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A R C H I V E

Video Interview Packet | Non-Migrants

(March 2020 Version)

1. Pre-interview Equipment Checklist

- Digital video recorder** (audio recorder is okay)
- A good microphone** designed for interviews is highly recommended. Ask your nearest camera shop for assistance or send us a message.
- Sturdy tripod**
- Charged batteries** that will together last at least 4 hours.
- Interview Field Packet** with list of interview questions
- Laptop with/ printed copy of **Post Interview Questionnaire**
- Paper copy of **Interview Release Form**
- Digital still camera. Take 5+ still photos per interview.**
- Headphones**
- Extra recording media (memory cards, etc)**
- Pen and a notebook** for notes during interview
- Your business card** and Archive Information card (download and print from www.1947partitionarchive.org)
- Plenty of time** (at least 4 hours) for interview plus travel

2. At the interview: Equipment setup checklist

- Check lighting
- Check background noise
- Framing of subject
- Camera on?** Is the red record light on? Close LCD screen to conserve battery, if needed.
- Microphone on?** (If you are using an external microphone)
- Headphones on?** Can you hear them via headphones?
- Take photos** of your setup and subject. If team of two, ask one team member to take digital photos of the other conducting the interview.
- Enough memory** for at least 4 hours of recording?

3. Interview Packet Table of Contents

The interview question packet is organized according to the following tabs. Use these tabs as quick references to different sets of questions.

Pre-Partition: All experiences that occur before August 1947. Pages 7-19.
Keyword packet pages 43-50.

Partition: All experiences that occur during and around 1947. Pages 22-25.
Keyword packet pages 51-52.

Post-Partition: All experiences that occur after the Partition period (exact year depends on the interviewee's personal experience). Pages 27-33. Keyword packet pages 53-56.

Variable: Questions that can fit into more than one of the previous categories: the time at which certain life experiences occurred will be different for different interviewees. Use this tab to refer to a part of the question packet that may be at a different point in your interviewee's life. Pages 16-17, 20, 28, 31-33, 35-41. Keyword packet pages 48, 50, 53, 55-61.

Main packet: Pages 7-42

Keyword packet: Pages 43-61

4. Interview Questions

Think of the interview as an assisted narration.

It is a conversation in which you minimize your own involvement. The interviewee dominates the conversation. Your job is to simply help them with recollection or in bringing out key parts of their story, using questions.

To help you, imagine you are painting a picture or writing a play. What details would you need from their story, from the particular scene they are describing?

The following questions are the basic guideline to use for the interviews. As it is a very sensitive subject, please keep in mind the following:

- Feel free to supplement this questionnaire with other questions or remove questions to accommodate your interviewee's unique story.
- During the interview, please stay alert, courteous, and on-track.
- Do not interrupt, argue or disagree with the interviewee.
- *Remember!* We are trying to genuinely record the interviewee's opinions and thoughts *without* letting our own views get in the way.

For general inquiries: ask@1947PartitionArchive.org

Best of luck with the interview process! We hope that you find this to be an immensely rewarding experience.

Special instructions:

- Before your interview, read through the questions a few times. As you read through them, imagine scenes an interviewee may be describing. This visualization will help you remember these.
- We recommend that you refer to the key words highlighted in **yellow** in each sentence to formulate your question appropriately and in the context of your interview, rather than reading the whole question off the page during the interview recording.
- The main questionnaire categories are highlighted in grey. Specific questions in each category are examples to help you probe deeper and are only to be used for reference. You are also encouraged to formulate your own questions based on the interviewee's responses.
- An asterisk (*) signifies that the question is highly recommended.

Introductory Passage

Let the camera record for about 10s before you begin the interview. Then, step in front of the camera, and start by reading the following passage in English:

“My name is [your name] and [camera person name] is on camera . Today’s date is [date]. I am interviewing [name of interviewee] for the [first/second/third...] time. The interview is taking place at [name of city, state, country] and is being conducted on behalf of The 1947 Partition Archive.”

