



Partition of India

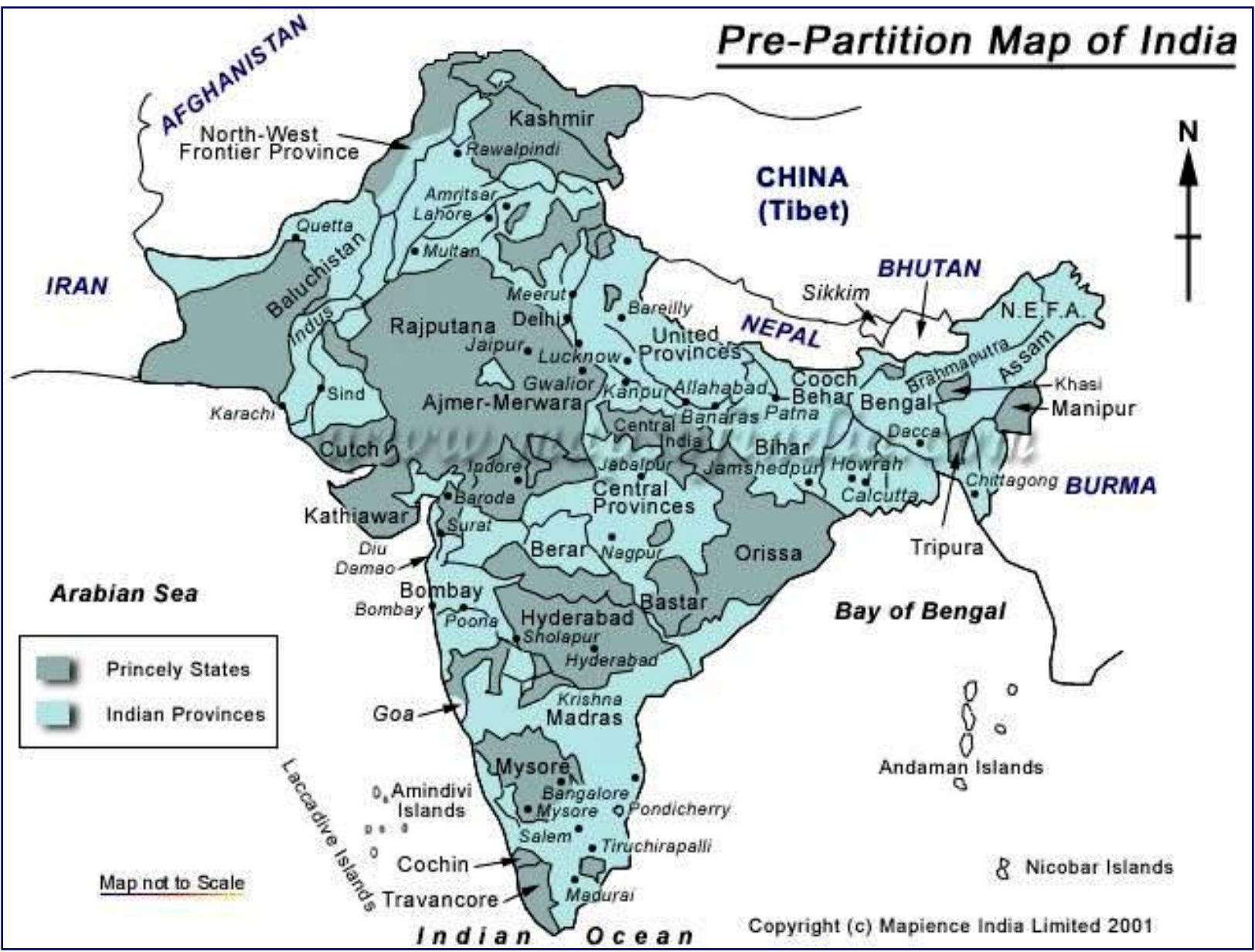
