



Scary
LITTLE GIRLS

FIRE

A PRINCESS' RESPONSE
TO BURNING ISSUES

**SOPHIA DULEEP SINGH
RESOURCE PACK**

SPACE TO STIR AND BE STIRRED

TOWER OF LONDON · HAMPTON COURT PALACE · BANQUETING HOUSE
KENSINGTON PALACE · KEW PALACE · HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE AND GARDENS



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QUIZ TIME

WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

1. Who is on the throne in 1854 when Maharaja Duleep Singh comes to England?

2. Queen Victoria is Queen of the United Kingdom of Britain and Ireland for 63 years and 7 months. What other title was she given on the 1st May 1876?

- a) Empress of India
- b) Queen of Asia
- c) Duchess of Canada

3. When did the British Empire begin?

- a) 1400
- b) 1500
- c) 1600

Do you know who was on the throne then?

4. Who was the first ruler of the Punjab Empire in 1799?

- a) Ranjit Singh
- b) Kharak Sing
- c) Jind Kaur

5. What were the suffragettes campaigning for?

6. When did women in England, Wales and Scotland received the vote on the same terms as men, meaning women over the age of 21 could vote?

- a) 1910
- b) 1918
- c) 1928

7. Can you suggest 3 different ways you can protest?

8. How would Sophia have travelled to India in 1907?

9. How many Indian soldiers supported Allied Powers in World War I?

- a) 500,000 soldiers
- b) 800,000 soldiers
- c) 1,300,000 soldiers

10. Sophia was given a substantial allowance from the East India Company and her godmother, Queen Victoria, gave her a home at Hampton Court Palace. How would you spend your time, and money, if you were Sophia?

SYNOPSIS OF THE PLAY

FIRE – A PRINCESS' GUIDE TO BURNING ISSUES

INTRODUCTION

You are about to go on a journey to find out all about Princess Sophia Duleep Singh, daughter of the last Maharaja of the Punjab.

Duleep Singh is a young Maharaja who was placed in power of the Punjab Empire at the age of 5 with his mother, Jindan, at his side who rules on his behalf. When he is just 11 years old he is forced to hand over his kingdom and his wealth to the British East India Company and his mother is taken and imprisoned. She escapes prison disguised as a beggar and travels 800 miles to seek sanctuary in Nepal.

At the age of 15 in 1854, Duleep Singh comes to live in England where he is befriended by Queen Victoria and given an allowance, funded by the East India Company, from the wealth of the Punjab Empire, to support himself and later his family.

His youngest daughter, Princess Sophia Duleep Singh is born on the 8th August 1876.

You'll be guided on a journey through Sophia's life by our narrators - her Indian Grand-mother Jindan and her English housekeeper Bosie. Along the way you will meet a host of other characters who help shape Sophia's journey from a quiet young woman who is scared to speak out, to an active campaigner for equal rights. Sophia travelled twice to India with her sister Princess Bamba, in 1907 and 1924. During the second journey to Kashmir, Lahore, Amritsar and Muree she heard radical speakers talk about change and it lit a fire in her heart.

