Quang Huynh & CJ Reed

Sepoy Rebellion

12/4/20

**Document A: Gardiner’s History**

1. The type of document is a textbook. This textbook was written in 1881.
2. The intended audience of this document is dedicated towards young American students.
3. The author’s main claim about what caused the Sepoy Rebellion is British wanting the Indian soldiers to grease up their rifle cartridges with animal grease. But the Indian soldiers thought the grease was from those of a cow. There was much suspicion, and the ignorant men were angry. So, the cause of the Sepoy Rebellion would be rumors concerning guns being greased with animal fat.
4. I do not think that this document is trustworthy because the writer is British and would be bias. Furthermore, the writer of the document did not provide all the details in the situation.

**Document B: Colin Campbell**

1. Colin Campbell oversaw the British forces and was tasked with putting down the rebellion. The document was written in 1858.
2. Campbell believed the rebellion was caused by unsuccessful attempts to convert the natives to Christianity as well as the province of Oudh’s increasingly inept government.
3. Campbell explains the reason for taking over the region as wanting to save the natives from their tyrannical local government and barbarism.
4. He doesn’t really see them as people as the same level as he views his peers. He mostly feels pity and shame for them.
5. Although it is a primary source, I don’t believe that it is trustworthy because it is written by the person who oversaw suppressing the revolt. He obviously would have some sort of prejudice.

**Document C: Sita Ram**

1. Sita Ram is a loyal sepoy to the British.
2. Sita Ram’s main claims about what caused the Sepoy Rebellion was that the rifles were greased up with cow and pig fat. Religious people did not approve of this.
3. Yes, I believe that this was a trustworthy document because this document provides perspectives from both sides. He isn’t bias at all and dwells through both arguments.
4. Both Document A and Document B talk about how the rebellion Is caused by the greasing of rifles with animal fat. But Document B provides more information about both sides.

**Document D: Sayyid Ahmed Khan**

1. Khan was an Indian scholar who worked for the East India Company during and after the revolt. It was written in 1873.
2. Kahn’s main claim was that the rebellion was caused by the lack of representation from Indians prior to the revolt. He also believed that the people would not trust the government regardless of its intentions, due to their foreign culture and religion.
3. I do believe that this is a reliable source because it is written from the point of view of a scholar who saw it from the sides of the natives as well as from the east India company.

**Document E: Joseph Coohill**

1. Joseph Coohill is a historian and university professor at Duquesne University. In addition, this document was written in 2007.
2. When Coohill wrote, “Indians considered this to be a final outrage of British conquest.” I think he meant that this was their breaking point, and the Indians will no longer just sit back and tolerate this behavior anymore.
3. The additional information about the causes of the Sepoy Rebellion that this document provides is Britain’s taking over the town of Oudh. The Indians considered this to be a final outrage of British conquest.
4. I believe that this document is not trustworthy because Coohill is bias while writing the document. He is advocating for the Indians and how they were not treated right. The document did not mention the perspective of the British at all, and only centered on the Indians.

**Thesis**

There were various political and social causes of the Sepoy Rebellion.  Causes included the lack of assistance in governing their own country, as well as being ruled over by people with little understanding of their culture.  Perhaps the most important cause were rumors surrounding the fact that the British used cow and pig fat to grease the rifles. This was a big hinder because many of the Indians were religious and this went against their religious beliefs. However, some things had little cause like the lack of respect given by newer generations of company workers.