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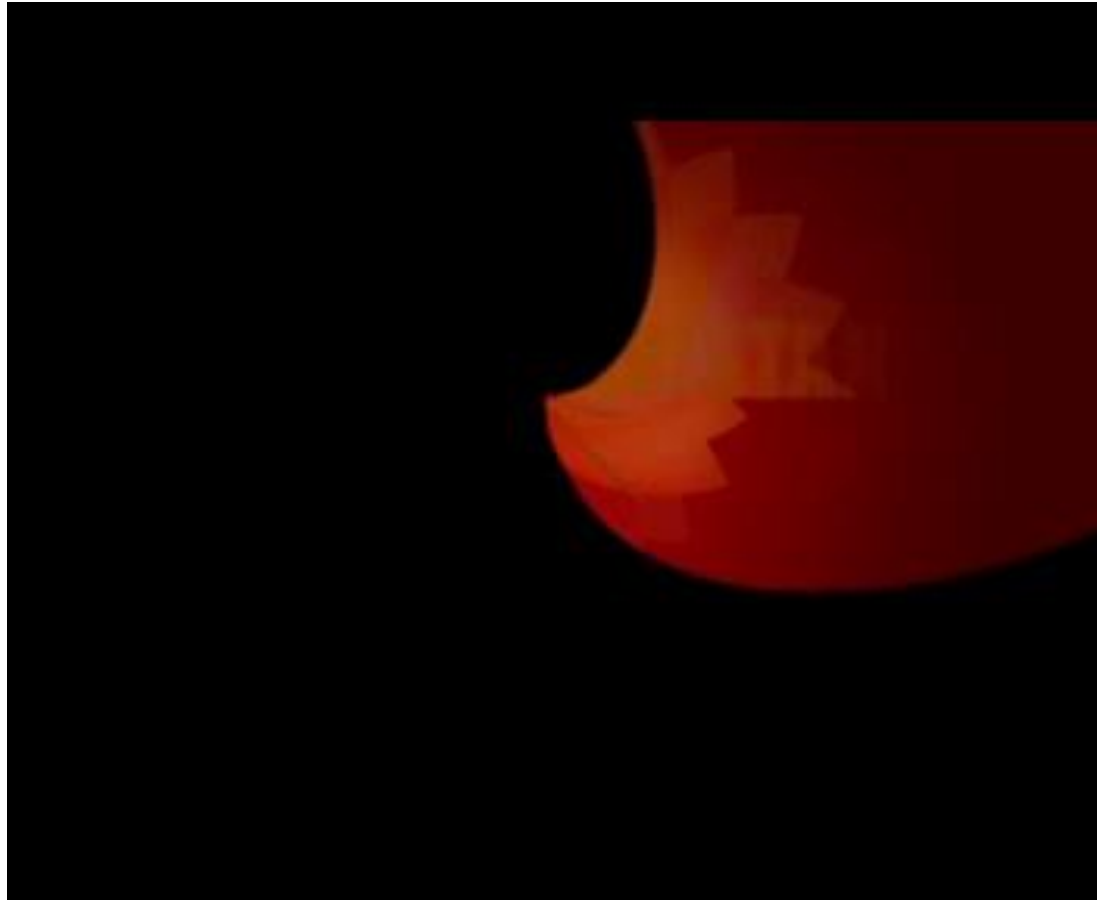
Sridhar Duggi

