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1<sup>st</sup> year Master in History

**INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS PARTY UNDER BRITISH RULE (1885-1914):  
TACTICS AND METHODS OF STRUGGLE, "SOFTWARE INSTALLATIONS"  
OF INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS.**

**Introduction**

The Indian National Congress Party was the first party in India to unite representatives from all over India. The party was created on December 28, 1885 in the city of Bombay. It was created by the British to control society. It is this party that will lead India to independence on August 15, 1947. The period from 1885 to 1914 is the initial period of development of the party. It is very important to see how the struggle for the future took place.

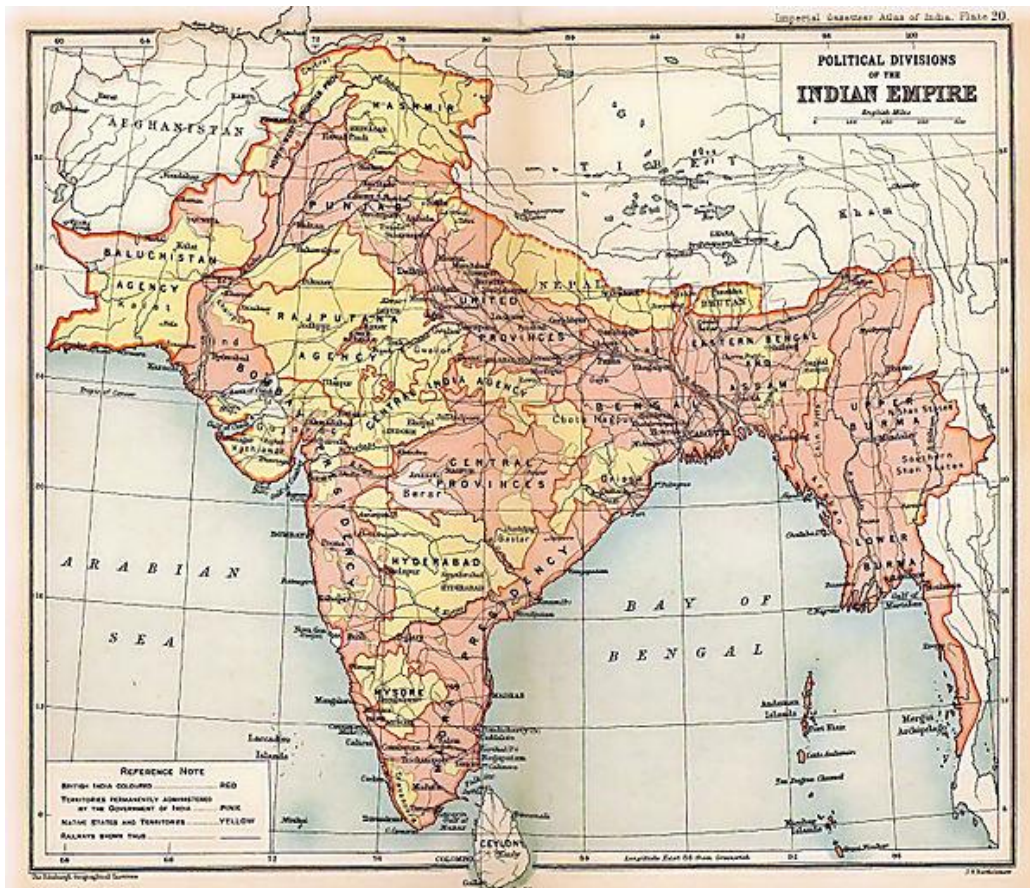


Delegates of Indian National Congress, 1885

**Purpose and objectives**

The purpose of our research is to review the activities of the Indian National Congress party during this period.

The tasks include: to study using sources (speeches, memoirs, notes, newspapers, party meeting materials) the tactics and methods of struggle, the "party program." It is important to identify what was common in the listed positions in the party and what opinion the two groups held. The party consisted of two groups: moderates (demanded self-government as part of the British Empire) and radicals (demanded independence).



Map of British India, 1909

## Methodology

In our work on our topic, we use the historical and anthropological method, which allows us to study all social groups of Indian society in 1885-1914 by studying each of them. This will reveal the interests of a particular social group, the interactions that took place between individuals and groups. Other researchers pay more attention to the analysis of the emotional sphere of the object, that is, they use the psycho-biographical method. Here, close attention is paid to those situations about which it is known for certain that a person experienced a strong emotional arousal in them.

It is necessary to study the opinion of the British themselves to better understand the topic, namely historians about the situation in British India. As an example, we can cite the historian John Robert Seeley. The original book was published in 1895 under the title «The Growth of British Policy: An Historical Essay».