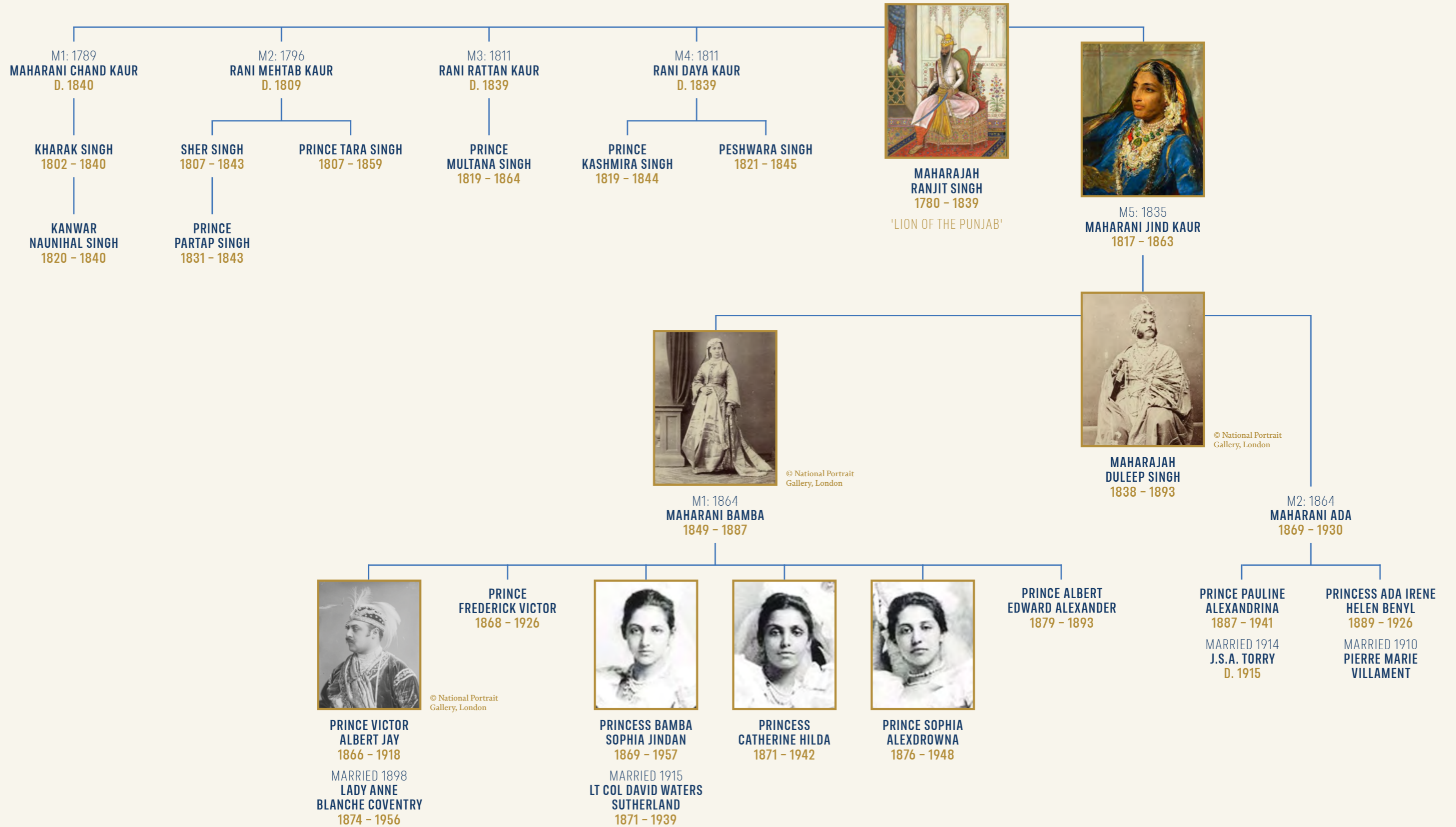
When she returned to England she found Lascar sailors from India shivering on the docks and campaigned to raise money to help these Indian sailors stranded in London, far from home.

She joins the women's suffrage movement to campaign for the right to vote. She stands side by side with Emmeline Pankhurst on November 18th 1910 as 300 women march to Parliament to ask the Prime Minister for the right to vote. She is on the frontline as violence unfolds and the women are held back by police force and brutality. Later she will continue to fight for representation by withholding her taxes, risking prison, and selling the suffragette newspaper.

During World War I Princess Sophia helps support the 1000s of Indian soldiers who are fighting for the Allied Powers, first by raising money for the Red Cross and then as a nurse for Indian Soldiers. In World War II she moves to Buckinghamshire and helps evacuee children.

Sophia uses her position in life to help others. Join us as we step back in time to meet Princess Sophia Duleep Singh and find out about her from the people who gave her her spark.

