The East India Company Exploitation

Introduction

The East India Company was established in 1600 and was a trading enterprise but evolved into a ruthless commercial and military force. This article will be uncovering their crimes and the countless deaths they have brought upon Bengal and India.

The Bengal Famine

In 1770, when the Bengal famine took millions of lives, the East India Company saw a financial opportunity in their situation. They bought large stockpiles of rice and waited till the prices inevitably went up and made a huge profit. A young broker alone made 60000 pounds, which would be 14 million pounds by today.

Profit Over Lives

Over a million pounds were transferred to their accounts during 1770-1771, which would be 100 million pounds by today. Even though this money was made purely because of the exploitation of the Indian population, the East India Company has shown no remorse for their actions.

Legacy And Reputation

Their reputation surprisingly did not dwindle, nor did it even had any negative effects at all. The Company was even praised for their “hard work” by Rod Edington, a former CEO of British Airways. The past and their crimes seem to be forgotten.

Domination And Greed

The British gained 7.3% in world gross income, whilst India’s world gross income dropped from over 22% to 12.25% which clearly shows how deep and intense their exploitation was. Famines in India hit an all time high after and while the East India Company was exploiting the country.

Conclusion

This part of British history paints a bigger picture, that is still being ignored by the Britons. History should be used to learn and evolve, so that such unethical acts are never even considered to be done.