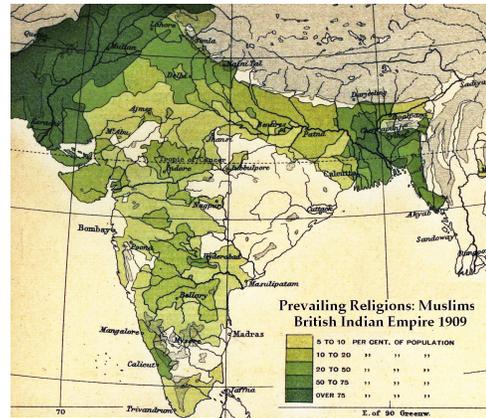
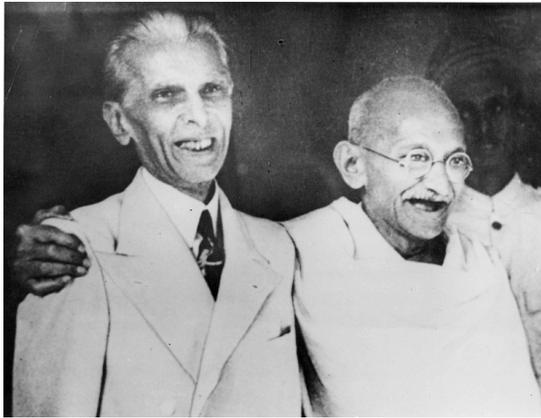


## I. Independence and Partition (1947)

1. With World War II behind it, the British Empire began to collapse, as the British government was desperately focused on rebuilding its own country.
2. Britain thus finally agreed to “swaraj” (self rule) by India.
3. The great challenge of independence was the desire for the two main groups of South Asian people to have “swaraj.” Hindus would have been satisfied to make one country, in which they would be the majority, but Muslims feared that outcome, and had organized a “Pakistan Movement,” led by Muhammad Jinnah of the Muslim League, to create a separate country.
4. The outcome of the negotiations by all the groups involved was the creation of two countries: India and Pakistan (which at first included Bangladesh as “East Pakistan.”)



Muhammad Jinnah (the leader of the Muslim League) and Mohandas Gandhi both wanted “swaraj” for South Asia. Jinnah, however, wanted Muslims to have their own country. The areas in dark green on the map (right) show where Muslims were the majority.

## J. Post-Colonial South Asia (1947- )

1. As soon as the lines were drawn, a crisis occurred. There were ten of millions of Hindus in the new Pakistan and tens of millions of Muslims in India. Many were afraid of being stuck there, so a mass migration occurred in both directions.
2. One region in northern India called “Jammu and Kashmir” wanted to stay independent, but its population was mainly Muslim, and the leaders of Pakistan tried to force it to join them. The ruler joined India to avoid this outcome, which sparked the *First Indo-Pakistani War (1947-9)*, which did not resolve the problem, and led to the *Second Indo-Pakistani War (1965)*, which also was inconclusive.
3. The other territorial problem was that Pakistan had two very different parts, separated by a thousand miles, and a hostile India! More than that: the people of Bangladesh spoke Bengali, and the people of Pakistan speak Urdu. Their cultures had developed separately throughout history, even though both were Muslim. That was not enough to maintain

their unity, and the *Bangladesh War of Independence* became the *Third Indo-Pakistani War (1970-1)* when India helped Bangladesh to become independent.

4. Although hostile to one another, Pakistan and India were both mainly *post-colonial* cultures. That means that their main goal was to be independent of any powerful nation that might seek to control them.
5. When Russia and America squared off for control of the world, India became the leader of the “Non-Aligned Movement” (an organization with many Asian, Africa, and Latin American countries) in order to avoid being controlled by either one.
6. Pakistan took advantage of India’s desire not to work with the United States and decided to cozy up to America in order to avoid communism and get military help.
7. India, feeling insecure, in a world of nuclear superpowers, decided to develop nuclear weapons of its own, causing Pakistan to do the same in self-defense.
8. The nuclear standoff between the two is part of the puzzle of the world today, and it makes the fate of Pakistan a very difficult problem.
9. Pakistan is not only a Muslim country, but an Islamist one. When the United States found Osama Bin Laden (the terrorist who organized the attacks of 9/11), he was hiding in Pakistan.
10. This means that the United States is actually allies with a country where Islamism teaches people to become terrorists.
11. This also makes it hard for America and India to be friends, because India sees how America acts to help the Islamist country of Pakistan, and obviously doesn’t like it.