

RECAP



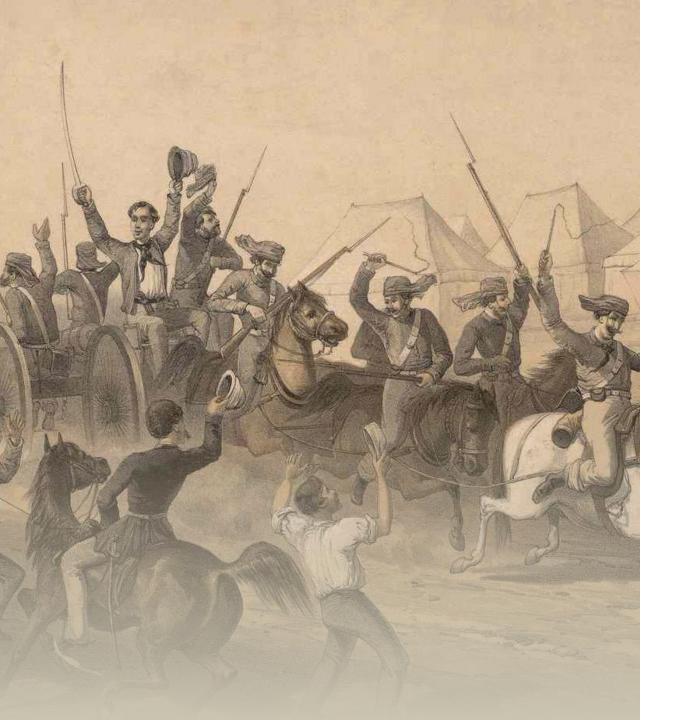
PERMANENT SETTLEMENT SUNSET LAW

- Zamindars had to pay a fixed amount of revenue by a particular date before sunset. If they failed to pay the fixed revenue, land was confiscated (taken away) and sold out. This was known as the sunset law.
- The Permanent Settlement failed for a number of reasons including:
 - > zamindars did not invest surplus in the land and
 - > the well-being of cultivators worsened over time.

• I found this video useful: <u>Permanent Settlement act 1793 | Lord Cornwallis |</u>
<u>Modern History of India for UPSC - YouTube</u>

CONTENTS (1857 TO 1911)

- Sepoy Mutiny 1857-1859
- All India Congress 1885
- Partition of Bengal 1905
- Annulment of Partition 1911



REVOLT OF 1857 (SEPOY MUTINY)

 It was the first organised resistance against the British East India Company.

 It began as a revolt of the sepoys of the British East India Company's army but eventually secured the participation of the masses.

CAUSES OF SEPOY MUTINY

- British paramountcy—i.e., the belief in British dominance in Indian political, economic, and cultural life—had been introduced.
- Everywhere the old Indian aristocracy was being replaced by British officials.
- One notable British technique was called the doctrine of lapse, first perpetrated by Lord Dalhousie in the late 1840s.
- It involved the British prohibiting a Hindu ruler without a natural heir from adopting a successor and, after the ruler died or abdicated, annexing his land.

CAUSES OF SEPOY MUTINY

- The rebellion broke out in the Bengal army. In late March 1857 a sepoy named Mangal Pandey attacked British officers at the military garrison in Barrackpore.
- The pretext for revolt was the introduction of the new Enfield rifle.
- To load it, the sepoys had to bite off the ends of lubricated cartridges.
- A rumour spread among the sepoys that the grease used to lubricate the cartridges was a mixture of pigs' and cows' lard; thus, to have oral contact with it was an insult to both Muslims and Hindus.
- There is no conclusive evidence that either of these materials was actually used on any of the cartridges in question. However, the perception that the cartridges were tainted added to the larger suspicion that the British were trying to undermine Indian traditional society.



CAUSES

1. Political: British policy of expansion.
For example, Rani Lakshmi Bai's adopted son was not permitted to sit on the throne of Jhansi.
Satara, Nagpur and Jhansi were annexed under the Doctrine of Lapse.

