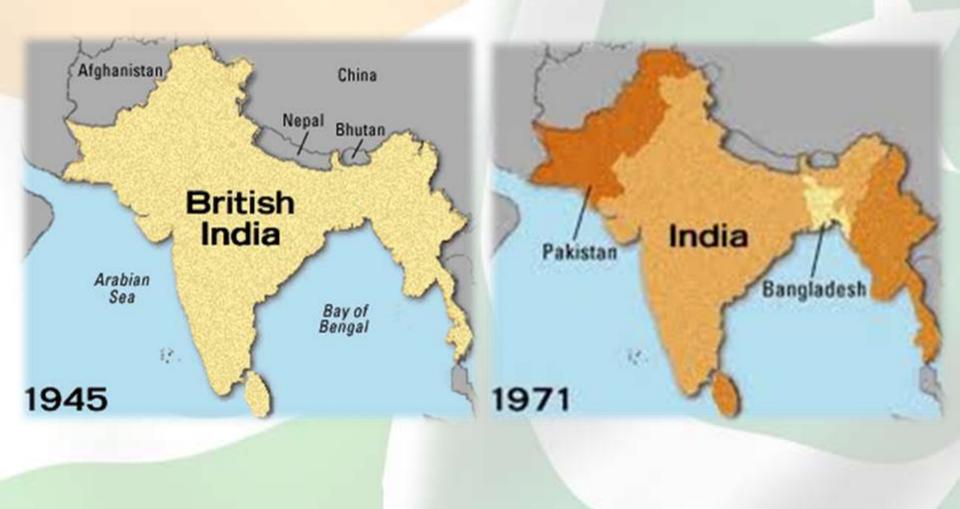
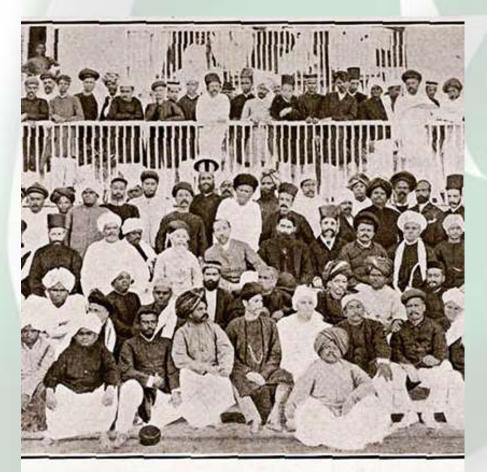
# India Gains Independence



### India National Congress (INC) Founded 1885

- A group of mostly well-to-do and westerneducated Hindu Indians met in Bombay to form the INC in 1885
- At first, supported the **British Raj** and met to discuss issues that were concerns for urban and elite Indians
- By early1900s, nationalism grew in the members of the INC
- Some supported the British but wanted more say in the government
- Others advocated for Swaraj, or self-rule.



THE FIRST INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS, 1885.

### **Muslim League** Founded 1906



- In response to Hindu nationalism, leading members of the upper class Muslim community formed the Muslim League in 1906
- Like the INC, the Muslim League petitioned the Brits. for more say in the government
- Also advocated for Indian Muslims and for laws and policies that would favor them

### Gandhi Returns to India 1915

- Returns after gaining fame and some success as a defender of Indian rights in S. Africa
- Known for his nonviolent opposition of Brit.
  policies in S. Africa that included boycotts, protest marches, and fasts
- Gandhi became a member of the INC and promoted his ideas of reacting to unjust Brit. laws using *civil disobedience*
- Unlike many of the members of the INC, he was able to better connect with everyday Indians
- 1<sup>st</sup> major protests targeted Brit. landlords who forced Indian farmers to grow indigo and to sell it at low prices instead of crops that could have made more \$\$\$



### World War I 1914-1918 & Rowlatt Acts 1919

### IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

### BLACK BILL NO. I "PASSED."

### THE HON, MR, SARMA RESIGNS.

### SOLEMN MOCKERY OF THE DEBATE.

[The Block Bill No. I was passed at Tuesday's meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council, 30 members weight for it and 20 against. Immediately after the passage of the outset express his great report 20 at the Bill the Hon, Mr. B. N. Sarma of Madras offered his resignation. At this meeting the Black Bill No. II was also taken up. Sir William Vincent moved that the Report of the Solect Committee on the second Rowhitt Bill be republished . Mr. Patel and Mr. Malariys moved amandments which the beremoracy influed to accept.]

