

Citizenship

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Different Senses of Citizenship

Citizenship is seen by most scholars as culture-specific, it varies considerably from culture to culture, and over time.

Under social contract theory:

In this sense, citizenship was described as "a bundle of rights[and duties] primarily, the duty political participation in the life of the community in exchange for the right to vote, and the right to receive certain protection from the community, as well as obligations."



Fig: Sophia, a citizen of Saudi Arabia.

Different Senses of Citizenship

Citizenship is a status in society. It generally describes a person with legal rights within a given political order. It **almost always has an element of exclusion**, meaning that some people are not citizens, and that this distinction can sometimes be important depending on the society.

Citizenship as a concept is generally **hard to isolate intellectually** and compare with related political notions, as it relates to many other aspects of society such as the family, military service, the individual, freedom, religion, ideas of right and wrong, ethnicity, and patterns for how a person should behave in society. When there are many different groups within a nation, **citizenship may be the only real bond which unites everybody as equals without discrimination.**

Modern Citizenship

Liberal-individualist Conception

Thomas Jefferson

John Locke

It suggests that citizens should have entitlements necessary for human dignity.

According to this viewpoint, citizens are sovereign, morally autonomous beings with duties to pay taxes, obey the law, engage in business transactions,

Modern Citizenship

Liberal-individualist Conception

and defend the nation if it comes under attack, but are essentially passive politically, and their primary focus is on economic betterment.

According to this formulation, the state exists for the benefit of citizens and has an obligation to respect and protect the rights of citizens, including civil rights and political rights.

Modern Citizenship

Civic-republican Conception

Plato, Aristotle

James Madison

It emphasizes man's political nature, and sees citizenship as an active process, not a passive state or legal marker.

It is relatively more concerned that government will interfere with popular places to practice citizenship in the public sphere. Citizenship means being active in government affairs.

Two contrasting views of citizenship

Liberal-individualist conception

Focus on man's economic nature

Citizens are sovereign, autonomous beings with duties to pay taxes, obey the law, engage in business, defend the nation if necessary

Citizenship is based on reason for the pursuit of enlightened self-interest

Citizens are essentially passive politically

May lead to a degeneration of public spirit

Civic-republican conception

Focus on man's political nature

Citizenship is about democratic participation, which can channel legitimate frustrations and grievances and bring people to focus on matters of common concern

Citizenship happens in the public sphere

Citizens are active politically

May lead to the "free rider" problem in which some neglect citizenship duties

Difference between Citizen and Alien

A citizen is a person who is a member of a particular country and gets to enjoy the rights granted by the land because of being born there or because of being given those rights.

A citizen Enjoys the following rights:

1. Residence: Permanent
2. Rights: Civic and Political
3. Loyalty: Cannot go against the state, as he/she is a loyal member of the state.

An Alien Enjoys the following rights:

1. Residence: Temporary
2. Rights: Civic rights
3. Loyalty: Depends on the country the foreign originator belongs to.



Video Summary

- Born in India(5 years)
- Illegally migrated to America(now in his 20s)
- Got more civic and political rights under the DACA program
- Joined the American Army
- Might get deported

Determining factors

Introduction

Each country has its own policies, regulations and criteria as to who is entitled to its citizenship. A person can be recognized or granted citizenship on a number of bases. Usually citizenship based on the place of birth is automatic, but in other cases an application may be required.

Determining factors

Born within a country
*jus soli**

Some people are automatically citizens of the state in which they are born. This form of citizenship originated in England where those who were born within the realm were subjects of the monarch (a concept pre-dating citizenship) and is common in common law countries.

*In many cases, both *jus soli* and *jus sanguinis* hold citizenship by place.

Determining factors

By Blood
jus sanguinis

If one or both of a person's parents are citizens of a given state, then the person may have the right to be a citizen of that state as well. Formerly this might only have applied through the paternal line, but gender equality became common since the late twentieth century. Citizenship is granted based on ancestry or ethnicity and is related to the concept of a nation state common in China.

Determining factors

Citizenship by marriage
jus matrimonii

Many countries fast-track naturalization based on the marriage of a person to a citizen.

Countries which are destinations for such immigration often have regulations to try to detect sham marriages, where a citizen marries a non-citizen typically for payment, without them having the intention of living together.

Determining factors

Naturalization

States normally grant citizenship to people who have entered the country legally and been granted permit to stay, or been granted political asylum.

