



# Panjab University

**Panjab University** (**PU**) is an Indian collegiate public state university located in Chandigarh. Funded through both State and Union governments, it is considered a state university.<sup>[4]</sup> It traces its origins to the University of the Punjab in Lahore, which was founded in 1882. After the partition of India, the university was established on 1 October 1947, and called East Punjab University. Initially housed primarily at a cantonment in Solan, it later relocated to a newly built campus in Chandigarh, and was renamed Panjab University. It is accredited by NAAC at five star level, with the highest NAAC A++ accreditation grade.<sup>[5]</sup>

The university has 78 teaching and research departments and 10 centres/chairs for teaching and research at the main campus located at Chandigarh. It has 201 affiliated colleges<sup>[6]</sup> spread over the eight districts of Punjab state and union-territory of Chandigarh, with Regional Centres at Muktsar, Ludhiana and Hoshiarpur.<sup>[7][8]</sup> It is one of the well-ranked universities in India.<sup>[9]</sup>

The campus is residential, spread over 550 acres (220 ha) in sectors 14 and 25 of the city of Chandigarh. The main administrative and

## Panjab University



Seal of Panjab University

<b>Former name</b>	East Punjab University (1947–1950)
<b>Motto</b>	"तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय"
<b>Motto in English</b>	"Lead us into the Light from Darkness"
<b>Type</b>	Public
<b>Established</b>	14 October 1882 (as <i>University of the Punjab</i> ) <sup>[a]</sup> 1 October 1947 (as <i>Panjab University</i> )
<b>Accreditation</b>	NAAC A++
<b>Academic affiliations</b>	UGC · AIU · ACU · IAU

academic buildings are located in sector 14, beside a health centre, a sports complex, hostels and residential housing.<sup>[10]</sup>

## History

The University of the Punjab was established on 14 October 1882<sup>[11]</sup> at Lahore (now in Punjab, Pakistan). The fate of the university after the partition of India in 1947, was deliberated at the Punjab Partition Committee, with representatives from East Punjab advocating for a division of the university.<sup>[12]</sup> The senate of the university voted to split the university, and the matter reached the Partition Council at the centre, but a decision could not be made.<sup>[13]</sup> With no university for the colleges in its territory, the government in East Punjab was compelled to bring an ordinance to set up a new university on 27 September 1947.<sup>[14]</sup> The new university was then established in Solan (Shimla) of the Indian Punjab as the "East Punjab University" on 1 October 1947.<sup>[14]</sup> After 1947, the university had no campus of its own for nearly a decade.<sup>[15]</sup> The administrative office was in Solan and the teaching departments functioned from Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Delhi, and Amritsar. The name was later shortened to Panjab University in 1950.

In 1956 the university was relocated to Chandigarh, on a red sandstone campus designed by Pierre Jeanneret under the guidance of Le Corbusier. Until the re-organisation of Punjab in 1966, the university had its regional centres at Rohtak, Shimla, Jalandhar and its affiliated colleges were in the present-day states of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. With the re-organisation of Punjab, the university became an Inter-State Body Corporate catering to the newly organised state of Punjab and the union-territory of Chandigarh.

In April 2024, Panjab University in Chandigarh became one of the first universities in India to grant menstrual leave to female students, starting from the session 2024-25. The policy will allow leave of one day per one calendar month of

<b><u>Chancellor</u></b>	<u>Vice President of India</u> <sup>[1]</sup>
<b><u>Vice-Chancellor</u></b>	<u>Renu Vig</u> <sup>[2]</sup>
<b><u>Academic staff</u></b>	971 <sup>[3]</sup>
<b><u>Undergraduates</u></b>	9,956 <sup>[3]</sup>
<b><u>Postgraduates</u></b>	6,047 <sup>[3]</sup>
<b><u>Doctoral students</u></b>	2,854 <sup>[3]</sup>
<b><u>Address</u></b>	Sector 14 and Sector 25, <u>Chandigarh</u> , India
<b><u>Campus</u></b>	Urban, 550 acres (220 ha)
<b><u>Colours</u></b>	<div><div></div></div>
<b><u>Website</u></b>	<u>puchd.ac.in</u> ( <u>https://puchd.ac.in/</u> )
<div><div>Panjab University</div></div>	

