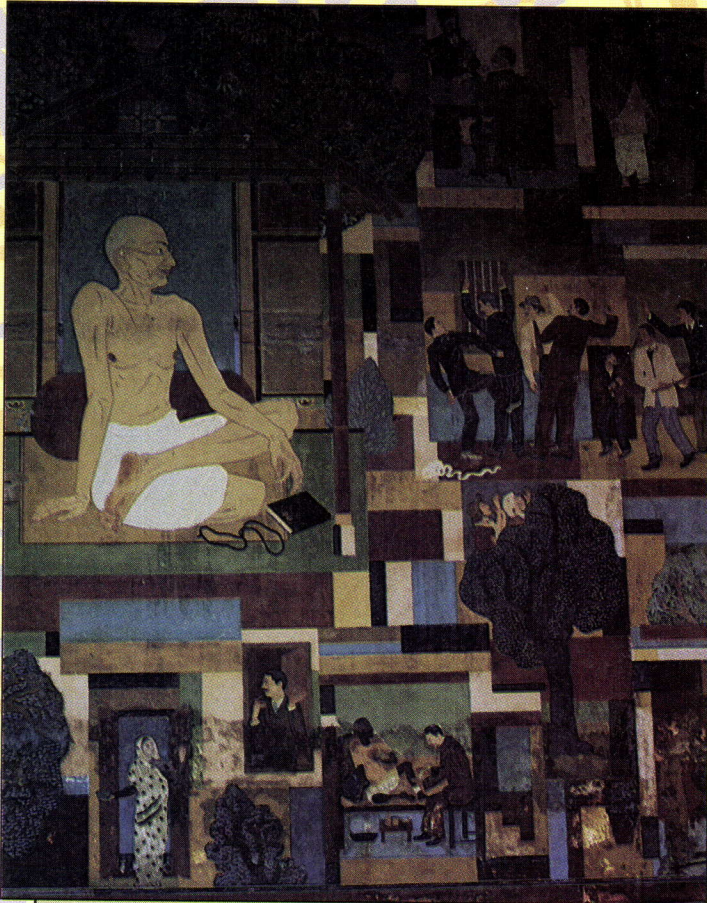


SOUTH ASIA IN TRANSITION



Gandhi's Teachings This mural depicts significant events in the life of Mohandas Gandhi, one of the most important Indian leaders of modern times. Gandhi, at left, is shown in meditation. During India's struggle for independence, he spread the message of nonviolent action. **Citizenship** How can a struggle for independence help strengthen citizenship among a nation's people?

CHAPTER OUTLINE

- 1 Freedom—And Partition
- 2 Political Challenges
- 3 Economic Development
- 4 Changing Patterns of Life
- 5 Other Nations of South Asia

Neatly dressed in a dark suit and turban, a young Indian lawyer named Mohandas Gandhi boarded the train at Durban, in South Africa. As he sat in the first-class compartment a train official approached him.

"Come along," the official said, "you must go to the rear compartment." At that time, in the 1890s, South Africa had laws that required "coloured" travelers to sit apart from whites.

"But I have a first-class ticket!"

"That doesn't matter. . . . I shall have to call a police constable to push you out."

"Yes, you may. I refuse to get out voluntarily."

The police forced Gandhi from the train. As he sat in the cold station, he reflected on what had happened. Now, he saw the injustices suffered by Indians living in South Africa. For 20 years,

CHAPTER 8 REVIEW

Understanding Vocabulary

Match each term at left with the correct definition at right.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1. reincarnation | a. Indian soldier |
| 2. sepoy | b. complete control over a market or a product |
| 3. dynasty | c. rebirth of the soul in various forms |
| 4. purdah | d. ruling family |
| 5. monopoly | e. complete seclusion |

Reviewing the Main Ideas

- (a) How is Hinduism a tolerant religion? (b) How did this tolerance contribute to India's cultural diversity?
- How did the development of southern India differ from that of northern India?
- Why were Muslims never absorbed into Hindu society?
- What was the role of dharma, or duty, in Hindu society?
- (a) Why did Indians believe they must obey caste rules? (b) How did new castes and subcastes develop?
- (a) Describe the causes of the Sepoy Rebellion. (b) What political changes resulted from the rebellion?
- What were the goals of the following: (a) Indian National Congress, (b) Muslim League?
- Traditional Indian life centered around caste, family, and village. Choose one and describe its role in people's daily life.
- British colonial rule brought major changes to India. Describe one political, one economic, and one social change that resulted from British rule.

Thinking Critically

- Analyzing Information** How might Indians rate the effects of British rule?
- Analyzing Ideas** How did Hindu traditions support both a positive and a negative view of women?
- Making Global Connections** (a) Compare the British treatment of Indians with their treatment of Native Americans. (b) What might explain the differences?

Applying Your Skills

- Two major world religions, Hinduism and Buddhism, started in South Asia. (a) What were the basic beliefs of Hinduism? (b) What were the basic beliefs of Buddhism? (c) Why did Buddhism almost disappear in India?
- Several great empires united South Asia. Describe two achievements of each of the following: (a) Maurya Empire, (b) Gupta Empire, (c) Mughal Empire.
- Over many centuries, various Muslim peoples invaded South Asia. Identify three cultural changes that resulted from contacts between Muslims and Hindus.
- Using Visual Evidence** Look at the pictures on pages 197 and 198. (a) What does the relationship appear to be between the British and the Indians in each picture. (b) How would you account for the relationship between the prince and the British officials? (c) How do you think the Indians reacted to their role as servants?
- Constructing a Time Line** Make a time line showing the major events in Section 2 and Section 4. (a) When did Mughal power weaken? (b) When did the British gain control of India? (c) How are the two events related?

he worked without success to change laws that discriminated against Indians.

During the struggle, Gandhi developed ideas about nonviolent action as a way for people with little political power to end injustice. When he returned to India in 1914, he used this approach in the struggle for independence from Britain.

CHAPTER PERSPECTIVE

After a long struggle, two independent nations emerged in South Asia in 1947—India and Pakistan. Like developing nations elsewhere, these nations faced choices about how to achieve modernization.

As you read, look for these chapter themes:

- ▶ Gandhi urged Indians to use nonviolence and civil disobedience to win independence from Britain.
- ▶ Ethnic and cultural diversity have posed challenges for India and other South Asian nations.
- ▶ South Asian nations have pursued modernization with mixed results.
- ▶ Technology and other changes have affected the people of South Asia, but traditional patterns of village life remain strong.

Literature Connections

In this chapter you will encounter passages from the following works.

Autobiography, Mohandas Gandhi
“We Have Arrived in Amritsar,”
Bhisham Sahni

For other suggestions, see Connections With Literature, pages 804–808.

1

FREEDOM—AND PARTITION

FIND OUT

How did Gandhi help India win independence from Britain?

How did World War II affect the struggle for independence?

What cultural differences led to the partition of India?

Vocabulary *satyagraha, civil disobedience*

“**T**he British want us to put the struggle on the plane of machine guns. . . . Our only assurance of beating them is to keep it . . . where we have the weapons and they have not.”

To Mohandas Gandhi, India’s struggle for freedom had to be won by peaceful means. What “weapons” could this soft-spoken Hindu use to defeat the British? Gandhi campaigned vigorously to convince Indians to achieve independence through nonviolent means.

Growing Unrest

During and after World War I, Indian nationalists increased their demands for freedom. In 1919, Britain responded with harsh new laws limiting freedom of the press and other rights in India. For weeks, nationalists protested. After five British officials were killed, General Reginald Dyer banned all public gatherings.

The nationalists determined to defy Dyer’s order. On April 13, 1919, more than 10,000 Indians gathered in a public area in Amritsar, a city in northwestern India. General Dyer ordered his troops to open fire. Men, women, and children were trampled as they

tried to escape. When the shooting stopped, 379 Indians lay dead and more than 1,100 were wounded.

The Amritsar Massacre was a turning point in India's struggle for freedom. It deepened distrust of the British and led to increased violence. It also stirred many Indians to call for complete separation from Britain.

