

THEME -14
UNDERSTANDING PARTITION
Politics, Memories, Experiences

Key concepts in nutshell

- Sources- Incidents narrated by people.
- Partition or holocaust
 1. Communal riots
 2. Refugee problem
- Why partition took place-
 1. Mr Jinnah's two nation theory
 2. Hindu Muslim conflict
 3. British policy of divide and rule
 4. Communal electorates
 5. Hindu Muslim Riots
- Post war development-Muslim league emerged as sole representative of Indian Muslim in the provincial elections.
- Cabinet mission proposal in 1946.
- Direct action day by Muslim league in 1946.
- Gendering partition- women were raped, abducted and sold. Families were uprooted.
- Preserving honour- where the men feared that there would be molested by the enemies, they killed their own women.
- Sources: Oral testimonies- narrations, memories, diaries, family history and hand written accounts.

V. S. A. (2 Marks)

Q1. Explain the term 'Shadow Lines' with reference to Partition.

Ans.It refers to the hastily constructed frontiers separating Indian and Pakistan.

Q2. State two causes for changes in British attitude towards India after 1945.

Ans.1.Change in International situation.

2. Labour Party came power in Britain.

Q3. Write four sources to reconstruct history of Partition

Ans.1.Oral Narratives

2. Diaries

3. Memories

4. Hand written accounts.

S. A. (4 Marks)

Q4. How did Partition affect the people of India & Pakistan?

Ans.1.Thousand people were killed, women raped of both side.

2. Millions Were up rooted, homeless, became refugees.

3. Loss of Properties and employment.
4. Loss of friends, culture and relatives.

Q5. Write four precautions needed to be taken while collecting oral data on Partition.

Ans.1. Empathy with fact

2. Should avoid Personal traumas.
3. We should use other sources also.
4. We should also try to understand the problem of memory.

L. A. (8 Marks)

Q6. What are the Major Causes of India's Partition in 1947? Was it avoidable?

Ans.1. The British policy of Divide and Rule.

2. Attitude of Muslim league & Mr. Jinnah.
3. Appeasement Policy towards Muslims.
4. Recommendation of various missions.
5. Failure of Interim Government.
6. Lack of Co-operation between congress and Muslim League.
7. Communal growth.
8. Hindu Muslim riots.
9. Role of communal parties and leaders.

No, the Partition was not avoidable as there was a situation of civil war in India.

Q7. What was the impact of Partition on Indian Women?

Ans.1. Brutally tortured and beaten.

2. Thousands of women were killed and raped.
3. Problem of Resettlement.
4. Their opinions were not taken.