#### (FROM OFA COMBREDENDERT.) Drum, March 18

A measing of the Intervial Legislative Gauncal was hold toolay. There was a very large attanuiance of visitors including for George Buos Keppel. The Vancoy presided

Un His Excellency milling upon hir Faralbhoy Currinidus to put his estation Mr. Patel raised print of urder that the meeting long not a now menting his an adjourned meeting, quea nons readd not be asked. His Excellency and he was save Hon, monthly desired their question to be put and answered and be therefore proposed to allow questions to be 144

) in the rules to suggest that the motion of which notice was given must be moved for William Vincent and he was perfectly willing that the Han, member, if he set desired, about more that mation.

Mr. Patel said he only related the question as it affacted the privileges of the members of this Council. He did and desire to motes IL.

His Eccellence rated against Mr. Patel. RESIGNING OF ABSENTING.

Mr. Patel, supporting Pandit Malaviya's amondment, said three of the members of the fielect Committee did has serve on the fulses Commisses and they resigned Sir George Lowndry cose to a point of order saying that on member sont 10 the preision from their point of view,

#### ROW: ATT BILL NO. 1

Se William Vinerits sear morry, that the bill to sope with the anarchical and revolutionary erims as amonifed by passed

#### SIR WILLIAM VINCENT

Sir William Vincent than noted that the attachical and revolutionary errors bill as amended be passed onto law said in making this motion, he must at in spits of the important modifications they had made to the hill and in space of their attempt to most the worker of the lifes, members, Government weenot able to serve mire apport for this measure. He non-ever, beyod that more of the members would admit that the attenuis of the Government was not unreasonable and shay abey had done there bent to meet them in making important modifications. At the same time, by quire realized the ferings of the flon, members Their estensive dishike of the measure was based on the apprehension that the powers under also bill might he abused There ware possibly other mombers who were actuated he schur motore but let did not address his words to those members. He was addressing these words an those whose so operation. Dovertiment sought. He asked them to consider the mannies from the picat of view of the Deceroment, Government had "gancord his resignation. They merely absented and had done all shey could so more themselves. Mr. Patal was prioreding to say | them and had made changes in the 1.0 During WWI, the Brits. brought India into the fight and many Indian troops served overseas

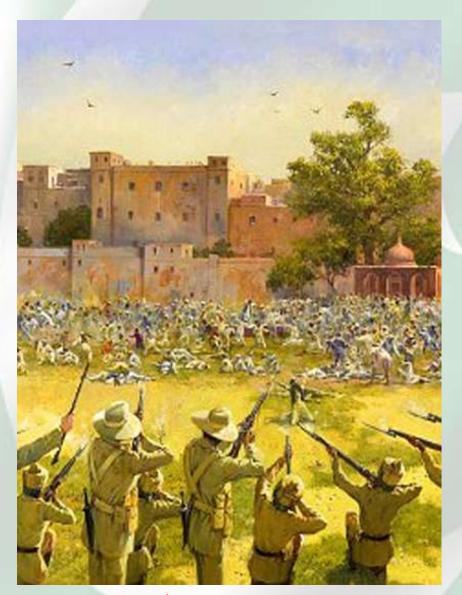
In exchange, the Brits. promised it would gradually increase Indian participation in the British Raj

Instead of more political autonomy, the government passed the *Rowlatt Acts* or the Black Bills in 1919

The Acts were enacted to stop extreme political activities and people suspected of acting against the government could be jailed without a trial

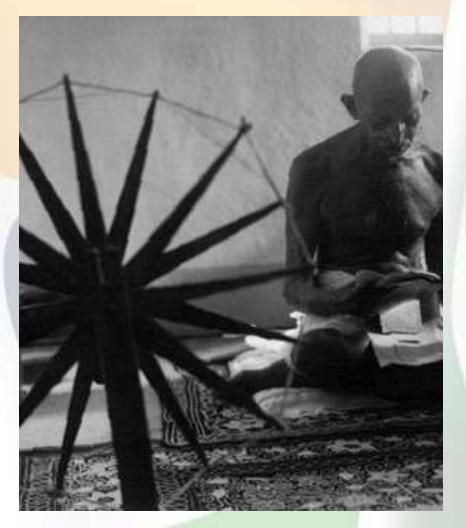
### **Amritsar Massacre 1919**

- The *Massacre of Amritsar* April 13, 1919
- British troops fired on a large crowd of unarmed Indians in Amritsar in the Punjab region of India
- Several hundred people were killed and many hundreds more were wounded
- It marked a turning point in India's history, in that it left a permanent scar on Indo-British relations
- Prelude to Gandhi's full commitment to cause of Indian nationalism and independence from Britain





### Homespun Movement 1920s-1940s



- In 1921, Gandhi given leadership of the INC and reorganized the group with goal of **Swaraj** through the use of nonviolent forms of protest
- Britain's industrialization greatly diminished India's traditional economy and the Brits. profited
- Gandhi argued that India needed to be self-sufficient
- One way to do this was to boycott British textiles and to make their own cloth
- This was called the *Homespun Movement*

