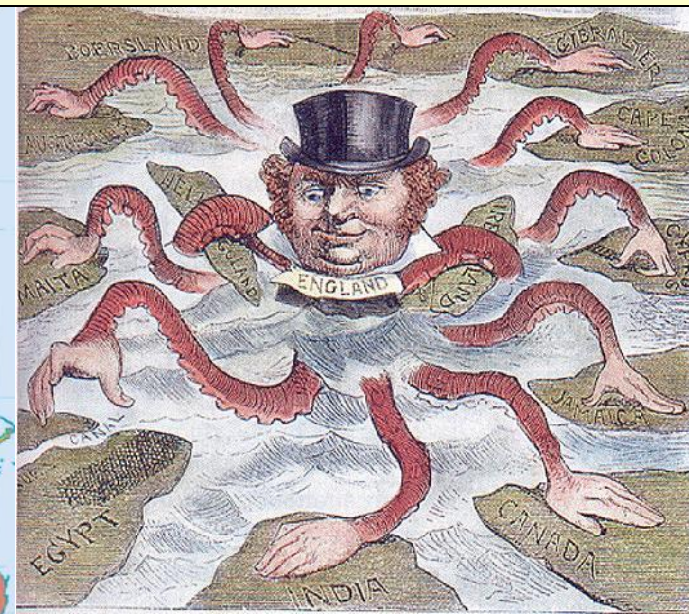


During the Age of Imperialism from 1850 - 1914, Europeans dominated Africa & Asia.

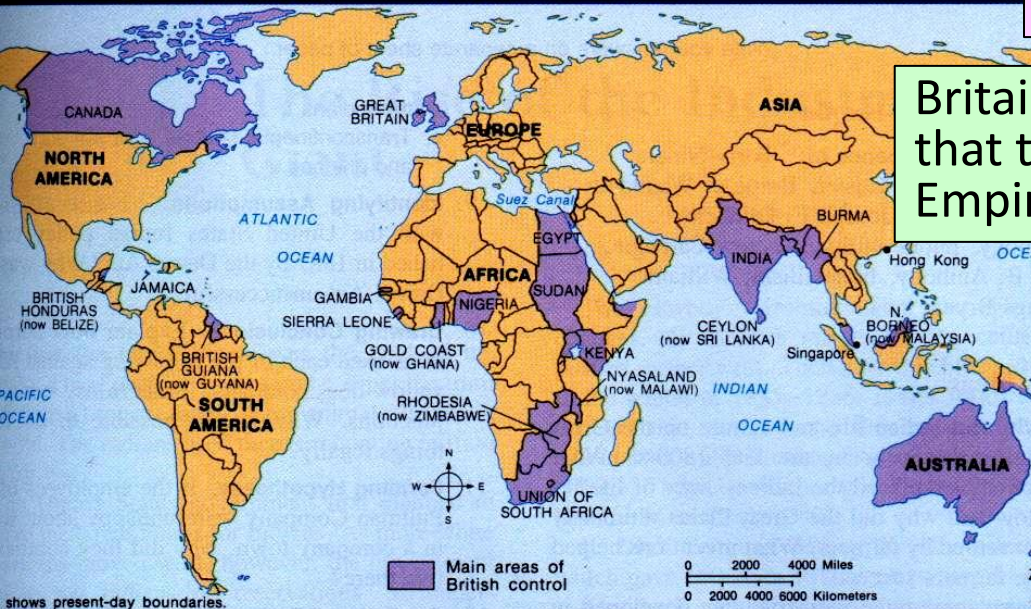


Station 3: Imperialism in India



During this era, no nation could match the industrial, military, or colonial power of Britain.

The British Empire and Commonwealth, About 1914



Britain had so many colonies that it was said that the “sun never set on the British Empire”.

