

# HIRALAL MAZUMDAR MEMORIAL COLLEGE

FOR WOMEN

## Internal Assessment

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# acknowledgment

I have taken efforts in this project. However, it would not have been possible without the kind support of my family & friends. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of them.

I am highly indebted to the Prof. Incharge Mrs. Shraboni Majumdar for her guidance and constant supervision as well as for providing necessary information regarding the project and also for her support in completing the project.

I would like to express my gratitude towards my parents for their kind co-operation and encouragement which help me in the completion of this project.

# Certificate

This is to certify that Anushka Biswas of Department of English, of Hirakar Narzunder Memorial College for women, has completed her project file under my guidance. She has taken proper care and shown almost sincerity in completing this project. I certify that this project is up to my expectations.



Signature -

# introduction

"Basti" (1979) by Intizar Husain is an Urdu Novel that deals with the memory of partition history and violence. It has also collected pain, suffering, horror and terror of partition violence. This novel speaks the painful voice of the people who migrated to the new dream land Pakistan. The protagonist Zakir is the representative of all Muslim people who suffered in Pakistan after partition. Husain has created this novel out of his historical memory of partition. So it is a repository record of pre-partition and post-partition effect and memory. Memory is the store house of every experience of the past events. Traumatic memory of Indian Subcontinent has haunted all the characters in the novel. Husain has tactfully constructed this novel by subverting the traditional concept of partition that partition is benevolent. History glorifies the partition. Husain subverts this concept by showing

# History

- When the partition of Bengal took place on a religious basis, it can be claimed that the seeds for the partition of India were planted.
- Lord Curzon, the Viceroy, was forced to change his mind after widespread outrage and protest.
- At the Congress session in Lucknow 1916, the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League engaged in unprecedented cooperation under the Lucknow Pact.
- It was triggered by the Muslim League's concern that the British government's "religious neutrality" was fake.

resulted from the fact that India and Britain were at war.

# Causes of Partition of India 1937

The Partition of India was a result of a number of events that took place in a sequential manner. The British "Divide and Rule Policy" was mostly responsible for it, and on the basis of this policy, many events took place. Partition of Bengal in 1905, Separate electoral to Muslim in 1909, Lucknow Pact in 1916, the introduction of the two-nation theory in 1924, Provincial elections in 1937, August Offer 1940, Quit India Resolution, the election of 1946, Cabinet Mission and finally, Mountbatten Plan. The following events led to the Partition of India.

# Radcliffe line

The Radcliffe Line is a significant border that divides India and Pakistan. It was drawn by Sir Cyril Radcliffe, a British lawyer, in 1947 during the process of Partitioning British India into separate countries - India and Pakistan.

- During that time, when India gained independence from British rule, it was decided that there would be a separate country for Muslims, which later became Pakistan. The Radcliffe Line was drawn to determine the boundary between the two newly created nations based on religious demographics.
- Sir Cyril Radcliffe had the arduous task of drawing the border, though he had never been to before. He was given just five

# British-Indian Empire 1947



# Violence

- Large groups of people carrying their belongings were attacked and killed by men on horses with swords.
  - However, those who travelled in small groups without belongings were spared. During this time, about 2 million people lost their lives in communal riots and violence that occurred.
  - Additionally, around 25 million people, which is about 1% of the world's population, were forced to leave their homes and had nowhere to live or find shelter.
- When the Partition was announced it resulted in mixed feelings of anger and joy.



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1 000 km

Boundary of British Indian Empire (1939)

Union of India

Pakistan (1948)

Large princely states not acceding to either country upon independence  
inter-communal conflict

Movements of Hindu and Sikh refugees

Movements of Muslim refugees

# Regions Affected

The partition led to widespread and mass migrations as people from different religious communities were forced to leave their homes and move to the country that aligned with their religious identity. The regions affected by the partition were Bengal, and Jammu and Kashmir.

In Punjab, which was divided into Punjab (part of India) and West Punjab (part of Pakistan), there was intense communal violence and large-scale displacement of people. Many lives were lost, and countless families were uprooted from their ancestral homes.

Bengal, also experienced communal violence and displacement. The province was divided into East Bengal (part of Pakistan) and West Bengal (part of India). The

# Conclusion

After three hundred years in India, the British eventually left in August 1947, and the continent was divided into two independent countries: Hindu-majority India and Muslim-majority Pakistan. There was widespread violence with contested estimates of the number of deaths ranging from several hundred thousand to two million. The violence of the Partition of India fostered a climate of hatred and mistrust between India and Pakistan that continues to have an impact on their relationship today.

The partition of India and Pakistan in 1947 had a profound impact on the regions of Punjab, Bengal, and Jammu & Kashmir. It resulted in violence, mass migration, and long-lasting consequences for the people living in these areas.

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