

Handwritten letter from Winston Churchill to Clement Attlee concerning the independence of India (London, 21 May 1947)

Caption: On 21 May 1947, Winston Churchill, leader of the British Conservative Party, sends a handwritten letter to British Prime Minister Clement Attlee in which he expresses his party's support for Indian independence and confirms his agreement to confer Dominion status on the new states resulting from the partition of India.

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Secret

21. May 1947

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House of Commons,

London, S.W.1

My dear Prime Ministers,

I have now had an opportunity of consulting my colleagues upon the terms of a possible settlement in India as you and the Viceroy put before us last night. As a result I am in a position to convey to you that if those terms are made good, so that there is an effective acceptance of Dominion status for the several parts of a divided India, the Conservative Party will agree to facilitate the passage this Session of the legislation necessary to confer Dominion status upon such several parts of India.

Believe me

Yours going,
Lionel S. Churchill