Determining factors

Naturalization

In some countries, naturalization is subject to conditions which may include passing a test demonstrating reasonable knowledge of the language or way of life of the host country, good conduct and moral character, vowing allegiance to their new state or its ruler and renouncing their prior citizenship.

Determining factors

Loss of Citizenship

Loss of citizenship also known as loss of nationality is the event of ceasing to be a citizen of a country under the national law of the country.

The grounds for this vary from country to country. Broadly speaking the following are usually the reasons for losing citizenship:

Determining factors

Loss of Citizenship

1. Voluntary acquisition of another citizenship
2. Residing abroad on a permanent basis.
3. Serving in a foreign unitary/government/Army.
4. Committing treason or other acts against the government.
5. Attaining Naturalisation through unlawful methods.

Difference between Natural born and naturalized Citizenship

A naturalised citizen is a person who became a citizen of a foreign land by acquiring it after the birth in some other country. While A natural born citizen is a citizen who was born in the particular country, or is related by blood

The case of enjoying similar rights vary from country to country. E.g In India Naturalized citizen can contest parliamentary elections whereas a Naturalised citizen in USA cannot.

Famous Thinkers and their Ideas on Citizenship

Nehru's views on Citizenship

Democracy requires the participation of all, none in the territory of the state can be ignored. There can be no difference between the majority and minority, and there will be no discrimination on the basis of races, caste, religion, gender etc. These elements constitute the philosophical basis of Indian democracy which has been ensured by the Indian Constitution. These ideals were ingrained in his mind as reflected in his activities during the freedom struggle and later as the head of the government. Pandit Nehru presented the Objectives Resolution in the Constituent Assembly in which he elaborated several elements of the India of the future which found explicit expression in the Preamble, Fundamental Rights and other provisions of the Constitution.

Nehru's views on Citizenship

The ideals of justice, social, economic and political; equality of status, of opportunity, and before the law; freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, worship, vocation, association and action were the components of this resolution which evolved as the bedrock on which the liberal democratic order of the country stands. He believed like the Greek thinkers that citizens have a crucial role in governance; hence they need to participate in the democratic system as an energetic individual. The children of today are the future of the country. They are citizens of tomorrow whose political participation will ensure the longevity of democracy; this analysis led him to embrace the children in all dimensions.

Nehru's views on Citizenship

His citizen participation concept suggests that he wanted a participatory form of democracy. Greek ideals influenced him as the election of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, as the second President of the Republic, in the tradition of a philosopher king; a concept elaborated by Plato which was accepted by Pandit Nehru who acted as a major factor to elevate Dr Radhakrishnan to the highest position in the republic.

TH Marshall's views on Citizenship

Marshall's concept defines the social responsibilities the state has to its citizens or, as Marshall puts it, "from [granting] the right to a modicum of economic welfare and security to the right to share to the full in the social heritage and to live the life of a civilized being according to the standards prevailing in the society". One of the key points made by Marshall is his belief in an evolution of rights in England acquired via citizenship, from "civil rights in the eighteenth [century], political in the nineteenth, and social in the twentieth". This evolution however, has been criticized by many for only being from the perspective of the white working man.

TH Marshall's views on Citizenship

Marshall concludes his essay with three major factors for the evolution of social rights and for their further evolution, listed below:

1. The lessening of the income gap
2. "The great extension of the area of common culture and common experience"
3. An enlargement of citizenship and more rights granted to these citizens. Many of the social responsibilities of a state have since become a major part of many state's policies. However, these have also become controversial issues as there is a debate over whether a citizen truly has the right to education and even more so, to social welfare.

Martin Luther King Jr.'s views on Citizenship

He led his people, stood for what he believed in, and gave himself unselfishly. King proved to be a great leader by leading the Civil Rights Movement of the sixties. That's the kind of citizens we should be. We should be leaders and able to work together with others to get through our differences like King did. He was a great leader that helped end segregation. Many other Civil Rights leaders fought for their beliefs violently. King showed to be a true citizen by leading peaceful protests instead of violent ones. We, as citizens, should be enough of a leader, like Martin Luther King, to stop injustice, or at least fight peacefully instead of with fists and guns.

Martin Luther King Jr.'s views on Citizenship

King was the kind of leader people listened to. He helped bring people with opposing viewpoints together like a family reunion. His views showed people that even if we are different with different views, we are all, actually, equal. King stood up for what he believed in like the ideal citizen would. He made powerful speeches about what he thought was for the good of people everywhere and of every race. He believed all men are created equal and no one should be treated any less than another because of race, gender, national origin, or religion.

