Indian Frustration

In the early 1900s, many Indians were dissatisfied with British rule. An early leader of the Indian National Congress party expressed his frustration with an unpopular policy to divide the province of Bengal into smaller sections:

"The scheme [to divide Bengal]... will always stand as a complete illustration of the worst features of the present system of bureaucratic rule—its utter contempt for public opinion, its arrogant pretensions to superior wisdom, its reckless disregard of the most cherished feelings of the people, the mockery of an appeal to its sense of justice, [and] its cool preference of [British civil service workers'] interests to those of the governed."

—Gopal Krishna Gokhale, 1905

Focus Question: How did Gandhi and the Congress party work for independence in India?

India Seeks Self-Rule

Objectives

- Explain what motivated the Indian independence movement after World War I.
- Analyze how Mohandas Gandhi influenced the independence movement.
- Describe the impact of the Salt March on the course of the Indian independence movement.

Terms, People, and Places

Amritsar massacre  untouchables
affirmative action  boycott

civil disobedience

Note Taking

Reading Skill: Identify Causes and Effects

Recognizing causes and effects can help you understand the significance of certain events. In a chart like the one below, record the causes and effects of Gandhi's leadership of India's independence movement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Causes</th>
<th>Gandhi Leads Independence Movement</th>
<th>Effects</th>
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Tensions were running high in Amritsar, a city in northern India. Protests against British rule had sparked riots and attacks on British residents. On April 13, 1919, a large but peaceful crowd of Indians jammed into an enclosed field. The British commander, General Reginald Dyer, had banned public meetings, but the crowd either ignored or had not heard the order. As Indian leaders spoke, Dyer and 50 soldiers opened fire on the unarmed crowd, killing nearly 400 people and wounding more than 1,100. The Amritsar massacre was a turning point for many Indians. It convinced them that India needed to govern itself.

Calls for Independence

The tragedy at Amritsar was linked to broader Indian frustrations after World War I. During the war, more than a million Indians had served overseas. Under pressure from Indian nationalists, the British promised Indians greater self-government. But when the fighting ended, Britain proposed only a few minor reforms.

Since 1885, the Indian National Congress party, called the Congress party, had pressed for self-rule within the British empire. After Amritsar, it began to call for full independence. But party members were mostly middle-class, Western-educated elite who had little in common with the masses of Indian peasants. In the 1920s, a new leader named Mohandas Gandhi emerged and united Indians across class lines.

Gandhi came from a middle-class Hindu family. At age 19, he went to England to study law. Then, like many Indians, Gandhi...
The Salt March
Gandhi’s march to the sea to collect forbidden salt started out with Gandhi and 78 followers, but gathered strength as it progressed. As he picked up the first lump of salt, he declared, “With this, I am shaking the foundations of the British empire.” How do you think people in other countries would have reacted to British authorities using violence against this group?

Vocabulary Builder
discriminated—(dih SCRIM ih nayt ed) vii. treated differently because of a prejudice

Gandhi’s march went to South Africa. For 20 years, Gandhi fought laws that discriminated against Indians in South Africa. In 1914, Gandhi returned to India. Soon, he became the leader of the Congress party.

Checkpoint Why did Indians call for independence after World War I?

The Power of Nonviolence
Gandhi’s ideas inspired Indians of all religious and ethnic backgrounds. His nonviolent protests caught the attention of the British government and the world.

Gandhi’s Ideas Gandhi’s theories embraced Hindu traditions. He preached the ancient doctrine of ahimsa (uh HIM sah), or nonviolence and reverence for all life. By using the power of love, he believed, people could convert even the worst wrongdoer to the right course of action. To fight against injustice, he advocated the use of nonviolent resistance.

Gandhi’s philosophy reflected Western as well as Indian influences. He admired Christian teachings about love. He believed in the American philosopher Henry David Thoreau’s ideas about civil disobedience, the refusal to obey unjust laws. Gandhi was also influenced by Western ideas of democracy and nationalism. He urged equal rights for all Indians, women as well as men. He fought hard to end the harsh treatment of untouchables, who were members of the lowest caste, or class.

Gandhi Sets an Example During the 1920s and 1930s, Gandhi launched a series of nonviolent actions against British rule. He called for Indians to boycott, or refuse to buy, British goods, especially cotton textiles. He worked to restore pride in India’s traditional industries, making the spinning wheel a symbol of the nationalist movement. Gandhi’s campaigns of civil disobedience attracted wide support.

