From British Delhi to Government Delhi: Cataloguing the Change

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Abstract

The partition of India in 1947 had a profound impact on Delhi, which was then the capital of British India and later became the capital of the Republic of India. The lingering effects of partition violence and displacement continue to be a subject of discussion and remembrance in the city. This paper delves into the enduring consequences of India's partition on Delhi, influencing its population, culture, and sociopolitical landscape. It emphasizes the importance for enthusiasts, researchers, and visitors of Delhi to distinguish between factual accounts misconceptions. The paper concludes with an extensive bibliography, providing resources to comprehend this significant yet traumatic chapter in city's history. This bibliography allows researchers to trace the resulting disruptions and continuities in Delhi, spanning urban development, lived experiences, communities, the establishment of the capital and democracy, educational and cultural opportunities, trade and industry growth, migration patterns, and the collective memory and trauma. These resources encompass books, research articles, photographs, cinema, documentaries, monuments, and museums.

Keywords: Pre-partition Delhi, Post-partition Delhi, New Delhi, Lutyens Delhi

I. Introduction

The division of India in 1947 had significant repercussions on Delhi, which served as the capital of British India and later became the capital of the Republic of India. This event triggered one of the largest human migrations in history, as millions of people moved across borders to either India or Pakistan. Delhi, as the capital, became a major destination for refugees from both sides, resulting in

a sudden surge in population, leading to overcrowding and straining the city's resources. The partition also gave rise to communal tensions and violence, particularly in areas with mixed populations of Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs. Delhi witnessed devastating communal clashes and violence, resulting in loss of life and property. The demographic makeup of Delhi underwent significant changes due to the influx of refugees. The city's population became more diverse and multicultural, with people from various regions, languages, and cultures seeking safety and shelter. This sudden influx led to a housing crisis, forcing many to live in makeshift camps and temporary shelters, causing overcrowding and unsanitary conditions. The government had to implement measures to provide housing and relief to the displaced population. The partition disrupted trade and economic activities in Delhi. Businesses and industries faced challenges due to disrupted supply chains and the displacement of skilled labor. It took time for the city's economy to stabilize and recover. With the partition, Delhi transitioned from being the capital of British India to becoming the capital of the newly independent India, resulting in administrative changes, including the transfer of power from British colonial authorities to Indian leaders. The partition also involved redrawing administrative boundaries, adjusting Delhi's borders to accommodate the new reality of India and Pakistan, which in turn affected the city's territorial extent. The integration of refugees from various regions and backgrounds into Delhi's society posed social and cultural challenges. Efforts were made to promote social cohesion and integration, but it took time for these processes to take root. The paper delves into the profound and enduring impact the partition of India had on Delhi, shaping its demographics, culture, and socio-political



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landscape. It underscores the importance for all Delhi enthusiasts, researchers, and visitors to discern facts from misconceptions. The paper concludes with a comprehensive bibliography, offering resources to grasp and comprehend this significant yet traumatic chapter in the history of the city.

Lutyen's Delhi

Delhi has always been renowned for its rich history, its significance to the Rajputs and Muslims, its proximity to Simla, and its ample space. While the historical city served as an ancient seat of power, the vision for New Delhi was markedly different. Unlike its bustling predecessor, New Delhi aimed to emulate the planned layout of Washington, D.C., intentionally designed and inhabited rather than growing organically like a traditional city (Mittal, 2015; Mittal, 2018). It sought to embody the ideals of absolutist capitals, embracing the grandeur of Western science, art, and civilization, characterized by the precision and order of reason. To bring this vision to life, a Site Planning Committee led by Edwin Lutyens, J A Brodie, and George Swinton was established. They chose an elevated and expansive area, ultimately selecting Raisina Hill as the ideal location for a citadel reminiscent of an Acropolis, over potential sites in north-west Delhi and the Cantonment on the Ridge. Further south, land around the village of Naraina was designated for the new Cantonment.The design of New Delhi followed a European plan with concentric circles, with power structures radiating outward towards the periphery. At its core stood the Government House, situated at the highest point, flanked by two Secretariats, symbolizing the unity of the Viceroy with his government, as per Baker's suggestion. The symbolic representation of power was a paramount consideration, involving Lutyens in designing the central buildings, Geofferey de Montmorency, responsible for allocating spaces to future residents, and Malcolm Hailey, the committee's chairman. The Commander-in-Chief's residence was located south of the Secretariats, now known as Teen Murti Bhavan. The layout exhibited a hierarchical arrangement of power, with senior gazetted officers and princely states at the center, followed by various tiers of officials, European P&T officers, and NDMC officers, moving outward in that order. Indian officials, affluent individuals, and businessmen were confined to the outskirts. European bungalows the Civil Lines pattern, while adhered to accommodations for Indian employees, like Rouse Avenue, followed traditional Indian design principles, featuring central courtyards.

Ranjana Sengupta highlights that similar spatial hierarchies are found in other colonial cities like Hanoi, built by the French, Manila, built by the Americans, and Lusaka, built by the British. New Delhi, however, refines these distinctions of race and rank to an unprecedented degree. The address not only conveyed professional status but also indicated the size of the house and garden, the width of the road, and whether the official was British or Indian (Sengupta, 2007, p. 34). The dominance of the power concept was further reinforced through the incorporation of elevated locations, precise geometric balance, straight thoroughfares, wide ceremonial streets, grand arches, towering columns, and inclines. This deliberate arrangement of formality and gravity aimed to solidify the Western world's sense of achievement in transforming chaos into aesthetic elegance and efficiency.