Mohandas Gandhi

Mohandas Gandhi returned to India from South Africa in 1914. Within a few years, he emerged as a key figure in the Indian struggle for independence. Gandhi united many groups within the nationalist movement. He took the struggle beyond the Congress party, which was largely a middle-class organization. He inspired the common people of India to work for change. In addition, he won the backing of the Indians who had benefited most from British rule.

Gandhi's principles. Gandhi came from a middle-class Hindu family and went to England to study law. In 1891, he returned to India but had little success as a lawyer. As you have read, Gandhi then moved to South Africa to practice law. There, he developed his ideas about the use of nonviolent resistance to end injustice. Gandhi called this method **satyagraha** (SUHT ya gruh ha), or "truth force."

Gandhi's ideas were rooted in Hindu beliefs and in Christian traditions. From Hinduism, Gandhi absorbed ideas about nonviolence and respect for all life. (See page 179.) While studying in England, he came to admire the Christian teaching of love, even for one's enemies. The writings of American philosopher Henry David Thoreau influenced Gandhi as well. Thoreau had practiced **civil disobedience**, the refusal to obey unjust laws.

To Gandhi, the goal of satyagraha was to "convert the wrongdoer." He hoped to make the world aware of British injustice by accepting punishment without striking back. He also hoped to awaken in the British a sense of their own wrongdoing.

Gandhi's appeal. Gandhi's ideas were appealing to Hindus of all classes. He won support by stressing India's rich heritage. He gave up western ways and encouraged traditional

Indian industries, such as spinning cotton. He lived simply, dressing in the white cotton garments worn by India's poor.

Like many devout Hindus, Gandhi was a vegetarian. He often fasted, or went without food. He emphasized Hindu virtues such as duty, morality, and self-discipline. Gandhi's followers called him Mahatma, or "Great Soul."

Like the Buddha and other reformers, Gandhi rejected some features of the caste system. He demanded better treatment for untouchables, whom he called Harijan, or "Children of God." Gandhi also reached out to Muslims, including them in his campaign to unite all Indians.

Campaign of civil disobedience. During the early 1920s, Gandhi traveled around India, urging nonviolent resistance to British rule. He supported strikes and protests. Along with other leaders, he called on Indians to boycott, or stop buying, British-made goods. A future Indian prime minister, Indira Gandhi (who was not related to Mohandas Gandhi) recalled that, as a child, she gave up her British-made doll. She took "my friend, my child" to the roof of her home and burned it, then burst into tears.

The Salt March. In 1930, Gandhi used satyagraha to protest the tax on salt. British laws forbade Indians to make salt. Indians could only buy salt heavily taxed by the government. In protest, Gandhi led followers on a 200-mile march from his home to the coast. Thousands of people joined the march along the way. At the coast, they broke the law by making salt from sea water.

The salt protest spread across India. The British arrested Gandhi and an estimated 50,000 other Indians. Although the government kept its salt tax, the campaign increased world support for Indian nationalists. Throughout the 1930s, the British responded to nonviolent Indian protest with force. In Britain, people began to debate whether their government should hold on to India.

Moving Toward Independence

When World War II began in 1939, most Indians had no desire to fight in what they saw as Britain's struggle. The Indian National

Gandhi at His Spinning Wheel

Gandhi inspired the people of India to return to traditional ways such as spinning thread to make cloth. Gandhi himself spent time each day spinning and meditating. The spinning wheel soon became a symbol of India's struggle for freedom from British rule. **Change** Why do you think Gandhi's call to return to traditional ways appealed to Indians?



Congress refused to support the war unless Britain promised immediate independence. When the British refused, Gandhi and other Congress members organized a “Quit India” movement. They urged Indians to follow a policy of non-cooperation with the British. They also continued their campaign of civil disobedience. The British responded by arresting more than 20,000 Congress members.

By 1945, war-weakened Britain realized that it could no longer keep India. Nationalist forces were simply too strong. Also, popular opinion in Britain opposed keeping overseas colonies.

Hindu-Muslim conflict. As independence approached, a tragic conflict took shape between Hindus and Muslims. In the early days of the nationalist movement, Hindus and Muslims had cooperated. During the 1920s and 1930s, however, divisions grew between the largely Hindu Congress party and the Muslim League. The British encouraged the conflict, hoping to weaken the nationalists.

The Muslims, led by Muhammad Ali Jinnah, demanded a separate Muslim nation. As you have read, in the past, deep differences in religious beliefs had led to clashes between

Hindus and Muslims. As a result, many Muslims feared that their rights would not be respected in a country dominated by Hindus.

Gandhi disagreed. He hoped that Hindus and Muslims would work together in an independent India. Many Hindus distrusted Muslims, however. They looked on Muslims as foreign conquerors. Economic and political differences between the two groups further increased tension.

The Subcontinent Divided

In 1946, widespread rioting broke out between Hindus and Muslims. Britain realized that if something were not done to resolve the problem, civil war would result. In 1947, the British parliament passed the Indian Independence Act. The act ended British rule in India. It also provided for the partition, or division, of the Indian subcontinent into two separate and independent nations. One nation was Hindu-dominated India. The other nation was Pakistan, with a Muslim majority. Jawaharlal Nehru (juh WAH huhr lahl NAY roo) became prime minister of India, while Jinnah became governor general of Pakistan.

Partition led to an explosion of violence. Although India and Pakistan each promised religious toleration, distrust and fear were deeply rooted. Violence broke out between Muslims and Hindus. More than 500,000 people died in the fighting. In his short story "We Have Arrived in Amritsar," Indian writer Bhisham Sahni described a train ride during that time of violence:

“The whole city was aflame. . . . A deserted railway platform faced us when the train stopped at the next

station. . . . A water carrier . . . came over to the train . . . and began serving the passengers with water.

‘Many people killed. Massacre, massacre,’ he said. It seemed as though in the midst of all that death he alone had come out to perform a good deed. ”

To escape death, millions of Muslims fled from India to Pakistan. At the same time, millions of Hindus left Pakistan for India. An estimated 15 million people took part in this mass migration.

Sickened by the violence, Gandhi refused to celebrate India’s independence on August 15, 1947. During the months that followed, he held prayer meetings across India. At these meetings, he recited verses from the *Bhagavad-Gita*, the Koran, and the Bible. (See Connections With Literature, page 805, the *Bhagavad-Gita*.)

In January 1948, Gandhi himself fell victim to the violence. A Hindu extremist, who believed that the Mahatma had betrayed his own people, shot Gandhi. “The light has gone out of our lives,” mourned Nehru. “There is darkness everywhere.”

MAP STUDY

The map of South Asia was redrawn after World War II ended. The former British-ruled lands in this region then became free and independent nations.

- 1. Region** Identify the two countries of South Asia that gained their independence in 1947.
- 2. Place** (a) Why was the new nation of Pakistan created in two separate areas of South Asia? (b) Identify these two areas.
- 3. Making Global Connections** Many African nations, too, gained their freedom after World War II. What forces were at work that promoted independence in both regions?



SECTION 1 REVIEW

- 1. Locate:** Pakistan.
- 2. Identify:** (a) Amritsar Massacre, (b) Mohandas Gandhi, (c) Jawaharlal Nehru.
- 3. Define:** (a) satyagraha, (b) civil disobedience.
- (a) How was the Salt March an example of civil disobedience? (b) What other actions against British rule did Gandhi support?
- Why did Muhammad Ali Jinnah want a separate nation for Muslims?
- Why were the British willing to leave India after World War II?
- 7. Evaluating Information** Why do you think Gandhi was able to win the support of so many Indians?
- 8. Writing Across Cultures** Write a paragraph describing how civil rights protesters or other activists in the United States in the 1960s used methods similar to those of Mohandas Gandhi.

POLITICAL CHALLENGES

FIND OUT

How is the government of India organized?

What forces have unified Indians and what forces have divided them?

What leaders have shaped India since independence?

