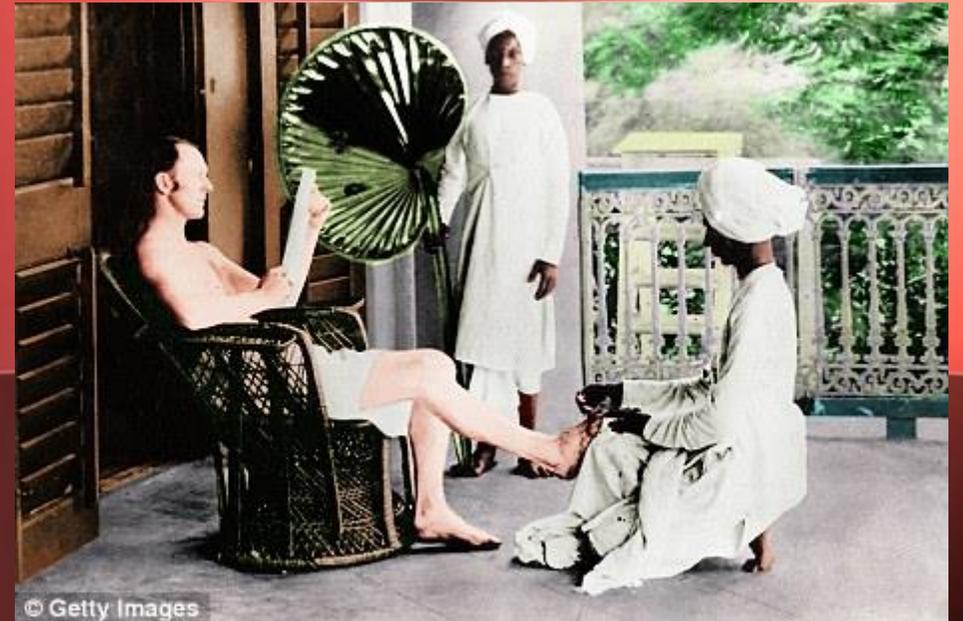
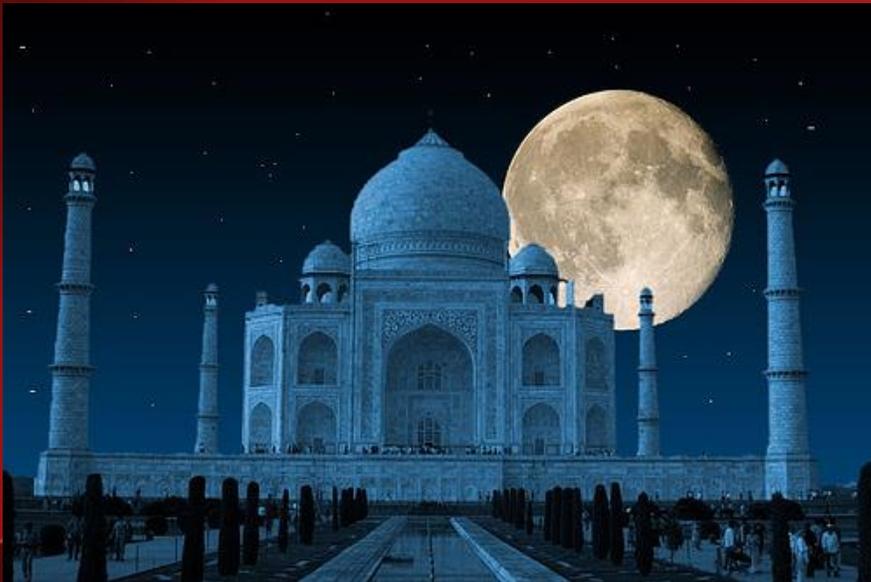


BRITISH RULE IN INDIA

Chapter 12 Section 3

Jason M. Hauck



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I. The Great Rebellion

A. Over the course of the eighteenth century, British power in India had increased.

1. The British government gave the British East India Company, power to become actively involved in India's affairs.

a. They used Indian soldiers, known as sepoy, to protect the company's interests.



B. In 1857, Indian distrust of the British led to a revolt.

1. The British - Sepoy Mutiny.
2. Indians - First War of Independence.

C. The cause of the revolt was a rumor that the troops' new rifle cartridges were greased with cow and pig fat.

1. The cow was sacred to Hindus.
2. The pig was taboo to Muslims.



D. A group of Sepoys at an army post near Delhi, refused to load their rifles with the cartridges.

1. The British charged them with mutiny and put them in prison.

2. The Sepoys went on a rampage, killing 50 European men, women, and children.

a. Soon other Indians joined the revolt.

E. Within a year, Indian and fresh British troops had crushed the rebellion.

1. Although Indian outnumbered the British by about 230,000 to 45,000, they were not well organized.

a. Rivalries between Hindus and Muslims kept the Indians from working together.

F. At Kanpur (Cawnpore), Indians massacred 200 defenseless women and children in a building known as the House of the Ladies.

G. As a result of the uprising, the British Parliament transferred the powers of the East India Company directly to the British government.

1. In 1876 Britain's Queen Victoria took the title Empress of India.

a. India became her "Jewel in the Crown."