teaching and maximum of four days leave per semester.<sup>[16][17]</sup>

## Campus

The university's chequerboard layout was devised by Swiss-French Architect Pierre Jeanneret.<sup>[18]</sup> The main campus at Chandigarh is spread over 550 acres in Sectors 14 and 25, the teaching area is in the north-east, with the Central Library, Fine Arts Museum, and three-winged structure of the Gandhi Bhawan forming its core; the sports complex, the health centre, the dolphinarium, student centre and the shopping centre in the middle; 16 university hostels and residential area in the south-east, stretching into the adjacent Sector 25 which also houses the University Institute of Engineering and Technology, Dr. Harvansh Singh Judge Institute of Dental Sciences and Hospital, UIAMS, and Institute of Biological Sciences. The campus in Sector 25 is also known as the south campus.

### Halls of residence

There are eighteen hostels on the campus including eight hostels for men and eleven women hostels including a Working Women Hostel. A Sports Hostel has been built for visiting sports teams. Two more hostels are under construction, one each for boys and girls. There is one International hostel also. All the NRI/Foreign national girls students are accommodated there.<sup>[19]</sup>

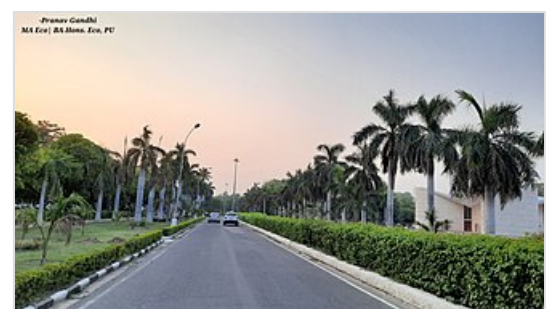
### Sports



Historic photo of the Panjab University's History Department, 1961. Digitized by Panjab Digital Library.



Panjab University featured on a 1989 stamp of India.



Panjab University Campus



The university has playgrounds, a gymnasium and a swimming pool for its sports activities. The Directorate of Sports organises about 70 Inter-College and four to five Inter-University Competitions every year. The Directorate of Sports participates in 62 games both for men and women in the Inter-University Competitions and arranges training camps in these games under the supervision of expert coaches. The university has been awarded Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy sixteenth times, the latest being in the year 2021 and making a hat-trick twice. MAKA Trophy represents the highest award given for inter-university sports and university sportsperson performance in the international and national arena by the Government of India.<sup>[20]</sup>



A road in Panjab University during spring.



Administrative building, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

## Gandhi Bhawan

The Gandhi Bhawan is a major landmark of the city of Chandigarh. Designed by the architect Pierre Jeanneret, a cousin of Le Corbusier, it is an auditorium hall that sits in the middle of a pond of water. It also houses a collection of books on Gandhi.<sup>[21][22]</sup>



Boys' Hostel, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

## The Student Centre

The Student Centre, popularly known as StuC, is a major landmark of the city of Chandigarh and a hub for student activities. It was inaugurated in 1975. It houses the office of the Dean University Welfare and university students' council. There is a cafeteria called Indian Coffee House with a panoramic view on the top floor of the centre it was shut down during COVID 19 Pandemic but now resumed its operations. Various events and plays are performed in the Student Centre.

## Library

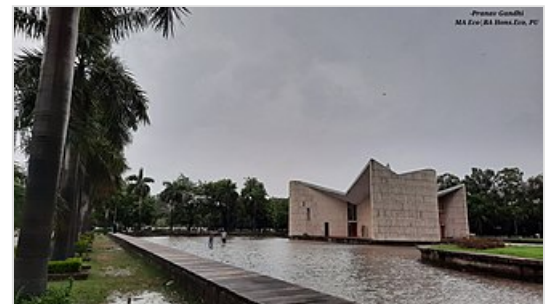
The Central Library is named after its late Vice-Chancellor of the university, Prof. A C Joshi. It is located near the student centre.<sup>[23]</sup> It was designed by Swiss architect Pierre Jeanneret.<sup>[23]</sup> The foundation stone of the Library was laid in 1958 by Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the then vice-president of India, and it was formally inaugurated in 1963 by the then Prime Minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru.<sup>[23]</sup> With a collection of 6,70,000 titles, it is one of the largest libraries in North India.