Vocabulary parliamentary democracy, coalition, secular

“We, the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a sovereign, democratic republic and to secure to all its citizens: justice . . . liberty . . . equality . . . do hereby adopt, enact and give to ourselves this constitution.”

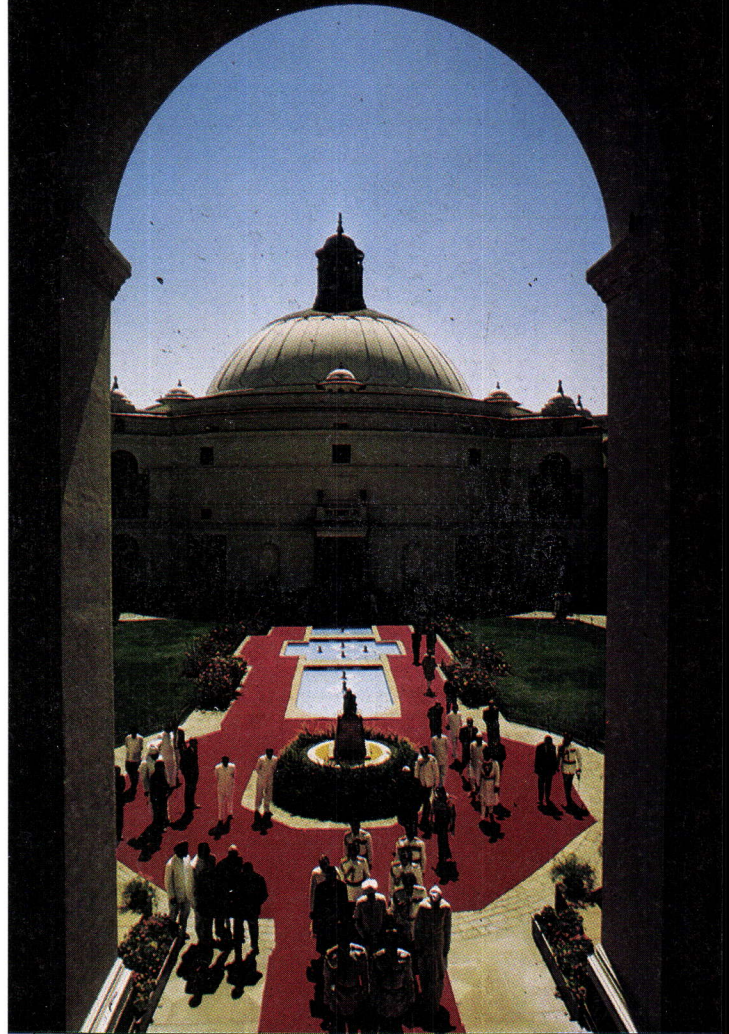
These lines from the Indian constitution sum up the goals of India’s government. In the decades since independence, India—the world’s largest democracy—has tried to fulfill its promises.

India’s Government

In 1949, Indian leaders gathered to write a constitution. Like the constitution of the United States, the Indian constitution created a federal system. It consists of a central government and the governments of 25 states and 7 territories.

The constitution divides power between the federal and state governments. India’s central government, however, has more power than the United States federal government. The president of India appoints the state governors. In an emergency, the president also has the power to dissolve the government of a state.

Parliament. Under the constitution, India is a **parliamentary democracy**. This system is



The Parliament Building The parliament of India meets in this building in New Delhi. Indians strongly support their democracy, and often 80 to 90 percent of all eligible voters take part in an election. Unlike many other nations that gained independence after World War II, India began as a democracy and remains a democracy. **Political System** Why do you think India is called “the world’s largest democracy”?

based on the British form of government. A president is head of state but has little power. The real power lies in the hands of the political party that wins the most seats in parliament. The leader of that party becomes the prime minister.

The Indian parliament has two houses. The upper house is called the Rajya Sabha, or Council of State. Its members are chosen by

the state legislatures. The more powerful lower house is called the Lok Sabha, or House of the People. Voters elect members to the Lok Sabha directly.

Political parties. India has more than a dozen national political parties. Many more parties exist at the state level. Parties represent the interests of different caste, language, religious, or regional groups.

The Indian constitution gives every citizen over the age of 18 the right to vote. Because many voters cannot read and write, parties use symbols on the ballots. A tree, ox, or cornstalk might stand for a particular party.

For years, the Congress party dominated India's government. Indians voted for it as the party that had led them to independence. Over time, however, other political parties grew stronger, especially the Bharata Janata party (BJP). Its leaders stressed Hindu traditions.

In the 1990s, the BJP even led a coalition government. If no party wins a majority in elections, a coalition government is formed. In a **coalition**, several parties join to rule. A coalition often has difficulty governing because the parties disagree on many issues.

By 1999, the BJP faced new challenges from the Congress party. It was also hurt by the actions of Hindu extremists who launched brutal attacks on India's Christian minority.

Dividing and Unifying Forces

As in other developing nations, many forces have threatened to break India apart. One problem is India's large population, which has more than doubled since independence. Although the government has tried to meet the needs of more than one billion people, poverty and illiteracy are still widespread. These conditions contribute to unrest.

Caste. The caste system poses problems as India seeks to modernize. The government has sought to weaken its effects and open doors to economic opportunity. Yet, efforts to help lower castes and the poor

often meet strong opposition from people higher in caste or in economic status.

The group that suffered most under the caste system were the untouchables, who were forced to live almost completely outside society. The Indian constitution declared untouchability illegal. It also outlawed discrimination against untouchables and set aside government jobs for people from this group. Despite such laws, however, untouchables are still not fully accepted by other Indians. (See the feature at right.)

In 1990, the government tried to increase the number of government jobs reserved for lower-caste people. Youths in higher castes protested because they would no longer be assured of the best government jobs. Along with fear of unemployment, protesters were motivated by prejudice against lower castes.

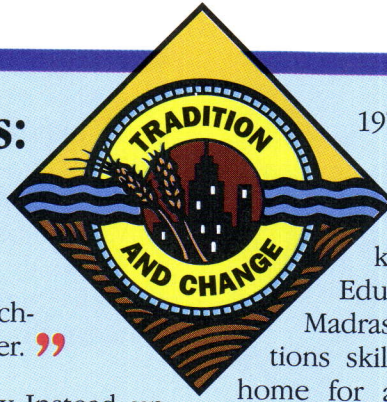
Cultural diversity. Cultural diversity is another dividing force. Some ethnic and language groups have demanded their own states. Separatist violence has often resulted. For example, after independence, the Naga people in the northeast battled government forces. They demanded and finally won recognition as a union territory within India.

Sikh separatism. Another group that protested their treatment by the government were the Sikhs. As you have read, Sikhism is a religion that began in the early 1500s by blending elements of Islam and Hinduism. It teaches belief in one god and rejects the caste system. Sikhs developed a strong military tradition to defend their religion. Today, Sikhs make up about 2 percent of India's population.

In a country dominated by Hindus, Sikhs feel they do not receive a large enough share of government resources. Sikh separatists want to break away and form a separate country. In the northwestern state of Punjab, where Sikhs form a majority, protests became increasingly violent. In 1984, Sikh extremists in Amritsar occupied the Golden Temple, their holiest shrine, and refused to leave. The government ordered an attack on the temple, and many Sikhs were killed.

Hindu-Muslim clashes. Conflicts between Hindus and Muslims also continue to plague

The Untouchables: Turning From the Past



“ The water hole of the untouchables is dry—we beg for water. ”

These words aroused no pity. Instead, upper-caste villagers reacted angrily:

“ There is no water for you. This drought is your fault. The gods are angry at you for your past sins of selfishness, untruthfulness, and greed. Leave our well at once. Your presence will pollute what water we have. ”

For thousands of years, Indian society has subjected the untouchables to a life of denial and shame. Forced to live in separate areas outside of towns, untouchables held such jobs as street sweeping and leather working. They were barred from most schools and forbidden to enter Hindu temples.

Independence brought many changes to India. The Indian constitution made untouchability illegal. Under a quota system, the government set aside seats for untouchables in the parliament and state assemblies. Universities admitted some untouchables and some government jobs became open to them.