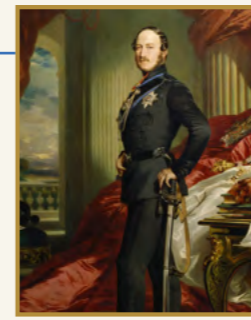
SOPHIA DULEEP SINGH'S FAMILY TREE



QUEEN VICTORIA'S FAMILY TREE

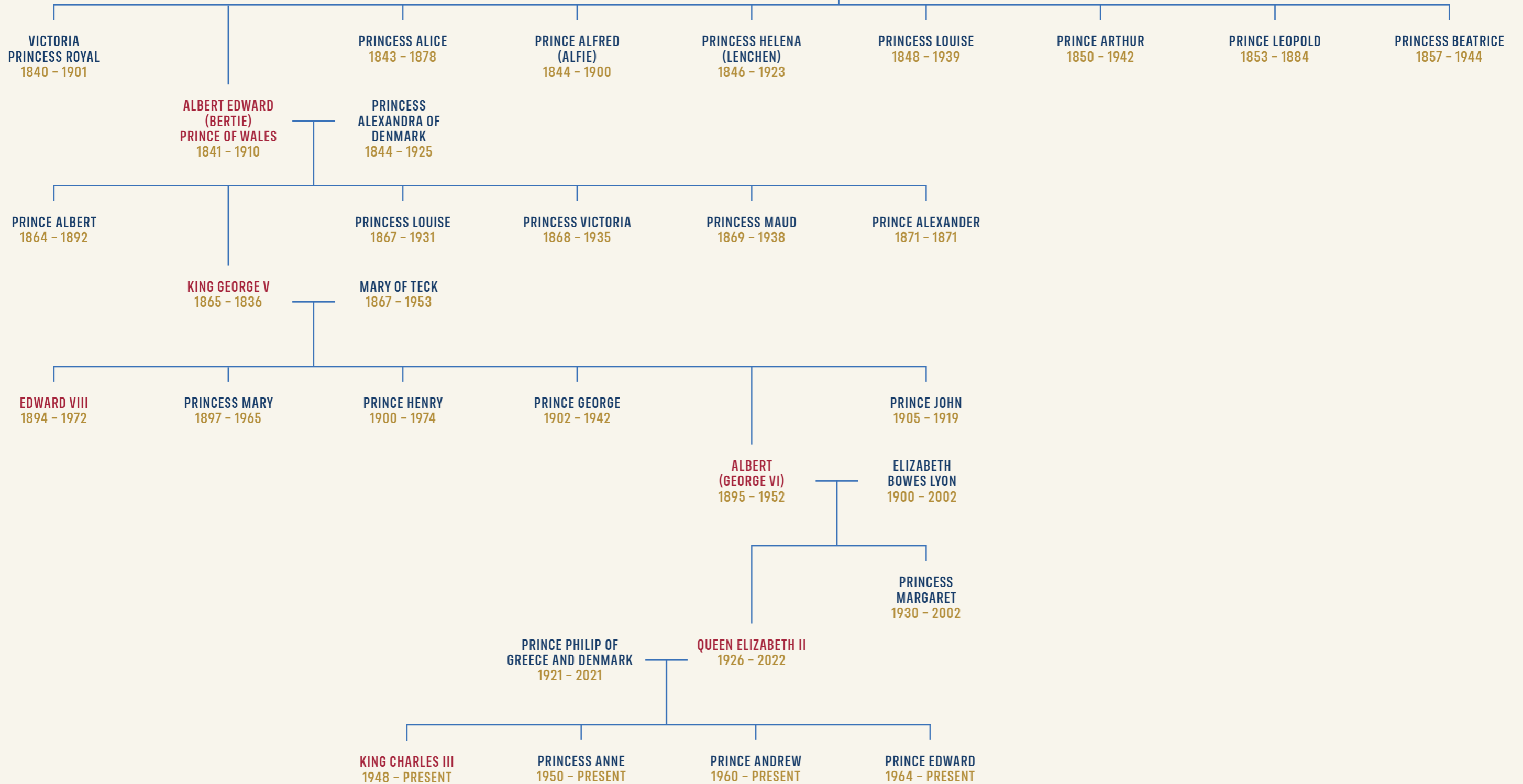


QUEEN VICTORIA
1818 - 1901



PRINCE ALBERT
1819 - 1861

© National Portrait Gallery, London



1600

Elizabeth I grants a charter to the East India Company, which begins establishing trading posts in India.

1607

James I lays plans to colonise America. The first permanent English settlement in America is founded in Jamestown Colony, Virginia.

1615

Defeat of the Portuguese at Bombay in a dispute with the English over trading rights.

1624

English settlement established at St. Kitts.

1627

English settlement established in Barbados.

1628

English settlement established on Nevis.

1633

English trading post established in Bengal.

