

World War II and the Cold War

Lesson 5 The End of Empire

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How do new ideas change the way people live?

GUIDING QUESTIONS

1. *How did Indians convince the British to give their country its freedom?*
2. *How did nations in Southeast Asia become independent?*
3. *How did Africans seek better treatment and independence from European rulers?*

Terms to Know

civil disobedience when people refuse to obey unjust laws by protesting peacefully

Pan-Africanism a movement for the political union of all the African nations

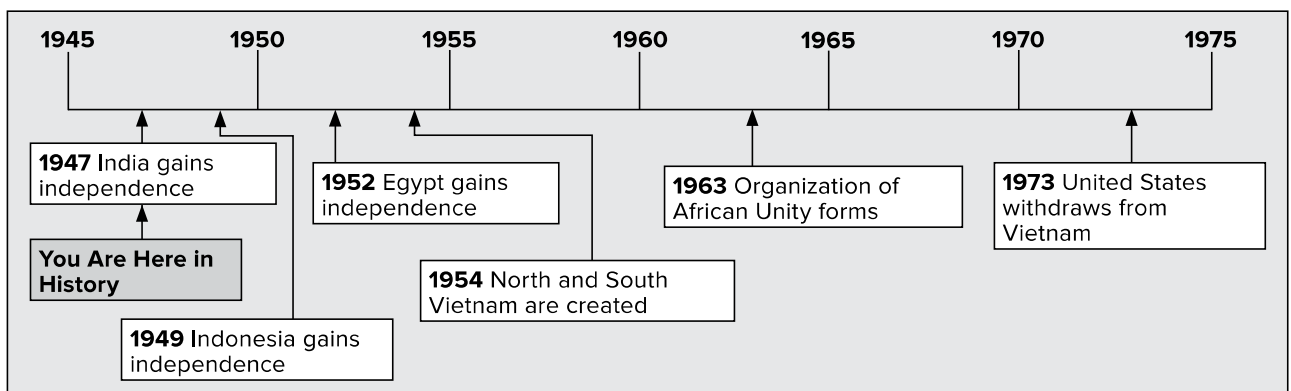
apartheid racial segregation system once enforced in South Africa

Where in the world?



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When did it happen?



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India Wins Independence

Indians formed the Indian National Congress in 1885 to work for independence from Britain. After World War I, Mohandas Gandhi became India's most popular leader. Gandhi protested British rule with nonviolent civil disobedience. Nonviolent **civil disobedience** means that people refuse to obey unjust laws by protesting peacefully.

Britain knew it could not keep control in India. In 1947 British India was split into two countries. One was India, which was mainly Hindu. The other was Pakistan, which was mainly Muslim. Pakistan was made up of two areas separated by India's territory. The two countries have fought several wars over the border region of Kashmir. In 1971 the eastern area of Pakistan became a new country, Bangladesh.

After independence, Jawaharlal Nehru became India's first prime minister. Under his leadership the Indian government focused on the economy. The Green Revolution was a set of changes that increased food production. These changes helped India feed its people.

Jawaharlal Nehru

- India's first prime minister
- Educated in Britain as a lawyer
- Focused on building factories and strengthening industry
- Helped start the Green Revolution to increase food production
- His daughter, Indira Gandhi, became prime minister in 1966.

Eventually India's government allowed more free enterprise. Today India has one of the fastest-growing economies in the world. It is known for its high-tech products and software.

New Nations in Southeast Asia

After World War II, many Southeast Asian nations gained independence from colonial rule. Struggles between communist and noncommunist groups created confusion and conflict.



Defining

1. What is *civil disobedience*?



Analyzing

2. What was the importance of the Green Revolution?



Reading Check

3. Why have India and Pakistan fought wars since independence?

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 **Marking the Text**

4. Underline the British colonies in Southeast Asia that gained independence.

 **Identifying**

5. Which countries have fought for control of what is now Vietnam?

 **Reading Check**

6. Why did the United States become involved in the Vietnam conflict?

In 1949 the East Indies gained independence from the Dutch. The country was led by Achmed Sukarno. It changed its name to Indonesia. Sukarno did much to unite the many islands of Indonesia, but he ruled as a dictator. In 1965 violence between communist rebels and the military led to General Suharto taking power. He was an anti-communist dictator. More than 20 years later, Suharto fell from power. By 2004, Indonesia was a democracy.

Burma, now called Myanmar, became independent from Britain in 1948. In the 1960s, Myanmar became a socialist country under military rule. Britain also granted independence to its colonies on the Malay Peninsula. These became known as Malaysia in 1963.

French Indochina was the site of major conflict after World War II. Japan had seized Indochina during World War II. After the war, France wanted the colony back. People in Indochina, however, wanted independence.

In Vietnam, the communist leader Ho Chi Minh formed a group called the Vietminh to drive out the Japanese. French troops then fought the Vietminh for control of Vietnam but lost. In 1954 an agreement called the Geneva Accords divided the country into North and South Vietnam.

North and South Vietnam were supposed to hold elections for a unified government. The elections never took place. North Vietnam then tried to unite the country by force. Ho Chi Minh formed an army called the Vietcong.

The United States in Vietnam

1954—President Dwight D. Eisenhower sends military advisers and aid to South Vietnam.

1964—Congress gives President Lyndon Johnson the power to fight a war in Vietnam.

1965—The United States begins bombing North Vietnam.

1965—Johnson sends the first American combat troops.

1973—President Richard Nixon withdraws American forces from Vietnam.

The United States feared the spread of communism in Southeast Asia. President Eisenhower sent military advisers to help South Vietnam. Then President Johnson sent American troops to Vietnam in the mid-1960s. The war dragged on and

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became unpopular in the United States. In 1973 President Nixon withdrew American troops. At least 2 million people died in the conflict.

Independence in Africa

After World War II, European countries held on tightly to their African colonies. Many Africans wanted independence. In North Africa, Egypt became fully independent from Britain in 1952. After a bloody civil war, Algeria finally won its independence from France in 1962.

In the late 1950s and 1960s, many colonies south of the Sahara also gained their independence. The new nation of Ghana was formed from the British colony called the Gold Coast. In Rhodesia, the black majority won their struggle and renamed the country Zimbabwe.

Ghana’s Kwame Nkrumah was a leader in the movement for **Pan-Africanism**—the unity of all black Africans. Thirty-two African nations formed the Organization of African Unity (OAU). Today, the African Union (AU) is a closely united organization that has replaced the OAU.

South Africa had been independent since the early 1900s. Most people were black, but a small white European population ran the government. In 1912 black South Africans created the African National Congress (ANC) to gain political power. White South Africans, however, set up the system of **apartheid**. This system separated ethnic groups and limited the rights of blacks. Blacks could not vote. Their jobs and food were limited.

Black South Africans protested, but the government dealt harshly with them. Police jailed Nelson Mandela, the leader of the ANC. The UN condemned apartheid. Many countries cut off trade with South Africa. It took more than 30 years for the apartheid system to end.

Check for Understanding

List one event that occurred in each of the following places as people there moved toward independence after World War II.

1. India _____
2. Southeast Asia _____
3. Ghana _____
4. South Africa _____

? Analyzing

7. What African movement did Nkrumah and others work for?

✓ Reading Check

8. Why might people have believed that Pan-Africanism would help African people?



9. Place a two-tab Foldable along the dotted line to cover the Check for Understanding. Label the tabs *civil disobedience* and *freedom*.

Recall what you have learned about each in the chapter. Write one or two sentences using the terms. Use both sides of the tabs.

Glue Foldable here