The author states about the development of British India in this book. The author believed that society in India remained in antiquity by the time the British arrived. According to the author, the colonial regime relies on its military strength. John Robert Seeley spoke of the danger that comes from Indians who serve in the British army.

THE GROWTH  
OF  
BRITISH POLICY

AN HISTORICAL ESSAY

BY

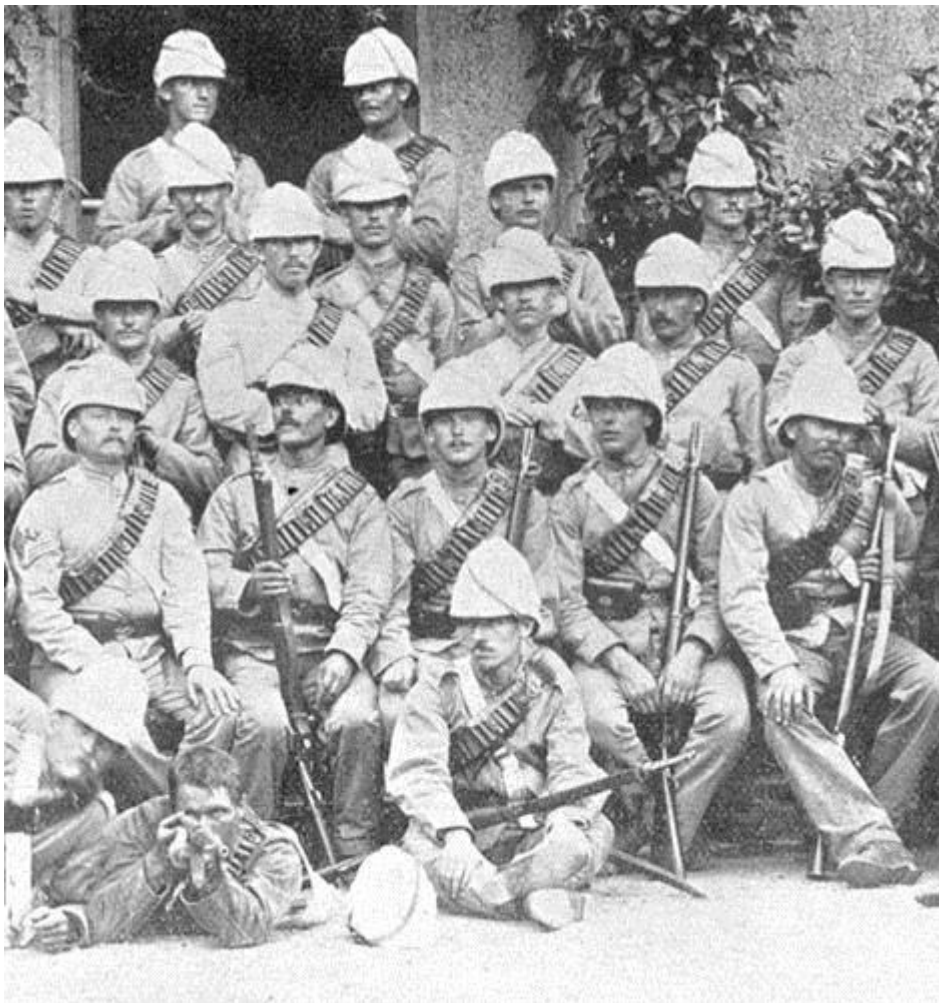
SIR J. R. SEELEY, LL.D., K.C.M.G.

FURNESS SMITH PROFESSOR OF MODERN HISTORY IN  
THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
FELLOW OF TRINITY AND KING'S COLLEGES  
AND HONORARY FELLOW OF CHURCHILL COLLEGE.

VOLUME I.

CAMBRIDGE:  
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS,  
1896  
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British soldiers



The number of British in the army in India was less than half. The author believed that the reasons for the service of the Indians were to receive a salary and a sense of duty.

The author feared that the Indians in the army would revolt. John Robert Seeley believed that if the population supported the uprising, the British regime would end. The author reassured the British and himself that: in India there are many Muslims and they oppose the Hindus, the population will never support the rebels.

But the author admitted that the British not only do not prepare the ground for improving life, but also worsen this life. Historian John Robert Seeley concludes that most likely the best option for India will be a government consisting of representatives of the Hindu population. The author believed that such a government could benefit people. In our opinion, the author recognized the impossibility and unwillingness of foreign governments to provide a high standard of living for people.



British Indian soldiers in France, 1917

### **Conclusion**

We can say that the author did not pay any attention to the emergence of the INC party and did not consider this a threat to the British colonial regime, but at the same time he outlined the dangers for the British and listed the possibilities for holding power by the British. John Robert Seeley gave an interesting assessment of what is happening in India.