1639

The English settle at Madras.

1655

An expedition sent by Oliver Cromwell gains control of Jamaica from Spain. English settlers bring in vast numbers of enslaved Africans to work the sugar estates on the island.

1661

Charles II received a Dowry present from the Portuguese after his marriage to Catherine de Braganza, in the form of Tangier and Bombay.

1666

The Bahamas are colonised.

1668

The Royal Charter of 27 March leads to the transfer of Bombay from Charles II to the English East India Company for an annual rent of £10

1713

The Treaty of Utrecht concludes the War of the Spanish Succession. This treaty allows Britain to make territorial gains in the Americas and Mediterranean, including Newfoundland, St Kitts, Hudson's Bay as well as Gibraltar and Minorca. The treaty also included Britain's right to import slaves into Spanish colonies.

1746

Madras captured by the French.

1756

Minorca lost to the Spanish.

1757

British colonial administrator Robert Clive overthrows the nawab (ruler) of Bengal in the Battle of Plassey on June 23. This victory makes Clive the virtual master of Bengal.

1763

The Treaty of Paris officially ends the Seven Years' War. By this treaty France renounces to Great Britain all of mainland North America east of the Mississippi River; the West Indian islands of Grenada, Saint Vincent, Dominica, and Tobago; and all French conquests made since 1749 in India or in the East Indies. Spain cedes Florida to the British.

1769

The Great Famine of Bengal killed over 10 million people. In the same year Captain James Cook arrived in Tahiti before making his way to New Zealand.

1770

Captain James Cook claimed New South Wales (Australia) for Britain.

1787

The British politician William Wilberforce, a member of the Clapham Sect, began his campaign to end slavery in British colonies. This led to a free colony being established in Sierra Leone.

1801

Irish Act of Union unites Britain and Ireland.

1806

Cape of Good Hope occupied by the British.

1807-33

Prohibition of shipment of slaves in British ships or to British colonies.

1813

English East India Company lost its trading monopoly with India.

1816

Britain returned Dutch and French colonies.

1819

Singapore founded by Sir Stamford Raffles.

1821

Singapore Sierra Leone, Gambia and the Gold Coast form British West Africa.

1833

The Abolition of Slavery throughout the British Empire.

1853

Construction of railways in India.

1931

Deep resentment toward British policies leads to a widespread but unsuccessful rebellion by the sepoys (native Indian soldiers employed by the East India Company) against British rule in India. Although the rebellion is stopped, it reveals the limits of the company's power. After the Indian Mutiny the British government takes direct rule of India, beginning the period of the British raj. As a result, the company is dissolved in 1858, and India becomes an official British colony.

1853

Construction of railways in India.

1876

Queen Victoria took the title Empress of India.

1878

Occupation of Cyprus.

1884-85

European nations meet in Berlin to divide Africa. Britain wins the most territory, which stretches from South Africa to Egypt.

1885

Local Indian leaders form the Indian National Congress to promote independence from Great Britain.

1919

Mahatma Gandhi becomes a leader of the Indian National Congress. He will eventually lead India to independence.

1931

The term British Commonwealth of Nations is applied to largely self-governing dependencies that acknowledge an increasingly symbolic British authority. (The Commonwealth will ultimately evolve into a free, voluntary association of sovereign states that maintain ties of friendship and cooperation and that continue to acknowledge the British monarch as symbolic head of their association.)

1947

The Mountbatten Plan partitions the subcontinent into Hindu-controlled India and Muslim-controlled Pakistan on June 3. India gains independence on August 15, marking the end of British rule and the establishment of a free and independent Indian nation.

1957

The Gold Coast becomes the first sub-Saharan African colony to reach independence (as Ghana). The movement of Britain's remaining colonies in Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean toward self-government gains speed in later years.

1997

The last significant British colony, Hong Kong, is returned to Chinese sovereignty. By this time virtually nothing remains of the British Empire.

1497

John Cabot is sent by King Henry VII on an expedition to discover a route to Asia via the Atlantic. Cabot managed to reach the coast of Newfoundland and believed he had made it as far as Asia.

C. 1500

Sikhism is founded from the spiritual teachings of Guru Nanak, the faith's first Guru.

