

Bengalis in London's East End

Beginnings

It is commonly believed that the Bengali presence in the UK is something relatively new, at its earliest, from the years following the Second World War.

In fact, this is very far from the case. The connection goes back over 400 years, right to the beginnings of British involvement in India. Much of what we know of this history comes from the India Office Records.

Books, periodicals and photographic collections add to this wealth of information, as do the personal papers of both British officials and Indian personalities of the time.

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