

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

Spring Semester, 1990

History 449

Mr. Frykenberg

HISTORY OF MODERN INDIA:
The Age of Company Raj

The main emphasis of the course is focused upon processes by which many communities and peoples within the continent of India (South Asia) have come into enduring relationships with each other and into relationships with peoples outside the subcontinent. Of central concern are processes of political integration and disintegration. Underlying issues of political stability or instability are questions about cultural and social discontinuities with special reference to how differing concepts of mankind, concepts of property, concepts of the state, concepts of time, concepts of change, and concepts of destiny.

In other words, how did 'India' we now know come to be what it is? How could so many kinds of people, speaking so many different languages, and holding such conflicting world views ever become incorporated into the one enormous 'commonwealth' or 'universal domain' and, thereby, ever begin to become that enormous political system which is now known as the Republic of India?

The story begins with the Mughals, the Marathas, and various regional kingdoms and principalities. These, in turn, gradually gave way before the rising power of that strange and unique Anglo-Indian conurbation, that socio-political amalgam now known as "Company Raj". It was the East India Company, after all, which constructed the Indian Empire and, thereby, brought 'India' into being. This early modern empire of "India", in turn, became the bedrock upon which the present Republic of India was erected. (But the process was not without costs and consequences. Divergent forces and movements, sometimes called 'fissiparous tendencies', have always threatened India's unity. Indeed, eventually as it turned out, these kinds of forces have sundered the political unity of the subcontinent.)

Focus here, therefore, will be upon assessments of successive phases of political development and upon weighing different underlying social relations and structures. In broad perspective, the advent of Modern India can be marked as having begun with the arrival of the Portuguese from overseas (1498) and with that of the Mughals from overland (1526). Albuquerque and Akbar, between them, heralded new interminglings of alien and indigenous cultures. Dutch and English overseas commerce brought more radical influences. Then, out of the creative turmoil of the 18th century came one ever growing political system -- Company Raj-- which eventually overshadowed all others. (This, in turn gave rise to the later 'corporate dynasties' of 'Crown Raj' (1858-1947) and 'Congress Raj' (together the breakaway regimes which now rule Pakistan and Bangladesh, not to mention Burma).

India today is an emerging world power. Some even feel that India, as also China, may become another superpower. Americans need to acquaint themselves with the complexities of the manifold cultures and historical contexts out of which India has emerged. The price of not doing so -- the price of unilateral public opinion and an uninformed public policy -- could be high. This course offers an opportunity to meet the challenges and responsibilities in our shrinking world. A deeper understanding of one of the world's major civilizations, and the political and social processes which have shaped it, is a necessary part of a liberal education.

REFERENCE WORKS¹

- Burgess, James, The Chronology of Modern India. Edinburgh: J. Grant, 1913.
- Davies, C. Collin, An Historical Atlas of the Indian Peninsula. Madras and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1949, & later editions. Dated, but useful.
- Davis, Kingsley, The Population of India and Pakistan. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1951. A classic, now dated, still insightful.
- Gilbert, W.H., The Peoples of India. Washington: 1944. While very dated, it is still a useful introductory sketch.
- Habid, Irfan, An Atlas of Mughal India. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1983. The latest and best work of its kind.
- Maher, J. Michael, India: A Critical Bibliography. Tuscon: University of Arizona Press (for the Association of Asian Studies), 1964, 1966. A starter only. Also see works by Maureen Patterson and Patrick Wilson.
- Schwartzberg, J., Historical Atlas of South Asia. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1978. The finest work of its kind; a goldmine.
- Wilson, H.H., Glossary of Judicial and Revenue Terms for India. Calcutta and London: W.H. Allen, 1855, &c later editions. This classic is still in print.
- Yule, H. &
Burnell, A.C. Hobson-Jobson: A Glossary of Collogquial Anglo-Indian Words and Phrases... London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1886, 1968. New edition of this classic. Edited by William Crooke.

¹ Works listed here and below are available, on reserve, in various UW Libraries: Main Library, Law Library, Business Library, Medical Library, Political Science Library, South Asian Library, and the University of Wisconsin Press. Please see the University of Wisconsin Press website for more information.