1556-1605

Reign of Akbar the Great, the third Mughal Emperor. He supported religious freedom and had a favourable impression of Sikhism. He donated land to the langar (communal kitchen) and the Mughals did not have any conflict with Sikh gurus until his death in 1605.

1606

Guru Arjan, the fifth Sikh Guru, dies in Mughal custody in Lahore Fort. Mughal emperor Jahangir demanded a fine of 200,000 rupees and demanded that Guru Arjan erase some of the hymns in the text that he found offensive. Guru Arjan refused to remove the lines and pay the fine, which led to his execution.

1606

Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Sikh Guru was executed on the orders of Aurangzeb, the sixth Mughal emperor, in Delhi, India.

1688

The Battle of Bhangani, the first of 13 battles Guru Gobind Singh against the Mughal Empire and the kings of Siwalik Hills.

1699

Guru Gobind Singh founded the Sikh warrior community called the Khalsa. The Khalsa united the Sikh community against various Mughalbacked claimants to the guruship.

1707

The death of Muhi al-Din Muhammad, known as Aurangzeb, the sixth emperor of the Mughal Empire marking the start of the downfall of the Mughal Empire.

1708

Guru Gobind Singh the tenth Guru, son of GuruTegh Bahadur dies naming the Sikh scripture Guru Granth Sahib as his successor, bringing to a close the line of human gurus and establishing the scripture as the 11th and last eternally living guru.

1735-80

The Sikh army known as the Dal Khalsa led expeditions against the Mughals and the Afghans in the west.

1739

Nadir Shah, the Afsharid Shah of Persia, invades Delhi and loots the treasury of the Mughal Empire taking the Koh-i-Noor diamond.

1751

Nadir Shah's grandson gives the Koh-i-Noor to Ahmad Shah Durrani, founder of the Afghan Empire, in return for his support.

1799

Ranjit Singh captures Lahore from its Afghan ruler, Zaman Shah Durrani and starts to establish an empire based in the Punjab.

1801

The formal start of the Sikh Empire began with the unification of the Misls. The main geographical footprint of the empire was from the Punjab region to Khyber Pass in the west, to Kashmir in the north, Sindh in the south, and Tibet in the east. Ranjit Singh proclaimed himself as the "Maharaja of Punjab"

1802

Ranjit Singh, took Amritsar from the Bhangi Sikh misl,

1806

Ranjit Singh signed a treaty with the British officials of the East India Company, in which he agreed that his Sikh forces would not attempt to expand south of the Sutlej river, and the Company agreed that it would not attempt to militarily cross the Sutlej river into the Sikh territory.

1807

Ranjit Singh's forces attacked the Muslim ruled Kasur and, after a month of fierce fighting in the Battle of Kasur defeated the Afghan chief Qutb-ud-Din, which expanded his empire northwest towards Afghanistan.

1808

Ahmad Shah Durrani, grandson Shuja Shah Durrani, wears a bracelet containing the Koh-i-Noor during Mountstuart Elphinstone's visit to Peshawar.

1809

Ahmad Shah Durrani formed an alliance with the United Kingdom to help defend against a possible invasion of Afghanistan by Russia.

1813

Shuja Shah Durrani is forced by Ranjit Singh, to hand over the Koh-i-Noor in return for hospitality in Lahore where he fled after he was overthrown.

1818

Ranjit Singh took Multan leading to the end of Afghan influence in the Punjab and taking the whole Bari Doab under his rule.

1819

Ranjit Singh defeated the Afghan Sunni Muslim rulers and annexed Srinagar and Kashmir, stretching his rule into the north and the Jhelum valley, beyond the foothills of the Himalayas.

1837

The Battle of Jamrud, became the last confrontation between the Sikhs and the Afghans, which displayed the extent of the western boundaries of the Sikh Empire.

1838

The Dal Khalsa march alongside the sepoy troops of the East India Company and the British troops in India as Ranjit Singh agreed to a treaty with the British viceroy Lord Auckland to restore Shah Shuja to the Afghan throne in Kabul. In pursuance of this agreement, the British army of the Indus entered Afghanistan from the south, while Ranjit Singh's troops went through the Khyber Pass and took part in the victory parade in Kabul.

1839

Ranjit Singh's dies causing the empire to fall into disorder. His son, Kharak Singh , takes his place.

