

Thematic Timelines: Indian Civilization

Period 1 – Period 2

Period 1 – Post-Classical Era – 1200 CE - 1450 CE

- Turkic invaders – **Delhi Sultanate** (1206 CE) establish the first Muslim kingdom and empire in northern India
- Delhi Sultanate forcibly maintains control of most of India for 3 centuries, clashing heavily with the Hindu Indian majority, destroying temples and shrines, and persecuting Hindu people
- Delhi Sultanate suffered from disunion, Hindu opposition to Islam and Delhi Sultanate rule, and harsh, over-taxation of Indian subjects
- Delhi Sultanate later chased out and replaced by invading Turkic and Mongol forces called the **Mughals** (Persian for Mongols), and Mughal Empire begins to control India
- Trade flourishes in India, as spices and textiles are traded for goods in the Muslim-dominated but open-trade IOTN
- Indian spice trade and cotton textiles popular in world, particularly Europe

Period 2 – Early Modern Era – 1450 CE – 1750 CE

- **Sikhism** and **Guru Nanak** started in the Punjab region of India, blending Hindu and Islamic beliefs
- **Mughal Empire** established after the Muslim Turkic and Mongol pastoralists invade from Central Asia and Persia, establishing and controlling a unified empire in India
- **Zamindars** established to collect taxes and administer central policies by the Mughal Empire, thus improving loyalty and solidifying Mughal power
- Portuguese establish trade and connection with Europe, also setting up trade-post empires, but having no impact on the Empire other than controlling sea trade and taking some ports

Thematic Timelines: Indian Civilization

Period 2 – Period 3

- British, French, and Dutch follow and establish and control trade ports as the Portuguese had; Mughal India still completely controlled empire (other than ports and sea trade)
- **British East India Company** removed French and Portuguese after the **Seven Years War** and began its gradual conquest and incorporation of zamindars in the 1760s
- Manufactured goods and textiles from India still considered among the highest quality, and India and China continue to lead world manufacturing

Period 3 – Modern Era – 1750 CE – 1900 CE

- British East India Company removes French and Portuguese and begins its mercenary army conquest and negotiating with zamindars to control all of India by the 19th century
- **Indian Rebellion** against the British East India Company in 1857 almost overthrows British control
- Economic imperialism in India as British goods and trade forced upon India, and outgoing trade and domestic industry controlled in favor of the British
- British Raj officially takes control of India in 1857 and eliminates the caste system
- Indians migrate and education throughout the British Empire (South and East Africa, Britain, and Australia)
- **Indian National Congress** formed to legally and peaceful oppose British rule and move for eventual Indian independence
- India loses place as top manufacture producer to Europe after the 19th-century industrial revolutions

Thematic Timelines: Indian Civilization

Period 4: 1900 CE – Present

Period 4 – Contemporary Era – 1900 CE - Present

- **Gandhi** and **Indian National Congress (INC)** move for peaceful independence, then interrupted by WWII and threat of Japan / Germany
- Mass civil disobedience and protest adopted for peaceful independence under Gandhi and INC
- **Jinnah** and **All-Indian Muslim League** form and move for separate Muslim state (Pakistan)
- **British Partition of India** in 1949: India, Pakistan, and East Pakistan (later Bangladesh)
- Sikhs caught in between, persecuted and killed in **Great Migration** of Hindu to India and Muslims to Pakistan (no state for Punjab Sikh)
- Millions of Indians emigrate to British and former British territories in South Africa, East Africa, the Caribbean, the UK and the US after WWII
- India joins the **Non-Alignment Movement**, refusing to join or oppose the First or Second world blocs
- India classified as a developing country, keeping close ties and emigration to Britain and the US
- Growing economy with lower per capita income and high levels of pollution
- **Indira Gandhi** presided over three **Five-Year Plans** as Prime Minister