The Questions

Your interview will be richer if you ask as many questions as possible.

1. Background

A) Personal information

*What is your full name?

*What was your name at birth (i.e. maiden name)?

*What are your nick names if any?

*What is your father’s name?

*What is your mother’s name?

*Where is your place of birth?

*What is your birthdate?

B) Can you tell us a bit about your family history?

*How far back does your family history on your father’s side go?

*How many generations can you track your forefathers?

*What is the origin of your last name?

- *Describe any special **family tales** and stories passed down from your **father**.
- *How far back does your **family history on your mother's side** go?
- *How many generations can you track your **mother's ancestors**?
- *What is the **origin of your mother's maiden name**?
- *Describe any special **family tales** and stories passed down from your **mother**.
- *Describe any **stories** your parents might have shared about their childhood.
- ***Where** did your parents grow up?
- *What were their **favorite childhood activities** e.g., shepherding, horse riding, spinning thread or yarn?

2. Pre-1947 Life

A) Describe your family life before Partition.

*How many individuals lived within your household?

*Describe roles of members in the household (mother, father, uncles, aunts).

*How many brothers and sisters did you have? How many cousins? Describe them. What were their names? Their ages compared to you?

What did you do for fun together?

*Describe your daily life.

*How was your daily routine affected by sunrise and sunset?

*What languages did you speak before Partition at home? At school? With friends? when reading? Compare to now.

*What do you currently consider your primary language? Your secondary language? What about for reading and writing?

*Describe any poetry, songs, or stories in the language of your homeland?

*Were there special songs for occasions such as childbirth, wedding ceremonies, etc.?

*Describe your friends.

*Describe your friends' religious affiliations.

*What did you do together?

How did your activities with friends change as you became older?

*Describe the places of worship you visited?

How often did you go to your place of worship, and what did you do there? Did you enjoy it?

Describe your family outings and family entertainment. Did you host or attend picnics?

*Describe neighborhood weddings, dance performances or other **town affairs**.

*Describe your **holidays**. Where did you spend them? How did you get there?

What kinds of **activities** would the family engage in on holiday?

Describe any special holiday **gifts** exchanged that you remember.

If any of your **extended family on your father's side** visited, describe their visits. What kinds of **gifts** did they bring with them? Describe your visits to them.

If any of your **extended family on your father's side** visited, describe their visits. What kinds of **gifts** did they bring with them? If you visited them, describe those visits.

If any of your **extended family on your mother's side** visited, describe their visits. What kinds of **gifts** did they bring with them? If you visited them, describe those visits.

Describe your **favorite holiday or festival**.

*Describe any **regional or seasonal** festivals.

What were some of the **delicacies** prepared for these festivals? Who helped to **prepare** this food?

How has the tradition **changed** since the Partition?

Describe **street entertainment** you saw such as storytellers, singers, dancers, snake charmers, jugglers with monkeys, bears etc. Where did the performers come from? What time of year did they visit?

*Describe any **plays and performances** in your village/town/city?

What was the **nature or message** of these performances? Describe if they were religious, patriotic, or social in content.

If you grew up in a place **without electricity**, describe your first encounter with it.

Describe your first encounter with **a movie hall**.

Describe your **first encounter with a motor vehicle**. How were the vehicles **refueled**?

Describe the **music** you listened to. How did you listen to it?

If you **played music yourself**, what did you play?

*Please share some of your **childhood memories**.

*Describe some of your favorite **toys**. Where did the toys come from?

*Describe the **myths and stories** you heard.

***In what setting** did you hear these stories/myths? **Who** did you hear them from? What was their **source**?

*Describe **heirlooms** and items of historical significance that you or your family possessed? Do you or anyone in your family still have any of them?

B) Describe your house and neighborhood

*Describe the **house** you lived in.

*Where did you and others in the house **sleep**?