1840

Nau Nihal Singh, the third Maharja is killed when a massive block of stone from a gate fell on him.

1842

Maharani Chand Kaur, mother of Nau Nihal Singh, the Empress of Sikh Empire, is killed by poison in her food.

1843

Duleep Singh is placed in power at the age of five with his mother ruling on his behalf.

1845-46

The First Anglo-Sikh War was fought between the Sikh Empire and the British East India Company.

1846

The Treaty of Lahore meant the Sikhs surrender regions, forts, territories, rights and interests in the hill countries situated between the Rivers Beas and Indus to the East India Company, as equivalent to ten million rupees.

1848-49

The second Anglo-Sikh War fought between the Sikh Empire and the British East India Company.

1849

Defeat of the Punjab Empire in the second Anglo-Sikh war. Duleep Singh is deposed at the age of ten and the British annexe the Punjab region. The Koh-i-Noor is passed to Queen Victoria.

1854

Duleep Singh arrives in England and is introduced to the British court.

MAP OF SOPHIA'S LONDON



FELTHAM
MAGISTRATES
COURT



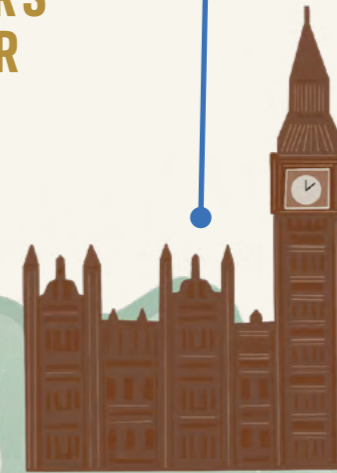
CENTRAL
GUDWARA



SPEAKERS
CORNER



HOUSES OF
PARLIAMENT



CAXTON HALL



HAMPTON
COURT PALACE



FARADAY HOUSE



OLD TOWN HALL



CLARIDGES



BUCKINGHAM
PALACE

MAP OF **SOPHIA'S TRAVELS**



LLOYDS WEEKLY NEWS



PRINCESS'S PROTEST

OBJECTS TO PAYING TAX BECAUSE SHE HAS NO VOTE

Princess Sophia Duleep Singh of Faraday House, Hampton Court, was fined on Monday at Feltham for keeping 5 dogs without licences.

She was further summoned for using armorial bearings and keeping a carriage and a man servant without having taken out the necessary licences.

Mr Leon Castello on behalf of Princess Duleep Singh said she could not attend the court. He was instructed to admit all the summonses except that obtaining to armorial bearings. The princess took a very prominent part on the Women's Suffrage movement and she had asked him to protest against 'the gross injustice of making women liable to taxation who had no voice in the management of the country.'

For not taking out dog licences the princess was fined £1. She was fined £1 for keeping an unlicensed male servant and £1 for keeping an unlicensed carriage. The Bench would take some time to consider their position as to the alleged armorial bearings.

DAILY HERALD

Thursday, December 30th 1913

PRINCESS MAKES PROTEST AGAINST THE LAW SHE DEMANDS A VOTE OF PARLIAMENT

At Feltham Police Court yesterday, the Princess Sophia Duleep Singh of Faraday House, Hampton Court, was summoned for keeping two dogs, a car-riage and a male servant without licences. She pleaded guilty.

In the course of a long statement the Princess said:

"I am unable conscientiously pay money to the State as I am not allowed to exercise any control over its expenditure, nor am I allowed any voice to the choosing of the members of Parliament whose salaries I have to help to pay. It is very unjust, When the women of Britain are enfranchised and the state acknowledges me as a citizen, I shall, of course, pay my share willingly in its upkeep. Taxation without representation is tyranny. It is an in-justice that women should be called upon, under the circumstances, to pay these taxes.

If I am not 'a person' for the purpose of representation, I shall not be 'a person' for the purposes of taxation."

The Chairman: We cannot alter the law. We have nothing to do except to administer it as we find it. You want to alter the law? - Yes.

The Princess admitted being fined for similar offences in 1911.

The magistrate imposed fines of £5 each in respect of the groom and carriage, and £1 5s for each of the dogs, with costs amounting to 18s.

The Princess said she had the same objection to paying the fines as she had to paying the taxes.

