

Q:- Why Karachi was chosen as a capital in 1948? (7)

1. Was obvious choice for many reasons:-
2. Sindh only province with Muslim League majority
3. Industrial hub
4. Birth place of quaid –e-azam
5. Climate= bearable weather other cities hot and dry
6. Airport= people could handle affairs from any other city or country
7. Sindh government have governor house, assembly hall and small
8. Small town with a population of 3500
9. Karachi had seaport main export and import point.

Reaction of the Muslims towards the Radcliffe Award

The Muslim's main objections were:

- ▶ Ferozepur was given to India even though it had Muslim majority
- ▶ Gurdaspur even had Muslim majority and was given to India. Jinnah was convinced that this was done deliberately to give India a border with Kashmir and allow it to intervene in areas of Kashmir which Jinnah believed was rightly part of Pakistan
- ▶ The Muslims were also very disappointed that when Bengal was partitioned, Calcutta went to India. The city of Calcutta was the capital of the province and its biggest industrial, commercial and educational centre. The raw material that East Bengal produced had to be sent to Calcutta because all the factories and mills were in that city.

1. Geographical Problems:

- ▶ Pakistan was divided into two: East and West Pakistan.
- ▶ These two wings were separated by thousands of miles.
- ▶ The vast distance between them also meant that there were significant differences and outlook between the people of the two different regions.

2. Political Problems:

- ▶ The most important problem was that there was no government for the new country. This was a problem because:
 - ▶ India inherited government buildings, furnishings and even officials from the British. Pakistan had none of these. Shortage of furniture and stationery.
 - ▶ The geographical separateness of East and West Pakistan made it difficult to govern as one country.

- ▶ This problem was made worse as the majority of Government and army leaders came from West Pakistan while most of the population lived in East Pakistan.
 - ▶ India had experienced officials and members who could take over the government.
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- ▶ Pakistan lacked both administrative and governmental machinery to run the affairs of the new country without a proper government, Pakistan could not be recognized as a sovereign state internationally, nor could diplomatic relations with other countries be established.

Issue of the capital:

Karachi was the obvious choice for many reasons:

- ▶ Sindh was the only province with AIML (All India Muslim League) majority
- ▶ Sindh Government came forward with the proposal
- ▶ Karachi was the birthplace of Quaid-e-Azam
- ▶ Karachi's climate was bearable
- ▶ Karachi had an airport

3. Economic Problems:

- ▶ States were mostly underdeveloped with very little industry
- ▶ Much of the territory was on the border of subcontinent.
- ▶ Around 90% people lived in the countryside.
- ▶ 8 towns with the population of more than 100,000 (Karachi, Lahore, Dhaka, Hyderabad, Rawalpindi, Multan, Sialkot, Peshawar)
- ▶ Agriculture didn't produce surplus amount for industrialization
- ▶ Pakistan didn't receive a single jute mill
- ▶ Pakistan only got 14 out of 394 textile mills

4. Social Problems:

Pakistan was mainly made up of 5 different regions:

1. **Pakhtuns in the north**
2. **Balochs in the west**
3. **Sindhis in the south**
4. **Punjabis in the north-east**
5. **Bengalis in the east**

- ▶ Issues affecting the general well-being was poverty.
- ▶ During colonial period many peasants became landless.
- ▶ Cholera & malaria affected a large section of the region.
- ▶ In 1948, there were only 211 doctors and 2825 hospital beds in East Bengal.
- ▶ Few district level secondary schools, one university, few colleges and madrasas were there.

5. Transport Problems:

- ▶ Pakistan got damaged railway engines and bogies
- ▶ The length of the metaled and non-metaled roads in Pakistan was only 14,000 miles
- ▶ No ample roads in N.W.F.P., Baluchistan, Sindh and East Pakistan
- ▶ Pakistan got only 2 sea ports:
 1. Karachi
 2. Chittagong

6. Accession of Princely States:

- ▶ In subcontinent at the time of partition there were 462 princely states which weren't given independence
- ▶ They weren't given independence because Lord Mountbatten thought that their futures would be uncertain and may lead to war
- ▶ They were given the option to join India or Pakistan
- ▶ By 15th August, all states in the subcontinent announced their votes except three states:
 - Hyderabad

