

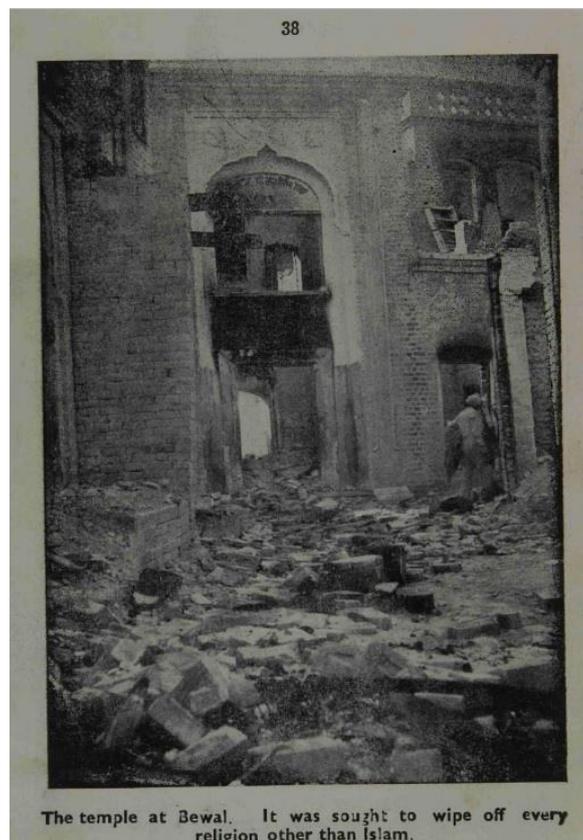
PARALLEL HISTORIES

What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

Indian, Hindu-centric view

1. Partition was an imposition by the British, and damaged relations between Hindus and Muslims

Source 1



Aftermath of a Muslim attack on a Hindu temple. From the collection 'Rape of Rawalpindi' by Dr. Kirpal Singh

[https://ia601906.us.archive.org/28/items/rawalpindi-riots-photographs-march-1947/Rawalpindi Riots Photographs - March%2C 1947.pdf](https://ia601906.us.archive.org/28/items/rawalpindi-riots-photographs-march-1947/Rawalpindi%20Riots%20Photographs%20-%20March%201947.pdf)

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What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

Source 2

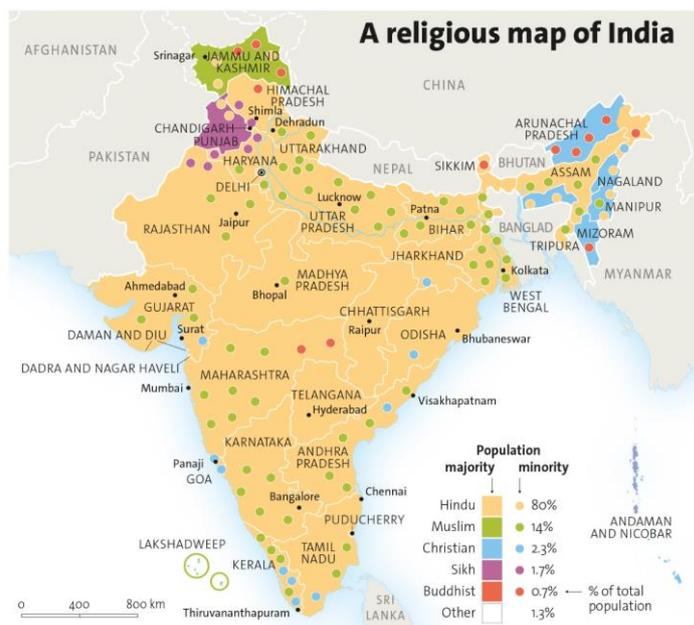
Oral Historical Account: Arghwani Begum, who was 25 years old and living in Delhi at time of Partition. She was the mother of 2 children and pregnant

“Before that [May 1940 Pakistan Resolution], there was a lot of unity and trust between the Hindus and Muslims. We began to see the effects of the resolution when fighting started to erupt in the villages of Sahaspur. It was so sudden. We immediately sealed shut the windows of our train with whatever we could get our hands on. My baby almost fainted due to lack of oxygen in our berth. One of the male helpers in the train helped my baby get some air through the train’s main entrance while the killing spree lasted for an uncertain period. There were a lot of people, especially children from many berths of that train, who had been killed. I saw their bloodied bodies when we finally got out of the train when the assailants had left,”

<https://exhibits.stanford.edu/1947-partition/catalog/sy490th7041>

2. Modern India is a secular state that contains Indians of many different religions – Muslims are no different to India’s other minorities

Source 3



<https://mondediplo.com/maps/india-religion#&gid=1&pid=1>

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What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

Source 4



Graffiti on a Mumbai wall. (Indranil Mukherjee/AFP/Getty Images)

<https://kashmirobsvber.net/2021/07/19/coexistence-a-unifying-factor-for-indians/>

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What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

3. India gave Muslim-majority Kashmir significant autonomy to rule itself, showing its respect for the Muslim community in India.

