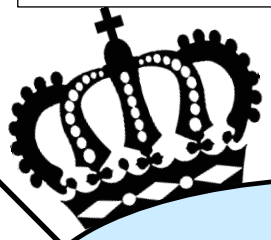
THE BRITISH IN INDIA



1. In the **19th** century British colonies included some of the largest countries (like Australia, Canada and India).

2. Occupation started in **17th** century with **the East India Company** (a group of British traders -mercanti-).

They made money from Indian products (tea, cotton and silk) and became rich.

3. Traders moved to India with their families and built communities there.

4. The East Indian Company formed a *Private Army* with 200.000 men, at first the army's function was to defend the British communities.

The Private Army took Indian land.

BUT

5. The Indians had to pay taxes. In **1857** Indian soldiers fought a year over Delhi. The British won and in **1858** India became officially a British colony.

6. The **British Raj** started in **1858** and finished in **1947**. In this periode, British led privileged lifestyle there, they improved Indian people life and they built bridges, roads, canals. They introduced British system of government, laws, education and English language, it became the official language.

7. India got the indipendence from Britain in 1947.

After the indipendence, there was the **Partition** (division of the country in 2 separate countries: India and Pakistan-**Gandhi** was against the **Partition**)

8. Other European countries that had colonies were: Spain, Netherland, France, Portugal, Italy (Somalia, Eritrean, Libya, Etiopia).

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