Lutyens and his Collaborators

Lutyens, an architect deeply influenced by European Classicism, found himself in the midst of a widespread debate that urged him to incorporate various Mughal and Rajput elements into his predominantly European architectural proportions. While he drew inspiration from the Sanchi Stupa and its railing concept, he adamantly rejected any overt adoption of clichéd styles like the Indo-Saracenic, which he deemed subservient and unoriginal. One of his notable creations was the War Memorial Arch, famously known as India Gate, standing tall at 138 feet and completed in 1921. Behind this arch, in the heart of Princes Park, there once stood a statue of George V under an umbrella, which now remains in Coronation Park as a solitary relic of the colonial era.In the vicinity of Princes Park, Lutyens designed several noteworthy structures, including Hyderabad House (1928), Travancore House (1930), National Stadium (1930s), Baroda House (1936), Jaipur House (1936), Patiala House (1938), and Bikaner House (1939). He envisioned a series of grand buildings along the Queensway (Janpath) intersection, although only the National Archives building was eventually constructed due to concerns that the others would obstruct the perspective along the Kingsway. To meet the incredibly ambitious four-year deadline for completing New Delhi, Lutyens advocated for the involvement of his colleague, Baker, who possessed prior experience in constructing colonial buildings in South Africa. This was crucial given the project's tight timeline. Baker played a pivotal role in designing the Secretariats (South and North and Blocs) and the Parliament House. He shared a similar vision with Lutyens, believing that the new capital should serve as a sculptural symbol of the effective



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governance and unity experienced during British rule in India. According to Baker, British rule represented more than mere administrative and cultural influence; it signified the emergence of a new civilization, blending the finest elements of both Western and Eastern cultures. He believed that Delhi's architecture should bear witness to this significant transformation (Metcalf, 1986, 2002, p. 252). This narrative of empire is also reflected in the inscriptions found in the Secretariat blocks, emphasizing that "liberty is not bestowed upon a people but must be earned through their efforts".

As for the construction of bungalows, it was primarily overseen by the Public Works Department (PWD) under the leadership of Robert Tor Russel. The PWD was also tasked with building Connaught Place, Gol Dak Khaanaa, and the Eastern and Western Courts. Walter Sykes George designed the distinctive housing styles seen in Lodi Colony and Sujan Singh Park, as well as St. Stephen's College. Medd, Russel's successor, designed the Sacred Heart's Cathedral located at the Gol Dak Khaana roundabout. Another member of Lutyens' team, Arthur Gordon Shoosmith, designed St. Martin's Church in the New Delhi Cantonment, featuring a unique experimental style typical of that era. Despite the "grand manner" or "imperial style" being laden with ideological significance, Lutyens and his contemporaries overlooked the modernist architectural revolution that unfolded in the post-war years. Architects like Le Corbusier, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Walter Gropius championed a form of architecture that eschewed ornamentation, embraced new materials like glass and steel, and prioritized Modernist structures functionality. characterized by their simplicity, horizontal designs, and an emphasis on efficiency, sometimes referred to as the "machine" or "factory" aesthetic (Khanna and Parhawk, 2008, p. 9).

The onslaught of Partition-Independence

The construction of New Delhi incurred a massive cost of Rs. 115 million. Despite the establishment of the New Delhi Municipality in 1916, it only became fully operational in 1925. This delayed progress resulted in a significant rise in land and rental expenses. Examining the demographic data from 1921 to 1941, V N Datta observes that the noteworthy 18% increase in the decade preceding 1921 was attributed to the shift of the capital from Calcutta to Delhi and the city's growing administrative and commercial significance. The higher growth rate during the decade from 1931 to 1941 can be attributed to the Second World War, which also generated considerable new employment

in commerce, industry, and transport (Datta, 1986, 2002, p. 287). To accommodate both the construction labor force for the new capital and the tanners from Paharganj in Raigharpura, the city's expansion had to be directed westwards, leading to the establishment of the Western Extension Area (WEA), most notably Karol Bagh. This expansion was connected to the Civil Lines through Jhandewalan Road and Idgah Road. Dev Nagar was also developed to provide housing for junior-level Indian officials who were unable to secure accommodation in New Delhi. The original plan to connect the Old City with the New City had to be abandoned due to the interference of the railway and the challenge of incorporating the river into the design. As a result, New Delhi exceeded its budget and timeline. Additionally, the presence of colonial-style housing in New Delhi raises questions about the seemingly unaware approach of British authorities, as they did not anticipate potential future changes.

The subsequent years marked a new era when the Imperial Capital, initially designed for a population of 65,000 individuals—a significant addition to its approximately 250,000 inhabitants in 1911-found itself inundated in 1947 due to the migration of 495,391 people from the newly formed nation of Pakistan. This sudden influx caused Delhi's population to surge dramatically, increasing by a staggering 90%. By 1951, refugees constituted a significant 28.4% of Delhi's total population, which had reached 1,744,072. Among the 1,437,134 urban residents, refugees accounted for 32.7% of the population. As V N Datta points out, the impact of the refugee population is evident from the density figure of 1951, which represents an increase of 106.6% over that of 1941-51. In terms of spatial expansion, the city's urban area grew from approximately 42 square kilometers in 1901 to 445 square kilometers in 1971—an increase of more than tenfold (Datta, 1986, 2002, p. 289).

Restorationand Resettlement

In 1947, the Indian Government set up a Rehabilitation Ministry under K C Neogy's leadership to address the situation of the masses referred to as "evacuees". Immediate relief camps were established in Karol Bagh, Kingsway Camp, and Shahdara. The situation in the city worsened due to outbreaks of violence against Muslims, exacerbating the already dire circumstances. Incidents of massacres, arson, vandalism, and looting became commonplace, with mobs forcibly taking over properties owned by Muslims. Seeking safety, many Muslims sought refuge in places like Nizamuddin, Idgah, Jama Masjid, Red Fort, and



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Purana Qila. Eventually, about one-third of the city's Muslim population chose to migrate to Pakistan. To accommodate the 300,000 refugees, housing was provided in abandoned Muslim residences and newly constructed units. This extensive expansion extended to various areas including Gandhi Nagar in the east, the western regions of Tilak Nagar, Ramesh Nagar, Moti Nagar, Patel Nagar, and Rajendra Nagar, Malviya Nagar in the south, and the outskirts of the old city along Rohtak Road, Shakur Basti, Jhandewalan, Sarai Rohilla, Sadar Bazaar, Subzi Mandi, Bara Hindu Rao, and Chandni Chowk. An advisory committee of the Ministry of Rehabilitation, consisting of Jag Pravesh Chandra, Dharam Vira, and Sucheta Kriplani, surveyed land beyond Tihar, Willingdon Crescent, Lodi Road, which had previously been agricultural land yielding vegetables, to develop refugee colonies. The government, along with private developers like DLF, acquired this land at exceptionally low prices. Although the land was irregular in shape according to khasras (land records), the urban planning approach of that era led to the development of plots as self-contained "colonies," typically following a U-shaped layout, with the main road along the fourth side and at least two parks and a local market in between. Larger plots were situated on the outer edge of the main road, while smaller plots were carved out in the grid of inner colony radial roads. This prototype later served as the standard model for government and private colonies like Nizamuddin, Kamla Nagar, Vasant Vihar, and others.