*Where was the **cooking** done? Who did most of the cooking? What part of the house did you eat in?

Describe typical household **chores**? If you had specific household duties, what were they?

Describe any **animals** you had and how you tended to them.

Describe the arrangements for **water supply** around your home, e.g. water pumps, wells (common or personal), nearby bodies of water.

What **source of water** did your family mainly use?

Describe **what surrounded** your home.

Describe any **rivers, mountains, forests or wilderness** near your home.

What kind of **transportation**, if any, did your family use to get around? (Motor vehicles, horses, donkeys, mules, cycles, etc.)

If your family had a **motor vehicle**, how did you obtain the fuel? What kind of **fuel** was used?

How did you get to school, places of worship, or other places? How long were the **distances** that you covered on a daily basis?

Where did you go when you fell **sick**? Which **systems of medicine** were used? Ayurveda, Yunani, Western or other?

C) Describe culture, people, society, any details you remember.

*What was **life** like in your village/city/town **before Partition**?

*What was your **family's role** in the village or neighborhood?

Describe **specific duties** your family carried out for villagers or neighbors.

What role did your **friends' families** play within the town, village, or neighborhood? **What duties** did they carry out?

*How did you **tell the time** of day?

*Which **calendar system** was followed in your locality/ neighborhood/ village? Did you use Gregorian, Saka (Hindu), Hijri (Islamic), Nanakshahi (Sikh), or another calendar system?

*Describe the **postal service** in your town/ village.

Who **read the letters** received in your town/village, and how did people **reply**?

Who **enforced the law** in your village/ tehsil/ city?

Were the police officials representative of the British government, associated with the local royal family, or connected to a different **authority**?

How did you feel about the **presence** of police officials?

*What do you **remember of the British rule**?

*Describe any **famous political leaders or freedom fighters** that visited your town. Did you meet or see them? How did it make you feel?

Describe **newspapers and magazines** you read.

Describe **stories** that you liked to read?

Describe your **local library**, if any? Who ran these libraries?

*Describe the **sellers** that came to sell goods. **Where** did they come from? What kinds of goods did they sell?

What kinds of **shops** were there in your neighborhood/ village/ town?

Which shops did you and your family go to frequently? Describe your **relationship** with the people who ran these shops.

*Describe **interfaith relations** in your town/village.

Describe relations you/your family may have had with families and individuals of a religion other than your own.

Describe what **religious services and festivals** were like in your town/village.

What was the **religious background** of those who attended these festivals and services? What were the rules for religious exclusivity, if any?

*Describe the **gender relations** in your village/town/place. How did men and women interact?

Describe **local artists and craft traditions** in your village/town/place.

Describe local **folk tales**.

Describe memorable **local personalities**, characters, jesters.

Describe any **attacks by dacoits or bandit groups** that may have occurred in your area.

D) Tell us about your school days.

*Describe your **school**.

How did you **get there**? Whom did you go with?

What do you **remember learning, playing and eating**?

Describe the **subjects** that were taught, including any favorite subjects.

If there was a **fee** to attend school, how much was it and how was it paid?

What did you **write** on?

Describe **exams** and who conducted them.

What **stories** were read to you in school? Describe what you remember of them.

*Describe the **makeup of the student body**—was the school limited to one gender or religious affiliation?

*How did the students **interact** with classmates from communities other than their own?

*Describe one of your **best** school memories.

*Describe one of your **worst** school memories.

Describe methods of **punishment** in your school.

Describe the **grading system** in your school.

Describe your teachers, including any **favorite teacher(s)**.

Describe school **inspections** and those who conducted them.

Describe any **scholarships or financial assistance** your school may have offered.

*Describe any **informal education** that you received: what skills, stories, or prayers did you learn in social circles, from your parents, or from family members?

E) Describe pre-1947 agricultural practices

*If your family tended to farmland, describe the **crops** you grew.