SYLLABUS: SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS ²INTRODUCTION1. General Approaches to India

- [R] P. Spear, India, Pakistan and the West (Oxford: 1949,&c).
- [R] Ved Mehta, The New India (New York: Penguin, 1978).
- [R] V.S. Naipaul, India: The Wounded Civilization (New York: 1977, 1978).

2. Historiographic Background, Context, and Perspectives

- [R/H] William A. Green and John P. Deasy, Jr., "Unifying Themes in the History of British India, 1757-1858: An Historiographical Analysis," Albion 17, 1 (Spring 1985): 15-45.
- [R/H] R.E. Frykenberg, "Traditional Processes of Power and Administration in South India...", IESHR, 1: 2 (October-December 1963), 1-21.
- [R/H] Burton Stein, "Politics, Peasants and the Deconstruction of Feudalism in Medieval India," Journal of Peasant Studies 12, 2/3 (January/April 1985): 54-86.
- [R/H] Burton Stein, "The Segmentary State in South Indian History," Realm and Region in Traditional India. Durham, NC: Duke, 1977. Ed. by R.G.Fox.

4. Latest and Newest Comprehensive Work: Highly to be Recommended

Moon, Sir Penderel, THE BRITISH CONQUEST AND DOMINION OF INDIA.
(Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press [Duckworth:UK], 1989.
Pp. x + 1235. \$89.95.

3. Contemporary Perspective/Relevance of Modern India

- [R] Stephen P. Cohen & Richard L. Park, India: Emergent Power? (NY: 1978).

² Books cited [R] or [R/H] are on reserve in the College Library, the History Department Library, the Memorial Library, or South African Studies Library.

I. ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

1. The Continent: Its Geographic Unity and Diversity
2. The Peoples: Its Demographic and Linguistic Variety

Readings:

- [R] B.H. Farmer, An Introduction to South Asia (London & New York: Methuen, 1984), pp. 1-11.
- [R] Adam Watson, A Concise History of India (London & New York: 1974), pp. 3-38. Abbr.: CHI.
- or
- [R] Stanley Wolpert, A New History of India (New York: OUP, 1977,&c), pp. 3-23. Abbr.: NHI.
- or
- [R] Spear, A History of India - 2 (New York: Penguin, 1965, 1970, &c), 11-14. Abbr.: AHOI-2

Other Readings:

- [R] R.E.Frykenberg, India (Lexington MA: 1973), 1-21.
- or
- [R] Spear, India, Pakistan, and the West, 1-32
- or
- [R] Spear, India: A Modern History (Ann Arbor: Michigan, 1961, 1972). Abbr.: IAMH. On Reserve in Memorial and White Libraries.
- or
- [R] Spear, Oxford History of Modern India (Oxford: OUP, 1964, &c). Abbr.: OHMI.

II. SOCIAL STRUCTURES

1. The Family - Kith, Kin, and Lineage (Vamsha).
2. The Community - Caste (Jāti), Category or Class (Varna).
3. The Village - Place, Space and Locality.

Readings:

- [R] Edith Brown, Modern India (Oxford: 1935), pp. 16-35.

- [R] Pauline Kolenda, Caste in Contemporary India: Beyond Organic Solidarity (Meno Park CA: Benjamin/Cummings Pub.Co., Inc. 1978), 1-111.

Other Readings:

- [R] Charlotte & William Wiser, Behind Mud Walls, 1930-1960 (Berkeley: UCP, 1969). Revision of earlier classic.
- or
- [R] S.C. Dube, Indian Village (New York: Harper, 1967 edition).
- [R] David G. Mandelbaum, "Family, Jati, and Village," Structure and Change in Indian Society (Chicago: Aldine, 1968), 29-50. Edited by B.S. Cohn and M. Singer.
- or
- [R] Morton Klass, Caste: The Emergence of the South Asian Social System (Philadelphia: ISHI, 1980). On Reserve, in Memorial Library.

III. SACRED TRADITIONS

1. Brahmanical, Classical, and/or 'High' 'Hindu' Religions
2. Particular, Pluralistic, Popular Local Cults

Readings:

CHI, 39-86; NHI, 24-103; MI, 16-36.