There was a significant shift in both the quantity and the profile of the population. The non-Muslim population, primarily consisting of Punjabis displaced from Pakistan, had backgrounds in money lending, trade, retail, or professions such as medicine, law, or academia. In contrast, the departing Muslims were primarily artisans, craftsmen, traders, or laborers. As a result, those who arrived had to adapt to whatever livelihood opportunities were available, including street vending, skilled labor, and positions in the government or private sector. They approached their new occupations with determination, patience, and a competitive spirit, trading their pre-partition white-collar jobs for more physically demanding roles, driven by a sense of desperation and a willingness to take risks since they had little left to lose. These literate and entrepreneurial Punjabis quickly found their footing in trade after overcoming the initial challenges of relocation, which involved securing housing, workspace, and capital. Retail and manufacturing were two sectors that thrived, thanks to the availability of this skilled workforce, supported by government loans and initiatives. Retail activity

became concentrated in areas like Connaught Place, Karol Bagh, City-Sadar-Pahargani, and 8160 registered factories sprang up in locations such as Okhla, Kalkaji, Malviya Nagar, and satellite towns like Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Ballabgarh, and Sonepat. The existing residents saw their fortunes decline as the influx of refugees outperformed them in trade and commerce. Shops, businesses, factories, and houses changed hands as the refugees experienced rising affluence. Not only did the refugee community gain economic and political influence, but from the 1970s onward, their aspirations and achievements played a significant role in driving the momentum of liberalization, globalization, consumerism, luxury lifestyles. To sum up Delhi's transformation, as Ranjana Sengupta concludes, "Delhi, without the refugee influx, would have been an entirely different city - not necessarily better or worse, just markedly distinct. The refugees have played a crucial role in shaping the dynamic, intricate, and prosperous city we witness today." While the refugee experience has left an enduring and defining mark on the city, another equally influential factor has been the establishment of the government machinery of the world's largest democracy in Delhi. The symbols and infrastructure of the former imperial rule seamlessly came to represent the sovereignty and principles of the new republic. Additionally, the new wielders of power quickly filled the void left by the departure of the British colonial rulers. Thus, Delhi continued its longstanding relationship with power, and Nehru's ideals of progress and modernity found their place amidst the city's diverse history and ever-changing present. Nehru's emphasis on organized spaces reflecting orderly minds led to the creation of a Master Plan for Delhi and the adoption of the "modernist" school of architecture. In December 1956, the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) was established through an act of Parliament, and the Delhi Development Act was enacted in 1957, the commencement of "planned" marking development for the city.

II. Conclusion

The enduring memories and ongoing discussions about the violence and displacement caused by the partition are still prevalent in the city. Yet, the bibliography provided below offers an opportunity for Delhi enthusiasts, researchers, and visitors to delve into the aftermath. It allows for a comprehensive exploration of the disruptions and continuities in various aspects of Delhi's history – urban development, lived experiences, diverse communities, the establishment of the capital and democratic processes, cultural and educational



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opportunities, growth of trade, commerce, and industry, as well as inbound and outbound migrations. This exploration encompasses perspectives from various sources including books, research papers, photographs, cinema, documentaries, landmarks, and museums.

Books, Memoirs, Travelogues, Graphic Novel, Life Writing:

- "A Life Apart: The Partition of Bengal and Assam, 1947" by Joya Chatterji This historical account, not a memoir, draws upon personal accounts of individuals who experienced the partition in Bengal and Assam. It provides insights into how the partition affected the region and its connections to Delhi.
- "A Million Mutinies Now" by V.S. Naipaul Nobel laureate V.S. Naipaul journeys through India, exploring various facets of Indian society, including the aftermath of partition. He visits Delhi and contemplates the city's transformation.
- "Amritsar to Lahore: Crossing the Border between India and Pakistan" by Stephen Alter This memoir chronicles the author's personal odyssey as he retraces his grandparents' migration during the partition. It includes his reflections on how the partition impacted both sides of the border.
- "A Situation in New Delhi" by Nayantara Sehgal Published in 1967, this fictional novel is set amidst the political and social upheaval in India during the 1960s. It delves into the complexities of power, politics, and personal relationships.
- "Before Freedom: Nehru's Letters to His Sister 1909-1947" edited by Nayantara Sahgal This compilation of Jawaharlal Nehru's letters to his sister offers insights into both the political and personal dimensions of Nehru's life, including his experiences in Delhi during the partition and early independence.
- "Building Delhi: Five Centuries of the City" edited by Vibhuti Sachdev and Giles Tillotson This book encompasses various aspects of Delhi's architectural history, including the growth of housing colonies in the post-partition era.
- "City of Djinns: A Year in Delhi" by William Dalrymple Although not exclusively about the partition, this book provides an extensive historical account of Delhi's past and its evolution during and after partition. It sheds light on how the city changed in the aftermath of India's independence.
- "Clear Light of Day" by Anita Desai -Published in 1980, this novel unfolds in Old Delhi and primarily centers around the Das family. It

explores themes of memory, identity, and the passage of time.