Pre-Partition Map of India



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Partition of India: Video



Partition Of India

- The **Partition of India** led to the creation of two sovereign states, the Dominion of **Pakistan** (later Islamic Republic of Pakistan) and the Union of **India** (later Republic of India) on August 14, 1947 and August 15 1947, respectively upon the granting of independence to **British India** by the **United Kingdom**.
- 'Partition' here refers also to the division of the Bengal province of British India into the Pakistani state of East Bengal(later East Pakistan, now Bangladesh) and the Indian state of West Bengal

Partition of India: cont..

- Similarly the partition of the Punjab region of British India into the Punjab province of West Pakistan and the Indian state of Punjab comes into partition of India.
- It also means the division of the British Indian Army, the Indian Civil Service and other administrative services, the railways, and the central treasury, and other assets.

India after Partition



Key Players

- All India Muslim League
- Indian National Congress
- Lord Mountbatten
- Sir Cyril Radcliffe
- Mohammed Ali Jinnah
- Jawaharlal Nehru
- Gandhi
- And many more...

All India Muslim League

- The **All India Muslim League** , founded at Dhaka in 1906, was a political party in British India that developed into the driving force behind the creation of Pakistan as a Muslim state from British India on the Indian subcontinent
- In Pakistan, the League formed the country's first government, but disintegrated during the 1950s following an army coup.
- After the independence of India and Pakistan, the League continued as a minor party in India.

Indian National Congress

- Indian National Congress abbreviated as INC is a major political party in India.
- The Indian National Congress became the nation's leader in the Independence Movement, with over 15 million Indians involved in its organizations and over 70 million participants in its struggle against the British Empire.
- After independence in 1947, it became the nation's dominant political party, only challenged for leadership in more recent decades.
- Nehru became a very powerful man with the support of INC

Lord Mountbatten



Mountbatten: Video



Lord Mountbatten

- Lord Mountbatten, the great grandson of Queen Victoria, and second cousin of George V
- He is the last Viceroy of India
- He took the responsibility of partitioning British India and also to send back British troops back to England.
- He developed a strong relationship with the Indian princes who were said to have considerable confidence in him, and on the basis of his relationship with the British monarchy persuaded most of them to accede to the new states of India and Pakistan

Sir Cyril Radcliffe



Sir Cyril Radcliffe

- Sir Cyril Radcliffe was given the task of drawing the dividing line between India and Pakistan
- Before his appointment, Radcliffe had never visited India before and knew no-one in India. To the British and the feuding politicians alike, this liability was looked upon as an asset; he was considered to be unbiased toward any of the parties, except of course Britain
- Wanting to preserve the appearance of impartiality, Radcliffe also kept his distance from Viceroy Mountbatten

