Indian Independence Movement: 1905-1947

India’s population soared: 250 million (1900) to 389 million (1941) = fertile land
-environmental pressure
-deforestation
-decrease farmland per family

Many classes – peasants
Wealthy property owners
Urban crafts people
Traders
Workers
Many languages
English – medium of communication – western-educated middle class – needed to know
English for civil service jobs

Major religion – Hinduism

Moslems: ¼ of India’s population at the time was Moslem
-Mostly located in Northwest India and eastern Bengal

British Rule:

Colonial rule – Viceroy (Governor)
Reality – few British living in India
Indian Civil Service
-few thousand people
-Manipulated technology
Reason: Protect Indians from industrialization dangers
Prevent radical politics
Maximize benefits for themselves and British

1900 – majority of Indians accepted British rule
Racism and discrimination existed though
Indian National Congress (1885)
All-India Moslem League (1906)
Two Independence Movements

British – resisted India could/should industrialize
1st steel mill in Jamshedpur (1911)
-Pramatha Nath Bose and Jamseji Tata
-Indian Geological Service and Bombay textile magnet came together to build a steel mill
-Symbol of national pride
1918-1919: Increase tensions between British and Indians
Vague promises of self-government and flu (1918-1919)
Nationalism.
Western-educated Indians began to rise up.
Learned about democracy (started mid-1800s).

The British enticed 1 million Indian people to enlist in the British Army for World War I
with the promise that reforms will lead to self-government in India
British broke promise after World War I
Violence broke out

**Rowlatt Acts** (1919) – allowed British government in India to jail anti-British protestors
without a trial for as long as 2 years

**Amritsar Massacre** (April 13, 1919) – killing by British troops of nearly 400 Indians and
1,200 wounded who were protesting the Rowlatt Acts

Leader emerged = Mohandas K. Gandhi (1869-1948)
-Called the Mahatma = ‘great soul’.
-English-educated lawyer
Practiced in South Africa
Returned to India and joined Indian National Congress during World War I
Non-violence (ahimsa)
Satyagraha (search for truth)
Simple life
Worked for poor, illiterate, outcasts
Result: moved Indian Independence Movement from elite movement to mass movement
Called Indians to follow non-cooperation policy
civil disobedience – deliberate and public refusal to obey a law considered unjust.
Boycotts
Against British goods, especially cloth
Against British government (laws and schools)

Repeated arrests and prison sentences

1920s – Great Britain gave Indians some control over education, economy, public works,
increase tariffs formed – helped some industrialization
Created wealthy class of Indian businessmen
- Looked to Jawaharlal Nehru for leadership (Gandhi’s successor)

**Salt March** – peaceful protest against the Salt Acts in 1930.
240 mile walk to the sea, where Indians made own salt from evaporated seawater.

Government of India Act (1935) – British allowed local self-government and limited
democratic elections.
World War II – divided Indians
Indians – many helped war effort – helped Great Britain but Indian National Congress opposed war
Minority of Indians joined the Japanese side

1940- Muhammad Ali Jinnah (1876-1948)
-Moslem League Leader
-wanted a country only for Moslems – Pakistan

After World War II – Great Britain prepared for Independence of India
As a result of Great Britain’s war debts and world pressure after World War II, Great Britain was willing to grant India independence.

-Indian National Congress and Moslem League animosity towards one another led to 2 states being created: India and Pakistan
Hindus and Moslems were rioting over who would control India
British solution (1947) = Partition – division into parts
Regions: West Pakistan (modern-day Pakistan) and East Pakistan (modern-day Bangladesh) → Moslem region
India → Hindus

From July 16, 1947 – August 15, 1947, 10 million people were moving
Extreme violence (1 million people died)
Moslems, Hindus, and Sikhs all killing one another
Many refugees

In 1947, conflict developed in Kashmir Region (Pakistan-India border)
--Still exists today
Pakistan Independence = August 14, 1947
India Independence = August 15, 1947

Sub-Sahara Africa: 1900-1945

Few Europeans lived in Africa
Exception: Algeria, Kenya, and South Africa

However – Europeans still dominated African economy
African exports of raw materials – benefits for Europeans and only few Africans benefited

Africans – forced to work in mines and plantations
-European owned
-Harsh conditions
Little/no pay
Colonialism – little modern health care
-Europeans think they helped the Africans greatly in health improvements, however this was not true
-Encouraged migration = spread of disease
Labor conscription – demand for food = malnutrition
Only men migrated to cities – women left to raise children on farm
Many policies actually hurt undermined the African family
Increase in cities led to increase in racial discrimination

During Colonial Era – many Africans – Christian or Islam converts
Missionaries throughout Africa (except Ethiopia: Christianity was indigenous there)
-Christian missionary schools taught reading, writing, crafts

Islam – spread through traders – Islam more acceptable to African cultures than Christianity
Example: polygamy

Western education and racism = increase in nationalism in Africa

Early nationalist leaders:
Blaine Diagne (Senegal)
Hallie Selassie
African National Congress (South Africa)
Pan Africanists:
W.E.B. Dubois
Marcus Garvey
-These two men from United States and had little influence before World War II
Africans who fought in World War II came back to Africa with new and radical ideas