Checkpoint What methods did Indians under Gandhi use to resist British rule?
Gandhi Takes a Stand: The Salt March

To mobilize mass support, Gandhi decided to take a stand against the British salt monopoly, which he saw as a symbol of British oppression. Natural salt was available in the sea, but the British government required Indians to buy only salt sold by the monopoly.

Breaking the Law On March 12, 1930, Gandhi set out with 78 followers on a 240-mile march to the sea. As the tiny band passed through villages, crowds responded to Gandhi’s message. By the time they reached the sea, the marchers numbered in the thousands. On April 6, Gandhi waded into the surf and picked up a lump of sea salt. He was soon arrested and jailed. Still, Indians followed his lead. Coastal villages started collecting salt. Indians sold salt on city streets. As Gandhi’s campaign gained force, tens of thousands of Indians were imprisoned.

Steps Toward Freedom All around the world, newspapers criticized Britain’s harsh reaction to the protests. Stories revealed how police brutally clubbed peaceful marchers who tried to occupy a government saltworks. Slowly, Gandhi’s campaign forced Britain to hand over some power to Indians. Britain also agreed to meet other demands of the Congress party.

Checkpoint What did the Salt March symbolize?

Looking Ahead

In 1939, a new world war exploded. Britain outraged Indian leaders by postponing independence and bringing Indians into the war without consulting them. Angry nationalists launched a campaign of noncooperation and were jailed. Millions of Indians, however, did help Britain during World War II.

When the war ended in 1945, India’s independence could no longer be delayed. As it neared, Muslim fears of the Hindu majority increased. Conflict between Hindus and Muslims would trouble the new nation in the years to come.

Assessment

Terms, People, and Places
1. Place each of the key terms listed at the beginning of the section into one of the following categories: politics, culture, or economy. Write a sentence for each term explaining your choice.

Note Taking
2. Reading Skill: Identify Causes and Effects Use your completed chart to answer the Focus Question: How did Gandhi and the Congress party work for independence in India?

Comprehension and Critical Thinking
3. Identify Point of View How did the Amritsar massacre affect the movement for Indian independence?
4. Recognize Cause and Effect Why do you think Gandhi was able to unite Indians when earlier attempts had not succeeded?
5. Analyze Information How did the Salt March force Britain to respond to Indian demands?

Progress Monitoring Online
For: Self-quiz with vocabulary practice
Web Code: nba-2731

Writing About History
Quick Write: Use Valid Logic In a persuasive essay, you must back up your conclusions with valid logic. One common pattern of weak logic is circular reasoning, where a writer simply restates ideas instead of defending them. Bring in an example of weak logic from recent editorials in your local paper. Include a paragraph explaining the problems with the author’s logic.
Mohandas Gandhi: *Hind Swaraj*

Mohandas Gandhi led a successful, peaceful revolution in India against British rule. In the following excerpt from his book *Hind Swaraj (Indian Home Rule)*, Gandhi explains the ideas behind his nonviolent method of passive resistance in the form of an imaginary conversation between an editor and a reader. *Hind Swaraj* was first published in 1909 in South Africa, but was banned in India.

**Editor:** Passive resistance is a method of securing rights by personal suffering; it is the reverse of resistance by arms. When I refuse to do a thing that is repugnant [offensive] to my conscience, I use soul-force. For instance, the Government of the day has passed a law which is applicable to me. I do not like it. If by using violence I force the Government to repeal the law, I am employing what may be termed body-force. If I do not obey the law and accept the penalty for its breach, I use soul-force. It involves sacrifice of self.

Everybody admits that sacrifice of self is infinitely superior to sacrifice of others. Moreover, if this kind of force is used in a cause that is unjust, only the person using it suffers. He does not make others suffer for his mistakes. Men have before now done many things which were subsequently found to have been wrong. No man can claim that he is absolutely in the right or that a particular thing is wrong because he thinks so, but it is wrong for him so long as that is his deliberate judgment. It is therefore meet [proper] that he should not do that which he knows to be wrong, and suffer the consequences whatever it may be. This is the key to the use of soul-force.

**Reader:** You would then disregard laws—this is rank disloyalty. We have always been considered a law-abiding nation. You seem to be going even beyond the extremists. They say that we must obey the laws that have been passed, but that if the laws be bad, we must drive out the lawgivers even by force.

