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Europe Through Indian Eyes: Indian Soldiers Encounter England and France, 1914–1918

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THE cross-cultural encounters resulting from intra-imperial population movements have long been of interest to historians. There is an extensive historiography on trade, exploration and settlement; on the forced migrations of African slavery; on the diaspora of Indian indentured labourers and on the activities of Christian missionaries overseas.¹ Much of

this literature is concerned with European travel within the Empire or with indigenous people moving between the Empire's constituent parts. Colonial visitors and migrants to Britain during the imperial heyday have, until recently, attracted rather less attention. Although there are some significant studies of the ways in which West Indians and Africans viewed and experienced Victorian and Edwardian Britain,² it is the history of Indian people in Britain which has lately been taken more seriously.³

...

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