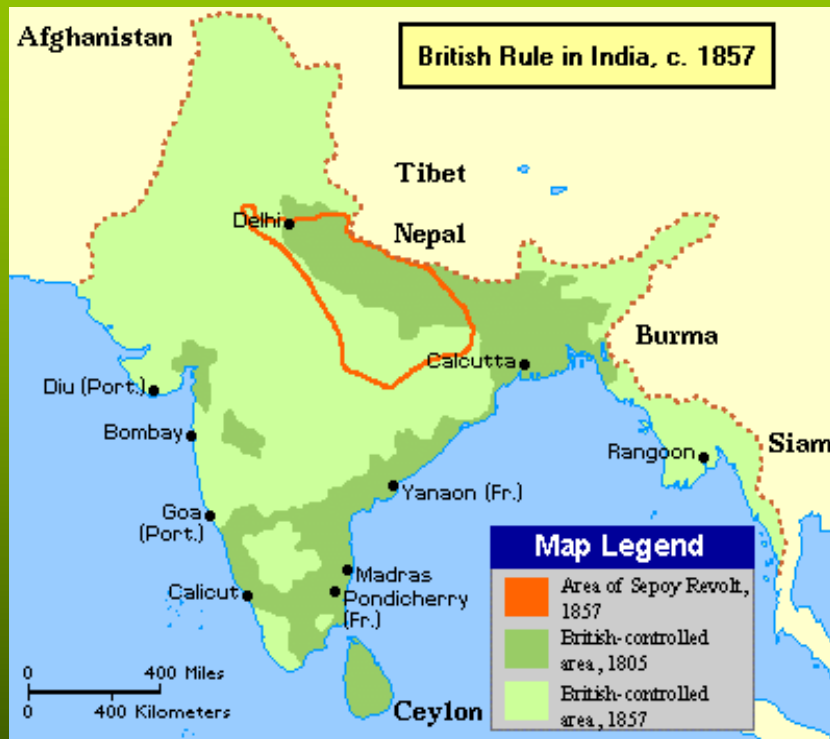


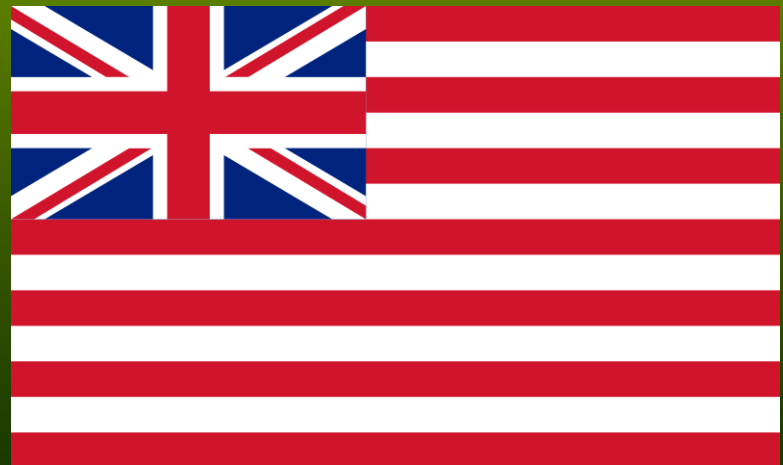
# Imperialism

## Great Britain in India



- The Mughal Empire was in decline and collapsing by 1707
- The empire had divided into states ruled by a maharajah
- The East Indian Company troops allied with French troops, took advantage of the weakened state, and defeated the Indian army in the Battle of Plassey in 1757
- Britain's economic interest in India began in the 1600s when the British East Indian Company set up trading posts in Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta
- The East Indian Company expanded its control over India with its own army of sepoy or Indian soldiers
- The British restricted the Indian economy from operating on its own anything that would compete with products; cotton cloth was one example
- Britain established a railroad network within India, making it easier to get raw materials to ports

# British In India



# Problems in the “Crown Jewel” of the Colonies



- By 1850 Britain controlled most of the Indian subcontinent
- Britain controlled the land and actively tried to convert Hindus and Muslims to Christianity
- Indians were subjected to a constant barrage of racism from the British
- In 1857 gossip among the sepoys spread that the British Enfield rifle cartridges were greased with beef and pig fat
- To use the cartridges soldiers had to bite off the ends; Hindus who considered the cow sacred were offended; Muslims who do not eat pork were outraged by the news
- Sepoys refused to accept or handle the cartridges
- Sepoys who resisted the British command were jailed and the next day , May 10, 1857 the Sepoy Rebellion or Sepoy Mutiny began
- The fighting lasted more than a year



# Problems in the “Crown Jewel” of the Colonies

- Splits in loyalties weakened Indian resistance
- Sikhs emerged as the mainstay of the British army in India
- As a result of the Sepoy Mutiny, the British took direct control of India in 1858
- A British governor-general was dispatched to India and carried out government orders
- “The Raj” is the term for British control of India after 1858
- British control of India lasted until August 15, 1947



# Britain's Interest in India

- Started as a rich trading post for the British East Indian Trading Company
- Gradually India became of great economic importance to Britain in supplying raw materials to Britain, such as cotton and jute
- Britain benefited from the planting of cash crops such as tea, indigo, coffee, cotton, jute and opium, which was traded to China for tea



# Impact of Colonialism on India

- Britain controlled all of the economic and political power in India
- Britain restricted commerce and forced the growing of cash crops at the expense of starving the local population
- The presence of missionaries and British racist attitudes threatened traditional Indian life
- Britain built the third largest railroad in the world in India, which helped develop a modern economy
- Installed roads, bridges, dams, irrigation projects, and telephone and telegraph lines
- Improved health, sanitation and built hospitals
- Founded schools, colleges, and literacy increased
- Introduced India officials to a democratic form of government

