Indian Independence and Partition
Sepoy Rebellion 1857-1859

- A mutiny arose by Indian troops stationed in Delhi.

- Results
  - 1.) British and Indian attitudes changed towards British rule of India
  - 2.) Year long insurrection
  - 3.) Dissolution of the British East India Company
  - 4.) Beginning of British Raj, when Great Britain ruled India directly
- **Goals:** Democracy, Local Self-Rule, Prevent mass peasant uprising (like China) by keeping power centered on middle class leaders.
Goals:

• Protect the interests, liberties and rights of Muslims
• Promote an understanding between the Muslim community and other Indians - discourage violence.
• Muslims mistrusted Hindu domination of the INC.
• WWI: 1914-1919
  – Britain promises India self-rule if they help fight in the war
  – Gandhi supports war effort in hopes of achieving self-rule for India
  – When war ends, Britain made a few reforms and refused to grant India self-government
Major Events

- The Amritsar Massacre of 1919

How did the Amritsar massacre change the attitude and goals of the Indian National Congress and Muslim League?
Gandhi said, “Cooperation in any shape or form with this satanic government is sinful.”
Mohandas Gandhi

• Mohandas Gandhi (1869-1948) was one of the major spiritual and political figures in the move for Indian independence.

• For years, Gandhi struggled to keep the Muslims active in Congress so India would not have to suffer the consequence of separation and losing unity.

• Not only did Gandhi use non-violent and non-cooperative methods, but he also repudiated much of the hatred that some Indians felt towards Hindus and Muslims.

"Leave India to God. If that is too much, then leave her to anarchy."

--Gandhi, May 1942

Above: Mohandas Gandhi pictured in 1930
Mohandas K. Gandhi, The “Mahatma” or Great Soul

- Civil Disobedience is the refusing to obey unjust laws and purposely breaking them
- Passive resistance is non-violent protests using two major aspects:
  - Satyagraha (“truth or soul force”)
  - Ahimsa (causing no harm to any living thing)

“Satyagraha is a weapon of the strong; it admits of no violence under any circumstance whatsoever; and it ever insists upon truth.”
According to Gandhi, what are his three goals to win independence from Great Britain?

1. Hindu-Muslim Unity
2. Must end “untouchability”
3. Must defy the British – Not through violence
Gandhi Leads Non-Violent Protests

- Boycotts British goods
- Goes on Hunger strikes in prison and to stop violent protests.
The Salt March

1. British law claimed that the British had sole right to produce and sell salt in India
2. Gandhi wrote to Viceroy stating his intent to break the law
3. With 78 followers he marched 240 miles to the sea. By the time he reached the sea, thousands of people had joined the march.
The Salt March

4. Gandhi and others harvested salt from the sea and were arrested.

5. Reporters around the world reported the incident. The event embarrassed the British government who prided themselves on their democratic traditions.

March 12, 1930, Gandhi and 78 male satyagrahis started their 23-day-long journey...
Muhammad Ali Jinnah

A. Middle Class lawyer educated in Britain
B. First supported Hindu-Muslim Unity – called “Ambassador of Hindu-Muslim Unity”
C. Proposed Lucknow Pact
Muhammad Ali Jinnah

D. Disagreement with Gandhi led to Muslim-Congress split

E. Jinnah began to fear Hindu domination of Congress – A “Hindu Raj”

F. Began to support the idea for an independent Muslim homeland, Pakistan or “land of the pure”.

Gandhi Dies

- Gandhi was assassinated in 1948
- It was the 6th attempt on his life
- Assassin was angry at Gandhi for preaching peace with Pakistan
What is the Partition of India?

The partition of India is the separation of India on Aug. 14, 1947 and Aug. 15, 1947 into the states of the Dominion of Pakistan and the Union of India, respectively.

India was separated on the day of gaining independence from British, due to tensions between the Hindus and the Muslims living in the country. India gained independence after 350 years of British presence in the country.

Above: A current day map of India
India Independence and Partition

• Grants full Independence to India in 1947
• Partitions India by creating East and West Pakistan to avoid religious conflict – Gandhi not pleased

Jinnah planned to say a joke when he met Lady Mountbatten when he said, “A rose between two thorns.” However, he thought she would be in the middle.

Jinnah was able to get equal say at negotiations and refused to accept living under “Hindu Rule.”
India was, therefore, partitioned into two nations: **India** in the center and **Pakistan** to the west and east. Burma (Myanmar) and Ceylon (Sri Lanka) became independent the following year.
India Independence and Partition

Why was Pakistan created with such odd borders?

What do you think will happen with the Muslims in India and the Hindus in Pakistan?

12.5 Million people displaced

500,000 killed or injured in riots and religious attack

Hindus

Muslims

West Pakistan

East Pakistan

Burma

Kashmir (disputed)

Ceylon
TRAIN TO PAKISTAN; India 1947. Trains packed with refugees - Hindus and Sikhs headed for India, and Muslims headed for Pakistan - were convenient targets for gangs of killers on both sides of the border.
Golden Temple of the Sikhs
Due to this Hindu-Muslim split, a Great Migration occurred where Hindus in Pakistan and Muslims in India left their homes in an attempt to go where they felt accepted. Unfortunately, this led to horrendous violence that killed millions of people.
Nehru led the developing nations in practicing **Non-alignment** with the Superpowers and thus, received enormous aid from both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.
Indian Independence and Partition

Kashmir Region

• Muslim majority with Hindu Maharaja

• Conflict starts immediately after Maharaja is forced to flee.

• India goes to war with Pakistan over control of Kashmir in October of 1947

• UN negotiates a line of control and cease fire but no peace is reached.

• Both countries claim all of Kashmir
Indian Independence and Partition

Religious and political conflict remained a problem. In the 1980s, Sikhs demanded an independent state of Punjab and assassinated Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi (Nehru’s Daughter) in 1984.
Other Developments in the region: After fierce fighting, Bangladesh (East Pakistan) split from West Pakistan in 1971. In 1983, an endless war erupted in Sri Lanka with Hindu Tamils, the minority who wanted their own independent nation, fighting against the majority Buddhist Sinhalese. In the first of these clashes, India sent troops to restore order. As a result, the Terrorist group known as the Tamil Tigers assassinated Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi (Indira Gandhi’s son) in 1991. Terrorism continues there today.
Relations between Pakistan and India remain tense. Both nations want to control the Jammu and Kasmir regions near the Pakistan-India border. Tensions based on religious and ethnic claims continued to increase after both India and Pakistan tested nuclear weapons in 1998.