Source 5



An movie trailer from Bollywood film 'The Kashmir Files' showing the Indian view on Kashmir. It contrasts peaceful Kashmiri Hindus or 'pandits' being driven out by Muslim Kashmiri fighters.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A179apttY58>

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What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

Source 6

Jammu and Kashmir has received 10 per cent of all Central grants given to states over the 2000-2016 period, despite having only one per cent of the country's population, analysis by *The Hindu* of Central and State finances shows.

In contrast, Uttar Pradesh makes up about 13 per cent of the country's population but received only 8.2 per cent of Central grants in 2000-16. That means J&K, with a population of 12.55 million according to the 2011 Census, received Rs.91,300 per person over the last sixteen years while Uttar Pradesh only received Rs.4,300 per person over the same period.

Even among the special category states, Jammu and Kashmir receives a disproportionate amount of Central assistance.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/JampK-gets-10-of-Central-funds-with-only-1-of-population/article14506264.ece>

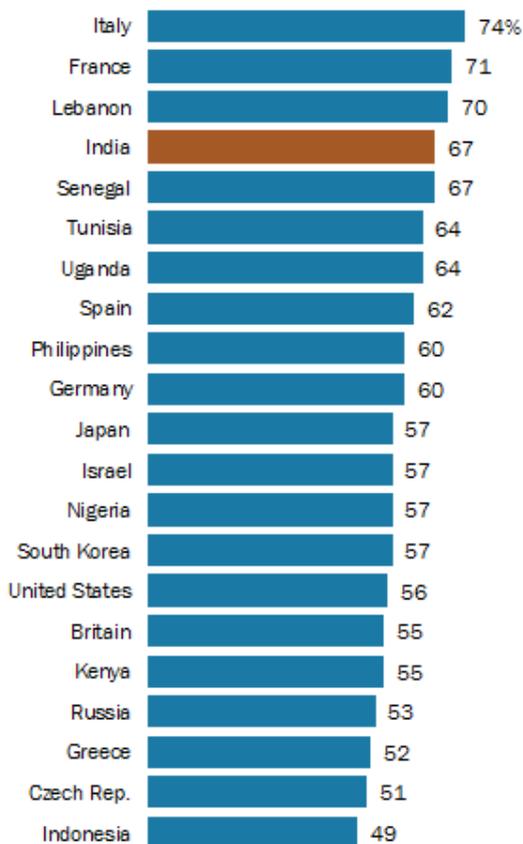
What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

4. Islamist extremism has radicalised some Indian Muslims and led to terrorist attacks.

Source 7

Threat Posed By Islamic Extremist Groups

% who say Islamic extremist groups are a "major threat" to their country



Note: Not all countries are shown in the graphic. See survey topline for full results.

Source: Spring 2013 Global Attitudes survey. India was polled in winter 2013-2014, while other countries were polled in spring 2013.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/09/10/indians-among-most-likely-in-the-world-to-see-extremist-groups-as-major-threat/>

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What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

Source 8



ISIS flags being displayed in Kashmir (Waseem Andrabi/Hindustan Times via Getty Images)

<https://swarajyamag.com/politics/a-permanent-solution-must-include-driving-out-islamism-from-kashmir-valley>

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What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

5. Pakistan stokes Muslim discontent in India, while ignoring the plight of its own people

Source 9

Pakistan intelligence services 'aided Mumbai terror attacks'

Militant arrested last year described dozens of meetings between ISI officers and senior Lashkar-e-Taiba operatives



Smoke and flames pour from the Taj Mahal hotel in Mumbai during the November 2008 attacks. Photograph: AFP/Getty Images

Pakistan's powerful intelligence services were heavily involved in preparations for the Mumbai terrorist attacks of November 2008, according to classified Indian government documents obtained by the Guardian.