A girl student doing yoga on International Yoga Day at Panjab University, Chandigarh (India); click by Vikash Kinha

## Museum of Fine Arts

Museum of Fine Arts is a part of the Department of Art History and Visual Arts, inaugurated in 1968. The Museum building, made in red sandstone, is one of the landmarks in the university campus and has been earmarked as a heritage building. It has a large collection of works of contemporary Indian art, including paintings, sculptures, graphics and drawings by artists such as Jamini Roy, M.F. Husain, Satish Gujral, J. Swaminathan, Ram Kumar, A. Ramachandran, K.G. Subramanyan, Vivan Sundaram, Bhupen Khakhar, Dhanraj Bhagat, Arpana Caur, Shiv Singh etc.



Gandhi Bhawan, Panjab University, Chandigarh



Lighting of diyas during Gurupurab

## Organization and administration

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### Governance

The day-to-day functioning of the university is headed by Vice Chancellor.<sup>[24]</sup> The office of the Dean of University Instruction (DUI) is



Student Centre, Panjab University, Chandigarh



the academic head of Panjab University and its Regional Centres.

## Internal Organizational Structure

Panjab University Internal Structure shown in Organogram.<sup>[25]</sup>

## Faculties

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### Faculty of Engineering and Technology

- **University Institute of Engineering and Technology (UIET)** is an on campus engineering institute. It offers undergraduate B.E., Postgraduate M.E. and Doctoral D.Tech. courses.<sup>[26]</sup> UIET is in the southern campus of Panjab University, Sector 25, Chandigarh.<sup>[27]</sup> It has two academic blocks which include labs, offices, library, and lecture halls. There are blocks for mechanical labs and workshops. There is an ATM. Wi-Fi and Internet access is provided in some parts of the campus. Students are from all over the nation: few are day scholars and many live in hostels which provide accommodation, food, washrooms, and sporting facilities.
- **University Institute for Chemical Engineering and Technology (UICET)**, originally called the Department of Chemical Engineering and Technology, UICET came out of a demand to make the sciences of direct use to society. The department was disrupted during the partition of India when most of the faculty and students chose to come to India. For a few years, it was housed in Delhi. Then in 1958, it shifted to its present premises in Chandigarh. In collaboration with the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago. Professor R. E. Peck from IIT Chicago joined as the first Head. Over the years the department evolved into the University Institute for Chemical Engineering and Technology. In 1983, an Energy Research Institute was added within the UICET building to promote R&D in the field of renewable energy.



The Central Library, Panjab University, Chandigarh.



Fine Arts museum, Chandigarh



Dr Manmohan Singh, an alumnus of Economics Department, Panjab University at his alma mater to deliver a guest lecture

UICET is one of the regional centres of the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers. 2008 was the Golden Jubilee year of the institute. As part of the celebrations, the institute hosted CHEMCON-2008, the 61st annual session of the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers, which also included a joint US-India Conference on Energy.

## Faculty of Law

The university has two departments for teaching law. The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) has ranked Faculty of Law, Panjab University 15 in the National Law Rankings 2020.<sup>[28]</sup>

- **Department of Law** offers two courses:
  - Degree of LL.B, a three-year course, the eligibility for admission is graduation degree in any stream, with a minimum 45% marks.
  - Degree in LL.M, a one-year course, which is offered after completion of LL.B.

The department conducts a separate admission test, for both courses, on the pattern of the Union Public Service Commission.