Although some untouchables have benefited from the quotas, discrimination remains. In rural areas, untouchables have trouble buying land. They are also frequent victims of violent crimes motivated by bias.

Untouchables have fought the caste system by becoming politically active. In the

1970s, they formed a political party to win better treatment.

Untouchable leader Henry Thiagaraj sees education as the key to change. He has set up the Education Facilitation Center in Madras. It teaches job and communications skills to untouchables, operates a home for abandoned children, and runs group camps to promote self-esteem. Mostly, Thiagaraj tries to help untouchables repair their wounded spirits. He says:

“ We like to include people of all faiths in our work while expressing our deep commitment and love for our fellow untouchables who have been denied human fellowship and dignity. ”

1. How have untouchables tried to improve their lives?
2. **Analyzing Information** Why do you think discrimination against untouchables remains widespread?



India. Although many Muslims fled to Pakistan at the time of independence, more than 100 million Muslims still live in India.

Hindus and Muslims clashed over a Muslim mosque in the city of Ayodhya (uh YOHD

yuh). Hindus claimed that the site was the birthplace of the god Rama. They charged that in the past Muslim invaders tore down the temple that once stood there. The leader of the Bharata Janata party called on Hindus



A Family of Prime Ministers Nehru's daughter, Indira Gandhi, became prime minister of India in 1966. After she was assassinated, her son, Rajiv Gandhi, became leader of India's government. When Rajiv Gandhi, too, was killed during an election campaign in 1991, much of India mourned his death. **Political System** How can a family dynasty like the Gandhis arise in a democracy?

to destroy the mosque and build a Hindu temple in its place.

In 1992, Hindus attacked the mosque. Hundreds of Hindus and Muslims were killed in the fighting at Ayodhya. Ten years later, plans to build the Hindu temple sparked a bloody outbreak of religious violence in western India. More than 600 Indians were killed before the violence was put down.

Unifying forces. Despite such outbreaks of religious violence, India has survived. The main reason for its success remains the com-

mitment of most Indians to democratic traditions. Another bond is the common religious faith of hundreds of millions of Hindus. Hindu traditions have helped to unify the majority of Indians behind their government.

Modern communications and strong leaders have also helped to unite the country. Since independence, India has been blessed with a number of farsighted and able leaders.

India's Leaders

Jawaharlal Nehru led India for 17 years after independence. Nehru wanted to make India a modern industrial nation. He hoped to create a casteless, secular India. A **secular** country is one that has no official religion.

Nehru carried India through many crises. He calmed outbreaks of regional violence in the north. His government helped resettle millions of Hindu refugees from Pakistan. Nehru also set up programs for schools and economic development.

Nehru's successors. In 1966, Nehru's daughter, Indira Gandhi, was elected prime minister. She, too, tried to modernize the country. Her government, however, faced economic woes and corruption charges. In 1975, she tried to jail opponents and limit some freedoms. However, public opposition forced her to restore democratic rule.

Ethnic and religious unrest continued. In 1984, Gandhi ordered government troops to storm the Golden Temple, which had been seized by some armed Sikhs. Later that year, two of Gandhi's Sikh bodyguards shot and killed her. Anti-Sikh riots shook India after her death.

Rajiv Gandhi, Indira's son, was then chosen prime minister. Violence, however, took his life in 1991. He was murdered by a group linked to Tamil guerrillas in nearby Sri Lanka. You will read about the Tamils in Sri Lanka later in this chapter.

Politics today. Rajiv Gandhi's death seemed to end the political dynasty begun by Nehru. In recent years, the BJP has led several coalition governments. BJP prime ministers have had to deal with scandals involving gov-



"MUST BREAK ITS BACK BEFORE IT BREAKS MINE!"

Struggles Within India Violence between the Sikhs and the government in the Punjab has troubled India's political life. In this cartoon from the 1970s, an angry Indira Gandhi is shown struggling against political terrorism. Gandhi lost this struggle, and after her death, moderate Sikhs themselves became victims of attacks.

Diversity Why are many Sikhs dissatisfied with the Indian government?

ernment officials. They also have had to balance the rival demands of a dozen or more political parties that make up the coalition.

SECTION 2 REVIEW

- 1. Identify:** (a) BJP, (b) Sikh, (c) Indira Gandhi, (d) Rajiv Gandhi.
- 2. Define** (a) parliamentary democracy, (b) coalition, (c) secular.
- 3.** Describe how the Indian federal government is organized.
- 4.** How has religion created both divisions and bonds among Indians?
- 5.** What goals did Nehru and his successors have for India?
- 6. Drawing Conclusions** Why do you think the Bharta Janata Party (BJP) has gained support in recent years?
- 7. Writing Across Cultures** Imagine that you are one of the framers of India's constitution. Write a letter to an American friend comparing the organization of your government to that of the United States.

3

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FIND OUT

What economic goals did Nehru set for India?

What progress has Indian industry made?

How has India tried to increase farm output?

Vocabulary tenant farmer, land reform

Operation Flood has lived up to its name. The flood does not refer to monsoon rains or overflowing rivers. Instead, it refers to a successful program to produce milk. Twenty years ago, India needed to import milk

powder and other dairy goods. Today, it is the third-largest milk producer in the world.

Increasing food production is vital to India's economy. In the years since independence, the government has taken a major role in developing agriculture and industry.

MAP STUDY

One of the Indian government's chief goals has been to develop modern industry and end dependence on foreign imports. India has important natural resources and a skilled labor force that have helped it become more industrialized.

- 1. Location** (a) What industries are located near Ahmadabad? (b) Where are most iron and steel plants located?
- 2. Interaction** According to the map, what natural resources contribute to the industrialization of India?
- 3. Solving Problems** How did the Indian government try to strengthen the nation's economy?



Economic Goals

In 1947, India's economy was poor and undeveloped. Although India exported raw materials, it had to import machinery and other finished goods from industrial countries. India's new leaders were determined to free their country from economic dependence.

Nehru wanted to make the nation self-sufficient. India must produce what it needs, he said, and stop importing goods. To achieve his goals, Nehru adopted many socialist principles. His government carefully regulated the economy and issued a series of five-year plans to set economic goals. Nehru also limited foreign investment to prevent foreigners from controlling Indian businesses.

Like many developing nations, India set up a mixed economy. The government took control of some industries such as steel, mining, transportation, and energy. At the same time, it allowed private ownership of smaller businesses. These businesses produced consumer goods such as bicycles, sewing machines, and hand tools.

Industrial Growth

To lessen dependence on imports, India needed factories to produce basic materials such as steel and plastics, as well as finished goods such as tractors and trucks. The government encouraged Indians to save money that could then be invested in industry. It also used income from cash crops and taxes to build industry.

As you read in Chapter 7, India has iron, coal, and other mineral resources. It used these resources to build steel factories and huge hydroelectric plants. Nehru called these plants "India's new temples."

During the early years of independence, industry made impressive gains. The output of iron ore tripled. Coal and steel production rose, and India doubled its energy output. India also set up new industries in engineering, chemicals, and textile manufacturing. By the 1960s, India ranked as the world's seventh most industrialized nation.

However, industrial growth slowed in the 1970s, hurt by the steep rise in world oil prices. Because India has few petroleum resources, it must import much of its oil. Any rise in oil prices burdens India's economy.

Economic Reforms. At independence, the Indian government ran many industries. However, the economic slowdown forced India to introduce economic reforms. The government moved toward privatization—selling state-owned industries to private investors. To encourage private enterprise, the government set up joint projects with foreign companies.

These reforms got India's economy moving again. During the 1990s, India had one of the world's fastest growing economies. Foreign investment rose. High-technology industries boomed, and many Indians found better paying jobs. India built one of the world's leading computer software industries.

Despite this progress, poverty has remained widespread in India. Reducing it has proved particularly difficult. India needs to create millions of new jobs every year just to keep pace with its rapid population growth.

