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['But what about the railways ...?' The myth of Britain's gifts to India | Colonialism | The Guardian](#)

Political Unity

- Indian rulers always had the goal of uniting the country, with the Mughals coming close to uniting 90% of the nation
- But it was truly the British who united the country... against them.
 - "Later, in 1857, the sight of Hindu and Muslim soldiers rebelling together, willing to pledge joint allegiance to the enfeebled Mughal monarch, alarmed the British, who concluded that pitting the two groups against one another was the most effective way to ensure the unchallenged continuance of empire."
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Democracy

- Indians were excluded from the British government and those in the government did little to nothing to help the masses
- Only 1 in 250 Indians had the ability to vote and they only controlled areas such as health and education, subjects that weren't focused on power

Railroads

- Yes, they left trains, but they were created originally by the East India Company to help transport goods across the country, not as a sign of goodwill towards the Indians
- Present day India uses these railroads for the exact opposite purpose that the British did - to carry people, not cargo. This is a symbol of how resources were used not to the benefit of the people but Britain's economy during imperialism. People now depend on these railways to get around and do anything at all in India. The British did not teach India how to walk, but gave them crutches that they would never forget.

ALL good things that were claimed to be gifts from the British empire were never conceived to be used by Indians, they were byproducts of the East India Companies commercial exploits