2. Social and Religious Cause:

The rapidly spreading Western Civilisation in India was alarming concerns all over the country. Example, Christian missionary activity, the abolition of practices like sati and female infanticide, and legalising widow remarriage.



CAUSES

3. Economic Cause

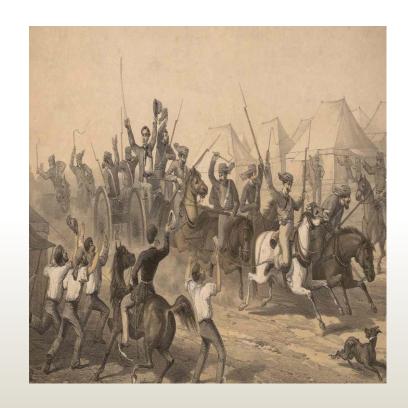
In rural areas, peasants were infuriated by the heavy taxes on land and the harsh methods of revenue collection. Large numbers of sepoys belonged to the peasantry class and had family ties in villages, so the grievances of the peasants also affected them.

4. Military Cause:

Indian sepoys formed more than 87% of the British troops in India but were considered inferior to British soldiers.

The incident of greased cartridges.

(125) This Type of Bullet Caused an Entire Uprising! - YouTube



WHY DID THE REVOLT FAIL?

- ☐ Limited uprising
- No effective leadership
- ☐ Limited Resources
- No participation of the middle class

WHY DID THE REVOLT FAIL?

The role and reaction of various classes of people of Bangladesh during the sepoy revolt present a gloomy picture.

The **landed aristocracy** were decidedly opposed to the sepoys and some of them rendered logistic support to the Company authorities by supplying carts, carriages and elephants; informing the movements of the fleeing sepoys and finally organising local volunteer corps to resist the sepoys.

The government acknowledged such services of the landed aristocracy with thanks and subsequently awarded them titles of Nawab, Khan Bahadur, Khan Shaheb, Rai Bahadur, Rai Shaheb etc and rewarded them with all sorts of worldly gains.

Following the role displayed by the landed aristocracy, the middle class too sided with the Company's government.

The **common people and the peasantry** suffered much from the resulting artificial **price hike**.

RESULT

☐ End of company rule:

The revolt marked the end of the East India Company's rule in India.

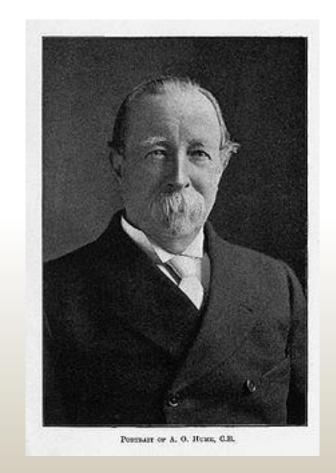
☐ Direct rule of the British Crown:

India now came under the direct rule of the British Crown.

ALL INDIA CONGRESS (1885)

In the later 1870s and early 1880s, a solid ground had been prepared for the establishment of an all-India organization

A retired English civil servant, A.O. Hume mobilised intellectuals to establish Indian national congress.

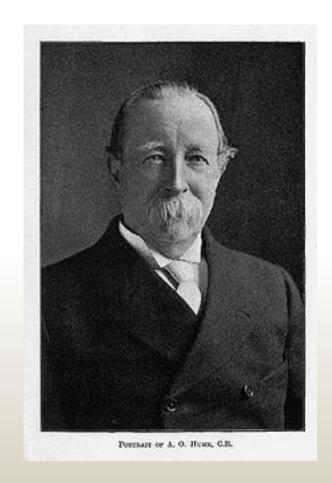


ALL INDIA CONGRESS (1885)

In 1883, Hume had written an open letter to **Calcutta University graduates** expressing his idea of

- having a body for educated Indians to demand more share in the government
- ➤ a platform by which dialogue could be initiated and sustained between educated Indians and the British government.

The first session was held in December 1885.



