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**Impact of Colonial Period on History Writing**

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**ABSTRACT**

The colonial period had a profound impact on history writing, particularly in colonized nations like India. During colonial rule, European powers, especially the British, introduced their own frameworks and interpretations of history that often reflected a Eurocentric perspective. They portrayed colonized societies as backward, chaotic, and in need of Western civilization. Historical narratives were crafted to justify imperial domination and present colonial rule as a civilizing mission. Indigenous sources, oral traditions, and native perspectives were either ignored or marginalized. Colonial historians often emphasized dynastic changes, political conquests, and administrative reforms while overlooking the rich social, cultural, and economic histories of the native people. This led to a distorted understanding of the past, which continued to influence history education and writing even after independence. However, the colonial period also gave rise to a counter-response—Indian scholars began critically examining colonial narratives and reclaiming their history. Figures like R.C. Dutt, Dadabhai Naoroji, and later nationalist historians played a key role in presenting alternative accounts that highlighted resistance, cultural achievements, and the exploitative nature of colonial rule. Thus, while colonialism imposed a biased historiographical structure, it also spurred the emergence of a more critical, indigenous tradition of historical scholarship that sought to restore authenticity to historical narratives.