Social Studies 10-1

Unit 2: Legacies of historical globalization

Imperial policies in India and Canada

Three imperial policies

- Under the British Raj, land-revenue systems pressed Indian peasants to pay cash to landlords and the state.
- Under French rule, habitants farmed St. Lawrence lots inside the seigneurial system.
- After Confederation, the Indian Act of 1876 set out who held status and how many First Nations would be governed.

Three kinds of impact

- Political impact tells who gained the power to tax, police, or define membership.
- Economic impact tells who kept the profit from land, cotton, timber, or furs.
- Social impact tells what happened to language, family, faith, and daily status.

Key terms

British Raj

The British Raj is the period of direct British Crown rule in India from 1858 to 1947.

Indian Act

The Indian Act is the Canadian law, first passed in 1876, that defined status and imposed rules on many First Nations governments and lives.

seigneurial system

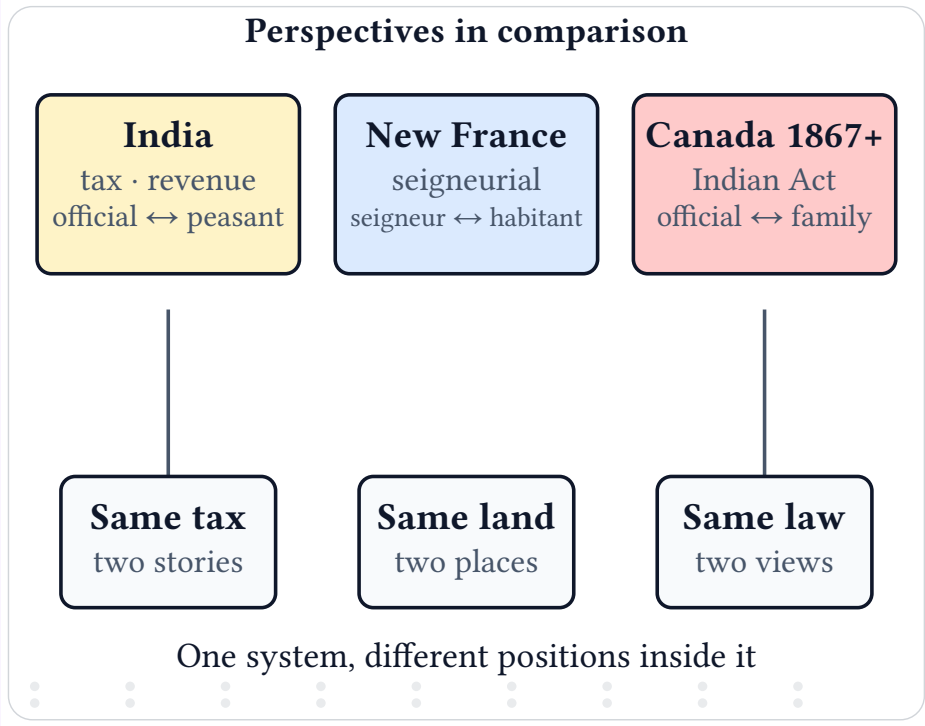
The seigneurial system was the French colonial land system along the St. Lawrence, with a seigneur and habitant farmers owing duties.

source list

A source list is a short record of who made each source, when, and which question that source can answer.

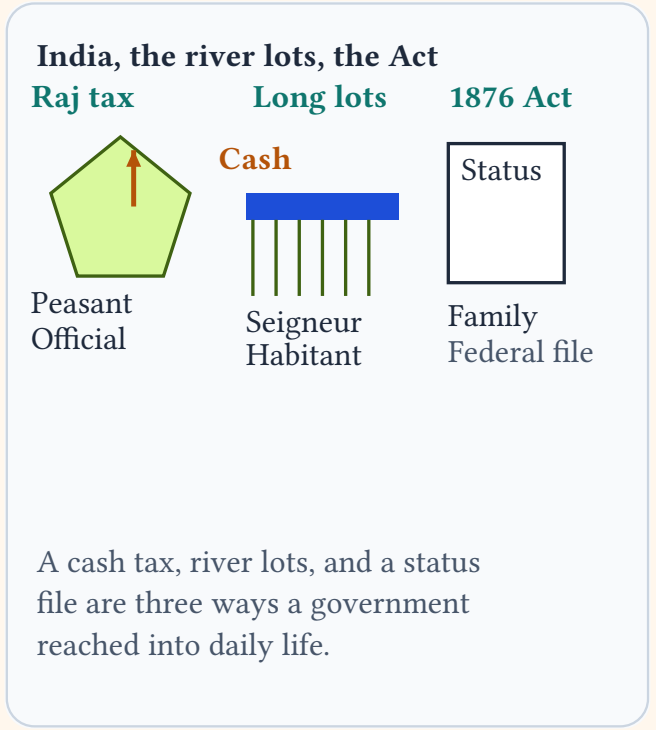
Perspectives in a comparison

- In India, a British revenue official and an Indian peasant would describe the same tax differently.
- In New France, a seigneur and a habitant shared a system and stood in different places inside it.
- In Canada after 1867, a federal official and a First Nations family would describe the Indian Act differently.



Impact table for India and Canada

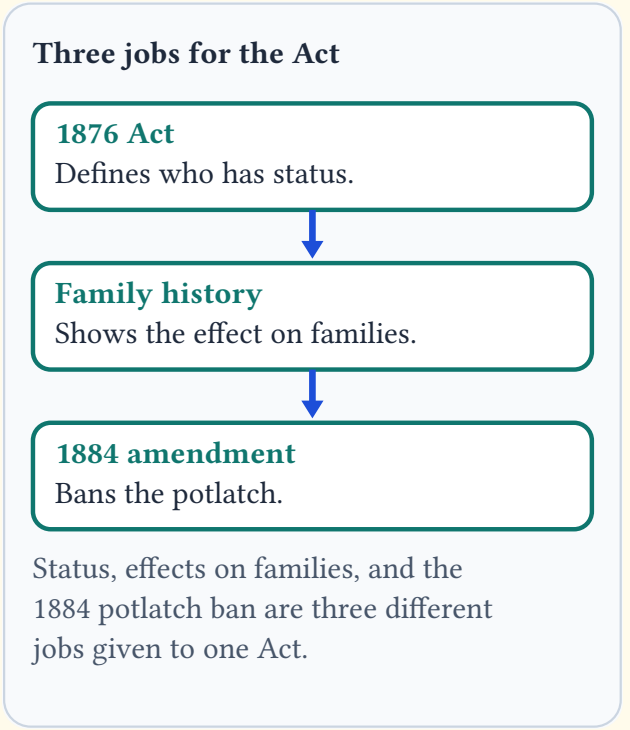
- British India: revenue officials stress order and tax, while peasants and displaced weavers stress debt and lost markets.
- French and British Canada: seigneurs and later British merchants stress land and trade, while habitants and Indigenous nations stress duties, faith, language, and territory.
- Canadian governments after Confederation: federal files stress administration, while First Nations and Métis families stress status rules, scrip, and land that went to others.



A cash tax, river lots, and a status file are three ways a government reached into daily life.

Sources on the Indian Act

- Source one: the statute itself, for what the law says on paper.
- Source two: a First Nation’s public history, for how families lived with status and governance rules.
- Source three: a historian’s account, for context such as the potlatch ban and elected councils.



Sources on the land tax

- A revenue manual says what peasants owed.
- An Indian writer's account says what debt did to a village.
- A British official's report says what the empire thought it achieved.

Review

- The folder is about the potlatch ban under Canadian law.
- You may use the law, a nation’s account, and one historian.
- The answer assigns each source a question.