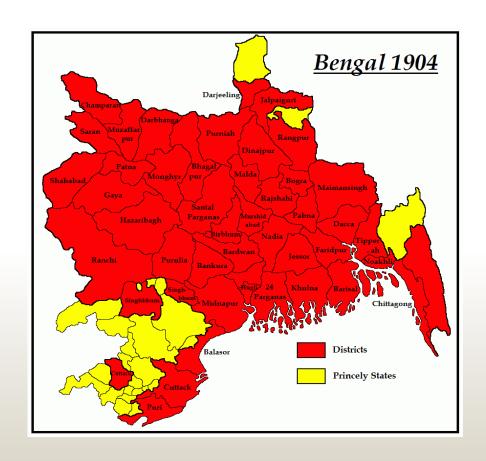
MANIFESTO OF AINC

- ☐ To seek the cooperation of Indians.
- ☐ Eradicate the concepts of race, creed, and provincial prejudice.
- ☐ Solving the social problems of the country.
- □ Demanding more shares for the natives in administrative affairs.

As time went by, the congress evolved its stance and apparently became the biggest opposition to the British government.

PARTITION OF BENGAL (1905)

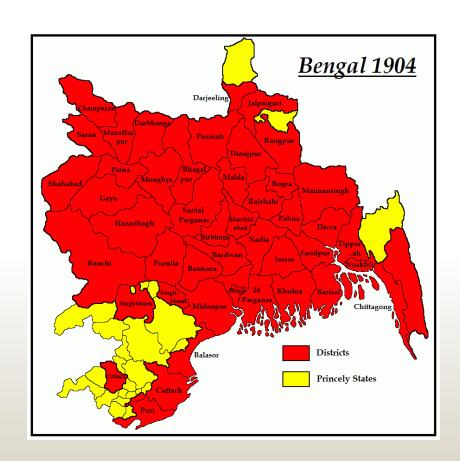
• Since 1765, the province of Bengal, which included present-day West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Bangladesh and Assam was under the British.



REASONS OF PARTITION

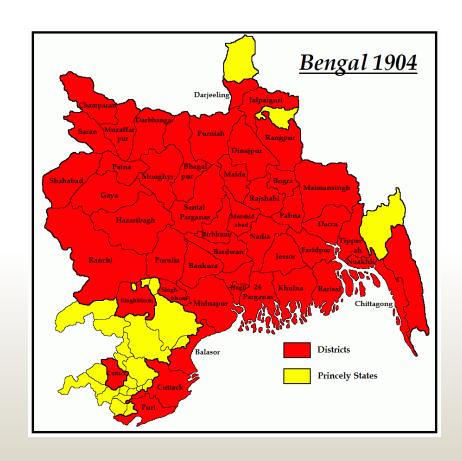
Administrative difficulties:

- It was a very large area and the population rose to almost 80 million by the first few years of the 20th century.
- Calcutta was the capital of the province and also of British India.
- There were difficulties in administering such a large area.



NEGLECTED EASTERN BENGAL

- The eastern part, especially in rural areas were **neglected**.
- That region was lacking in the fields of industry, education and employment.
- Much of the industry was centered on Calcutta.



PARTITION

- For administrative ease, the partition of the province had been proposed even before Curzon had arrived in India.
- At last, Lord Curzon proposed the partitioning of the province.



BRITISH INTENTION

Undermine Nationalist Movements

 The idea of using the Bengal partition as a political tool to undermine the growing nationalism in Bengal and other parts of India occurred later.

BRITISH INTENTION

Divide and Rule

- Bengal would have a Hindu majority and
- Eastern Bengal and Assam would have a Muslim majority population.