**Editor:** Whether I go beyond them or whether I do not is a matter of no consequence to either of us. We simply want to find out what is right and to act accordingly. The real meaning of the statement that we are a law-abiding nation is that we are passive resisters. When we do not like certain laws, we do not break the heads of law-givers but we suffer and do not submit to the laws.

**Thinking Critically**

1. **Identify Central Issues** What is the goal of passive resistance?

2. **Draw Conclusions** According to Gandhi, could soul-force ever be used to support an unjust cause? What does Gandhi mean when he says that a person using soul-force "does not make others suffer for his mistakes"?
Independent Nations of South Asia

Objectives
- Understand why independence brought partition to South Asia.
- Describe how Indian leaders built a new nation.
- Summarize how Pakistan and Bangladesh grew apart.
- Explain how India and Pakistan pursued independence from the superpowers in their foreign relations.

Terms, People, and Places
partition Indira Gandhi
Sikhs Punjab
Kashmir Golden Temple
Jawaharlal Nehru Bangladesh
dalits nonalignment

Note Taking
Reading Skill: Identify Causes and Effects Fill in a concept web like this one to keep track of causes and effects of events in South Asia. Add ovals as needed for additional concepts.

At the same time that the Cold War was unfolding, a global independence movement was reshaping the world. Among the first new nations to win independence were the former British colonies of South Asia.

Independence Brings Partition
Local activists in British India had demanded self-rule since the late 1800s. As independence neared, however, a long-simmering issue surfaced. What would happen to the Muslim minority in a Hindu-dominated India?

Two New Nations Emerge Like Mohandas Gandhi, most of the leaders and members of the Congress Party were Hindus. However, the party wanted a unified India that would include both Muslims and Hindus. The Muslim League, led by Muhammad Ali Jinnah, had a different view of liberation. The Muslim League feared discrimination against the Muslim minority in a unified India. Therefore, the Muslim League demanded the creation of a separate nation, called Pakistan, that would include the parts of British India where Muslims formed a majority. In the 1940s, tensions between Muslims and the Hindu majority in British India led to increasing violence.

After World War II, the British government decided that it could no longer afford to resist Indian demands for independence.
As violence between these two groups threatened to spiral out of control, Britain decided that the only solution was a partition, or division, of the subcontinent into a Muslim-majority Pakistan and a Hindu-majority India. The new nations of Pakistan and India gained independence on August 15, 1947.

Refugees Flee Amid Violence However, Hindus and Muslims still lived side by side in many cities and rural areas. As soon as the new borders became known, millions of Hindus on the Pakistani side of the border packed up their belongings and fled to the new India. At the same time, millions of Muslims fled into newly created Pakistan. An estimated 10 million people fled their homes, most of them on foot.

Muslims fleeing along the crowded roads into Pakistan were slaughtered by Hindus and Sikhs (seeks), members of an Indian religious minority. Muslims massacred Hindu and Sikh neighbors. Around one million people died in these massacres. Others died of starvation and exposure on the road.

Struggles Over Kashmir Following independence, India and Pakistan fought a war over Kashmir, a state in the Himalayas with Muslim and Hindu populations. Its Hindu ruler sought to join India even though much of the state's Muslim majority wanted to be part of Pakistan. In 1949, India and Pakistan agreed to stop fighting.

The peace between the two nations was short-lived. In 1965, Pakistan and India fought another war over Kashmir and have had several brief clashes since then. Over the years, Muslim Kashmiri separatists, supported by militants from neighboring Pakistan, have fought Indian troops. Indian forces, in turn, have attacked Muslim Kashmiris.

Map Skills The former British colony of India had become the independent nations of Pakistan, India, and Bangladesh by 1971. The region's other nations had also achieved independence by that date. The status of Kashmir, however, remained in dispute.

1. Locate (a) Bangladesh (b) Pakistani Kashmir (c) Indian Kashmir
2. Regions Which other nation also has a stake in the Kashmir conflict?
3. Make Inferences Bangladesh was once part of Pakistan. How might its location have contributed to its people's desire for independence?
A Nuclear Arms Race In the 1970s, India launched a program to develop nuclear weapons, carrying out its first test explosion in 1974. These actions prompted Pakistan to launch its own nuclear weapons program. In 1998, India tested its first actual nuclear weapons. Pakistan responded that same year with its own tests. The emergence of these two new and hostile nuclear powers in South Asia alarmed other nations in Asia and around the world.