The Chairman: We quite understand why you are not paying.

A distraint will be made in default of payment.

31st Dec 1906, Lahore.

“It might have been an English ball to look at the room, full of people - about 500 I should say and all English. I was taken in corners...I never spoke to the Lieutenant Governor at all that evening except to say howdy and goodbye. I did not ask the question as to what people had been saying about B. It was the accountant general I believe who took me into supper but I did not catch his name and do not care. I was furious about the supper and intend to complain about it. It was very stupid.....and I should have refused to go into supper”.

January 1907, Lahore.

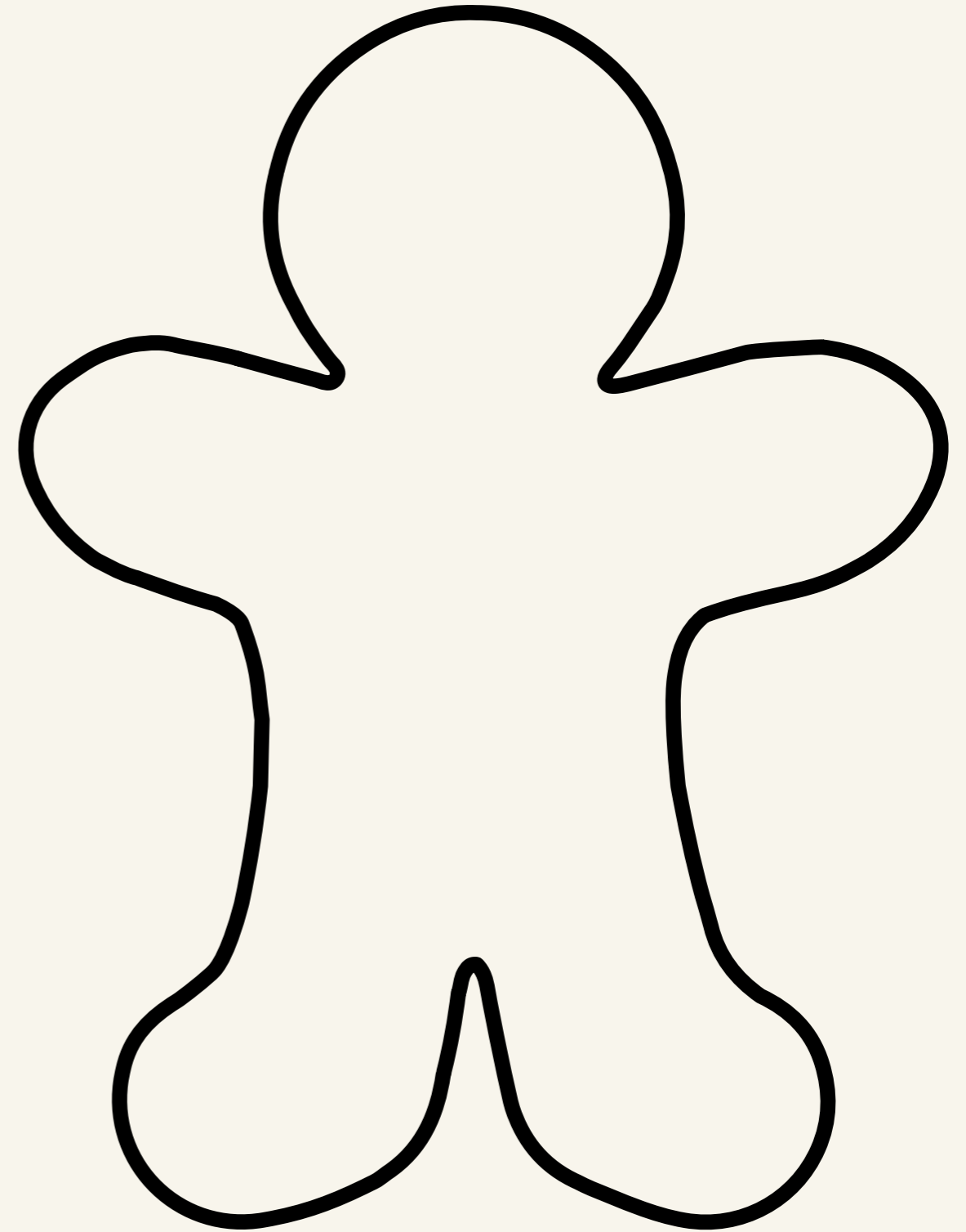
“A crowd began to collect around us as we walked. I heard lots of people saying who we were. Later we drove into the village with its narrow streets looking much like other villages, only with some high houses....I was most delighted to have seen the home of my ancestors...we all sat on the veranda on a velvet cushion which Bamba thought they had put out especially for us.

