RMHS Portfolio Assignment 3

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1 Indian Soldiers in the two World Wars

For this theme, the researcher can look into a number of primary sources like personal letters and memoirs of the soldiers, newspapers (in English as well as vernacular languages), interviews, war diaries, regimental records, medical and pension records of soldiers, military handbooks and maps used for military purposes.

1. Source: Government of India Press, 1944. India's Chapter in the Sixth year of War, Government of India Press. India. Retrieved from https://coilink.org/20.500.12592/09d80z on 14 Apr 2025. COI: 20.500.12592/09d80z.

   Repository/Archive: South Asia Commons

   `https://southasiacommons.net/artifacts/2357527/`
   `indias-chapter-in-the-sixth-year-of-war/3334800/`

   Relevance: Provides detailed account of all the activities done by Indians of different profeesions as well as in military.

   Keywords: war letters, indian, world war

2. Source: Officer casualties of the Indian armies 1803-1946 : as reported in the East India Company Register, India Office List, Indian Army List

   Repository/Archive: Imperial War Museum Archives

   `https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/1060022700`

   Relevance: This source provides us with the data required to analyse the regiments that suffered the most during the World Wars.

   Keywords: East India Company, Casualties

3. Source: WITH THE INDIAN TROOPS AT THE FRONT PART I [Main Title]

   Repository/Archive: Imperial War Museum Archives

Relevance: This film provides an insight into the lives of Indian soldiers on the Western front during World War I.

Keywords: Indian soldiers, film, first world War

4. Source: War Office: First World War and Army of Occupation War Diaries

Repository Archive: The National Archives (UK)

Relevance: Contains war unit-wise diaries of British and colonial units from 1914-1923.

Keywords: war letters, war diaries, india

5. Source: War Office: Canadian, South African, New Zealand and Indian (United Kingdom) Forces (Dominion Forces): War Diaries, Second World War

Repository/Archive: The National Archive (UK)

Relevance: This source contains daily record of events, reports on operations, exercises, intelligence summaries of units of Dominion Forces (including India).

Keywords: war letters, war diaries

6. Source: War Office: Private War Diaries of Various Army Personnel, Second World War

Repository/Archive: The National Archive (UK)

Relevance: The source is a collection of papers that contain personal accounts of various Army Personnel

Keywords: war letters, war diaries

7. Source: Papers of the Indian Soldiers Fund established to provide comforts and clothing for Indian troops and prisoners of war in France and Mesopotamia during the first World War

Repository/Archive: The National Archive (UK)

Relevance: Gives an overview of the support groups established to help Indian soldiers in Europe during the World War

Keywords: World War, Indian soldiers, reports

8. Source: The CommonWealth War Graves

Relevance: Provides us with the details of the soldiers who died overseas in the world wars.

Keywords: Served with (country): India, War: First World War, Second World War

9. Source: Indian army: activities of Indian National Army

Repository/Archive: The National Archives (UK)

Relevance: Provides details about the activities conducted by the INA to help the Japanese in World War II

10. Source: War Diary of No. 88 A. M. C.U

    Repository/Archive: Abhilekh Patal

    Relevance: The war diary provides insights into the everyday monotonous work of a soldier during the World War

2   The Birth of Bangladesh

For this theme, we can look into official declarations and speeches of the then Prime Minister and the leader of Mukti Bahini, the demographics of the population of West and East Pakistan (religion, language, voting patterns etc.), the diplomatic communications between India, Pakistan and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the newspaper articles from those times, oral histories of refugees who migrated during the war that led to the birth of Bangladesh and the maps of South Asia from 1970s.

1. Oral Histories of people residing in bangladesh

   Source: Liberation War Museum Archives

   https://www.liberationwarmuseumbd.org/page/oral-history

   Relevance: In order to understand the happenings of the Liberation War of 1971 that led to the birth of Bangladesh, it is important to understand the experiences of the people who experienced the atrocities of the war.

2. Source: Exchange of letters between the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and the UN General Secretary

   Archive: United Nations Archives and Records Management Section

   https://search.archives.un.org/s-0904-0061-0009-00001

   Relevance: The letters discuss Bangladesh's entry into the United Nations in 1973, marking a significant step in its integration into the international community.

   Keywords: Bangladesh, 1971

3. Source: United Nations Press Releases on status on Bangladesh as a state

   Archive: United Nations Archives and Records Management Section

   https://search.archives.un.org/s-0900-0008-08-00001

   Relevance: The documents contain the official press releases of United Nations with regard to the newly formed state of Bangladesh

   Keywords: Bangladesh, 1971

4. News articles of 1970 related to the Liberation War

   Archive: Liberation War Museum Digital Archive

   https://www.liberationwarmuseumbd.org/page/documents

   Relevance: The articles showcase the anger and the yearning experienced by the Bangladeshi people.

5. Source: Telex (coded) No. 2941: Visit by the Indian Foreign Minister to Bonn

   Repository/ Archive: Wilson Center Digital Archive

   Relevance: Gives a glimpse into how non-South Asian nations perceived the refugee situation created between India, Pakistan and Bangladesh as a result of war.

6. Source: Assembly debates and Proceedings of Pakistan from 1960 - 1974

   Repository/Archive: National Archives of Pakistan

   Relevance: Gives an insight into the political issues and conflicts that led to the separation of West Pakistan and East Pakistan.

7. Source: Pakistan Army Cyclone Response Records

   Repository/Archive: Bangladesh National Archives

   Relevance: Documents widely criticised inadequate response to the East Pakistan disaster.

   Keywords: disaster relief East Pakistan 1970

8. Source: Details of 1970 general election

   Repository: Bangladesh National Archives

   Relevance: Documents Awami League's vistory in the general elections of 1970.

9. Source: Record of proceedings, the Agartala Conspiracy Case : declassified documents

   Repository: WorldCat

   Keywords: Mujibur Rahman, 1971, Agartala

10. Source: Daily Ittefaq 1971

    Repository: Muktijuddho Archive

    `https://u.pcloud.link/publink/show?code=2vwitalK`

    Relevance: Newspaper articles of 1971 reflect the sentiments of the people of Bangladesh in wartimes.