Conflict Divides Sri Lanka The British colony of Ceylon, an island just south of India, gained independence in 1948. It changed its name to Sri Lanka (sree LAHNG kuh) in 1972. A majority of Sri Lankans are Buddhists who speak Sinhalese. However, a large Tamil-speaking Hindu minority lives in the north and east. Sri Lanka adopted policies that favored the Sinhalese majority. These policies angered many Tamils. In the late 1970s, Tamil rebels began a military struggle for a separate Tamil nation. After years of fighting, Sri Lanka’s government and the Tamil rebels signed a peace agreement in 2002. The rebels agreed to stop fighting, and the government agreed to give the Tamil region some freedoms. However, it was uncertain whether this agreement would hold.

Checkpoint Why have India and Pakistan fought several wars over Kashmir?

Building a Nation in India

Independent India faced many challenges. Ethnic and religious tensions continued to threaten India's unity. Hundreds of millions of Indians struggled daily for adequate food and shelter.

Nehru Confronts Social Problems From 1947 to 1964, Jawaharlal Nehru led India as its first prime minister. One of his first priorities was to strengthen India's economy. However, rapid population growth hurt Nehru's efforts to improve living conditions. While food output rose, so did India's population. The government encouraged family planning to reduce the birthrate. However, many Indians, especially in rural areas, saw children as an economic resource. Children were expected to work the land and to care for parents in old age.

In modern India, discrimination based on caste, or inherited status, continued. In the 1930s, Mohandas Gandhi had campaigned to end the inhumane treatment of dalits, or outcastes. In 1947, India’s new constitution banned discrimination against dalits. Nehru's government also set aside jobs and places in universities for them. Still, higher-caste Hindus generally got better schooling and jobs.

A Woman Leads India Nehru died in office in 1964. Two years later, the Congress Party elected his daughter, Indira Gandhi, as prime minister. In India, as in many other countries, women had traditionally faced discrimination. Indira Gandhi's rise to power marked a great advance for Indian women. Gandhi's leadership proved to the world that women could hold powerful positions.

Sikhs Rebel Some Indian Sikhs wanted independence for the prosperous and largely Sikh state of Punjab. In 1984, armed Sikh separatists took dramatic action. They
occupied the Golden Temple, the Sikh religion's holiest shrine. When talks failed to oust them, Indira Gandhi sent troops. Thousands of Sikhs died in the fighting, and the Golden Temple was damaged. A few months later, Gandhi's Sikh bodyguards assassinated her, igniting more religious violence.

Religious Unrest Threatens India India faced a real challenge in building the national unity necessary for stability. When India gained independence, its people spoke more than 100 languages and dialects. A majority of Indians were Hindu, but millions were Muslim, Sikh, Christian, or Buddhist. At times, India's religious divisions led to violence.

By the late 1980s, the Congress Party faced strong competition from the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). While the Congress Party had separated religion and government, the BJP called for a government built on Hindu principles.

The BJP supported destroying one of India's most important mosques, in the city of Ayodhya (uh YOH D yuh). Hindu nationalists claimed that Muslims had torn down a sacred Hindu temple centuries before to build the mosque. When BJP-backed rioters destroyed the mosque in 1992, Indians feared more religious unrest. Although there have been occasional outbreaks of violence in the years since, India has avoided all-out religious conflict. It remains the world's largest democracy.

Checkpoint How did Nehru’s government address discrimination against lower castes?

Pakistan and Bangladesh Take Different Paths Pakistan gained independence in 1947, at the same time as India. However, Pakistan was a divided country. West Pakistan occupied the northwestern portion of British India, including the western part of the divided province of Punjab. One thousand miles to the east was East Pakistan, later renamed Bangladesh. Between the two regions was the new India. In the bitterness that followed partition, India made trade and travel between the two Pakistans difficult.

The Two Pakistans Grow Apart From the beginning, West Pakistan tended to dominate the nation's government, even though East Pakistan had a larger population. The government concentrated most economic development programs in West Pakistan, while East Pakistan remained mired in poverty. Most people in East Pakistan were Bengalis, while West Pakistanis came from other ethnic groups. Many Bengalis resented the central government's neglect of their region.