- "Colonial and Post-colonial Geographies of India" by Surya Prakash This book offers insights into the planning and development of housing colonies in Delhi, addressing their historical and geographical significance.
- "Cultural Capital of India: Rediscovering Delhi" edited by Swapna Liddle This book provides a glimpse into the cultural richness of Delhi, including the role of cultural institutions in preserving and promoting the city's heritage.
- "Dastarkhwan-e-Dilli: A Culinary History of Delhi" by Pushpesh Pant This comprehensive book offers a historical and cultural exploration of Delhi's culinary traditions, encompassing the post-partition period. It features a wide array of recipes and food anecdotes.
- "Delhi Metropolitan: The Making of an Unlikely City" by Ranjana Sengupta Focusing on urbanization and development in Delhi, this book delves into the expansion of housing colonies and their impact on the city's growth.
- "Delhi University: A Political History" by Madhuri Bose This book delves into the growth and educational contributions of the University of Delhi in Delhi's post-partition landscape.
- "Delhi: A Novel" by Khushwant Singh Set against the backdrop of the partition, this novel explores the experiences of various characters residing in Delhi during that turbulent period. It presents a fictional yet vivid portrayal of the city during this time.
- "Delhi University: A Portrait" by Shri Ram Arora Offering a comprehensive look at the history and evolution of Delhi University, this book underscores the institution's central role in Delhi's educational landscape post-partition.
- "Delhi University: A Portrait" by Shri Ram Arora Providing an in-depth examination of the history and development of Delhi University, this book emphasizes the institution's pivotal position in the educational milieu of Delhi after the partition.
- "Delhi: A City of Cities" edited by Malvika Singh This collection of essays offers insights into various facets of Delhi's development, encompassing urban planning, architecture, and societal transformation. It touches on developments in the city after the partition.
- "Delhi: A Portrait" by Khushwant Singh This book offers a cultural and historical perspective on Delhi, including its development in the post-partition period.



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- "Delhi: A Thousand Years of Building" by Lucy Peck - While not exclusively focused on postpartition housing colonies, this book provides an architectural history of Delhi, including insights into the development of housing colonies over time.
- "Delhi: Adventures in a Megacity" by Sam Miller This travelogue offers an exploration of contemporary Delhi while interweaving its historical narratives. It provides insights into the city's evolution, which includes the partition period.
- "Delhi: Architectural Plans and Environmental Designs for the Government of India, 1912-1962" by Amita Sinha This book delves into the architectural plans and designs for government buildings in Delhi during a crucial period of urban development, including the post-partition years.
- "Delhi: Communities of Belonging" by Radhika Chopra and Rajendra Singh This book examines the social and spatial dynamics of housing colonies in Delhi, particularly those established during the post-partition era. It explores issues of identity, belonging, and urban planning.
- "Delhi: Imperial and Post-Imperial" by Ravi Kalia While focusing on Delhi's historical and architectural evolution, this book also examines how the city adapted to new challenges and changes in the post-partition era.
- "Delhi: Red Fort to Raisina" by Malvika Singh While primarily a visual exploration of Delhi's cultural and architectural heritage, this book also discusses the post-partition period and the establishment of cultural institutions in the city.
- "Delhi: Rising above Ruins: Governance, Administration and Development" by Alka Verma -This book explores the governance, administration, and development of Delhi, covering the period after the partition.
- "Delhi: Sultans to Nehru" by R.V. Smith This book encompasses Delhi's entire history, including a section on the partition and the resettlement of refugees in the city. It provides historical context and descriptions of the challenges faced by the refugees.
- "Delhi: Urban Space and Human Destinies" by Narayani Gupta This comprehensive book offers an overview of Delhi's urban development, including the period following the partition. It discusses the challenges and transformations the city underwent during its expansion.
- "Delhi's Industrialization, 1881-1947" by Gyanesh Kudaisya Focusing on the industrialization of Delhi before and after partition, this book provides insights into the city's economic progress.

- "Delhi's Other Sites: Spaces, Bodies, and Experiences of the Modern City" edited by Sanjukta Sundaresan and Renuka Singh This collection of essays examines various aspects of Delhi's urban spaces, including housing and residential areas, in the context of the city's transformation after the partition.
- "Delhi's Twentieth-Century Urban Growth: The Role of the Walled City" by Narayani Gupta While primarily centered on the Walled City of Delhi, this book discusses the dynamics of urban growth and housing development in the city during the 20th century, including after the partition.
- "Economic Impact of Migration on Delhi" by Kiran Singh This book analyzes the economic impact of migration on Delhi and discusses the contributions of migrants to the city's economy.
- "Education and Politics in India" by M. N. Srinivas This book examines the intersection of education and politics in India, including the post-partition period when educational opportunities were expanding in Delhi.
- "Education and Social Change: Contours of the Indian Experience" edited by J. P. Naik - This book contains chapters on the development of education in post-partition India, covering the challenges and opportunities faced by Delhi and other regions.
- "Education in India: A Historical Perspective" by R. S. Sharma While providing a historical overview of education in India, this book discusses the challenges and advancements in the field of education, including those in Delhi post-partition.
- "Education in India: Past, Present, and Future" by J. C. Aggarwal This book discusses the evolution of education in India, including the growth of educational opportunities in Delhi post-partition.
- "Elections in Delhi, 1952-1998: Politics of Five Assembly Elections" by M. L. Ahuja Focusing on the assembly elections in Delhi, this book offers insights into the electoral politics and party dynamics in the city during the post-partition period.
- "Everyday Lives, Everyday Histories: Beyond Partition Narratives" by Charu Gupta This article delves into the everyday lives of women during the partition and the impact on their identities in Delhi and other regions.
- "Fleeing the Flames: Shaping a New Narrative in Post-Partition Delhi" by Rakhshanda Jalil This book explores the experiences of partition survivors and refugees in Delhi and how they shaped a new narrative in the city. It offers personal accounts and reflections on the rehabilitation process.



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- "Freedom at Midnight" by Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre While not a memoir, this historical account provides a detailed narrative of the events leading up to the partition and the transfer of power. It includes descriptions of Delhi's role in the partition and the political developments in the city.
- "Government Buildings in India: 1947-2007" by Indian Institute of Architects (IIA) This publication by the Indian Institute of Architects offers a comprehensive overview of government buildings constructed or renovated in India, including Delhi, after 1947.
- "Higher Education in India: The Social Context of Professional Education" by D. S. Kothari This book discusses the development of higher education in India, with insights into Delhi's role as an educational hub in the post-partition era.
- "In Custody" by Anita Desai While primarily a work of fiction, this novel by Anita Desai includes a character who recounts his experiences as a child refugee during the partition in Delhi. This provides a unique perspective on the city's role during the partition.
- "Indian Administration: Evolution and Practice" by B.L. Fadia and Kuldeep Fadia This comprehensive book covers the evolution of the Indian administration system, including the role of Delhi as the capital and how government institutions were established and reformed after partition.
- "Kafka on the Shore" by Haruki Murakami While primarily a work of fiction by the Japanese author, it includes a character who recounts his experiences as a child refugee during the partition in Delhi. This provides a unique perspective on the city's role during the partition.
- "Looking Back: India in the Twentieth Century" by Romesh Thapar Romesh Thapar, a prominent journalist and editor, provides his personal recollections and observations on the events leading up to independence and the partition. He offers insights into the political climate in Delhi.
- "Master Plan Delhi 2021: A Report Card" by Poonam Prakash This book assesses the progress and implementation of the Master Plan Delhi 2021, which has been a crucial document guiding the city's urban development.
- "Midnight's Furies: The Deadly Legacy of India's Partition" by Nisid Hajari Though not a travelogue in the traditional sense, this book combines historical analysis with personal narratives and travel elements. It discusses the partition and its impact on Delhi and the broader region.
- "Migration, Mobility, and Multiple Affiliations: Punjabis in a Transnational World"