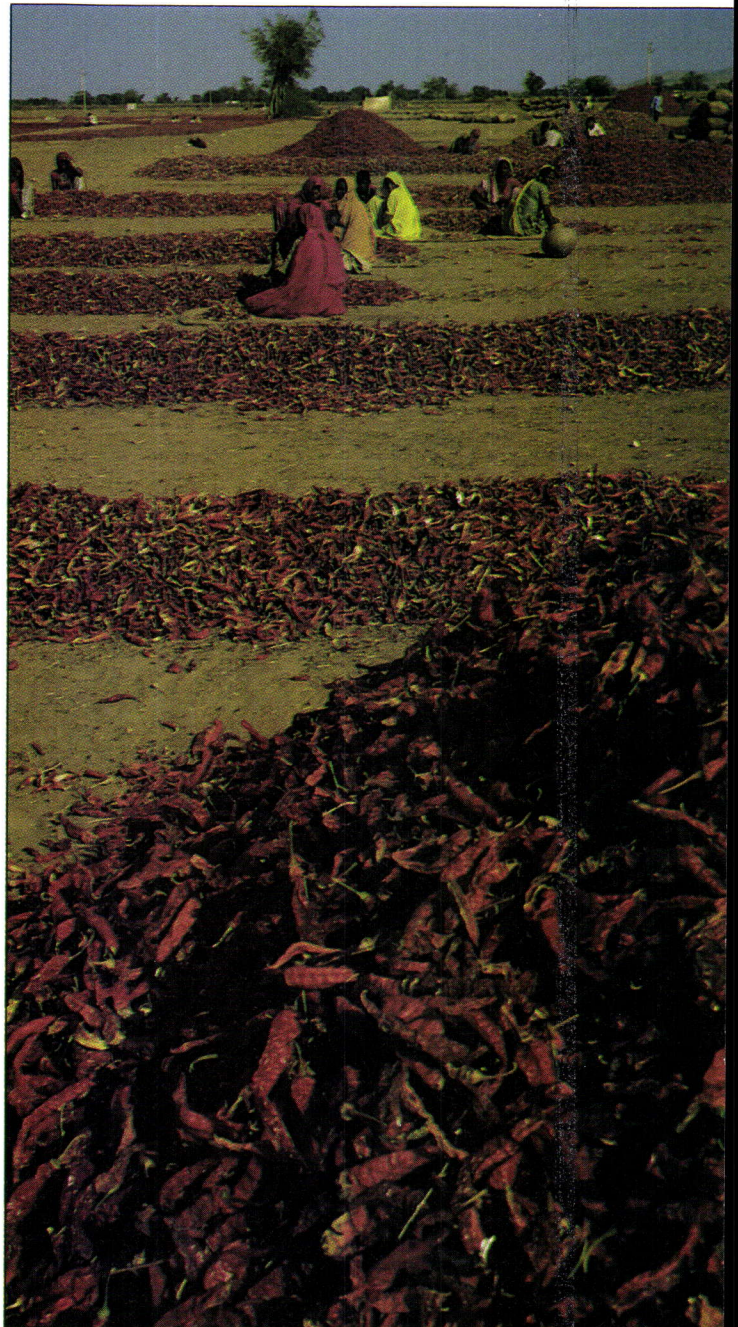
Progress in Agriculture

Today, as in the past, farming is the heart of India's economy. About three quarters of all Indians live in rural areas. Most are struggling subsistence farmers.

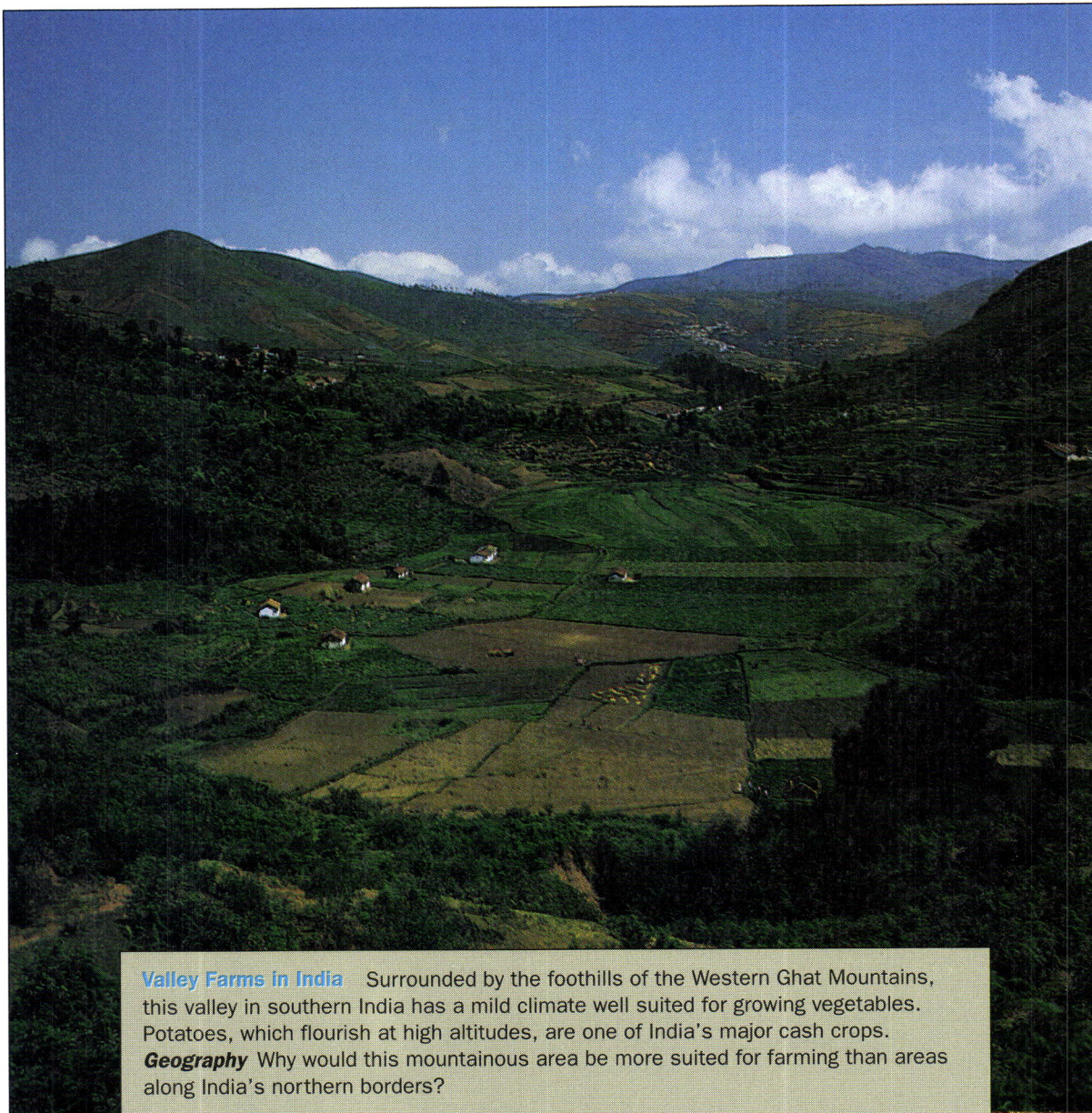
At independence, India could not feed its population. Poor soil and outdated farming methods kept farm output low. Droughts and floods led to famine.

Irrigation. Indian leaders worked hard to improve farm production. A major investment went into new irrigation systems to provide and store water. As you read in Chapter 7, monsoons do not always arrive on time. Many areas of the subcontinent get almost no rain for six to eight months.

Dams, canals, and wells help insure a year-round water supply. They provide water during the dry seasons and ease flooding caused by the monsoons. They also enable farmers to plant a second, dry-season crop.



Sorting Peppers This colorful harvest of red chili peppers covers a field in northwestern India. Some of this crop is consumed in India, where people use many spices in their cooking. However, a large portion of the crop is exported. These women earn about 12 cents a day sorting peppers. **Interdependence** Why does a largely agricultural nation like India export peppers and other cash crops?