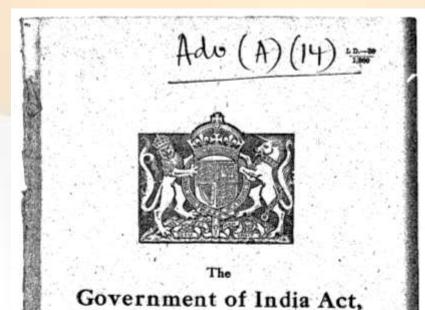
### The Salt March 1930

- Salt was being heavily taxed by the Brits.
- Indians could even be thrown in jail for just making or selling salt
- In 1930, Gandhi saw this injustice as the perfect opportunity to practice the kind of passive resistance he called "*satyagraha*." "truth force"
  - On March 12, 1930 Gandhi set out with 78 followers on a 240-mile trek to the sea
- For 23 days, they marched and thousands of his countrymen joined along the way
- Eventually, all of the protesters, which reached over two miles long, made it to the sea and defied the law by making salt
- Salt March and protests that followed brought much attention to the Indian independence movement and British cruelty





## Government of India Act 1935 & Elections of 1937



### 1935

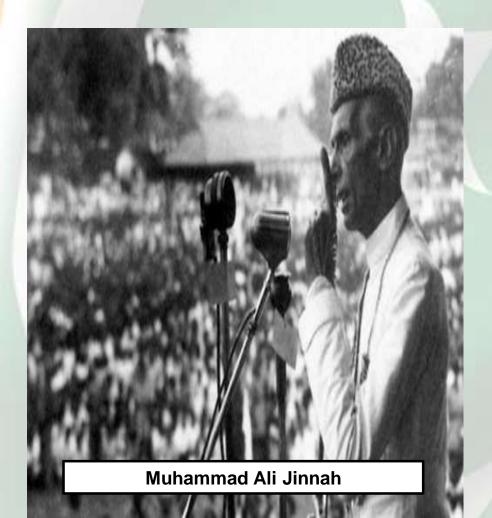
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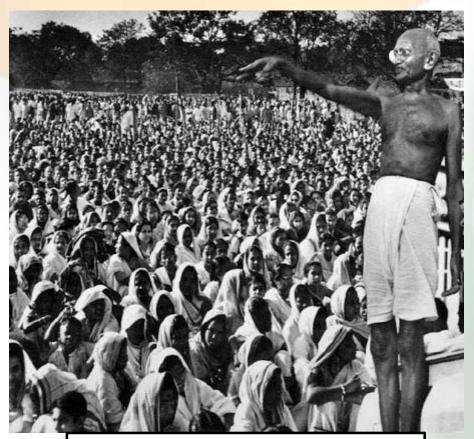
- After the salt tax protests, the INC, led by Gandhi, entered into years of negotiations with the British Raj
- Resulting law was the *Government of India* Act of 1935
  - It was a new plan for ruling India:
    - More Indian participation in govt.
    - Free elections to select reps. from each province
  - In 1937, the first elections took place: - INC candidates won a majority of the provinces
    - Muslim League did poorly in the election

### Lahore Resolution1940

- In 1940, the Muslim League, led by Muhammad Ali Jinnah wrote the Lahore Resolution
- It demanded that India be separated into two states: one for Hindus and one for Muslims
- Jinnah feared that the Hindu dominated INC would not negotiate for the best interests of the Muslims



## World War II & the Quit India Movement 1939-1945



Gandhi launching the Quit India Movement in1942.

- At start of WWII, the Brits. pulled India into the war without consulting the elected Indian representatives
- In response, all of the elected Indian officials resigned from the government
- In 1942, Gandhi and the INC launched the **Quit India Movement**, demanding immediate independence for India.
- In a speech entitled, "Do or Die," Gandhi urged the masses to act as an independent nation and not to follow the orders of the Brits.
- Many arrests, protests and demonstrations resulted

## **Independence & Partition 1947**

- The drain on resources from WWII and the recovery from the that war, led the Brits. to give up their control of India by 1947
  - Despite Gandhi's desire to keep India together, it was decided to divide the colony into two separate and independent nations: India and Pakistan
  - Jawaharlal Nehru will lead India and Muhammad Jinnah Pakistan
- Immediately after partition, mass violence between Hindus and Muslims coupled with large scale migrations result
- Gandhi went on a hunger strike to try to end the violence



Video Link

## **Death of Gandhi 1948**



Video

ideo Link 36:00 to end

- Mahatma (*Great soul*) Gandhi was assassinated on January 30, 1948
- The assassin was a Hindu extremist
- He accused Gandhi of complacency towards Muslims, and blamed him for the sufferings of the partition
- Gandhi's assassin was sentenced to death and hung in jail in November 1949
- Gandhi died a martyr and his death was mourned around the world