

## **Parsis and the positive side of the British rule**

Dr. Kersey Antia, May 11, 2019

In some respects at least the British rule brought about significant improvements in various spheres in India such as education, railways, public administration, rule of law, technological and scientific development, etc., which ushered India into modernity and as the Parsis happened to be among others at the very vanguard of modernity, they benefitted substantially from the modernization of India and from a balanced view of the pros and cons of the British rule in India. For example, various writers such as Zareer Masani, D. Phil. (Oxford) have vindicated that the British rule significantly improved education in India. He has tried to remove the usual stigma about anyone evincing such legit references to the empire. The British also tried to promote female education and the Parsi women were among the first to take advantage of it. Rather, it took sixty years after independence to introduce a policy for free and compulsory education, which the critics alleged is neither free or compulsory education.