



(This photo happened on August 15 for 1947 This took place at the Red Fort in Delhi, where Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, raised the flag for the first time as a free nation. [Azadi Ke Hero: Indian freedom fighters who shaped the nation's destiny | News Ticker](#))

British India Independence Negotiation Committee

SPECIAL COMMITTEE

April 2026

Head Chair: Gabriela Muzzi

Co-Chair: Helena Wanderley

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LETTER FROM THE DAIS

Dear Delegates,

It's our pleasure to introduce you to the Minas MUN Special Committee! It's our first time as chairs and we're very excited to moderate this debate, about a very important historic moment, with different perspectives and beliefs being represented by you.

On this year's topic, determining the Future of British India During the Final Independence Negotiations, addresses not only a country's freedom but also how to end peacefully the conflict between two religious conflicts happening inside the country, Muslims and Hindus. Not only having to discuss the benefits and prejudice of the British raj but with that the voice of Muslim minorities that were oppressed long before this whole situation. I hope you guys enjoy this different kind of debate where you will be representing a person instead of a country, where India's future is in your hands.

We hope to see engagement, passion, and dynamic debates during our sessions. Also that you enjoy discussing this topic, especially history lovers like us! I want you to put your research into a good use not only to passionately depend on your beliefs but to understand other delegates' perspectives, and even call out other people during the debate. We are very confident that this special committee will bring very complex ideas and discussion between you guys, and that all of you bring an extra fire for the debate. We encourage you to approach this debate with an open mind because you will encounter different perspectives about how to resolve a conflict.

At the end of the conference we hope you make friends, have fun, and continue with your MUN passion. It will be an honor for us to have as my first delegates in my first time as a chair. We are very nervous but we will try our best and give the best experience we can for you!

Sincerely,

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COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION

Delegates in the British Independence Committee will debate and determine the fate of British India between 1946-1947 during the Provincial Elections happening in all 11 provinces in India but mainly in the Cities Punjab and Bengal, that later became Pakistan. The main problem to be discussed is the independence process, slow or rapid; the separation or a united India; protect minority rights, mostly Muslims; How would the power be transferred, who would be the Prime Minister? Who becomes the officials; Border settlement; control over economy; military control.

The main goal of this committee is to discuss and see the many sides to this important historic moment for the British, Hindus and Muslims at the time. How minority and majority ethnic groups can create tensions inside a state, especially when the minority group has no voice in the government, which will eventually lead to *balkanization*.

The possible actions that will be taken between united India or separate India and Pakistan in this committee will lead to the separation of Pakistan and India, the Independence of India from the British Rule after 90 years, and negotiations on the separation of resources. Even though these were actions that were taken during the time, I think this will make delegates negotiate and find a way for peaceful separation of nations that benefits both India and Pakistan.

PROCEDURAL CHANGES

This year's Special committee has four major procedural changes: the delegations are people, resolutions will be called acts, one of the acts will only pass if approved by UK parliament members, and you refer to each or by the name or as Mr. (last name).

