

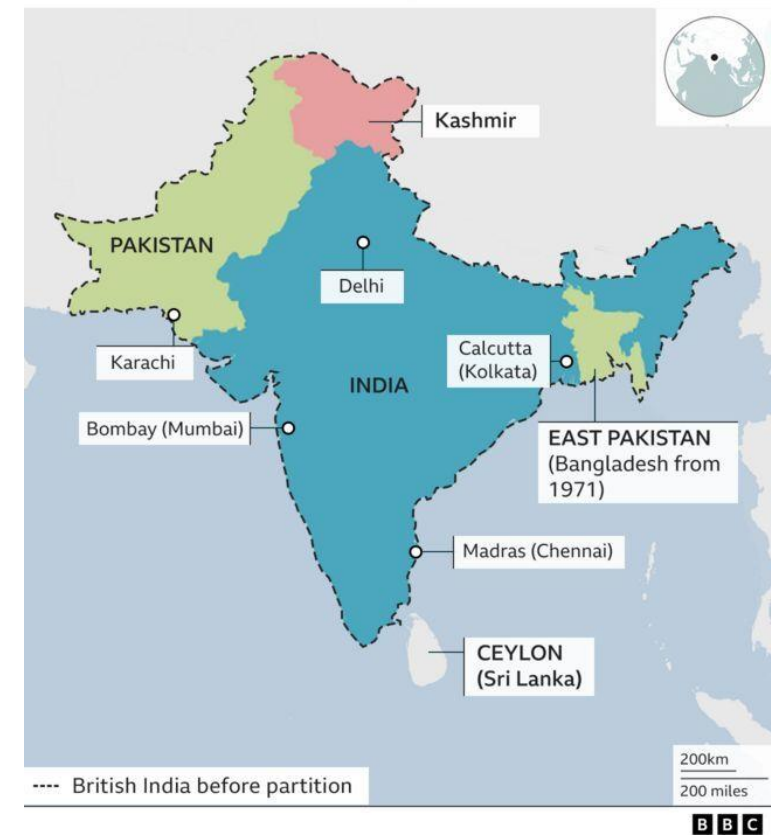
1906-1947

Bengal Partition in 1947

Bengal was divided into the two separate entities of West Bengal belonging to India, and East Bengal belonging to Pakistan.

This was part of the Partition of India and Pakistan during August 14-15, 1947.

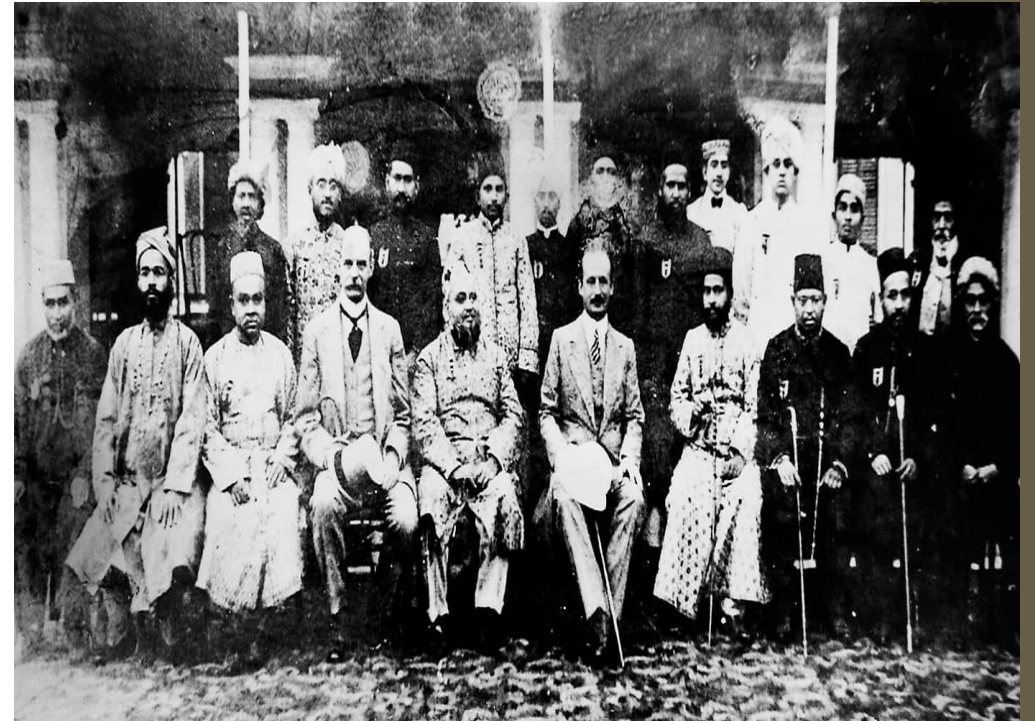
Partition of India in August 1947



Background

Formation of Muslim League:

On 30 December 1906, the All-India Muslim League (AIML) was founded in Dhaka, British India (now in Bangladesh).



Muslim League

- ❑ On 30 December 1906, around 3000 delegates attended a conference of the Muhammadan Educational Conference at Dhaka in which the ban on politics was removed.
- ❑ AIML was formed.
- ❑ The first Honorary President of the League was Aga Khan III.
- ❑ The AIML was essentially a party of educated elite Muslims, at least in the beginning.