Mohammed Ali Jinnah



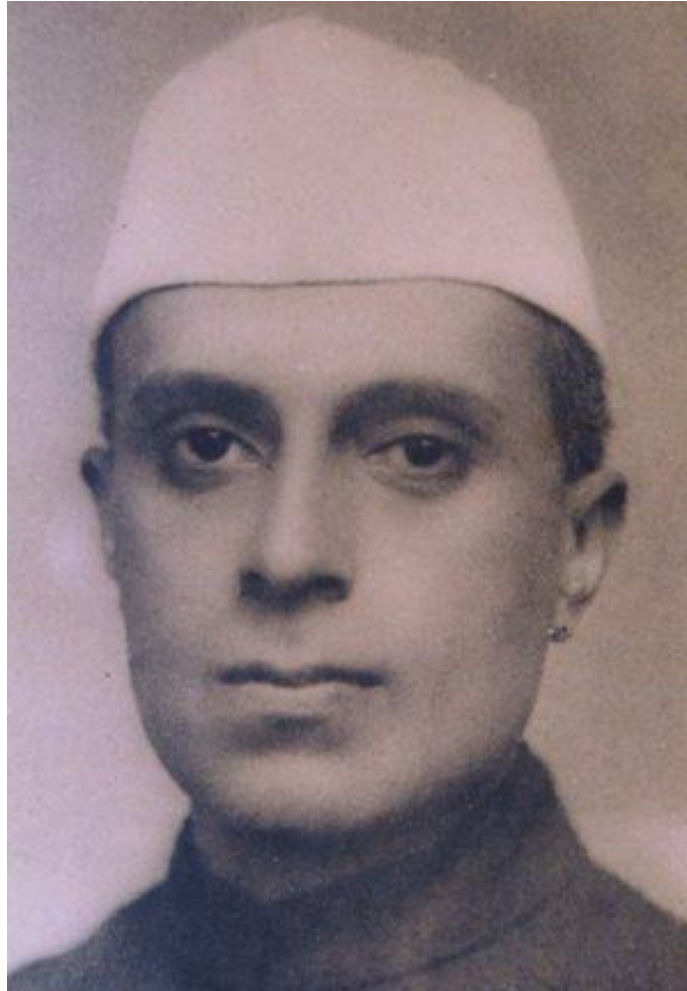
Jinnah: Video



Jinnah

- **Muhammad Ali Jinnah** (December 25, 1876 – September 11, 1948) was a Muslim politician and leader of the All India Muslim League who founded Pakistan and served as its first Governor-General.
- He is officially known in Pakistan as **Quaid-e-Azam** (Great Leader) and *Baba-e-Qaum* ("Father of the Nation").
- His birthday is a national holiday in Pakistan.
- He was the main responsible person for the partition of India

Jawaharlal Nehru



- **Jawaharlal Nehru** (November 14, 1889 – May 27, 1964) was a major political leader of the Congress Party, a pivotal figure in the Indian independence movement and the first Prime Minister of independent India.
- He initially believed in united India but later dropped the idea after seeing the communal riots in Bengal.
- His family played a major role in Indian politics. Even today, his family is the ruling government in India

Mahatma Gandhi



Gandhi

- **Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi**(2 October 1869–30 January 1948), also known as **Mahatma Gandhi**, was a major political and spiritual leader of India and the Indian independence movement.
- He was the pioneer of *Satyagraha*, which led India to independence and inspired movements for civil rights and freedom across the world.
- He is the Father of Nation for India.
- His birthday is celebrated world wide as “International Day of Non-Violence”

Reasons for Partition of India

- The main reason is, **“India contains large percentage of Hindus. If India gets independence, then the ruling government is obviously decided by the majority(hindus). To live under the rule of Hindus, muslims thought they may get injustice and may not be treated well . So they thought of forming a new country”**

Reasons for Partition: Video



Reasons

- The idea of Partition of India is strengthened year after year. It can be divided into four phases
 - 1920–1932
 - 1932–1942
 - 1942–1946
 - 1947
- Finally India was divided into Muslim majority nation and (Hindu and Sikh) majority nation.

1920-1932: Root for Partition Idea

- Among the first to make the demand for a separate state was the philosopher Allama Iqbal, who, in his presidential address to the 1930 convention of the Muslim League said that he felt a **separate nation** for Muslims was essential in an otherwise **Hindu-dominated** subcontinent.
- By 1930, **Jinnah** had begun to despair of the fate of minority communities in a united India and had begun to argue that mainstream parties such as the **Congress**, of which he was **once a member**, were **insensitive** to **Muslim interests**.

1932–1942: Growth in Partition Idea

- Hindu organisations such as the Hindu Mahasabha, though against the division of the country, were also insisting on the same chasm between Hindus and Muslims.
- In 1937 at the 19th session of the Hindu Mahasabha held at Ahmedabad, Veer Savarkar in his presidential address asserted:
 - **India cannot be assumed today to be Unitarian and homogeneous nation, but on the contrary there are two nations in the main — the Hindus and the Muslims.**

1932-1942: Spread of Partition Idea

- At the 1940 AIML conference in Lahore, Jinnah made clear his commitment to two separate states, a position from which the League never again wavered:
- **The Hindus and the Muslims belong to two different religions, philosophies, social customs and literature... To yoke together two such nations under a single state, one as a numerical minority and the other as a majority, must lead to growing discontent and final destruction of any fabric that may be so built up for the government of such a state.**

1942–1946: Partition at its peak

- Politicians and community leaders on both sides whipped up mutual suspicion and fear, culminating in dreadful events such as the riots during the Muslim League's Direct Action Day of August 1946
- As public order broke down all across northern India and Bengal, the pressure increased to seek a political partition of territories as a way to avoid a full-scale civil war.