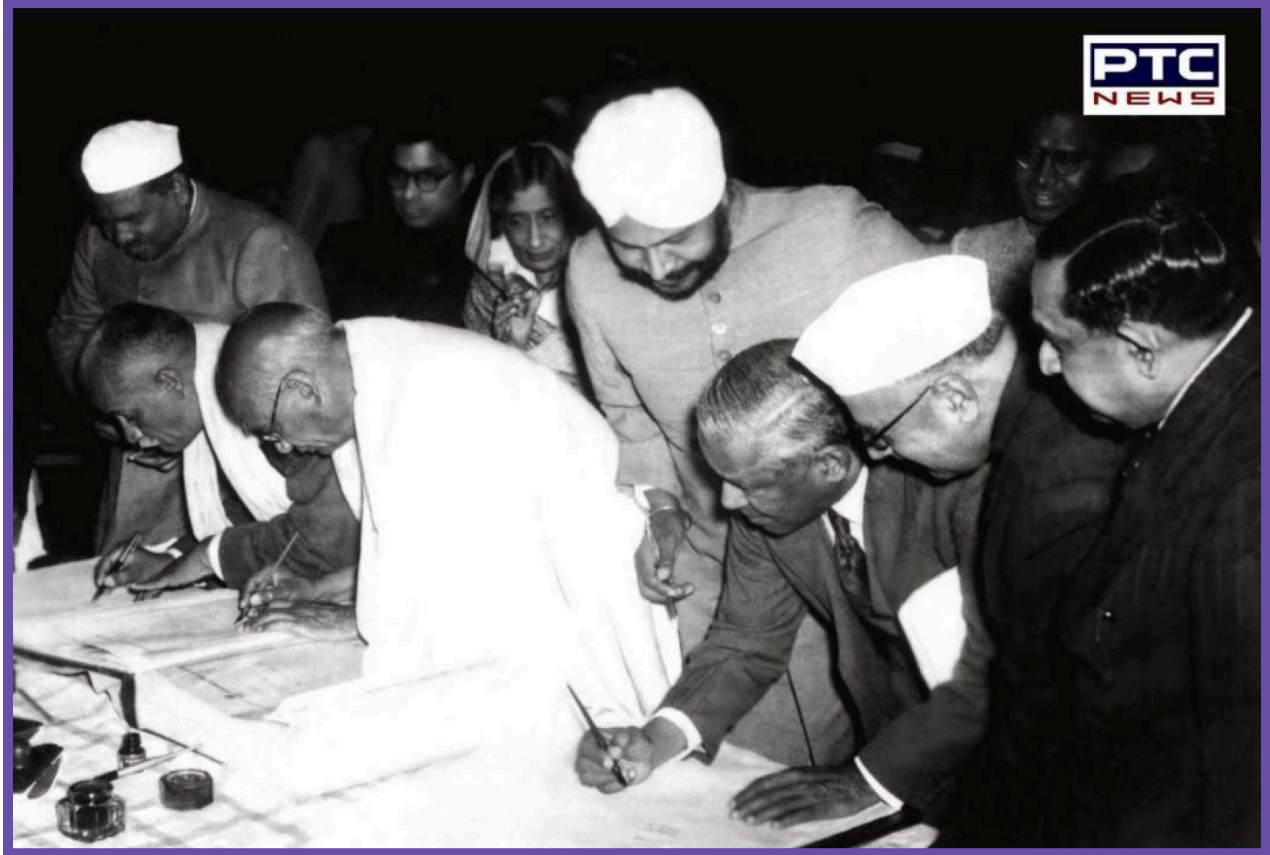
Normally, delegates represent countries, but on this committee we are representing real people that impacted the fate of India during that time.

What approved the Independence of India and the separation of Pakistan was the Indian Independence Act, moreover during this debate our resolutions will become acts instead.

You will have to do two resolutions, an Pakistan Separation Act and an Indian Independence Act. However, on the India Independence Act, if at least you have 2 United Kingdom members in favor of the act, then it can pass. Meaning you will have to negotiate and convince them to pass your act.

And Lastly, because we are not delegations you can't refer to someone as the delegation of Mahatma Gandhi for example, you have or to call them by name but it's more formal to call them Mr. (last name, example Mr. Nehru.

Topic A: Determining the Future of British India During the Final Independence Negotiations



The signing of the India Independence documents and Constitutions in 1947. Gathered with Hindus, Muslims, and British symbolizing the hearing of their voice and the end of the British rule.

<https://www.ptcnews.tv/top-stories/azadi-ke-hero-indian-freedom-fighters-who-shaped-the-nations-destiny-4395504>

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Introduction

For 200 years the British has been controlling India bit by bit until it took control over. It all started with the entering of the British company in 1600 into India, with their high economic profit they started gaining status and economic power which led to political power. Many Indians believed that British rule caused poverty, political inequality, and a lack of self-government. By the early 20th century, large movements began demanding independence.

India was one of the most valuable colonies, having a massive population of 389 million. However, even with that amount of people in a country they still didn't have control within their own borders. Also, poverty became a major issue because in 1700 India had 24.5% of the world's GDP, and then in 1947 they only had 3%. This shows how British India had destroyed India's economy at the time and with that also brought political instability because of the population's voice oppression.

