

Indian Independence

India: Background

1. India was part Hindu and part Muslim
2. Muslims built Taj Mahal
3. India was rich in spices and natural resources
4. India was colonized by Great Britain
5. Indians have a caste-based society

Early Attempts at Independence

1. INC (Indian National Congress) leads movement for independence
2. Mostly a Hindu organization
3. INC led by Mohandas Gandhi
4. Gandhi promotes civil disobedience and passive resistance
5. Goal is to rebel without violence

Muslims Left Out

1. Muslims don't trust INC
2. Create Muslim League
3. Muslims monotheistic
4. Hindus polytheistic
5. Extremely different beliefs

Solutions

1. Britain sets India free
2. Partition India into 2 countries
3. Creates India (Hindu)
4. Creates Pakistan (Muslim)
5. West and East Pakistan
6. Ceylon freed; becomes Sri Lanka

Modern India

1. Gandhi dies, India led by Nehru
2. Nehru westernizes India
3. New constitution prohibits caste discrimination
4. East Pakistan becomes Bangladesh
5. India now a growing democracy
6. Use federal system (like US) to give power to states