Cabinet Mission: To integrate INC with Muslim league - Video



Direct Action Day

- **Direct Action Day**, also known as the Great Calcutta Riot, and "The Week of the Long Knives",-started on August 16, 1946.
- It was a day, the Muslim League had planned general strike, *hartal*, to protest the rejection of the June 16th Cabinet Mission Plan by the Congress Party and to assert its demand for a separate homeland during the Indian Freedom Struggle against the British Raj.

Call for Direct Action Day: Jinnah



Direct Action Day: cont..

- This protest triggered massive riots in Calcutta, instigated by the Muslim League and its Volunteer Corps against Hindus and Sikhs, followed by retaliatory attacks on Muslims by Congress followers and supporters led to further riots in the surrounding regions of Bengal and Bihar.
- In Calcutta, within 72 hours, more than 4,000 people lost their lives and 100,000 residents in the city of Calcutta were left homeless.

Direct Action Day: Video



Some photos of Direct Action Day



Gandhi ideas

- Most of the Congress leaders were secularists and resolutely opposed the division of India on the lines of religion.
- Mohandas Gandhi was both religious and irenic, believing that Hindus and Muslims could and should live in amity. He opposed the partition, saying,
 - **“ My whole soul rebels against the idea that Hinduism and Islam represent two antagonistic cultures and doctrines. To assent to such a doctrine is for me a denial of God .”**

Gandhi's Ideas: Video



Gandhi Struggles and his murder

- For years, Gandhi and his adherents struggled to keep Muslims in the Congress Party (a major exit of many Muslim activists began in the 1930s), in the process enraging both Hindu Nationalists and Indian Muslim Nationalists.
- Because of this Hindu mahasabha was against him.
- Gandhi was assassinated soon after Partition by Hindu Nationalist Nathuram Godse (from hindu mahasabha), who believed that Gandhi was appeasing Muslims at the cost of Hindus.

Mountbatten arrived India: Video



1947: Finally Partition of India

- After Direct Action Day, everyone felt that it will be better to divide india.
- **Mountbatten Plan**
 - The actual division between the two new dominions was done according to what has come to be known as the *3rd June Plan* or *Mountbatten Plan*



1947: Finally Partition of India-Video



Indian Independence Act

- On July 18, 1947, the British Parliament passed the Indian Independence Act that finalized the partition arrangement.
- The Indian Independence Act 1947 was the legislation passed by the British Parliament that officially approved the independence of India and the partition of India.

Radcliffe Line

- The task of dividing India is given to Sir Cyril Radcliffe . The dividing line between India and Pakistan is called Radcliffe line.
- He was not willing to draw the line in three months but he was forced to draw the line.
- The hard task to allocate Lahore. Lahore is a big city with diverse secularism.
- He took the help of his private secretary, Christopher Beaumont who was familiar with the administration and life in the Punjab

Sir Cyril Radcliffe



Radcliffe Line

- The immediate consequences of partition were horrendous for both countries though it is doubtful that anything Radcliffe could have done would have made a great difference;
- Even the most carefully crafted border would have provoked the massive population migrations which resulted.
- Radcliffe was at all turns harassed and hurried by outgoing Viceroy Mountbatten, who turned out to be ill prepared for the consequences of the partition.

Some important dates

- 3 June 1947 : Cyril Radcliffe appointed as the chairman of the Boundary Commission
- 8 July 1947 : Cyril Radcliffe arrives in Delhi
- 13 August 1947 : Cyril Radcliffe submits the report (the partition map)
- 14,15 August 1947 : Pakistan and India were divided and declared as independent nations
- 17 August 1947 : Radcliffe line released.

Radcliffe Line

- Pakistan came into being with two non-contiguous enclaves, East Pakistan (today Bangladesh) and West Pakistan, separated geographically by India.
- India was formed out of the majority Hindu regions of the colony, and Pakistan from the majority Muslim areas.
- Because of late release of Radcliffe line by two days(17th aug), many people lost lives in community riots. No one understood why they released the line lately ??