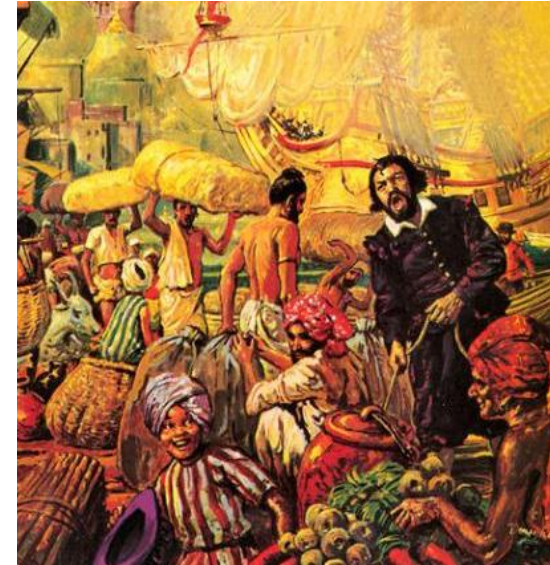
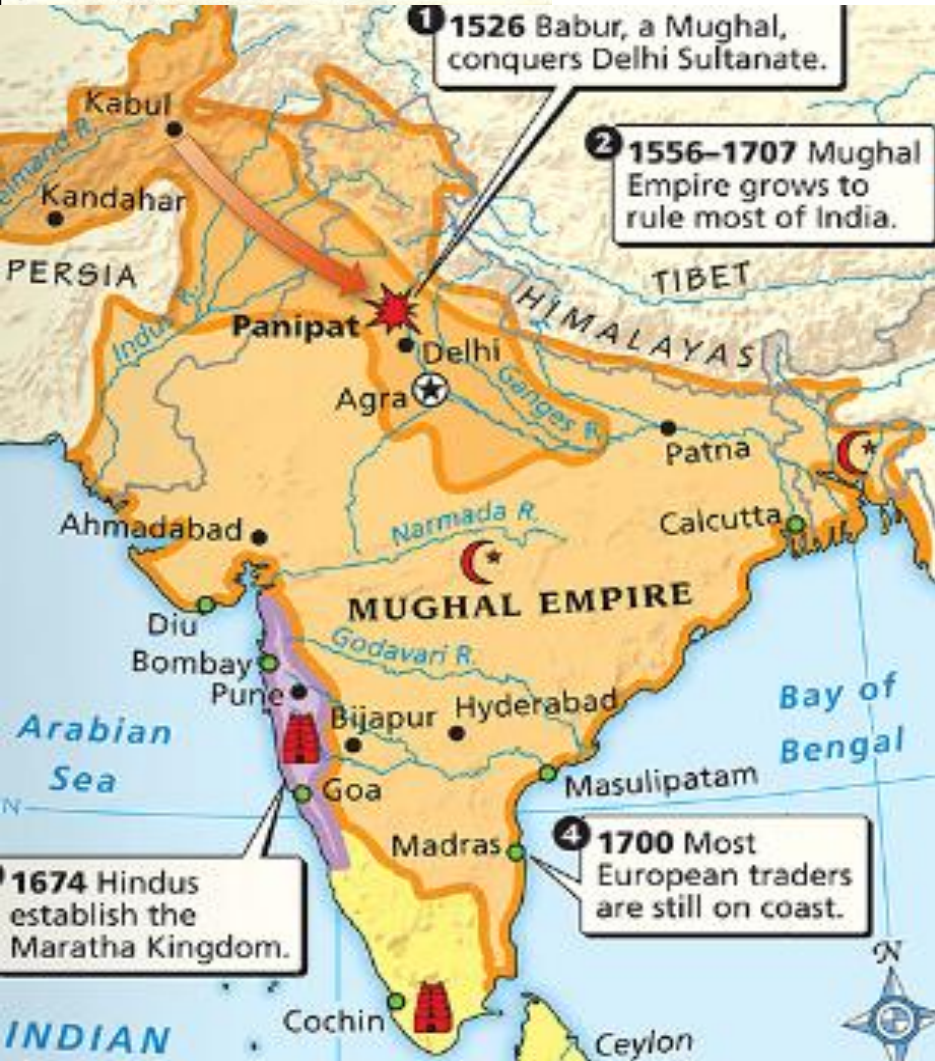
Among all of Britain’s colonies, the most valuable was India.

How did India become the “brightest jewel in the crown”?



The British East India Company was formed to trade exotic Asian goods in Europe & America.

The East India Company set up trade posts in major port cities in India.



By 1700, India's Mughal Empire was in decline & small states ruled by a maharajah were formed.

Conflicts between Hindus & Muslims further weakened India.

The East India Co gained more control of India.

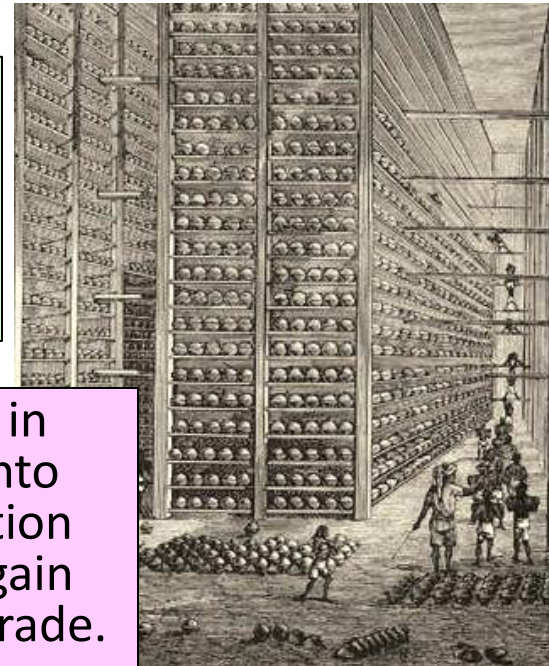
The East India Company made huge profits creating plantations to harvest tea, coffee, cotton, & opium

Raw materials like cotton helped fuel Britain's Industrial Revolution.



