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Colonial Justice in British India

Colonial Justice in British India describes and examines the lesser-known history of white violence in colonial India. By foregrounding crimes committed by a mostly forgotten cast of European characters – planters, paupers, soldiers, and sailors – Elizabeth Kolsky argues that violence was not an exceptional but an ordinary part of British rule in the subcontinent. Despite the pledge of equality, colonial legislation, and the practices of white judges, juries and police placed most Europeans above the law, literally allowing them to get away with murder. The failure to control these unruly whites revealed how the weight of race and the imperatives of command imbalanced the scales of colonial justice. In a powerful account of this period, Kolsky reveals a new perspective on the British empire in India, highlighting the disquieting violence that invariably accompanied imperial forms of power.

Elizabeth Kolsky is an assistant professor of History at Villanova University. She is co-editor of *Fringes of Empire: People, Power and Places on the Margins of Colonial India* (2009), author of many articles, and contributor to numerous books.

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This book is joyfully dedicated to the love of my life, my husband, my partner, my friend, Joseph Prunty, to my son Isaiah, and to my daughter Vivienne.

Glossary

<i>adalat</i>	court of law
<i>chowkidar</i>	watchman
<i>diwani</i>	right to collect revenues and administer justice on behalf of the Mughal Emperor
<i>diwani adalat</i>	civil court
<i>mofussil</i>	interior of the country
Nizamut Adalat	superior criminal court of Bengal
<i>palanquin</i>	hand-carried covered carriage on poles
<i>punkhawallah</i>	fan-puller
<i>rattan</i>	whip
<i>ryot</i>	peasant
Sadr Diwani Adalat	superior civil court of Bengal
<i>sepoy</i>	soldier
<i>syce</i>	horse groom
<i>thana</i>	police post
<i>zamindar</i>	landholder
<i>zulm</i>	oppression

British control over India A. The British take of power The European powers gained little in India as long as strong rulers held the Mogul Empire by the queen. In 1877, Victoria became empress of India. Indian troops under British officers defeated Afghanistan in the Second Afghan War (1878 ... British Colonial Strategy in the Subcontinent Imperial powers followed two basic strategies when colonizing. They either allowed a large number of Europeans to settle overseas (known as Settler Colonies) or sent a much smaller number " usually less than 1 percent of the population " to serve as administrators and tax collectors (known as Peasant Colonies). See 1 question about Colonial Justice in British India Lists with This Book. This book is not yet featured on Listopia. The story that comes out of it is hardly a story of India - but that of colonialism all over the world and the dilemma that was faced by administrators of the empire - more specifically the likes of Bentick, Macaulay and Curzon who in their own minds, took on the responsibility to improve the lives of everyone within British empire.

Arrival of British in India. British fight with the French. Indian Mutiny of 1857. British India Administration. British India in 20th Century. Positive influence by British rule in India. Arrival of British in India. The British first came to India in the 17th century purely for the purpose of trade and commerce. The mannerism in which the English dealt with this revolt further intensified the agitation. In 1858, the control of the colonial India was taken away from the East India Company by the British Crown. The transfer of power marked the true beginning of the British rule in India. The government of India Act was passed in 1858 to strengthen the control of the Crown. This Act liquidated the East India Company and transferred all the powers in favour of the Crown. Elizabeth Kolsky. Colonial Justice in British India describes and examines the lesser-known history of white violence in colonial India. By foregrounding crimes committed by a mostly forgotten cast of European characters - planters, paupers, soldiers and sailors - Elizabeth Kolsky argues that violence was not an exceptional but an ordinary part of British rule in the subcontinent. Despite the pledge of equality, colonial legislation and the practices of white judges, juries and police placed most Europeans above the law, literally allowing them to get away with murder. The failure to control t