- **University Institute of Legal Studies** was established as a separate department in 2004. The institute offers B.A/LL.B(Hons.) and B.Com./LL.B (Hons.) five-years integrated courses and has three hundred and sixty seats in first year.

## Faculty of Business Management and Commerce

- **University Business School (UBS)** imparts commerce and business management education. The Department of Commerce and Business Management was rechristened into University Business School in 1995. The department offers various courses such as M.Com (Honours), Ph.D (Commerce and Business Management), M.B.A (General), M.B.A (Entrepreneurship), M.B.A (Human Resource Management), M.B.A (International Business) and Executive M.B.A.<sup>[29]</sup>
- **University Institute of Applied Management Sciences (UIAMS)**, established in 2008 by the Faculty of Business Management & Commerce, Panjab University, Chandigarh. It is housed in the south campus, Sector 25. UIAMS offers M.B.A course in industry ready sectoral areas and streams with specialization in functional areas like Marketing, Finance, Human Resources and Operations.<sup>[30]</sup> M.B.A at UIAMS Chandigarh is a two-year course.<sup>[31]</sup> Students are given training offers with stipend by various leading companies during the course.<sup>[32]</sup> UIAMS graduates tend to benefit from good job placements in major companies.<sup>[33][34][35][36]</sup>

- **University Institute of Hotel and Tourism Management (UIHTM)** offers education, training, research and consultancy in the field of hospitality, tourism, travel and allied sectors. This institute was established in the year 2009 under the faculty of Business Management and Commerce.

## Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

- 8th in India in the pharmacy ranking. "MoE, National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2023 (Pharmacy)" (<https://www.nirfindia.org/2023/PharmacyRanking.html>). *NIRF India Ranking*. Ministry of Education, Government of India. 5 June 2023. Retrieved 17 July 2023.
- 3rd in India in the pharmacy ranking. "MoE, National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2022 (Pharmacy)" (<https://www.nirfindia.org/2022/PharmacyRanking.html>). *NIRF India Ranking*. Ministry of Education, Government of India. 15 July 2022. Retrieved 17 July 2022.

## Faculty of Medical Sciences

- Government Medical College and Hospital, Chandigarh, Sector 32 Chandigarh
- Dr. Harvansh Singh Judge Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital

## Constituent colleges

- Baba Balraj Panjab University Constituent College, Balachaur (SBS Nagar)
- Panjab University Constituent College, Mokham Khan Wala (Ferozepur)
- Panjab University Constituent College, Nihalsingh Wala (Moga)
- Panjab University Constituent College, Dharamkot (Moga)
- Panjab University Constituent College, Sikhwal (Sri Muktsar Sahib)
- Saheed Udham Singh Panjab University Constituent College, Guru Har Sahai (Ferozpur)

## Regional centres

Originally, the university had three regional centres, one each in Ludhiana, Rohtak and Shimla. Currently, the university has following regional centres in the state of Punjab:

- Panjab University Regional Centre, Ludhiana
- Panjab University Regional Centre, Muktsar



- Panjab University Swami Sarvanand Giri Regional Centre, Hoshiarpur

## **Rural Regional Centres**

- Panjab University Rural Centre, Kauni

## **Academics**

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### **Departments and courses**

The university comprises 78 departments, 15 centres/chairs on the campus and six Constituent Colleges located at Sikhwala (Sri Muktsar Sahib), Balachaur (SBS Nagar), Nihalsingh Wala (Moga), Dharamkot (Moga), Mokham Khan Wala (Ferozepur) and Guru Harsahai (Ferozepur) and one rural regional centre. Three regional centres are grouped under the faculties of Arts, Science, Languages, Law, Education, Design and Fine Arts, Business Management and Commerce, Engineering and Technology, Hotel Management and Tourism, Medical Sciences, and Pharmaceutical Sciences.<sup>[37]</sup> There are also departments of Evening Studies and Distance Learning. Most departments have their own libraries.<sup>[38]</sup> The Faculty of Languages also has courses in foreign languages. The Department of Chinese and Tibetan languages runs 7 courses. One in Buddhist Studies and three each in Tibetan and Chin. besides providing research guidance in Buddhist Studies.

