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CASE STUDY 3: WHY DID THE BRITISH BECOME EMPIRE BUILDERS IN INDIA?

Britain had a long history of contact with India, mainly through trading goods. In the 1600s France and Holland established strong trading links with India and China. In the later 1600s British traders and British governments were determined to build strong links there as well.

Why did they do this? Look at the background and the sources in this case study to see what you can discover about their motives.

[Background](#) | [Worksheet](#)

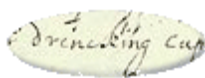
Use the [Worksheet](#) to record what you find out.

The [Background](#) will give you an introduction to the rise of the British empire in India.

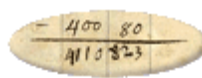
Sources



[1. Map of India, 1857](#)



[2. Accounts of the East India Company, 1678](#)



[3. Document showing ships and trade, 1692](#)



[4. Letter on the pepper trade, 1710](#)



[5. Letter on the Seven Years War, 1759](#)



[6. Painting of treaty between Britain and Bengal](#)



[7. Painting from East India Company office, 1778](#)



[8. Letter about the island of Diego Garcia, 1785](#)



[9. Papers from Governor Hastings' trial, 1785](#)

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