Bangladesh Breaks Away In 1971, Bengalis declared independence for East Pakistan under the new name of Bangladesh, or “Bengali Nation.” Pakistan's military ruler ordered the army to crush the rebels. India supported the rebels by attacking and defeating the Pakistani army in Bangladesh. Pakistan was eventually compelled to recognize the independence of Bangladesh.
Pakistan's Shaky Government  Pakistan has lacked political stability for most of its history. In addition to the tensions between East and West Pakistan, resentments also divided the main ethnic groups of West Pakistan. These resentments continued after Bangladesh broke away. In addition, there were sharp disagreements between Islamic fundamentalists—people who believe that society and government should strictly follow Islamic principles—and those who wanted greater separation between religion and state. Repeatedly, Pakistan's rulers, often backed by the military, dismissed elected governments. Sometimes, the military simply seized power.

Islamic Fundamentalism Grows  During the 1980s, the war in Afghanistan after the Soviet invasion drove over a million Afghan refugees into Pakistan. Many of these Afghan refugees turned to Islamic fundamentalism because of their anger at the non-Muslim Soviet invaders. Many young men from these communities joined the mujahedin rebels fighting Soviet forces. Pakistan's Islamic fundamentalists gained power by forming ties with Afghan refugees. After the Soviets withdrew from Afghanistan, these fundamentalists turned against the United States because they resented U.S. influence in the Middle East and in Pakistan. During the 1990s, Pakistan backed Afghanistan's fundamentalist Taliban regime, which supported the terrorist group Al Qaeda. However, when the United States launched a military campaign against Al Qaeda and the Taliban in 2001, Pakistan's government supported the United States.

Floods Ravage Bangladesh  Devastating floods often occur in Bangladesh after the summer rains. In this photo, relief workers are delivering supplies to a family trapped on their roof. How might frequent floods make it more difficult to improve the economy of Bangladesh?
Bangladesh Struggles After Bangladesh won its independence in 1971, the country faced many challenges. Bangladesh is one of the world's poorest and most crowded countries. Its population, more than half as large as that of the United States, lives in an area the size of Alabama. The flat Ganges Delta, just a few feet above sea level, covers much of the country. Bangladesh has suffered from devastating and deadly tropical storms and floods. During the 1970s and 1980s, the government controlled much of Bangladesh's economy. In 1990, Bangladesh moved from military to democratic rule.

🎯 Checkpoint What geographic factors pose challenges for Bangladesh?

Finding an Independent Path

India and Pakistan were among the first of more than 90 new nations to emerge after World War II. By the 1930s, nationalist movements had taken root in European colonies across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. After World War II, nationalist leaders such as Gandhi and Nehru insisted on independence. When India and Pakistan gained independence, nationalist leaders in Africa and other regions demanded the same for their countries.

In 1955, India and Pakistan helped organize a conference of newly independent states in Bandung, Indonesia. These nations gathered to condemn colonialism and Cold War expansion, both by Western powers and by the Soviet Union. This conference marked the birth of the doctrine of nonalignment, or political and diplomatic independence from both Cold War superpowers. The Nonaligned Movement had its first formal meeting in 1961 in Yugoslavia. India was one of the leaders of this movement, most of whose members were Asian, African, and Latin American nations. Because they rejected both the Western allies, or the First World, and the Soviet alliance, or the Second World, the Nonaligned Movement was seen as the voice of a "Third World" of countries belonging to neither Cold War alliance.

🎯 Checkpoint How did India and Pakistan play a global leadership role?

Assessment

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms, People, and Places</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. For each term, person, or place in the beginning of the section, write a sentence explaining its significance.</td>
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</table>

Note Taking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading Skill: Identify Causes and Effects</th>
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<tr>
<td>2. Use your completed concept web to answer the Focus Question: What were the consequences of independence in South Asia for the region and for the world?</td>
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Comprehension and Critical Thinking

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Recognize Cause and Effect</th>
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<tr>
<td>Why did the partition of British India cause refugees to flee?</td>
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<th>4. Express Problems Clearly</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What problems did India's religious diversity pose?</td>
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<tr>
<th>5. Summarize</th>
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<tr>
<td>Why did Bangladesh separate from Pakistan?</td>
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<th>6. Draw Conclusions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How did the doctrine of nonalignment influence the relations of India and Pakistan with the Cold War superpowers?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Writing About History

Quick Write: Outline Your Topic To write a compare-and-contrast essay, you need to consider two subjects and find similarities and differences between them. In this section, you learned that India and Pakistan share a common history but were separated at independence. Write features of each country's history in three lists: a list of features specific to India, a list of features specific to Pakistan, and a list of features shared by both countries.