Other Readings:

- [R] Theodore de Bary, ed., Sources of Indian Tradition (New York: Columbia University Press, 1958 and later editions).
- or
- [R] Pratima Bowes. The Hindu Religious Tradition (London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1977).
- or
- [R/SA] T.J. Hopkins. The Hindu Religious Tradition (Encino CA: Dickinson Publishing Company, Inc., 1971). Paperback.
- or
- [R] K.M. Sen. Hinduism (New York: Penguin A515, 1961 & later).
- [R] J.A.B. Van Buitenen, ed., Tales of Ancient India (Chicago: 1959; NY: 1961).

IV. INDO-ISLAMIC LEGACIES

1. Indo-Arabian Belief: Religion and Sacred Language
2. Indo-Persian Style: Schism and Sophistication in Taste
3. Indo-Turkish Might: Organization, Power and Rulership
 - (1) The Delhi Sultanate: Hindustan and Indo-Islamic Hegemony
 - (2) The Deccan Sultanates & 'Hindu Sultanate' of Vijayanagar
 - (3) The Mughal Expansion & Maratha Reaction (Order vs. "Fitna")

Readings:

CHI, 87-128; NHI, 104-167; IAMH, 1-60; and AHOI:2, 1-50.

- [R] R.E. Frykenberg "The Study of Delhi: An Analytical Introduction and a Historiographic Overview," Delhi Through the Ages: Essays in Urban History, Culture and Society (Delhi & Oxford: Oxford University Press), xx-xxxix.
- [R] Delhi Through the Ages (New Delhi: OUP 1986), edited by R.E. Frykenberg. Pp 63-128; 129-191; 18-62. Abbr.: DTA. Chapters by Digby, Goswami, Naqvi, Blake, Jackson, Hambly, et al.
- [R] Andr \ddot{a} s Wink, Land and Sovereignty in India: Agrarian Society and Politics under the Eighteenth-century Maratha Svarājya (Cambridge: 1986).

Other Readings:

- [R] S.M. Ikram & A.T. Embree, Muslim Civilization in India (New York: Columbia University Press, 1964). Quick, easy reading.
- or
- [R] Simon Digby, Warhorse and Elephant in the Delhi Sultanate (Oxford: 1971).
- or
- M.N. Pearson, Merchants and Rulers of Gujarat: The Response to the Portuguese in the Sixteenth Century (Berkeley CA: 1976).
- or
- Adam Watson, War of the Goldsmith's Daughter (London: 1964).

V. EUROPEAN (FARANGI) ENCLAVES

- 1 The Portuguese Conquests: Goa and Seaborne Empire
- 2 The Dutch Encroachments: Batavia and Maritime Empire
- 3 The English Enterprises: Madras and Country Trade
- 4 The French Competition: Pondicherry and Country Power

Readings:

AHOI-2, 51-79; NHI, 135-185; CHI, 105-125; I:AMI, 146-184; OHMI, 1-20.
MI, 37-43.

- [R] K.N. Chaudhuri, Trade and Civilization in the Indian Ocean (Cambridge: CUP, 1985), 63-118, and 121-220.
- [R] M.N. Pearson, The Portuguese in India (Cambridge: CUP, 1987).

Other Readings:

- [R] Arasaratnam, Sinnappah, Merchants, Companies and Commerce on the Coromandal Coromandel Coast 1650-1740 (New Delhi: OUP, 1986).
- C.R. Boxer, Four Centuries of Portuguese Expansion, 1415-1825 (Johannesburg and Berkeley: 1972). A Succinct Survey.
- [R] C.R. Boxer, The Portuguese Seaborne Empire, 1415-1825 (London: 1969).
- [R] C.R. Boxer, The Dutch Seaborne Empire, 1600-1800 (London: 1965).
- [R] K.N. Chaduhuri, The Trading World of Asia and the English East India Company, 1660-1760 (Cambridge: CUP, 1978).
- Ashin Das Gupta, Malabar in Asian Trade, 1740-1800 (Cambridge: CUP, 1966).
- Ashin Das Gupta, "The Merchants of Surat, c.1700-50," Elites in South Asia (Cambridge: CUP, 1970), edited by E. Leach & S.N. Mukherjee.
- Prakash, Om, The Dutch East India Company and the Economy of Bengal (Princeton: PUP, 1985).
- Tapan Raychaudhuri, Jan Company in Coromandel, 1605-1690 (The Hague: 1692).

