## India and Imperialism

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## Background info

India is a country in south Asia that is home to millions. India is considered to be the seventh most largest country by area and is second in most populated. India is located next to the Indian ocean, India has many kinds of geographical terrain, the most known is the Himalayan mountains. India has monsoons that causes the soil in the areas to be fertile which is good for agriculture.





## **Imperialism**

Imperialism is when a country controls another country through the use of military force or having political control and economic control. There were two eras of imperialism which are called old and new imperialism. Old imperialism was between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century. New imperialism began in 1870 with the colonization of Africa and Asia. European nations that were most associated with imperialism is Britain and France since they were industrial giants during the Victorian age.

#### **Nationalism**

Nationalism is when people have pride in ones country. Nationalist believe that certain groups of people should be free to rule for themselves. Nationalism has influenced India in history when it comes to imperialism.

## Who imperialized India?

▶ The British empire imperialized India to make profit from them. India had a wide variety of land and products that the British could use to make profit from. The British also wanted to make their empire bigger so they wanted to take control of India so they can combine their troops and become a superpower. During all this the British also wanted to spread the English language so India was forced to speak a language that wasn't familiar to them.

## How British Imperialism impacted India

British imperialism has changed India in many ways, one example of change is how people were given medicine. When the British had complete control of India the healthcare system changed. The kind of medicine a person was given was declared by their wealth and race. There were limited resources in India so the people who could pay the most and was easy to treat got the help they needed. This kind of medical treatment did not go well with the population of India which caused a lot of people to be mad at the British rulers.

## The Indian economy

➤ The British impacted the Indian economy in 4 ways. Changes in agriculture, industry, transport and communication, and foreign trade. Agriculture in India was becoming worse and worse since the farmers are using primitive styles of growing crops which means the farms are unproductive and there is an increase in famine. The industry for India decreased since most of the laborers were exploited to help British capitalism by working in their plantations. The roads in India were underdeveloped so it was hard to drive in India, the British introduced a railway system which did help with transportation of resources. The foreign trade of India changed since they couldn't keep up with Europe's industrial age so they were forced to trade more food and England products.

#### Rebellion in India

► The first war for independence was the Sepoy mutiny. This was a rebellion in India against the British in 1857-59. however this rebellion was unsuccessful since because the British fought back and eventually won the war. During the rebellion the Sepoys would kill innocent women and children as a way to express their anger towards the British. The rebellion occurred in areas like Meerut, Delhi, Agra, Kanpur, and Lucknow. Even though the mutiny was unsuccessful it increased the nationalism of Indians wanting freedom.

# How India was impacted by the world war

- ▶ When WW1 India was still under British rule. That meant that Sepoys would participate in the war to help the British win. However with so much attention focused on the war there was an increase of nationalism and civil disobedience.
- This is what he Sepoys looked like







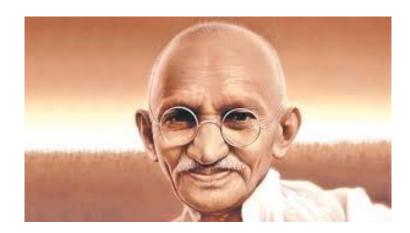
## Independence movements

There has been many independence movements throughout history. An independence movement is when a country is trying to gain political freedom from their oppressors. Independence movements are usually used to rebel against a dictatorship or an imperialized country. A well known independence movement was the Indian independence movement which was led by their leader Gandhi.

#### Gandhi

Mahatma Gandhi was born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October in 1869, his place of birth was in Porbandar, Gujarat. Gandhi was a political leader who led the Indian independence movement. Gandhi led a peaceful, non violent movement in India to support freedom from British rule. He led famous protest like the salt march which lasted from March to April 1930. Gandhi was assassinated in





#### Gandhi's influence

▶ Gandhi's peaceful movement has influenced many people across the globe. People like Martin Luther king Jr. was influenced by Gandhi and decided to lead peaceful civil rights marches in the united states. Years after his death there was still peaceful protest in India because they were inspired by his wisdom.

## India's Independence

In 1947 India finally got its independence from British rule. The independence movement lasted about 90 years since it first started. Today India has a democracy that is run by their president and their prime minister.

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