The countries and groups most affected by this issue were India and Britain, but it also impacted regions that later became Pakistan and Bangladesh, which were part of British India before independence in 1947.

History

The beginning of British India

The British rule over India began in 1858 and ended in 1947 due to a combination of factors like intense, long term non-violent resistance from the population, severe economic exhaustion of the UK caused by World War II, and political pressure. It all started on December 31 of 1600 when the British East India Company was founded to create trade between Asia and Europe, mostly the United Kingdom.

In 1757 the battle of Plassey happened, where the British defeated the ruler of Bengal Siraj-ud-Daulah, and his French allies, taking over the political and military power of India. Bengal was a very wealthy part of India, providing resources so that they could expand their control over the rest of India. Moreover in 1765 the British Company gained rights to collect taxes in provinces like Bengal, Bihar, and Odisha. This just increased the British power in India.

In the Government of India act of 1858, passed on August 2 of that year, transferred the power to the British East India Company and established the British Raj. Indian soldiers (called sepoys) rebelled against the Company in 1857 because they were unhappy with their rule, but it didn't matter because they took control

anyway. In November of 1858 Queen Victoria gave a message to the Indian civilians promising support for local princes and said that Britain would not interfere in religious belief practices. She also promised that there would be racial equality of opportunities on the selection of civil servants of the government, however the selections were given in Britain and only men between 17 and 22 years old could apply.

Economy

The British helped develop India's economy especially with tea, indigo, and coffee; the tea plantations started in the northern region in the Assam Hills in the 1850s. By 1871 there were more than 300 tea plantations that covered 30,000 cultivated acres (12,000 hectares) and produced 3,000 tons of tea. And by 1900 India's tea crop was large enough to export 68,500 tons to Britain. Therefore, India also supplied Britain with things like: wheat (5 million tons), jute, cotton goods, hides, rubber, silk metals, oils, timber, mica, saltpeter. Additionally India even paid for their own troops, "gifted" Britain with 100 million euros, and their taxes were used to pay off Britain war debts. Also after 1958 they started building railways and tracks of miles in all of India. Therefore, even if the British supported free trade, it imposed a 10% import tax in 1860 to help pay their war debts. In 1864 it lowered to 7% and to 5% in 1875. The rich coalfields in Bihar began to be useful to power British locomotives, it increased in 1868 from 500,000 tons to 6,000,000 in 1900 and 20,000,000 tons in 1920.

Under King Mindon (1853-1878) economically, it was an era of increased commerce focused on the agricultural sector, expansion of trade, early industrial development, but severe famine. In this period the major source for government income was the land revenue, the percentage of the agricultural yield of India's soil.

The Indian National Congress was founded on December 38 of 1885, in Bombay marking the beginning of organized nationalist political activity in British India. It was made to advocate for civil rights, economic reforms, and eventual independence from British rule. During the first Congress Meeting on December 28th of 1885, in Bombay, there were 72 official delegates and 10 unofficial delegates. However, most of the delegates were Hindus, Britains, and Middle-class professionals (lawyers, journalists, teachers, businessmen), and only 2 muslim attended. Showing how Muslims in India, because they were the minority group, had a lack of representation, that helped lead to India and Pakistan separation in the future. But this congress was really good for peaceful protests and political reforms, even creating the Indian National Congress.

By the start of WWI (1914-18) the railway had grown and reached 35,000 miles. This helped connect rural farming areas to the port cities of Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta, created a better efficiency of taking raw materials out of India and encouraged farmers to start to grow food for sale and not just for their own consumption. During WWI there was an industrial growth especially in the production of steel, they produced 100,000 tons per year, and the Industrial Commission was created in 1916. However there was a big economic crisis after the war, because of the wartime inflation, severe economic hardship, and the influenza pandemic happened; the influenza pandemic in 1918-19 killed millions in India and was considered the worst of the war casualties. And this only continued because after 1918 Indians weren't rewarded for their loyalty to Britain, and instead British officials returned to their top jobs, Indians were pushed aside, soldiers continued being treated badly, and there were no major political reforms, only increasing the tensions between the British leaders and

the Indian population. That's when the British government decided to start retaliating starting with the Rowlatt act of 1919, it was a repressive wartime law created to oppress the growing Indian nationalist independence movements. The act permitted in-camera secret trials, the detention of suspects without warrant and suspicion by them.

