



**5 A group of British people and their servants in Madras (Tamil Nadu)**

Year: **1869**

Photographer: **Unknown**

#### Information/Points for discussion

**Look carefully at the people in this photograph. What can you tell about the role and status of the different people in the image? Consider carefully the clothing people are wearing as well as the positioning of people within the picture.**

Following the establishment of British rule in India, many British families migrated to the Indian sub-continent to join family members who were often officers in the army or employed within the government. Many of the British families employed local people within their homes as servants.

#### The British presence

During British rule in India, much time and money was invested in the development of basic infrastructure such as the railway, postal and telegraph networks. It is estimated that approximately 35,000 miles of railway track were laid by Indians during the period from 1860 to 1914. Many portions of the railway network were planned and developed to efficiently transport goods to Indian markets and coastal ports, so that they could later be shipped to markets in Britain and Europe, earning huge profits through the British monopoly on trade in India.

In addition to the development of railway, post and telegraph networks, many irrigation projects were started in the Punjab and succeeded in harnessing water from key rivers and making more of the land area of the Punjab productive. The Punjab is now known as the 'bread basket' of India and this is partly due to the initiation of irrigation projects during this time.



**6 Number 2 Derajat M Battery**

Year: **1897-1898**

Photographer: **Unknown**

#### Information/Points for discussion

**Why did so many people from the Punjab join the army?**

In World War I it is estimated that 54% of the entire British Indian army was from the Punjab. Many of these soldiers were Sikhs and were traditionally farmers. Life as a farmer was often difficult due to the unreliable nature of income from this sector and many young men began to seek careers in which they would have a regular income. During the period of British rule, the demand for soldiers was high because of the world wars.

**Why is captioning important?**

Basic information about this image such as the details of the photographer have been lost to time. The soldiers featured in this image are also unknown (soldiers were often seen as unimportant and went unnamed). The lack of information available about this image demonstrates how important it is to maintain accurate records for future generations, as archive photos have the potential to provide us with lots of information about the world in the past.



### 7 A Sikh Sentry, Fort Johnston (Malawi)

Year: 1891

Artist: H H Johnston

#### Information/Points for discussion

##### The British Indian Army

Recruitment to the army was a significant feature of the Punjab under the British. The British selected soldiers who could protect their state, many Sikhs had proved their battle skills during the Anglo Sikh Wars (1845-1846 and 1848-1849) and although a comparatively small community, they featured heavily in the army. During British rule many soldiers were posted abroad as part of their duties, this image shows a Sikh Sentry at Fort Johnston in Malawi.

##### Who was Harry Hamilton Johnston?

Harry Hamilton Johnston (1858 - 1927) was a British explorer and botanist who travelled throughout Europe and Africa during his lifetime. He collected samples of flora and fauna whilst on his expeditions and also painted pictures and took photographs of the places he had visited. What do you think Harry Johnston is trying to portray through this painting? How different do you think the lives of the men in the picture would have been to the lives of the people in the Punjab at the time?



### 8 Gandhi Wallahs in Mumbai (Maharashtra)

Year: 1930-1940

Photographer: Mrs D Oliver

#### Information/Points for discussion

##### Indian Independence

India became an independent country in 1947. At this time it was decided that the country should be divided into three parts along religious lines. A British lawyer called Cyril Radcliffe was asked to decide where the borders between India and the new country of Pakistan would be. He was given six weeks to draw the borders and had to think about the different religious groups in different areas. India was partitioned across the Punjab and Bengal. It was decided that Hindu and Sikh people should live in India and that Muslim people should live in either Eastern\* or Western Pakistan, which were separated by India. When the borders were announced, many people found they were on the 'wrong' side, it is estimated that 12 million people migrated between India and East and West Pakistan based on their religious beliefs, and approximately 1 million people died.

##### Who was Mahatma Gandhi and what did he do?

The image shows supporters of Gandhi parading in the streets of Mumbai. Mahatma Gandhi (Mahatma meaning 'Great Soul') was born in Western India in 1869. After training as a barrister in London, Gandhi worked for a number of years in South Africa where he witnessed the mis-treatment of many members of the Indian community, this experience sparked his interest in campaigning for the rights of people who were being mistreated based on their gender, social status and race. Throughout his life Gandhi campaigned for women's rights, the rights of the poor and for an end to British rule in India. Gandhi encouraged people not to be violent in their protests but to disobey through peaceful means. In 1942 Gandhi helped launch the 'Quit India' campaign and along with the support of key figures such as Jawaharlal Nehru and Muhammad Ali Jinnah helped India to become an independent country on 15th August 1947. Gandhi is known to many Indian people as the father of the nation.

\*East Pakistan achieved independence in 1971 and is now known as Bangladesh.



### 9 Salt Satyagrahis at Chowpati Sands in Mumbai (Maharashtra)

Year: 1930

Photographer: Mrs D Oliver

#### Information/Points for discussion

##### What was Satyagraha?

Satyagraha was the form of non-violent protest recommended by Gandhi. It encouraged people to peacefully protest against foreign rule in India. In this image Satyagrahis (or civil disobedience volunteers) are protesting against a tax on salt introduced by the British government. This tax affected many of the poorest people in India and led to many protests across the country. Gandhi led a protest march from Ahmedabad to Dandi on the coast of Gujarat, where protesters collected their own salt in defiance of the salt tax that prevented Indian citizens from doing this.



### 10 Gandhi Saturday in Karachi (Sindh)

Year: 1930

Photographer: Mrs D Oliver

#### Information/Points for discussion

##### The right to protest

Another image showing independence protests in India. What were the people in the photograph protesting against and why? Why is it important for people to be able to protest? Are people all over the world able to protest? What happens if people are unable to protest?

##### Why does human geography change?

Karachi is now within Pakistan, but at the time this image was taken it was in India. This fact can be used to explore how borders might change and the reasons for this (including war and governmental decision making).