Valley Farms in India Surrounded by the foothills of the Western Ghat Mountains, this valley in southern India has a mild climate well suited for growing vegetables. Potatoes, which flourish at high altitudes, are one of India's major cash crops.

Geography Why would this mountainous area be more suited for farming than areas along India's northern borders?

Still, much of India's arable land lacks sufficient water. Dams disturb the ecosystems of the rivers they seek to control. Thus, many plans for new dams have faced protests from environmentalists.

Land reform. Land distribution has been another focus of government activity. While a few landowners had large farms, millions of people had only tiny plots or owned no land. Landless peasants worked as **tenant farmers**, people who rent land from large landowners and pay the owner a portion of their crops.

The government set up a program of **land reform**, or redistributing land. State governments limited the size of farms. They sold surplus land from large landholders to tenant farmers. Other laws kept landowners from collecting more than one fourth of a tenant's crop as rent.

Unfortunately, land reform had limited success. In many areas, wealthy landowners with political power blocked efforts to enforce the laws. Also, few tenant farmers had the money to buy land.

SECTION 3 REVIEW

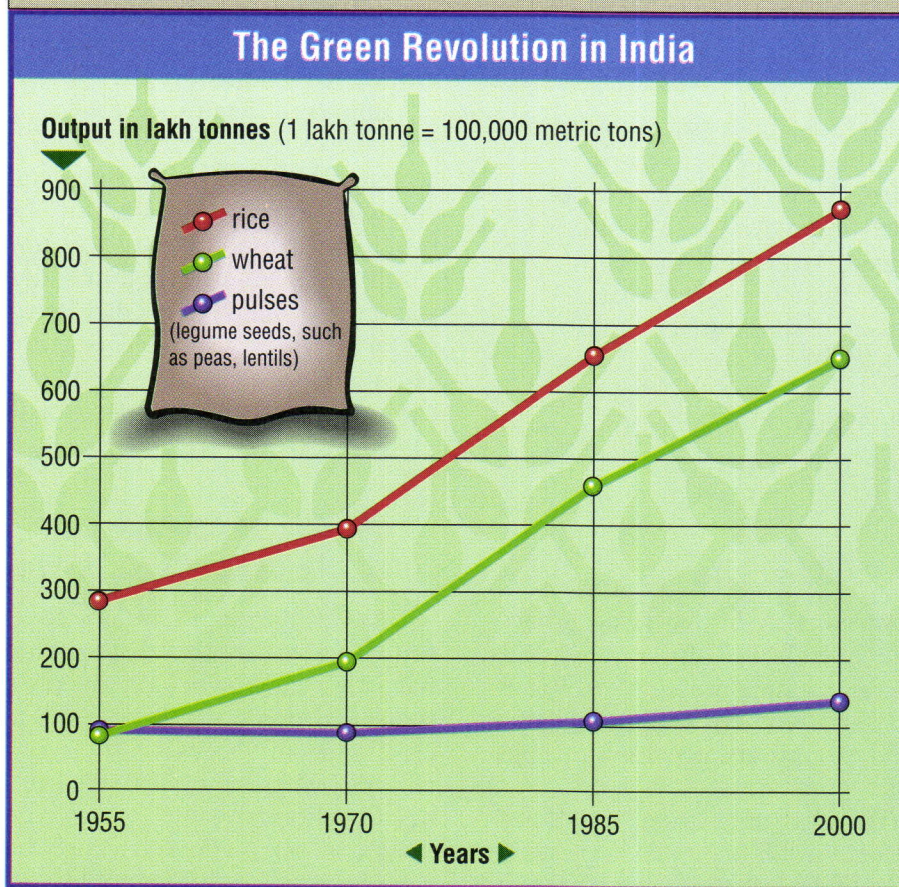
Green Revolution. New technology improved India's food output during the 1960s and 1970s. Scientists developed new types of wheat and rice seeds that produced much larger harvests. These "miracle crops" were part of a technological advance in agriculture known as the Green Revolution.

The Green Revolution has been partly successful. The new crops have helped many farmers. However, taking advantage of the crops requires fertilizers and irrigation systems, which many farmers cannot afford.

Today, India grows enough food to export some crops. Yet hunger is never far away. To prevent a major food crisis, the government must still invest heavily in boosting food output.

- 1. Identify:** Green Revolution.
- 2. Define:** (a) tenant farmer, (b) land reform.
- 3.** What was Nehru's chief economic goal?
- 4.** How did natural resources help India to industrialize?
- 5.** (a) Describe three programs aimed at helping farmers. (b) Why has each had limited success?
- 6. Analyzing Ideas** What do you think Nehru meant when he called factories and power plants "India's new temples"?
- 7. Writing Across Cultures** Write a letter to an Indian official explaining why you think the Indian government should encourage Americans to invest in India.

Graph Skills In India, as in other Third World nations, many farmers are using new varieties of seeds to increase the size of the harvests they produce.
▶ According to this line graph, how would you describe the main effects of the Green Revolution in India?



Sources: *Handbook of India, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, 1999–2000*,
United States Department of Agriculture, 2000

4

CHANGING PATTERNS OF LIFE

FIND OUT

How has technology changed village life?

To what extent has the caste system changed?

What social changes are taking place in India?

Vocabulary cottage industry, infant mortality

Since winning independence, villagers in India have witnessed remarkable changes. Prafulla Mohanti commented:

“My village is changing. A straight road was built in the mid-1960s to carry iron ore from the mines to the port of Paradip, forty miles away. . . . Nylon, stainless steel, plastic, fizzy drinks have reached the village. Electricity has come too . . . there is a cinema and video hall.”

As Mohanti's words show, technology is opening up new worlds to India's 500 million villagers. Even so, traditions remain strong.

Village Life

In some ways, many Indian villages have changed little. Only about half have electricity, and few have running water. Clothing is still traditional, and women wearing colorful saris walk along dirt paths carrying water jugs on their heads.

Villages have also kept their traditional economies. Farmers still plant crops by hand and guide ox-drawn plows through their

fields. People produce handmade goods such as clothing, ivory carvings, and brass jugs in **cottage industries**, or small businesses run from the home.

Technology and change. Still, life is changing rapidly. As you have read, the Green Revolution has improved harvests in some areas. A growing number of villages have electricity, clinics, schools, and telephones. Some villagers buy factory-made goods, and a few can afford tractors.

Roads, buses, movies, and television have put village people in touch with a wider world. Today, radar dishes are sprouting up across India. At night, groups of villagers gather around a single television set to watch the news. Recently, tens of millions of Indians thrilled to a dramatic reenactment of the *Ramayana*, the great religious epic of Hinduism.

As travel becomes easier, more people move from small villages to towns and cities. As elsewhere around the world, they hope to make a better living in urban areas. You will read more about India's rapidly growing cities in the next chapter.

Improved health care. The government has taken steps to improve health care. It encourages villagers to dig deep wells that provide cleaner water. In addition, health clinics bring better medical care to rural areas. The result has been a decline in **infant mortality**, the rate at which babies die. Because of traditional attitudes in the villages, however, boys often continue to receive better food and care than girls. In the cities, sons and daughters are generally treated equally.

Modernization and the Caste System

As you have read, India's government has tried to weaken the caste system. Yet laws have had little effect on deeply rooted attitudes and traditions. People still tend to associate with members of their own caste. In villages, different castes still live in separate neighborhoods.

Caste also affects occupations. Higher-caste Indians can afford to educate their chil-

dren. Through family connections, their children can get good jobs. As a result, higher-caste Indians dominate professions such as law, engineering, and medicine. (📖 See Connections With Literature, page 805, "The Artist.")

Some changes have occurred, however. For example, people from different castes mix more freely. Former untouchables might be allowed to draw water from the village well and worship at the village temple. Their children attend public schools, although they often have to sit in a separate part of the classroom.