VI. COMPANY EXPANSION

A. Struggles for Survival: Local Positions, Profits and Power

B. *Struggles for Succession Within the Shadow of Imperium

1. Commercial Enterprises and Mercantile Power: The Baniya Company

a) Madras : 1639: - An Emerging City State on the Coromandel

b) Bombay : 1661: - An Emerging City State and Island Refuge

c) Calcutta: 1692: - An Emerging City State on the Sundarbans

Readings:

- [R] R.E. Frykenberg (ed.), Land Control and Social Structure in Indian History (Madison: 1969). Chapters by Cohn and Stein, 53-122, 175-216.
- [R/H] R.E. Frykenberg, "The Socio-Political Morphology of Madras: An Historical Interpretation," Changing South Asia: City and Culture (London: SOAS, University of London; Hong Kong:, 1982, 21-41. Edited by K.A. Ballhatchet and J.B. Harrison.

Other Resources:

M. Athar Ali, The Mughal Nobility Under Aurangzeb (Aligarh and Bombay: Asia Publishing House, 1968).

Ashin Das Gupta, "The Merchants of Surat, c. 1700-50", Elites in South Asia, (Cambridge: CUP), edited by E. Leach and S.N. Mukherjee.

Peter J. Marshall, East Indian Fortunes (Oxford: 1976).

- [R] Philip Mason, The Men Who Ruled India (New York: 1953; Norton 1985 abridged edition), 3-92. Abbr.: MWRI.

Om Prakash, The Dutch East India Company and the Economy of Bengal, 1630-1720 (Princeton: 1985).

J.F. Richards, Mughal Administration in Golconda (Oxford:1975).

- [R] Karl de Schweintz, Jr., The Rise and Fall of British India: Imperialism as Inequality (New York: Methuen, 1983), 37-117. Abbr.: RPII.

Watson, Ian Bruce, Foundation for Empire: English Private Trade in India, 1600-1700 (New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House, 1983).

2 Political Engagements and Military Power: The Company Bahadur -

- a) Carnatic Wars: 1745 - 1761, 1763 - 1801
- b) Bengal Wars : 1757 - 1765, 1772 - 1801
- c) Deccan Wars : 1750 - 1779, 1792 - 1801 - 1818 (Mysore & Maratha)

Readings:

AHOI-2, 81-92; CHI, 125-49; IAMH, 186-214; OHMI, 37-129; RFBI, 86-117; MWRI, 22-75; Judith Brown, Modern India, 44-57.

- [R] Philip Mason, A Matter of Honour (London & New York: Penguin, 1974)
S.P. Sen, The French in India (Calcutta: 1947).

Other Readings:

H. H. Dodwell, Dupleix and Clive (London: 1920).

James Grant Duff, A History of the Marathas (London: 1826).

Brijen K. Gupta, Sirajuddaulah and the East India Company (Leiden: 1968)

Abdul Majed Khan, The Transition in Bengal, 1756-1775 (Cambridge: 1969)

3 Imperial Establishments and Paramount Power: The Company Raj -a. Field Operations - The Indian Empire and Its Dependencies

i. Direct Rule - Presidencies of 'British India'

- The Presidency of Bengal [Fort William]
- The Presidency of Madras [Fort St. George]
- The Presidency of Bombay [Fort.]

ii. Indirect Rule - Residencies of 'Princely India'

- Delhi and the Princes of Hindustan
- Deccan Princes of Hyderabad and Mysore
- Poona's Peshwa and the Maratha Warlords
- Forest Chiefs and Frontier Barons