Lahore Tensions: Video



Declaration Of Independence: Video



Population exchanges

- Massive population exchanges occurred between the two newly-formed states in the months immediately following Partition.
- Once the lines were established, about 14.5 million people crossed the borders to what they hoped was the relative safety of religious majority.
- Based on 1951 Census of displaced persons, 7,226,000 Muslims went to Pakistan from India while 7,249,000 Hindus and Sikhs moved to India from Pakistan immediately after partition.

Population exchanges

- About 11.2 million or 78% of the population transfer took place in the west, with Punjab accounting for most of it.
- 5.3 million Muslims moved from India to West Punjab in Pakistan, 3.4 million Hindus and Sikhs moved from Pakistan to East Punjab in India.
- Elsewhere in the west 1.2 million moved in each direction to and from Sind.

Population exchanges

- The newly formed governments were completely unequipped to deal with migrations of such staggering magnitude, and massive violence and slaughter occurred on both sides of the border.
- Estimates of the number of deaths range around roughly 500,000, with low estimates at 200,000 and high estimates at 1,000,000.

Population Exchange: Good Video



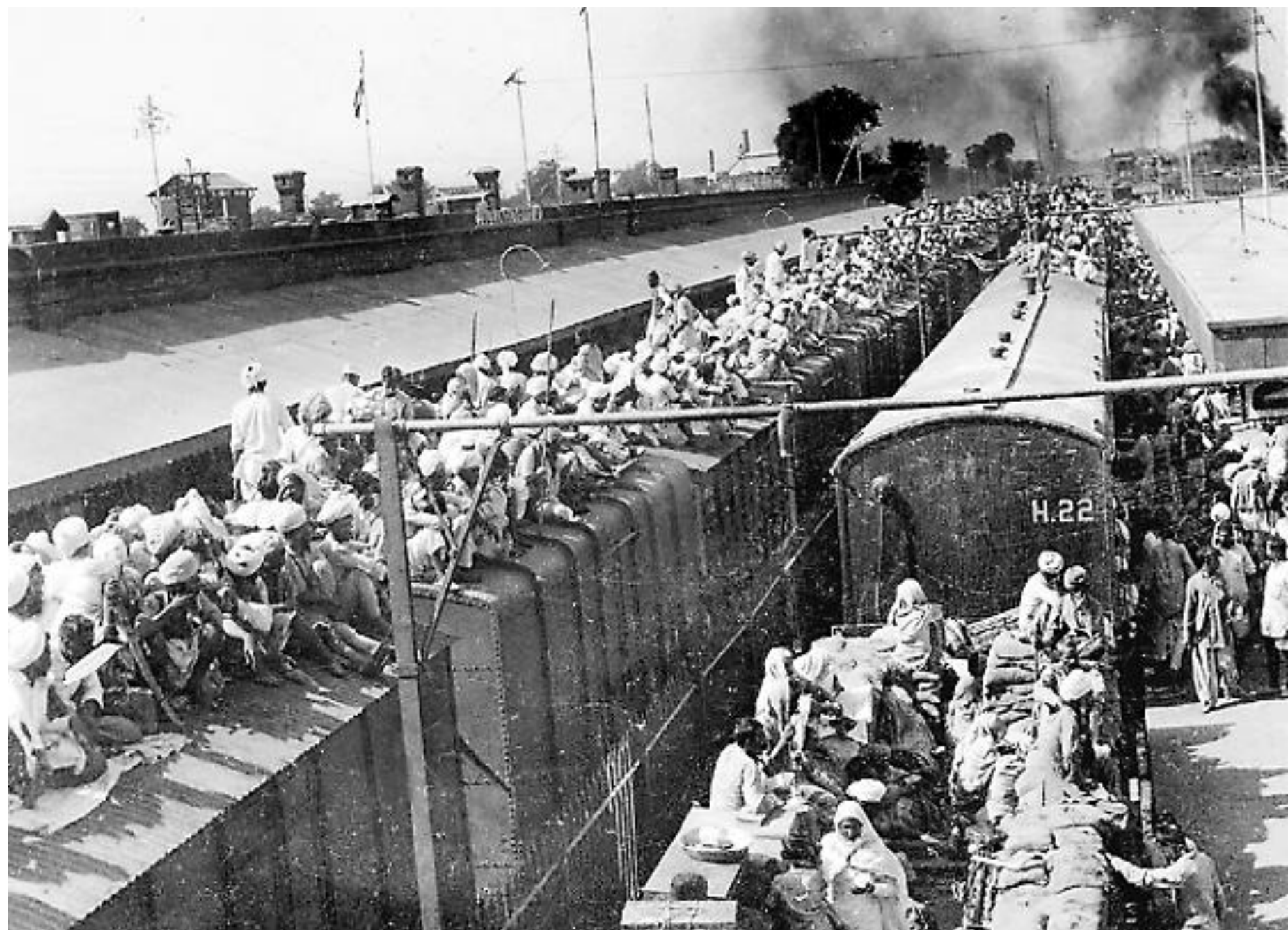
Images of Population Migration



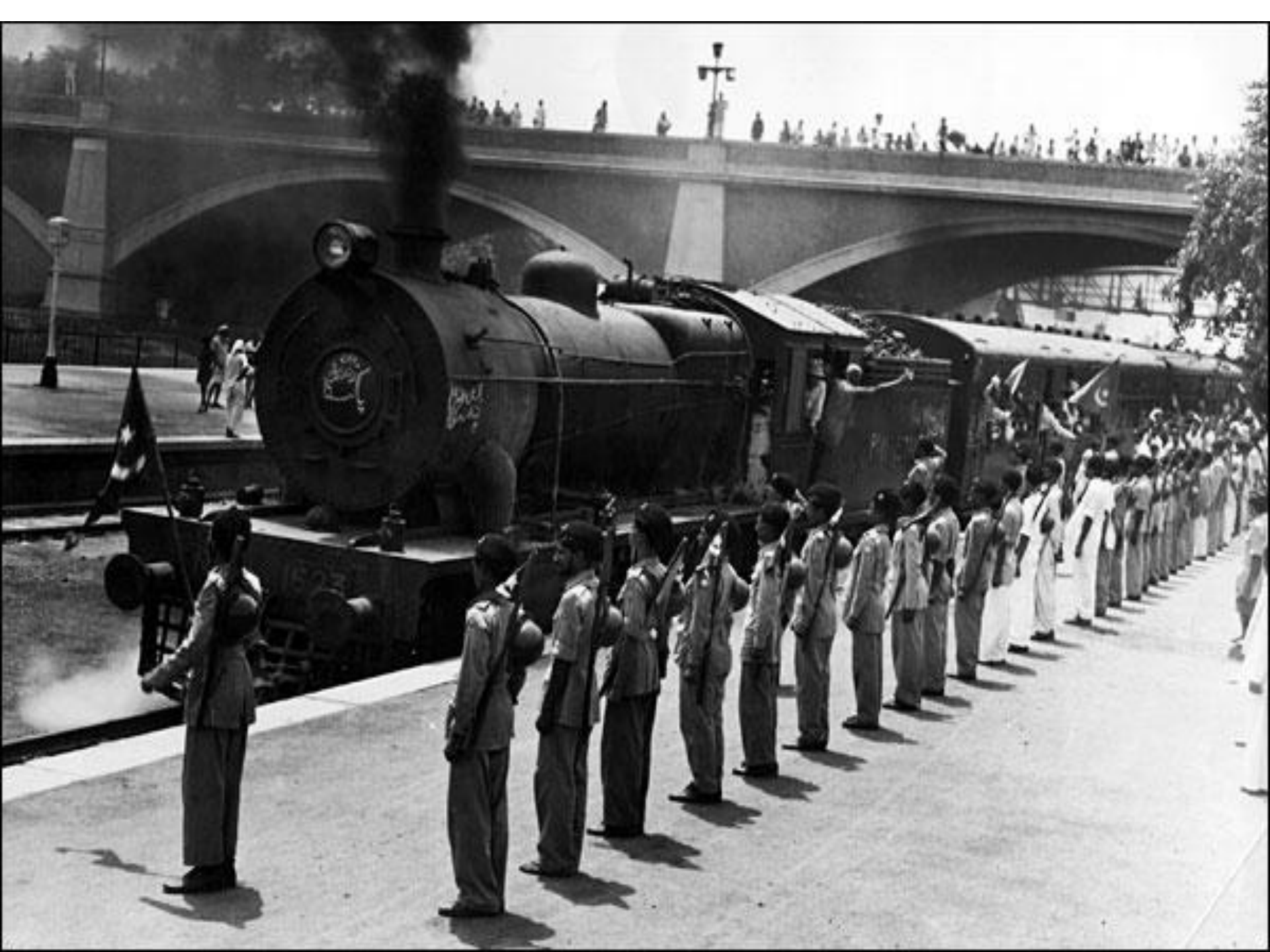












Refugees settled in India

- Many Sikhs and Hindu Punjabis settled in the Indian parts of Punjab and Delhi.