Urbanization also weakens caste distinctions. City-dwellers do not always know the backgrounds of their neighbors. As a result, lower-caste Indians are freer to move up in society. In offices and factories, caste

rules are harder to maintain. Many educated, westernized Indians reject caste differences. Some even accept marriages between people of different castes.

Improving Education

When India became independent, only about 10 percent of the people could read and write. Fewer than half of all children attended school. Aware that an educated population is necessary to a modern industrial nation, India's leaders worked to improve education. In each state, governments built schools and hired teachers. Today, 80 percent of elementary-age children get some schooling, and 52 percent of Indians can read and write.

Schooling is free and required for all children up to 14 years of age. In practice, however, social attitudes affect who gets an education. More boys attend school than girls. As a result, more men than women are literate. At the same time, many poor families need their children to work in the fields. Literacy, therefore, is much lower among untouchables and lower castes.

Camel Cart Library Villages in many parts of India lack books and libraries. This traveling library offers magazines and books to villagers living in the desert area near Jaipur in northern India. People pay three rupees (about 12 cents) for the books they borrow each month.

Environment How has this library adapted its services to meet villagers' needs?



Higher-caste students are more likely to continue their education. Yet many students who earn college degrees cannot find jobs. These restless, jobless youths pose a problem for the government. High-caste youths have protested government efforts to open more jobs to the lower castes. In the Punjab, joblessness among young Sikhs also has fueled separatist violence.

Family Life

Marriage customs are changing in India. Most people today marry at a later age than in the past. Parents still arrange most marriages, however. Among upper-class city-dwellers, the young couple will often meet before the wedding. They may even reject their parents' choice. If they accept the arrangement, the couple may meet once or twice under the supervision of an adult.

Family structures are also changing. Most Indians still consider the joint, patriarchal family as the ideal. However, more and more city-dwellers live in nuclear families. Educated young couples set up their own homes rather than move in with the husband's family.

The role of women. Although women are still subordinate to men, they have gained some legal rights. They have the right to vote, to own property, and to get a divorce. Widows can also remarry. A few women have achieved high positions in government. Some hold seats in parliament. One, Indira Gandhi, served as India's prime minister.

In the villages, most women still accept traditional ideas that require them to be modest and silent. A few, though, have become village leaders. One of them is Saroj, a Brahman widow.

Up Close

The "Village Indira"

"Of course, I am the cleverest woman in the village," Saroj notes. While in her 60s, she occupied an unusual place in her village in northern India. She took an active role in political and economic affairs.

Saroj's early life followed traditional patterns. Married at age nine, she faced hard times. She had 14 children. "My first children did not live long," she recalled. "Later, seven more were born. And they are still alive. So again I became happy."

Although Saroj and her husband were Brahmins, they were poor. They worked hard and prospered. At night, she secretly helped her husband build a new brick home. As a Brahmin woman, she could do any work inside the house, but she was not supposed to work outside the home.

When her husband died, Saroj still had to educate her two youngest children. An older son left home to avoid having to pay for the weddings of his younger brother and sister.

Traditional views. As a Brahmin, Saroj accepted Hindu beliefs about her family's superiority. "If Brahmins act properly according to their fate . . . if they do good work, they are devata [gods]," she declared.

Saroj also held traditional views on women. "The woman is inferior," she said. She linked the custom of purdah to family honor:

“ Women who used to live inside the house, in purdah, nowadays . . . are wandering outside on the road and in the fields to collect or cut grass. . . . Does honor lie in these activities? ”

Modern actions. Despite her views, Saroj's actions reflected modern goals. She made sure that her four daughters completed school. When the government set up programs to educate rural women, Saroj was chosen to head the group in her village. She joined the Congress party and organized villagers to attend political rallies. She even met leaders such as Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi.

Neighbors called her the "village Indira." The name suggested that she had no modesty or honor. "People call me Indira," replied Saroj. "It doesn't affect me. No defect comes to me if they call me Indira." ■



A Woman Villager Speaks Out Saroj made use of modern communications in this interview with a reporter. Her role in politics and village affairs set her apart from most Indian women. However, her simple clothing and her hands held in a traditional Hindu greeting showed that in many ways Saroj was like them. **Culture** Why did a woman like Saroj win respect among her people?

SECTION 4 REVIEW

- 1. Define:** (a) cottage industry, (b) infant mortality.
- Describe three changes that are affecting village life in India.
- (a) Why has India emphasized education? (b) How has education created problems for the government?
- How is modernization affecting Indian families?
- 5. Applying Information** Why might an older, widowed Brahman woman like Saroj have more freedom than other village women?
- 6. Writing Across Cultures** Write a paragraph comparing efforts to improve opportunities for lower-caste Indians with efforts to provide equal opportunities for all people in the United States.

5

OTHER NATIONS OF SOUTH ASIA

FIND OUT

- What economic progress has Pakistan made?
- How does geography pose problems for Bangladesh?
- What challenges does Afghanistan face building a strong nation state?
- How has ethnic diversity affected Sri Lanka?

On independence day in 1947, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, founder of Pakistan, spoke:

“ If we want to make this great state of Pakistan happy and prosperous, we should wholly and solely concentrate on the well-being of the people, and especially of the masses and the poor. ”

Pakistan is one of eight nations in South Asia. In this section, you will read about the challenges that face these nations.

Pakistan Since Independence

Like other developing nations, Pakistan has faced many challenges in its efforts to modernize. At independence, British India was divided into India and Pakistan. Pakistan was made up of two areas, West Pakistan and East Pakistan. They were separated by 1,000 miles (1,610 km) of Indian territory. (See the map on page 204.)

Conflict and division. West Pakistan and East Pakistan were both largely Muslim. Otherwise, they had little in common. Their geography, languages, and traditions differed. West Pakistan bordered the Middle East and was subject to frequent droughts. East Pakistan bordered Southeast Asia and its low-lying delta plain suffered from frequent floods.

West Pakistan dominated the government. It promoted industry and provided aid to people in the west. Pakistanis in the east resented this unequal treatment. In 1970, a cyclone caused enormous damage to East Pakistan. When the government was slow to send aid, the people of East Pakistan were furious. In 1971, with the help of Indian military forces, East Pakistan broke away to become the independent nation of Bangladesh.

Economic development. Despite the civil war, Pakistan continued its efforts to modernize. Because most Pakistanis live in rural areas, the government invested heavily in developing agriculture. It focused on irrigation and land reform programs. Thousands of irrigation projects dot the plain of the Indus River. Aided by the Green Revolution, these efforts greatly increased Pakistan's farm output.

The government tried to reduce its dependence on foreign aid by developing local industries. It built chemical, auto, and steel factories. Pakistan's several steel mills allow it to make almost all the steel it needs. As farmers produced more cotton, Pakistan also developed a strong textile industry.

Forces for change. Although Pakistan has made some progress, it still faces many economic and political challenges. Like other de-

veloping nations, its population and cities are growing rapidly. Illiteracy is high, and millions live in poverty. Military rivalry with India has also put a burden on Pakistan's development efforts.

Pakistan has experienced long periods of military rule. Even when elections are held, the government has sometimes kept candidates from running for office.

Like other Muslim countries, Pakistan has felt the effects of the Islamic revival. Leaders of this movement believe that strict obedience to the Koran will improve people's lives. In 1991, Pakistan made the Koran the supreme law of the land. Muslims disagree, however, about how to implement Koranic law. Thus, it has not been widely used in Pakistan. (You will read more about the Islamic revival in Chapter 27.)

Bangladesh

As you read in Chapter 7, Bangladesh is densely populated. More than 132 million people live in an area about the size of Wisconsin. The land is fertile and has plenty of water, but it also suffers from terrible flooding during the monsoon season.

Natural disasters and a huge population have limited progress in Bangladesh. The



Protesting Western Influence

Militant Islamists are a growing force in Pakistan. Here, young members of the Islamic party in the city of Karachi rally against Western influence. These Islamic militants see westernization as a dangerous force undermining Islamic society. **Culture** What aspects of westernization do you think most upset the Islamic militants?

people farm every bit of land. They grow food crops such as rice and wheat, as well as cash crops such as jute and tea. The Green Revolution helped increase output. Despite larger harvests, however, the population keeps growing at a faster rate than the food supply. As a result, millions of people go hungry each day.