Hindu Reform and Nationalism

In 1875 Dayananda Sarasvati founded the Arya Samaj in Bombay. He promoted strengthening Hindu culture, because Sarasvati believed that this reform would help India get stronger and make India less vulnerable to British rule. It became a very powerful and relevant nationalist force that was a step for India's independence in the future.

Lord Lytton and Lord Ripon helped create policies that helped with the Indian nationalism, for example Lytton, used strict repressive policies, aggressive foreign policies, made civilians unhappy with the British rule; while Ripon, had positive actions like supporting liberal and humanitarian reforms, but his reforms were rejected by European Indians.

A very important Hindu figure for Indian independence was Bal Gangadhar Tilak, he was a very radical nationalist, editor of a paper, and jailed in 1897. He promoted Hindu culture and history, festivals, and had a strong resistance against British rule; but, because he was Hindu and focused on his ethnic group, Tilak created Hindu-Muslim tensions.

Therefore, on October 16 of 1905 the partition divided the Bengal Presidency into Hindu majority in the West of Bengal and Muslim majority in the Eastern of Bengal and Assam; they did this for administrative efficiency. But the Indian population viewed this as a tactic to weaken nationalism, sparking widespread protests, by creating separation between the Hindu and Muslim population. In the end, the partition was revoked in 1911. This partition also caused an intellectual and cultural movement for indigenous education called the National Education Movement in British India. The Bengal partition, swadeshi policies, penalized students participation in political activities. So the objective was to create more national spirit, provide education with more Indian control, and incorporate vocational training specifically on educating the mother tongue. The National Council of Education was created on August 15 of 1906, in Bengal, and a National College was formed.

In Jallianwala Bagh on April 13 of 1919 happened the Amritsar Massacre, had a crowd of 15,000 to 25,000 people to make peaceful political protests about a ban on public meetings, and 50 to 90 soldiers arrived without warning blocked the main exit and opened fire on the crowd; 379 died and 1,200 were wounded. This strengthened India's independence, radicalizing nationalist leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and destroying the British image of "fairness".

During the 1920s and the 1930s was a very important phase of Mahatma Gandhi's leadership in the Indian Independence Movement, transitioning the struggle from an elite political dialogue into a mass national revolution. His key movements and events were the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922), first Gandhi's nationwide campaign that urged Indians boycott British goods, schools, courts, to paralyze the colonial

administration of the UK over India. The Salt March happened between March 12 and April 6, where Gandhi and his 78 followers marched 240 miles to Dand and showed resistance against the British salt monopoly by making their own salt, this act spread nationwide ending up on 60,000 people being arrested including Gandhi.

The British, as a way of trying to stop those nationalists independence movements, created the Government of India Acts. The one in 1958 abolished the East India Company's rule and transferred the authority directly to the British crown, creating the position of Secretary of State for India. In 1919 that introduced a "dyarchy" (dual government) in the provinces, basically limited self governance. Lastly the Act of 1935, established a federal structure with provincial autonomy.

The start of a Separate Muslim state

Another important person was the Poet Muhammad Iqbal who stated the idea of creating a Muslim state in northwest India, which nowadays became Pakistan. However at first, Jinnah (the Muslim League Leader) who had a voice to speak for muslim interests preferred a united India for Muslims protection. Moreover in 1933 Cambridge students led by Rahmat Ali named the state of Pakistan which meant "Land of pure), but the Muslim League did not fully support until 1940 because as cited before on the text leaders in the Muslim League like Jinnah thought the separation was too radical and instead wanted just to guarantee the minority group rights. Therefore, in 1940 they changed their mind because the Congress-led provincial governments in 1937-1939 were oppressive and tyrannical, and that even if India got independence the Muslims would always be oppressed in India by the Hindu majority group.