And oh dear how they are changed poor things, but they have been through so much.....The youngest having been imprisoned for 5 years for a crime which he never committed - oh dear all these horrid injustices - the elder one is quite grey and the young one who was so good looking as a boy and who I fell in love with, cannot have grown an inch since then...he is an ugly little shrivelled up man.”

12 May 1907

“Little did I expect the shock of what it contained.....oh dear, oh dear poor poor India and the Indians. Lala Lajpat Rai has been arrested....and deported promptly from Lahore. Did the poor man expect this....Oh death....this one man one of India's saviours.

Oh you wicked English how I long for your downfall. How I loathe you all...I am your deadly enemy from hereafter. Such injustice I cannot stand....I don't believe he was preaching sedition....Ah India awake and free yourself! I am afraid this is the end of all hope”



REPRESENTATION IN HISTORY



“A real British hero, the greatest ever Briton, the man who motivated Britain to defeat the Nazis and fight not just for our liberty but the world’s freedom too.”

Lord Ian Austin, former MP

He connected with the British people:

“God bless you all. This is your victory. In our long history, we have never seen a greater day than this. Everyone, man or woman, has done their best.”

Addressing the crowd on VE Day 1945

He authorised the bombing of German cities, culminating in the controversial attack on Dresden in February 1945 in which tens of thousands of German civilians were killed.

Furlong, Ray (2004)

He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1953 for his many published works including a biography of his father, *Lord Randolph Churchill, The World Crisis and The Dawn of Liberation* (1945)

In 1944 he raised the school leavers age to 14, ensuring a better education and less child labour.

Britannica.com

“I cannot bear that those who serve the Country and yourself should not love as well as admire and respect you.”

Clementine Churchill (Winston’s wife)
1915

He ordered the police to stop suffragettes reaching the houses of parliament on 18th November 1910 through violence, advising them to attack their breasts as they thought this would cause cancer.

Atkinson, 1988

“I do not admit ... that a great wrong has been done to the Red Indians of America or the black people of Australia ... a stronger race, a higher-grade race, a more worldly wise race ... has come in and taken their place.”

Churchill, 1937

He deployed troops to control striking miners in Wales in 1910, a decision which led to the death of one man.

Herbert, Trevor, ed. (1988). Wales 1880–1914: Welsh History and its sources.

He failed to act during the Bengal Famine of 1943 – in which around three million Indians died.

Mukerjee, Madhusree (2010). Churchill’s Secret War: The British Empire and the Ravaging of India During World War II

I GLOSSARY

Allied – joined by or working together with

Armorial bearings – a coat of arms

British Raj – this refers to the period of direct British rule over the Indian subcontinent from 1858 until the independence of India and Pakistan in 1947

Census – an official count or survey, especially of a population

Colonialism – acquiring political control over another country, occupying it with settlers, and exploiting it economically

Deposed – remove from a job or position suddenly and forcefully

Disenfranchised – to take away a persons right to vote or other rights of citizenship

Empire – An empire is the collective name for a group of countries ruled by a single person, government or country

Emulate – match or imitate

Enfranchised – Given the right to vote or other rights of citizenship

Grace and Favour – a property owned by a monarch and lent, free of charge, to someone

Maternal – related through the mother's family

Maharaja – a Sanskrit word that means “great king.” It refers to a monarch or prince in India who ranks above a raja (king).

Maharani – a Sanskrit word that means “great queen.” The title of maharani would be given to the wife of a maharaja or to a woman who was a ruler in her own right.

Palatial – like a palace, spacious and splendid

Paternal – related through the father's family

Patrimony – property inherited from a father or male ancestor

Philanthropy – the desire to help others, especially by the generous donation of money to good causes

Sedition – behaviour or speech encouraging people to rebel against the authority of a state or monarch

Vanguard – a group of people leading the way