- edited by Ravinder Kaur and Ajaya Sahoo This book discusses Punjabi migration experiences, including those who settled in Delhi, and explores their transnational connections.
- "Migration, Refugees and Security in the 21st Century" edited by Dhananjay Tripathi and Madhurendra Kumar This edited collection contains chapters that cover topics like refugee rehabilitation, along with other subjects related to migration and security. It offers insights into the broader context of refugee issues in Delhi.
- "Museums of India: National Handicrafts and Handlooms Museum, New Delhi" by Jyotindra Jain and Aarti Aggarwala Focusing on the National Handicrafts and Handlooms Museum in Delhi, this book delves into the development and significance of cultural institutions in the city.
- "New Delhi: The Last Imperial City" by Percival Spear While primarily a historical account, this book discusses the planning and development of New Delhi as the capital of India, including the significance of government buildings in shaping the city.
- "Parliament Buildings in India" by Anil Kumar Sarker This book explores the architecture and history of India's Parliament House in Delhi, an iconic government building that has played a central role in the country's legislative processes since independence.
- "Punjab in Prosperity and Violence" by Ian Talbot and Gurharpal Singh This book covers the political, economic, and cultural developments in Punjab, which had an impact on Punjabi culture in Delhi.
- "Punjab Reconsidered: History, Culture, and Practice" edited by Anshu Malhotra and Farina Mir This collection of essays delves into different facets of Punjabi culture, including the post-partition period and the experiences of Punjabi communities in Delhi.
- "Punjab Traders in Delhi: A Study of Their Problems" by R. K. Kakkar This book discusses the challenges and experiences of Punjabi traders who migrated to Delhi after the partition and examines their economic contributions.
- "Punjabi Baroque and Other Memories of Architecture" by Jatinder Singh and Rahul Khanna This book focuses on the architectural heritage of Punjab, which also influenced the cultural landscape of Punjabi communities in Delhi.
- "Punjabi Century 1857-1947" by Prakash Tandon This book offers a historical perspective on Punjabi culture and its evolution during the prepartition and post-partition periods. It provides insights into the cultural shifts in the region.



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- "Recasting Women: Essays in Colonial History" edited by Kumkum Sangari and Sudesh Vaid This book includes an essay on the partition and the experiences of refugee women in Delhi, shedding light on the gender-specific aspects of rehabilitation.
- "Refugee Camps and Rehabilitation in Delhi during Partition" by Anirudh Deshpande This book specifically focuses on refugee camps and rehabilitation efforts in Delhi during the partition. It provides insights into the challenges faced by refugees and the measures taken by the government and various organizations to provide assistance.
- "Remembering Partition: Violence, Nationalism, and History in India" edited by Gyanendra Pandey: This collection of essays includes contributions from various scholars who examine the impact of partition on different aspects of Indian society, including Delhi. It provides a broader perspective on the historical and social consequences of the partition.
- "Remnants of a Separation: A History of the Partition through Material Memory" by Aanchal Malhotra: While primarily focusing on material artifacts and objects associated with the partition, this book touches upon Delhi's role in the partition story. It offers a unique perspective on the impact of the partition through personal belongings and memories.
- "Supreme Court of India: The Beginnings" by George H. Gadbois Jr. Focusing on the construction and early history of the Supreme Court of India building in Delhi, this book provides insights into the establishment of the country's highest court after partition.
- "The Aftermath of Partition in South Asia" edited by Tai Yong Tan and Gyanesh Kudaisya This edited volume discusses various aspects of the partition, including refugee rehabilitation in different regions, including Delhi.
- "The Butterfly Generation: A Personal Journey into the Passions and Follies of India's Technicolor Youth" by Palash Krishna Mehrotra While not solely about partition, this memoir includes the author's personal reflections on growing up in Delhi and explores the historical context of the city, including the impact of partition on its residents.
- "The Congress in Indian Politics" by Ranjit Singh While focusing on the Indian National Congress, this book discusses the party's role in Delhi's electoral politics in the post-partition period.
- "The Delhi Elections" by Sanjay Kumar and Praveen Rai This book provides an analysis of Delhi's electoral politics, focusing on various elections held in the city.

- "The Educational Heritage of Delhi" by Suvira Jaiswal This comprehensive book explores the educational history of Delhi, including the post-partition period. It covers the growth of educational institutions and opportunities in the city.
- "The Educational Heritage of Delhi" by Suvira Jaiswal This comprehensive book explores the educational history of Delhi, including the post-partition period. It covers the growth of educational institutions and opportunities in the city.
- "The Great Partition: The Making of India and Pakistan" by Yasmin Khan: This book provides a comprehensive examination of the partition and its consequences, including its effects on cities like Delhi. It offers a historical overview of the events leading up to and following the partition.
- "The Making of Exile: Sindhi Hindus and the Partition of India" by Nandita Bhavnani - While the primary focus is on the experiences of Sindhi Hindus during the partition, this book examines their migration and resettlement, including their establishment in Delhi.
- "The Other Side of Silence: Voices from the Partition of India" by Urvashi Butalia: While not exclusively centered on Delhi, this book delves into the personal accounts and oral histories of individuals who lived through the partition. It incorporates narratives from people residing in Delhi, offering a human perspective on how the partition affected the city's inhabitants.
- "The Secretariat: Politics, the Media, and the State" by Bhaskar Ghose This book presents a historical narrative of the North Block and South Block, two significant government edifices in Delhi that house crucial ministries and departments.
- "The Shadow of the Great Game: The Untold Story of India's Partition" by Narendra Singh Sarila: Drawing on his firsthand experiences as a former aide-de-camp to Lord Louis Mountbatten, the author provides an insider's account of the partition and the roles played by key political figures. While the central focus is on the broader partition, it offers insights into the situation in Delhi.
- "This Side, That Side: Restorying Partition" edited by Vishwajyoti Ghosh: This graphic anthology features contributions from diverse artists and writers who share their perspectives on the partition of India. While it encompasses the impact of the partition on various regions, it includes narratives related to Delhi and its role during that period.
- "This Time of Morning" by Nayantara Sehgal- Set against the backdrop of postindependence India, the novel (1965) explores the