Current Situation

This committee was an assembly between the provincial elections of 1946 and the Indian Independence Act of 1947. It will discuss both the separation of Pakistan and the independence of India from the British Raj. The elections of 1946 was a provincial election around the whole state to decide the leaders of each Indian region, moreover there was a big turn when the Muslim League won all of the Muslim region seats with 87% of the votes. Their overwhelming control over the area helped Muhammad Ali Jinnah have the legal and political power to mandate the claim that Indian Muslims were a "separate nation" and would settle for nothing less than a sovereign state. Now you will have to make the Indian Independence Act, that can only be approved by the UK parliament members, and a Pakistan separation act.

Past UN Actions/Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue:

Indian Councils Act of 1909 (Morley-Minto Reforms)

This was when a reform was introduced so that the Muslim population in India could choose their own representatives. This was important because it officially recognized Muslims as a distinct political group within India and attempted to protect their political voice. However, it also increased divisions between religious communities.

Lucknow Pact of 1916

A pact between the Muslim League and the Indian National Congress to maintain peace and solve these tensions between them by agreeing to cooperate and support constitutional reforms, and Congress accepted separate electorates for Muslims. This agreement was significant because it showed that Hindu and Muslim political leaders could work together to negotiate political rights under British rule.

Fourteen Points in 1929

In 1928 Neruh proposed a new constitutional framework where muslims couldn't choose their representatives separately. So Muhammad Jinnah demanded stronger protections for Muslim political rights, including federalism and guaranteed representation. These proposals were meant to ensure Muslims would not be politically dominated by the Hindu majority.

POSITION OF MAJOR BLOCS

Muhammad Ali Jinnah

Muhammad Ali Jinnah was born on December 25 of 1876. He was an Indian Muslim politician, who founded and was the first leader of Pakistan. The oldest of seven children, came from a very prosperous family that was part of the Khoja caste, Hindus that converted to Islam during the centuries. At the age of 16 he passed and got into the University of Bombay, but his father wanted him to go to England to study business. In the end, Jinnah decided to become a barrister also in England, a type of lawyer in England that engages in advocacy and office work. While in London he had a lot of problems, the death of his wife and mother, but in the end completed his studies and got really interested in the British political system. He frequently visited the House of Commons. When he got back home, Karachi, he saw that his fathers business was really poor and decided to start working as a lawyer there. During these years he had a lot of interest in politics and law, more toward politics. He finally entered politics in 1906 during a session of the Indian National Congress in Calcutta, where they started advocating for the independence or not of India. Four years later he was elected to the Imperial Legislative Council. Jinnah started winning status among the powerful people, inspired by those nationalist politicians, he became a version of Gopal Krishna Gokhale called the "Muslim Gokhale". The main elements of his politics was his admiration for British politics, raising the status of India, and to develop the country; still focusing on Muslim interests. Jinnah at first wanted the unity of Hindu and Muslims, and gave voice to the Muslims towards things happening in their own nation. Then he tried to make unified sessions of the Muslim League and the Congress Party. However it took a turn when Mahatma Gandhi, who got the Congress wrapped around his finger and had a noncooperation movement blocking the muslims, so Jinnah left the Congress party in 1920. For years he still believed in Hindu-Muslim unity and started expressing that through the Muslim League platform with propaganda. However the departure of Jinnah resulted in the oppression of the Congress by the Muslim League, overshadowing them. Because of all of this, riots between Muslims and Hindu. Because the Muslim League was losing power Jinnah had to cooperate and convince the Congress Party of the necessity of peace between the two groups. In 1928 Muhammad Ali Jinnah tried to protect Muslim rights through meetings, proposals, and conferences, but when both Muslims and Congress rejected his ideas, he became frustrated and moved to England from 1930 to 1935 until he later returned to lead the Muslim League again. Then the Government of India Act of 1935 came. In the end Jinnah first doubted the idea of Pakistan, but later believed it was the best way to protect Muslim rights, so he united Muslims through the Muslim League.