The East India Company sold cheap, British-made textiles to Indian people.

Opium was refined in India & smuggled into China; Opium addiction helped the British gain access to Chinese trade.





From 1750 to 1850, the British East India Co ruled most of India with little interference from Britain.

To protect their trade & territories, British officials hired Indian soldiers called Sepoys.





By the 1850s, Indian resentment for the British was growing. In 1857, rumors spread that sepoy gun cartridges supplied by the British by were greased with pork & beef fat.



Hindu & Muslim sepoys were outraged & rebelled against the British. The Sepoy Mutiny lasted over 1 year; The British sent troops to help the East India Co.



Execution
of Sepoys



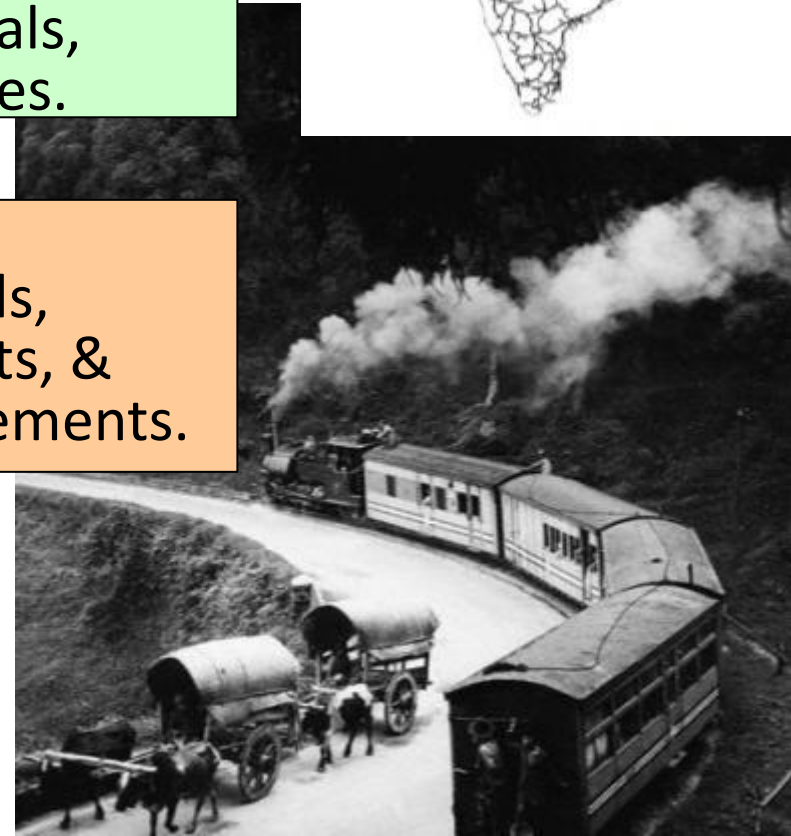
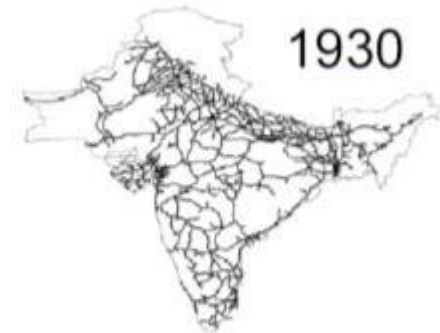
British Queen Victoria assumed the title of “Empress of India”.

The Sepoy Mutiny was a turning point in Indian history.

The British government made important improvements in India including railroads, telegraph/telephone lines, roads, canals, dams, and bridges.

Britain also built schools, hospitals, irrigation projects, & medical improvements.

In 1858, the British gov’t took control from the East India Company & ruled India directly; British rule was called the Raj & lasted until 1947.



British rule hurt the native Indian economy, further divided social classes, increased hostility between Muslims & Hindus.

The British emphasis on cash-crop plantations led to food shortages & famine in India. In 1876, seven million Indians died due to starvation.



India was not the only European colony in Southeast Asia.