- b. Home Operations - The 'Co-Direction' of Company Policy and Patronage
- i. Corporate Control of the East India Company
- (i) The Charter: Its Mandate of Incorporation (20 Years)
- (ii) The Court of Directors: Its Chairman and Secretaries
- (iii) The Court of Proprietors: Its Stockholders
- ii. Cabinet Control of the Crown-in-Parliament
- (i) The 'Board of Control': Its Chairman, a Cabinet Member
- (ii) The Government: Its Cabinet and Houses of Parliament
- (iii) The State and Society of Britain: Its 'Limited' Public

Readings:

- Judith Brown, Modern India (Oxford: 1985), 56-80.
 NHI, 139-49; AHOI-2, 93-144; OHMI, 57-150; IAHI, 207-34; CHI, 129-58.
- Fay, Eliza, Original Letters from India (London: Hogarth Press, repr.19
- [R] P.J. Marshall, The New Cambridge History of India: Bengal: The British B
 Eastern India 1740-1828 (Cambridge: CUP, 1987).
- [R] P.E. Roberts, India Under Wellesley (Oxford: 1929).
- [R] Philip [Mason] Woodruff, The Rulers of India, I (London: 1954), 93-144.

Other Readings:

- A. Aspinall, Cornwallis in Bengal (London: 1931).
- Richard B. Barnett, North India Between the Empires (Berkeley: 1980).
- Iris Butler, The Marquis Wellesley, 1760-1842 (London: 1973).
- Ainslie T. Embree, Charles Grant and British Rule in India (Columbia: 1
- C. C. Davies, Warren Hasting and Oudh (Oxford: 1939).
- Michael H. Fisher, Clash of Cultures: Awadh, The British and the Mughals
 MD: Riverdale Company, 1987).
- Holden Furber (ed.), The Private Record of an Indian Governor-Generalsh
 (Cambridge: HUP, 1933). John Shore (Lord Melville).
- Penderal Moon, Warren Hastings and British India (London: 1939).
- Pamela Nightingale, Trade and Empire in Western India, 1784 1806
 (Cambridge: CUP, 1870).

L.S.S. O'Malley, Modern India and the West (Oxford: 194), 1-104.

C.H. Philips, The East India Company, 1784-1834 (Manchester: 1940).

T.G. Percival Spear, The Nabobs (Cambridge: 1932).

T.H. Percival Spear, Twilight of the Mughals (Cambridge: 1952).

Lucy Sutherland, The East India Company in 18th Century Politics (Oxfo
[An account of London under the George the III.]

VII. THE "MAHACHHATRA" OF COMPANY RAJ - THE "INDIAN EMPIRE"

A. Consolidation and Reform of Government and Society

1. The Impact of Jamabandi Systems: Land (Revenue) Settlements
2. The Impact of Adalat Systems: Courts of Law and Judicial Processes
3. The Impact of Modern Education: Cultural Influence and Change
4. The Impact of Radical Religion and Social Reform: "Hinduism"

B. Paramountcy Within and Beyond the Continent

1. Pax Indica: Assam and the Burma Wars of 1826 and 1852
2. Pax Indica: Afghanistan, Calamity and Aftermath
3. Pax Indica: Annexations of Sindh and Punjab
4. Pax Indica: Far Shores of Indian Ocean, Persian Gulf and Red Sea

Readings:

AHOI-2, 106-57; OHMI, 151-248; IAMI, 235-63; CHI, 129-58; MI, 58-81; RFBI, 118-171.

Woodruff, I: 344-80; and II, 1-114. Read "The Punjab School".

Eden, Emily, Up the Country: Letters written to her sister from the Upper Provinces of India (London: Virago [Pb.], 198?).

- [R] Bernard S. Cohn, "Structural Change in Indian Rural Society," Land Control and Social Structure in Indian History (Madison: UWP, 1969), edited by Frykenberg.