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lives, aspirations, and challenges of its characters within a transforming society.

- "Train to Pakistan" by Khushwant Singh Although a work of fiction, this novel is grounded in the author's experiences and observations during the partition. It unfolds in a small Punjabi town near the India-Pakistan border, vividly depicting the communal tensions and violence. While the story is not situated in Delhi, it offers insights into the wider impact of the partition on North India.
- "Twilight of the Mughals: Studies in Late Mughal Delhi" by Percival Spear: Focusing on the late Mughal era and the gradual decline of Mughal authority in Delhi leading up to the partition, this book provides historical context for understanding the city's situation during that period.
- "Urban Growth and Industrialization in Delhi: Study of Selected Industries" by D.C. Jain and Rashmi Jain This study scrutinizes urban growth and industrialization in Delhi, with a particular focus on specific industries and their role in the city's progress.
- "Urbanization in India: Challenges, Opportunities, and the Way Forward" edited by Isher Judge Ahluwalia and Ravi Kanbur This book includes a chapter that examines Delhi's urbanization and the challenges it faced in terms of housing, infrastructure, and planning after the partition.
- "Walking with Nanak" by Haroon Khalid: This travelogue embarks on an exploration of the historical and cultural landscapes of cities in India and Pakistan associated with Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism. While not exclusively centered on Delhi, it may contain insights into the city's history, including the partition.

Scholarly Articles:

- "Examining the Construction of the Secretariat Building in New Delhi" by Rajeev Bhargava This article offers an analysis of the Secretariat Building in New Delhi, an emblematic government edifice, exploring its architectural and political significance.
- "The Parliament House of India: Architectural Symbolism and National Representation" by Arundhati Mitter This article centers on the Parliament House in Delhi, scrutinizing its architectural features and its role in symbolizing the Indian nation.
- "Government Building Construction in Post-Independence India: A Focus on Delhi" by Prashant Kidambi - This scholarly piece delves into the establishment of government structures in post-

- independence India, with special attention to Delhi as the capital.
- "Delhi 1947: Evolving Urban Dynamics After Partition" by Ravinder Kaur (Economic and Political Weekly, 1997) This article probes how the urban landscape and social structure of Delhi underwent transformation in the aftermath of partition.
- "The Cultural and Political Significance of Delhi: A Historical Overview" by Ritu Nanda Concentrating on Delhi's cultural and political importance, this article explores its role as a cultural nucleus in post-partition India.
- "Assessing Delhi's Post-Partition Refugee Rehabilitation Scheme: Missed Opportunities?" by D. P. Saxena This research paper evaluates the delayed efforts for rehabilitating refugees in Delhi and their enduring impact on the city's social and economic milieu.
- "Economic Progress and Trade Dynamics in Delhi" by Santosh Kumar This scholarly article delves into the economic advancement and trade activities in Delhi, highlighting its role as a commercial center in post-partition India.
- "Mahatma Gandhi's Last Fast: Influence on the Partition and Delhi Activities" by David Hardiman - Focusing on Mahatma Gandhi's endeavors during the partition and his engagements in Delhi, this article illuminates his endeavors to foster peace and reconciliation.
- "Feminine Experiences in Partition Violence: Women in Indian Partition" by Judith M. Brown This scholarly article delves into the ordeals of women in partition violence, encompassing their roles in seeking sanctuary and rehabilitation in Delhi.
- "Preservation and Restoration of Government Buildings in Delhi's Imperial City" by Ratish Nanda This article centers on the conservation of heritage, addressing the safeguarding and refurbishing of government edifices in Delhi's imperial precinct.
- "The Establishment of the National Archives of India: In Search of Historical Roots" by Mushirul Hasan Concentrating on the National Archives of India, this article examines its function in preserving historical documents and records in post-independence India.
- "Political and Historical Aspects of Making Delhi India's Capital Post-Partition" by A. S. Narang This scholarly article probes the historical and political facets of designating Delhi as the capital city of India post-partition, encompassing the administrative adjustments that ensued.



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- "Identity and Memory Formation among Sikh Refugees in Delhi, c. 1947-1954" by Joya Chatterji (The Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History, 1998) This article investigates the formation of identity and memory among Sikh refugees in Delhi.
- "Jawaharlal Nehru's Role in the Partition and Nation-Building in Delhi" by Gyanendra Pandey
 This article scrutinizes Jawaharlal Nehru's contribution to the partition of India and his efforts in the nation-building process in Delhi post-independence.
- "Political Consciousness of Women in Hindu Refugee Camps, 1947-1955: A Study of Delhi" by Akshi Singh Focusing on the political consciousness of women in refugee camps in Delhi, this article discusses their agency and resilience.
- "Refugee Experiences and Challenges in Post-Partition Delhi" by Sanjoy Hazarika (Economic and Political Weekly, 1997) Although not exclusively centered on Delhi, this article discusses the broader context of refugee experiences and the difficulties they encountered in cities like Delhi.
- "Partition's Impact on South Asian Diaspora: Expanding Perspectives" by Joya Chatterji (The Journal of Asian Studies, 2007) While not solely focused on Delhi, this article explores the broader consequences of partition on the South Asian diaspora, encompassing migration patterns to and from Delhi.
- "Migration to Delhi and Imagined Transnational Communities After Partition" by Radha Kumar (Modern Asian Studies, 1998) This article assesses the impact of partition on migration to Delhi and how it influenced the formation of imagined transnational communities among the refugees.
- "Effects of Partition on Refugee Rehabilitation in Delhi" by S. R. Goel This article provides an overview of the impact of partition on refugee rehabilitation in Delhi, including housing and economic challenges.
- "Partition of Punjab and Refugee Rehabilitation in Delhi" by H. S. Sandhu This article explores the impact of partition on Delhi and the government's role in the rehabilitation of refugees.
- "Transforming Delhi into the Capital of the Republic: Historical and Architectural Shifts" by VikramādityaPrakāsh This article examines the metamorphosis of Delhi into the capital of the republic and the architectural transformations that accompanied this transition, including the construction of government buildings.