...key suspect David Headley...described dozens of meetings between officers of the main Pakistani military intelligence service, the ISI, and senior militants from the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) group responsible for the Mumbai attacks.

More than 160 people were killed by militants from LeT who arrived by sea to attack luxury hotels, a Jewish centre, a café, a hospital and the main railway station in Mumbai, the Indian commercial

What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

capital. Casualties included citizens from 25 countries, including four Americans killed and seven Britons injured. The attacks dominated media for days and badly damaged already poor Indian-Pakistan relations.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2010/oct/18/pakistan-isi-mumbai-terror-attacks>

Source 10

Pakistan is mostly hurting itself

What Pakistan does not have to do is exhaust itself in trying to keep pace with India. For decades, Pakistan spent on the military far more than India, **proportionate to its GDP**, in a futile attempt to reach this mirage of equality. And Pakistan continues to do so, despite its worsening economic and social conditions. While not all of Pakistan's woes stem from this disproportionate military spending – India's social indices aren't that much better despite lower military spending, for example – reducing the intensity of competition with India may allow Pakistan to at least address some of its domestic problems better. Hopefully, Pakistan's leaders and elites will realise that trying to compete with India is a futile exercise.

But this competition has other negative effects on Pakistan. For example, Pakistan uses terrorism as a **grand strategy**, necessitated by its relative weakness. The problem, though, is that terror is also ultimately of limited utility as a grand strategy because it does little to correct either the military or economic imbalance with India. Seeing attacks like the 2008 Mumbai terror attack on live television may provide temporary psychic satisfaction to some in Pakistan, but they contain little strategic benefit for the neighbouring country itself.

<https://theprint.in/opinion/pakistan-keeps-making-bad-decisions-with-india-its-insecurity-is-hurting-peace/633299/>

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What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

Pakistani, Muslim-centric view

1. Partition was a traumatic process imposed by the British that permanently damaged Hindu-Muslim relations and carved off Muslim-majority Kashmir from Pakistan.

Source 1

Sources of Ideology

The sources of ideology are as under:-

1. Common Religion

Religion is not merely a set of prayers but it affects the entire social life of a nation. In the nineteenth century, many Hindu movements such as the Arya Samaj and the Brahmo Samaj etc., began in the Indian subcontinent which were intended to propagate Hinduism and bring down Muslims. The founder of the Arya Samaj, Pandit Dayanand Saraswati, had crossed all the limits. He started a programme called *Shuddhi*, which was aimed at forcibly converting non-Hindus into Hindus (that is to clean them according to Hindu mind). Raja Ram Mohan Rai, the founder of Brahmo Samaj, also used to speak against Muslims out of Muslim hostility. The Congress Government (1937-39) reinforced this notion and it became difficult for the Muslims in the united India to maintain their religious identity.

Extract from a Pakistani Textbook for Year 9 students

<https://invent.ilmkidunya.com/images/Section/9th-class-Pak-Studies-book.pdf>

What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

Source 2

Oral testimony by Gurbakhsh Sing Garcha

Gurbakhsh Sing Garcha: That really affected me greatly. I thought, I hated that man.

Kavita Puri: So tell me about him

Gurbakhsh Sing Garcha: He was a relative of this... my uncle, powerful uncle's distant relative. And he had been involved in carrying out the massacres and things like that, he always carried his sword and spear. Didn't think much of it until one day I was there in that house which I frequently went to, because my uncle's son was a year older than me and we used to play together and he had all the things that I didn't, it was a very rich house. And this man had brought this Muslim woman and she was really distressed. You could see that she was totally terrified. A good looking woman. And he wanted her to obey him and do everything he said. At one point he made her lick a spoon with pork fat, made her lick it and the Muslim woman she knew what it was, she was told what it was, she had to do it.

Kavita Puri: And you saw him do that?

Gurbakhsh Sing Garcha: Yes. And she was so distressed. And I didn't want to see this happen. It made me cry and I went home.

Kavita Puri: He was probably raping her as well wasn't he?