Two nation Theory

- **The Two-Nation Theory proposed that Hindus and Muslims were distinct nations with distinct religious, cultural, and social identities.**
- **It claimed that the differences between the two communities were irreconcilable, requiring the formation of separate nations to protect their interests.**

Lahore Resolution

The Lahore Resolution was a formal statement, which sought the creation of a separate Muslim state.



Lahore Resolution

At the Lahore session of the Muslim League on 23 March 1940, Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq, proposed the establishment of several independent states in the Muslim-dominated areas of northwestern and northeastern India.



Lahore resolution

- a. Independent states to be formed with the Muslim majority regions in the North Western and North Eastern India.
- b. These independent states will be autonomous and sovereign.
- c. Sufficient measures must be taken in the constitution to ensure the rights and interests of the minority groups after discussing with them.
- d. Powers on defense, foreign affairs, communication would be bestowed upon the concerned subsidiary states.

<https://youtu.be/Nf7T0yhe-q4>

Hindu Muslim Riot

- ❑ On August 16, 1946, the Muslim League's national leader, Muhammad Jinnah called a Direct Action Day after the INC had rejected the two-nation proposal.
- ❑ In Calcutta, this turned into a frenzy of Hindu-Muslim rioting in which upwards of 4,000 people.
- ❑ Following Noakhali riot in 10th October.

Who was responsible?

- ❑ Colonial rulers blamed both the community.
- ❑ Congress blamed Muslim league especially the Chief Minister of Bengal, Suhrawardy.
- ❑ Muslim league blamed Congress and the Hindus used the opportunity offered by Direct Action Day to teach the Muslims.

United Bengal

- On April 27, 1947, the then prime minister of Bengal, H S Suhrawardy, addressed a press conference in New Delhi in which he put forward an idea.
- Suhrawardy pleaded for an 'independent, sovereign, undivided Bengal in a divided India'.
- Bengal leaders Sarat Bose and K. S. Roy worked for united Bengal. Sarat Bose wanted a secular Bengal.

Supporters and opposes

- Suhrawardi supported undivided Bengal because of the location of jute mills, industries and coal mines would go to the western part.
- Hindu Mahasabha leaders thought it would force Hindus to live under muslim domination.

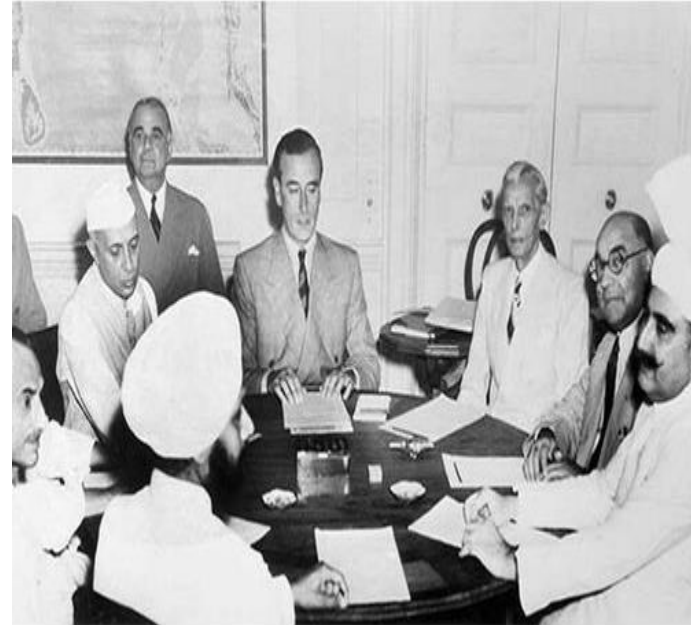


Vote for Partition

- On June 20, 1947, East Bengal legislators voted by 106 votes to 35 against partition while the legislators of West Bengal voted by 58 votes to 21 in favor of partition.

Vote for Partition

- Since the Mountbatten plan had provided for partition if any one side wanted it, the decision was ratified.



Partition

Aftermath

- The Radcliffe decision on the partition lines was not announced until August 17.
- Nearly two million people were killed in horrific violence while at least fourteen million refugees fearfully crossed the newly demarcated borders.

- 1947, Pakistan created in two parts, West and East
- Separate areas, deep differences in language, religion, culture
- Government policies, spending favored West, East remained poor
- Over 1,000 miles between the 2 regions
- Muslim, but different cultures
- The West area dominated the political ways of the country.

- **2 regions of Pakistan after independence - West and East**



Government system after birth of Pakistan

First in Pakistan	First in East Pakistan
Governor General- Mohammad Ali jinnah	Chief Minister- Khaja Nazimuddin
Prime Minister- Liyakat Ali Khan	Governor- Fredarick Chalmars Bourns

Political Parties in East Pakistan
(Formation of Awami Muslim League)

Formation Date and Place	23 June 1949 at K.M Das Len in Tikatuli at Dhaka
Presided by	Hosen Shahid Suhryawardy and Abul Kasem
President	Mawlana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani
General Secretary	Shamsul Haque
Joint Secretary	Sheikh Mujibur Rahman