- [R] R. E. Frykenberg, "Modern Education in South India, 1784-1854: Its Roots and Its Role as a Vehicle of Integration under Company Raj", American Historical Review 91, 1 (February, 1986), 37-65
- [R/H] R. E. Frykenberg, "The Emergence of Modern Hinduism In the Light of Changing Historical Knowledge: A Reappraisal With Special Reference to South India," Hinduism Reconsidered (Heidelberg: South Asia Institute). Edited by Gunther Sontheimer and Hermann Kulke. (27pp.)
- [R] R. E. Frykenberg, Guntur District, 1788-1848: A History of Local Influence and Central Authority in South India (Oxford: 1965).
- [R] Maya Gupta, Lord William Bentinck in Madras and the Vellore Mutiny, 1803-7 (New Delhi: Capital Publishers &c, 1986).
- Macrory, Patrick, Kabul Catastrophe: the story of the disastrous retreat from Kabul, 1842 (Oxford & NY: Oxford University Press [Pb.]).
- Meadows Taylor, Philip, Confessions of a Thug (Oxford & NY: OUP [Pb.], 198?).
- [R] Eric Stokes, English Utilitarians in India (Oxford: 1959).

Other Readings:

- [R] B.H. Baden-Powell, Manual of Land Revenue Systems and Land Tenures of British India (Calcutta: 1882). Land Systems of British India (Oxford: 1892, 1894 abridged).
- [R] C.A. Bayly, Rulers, Townsmen and Bazaars: North Indian society in the age British Expansion, 1770-1870 (Cambridge: CUP, 1983).
- [R] Fisher, Michael H., A Clash of Cultures: Awadh, The British and the Mughals (Riverdale Md.: Riverdale Press, 1987).
- [R] Kenneth Ingham, Reformers in India: 1793-1833 (Cambridge: CUP, 1958).
- [R] John Kaye, The Administration of the East India Company (London: 1853, or recent). A classic. Or, also: B.B. Misra, The Central Administration of the East India Company (Manchester: 1959).
- L.S.S. O'Malley, The Indian Civil Service, 1600-1930 (Oxford: 1931).
- [R] Roseberry, J. Royal, III, Imperial Rule in Punjab: The Conquest and Administration of Multan, 1818-1831 (Riverdale, MD.: Riverdale Press, 1987).

Still Further Readings:

W.R. Fraser Tytler, Atghanistan: A History (London: 1901, 1906, 1917).

From Sepoy to Subedar: Being the Life and Adventures of Subedar Sita Ram, A Native Officer of the Bengal Army... (Lahore: 1873; London: 1970).
Translated by Lt. Col. Norgate. Edited by James Lunt.

J.W. Kaye, History of the War in Afghanistan (London: 1851). Two volumes.

Roy, Oliver, Islam and Resistance in Afghanistan (Cambridge: CUP Pb., 1987?).
This deals with Russia's current Afghan adventure.

VIII. THE GRAND CLIMACTERIC OF COMPANY RAJ: DISASTER AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

1. Imperial Arrogance and Ignorance: The Breach of Confidence
2. Insecurity and Unrest Among the Peasant Lords of Hindustan
3. Sparks and the Great Conflagration: The "Uncivil" Conflict
4. Rampage, Recovery and Retribution: The Legacy of Bitterness
5. Succession to Crown Raj: The Proclamation of "Kaisar-i-Hind"
6. "Colonialism" and the "Indian Empire": The Victorian Veneer

Readings:

MI, 81-89; NHI, 201-39; and readings in AHOI-1, IAMH, OHMI, & CHI.

- [R] Sayyad Ahmad Khan, An Essay on the Causes of the Indian Revolt (Calcutta: 1860). Translated by Captain W.N. Lees.
- [R] Philip Mason, A Matter of Honour, "The Storm," pp. 219-309.
- [R] Eric Stokes, The Peasant Armed: The Indian Rebellion of 1857 (Oxford: 1986).
Edited by C.A. Bayly.

Edward Thompson and G.T. Garratt, Rise and Fulfilment of British Rule in India (London: 1934), 435-498, 499-525.

Other Readings:

- [R] Wayne G. Broehl, Jr., Crisis of the Raj: The Revolt of 1857 through British Lieutenants' Eyes (Hanover NH and London: Dartmouth, 1986).
- [R] Thomas R. Metcalf, The Aftermath of Revolt (Berkeley: UCP, 1964).
- John Pemble, The Raj, the Indian Mutiny, and the Kingdom of Oudh, 1801-1859 (Hassocks, Sussex: Harvester Press, 1977).
- Edward Thompson, The Other Side of the Medal (London: 1925).