H. Although the rebellion failed, it helped fuel Indian nationalism.

II. British Colonial Rule

A. After the Sepoy Mutiny, the British government began to rule India directly.

1. Appointed a viceroy (a governor who ruled as a representative of a monarch).

B. British rule in India had several benefits for colonial subjects.

1. It brought order and stability to a society badly divided.
2. It also led to a fairly honest, efficient government.

C. The British hired Indians and built roads, canals, universities, and medical centers.

1. A postal service and India's first rail network.
2. Health and sanitation conditions were also improved.

D. But the Indian's paid a high price for the peace and stability.

1. British entrepreneurs and a small number of Indians reaped financial benefits from British rule.
2. British manufactured goods destroyed local industries.

E. In rural areas, the British sent the zamindars to collect taxes.

1. The zamindars in India took advantage of their new authority.



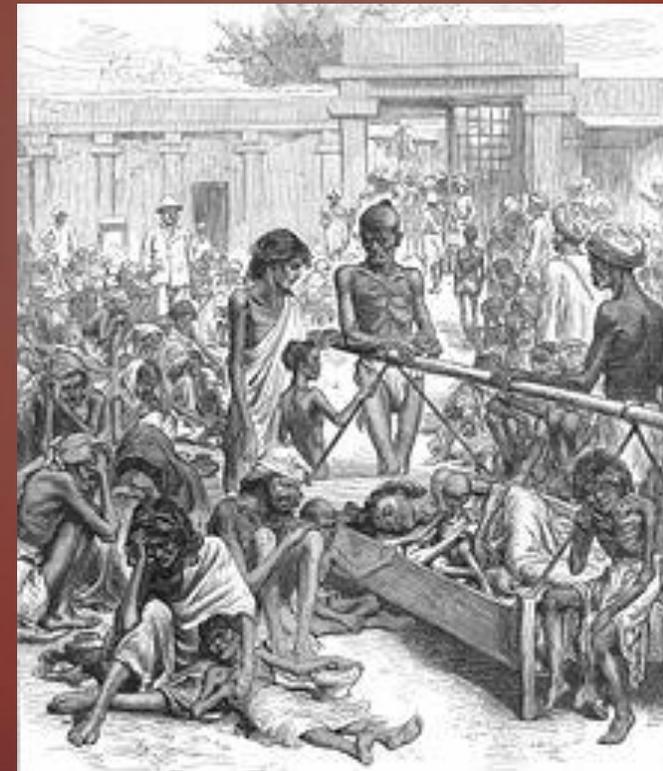
F. The British also encouraged many Indian farmers to switch from growing food to growing cotton.

1. As a consequence, food supplies could not keep up with the growing population.

a. Between 1800 and 1900, 30 million Indians died of starvation.

G. Finally, British rule was degrading.

1. The best jobs and housing were reserved for Britons.



III. Indian Nationalists

A. The first Indian nationalists were upper-class and English-educated.

1. Some were trained in British law and were members of the civil service.

B. At first, many Indian nationalists preferred reform to revolution.

1. In 1885 a small group of Indians met to form the Indian National Congress (INC).

a. The INC did not demand immediate independence, but for a share in the governing process.

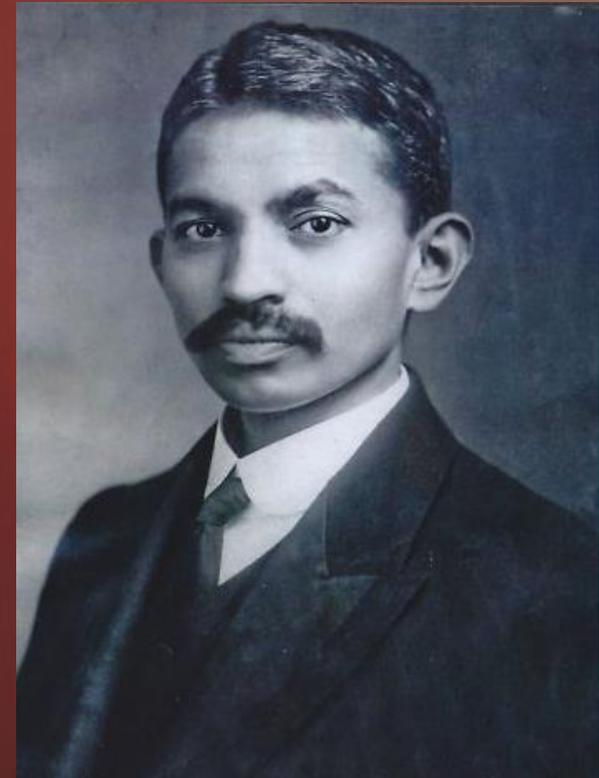
C. Mohandas Gandhi studied in London and became a lawyer.

1. In 1893 Gandhi went to work in South Africa.

D. On his return to India, Gandhi became active in the independence movement.

1. He began a movement based on nonviolent resistance.

2. Ultimately, Gandhi's movement led to Indian independence.



IV. Colonial Indian Culture

A. The British often showed disrespect for India's cultural heritage.

1. The British would use the Taj Mahal as a favorite site for weddings and parties.

a. Many partygoers even brought hammers to chip off pieces as souvenirs.