Citizen and Nation

Duties of a Citizen

- Allegiance
- Obedience
- Payment of Taxes
- Help to Public Officials in the maintenance of Law and Order
- Tolerance
- Support and defend the Constitution.
- Play an active role in the voting process
- to uphold and protect the unity and security
- Defend the country if the need should arise.

Citizens and Aliens

All persons who reside within a state can be classified into two groups—citizens and aliens. There are three types of aliens.

1. **Resident Aliens:** They adopt the new country as their home and usually obtain a certificate of naturalization.
2. **Temporary Residents or Travellers:** They live in foreign lands only temporarily.
3. **Diplomatic Representatives:** They include ambassadors, ministers, consuls, agents and the subordinate staff attached to them.

Similarities and Difference

Similarities:

There are certain things common to both. Both of them live in the state, pay taxes, obey the laws of the state and enjoy civil rights. The status of a citizen however is definitely superior to that of an alien.

Differences:

- a. A citizen is a permanent resident of a state, while an alien is a temporary resident, who comes for a specific duration of time as a tourist or on diplomatic assignment.
- b. Citizens enjoy political rights and participate in the functioning of government, Aliens do not possess such rights in the state where they reside temporarily. They however enjoy certain civil rights, i.e., the rights to life, personal property and religion

Indian Nationality Law

The Citizenship Act, 1955

The conferment of a person, as a citizen of India, is governed by Articles 5 to 11 (Part II) of the Constitution of India. The legislation related to this matter is the Citizenship Act 1955, which has been amended by the Citizenship (Amendment) Act 1986, the Citizenship (Amendment) Act 1992, the Citizenship (Amendment) Act 2003, The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2005 and Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2015 Article 9 of Indian Constitution says that a person who voluntarily acquires citizenship of any other country is no longer an Indian citizen. Also, according to The

Passports Act, a person has to surrender his/her Indian passport and vote card and other Indian ID cards must not use after other country citizenship. It is a punishable offence if the person fails to surrender the passport.



सत्यमेव जयते

Granting Citizenship in India

1. Citizenship at the commencement of the constitution of India

Persons domiciled in the territory of India as on 26 November 1949 automatically became Indian citizens by virtue of operation of the relevant provisions of the Indian Constitution coming into force, and most of these constitutional provisions came into force on 26 January 1950. The Constitution of India also made provision regarding citizenship for migrants from the territories of Pakistan which had been part of India before partition.

2. Citizenship by birth

Any person born in India on or after 26 January 1950, but prior to the commencement of the 1986 Act on 1 July 1987, is a citizen of India by birth. Those born in India on or after 3 December 2004 are considered citizens of India only if both of their parents are citizens of India or if one parent is a citizen of India and the other is not an illegal migrant at the time of their birth. In September 2013, Bombay High Court gave a judgement that a birth certificate, passport or even an Aadhaar card alone may not be enough to prove Indian citizenship, unless the parents are Indian citizens.

Granting Citizenship in India

3. Citizenship by descent

Persons born outside India on or after 26 January 1950 but before 10 December 1992 are citizens of India by descent if their father was a citizen of India at the time of their birth. Persons born outside India on or after 10 December 1992 are considered citizens of India if either of their parents is a citizen of India at the time of their birth. From 3 December 2004 onwards, persons born outside of India shall not be considered citizens of India unless their birth is registered at an Indian diplomatic mission within one year of the date of birth. In certain circumstances it is possible to register after one year with the permission of the Central Government. The application for registration of the birth of a child must be made to an Indian diplomatic mission and must be accompanied by an undertaking in writing from the parents of the child that he or she does not hold the passport of another country.

Granting Citizenship in India

4. Citizenship by naturalisation

Citizenship of India by naturalisation can be acquired by a foreigner (not illegal migrant) who is ordinarily resident in India for 12 years (throughout the period of 12 months immediately preceding the date of application and for 11 years in the aggregate in the 14 years preceding the 12 months) and other qualifications as specified in Third Schedule to the Citizen Act.