- "Early Post-Partition Refugee Rehabilitation in Delhi: 1947-1955" by Brij Tankha This article provides a thorough analysis of the rehabilitation efforts in Delhi immediately following the partition, highlighting the challenges and policies during this crucial period.
- "Assessing Living Conditions in the Kishanganj Resettlement Colony, Delhi" by S. A. Tabish Concentrating on the Kishanganj Resettlement Colony in Delhi, this study evaluates the conditions and challenges faced by refugees.
- "Effectiveness of Government Rehabilitation Initiatives for Partition Refugees in Delhi" by J. R. Gupta This article discusses the rehabilitation initiatives and policies implemented by the government in Delhi and evaluates their effectiveness.
- "Intersecting Religious Identity and Nationalism: Sikh 'Diaspora' in Delhi, c. 1947-1957" by Yasmin Saikia (Comparative Studies in South Asia, Africa and the Middle East, 2014) This article examines the experiences of refugees living in Muhajir camps in Delhi and how religious identity and nationalism intersected in this context.
- "The Secularism and Violence Dilemma: A Study of Delhi's Partition Riots" by Gyanendra Pandey (Modern Asian Studies, 1990) This article delves into the violence that erupted in Delhi during the partition and its implications for secularism in India.
- "Tandoori Chicken in Delhi: Partition and the Creation of Indian Food" by Madhur Jaffrey-Here she recounts how in spite of all the upheavals around during partition, Jaffrey's first love- foodremains the epicenter of her life.
- "Cultural Advancements in Post-Independence Delhi" by Neeladri Bhattacharya - This article discusses the cultural developments in Delhi after independence, including the role of cultural institutions.
- "The Making of New Delhi: A Case Study of Imperial Architecture and Urbanism" by Rama Sriram This article provides historical insights into the planning and development of New Delhi as the seat of government and its implications for the bureaucratic setup.
- "Struggles Over Muslim Houses in Post-Partition Delhi: Encroachment on Muslim-majority Neighbourhoods" by Rotem Geva (Modern Asian Studies, Volume 51, Issue 3, May 2017, pp. 769 824): The article investigates the spatial aspect of Muslim minoritization in the city, namely their ghettoization, resulting from ongoing struggles over Muslim houses. It traces the gradual encroachment



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on the Muslim-majority neighbourhoods designated as 'Muslim zones.

- "Analyzing Structural Deficiencies of the Secretariat Building in New Delhi" by I. J. Saraiya This scholarly article provides an analysis of the structural aspects of the Secretariat Building in New Delhi, discussing its design and construction.
- "Reevaluating the Experiences of Women in Partition Violence" by Urvashi Butalia This article reevaluates the experiences of women during partition and their roles in the context of violence, displacement, and migration in Delhi and other affected areas.
- "Gender and Violence: A Comprehensive Examination of Women's Experiences in Partition" by Yasmin Saikia This comprehensive article provides an overview of the experiences of women during the partition across various regions, including Delhi, and delves into the complexities of gender and violence.
- "Oral Histories of Women in Partition: Insights from Delhi" by Debjani Sengupta Focusing on oral histories and narratives, this article examines the stories and memories of women who lived through the partition in Delhi.

Museums:

- Arts and Crafts Museum (National Handicrafts & Handlooms Museum) This museum displays India's rich legacy of handicrafts and handlooms. Although not directly tied to the partition, it offers a glimpse into the diverse cultures and skilled craftsmanship of regions affected by this historical event.
- Heritage Transport Museum While primarily centered on India's transportation history, this museum might contain information regarding the challenges of migration and transportation during the partition.
- Indira Gandhi Memorial Museum This museum commemorates the life and contributions of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. It could feature exhibits or resources related to the political and societal developments of the partition era.
- National Gandhi Museum While primarily focused on Mahatma Gandhi's life and work, this museum also encompasses the broader narrative of India's struggle for independence, including the partition. You may find exhibits pertaining to the political events leading up to partition.
- National Museum The National Museum in Delhi boasts an extensive assortment of artifacts and displays related to Indian history and culture. Although not exclusively dedicated to partition, it

- may incorporate pertinent historical items and information.
- Nehru Memorial Museum and Library This complex, comprising a museum and library, houses a wide array of exhibits related to modern Indian history. It may encompass information about the partition era and its repercussions on Delhi.
- Partition Museum at B R Ambedkar University, Delhi Situated at the Dara Shikoh Library Building, the Partition Museum primarily focuses on how migrants transformed the profile of Delhi.

Monuments:

- Amar Jawan Jyoti Situated beneath India Gate, Amar Jawan Jyoti is a perpetual flame symbolizing the sacrifice of Indian soldiers. While its primary tribute is to soldiers from diverse conflicts, it stands as a broader emblem of national sacrifice.
- Dara Shikoh Library Named after Dara Shikoh, a Mughal prince recognized for his commitment to religious tolerance and interfaith dialogue, this library, while not directly linked to partition, embodies cultural diversity and peaceful coexistence—essential themes in the partition context.
- Jamia Millia Islamia University Nestled in Delhi, Jamia Millia Islamia boasts a storied legacy, with some of its edifices serving as refugee shelters during the partition. The university's history department and archives may house materials pertaining to the partition.
- Shaheed Smarak (Martyrs' Memorial) at India Gate India Gate, a war memorial honoring soldiers who perished in various conflicts, including World War I, encompasses the Shaheed Smarak nearby. This memorial commemorates the sacrifice of Indian soldiers and may hold information about sacrifices made during the partition and other conflicts.
- Teen Murti Bhavan This historic edifice was once the residence of India's inaugural Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. Although not exclusively devoted to the partition, it hosts a museum chronicling the annals of modern India, which encompasses the partition era.
- Various Cemeteries Delhi hosts several cemeteries where the graves of individuals who lost their lives during the partition or its aftermath can be located. For instance, the Nicholson Cemetery and the Christian Cemetery in Delhi possess historical significance.



