This dissertation is a study of the official and non-official views in the United States of political developments in India in the period 1930-1935. It starts with the Lahore resolution of the Indian National Congress demanding Complete Independence for India rather than mere Dominion Status and ends with the enactment of the Government of India Bill, 1935, which was claimed by the British to be a long way towards Indian self-rule. The intervening period saw such outstanding events as Gandhi's Dandi march, the Salt satyagraha, the Round Table Conferences, the Gandhi-Irwin Pact, the knock-out blows at the nationalist agitation by the Administration of Lord Willingdon, the Communal Award, Gandhi's "Fast unto Death", the withdrawal of the Civil Disobedience, and the emergence of Jawaharlal Nehru as a socialist leader. From the American side, the period coincided with the Great Depression, the inauguration of the New Deal, and the first phase of Isolationism during the Presidency of Franklin D. Roosevelt. Taken as a whole, the period appeared to be significant for a study of the American image of political developments in India and hence this dissertation.

In the first chapter, an attempt has been made to present the evolution of the American interest in India from the very beginning of the American Republic. While doing this, all the important dimensions of the American interest in India, including commercial interest and the interest of the American missionaries, have been taken note of so as to provide an adequate background
to the main study which is concerned only with political events. In the subsequent chapters, official and non-official views on the topics concerned have been separately dealt with so that both may get a comprehensive treatment to the ability of the present researcher. In the portion on non-official views, again, an attempt has been made to keep the trends of thinking of the different sections of American public opinion distinct. In the final chapter, the findings of this research have been summed up in the light of continuity and change in the traditions of American history and foreign policy.

This study is mainly based on unpublished archival materials, private papers, public documents, and important newspapers and journals. Harnam Singh's book, The Indian National Movement and American Opinion (Delhi, 1962), and Walter Charles Mackett's dissertation, "Some Aspects of the Development of American Opinion on India 1918-1947", University of Southern California, 1957, are useful works on American public opinion about Indian developments based on selected newspapers and journals. I have taken help from these for citations from those newspapers which I myself could not consult. I am thankful to both the authors. I have also profited by the study of other dissertations dealing with some aspects of the American attitudes towards India at various stages from the middle of the nineteenth century to 1947. A list of these is included in the bibliography. I express my thanks to the respective scholars. But to my knowledge, there has been no work yet which is based on archival materials and which, at the same time, encompasses both the official views and non-official views for the period selected for the present dissertation. The present
study is a modest attempt to fill this gap.

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