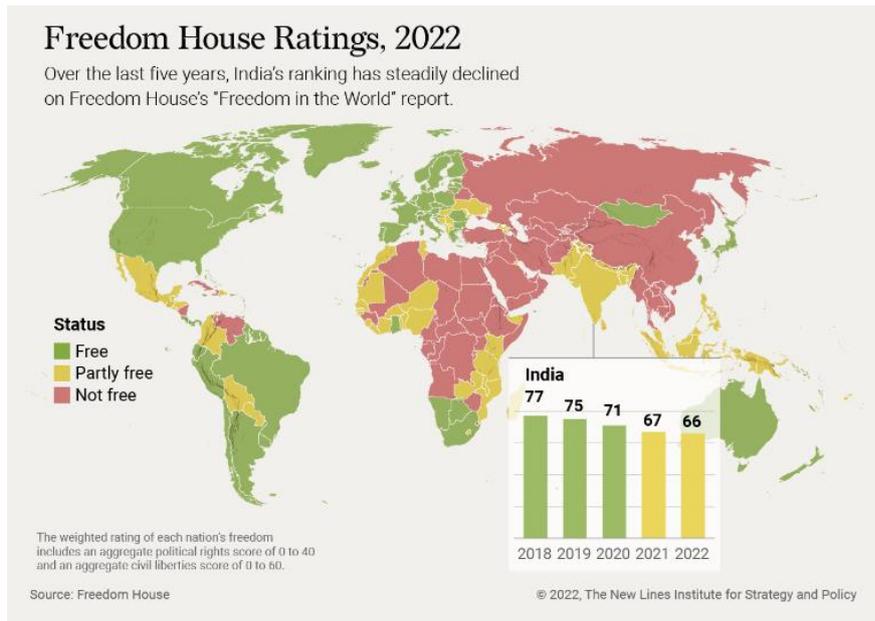
Gurbakhsh Sing Garcha: Very likely. Yes. We didn't quite understand the concept of rape at the time. I didn't. But that must have been the case.

<https://www.bl.uk/collection-items/gurbakhsh-singh-garcha-on-forced-marriage>

What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

2. India has become an authoritarian, Hindu nation-state that does not treat Muslims equally

Source 3



<https://newlinesinstitute.org/india/hindutva-is-turning-india-into-an-autocracy-it-can-get-worse/>

What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

Source 4

Hijab Ban in India Sparks Outrage, Protests

Standoff Points to Growing Marginalization of Muslims



Students protesting in New Delhi against the hijab ban in some schools in Karnataka state, India, February 8, 2022. © 2022 Naveen Sharma / SOPA Images/Sipa via AP Images

Over the past month, several government-run educational institutions in India's Karnataka state have banned Muslim female students from wearing the hijab, or headscarf. The state government, led by the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), has backed the discriminatory ban, passing a directive last week saying, "clothes which disturb equality, integrity, and public law and order should not be worn."

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/02/09/hijab-ban-india-sparks-outrage-protests>

PARALLEL HISTORIES

What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

3. India has consistently refused to settle the issue of Kashmir democratically by giving Kashmiris a vote on what they want for the future.

Source 5



Imran Khan speech to the UN on Kashmir, Aug. 30, 2019

“On August 5th, in its most brazen and egregious move, Mr. Modi’s government altered the status of Indian-occupied Kashmir through the revocation of Article 370 and 35A of the Indian Constitution. The move is illegal under the Constitution of India, but more importantly, it is a violation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions on Kashmir and the Shimla Agreement between India and Pakistan.

And Mr. Modi’s “New India” chose to do this by imposing a military curfew in Kashmir, imprisoning its population in their homes and cutting off their phone, internet and television connections, rendering them without news of the world or their loved ones. The siege was followed by a purge: Thousands of Kashmiris have been arrested and thrown into prisons across India. A blood bath is feared in Kashmir when the curfew is lifted. Already, Kashmiris coming out in defiance of the curfew are being shot and killed.”

<https://archive.is/20221116084528/https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/30/opinion/imran-khan-kashmir-pakistan.html>

PARALLEL HISTORIES

What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

Source 6

India accused the BBC and Reuters of lying about large-scale protests in Kashmir, even though they were recorded on video



BBC footage of thousands of people protesting in Srinagar, a major city in Jammu and Kashmir state, on Friday. The Indian government said this protest didn't happen. BBC

- The BBC and Reuters reported that thousands of people in the disputed Kashmir region protested the Indian government on Friday and that the police used tear gas to disperse them.
- The Indian government accused the two news organizations of lying about the demonstration in Kashmir, saying that protests in Kashmir never exceeded 20 people.
- Reuters' written report was based on the testimony of unidentified witnesses and one police officer, while the BBC recorded footage of the protest.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/kashmir-india-accuse-bbc-reuters-lying-about-protests-despite-video-2019-8>

What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

4. Muslims in India have been violently oppressed by the Indian government and Hindu mobs.

Source 7

A 50-year-old man in northern India was killed in a mob lynching on Monday night allegedly over rumours that his family had been storing and consuming beef at home. BBC Hindi's Salman Ravi went to Dadri in the state of Uttar Pradesh to find out more.

