
* the goal of the movement.



Bal Gangadhar Tilak



1856 - 1920



Jawaharlal nehru



1889 - 1964



the Muslim League

- 1905 → partition of Bengal based on religions and languages.
- 1906 → creation of the Muslim League.



Mohammed Ali Jinnah



1876 - 1948



Young Mohandas K. Gandhi, 1876






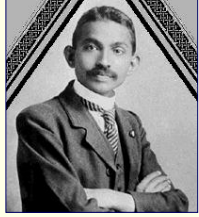
1869 - 1948





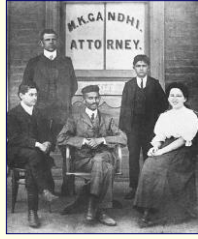
Gandhi with the london vegetarian society, 1890







Gandhi as a Young Barrister in Natal


Gandhi as a Lawyer in Johannesburg, So. Africa







Gandhi and His Wife, Kasturba, 1915

Amritsar Massacre, 1919



379 dead; over 1200 wounded!

Salt March, 1930






Making Salt




Gandhi spinning cloth








Indian weaving was ruined by the competition of British machine-made textiles!

Gandhi and His Granddaughters, 1947






The End of the Raj: August 15, 1947





Last Viceroy of India



Lord Louis & Lady Edwina Mountbatten







The 1947 partition created India and Pakistan (what remains today - ceased to form Bangladesh in 1971)




Partition!

