

# Year 4 Red Kites History Summer 2

## Local History Sophia Duleep Singh

### Who was Sophia Duleep Singh?

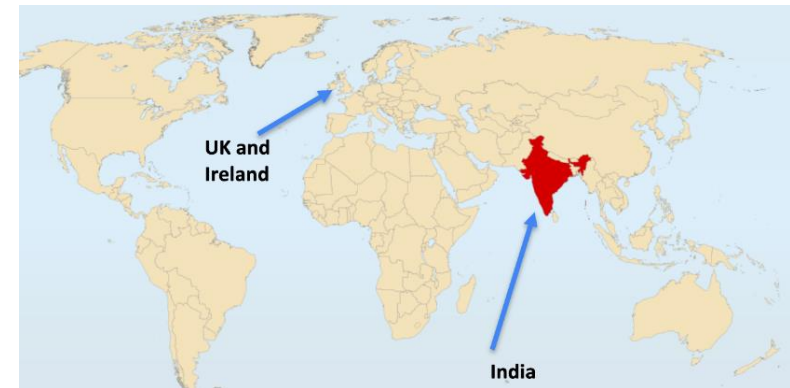
Sophia's father was the last Maharaja of the Sikh Empire so she was born a princess. British rule in India meant that her family had handed their lands over to the British, and Sophia was born in the UK at Elveden Hall in 1876. Sophia studied chemistry at university but a trip to India, where she saw dreadful poverty, made her want to change things.



Key Vocabulary	Definition
British Empire	Areas of the world ruled by the United Kingdom.
exile	Not being allowed to live in your own Country.
identity	Qualities, beliefs, personality, appearance that makes a person.
Koh-I-Noor	A famous diamond that was taken by the British when Duleep Singh was over taken by the British Empire. It is now in a crown in the Tower of London.
Maharajah	A title for the ruler.
Maharajah Duleep Singh	Sophia Singh's Father, the last Sikh Maharajah.
regent	A person who rules on behalf of someone too young.
Sikh Empire	The area in North India ruled by the Maharajah
socialite	A person from a wealthy background who attends social gatherings.
suffrage	The right to vote in political elections.
suffragette	Someone who fought for Women to be able to vote. Until then, only men

### Why did Sophia's family come to England?

After her father lost his Sikh Empire to the Punjab Province of British India he was exiled to England.



### Queen Victoria

Queen Victoria was fond of Duleep Singh and his family, particularly Sophia who was her goddaughter. She encouraged her and her sisters to become socialites. She gave them a grace and favour apartment at Hampton Court with a £200 a year allowance for expenses; about £32,000 now!



### The Koh-I-Noor Diamond

The Koh-I-Noor is a huge diamond that was worn by Sikh Royalty. When Duleep-Singh was taken into British guardianship, it was taken to England and made into a brooch for Queen Victoria. It is now in a crown that was made for the King's Grandmother.



### Sophia the Suffragette

Sophia made history in the early 1900s by risking her royal status to campaign for women's rights. She refused to pay her taxes, took part in rallies and harassed MPs. In 1910, Princess Sophia led a 400-strong demonstration to Parliament with prominent suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst, a protest that became known as "Black Friday". She was often seen selling The Suffragette newspaper outside her home at Hampton Court Palace.

