

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

12-11-12

**Identifying Bias in Historical Sources – The Sepoy Rebellion**

**Right There:**

**1. What does the author say the Indian soldiers did to Europeans on Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup>?**

---

---

**2. How does the author describe the actions of the Indian soldiers?**

---

---

**Think and Search:**

**1. How is the way the author characterizes Indians similar to the way Europeans characterized Africans?**

---

---

---

---

**2. From a scale of 1-5 (1 being the least biased and 5 being the most), what would you rate this source? \_\_\_\_\_ Why?**

---

---

---

---

**Author and You:**

**1. How does the author's nationality (British) help explain why he described the rebellion the way he did? What was his purpose in writing this?**

---

---

---

---

**Source 1:**

**"The Indian Revolt"**

***Charles Creighton Hazewell***

The cause was the punishment of eighty-five Indian soldiers of the 3rd Light Cavalry, who had refused to use the new cartridges, and had been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment. On Saturday, the 9th, the men were put in irons, in presence of their fellow soldiers, and marched off to jail.

On Sunday, the 10th, just at the time of evening service, the mutiny broke out. Three regiments left their lines, fell upon every European, man, woman, or child, they met or could find, murdered them all, burnt half the houses in the station, and, after working such a night of mischief and horror as devils might have delighted in, marched off to Delhi, where there were three other regiments ripe for rebellion.

On the meeting of the two groups, the horrors of the mutiny were repeated in the city, and every European who could be found was massacred with revolting barbarity. Complete massacre of the ruling race was felt to be the only chance of safety; so no one of the ruling race was spared.

**Emotional words that may demonstrate bias:**

**Right There:**

1. What does the author say the cause of the rebellion?

---

---

2. How does the author say the British are trying to destroy Indian's religion?

---

---

**Think and Search:**

1. How does the author characterize the British?

---

---

---

---

2. From a scale of 1-5 (1 being the least biased and 5 being the most), what would you rate this source? \_\_\_\_\_ Why?

---

---

---

---

**Author and You:**

1. How does the author's nationality (Indian) help explain why he described the rebellion the way he did? What was his purpose in writing this?

---

---

---

---

**Source 2:**

"Letter Against the British"

*Moulavy Syad Kutb Shah Sahib*

The cause of this revolt was not just a simple rifle cartridge. The true cause of this rebellion is the fact that the British are people who want to destroy all religions. They have for a long time brought out numbers of preachers to spread their own beliefs and convert our people - this has been learned from one of their own trusted agents. . . .

It is true the British ordered the Hindus and others of their army to bite cartridges with animal fat on them. Both the Hindus and Muslims fear this would violate their religious beliefs. I believe that this was because the British wanted to ruin and utterly destroy the faith of both Hindus and Muslims alike.

. . . . It is now my firm belief that if these British continue in India they will murder every one in the country, and will utterly overthrow our religions... All you Hindus and Muslims must unite to slaughter the British, for by this alone will our lives and faith both be saved.

Emotional words that may demonstrate bias:

When you are finished answer the questions, discuss with your group: Which source do you think is more reliable? Is either source reliable? Why or why not?

For more resources like this, please visit:

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Hsh-Resources>