- Hindus migrating from East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) settled across Eastern India and Northeastern India, many ending up in close-by states like West Bengal, Assam, and Tripura. Some migrants were sent to the Andaman islands.
- . Refugee camps were set up for Hindu Sindhis. However non sindhi Hindus had very little help from the Government of India and many never received compensation of any sort from the Indian Government.

Refugees settled in Pakistan

- Refugees or Muhajirs in Pakistan came from various parts of India. There was a large influx of Punjabi Muslims from East Punjab fleeing the riots.
- Despite severe physical and economic hardships, East Punjabi refugees to Pakistan did not face problems of cultural and linguistic assimilation after partition.
- However, there were many Muslim refugees who migrated to Pakistan from other Indian states.

- These refugees came from many different ethnic groups and regions in India, including Uttar Pradesh (then known as "United Provinces of Agra and Awadh", or UP), Madhya Pradesh (then Central Province or "CP"), Gujarat, Bihar, what was then the princely state of Hyderabad and so on.
- .The descendants of these non-Punjabi refugees in Pakistan often refer to themselves as Muhajir whereas the assimilated Punjabi refugees no longer make that political distinction.

- Large numbers of non-Punjabi refugees settled in Sindh, particularly in the cities of Karachi and Hyderabad. They are united by their refugee status and their native Urdu language and are a strong political force in Sindh.