Mahatma Gandhi

Born on October 2 of 1869 in India, Gandhi was an Indian lawyer, politician, social activist, and writer who later became a leader of the India Independence Movement. He came to be considered the "father of the nation" and it's internationally recognized by his way of using nonviolent protests to have political and social progress. In the eyes of millions of people he was seen as the "Great soul" (Mahamata), his fame spread worldwide during his life. He was the youngest of four children, raised in the capital of India, didn't have much access to education under British rule but he always was able to create connections between him and the elite. He grew within the religion of Hinduism, whose chiefs believed in

nonviolence, that's where his idea came mostly from. At the start he had a very poor education in his city and even though he won scholarships, he still had a very mediocre record. Gandhi loved helping his mother and he even said that we have "to carry out the orders of the elders, not to scan them." Some years later he went to the same university as Jinnah, University of Bombay, where he had to change from his native language and talk in English having multiple difficulties. Mohandas wanted to become a doctor, but his family tradition and religious beliefs led him to study law instead. To become a barrister, he had to go to England, which he imagined as the center of civilization. In 1920, Gandhi led the Noncooperation Movement, urging Indians to boycott British schools, courts, goods, and government jobs, which showed for the first time the power of united, nonviolent protest. This movement made him the main leader of the independence struggle and turned nationalism into a mass movement involving millions of ordinary people. In 1930, Gandhi helped push for full independence through the Purna Swaraj declaration and led the Salt March, protesting British control and taxes on salt, which affected poor Indians the most. This campaign attracted international attention and increased pressure on Britain. Gandhi led three major nonviolent campaigns between 1920 and 1942, which weakened the moral authority of British rule and helped lead to independence in 1947. Although he was criticized by different groups, he remained committed to peace and unity.

Jawaharlal Nehru

Born in 1889 in Allahabad into a wealthy and politically active family, was later educated in England and his ideas were influenced by Western liberalism, science and later socialism. He was the one who developed a modern, secular, and democratic vision for India. Nehru joined politics seriously after a letter with Mahatma Gandhi in 1916. Inspired by his ideas of active resistance, he became active in the Indian National Congress after 1919. He was shocked by the British repression in India, especially the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, and was fully committed to ending British rule. In the 1920s his rise to leadership started, he became General Secretary of Congress and traveled widely across India. What he saw was extreme poverty among peasants, which influenced him to become more radical and sympathetic to socialism and gained a lot of support from youth and intellectuals. 1929 became the turning point where he was elected President of Congress, where his official goal was full independence. This time period of his leadership shifted the Congress from demanding "dominious status" to total freedom, and was a very important decisive break with British authority. He was arrested in 1921 by the British authorities, and spent 9 years in prison. His imprisonment increased his national reputation and was seen as Gandhi's political successor. He participated in the civil disobedience campaigns, the salt march, and the quit india movement. Also during WWII he was opposed to Britain at war without consulting Indian leaders, he believed India should support democracy against facism, only as a free nation.

Lord Louis Mountbatten

Born in 1900 Lord Louis is part of the royal family, he worked as a Royal Navy, which meant he held major naval commands during WWII. He was Supreme Allied Commander in Southeast Asia from October of 1943 to 1946. He led the South East Asia Command (SEAC), directing Allied land, sea, and air forces against Japan in Burma, Malaya, and surrounding regions. He was seen by many as energetic, modern, and politically ambitious. However there were other people who accused him of gaining positions because of his royal connections. During the final transitions to Indian Independence he was appointed

last Viceroy of India in March of 1947, his main task was to organize the transfer of power from Britain to Indian leadership. During this time the British government had already decided to leave India. He didn't have much connection to India before that, he just had the status and experience, but he still did have a connection during WWII to South and Southeast Asia because of the operations in Burma, close to India.

