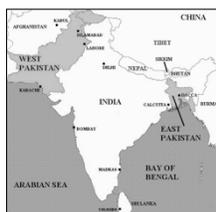


Pakistan and Bangladesh: The Great Unraveling



Pakistan After 1947

- Became independent on August 14-15, 1947
- initially called “Dominion of Pakistan”
- from 1947 to 1958, Pakistan was a democratic state
 - Jinnah’s idea for Pakistan was a democratic state founded on secular principles but maintaining a “Muslim” identity
 - he wanted to guarantee the rights of minorities
 - closest global analog was Israel
- Jinnah died in 1947 of a stroke

- Conflicts With India: 1947-1971
 - 4 wars
- First Kashmir War in 1947-48
 - conflict over princely state of Jammu and Kashmir
 - J & K had been ruled from mid-19th century as a Princely State under the British Empire
 - ruled by a Maharaja
 - by 1947, a Muslim majority population but a Hindu Maharaja
 - in 1947, Maharaja wanted to J & K to remain independent (like Switzerland)
 - but eventually decided to become part of India
 - causes: internal rebellion, landlocked
 - both India and Pakistan invaded, took over different parts of Kashmir
 - status quo now for 60+ years



Pakistan: Slide into Dictatorship

- riots instigated by different political parties which disagreed on role of religion in country
- in 1958, the Army replaced the elected government and took over
- under General Ayub Khan
- He positioned himself as a fighter against Communism
 - U.S. threw millions of dollars of aid to Pakistan, beginning early 1960s

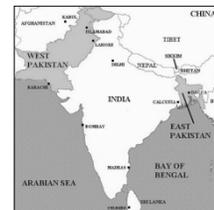


Problems in Pakistan

- governments failed to reform *zamindar* system
 - Pakistan remained in many ways a feudal society
 - Western educated elite (concentrated in urban areas)
 - illiterate masses in the north
 - free-for-all capitalist system that began to create a vast underclass
- as a counterpoint
 - India began to systematically *dismantle* *zamindar* system in 1950s/1960s
 - had a much more socialist-leaning economy

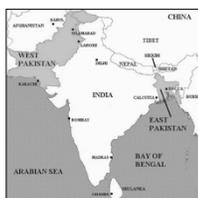
Main Problem of Pakistan

- two Pakistans divided by thousands of miles
- East Pakistan had been Bengal for centuries
 - had little or no cultural connection to West
 - different language
 - Jinnah had said that Urdu would be the official language of Pakistan
 - different customs
 - different histories
 - only religion tied them together
- compounded by problem of exploitation
 - tax structure, economy, imports, exports all favored West Pakistan
 - Bengalis not proportionately represented in legislature



Bengali Independence Movement

- led by “Bengali Language Movement”
 - originated in 1952 when West Pakistani Army shot university students who were protesting against Urdu as the primary language of Pakistan
 - February 21 now UN “International Mother Language Day”
- E. Pakistan had stronger ties to part of Bengal in India than to Pakistan
- In 1970, in national elections in Pakistan
 - E. Pakistani political party (Awami League) won majority of votes
 - W. Pakistani government refused to accept



1971 War

- On March 25, 1971, thousands of W. Pakistani troops entered E. Pakistan to arrest intellectuals
 - university professors, politicians arrested
 - several thousand shot
 - massive crackdown all over Dacca (the capital)
- On March 26, 1971, E. Pakistan declared independence
- Sheik Mujib was considered the leader of the independence movement
 - arrested immediately and moved to prison in W. Pakistan

Genocide in 1971

- Pakistani army systematically eliminated intellectual class in E. Pakistan
 - teachers, professors, poets, politicians, scientists, singers, writers, etc.
 - victims included both Bengali Muslims and Hindus
- Bangladesh genocide considered one of the worst in the 20th century
 - 1.5 million people killed
- Orchestrated by General Yahya Khan
- War Crimes trials against perpetrators still going on now

- Created massive refugee problem
 - millions swarmed into India
- Rape used as a weapon widely
- Susan Brownmiller, *Against Our Will* (1975)



How Did this End?

- Local guerilla movement fought against Pakistanis
- but turning point came when Pakistan hit Indian bases
- Indian Army retaliated and invaded E. Pakistan
- Pakistan surrendered on December 16, 1971
- E. Pakistan became Bangladesh
- new country modeled on India
 - secular constitution
 - lean toward socialism

