

Beginnings



- ▶ Britain began taking an economic interest in India in the 1600s
- ▶ 1707, the Mughal Empire was collapsing
- ▶ East India Company stepped in and took over
 - ▶ Britain saw India as its most important colony

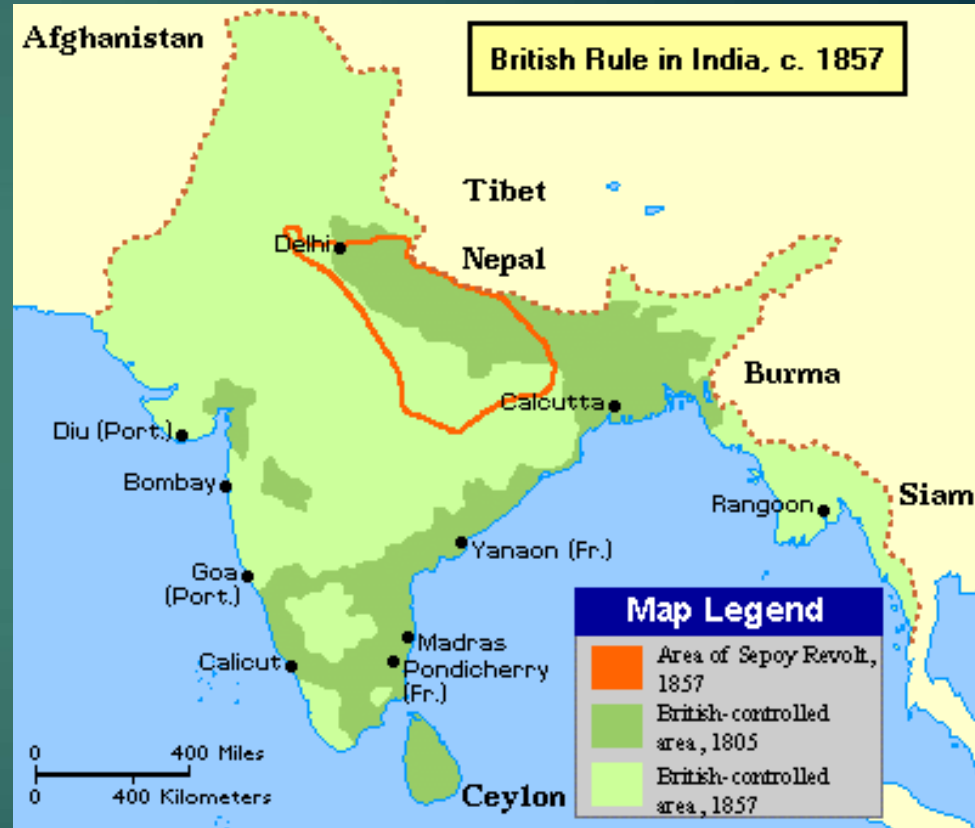
East India Company

- Officials at the East India company were almost like the rulers of the country
- They had their own armed forces & could sign treaties



British Expansion

- Gradually the British expanded over India
- They collected huge wealth
- Local merchants had to trade only with Britain
- Local weavers went out of business as Britain forced India to buy textiles from England



British Innovations in India



- Britain introduced modern technology
- Built railways throughout India
- Established Law Courts and civil services
- Established factories, schools and universities

Impact of Colonization



Cons:

- British had the power
- British restricted Indian industries
- Famines
- Destruction of traditional Indian culture

Pros:

- World's 3rd largest railroad
- More modern economy
- Education
- Technology

Sepoy Mutiny - 1857

- ▶ Economic problems were increasing- increased tension
- ▶ 85 sepoy refused to accept cartridges
- ▶ The sepoy rebelled



DEFINITIONS



- **Mutiny - an open rebellion against the proper authorities, esp. by soldiers or sailors against their officers. (Usually seen as unjustified.)**
- **Revolution - a forcible overthrow of a government or social order in favor of a new system. (Often seen as justified.)**



- ▶ Britain took control of India from the East India Company.
- ▶ Parliament placed India directly under the British crown.
- ▶ Britain sent troops to India and taxed Indians to pay for them.
- ▶ Indians were angered at how Britain extracted great wealth from India.

After the Sepoy Rebellion

Raj System

- ▶ System of colonial rule set up by British Parliament
- ▶ A British **Viceroy** ruled in the name of the Queen
- ▶ Highest positions in the Raj system were held by British
- ▶ India became the “crown jewel” of Britain’s global empire

British Benefits

- ▶ Revised legal system
- ▶ Railway and Telegraph Lines
- ▶ Upper-class Indians benefitted the most

British vs Indian Attitudes



Felt they were helping India modernize

Upper-class and educated Indians adopted more modern ways brought by the British.

Hindu and Muslim religious leaders opposed British-style modernization.

▶ Ram Mohun Roy

- ▶ Tried to combine the old and the new ways of life
- ▶ He founded Hindu College, which provided an English- style education. He saw the need to reform practices such as sati, castes, child marriages, and purdah.
- ▶ Roy saw the value of European ideas and reform, but he wanted to preserve Indian culture as well.

British Attitudes Divided as Well

- ▶ As Indian classics were translated, many Englishmen gained respect for Indian literature and religious ideas.
- ▶ Paternalistic English leaders such as historian Thomas Macaulay had little respect for other cultural traditions.

Indian Reactions

- ▶ British leaders provided promising young Indians with a British education
 - ▶ Thought this would lead them to accept British culture and rule
- ▶ **Instead, educated Indians returned home and began nationalistic movements**
 - The Indian National Congress formed in 1885 to propose self-rule within the British Empire.
 - Muslims feared that Hindus might dominate any government. In 1906, they founded the Muslim League and soon began talking about a separate Muslim state.