

Supplementary Materials 1: Procedure for Coding 'British' and 'Princely' Districts

In order to compare provinces and princely states in this article, it was necessary to determine how the contemporary map of India compares to the map of the British Raj. I utilised the following procedure to code each modern district of India as having belonged to either a British province or a princely state:

1. Visit the particular district's website, which can be found at the database maintained by the Indian government at: <http://districts.gov.in/>
2. Determine the particular district's current geographical coordinates. This information should be available on the website under a 'Geography' (or similarly titled) section. For example, consider Kurukshetra district in Haryana. The information would look like this: 29.52 to 30.12 latitude and 76.26 to 77.04 longitude.
3. Find the history of the district; this is often available on the district website under a 'History' or 'About the District' section. This section will usually include information about whether the district came under the control of the British or whether it remained a princely state. This is the main information that allowed me to code the district as a province or a princely state.
 - a. The main measure of the independent variable was a dummy variable. I code a district as 1 if it was a province and 0 if it was a princely state.
4. Match the modern district with its colonial-era district. For this information, I referenced the *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, which was published by the British government as a collection of information about every district of the British Indian Empire (i.e. it was a compilation of all the numerous District Gazetteers). This source is available online through the University of Chicago at: <http://dsal.uchicago.edu/reference/gazetteer/>
5. Find the colonial-era district's geographical coordinates. This way I can determine whether or not the modern district roughly correlates to the colonial-era district.
6. Double-check the history of the district. If the district website says, for example, that the British were ceded the territory in 1765, then the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* should also state the same. Additional notes on this point:
 - a. Many of the current districts match up with a colonial-era district of the same name. When this is not the case (if, for example, the current district was a *tehsil* of an erstwhile colonial district) then I record information for the previous district.
 - b. Determining when a district came under British control is often difficult; sometimes, for example, the British might have invaded and annexed two-thirds of a current district but the other one-third might have been annexed ten years later. In this case I try to record the earliest date at which the British gained political control over a majority of the district.

Lakshmi Iyer (2010) also compared provinces and princely states in India at the district level of analysis. Our coding outcomes are largely similar, except for the following districts:

Differences with Iyer (2010)			
State	District	Iyer Coding	My Coding
Gujarat	Dangs	British	Princely
Haryana	Gandhinagar	British	Princely
Haryana	Kurukshetra	British	Princely
Haryana	Rewari	British	Princely
Himachal Pradesh	Solan	British	Princely
Madhya Pradesh	Bastar	British	Princely
Mizoram, Nagaland	<i>Various</i>	Princely	British

Dangs District in Gujarat, according to the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* (v. 11, p. 145), ‘consist[s] of fourteen petty states, ruled by Bhil chieftains.’ Haryana and Himachal Pradesh were mainly made up of princely states. On the other hand, according to the official Mizoram website (<http://mizoram.nic.in/about/history.htm>), this state was a British province known as Lushai Hills (see *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, v. 16, p. 212). Similarly, Nagaland was part of the Naga Hills District (see *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, v. 18, p. 284). Bastar was also a Feudatory State ruled by a Hindu dynasty (see *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, v. 7, p. 121). Note: the states of Mizoram and Nagaland are excluded from Iyer’s study (2010: 696).

Supplementary Materials 2: Data Sources

Rainfall

This is a variable that records the average millimeters of rainfall per district in India from 2004 to 2009. The data come from the Indian Meteorological Department.

Coastal Districts

This is a dummy variable that records whether or not an Indian district is coastal. The data were compiled from Banerjee and Somanathan (2007).