It was around 10.30pm on Monday night and the nine-member Akhlaq family had been preparing to go to bed after dinner.

Mohammad Akhlaq, a farm worker, was already asleep in a room next to his 22-year-old son, Danish, when a frenzied mob, wielding sticks, swords and cheap pistols burst into their home, accusing the family of having slaughtered a cow and consuming it.

"They came from everywhere. Over the walls, through the gate...They just barged into the house, shouting that we had slaughtered a cow," says his 75-year-old mother, Asghari Akhlaq.

"I asked them how can we bring a cow into the house without anyone seeing? We are the only Muslim family in this neighbourhood."

Some meat found in the fridge, that the family insists is mutton, was held to be proof.

Brutal mob

Slaughter of cows is a sensitive issue in India as the animal is considered sacred by Hindus, who comprise 80% of the country's 1.2bn people.

Uttar Pradesh is among a number of Indian states who have tightened laws banning cow slaughter and the sale and consumption of beef.

The family's pleas of innocence fell on deaf ears. The mob was too large. Smashing their way into the house, they began dragging out members of the family, abusing and manhandling even the women. A group of the attackers made their way into the room where Mr Akhlaq was asleep. They bashed his head with a sewing machine lying nearby and dragged him and Danish out of the house.

From that point the beating became even more brutal. Both Mr Akhlaq and Danish were beaten with bricks, kicked and stabbed repeatedly, his family members told the BBC.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-34409354>

PARALLEL HISTORIES

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Source 8



A bulldozer demolishes a shop entrance in Jahangirpuri, in New Delhi, India, April 20, 2022. © 2022 REUTERS/Anushree Fadnavis

The authorities in India are increasingly using summary and abusive punishments against Muslims deemed to have broken the law, Human Rights Watch said today. In several states ruled by the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the authorities have demolished Muslim homes and properties without legal authorization, and most recently, publicly flogged Muslim men accused of disrupting a Hindu festival.

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/10/07/india-surge-summary-punishments-muslims>

PARALLEL HISTORIES

What are the historical causes of conflict between Hindus and Muslims from India and Pakistan?

5. Pakistani-Indian relations are poor because of India's anti-Muslim and anti-Pakistan policies

Source 9

New Delhi was also aware of the consequences of its nuclearisation on Pakistan...indeed, it may have forced Pakistan to frantically search for a nuclear deterrent of its own, especially when Islamabad's capability at the time was minuscule. Given India's conventional superiority over Pakistan, New Delhi had no requirement of a nuclear arsenal vis-à-vis its conventionally weaker adversary. As stated in a classified assessment carried out in the Prime Minister's office in April 1970, "If we do acquire a nuclear bomb, this would create a strong psychological effect in Pakistan that our action was in fact directed solely against them."...Islamabad did not have to wait long to acquire a solid motivation to pursue the bomb; the Bangladesh War of December 1971...provided a strong rationale..possessing nuclear weapons could have allowed Pakistan to avoid another 1971-type military defeat.

<https://www.orfonline.org/research/a-historical-analysis-of-how-india-missed-pakistans-nuclear-coup/>

Source 10

'The big operations are always done by the Indians... And then they call it a Mukti Fauj "victory". It isn't that we are ungrateful. But it is our war and our land, we want to do it ourselves.'

– Bengali volunteer to the rebel cause, to British-Bengali journalist of *The Guardian*, August 1971¹

'Indian units were withdrawn to Indian territory once their objectives had been brought under the control of the Mukti Bahini—though at times this was only for short periods, as, to the irritation of the Indians, the Mukti Bahini forces rarely held their ground when the Pakistani army launched a counterattack.'

– Sisson and Rose, *War and Secession: Pakistan, India and the Creation of Bangladesh*²

Quotes about India's involvement in the Pakistani Civil War of 1971, which resulted in East Pakistan becoming the independent country of Bangladesh.

Bose Sarmila. 2011. *Dead Reckoning : Memories of the 1971 Bangladesh War*. New York: Columbia University Press, pp. 127 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indo-Pakistani_War_of_1971