

India & Pakistan Problem:

Most Indians were divided by:

-caste -region -language -religious & ethnic background

Many Indians were also poor & uneducated

As independence neared a long simmering issue surfaced

What would happen to the Muslim minority in a Hindu-dominated India?

Muhammad Ali Jinnah-leader of the Muslim League

-insisted that Muslims have their own state-Pakistan

In 1947 when India becomes a free country, it has around

350 million Hindus

100 million Muslims

The Congressional Party (which controls India) is dominated by Hindus

The Muslims who lived mostly in NW & NE India and are unhappy

Solution: Partition

PROBLEM

-drawing fair borders was impossible b/c Hindus & Muslims lived side by side

2 nations were created

India for the majority Hindus

Pakistan for the minority Muslims

-Pakistan would be made up of 2 widely separate areas in the northern part of the subcontinent that had large Muslim populations -East Pakistan and West Pakistan

Millions of Hindus & Muslims crossed the borders of India & Pakistan in both directions

-during this mass migration centuries of mistrust-which the British had exploited to keep the people divided-plunged India into savage violence

Sikh & Hindu mobs slaughtered Muslims who were fleeing into Pakistan

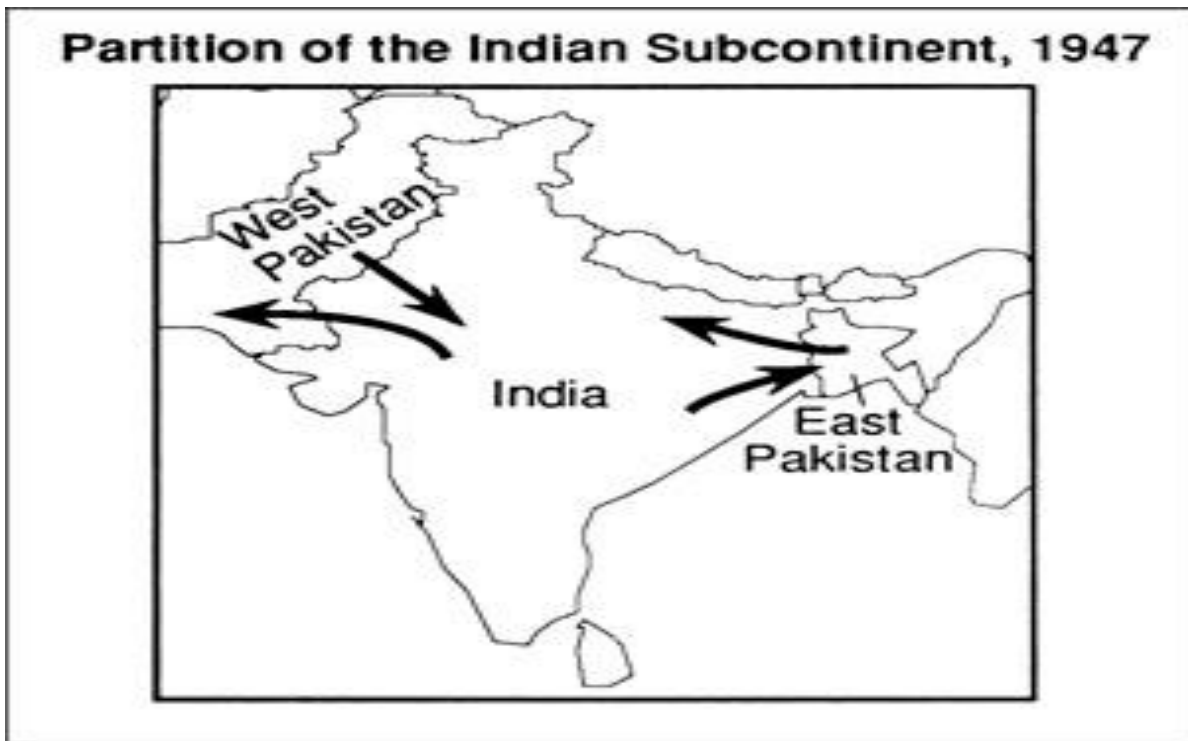
Muslims massacred Hindus & Sikhs (religion that blends elements of Islam & Hinduism)

→ **10 million people on the move**

Hindus to India and Muslims to Pakistan

1000's killed from rioting

January 30th, 1948-Gandhi is shot & killed by a Hindu extremist



Civil war between East & West Pakistan

→ **In 1971 East Pakistan declared its independence from West Pakistan**

→ **East Pakistan becomes Bangladesh**

□ → **West Pakistan becomes Pakistan**

Since 1947 – India & Pakistan have fought over Kashmir

Both India and Pakistan claim the area in Northern India

→Source of tension and war

-Kashmir is governed by India but the population is predominantly Muslim

→the 2 nations have fought wars over Kashmir

-a fragile truce is currently being maintained

-but in recent years a number of terrorist attacks by Islamic separatists have raised the fear of war between these 2 nuclear powers



Both India & Pakistan now have nuclear weapons