Vallabhbhai Patel

Born in 1875 in Gujarat, India, studied law in England. He became a barrister and was very successful before actually entering politics. Patel was known for his discipline, strong character, and practical thinking. Because he was influenced by Mahatma Gandhi and decided to join the Indian National Congress, with that Gandhi's closest political ally and helped organize local resistance movements. His role on major movements were when he led the peasant movement in Gujarat, organized successful non-violent tax resistance campaigns, was arrested multiple times by British authorities, and lastly known for his strong leadership and negotiation skills. His leadership style was more conservative and more practical than Jawaharlal Nehru, he focused on organization and discipline and strong administration, they named him "Iron Man of India" for his firmness. He strengthened the congress organization because he was the senior leader. He built strong local political networks across India, focused on discipline and party unity, helped manage party elections and strategy, and handled internal conflicts within congress. During the struggle for freedom he participated in Civil Disobedience campaigns, arrested several times by the British authorities, encouraged local leaders to stay organized and united, and lastly supported the Quit India Movement in 1942. Patel's main role in the independence of India was his support for the independence, and saw the partition as necessary to avoid civil war. To conclude he was very important because he was the key organizer of the independence movement, and his close association with Gandhi.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

Date	Description
1600	British East India Company was founded on December 1, 1600. The company was created to make a trading connection between Britain and India. It ended up having a big impact on the colonization of India by the Britons because they were the ones who first got a physical connection and power within India.
1957	The Battle of Plassey was when the British defeated the ruler of Bengal, Siraj-ud-Daulah, and his French allies. The British company gained political and military control over Bengal, which was a very rich resource region and very essential for India's economy. Bengal's wealth was the first step for Britain to take control over the whole country.
1765	The British East India Company gained rights to collect taxes in Bengal, Bihar, and Odisha. It was called the Tax Collection Rights of 1765.
1850s	The British helped develop India's economy especially with tea, indigo, and coffee; the tea plantations started in the northern region in the Assam Hills.
1857	The Sepoy, Indian soldiers, rebelled against the British company before they could take over the main government, because they were against their ruling over India. The rebellion failed but it was still the start of the opposition of Indians against the British rules, especially from the military that were treated poorly.
1858	August 2 of 1858 was when the Government of the Indian Act transferred the power from the British company to the British Crown, and the British Raj began.

	Also in November of that same year Queen Victoria promised to the Indian people religious freedom and equal opportunity. After 1958 it started a big economic growth with the build of railways and the industrialization in India
1860s	The British government increased the import tax to 10%, but in 1864 it decreased to 7%, and then in 1875 it went to 5%. Also in 1868 the production of coal started to increase because the rich coalfields in Bihar began to be useful to power British locomotives; they made 500,000 tons to 6,000,000 in 1900 and 20,000,000 tons in 1920.
1871	By 1871 there were more than 300 tea plantations that covered 30,000 cultivated acres (12,000 hectares) and produced 3,000 tons of tea. And by 1900 India's tea crop was large enough to export 68,500 tons to Britain.
1875	Dayananda Sarasvati founded the Arya Samaj in Bombay. He promoted strengthening Hindu culture, because Sarasvati believed that this reform would help India get stronger and make India less vulnerable to British rule. It became a very powerful and relevant nationalist force that was a step for India's independence in the future.
1885	December 28 of that year was when the Indians National Congress was founded, It was made to advocate for civil rights, economic reforms, and eventual independence from British rule. There were 72 delegates attended, but the majority were Hindu and there were only 2 Muslims, making them and their interest underrepresented.
1905	October 16th was the day that Bengal was divided into Muslim and Hindu regions justifying it as a way of administration efficiency, but the Indian population viewed this as a tactic to weaken nationalism, sparking widespread