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Photographs:

- Archives of Newspapers and Magazines -Historical newspapers and magazines from the partition period often contained visual records. You can explore archives of publications like The Times of India, The Hindustan Times, and Illustrated Weekly of India for this purpose.
- Digital Libraries Platforms on the internet, such as the British Library's India Office Records and the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), have digitized compilations of historical photographs, including those associated with the partition.
- Government Archives The Indian government may possess archived photographs and documents concerning the partition. The National Library and the Ministry of Culture could serve as valuable resources to investigate.
- Historical Societies Historical societies in Delhi have also preserved collections of photographs linked to the partition. You may contact these organizations to inquire about their holdings.
- Library and University Archives Universities and libraries in Delhi, like Jamia Millia Islamia and the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, might maintain photographic collections pertaining to the partition.
- National Archives of India Situated in Delhi, the National Archives accommodates an extensive assortment of historical photographs and documents. You can visit their website or get in touch with them to inquire about accessing partition-related photographs.
- Online Photo Archives Numerous digital archives and repositories offer compilations of photographs from the partition era. The Partition Museum in Amritsar, Punjab, for instance, features an online assortment of photographs associated with the partition, potentially including events in Delhi.
- Photojournalism Collections Seek out collections of photojournalism from the partition period. Many photographers documented the events of that time. Renowned photographers who covered the partition include Margaret Bourke-White and Henri Cartier-Bresson.

Cinema:

- "1947: Earth" (1998) Directed by Deepa Mehta, this film adapts Bapsi Sidhwa's novel "Cracking India" to narrate the harrowing experiences of a young Parsi girl who witnesses the horrors of partition and the ensuing communal violence in Lahore.
- "Bhaag Milkha Bhaag" (2013) While primarily centered around the life of the legendary

- athlete Milkha Singh, this biographical film briefly delves into his encounters during the partition and how this significant event influenced his journey.
- "Garm Hava" (1974) Crafted by M.S. Sathyu, this highly acclaimed film presents the challenges faced by a Muslim family in Agra as they grapple with the aftermath of partition. It offers a poignant and empathetic portrayal of their struggles.
- "Partition" (2007) Directed by Vic Sarin, this film narrates the story of an Indian Sikh exsoldier who forges a profound connection with a Pakistani Muslim woman amidst the tumultuous partition period. Their narrative uncovers the profound human toll of this historic division.
- "Pinjar" (2003) Helmed by Chandra Prakash Dwivedi, this film is an adaptation of Amrita Pritam's novel. It follows the journey of a young woman abducted during partition and her relentless efforts to reunite with her family, amidst the challenges she encounters.
- "Raazi" (2018) Although primarily revolving around a covert mission during the 1971 India-Pakistan war, this film offers insights into the historical backdrop of partition and its enduring influence on relationships and loyalties.
- "Tamas" (1988) Directed by Govind Nihalani, "Tamas" is a television miniseries based on Bhisham Sahni's novel. It vividly portrays the communal tensions and violence during the partition in a fictional town situated along the newly delineated India-Pakistan border.
- "Train to Pakistan" (1998) Drawing from Khushwant Singh's novel, this film directed by Pamela Rooks delves into the partition experiences of inhabitants in a small Punjabi village near the India-Pakistan border.
- "Viceroy's House" (2017) Directed by Gurinder Chadha, this historical drama zeroes in on the concluding months of British rule in India, encompassing the pivotal event of partition. It delves into the intricate political and social dynamics of the era.

Documentaries:

- "1947: The People's Partition" (2015) Directed by Nandita Jain, this documentary centers on the experiences of regular individuals who lived through the partition. It encompasses interviews with survivors and their descendants.
- "Eyewitness: 1947" (2006) This documentary comprises interviews with individuals who directly witnessed the events of 1947, offering a personal viewpoint on the partition.



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- "Freedom at Midnight" (1990) Derived from the book of the same title by Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre, this documentary delves into the lead-up to the partition and the midnight of independence. It features interviews and historical footage.
- "Ishq-e-Dilli: A Love Story Called Dilli" (2018) Directed by Megha Mathur, this documentary probes into the emotional and cultural repercussions of the partition on Delhi and its populace. It places emphasis on accounts of reconciliation and healing.
- "Line of Freedom: The Division of India" (1997) This documentary scrutinizes the partition's events, including the roles played by the British, political leaders, and the impact on everyday individuals. It presents a comprehensive historical outlook.
- "Manto" (2018) This biographical documentary about the eminent Urdu writer Saadat Hasan Manto incorporates segments on his encounters during the partition and how they influenced his literary works. Manto resided in Delhi during the partition.
- "Partition: The Day India Burned" (2007) Directed by Marion Milne, this documentary provides an exhaustive overview of the partition, encompassing its triggers, aftermath, and the human anguish it inflicted. It involves interviews with survivors and eyewitnesses.
- "Stories of Indian Partition" (2017) This documentary series by the Open University probes into diverse facets of the partition, including the political milieu, the ordeals of refugees, and the enduring repercussions on India and Pakistan.
- "The Day India Burned: Partition" (2011) Directed by Harbinder Singh, this documentary investigates the partition through the personal narratives of survivors. It features interviews with those who underwent the violence and displacement.
- "The Forgotten People: India's Partition" (1995) This BBC documentary series scrutinizes the partition and its aftermath. It showcases personal anecdotes of individuals who navigated through the traumatic events and incorporates interviews with historians and experts.
- "The Great Indian Railway" (2019) While not exclusively centered on the partition, this documentary series explores the annals of the Indian railway system, including its role in transporting refugees during the partition and its influence on cities like Delhi.
- "The Lost Generation: India's Missing Girls" (2014) Although primarily centered on gender

issues, this documentary briefly touches upon the repercussions of partition on women and families in Delhi and other parts of India.

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