BENGAL AFTER PARTITION

Western Province

- West Bengal, Bihar,Orissa
- Hindu majority
- Hindi and Oriya
 speaking people were
 majority

Eastern Province

- East Bengal,
 Assam, Tripura
- Chittagong, Dhaka,
 Rajshahi, Malda
- Muslim majority

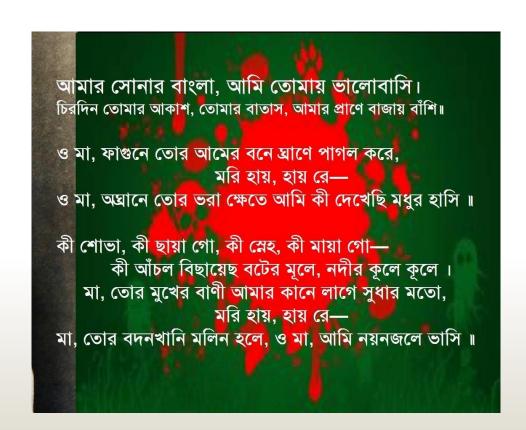
BENGAL AFTER PARTITION



REACTION (MIXED)

There was widespread political unrest in the province after Curzon announced the partition.

- Many people in Bengal regarded this partition as an insult to their motherland.
- Rabindranath Tagore composed the famous song 'Amar Sonar Bangla' which later became the national anthem of Bangladesh.



REACTION (MIXED)

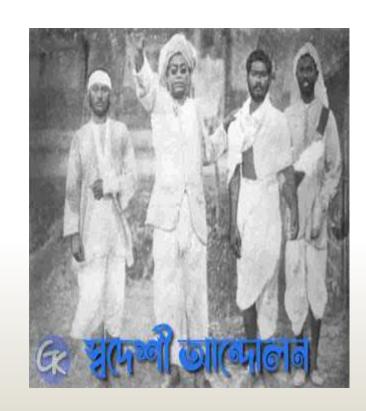
- The Indian National Congress protested this move to separate the provinces.
- Most of the Bengalis in the western part protested against this step which would also make them a linguistic minority in their own province.
- There would be more Odia and Hindi speaking people than Bengalis.

REACTION (MIXED)

- Many Muslims from the Bengali Muslim community
 welcomed this move since they thought that it would
 advance their educational, economic and political
 interests if they became the majority in the new
 province.
- Lord Curzon also promised to start a university in Dhaka.

SWADESHI MOVEMENT

- The Swadeshi and Boycott
 movements in the national
 struggle started as a result of this
 partition.
- People started boycotting British goods which had flooded the Indian market suppressing local industries.



COMMUNAL RIFT

 The partition did succeed in creating a communal rift in the country and even contributed to the birth of the Muslim League in 1906.



PARTITION ANNULLED

- Owing to mass political protests, the partition was annulled in 1911.
- New provinces were created based on linguistic lines rather than religious lines. Bihar and Orissa Province was carved out of Bengal. (Bihar and Orissa became separate provinces in 1936).
- A separate Assam province was created.
- The **capital** of British India was moved to **Delhi** from Calcutta in 1911.
- Despite the annulment, the partition did create a communal divide among the Hindus and Muslims of Bengal.

PARTITION OF BENGAL (1905)

- 1. The Partition of Bengal in 1905 refers to the division of Bengal carried out by the British official in India, Lord Curzon, despite strong Indian nationalist opposition.
- 2. Bengal was partitioned on religious lines: Muslim dominated East-Bengal was separated from Hindu dominated West-Bengal.
- 3. East-Bengal included 15 districts of Bengal plus Assam, which summed up to a population of 31 million. Its capital was Dacca or present-day Dhaka.
- 4. West-Bengal merged Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand and part of Chattisgarh with the western districts of Bengal, with Calcutta as the capital and a population of 47 million.
- 5. The official reasons provided for the partition were better management and improved focus on the neglected eastern region, but the people of Bengal did not believe these arguments.

PARTITION OF BENGAL (1905)

- 6. They regarded the partition as an attempt to "divide and rule" and weaken nationalism in Bengal, where it was more developed than elsewhere.
- 7. Agitation against the partition included mass meetings, rural unrest, and a *swadeshi* (native) movement to boycott the import of British goods.
- 8. The authorities, not able to end the protests, announced the partition's annulment in 1911. King George announced on 12th December 1911 that eastern Bengal would be assimilated into the Bengal Presidency and the partition of Bengal was cancelled. Districts where Bengali was spoken, were once again unified and Assam, Bihar and Orissa were separated.

I found this video useful: (125) When was Bengal First Partitioned? Not in 1947 - YouTube

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