Violence Against Women

- Information about topic practically non-existent
- Women faced with the brunt of the partition violence
- In “dishonoring” a women you dishonor the religion, honor, and culture of the man associated with the woman
 - “defile the purity” of the other race by impregnating their women and forcing sex
- Nearly 75,000 women faced with some sort of violence



What Actually Happened



- Women were:
 - Kidnapped
 - Raped
 - Molested
 - Paraded naked in the streets
 - Forced prostitution
 - Breasts cut off
 - Bought and forced into marriage
 - Forced change in identity

Violence against women: Good video



Inter-Dominion Treaty

- December 6, 1947
 - Agreement between India and Pakistan to recover the abducted women
 - Mridula Sarabhai appointed chief social worker
 - Definition of who is “abducted”:
“any woman seen to be living with, in the company of, or in a relationship with a man of the other religion, after March 1, 1947 would be presumed to have been abducted, taken by force.”



Movie: EARTH

- This movie depicts the violence against women during Partition of India
- Narrative frame: Lenny 58 (1997), Lenny 8 (1947)
- A child's perspective, a witness of the trauma of partition —the breaking up of the nation, the violence, and the distortion of human nature (the image of lion, beast)—love and sexuality
- Lenny is a Parsee. So there will be neutrality on either sides

References

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Thank You 😊