	protests, by creating separation between the Hindu and Muslim population.
1906	In August 15 an intellectual and cultural movement for indigenous education called the National Education Movement in British India, the objective was to create more national spirit, provide education with more Indian control, and incorporate vocational training specifically on educating the mother tongue. The National Council of Education was created in Bengal, and a National College was formed.
1911	The Bengal partition ended due to the protest, and Bengal was reunited again.
1914 -1918	The start of WWI led to major constructions of railways and they reached 35,000. This helped connect rural farming areas to the port cities of Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta, created a better efficiency of taking raw materials out of India and encouraged farmers to start to grow food for sale and not just for their own consumption. A massive industrial growth, especially with steel that produced 100,000 tons per year, and even created the Industrial Commission was created in 1916. After the war India was left with inflation, economic crisis, and the influenza pandemic.
1919	In Jallianwala Bagh on April 13 of 1919 the Amritsar Massacre. The Rowlatt act of 1919, it was a repressive wartime law created to oppress the growing Indian nationalist independence movements. The act permitted in-camera secret trials, the detention of suspects without warrant and suspicion by them. All of this only fueled the independence movements, so the British government made the Government Act of 1919 that allowed provinces to have power, but limited, on the government.
1920-1922	During the 1920s and the 1930s was a very important phase of Mahatma Gandhi's leadership in the Indian Independence Movement, transitioning the struggle from an elite political dialogue into a mass national revolution. His key

	movements and events were the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922), first Gandhi's nationwide campaign that urged Indians boycott British goods, schools, courts, to paralyze the colonial administration of the UK over India.
1930	Between March 12 and April 6, where Gandhi and his 78 followers marched 240 miles to Dand and showed resistance against the British salt monopoly by making their own salt, this act spread nationwide ending up on 60,000 people being arrested including Gandhi.
1933	The idea of naming and making a separate state named Pakistan, but the main muslim power, Muslim League, rejected the idea still wanting the union of india for their protection while earning voice for muslim interests.
1940	After the Congress Governments that ruled the provinces oppressed the muslims, the muslim league finally agreed to the separation of a Muslim state as Pakistan

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Sovereignty

Independent authority of a state to govern themselves, control their territory, and have their decisions respected without any external interference.

British raj

The period of time where the British fully controlled India's government.

East India Company (EIC)

A British trading company that controlled large parts of India from 1600 to 1958 before the British government took over.

Viceroy

The chief representative of the British monarch in India who governed on behalf of Britain.

Indian National Congress (INC)

Founded in 1885, it's a major political party that led to the Indian independence movement.

Muslim League

Founded in 1906, the Muslim League is a Muslim political party that later demanded the creation of Pakistan.

Swaraj

A Sanskrit term meaning "self-rule", used by Indian leaders to demand independence.

Satyagra

A method of nonviolent resistance developed by Mahatma Gandhi.

Sepoy Mutiny/Indian Rebellion (1857)

A major uprising of Indian soldiers against British rule.

Zamindar System

A land revenue system where landlords collected taxes for the British government.

Civil Disobedience movement

A mass protest movement (1930s) where Indians peacefully broke British laws.

Salt March

Gandhi's protest against British salt taxes by marching to the sea to make salt.

Simon Commission (1927)

A British committee sent to propose reforms, criticized because it had no Indian members.

Doctrine of Lapse

A policy allowing Britain to annex princely states without male heirs.

Princely state

Semi-independent kingdoms ruled by Indian princes under British supervision

Quit India Movement (1942)

A mass protest demanding immediate British withdrawal.

Home Rule Movement

A movement (1916–18) demanding self-government within the British Empire.

Rowlatt Act (1919)

A law allowing detention without trial, which increased public anger.

Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (1919)

A deadly shooting of peaceful protesters by British troops in Amritsar.

FURTHER RESEARCH

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6. Britanica

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GUIDING QUESTIONS

- ❖ To what extent should religious minorities be given special political protections, such as separate electorates or reserved seats in government?
- ❖ Should India remain a single united country, or is the creation of separate states the best way to protect religious and political rights?
- ❖ How should the political system of India balance majority rule with the protection of minority communities?
- ❖ What role should the British government play in resolving political conflicts between the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League?
- ❖ Would a federal system of government help address the concerns of different religious and regional groups in India?
- ❖ How can political leaders prevent religious and communal tensions from turning into violence during the transition to independence?
- ❖ Should political representation be based on religion, population size, or equal citizenship for all communities?
- ❖ What compromises could be made between the Congress Party and the Muslim League to avoid the partition of India?

- ❖ How might the creation of a separate Muslim state affect political stability in South Asia?
- ❖ What responsibilities do political leaders have in protecting minority rights while also maintaining national unity?

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