India Seeks Self-Rule

Since 1858, India had been a British colony, a time passed, Indians called for more freedom. (See timeline below) in 1885, nationalists set up the Indian National Congress. Later called the Congress Party. They worked to give Indians a voice in running their land. World War I made the nationalists' movement stronger. Indian soldiers had fought for Britain, yet they had few rights at home. Britain failed to fulfill their promise to grant India greater self-government. Post-war anger led to protest. On April 13, 1919, British troops killed nearly 400 protesters in the city of Amritsar, Mohandas Gandhi led the nationalist movement in India for almost 90 years.

**GRAPHIC SUMMARY:**

- 1885: Indian National Congress formed
- 1900: Gandhi begins nonviolent resistance
- 1918: Pakistan is created
- 1920: Gandhi begins nonviolent resistance
- 1930: Gandhi leads salt march to the sea
- 1947: India gains independence
- 1948: Gandhi is killed

**REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. Why were Indians angry after World War I?

2. Timeline Skills. When did Gandhi begin leading peaceful protests against British rule?
The partition of India in 1947 created two nations—India and Pakistan. The partition, or division, of India did not bring peace. Millions were killed crossing the borders between India and Pakistan. After independence, India and Pakistan developed similar goals. All wanted a stable government. They needed technology to control nature and raise food for growing populations. Industrial and economic development was necessary to become modern nations.

**Obstacles to Progress in India**

- Lack of oil and natural gas
- Attempt to follow socialist model
- Hindu caste system
- Less education for women and the poor
- High cost of farm equipment
- Rapid population growth

**Goals**

- Industrial Growth
- Social Equality
- Produce Enough Food

**Review Questions**

1. Why was India partitioned in 1947?