Granting Citizenship in India

5. Citizenship by registration

The Central Government may, on an application, register as a citizen of India under section 5 of the Citizenship Act 1955 any person (not being an illegal migrant) if s/he belongs to any of the following categories:

- A) A person of Indian origin who is ordinarily resident in India for seven years before making application under Section 5(1)(a) (throughout the period of twelve months immediately before making application and for six years in the aggregate in the eight years preceding the 12 months).
- B) A person of Indian origin who is ordinarily resident in any country or place outside undivided India

Granting Citizenship in India

- C) A person who is married to a citizen of India and is ordinarily resident in India for seven years before making an application for registration;
- D) minor children of persons who are citizens of India;
- E) A person of full age and capacity whose parents are registered as citizens of India.
- F) A person of full age and capacity who, or either of his parents, was earlier citizen of independent India, and has been residing in India for one year immediately before making an application for registration
- G) A person of full age and capacity who has been registered as an overseas citizen of India for five years, and who has been residing in India for one year before making an application for registration.

Unconventional Forms of Citizenship

Dual Citizenship

It is generally difficult to have dual citizenship of India and another country, due to the provisions for loss of Indian nationality when an Indian national naturalizes in another country and the requirement to renounce one's existing citizenships when naturalizing in India. There are still some ways in which a person may have dual citizenship of India and another country, including:

1. Children of foreign diplomats, who are born in India, are also given dual citizenship during the period of their parents' service in India.
2. A minor child of Indian origins may hold dual citizenship of India and another country. So that the minor can decide within six months of completing 18 years of age as to whether he/she prefers Indian citizenship.

Honorary Citizenship

Honorary citizenship is a status bestowed by a country on a foreign individual whom it considers to be especially admirable or otherwise worthy of the distinction.

Example:

1. Malala Yousafzai on 12 April 2017, she was awarded honorary Canadian Citizenship by PM Justin Trudeau for her work on providing education to girls in her hometown Swat during Taliban occupation.

Honorary Citizenship

2. Ernesto "Che" Guevara

Embarking on fomenting revolutions in other countries, Che Guevara, in his farewell letter to Fidel, gave up all his official ties to Cuba, including citizenship

Che Guevara was made an honorary citizen of Cuba by Fidel Castro for his part in the Cuban Revolution.

New and Evolving Ideas of Citizenship

Global Citizenship

Global citizenship is the rights, responsibilities and duties that come with being a member of the global entity as a citizen of a particular nation or place. The idea is that one's identity transcends geography or political borders and that responsibilities or rights are derived from membership in a broader class: "humanity". This does not mean that such a person denounces or waives their nationality or other, more local identities, but such identities are given "second place" to their membership in a global community

Global Citizenship: What it is and isn't

Global citizenship is a concept that has produced varied and contested understandings, not the least of which is the argument that the privilege of legal status inherently associated with national citizenship is not a feature of global citizenship.

British Prime Minister Theresa May recently opined: “If you believe you’re a citizen of the world, you’re a citizen of nowhere. You don’t understand what the very word ‘citizenship’ means.”

Global Citizenship: What it is and isn't

Notwithstanding this sort of misguided criticism, there's a general consensus that the term orients towards recognizing the interconnectedness of life, respecting cultural diversity and human rights, advocating global social justice, empathizing with suffering people around the world, seeing the world as others see it and feeling a sense of moral responsibility for planet Earth. Global citizenship usually involves three dimensions — awareness (of self and others), responsibility and participation. The enlightened global citizen understands that there doesn't have to be a tension between a nationalistic sense of duty and a moral obligations to the rest of the world.

Global Citizenship: What it is and isn't

Global leaders who state otherwise are mired in old and tired ways of competing for the planet's resources and securing the welfare of its inhabitants and ecosystems. Global citizenship offers hope for embracing a mindset that can ensure the future sustainability of our planet, and all of its living forms.

Universal Citizenship

Universal Citizens are those who dedicate themselves to a global vision of a harmonious humanity. They are people who desire to live justly and peacefully with one another, and with all of creation. This form of citizenship is based on an individual's internal state and desire to bind back the self to the Original wholeness from which all existence emanates. A citizenship based on higher consciousness.

This reform cannot be decreed by law nor implemented by force. It can only be realized through self examination, reformation and refinement through abiding to the noble standards of Universal ethics, virtues, and all the higher values.

Universal Citizenship

The conditions for a universal citizenship are the existence of a material, objective human community, that is to say, truly universal and growing interconnections. This is being increasingly allowed by communication and transportation technologies. Secondly, interaction as it happens in any area and people of the planet affects all the others in some way or another, for better or for worse, which is also already and increasingly happening (economic and environmental crises, pandemics, etc.). Finally, there is also growing consciousness among all peoples, with whom we share the same fate as a species of the planet.