## **Accreditations and Rankings**

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### **Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)**

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) at Panjab University was established on May 1, 2003. The IQAC is integral to the university's commitment to continuous improvement and excellence in higher education. IQAC is currently headed by Prof. Sanjeev K. Sharma, Director IQAC, and Prof. Sakshi Kaushal, Associate Director.<sup>[39]</sup>

### **Accreditations**

Panjab University has undergone multiple cycles of accreditation by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), reflecting its commitment to maintaining high educational standards. The accreditation details are as follows:

- **Cycle 1:** Accredited on 21 May 2001, Panjab University received a Five Star rating with a score of 75.75.
- **Cycle 2:** On 29 January 2009, the university was awarded an 'A' grade with a CGPA of 3.47.
- **Cycle 3:** During the third cycle on 25 June 2015, it secured an 'A' grade with a CGPA of 3.35.
- **Cycle 4:** The most recent accreditation, dated 12 August 2023, saw the university achieving an 'A++' grade with a CGPA of 3.68.<sup>[5]</sup>

## Rankings

Internationally, Panjab University was ranked 1001–1200 in the QS World University Rankings of 2025<sup>[48]</sup> and 301–350 in Asia.<sup>[41]</sup> It was ranked 801–1000 in the world by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings of 2023,<sup>[42]</sup> 201–250 in Asia in 2023<sup>[42]</sup> and 201–250 among emerging economies.<sup>[42]</sup>

In India, the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) has ranked Panjab University 44th overall in 2023,"MoE, National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2023 (Overall)" (<https://www.nirfindia.org/2023/OverallRanking.html>). *NIRF India Ranking*. Ministry of Education, Government of India. 5 June 2023. Retrieved 17 July 2023. 25th among universities,"MoE, National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2023 (University)" (<https://www.nirfindia.org/2023/UniversityRanking.html>). *NIRF India Ranking*. Ministry of Education, Government of India. 5 June 2023. Retrieved 17 July 2023. 33rd in the research ranking,"MoE, National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2023 (Research)" (<https://www.nirfindia.org/2023/ResearchRanking.html>). *NIRF India Ranking*. Ministry of Education, Government of India. 5 June 2023. Retrieved 17 July 2023. 82nd in the management ranking,"MoE, National

University rankings	
General – international	
<u>QS (World) (2023)</u> <sup>[40]</sup>	1201–1400
<u>QS (Asia) (2023)</u> <sup>[41]</sup>	301–350
<u>Times (World) (2023)</u> <sup>[42]</sup>	801–1000
General – India	
<u>NIRF (Overall) (2023)</u> <sup>[43]</sup>	44
<u>NIRF (Universities) (2023)</u> <sup>[44]</sup>	25
Engineering – India	
<u>NIRF (2023)</u> <sup>[45]</sup>	101-150
Medical – India	
<u>NIRF (2023)</u> <sup>[46]</sup>	82
Pharmacy – India	
<u>NIRF (2023)</u> <sup>[47]</sup>	8

Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2023 (Management)" (<https://www.nirfindia.org/2023/ManagementRanking.html>). *NIRF India Ranking*. Ministry of Education, Government of India. 5 June 2023. Retrieved 17 July 2023. 34th in the dental ranking, "MoE, National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2023 (Dental)" (<https://www.nirfindia.org/2023/DentalRanking.html>). *NIRF India Ranking*. Ministry of Education, Government of India. 5 June 2023. Retrieved 17 July 2023. and 8th in India in the pharmacy ranking. "MoE, National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2023 (Pharmacy)" (<https://www.nirfindia.org/2023/PharmacyRanking.html>). *NIRF India Ranking*. Ministry of Education, Government of India. 5 June 2023. Retrieved 17 July 2023.

## Research

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### ICSSR

The Indian Council of Social Science Research has set up its North-Western Regional Centre on the campus. The centre runs a library, a seminar complex and a guest house for visiting scholars under its study-grants programme.