Bangladesh faces other obstacles in its struggle to improve conditions. Global prices for its cash crops are low. As a result, Bangladesh earns little money for development. To add to its problems, Bangladesh has few roads or bridges. Most travel is by boat along its many waterways. Without massive aid, Bangladesh cannot improve its communications and transportation systems.

Bangladesh has diversified its economy by setting up small industries. It has also worked with its neighbor, India, to build flood control systems to reduce the yearly monsoon flooding. Still, it needs massive aid each year.

Afghanistan

Afghanistan is a mountainous, landlocked nation. It sits at a crossroads linking Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East. The towering Hindu Kush form the central backbone of the country. At the foot of the mountains are several valleys where most Afghans live.

Over the centuries, many groups settled there, including people from the Pashtun, Tajik, Hazara, and Uzbek tribal groups. To protect themselves against invaders, local groups isolated themselves in pockets of land. Each group developed its own language and customs. As a result, the Afghans speak more than 70 languages.

During the 1800s, Afghans resisted British and Russian efforts to take over their land. More recently, this Islamic country has suffered years of civil war. From 1979 to 1989, Soviet troops supported a harsh communist government there.

In the late 1990s, the Taliban, a fundamentalist Muslim group, gained power. The Taliban restored order, but imposed an ex-

treme form of Islam on the country. They also supported international terrorist groups. The result, which you will read about in the next chapter, was a major international crisis and bitter fighting that involved the United States.

Afghanistan is one of the world's poorest countries. Many years of wars have left the country in ruins. The main source of income is agriculture. Before the fighting began, Afghanistan produced enough food to provide for its people. However, war and drought have destroyed the country's markets, bridges, canals, and banking system.

Sri Lanka

Like India and Pakistan, the island nation of Ceylon won independence from Britain after World War II. In 1972, Ceylon changed its name to Sri Lanka.

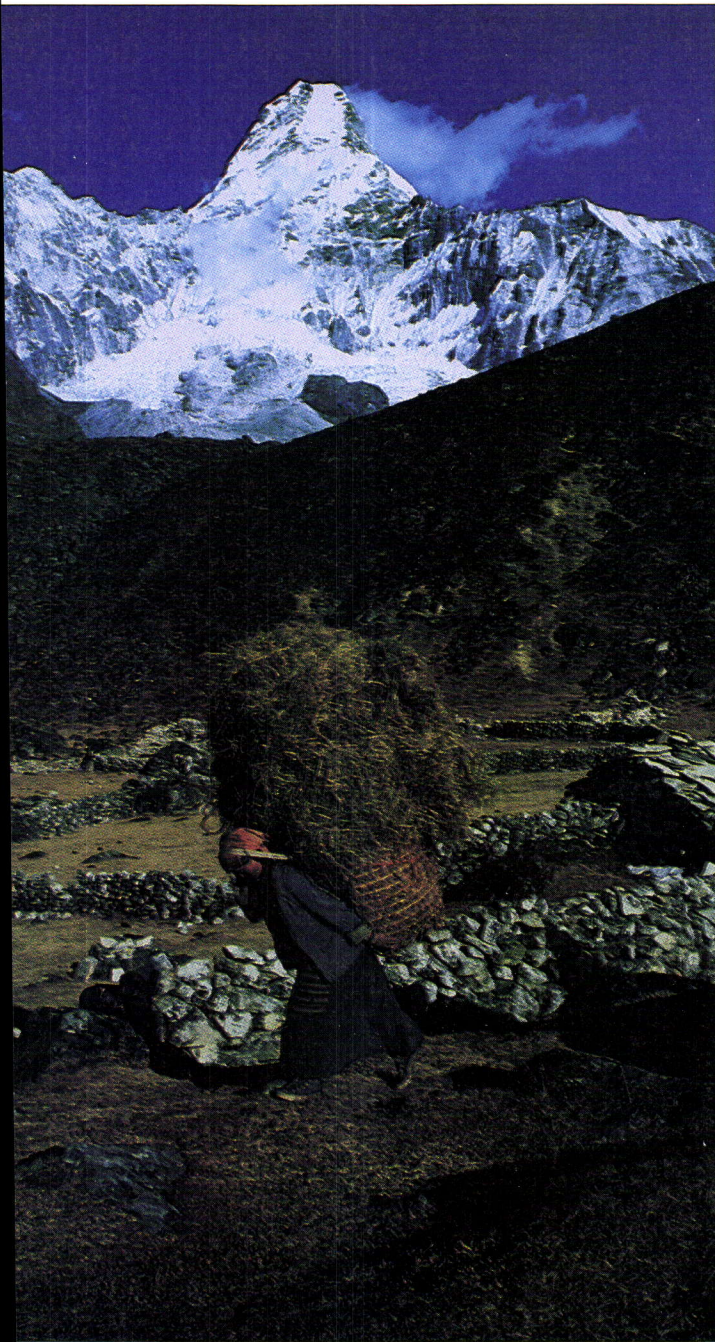
Since independence, Sri Lanka has developed its economy based on export crops such as tea, rubber, and coconuts. It has also built local industries. A literacy rate of more than 75 percent has offered hope for a bright future.

Ethnic conflict. Ethnic and religious divisions have brought problems, however. About 70 percent of Sri Lankans speak Sinhalese and practice Buddhism. Their ancestors migrated to the island long ago from northern India. Another 18 percent speak Tamil and practice Hinduism. Their ancestors also migrated from India long ago. For years, many Tamils charged that they faced discrimination in education, jobs, and land ownership.

In the 1980s, Sinhalese-Tamil tensions burst into violence. Tamil rebels launched a guerrilla war to create an independent, Tamil country. The war disrupted the entire country.

Indian involvement. At first, India supported the Tamil separatists. Later, Indian prime minister Rajiv Gandhi sent Indian troops to help Sri Lanka's government fight the Tamils. Although Indian troops were withdrawn, Tamil extremists felt betrayed. In 1991, they assassinated Gandhi.

During the 1990s, all efforts to bring peace failed. More than 62,000 Sri Lankans



In the Mountains of Nepal This Nepalese woman, wearing American-style sneakers, carries a heavy load as she trudges along a mountain pass. Her people, the Sherpas, are skilled mountaineers. Many of them make a living by guiding climbers through the challenging terrain of their country. **Diversity** How does the clothing of this Sherpa show a blending of two cultures?

died in the fighting. Then, in 2002, the Tamil rebels and the government agreed to a cease-fire. Soon after, the two sides began peace talks.

Small Nations of the Subcontinent

Two other nations occupy the northeastern corner of the subcontinent. Bhutan and Nepal are landlocked countries in the Himalayas. Bhutan is a monarchy and most of its people are Buddhist. Nepal is also a monarchy, but its people are largely Hindu. The two kingdoms are among the poorest and least developed nations in the world. They are also among the most isolated. Indeed, until the 1960s, Bhutan did not even have paved roads.

In both nations, most people are farmers. The mountainous geography, however, limits where people can farm. In Nepal, the growing population is causing deforestation. People clear land for farming and burn wood for fuel. Without tree roots to hold soil in place, erosion occurs. Farmers must then move on to clear new land.

SECTION 5 REVIEW

- 1. Locate:** (a) Bangladesh, (b) Afghanistan, (c) Sri Lanka, (d) Bhutan, (e) Nepal.
- 2.** How did Pakistan develop its economy after independence?
- 3.** What effect has geography had on life in Bangladesh?
- 4.** Why has Afghanistan faced problems building national unity?
- 5.** How did ethnic tensions lead to violence in Sri Lanka?
- 6. Understanding Causes and Effects** How did the partition of British India create problems that led to unrest in Pakistan?
- 7. Writing Across Cultures** Imagine that you are a Peace Corps volunteer in one of the nations described in this section. List three ways in which you might help people in your new home.