Digital Citizenship

A digital citizen refers to a person utilizing information technology (IT) in order to engage in society, politics, and government. K. Mossberger, et al. define digital citizens as "those who use the Internet regularly and effectively".

People characterizing themselves as digital citizens often use IT extensively, creating blogs, using social networks, and participating in online journalism. In the framework of T.H. Marshall's perspective on citizenship's three traditions (liberalism, republicanism, and ascriptive hierarchy), digital citizenry can occur alongside the promotion of equal economic opportunity, as well as increased political participation and civic duty. Digital technology can lower the barriers to entry for participation as a citizen within society.

Interpretations of Citizenship in Modern History

Introduction

The modern idea of citizenship respects the idea of political participation, but it is usually done through "elaborate systems of political representation" such as representative democracy. Citizens are usually aware of their obligations to authorities, and are aware that these bonds often limit what they can do.



Evolution of Citizenship in United States

From 1790 until the mid-twentieth century, United States law used racial criteria to establish citizenship rights and regulate who was eligible to become a naturalized citizen. The Naturalization Act of 1790, the first law in U.S. history to establish rules for citizenship and naturalization, barred citizenship to all people who were not of European descent, stating that "any Alien being a free white person, who shall have resided within the limits and under the jurisdiction of the United States for the term of two years, may be admitted to become a citizen thereof."

It was not until the abolition of slavery following the American Civil War that African Americans were granted citizenship rights.

The 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified on July 9, 1868, stated that "all persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside." Two years later, the Naturalization Act of 1870 extended the right to become a naturalized citizen to include "aliens of African nativity and to persons of African descent".

Evolution of Citizenship in United States

Despite the gains made by African Americans after the Civil War, Native Americans, Asians, and others not considered "free white persons" were still denied the ability to become citizens.

The 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act explicitly denied naturalization rights to all people of Chinese origin, while subsequent acts passed by the US Congress, such as laws in 1906, 1917, and 1924, would include clauses that denied immigration and naturalization rights to people based on broadly defined racial categories.

Supreme Court cases such as *U.S. v. Bhagat Singh Thind* (1923), would later clarify the meaning of the phrase "free white persons," ruling that Japanese, Indian, and other non-European people were not "white persons", and were therefore ineligible for citizenship under U.S. law.

Native Americans were not granted full US citizenship until the passage of the Indian Citizenship Act in 1924. However, even well into the 1960s some state laws prevented Native Americans from exercising their full rights as citizens, such as the right to vote.

Evolution of Citizenship in United States

It was not until the passage of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 that the racial and gender restrictions for naturalization were explicitly abolished. However, the act still contained restrictions regarding who was eligible for US citizenship, and retained a national quota system which limited the number of visas given to immigrants based on their national origin, to be fixed "at a rate of one-sixth of one percent of each nationality's population in the United States in 1920". It was not until the passage of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 that these immigration quota systems were drastically altered in favor of a less discriminatory system.

Current interpretation of Citizenship in United States

There are two primary sources of citizenship:

1. birthright citizenship, in which a person is presumed to be a citizen provided that they are born within the territorial limits of the United States, or other circumstances existing at the time of their birth (for example, citizenship of a parent),
2. Naturalization citizenship, a process in which an immigrant applies for citizenship and is accepted. These two pathways to citizenship are specified in the Citizenship Clause of the Constitution's 1868

Citizenship of the United States is a status that entails specific rights, duties and benefits. Citizenship is understood as a "right to have rights" since it serves as a foundation for a bundle of subsequent rights, such as the right to live and work in the United States and to receive federal assistance.

Current interpretation of Citizenship in United States

U.S. law permits multiple citizenship. A citizen of another country naturalized as a U.S. citizen may retain their previous citizenship, though they must renounce allegiance to the other country. A U.S. citizen retains U.S. citizenship when becoming the citizen of another country, should that country's laws allow it.

Citizenship can be renounced by American citizens who also hold another citizenship via a formal procedure at a U.S. Embassy, and it can also be restored.

The United States, which is not a signatory to the 1954 Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons or the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, is one of a small number of countries that allow their citizens to renounce their citizenship even if they do not hold any other.

Citizenship in Soviet Union

The 1918 constitution of revolutionary Russia granted citizenship to any foreigners who were living within Russia, so long as they were "engaged in work and [belonged] to the working class." It recognized "the equal rights of all citizens, irrespective of their racial or national connections" and declared oppression of any minority group or race "to be contrary to the fundamental laws of the Republic."