### Institute of Social Science Education and Research

Institute of Social Science Education and Research (commonly known as ISSER or PU-ISSER) is a liberal arts institution and a constituent department of the Panjab University.<sup>[49]</sup> The institute offers a five-year integrated, honour-school Masters of Arts degree in the Social Sciences.

### Research facilities

The university has been recognised by the UGC as the "University with Potential for Excellence in Bio-Medical Sciences" with facilities for Stem Cell Research and Drug Development.

The university is one of six centres in the country for super-computing facilities to serve the north-western region in the Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), DST. The government of India has identified the university as a Special Centre. The university provides internet connections for more than 1800 terminals for the use of faculty members and students. All the buildings of the university including hostels are connected through ATM and Gigabit technology.

The university has a DST supported Regional Sophisticated Instrumentation Centre along with a Central Instrumentation Laboratory (CIL) and a University Science Instrumentation Centre (USIC) to serve the scientific community on the campus and in the region. The Centre for Industry Institute Partnership Programme (CIIPP) promotes the academic-industry interface.

### **Energy Research Centre**

The Energy Research Centre was established in 1983 at Panjab University to promote R&D and Extension activities in Renewable Energy. The Energy Research Centre is the only R&D centre in the country designated as a Nodal Agency for the implementation of the programmes of MNES.

The centre has been designated as a regional test centre for testing solar thermal equipment by MNES. The Bureau of Indian Standard has approved the centre for testing wood-burning stoves. The centre has provided consultancy to countries in the Asia-Pacific region such as the Maldives, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Kiribati and Tuvalu, in the area of renewable energy sources, energy management and environmental protection. The centre has helped the states of Haryana, Panjab and Himachal Pradesh in solving problems associated with energy planning, management and environmental protection.

The centre has done work on solar thermal energy storage, solar detoxification, biomethanation of agricultural/industrial/forest wastes, biomass combustion and gasification, indoor air quality, energy and environmental conservation and management, and hydrodynamics of polymeric solutions. The Energy Research Centre has professional contacts with universities such as the University of Florida, the University of Cincinnati, SRI International USA, and Lakehead University in Canada. The centre has helped the states of Haryana, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh, U.T. Chandigarh, J&K State, and the North-Eastern states in solving problems associated with energy planning and management and Environmental protection.

### **LHC project**



The university has participated in the project called International Collaboration for Research for Elementary Particles and the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) CERN, Geneva CMS Experiment with a Government of India grant of Rs. 24.9 million.

## Student life

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### Cultural events

"Cyanide" is the annual festival of DCET/UICET. The festival often hosts star performers, DJ nights and other events. Tatva is the student magazine of DCET/UICET. There is an annual debate competition called the Polemic. Aavishkar was the technical fest of UIET until 2013. Goonj is the techno-cultural fest and Umang is the annual sports fest of UIET.<sup>[50]</sup>

Panjab University is active on social media websites such as [Facebook](#),<sup>[51]</sup> [Twitter](#)<sup>[52]</sup> and [Instagram](#).<sup>[53]</sup>

### Student council

The office of the [Panjab University Campus Students Council](#) (PUCSC) is located in the student centre. The student centre is the hub of students' activities – academic, cultural, social and political – besides being the favourite eating and hanging out zone for students. The Students' Council consists of the departmental representatives and other office bearers i.e. president, vice-president, secretary and joint-secretary directly elected by the students from the various teaching departments on the campus. The Dean of Student Welfare is *ex officio* chairman of the council.



Student Centre, Panjab University

The Students' Council organises youth festivals, both national and international, academic debates, literary and cultural events and educational tours, besides looking after the interests of the students in general. In 2015, in a referendum by University, students voted for vehicle free campus in academic areas.<sup>[54][55]</sup>

## Notable people

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## Notes

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- a. Although the senate of the university in 1947 had voted to divide the university between the two countries, the university was never officially partitioned. The Panjab University in Chandigarh nevertheless traces its origins to the university in Lahore.

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## External links

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- Official website (<https://www.puchd.ac.in/>) 
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