- Junagadh
- Kashmir

- ▷ **Hyderabad:** Hyderabad was a Non-Muslim majority state at the south of India. The rulers were called Nizam. Due to important position, Mountbatten put pressure to accede with India but the Nizam refused because he was a Muslim on 13 Sept. 1948 Indian troops entered Hyderabad and dismantled the state. Pakistan complained in UNO (United Nations Organization) that is still pending.
- ▷ **Junagadh:** Junagadh was a non-Muslim majority state but its prince was a Muslim. He requested for the accession with Pakistan. A blockade was imposed by the Indian government and soon Junagadh was short of food. Then in November 1947, Indian troops invaded and took control of the area. Pakistan complained in UNO (United Nations Organization), which is still pending.
- ▷ **Kashmir:** Kashmir was a Muslim majority state. It was ruled by Hindu ruler Hari Singh. It is situated at the North of Pakistan. Muslim majority wanted to join Pakistan but the ruler wanted to maintain independent state. He started a brutal campaign against Muslims. Maharaja requested for Indian army assistance. On 26 Oct. 1947, Maharaja announced the accession with India. The Indian army entered the region. Pakistan wanted to help Kashmir and the Muslims. Undeclared war b/w both the countries started. UNO decided that Kashmir would be divided between the 2 countries but Pakistan was angered that India got the largest part and the capital so a referendum was to be conducted but until now Kashmir issue remains a major source of discontent.

7. The division of Financial and Military Assets:

- ▶ The assets of the subcontinent belonged to two countries now
- ▶ It was decided that the assets would be divided in the ratio 17:5. 17 was given to India and 5 to Pakistan
- ▶ It was decided that Pakistan would be paid 750 million rupees out of the 4 billion rupees in the Reserve Bank. The first 200 million rupees were paid but the rest weren't paid because war broke out over Kashmir. Gandhi wanted the division of assets to be fair so he protested and successfully persuaded the Indian government to pay Pakistan the rest
- ▶ The armed forces personnel were given freedom to choose between Pakistan & India. Muslim soldiers went with Pakistan and non-Muslim to India

- ▶ Pakistan's army comprised of 150,000 men and it needed 4,000 officers so Jinnah was forced to take 500 British officers temporarily since Pakistan was facing immediate war with India over Kashmir
- ▶ There were 16 ordinance factories in India and it refused to hand over any. It finally agreed to give 60 million rupees to Pakistan for building ordinance factories. The military supplies that India agreed to hand over always arrived late or were often old, worn, damaged or obsolete.

8. The Canal Water Dispute:

- ▶ Partition of subcontinent cut across many rivers and canals.
- ▶ Most of the rivers and canals was controlled by 'headworks', which were in Punjab which was now a part of India.
- ▶ Most of the river flowing in Pakistan had their origin in India.
- ▶ India promised not to interfere with the supply of water to Pakistan.
- ▶ In 1948, India stopped water supply to Pakistani canals especially from Bari-Doab canal. Pakistan argued that it had a right to the water as its economy depended on it.
- ▶ In May 1948, a temporary agreement was signed in which India allowed the water to flow if Pakistan agreed to try to find alternative water supplies.

9. Refugee crisis and accommodation:

- ▶ A few months before the partition communal riots had started in Sikh states and East Punjab.
- ▶ Organized killing of Muslims was being done by Hindu and Sikh militants who were helped by the army and police.
- ▶ Soon after partition, violent communal riots started in the other cities of India.
- ▶ Many of the people found themselves living in the 'wrong country' and became victims of the communal riots.
- ▶ Over 10 million Muslims moved from India to Pakistan.
- ▶ Some moved willingly and some to escape the communal riots.

20 million people were made homeless and both India and Pakistan faced enormous problems.

- ▶ Pakistan government in great difficulty to provide food and shelter to refugees.
- ▶ The first and immediate problem which invited attention of the Government was the rehabilitation of the refugees.
- ▶ Quaid-e-Azam met this challenge with courage and determination.
- ▶ He moved his headquarter to Lahore.
- ▶ The refugees were housed in refugee camps where they were given food, shelter and medical care until they were gradually settled in rural and urban areas.
- ▶ Quaid-e-Azam relief fund was created.
- ▶ Quaid made stirring speeches to revive faith and confidence in the distressed refugees.