The 1918 constitution also established the right to vote and be elected to soviets for both men and women "irrespective of religion, nationality, domicile, etc. [...] who shall have completed their eighteenth year by the day of election."

The later constitutions of the USSR would grant universal Soviet citizenship to the citizens of all member republics in concord with the principles of non-discrimination laid out in the original 1918 constitution of Russia.

Citizenship in Nazi Germany

Classification of inhabitants

Nazi Germany classified inhabitants of the nation into three main hierarchical categories, each of which would have different rights and duties in relation to the state:

1. Citizens
2. Subjects
3. Aliens

Citizenship in Nazi Germany

Citizens

Citizens, were to possess full civic rights and responsibilities.

Citizenship would be conferred only on males of German (or so-called "Aryan") heritage who had completed military service, and could be revoked at any time by the state. The Reich Citizenship Law of 1935 established racial criteria for citizenship in the German Reich, and because of this law Jews and others who could not prove "German" racial heritage were stripped of their citizenship.

Citizenship in Nazi Germany

Subjects

Subjects, referred to all others who were born within the nation's boundaries who did not fit the racial criteria for citizenship.

Subjects would have no voting rights, could not hold any position within the state, and possessed none of the other rights and civic responsibilities conferred on citizens. All women were to be conferred "subject" status upon birth, and could only obtain "citizen" status if they worked independently or if they married a German citizen.

Citizenship in Nazi Germany

Aliens

Aliens, referred to those who were citizens of another state, who also had no rights.

Refugee Crisis

Refugee crisis: Introduction

Refugee crisis can refer to movements of large groups of displaced people, who could be either internally displaced persons, refugees or other migrants. It can also refer to incidents in the country of origin or departure, to large problems whilst on the move or even after arrival in a safe country that involve large groups of displaced persons, asylum seekers or refugees.

According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, in 2017, 65.6 million people were forcibly displaced worldwide because of persecution, conflict, violence, or human rights violations alone.



Artist Ai Weiwei poses as drowned Syrian refugee toddler to raise funds to conduct relief missions



Syrian Refugee Crisis

Since March 2011, conflict has devastated Syria. Now it is internationally recognized as the largest refugee and displacement crisis of our time. The Syrian civil war has set back the national standard of living by decades — now that healthcare, schools, and water and sanitation systems have been damaged or destroyed.

Syrian children and families have witnessed unspeakable violence and bear the brunt of the conflict. Hundreds of thousands of people have died, 5.1 million Syrians have fled the country as refugees, and 6.3 million Syrians are displaced within the country. Half of those affected are children.

What started the Syrian civil war?

The Syrian civil war officially began March 15, 2011, when peaceful protesters calling for government reform took to the streets in southern Syria. As the movement spread through the country, it met with strong government crackdowns and increasing violence on both sides.

By the following year, Syria was embroiled in a civil war, with the Syrian military opposing a growing number of militant groups. Conflict has torn apart the lives of Syrian children and families as government forces and militant groups fight to take and rule territory.

The country's weakened governance, as well as the destruction of its social services and institutions, make Syria a textbook case of a fragile state.

Why are Syrians fleeing their homes?

Syrians flee their homes when life becomes unbearable. These are some of the top reasons they cite:

1. Violence: Since the Syrian civil war began, an estimated 470,000 people have been killed, including about 55,000 children, reports the Syrian Center for Policy Research. The war has become deadlier since foreign powers joined the conflict.
2. Collapsed infrastructure: Within Syria, 95 percent of people lack adequate healthcare, 70 percent lack regular access to clean water. Half the children are out of school. The economy is shattered and four-fifths of the population lives in poverty.
3. Children in danger and distress: Syrian children — the nation's hope for a better future — have lost loved ones, suffered injuries, missed years of schooling, and experienced unspeakable violence and brutality.

Indian Refugee Crisis: Partition

Massive population exchanges occurred between the two newly formed nations 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 million Muslims went to Pakistan from India while 7.249 million Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims were forced to move to India from Pakistan immediately after partition. About 11.2 million or 78% of the population transfer was on 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 were moved from Pakistan to East Punjab in India; elsewhere in the west 1.2 million moved in each direction to and from Sind. The initial population transfer on the east involved 3.5 million Hindus moving from East Bengal to India and only 0.7 million Muslims moving the other way.

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Thanks!

Members:

- Michael
- Sowmya
- Riya
- Sidhant

