



छत्रपति शाहू जी महाराज विश्वविद्यालय, कानपुर
CHHATRAPATI SAHU JI MAHARAJ UNIVERSITY, KANPUR



स्कूल ऑफ लैंग्वेजेज़
School of Languages

Vibhishika Smriti Diwas: Honoring the Lost Voices of Partition (14.08.2025)



14th August is viewed by the School of Languages at Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University, Kanpur, as Vibhishika Smriti Diwas, a smriti of the pain, struggles, and sacrifices of all those who suffered during the Partition of 1947. Right at the stroke of midnight of 14th and 15th August 1947, India got divided into two separate nations, namely India and Pakistan. Partition was done by Sir Radcliffe, which was drawn in haste and secrecy, hence having several disputed regions. It is estimated that 10 to 20 million people crossed the border, and the estimated death toll ranges between several hundred thousand and two million. Survivors remember how they experienced the most horrific forced migration in large caravans, many on foot, amidst starvation, disease, and attacks by armed mobs. Personal narratives detail the loss of ancestral homes, property, and loved ones. Many survivors spoke of leaving everything behind mostly with no prior notice and were shocked to find themselves on the wrong side of a border that was hastily drawn. This traumatic experience had to be lived through, and long after, psychological effects made survivors suffer from PTSD and an "irreparable loss". In August 1947, India got partitioned into two countries: India and Pakistan. This led to the largest human migration and one of the severest communal violence in history. Approximately 14–16 million people were displaced, while almost 1–1.5 million people lost their lives. Partition did not only change the political boundaries but also ripped apart the social,



छत्रपति शाहू जी महाराज विश्वविद्यालय, कानपुर
CHHATRAPATI SAHU JI MAHARAJ UNIVERSITY, KANPUR



स्कूल ऑफ लैंग्वेजेज़
School of Languages

cultural and human fabrics. One of the most painful parts of memory is the mass violence against women including abductions, rapes, and conversions. Some accounts mention how women chose to end their lives to "protect family honour". The main causes of this division were due to the creation of Two-Nation Theory. The Muslim League

believed Hindus and Muslims were two distinct nations with different cultures, religions and lifestyles. Communal politics and separate electorates Acts of 1909, 1919, 1935. British "Divide and Rule" policy. Mutual distrust between Congress and the Muslim League and Political instability following World War II.

Since 2021, every year's August 14th has been celebrated as "Partition Horrors Remembrance Day" to remember the victims and tell future generations about the importance of social harmony and human empowerment. Exhibitions and discussions were arranged in all the academic institutions and public places, including railway stations, to mark the day. The occasion recalled the message of unity, peace, and harmony for the making of a compassionate society. Dr. Sarvesh Mani Tripathi, Director of School of Languages, focused on the pain, struggle, and sacrifice of the people during the Partition of 1947. It was attended by all the faculty members along with the students.



Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, India

F7x8+85j, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh 208024, India

Lat 26.498529° Long 80.265123°

14/08/2025 03:25 PM GMT +05:30