Describe the land. **Who owned** the land and **how large** was the area? If you owned the land, describe how your family acquired it.

Where was your family farmland located?

Describe **your role, if any**, in tending to the land. Describe tasks by other family and community members.

Describe the **seasons** for the **crops and the harvests**.

Describe any **celebrations and customs** related to the crops and harvests.

Describe where and how the **seeds were stored**.

Describe the **fertilizers** you used and **pest control methods**.

Describe **bodies of water** that provided resources.

Describe the **process for harvesting** the different crops.

How did you **process the crops** that you harvested?

How were these **crops distributed**? I.e., were they used locally? Were they sold and shipped?

Describe other **products produced locally** from agricultural goods in your town/village.

If you grew your own **cotton**, describe what kinds? What did you do with the crop?

If you used homegrown cotton to **weave cloth**, describe **the process**. Describe the **types of cloth** and clothing. **Who** did the weaving?

F) Describe pre-1947 food ways and household necessities

*What were some of the **foods** you remember eating from those times?

*Describe **where the food came from**? How much of this food came from your own fields and village and how much was purchased?

Where did you purchase the foods that were not home grown?

Describe the **food bazaar** in your village/town/locality.

Describe **where your clothes came from**. Were they home made or purchased?

If purchased clothes, described where and by who.

If your clothes were home made, describe the whole process.

Where did your household **pots/pans** come from? What were they made of? If you continue to use the same kind of utensils today, describe your use of them.

How were your household items made: at home, acquired from local artisans, handed down, or acquired from another source?

G) Were you or anyone you knew involved in politics:

*Were you involved with or active in any political movements or political parties? If so, describe the group and your activities.

Describe freedom or resistance movements in your area. Were you aware of the ongoing struggle against the British Rule?

What kind of activities did you participate in?

Recall names of those whom you worked with.

Describe the religions backgrounds of members of your group.

Describe relations with other political groups.

Describe the group leader/leaders.

How did you get your assignments?

What were the group's goals?

Describe any trainings you received.

Describe the roles of men and women in this group.

How did the men and women of your group interact? Describe the gender dynamics.

Describe how the local population felt about your group.

Describe an experience during that time that stands out in your memory.

How do you feel today about your activities then?

H) Describe your marriage and family life:

*Were you married before Partition?

If yes, ask the following questions now. If no, return to this section and ask them later.

*How **old** were you when you got married and what was your husband/wife's name?

*Describe your **wedding**. Where did you get married, what time of year?

*How was the **match made**?

*If you **relocated after marriage** describe where to and why?

*How many **children** did you have? What genders?

***How old were they** during Partition?

I) Describe your job and occupation before Partition:

*Did you have a **job** before Partition?

If yes, ask the following questions now. If no, return to this section and ask them later.

*What did you do for a living? What was your **occupation**?

*Describe your **workplace**.

If you worked for a company, **who owned** it and **where** was it based?

If you worked for an individual, describe that person.

*If you were the boss, **describe how you ran your workplace and operation**.

*How far did you **travel** to get to work? What method of transportation did you use?

*Describe a **typical day** at work.

*If you had **customers**, who were they?

*If you built or made products, where did you get your **raw materials**?

*Describe other **details you remember** about your work life.

J) Questions to ask those who lived in Princely states:

If you are unsure whether or not they grew up in a Princely state, ask them directly.

*Describe **the king/queen**. Had they been ruling for a long time?

Did you hear about the kingdom getting involved in **wars** during your time?

Did you hear stories about **feudal fights** between kings?

*Describe your **encounters with the royal family**.

*Do you have **specific memories** of them? Describe any **legends or rumors** that you heard about the royal family.

*How did people **feel** about the royal family?

Describe your experience if you attended the **royal court/ "darbaar."** If anyone in your family worked at the court, describe what you heard of their experience.

*Describe the **economy and well being** of the citizens in the kingdom.

Describe the state's relationship with the British.

Was there a large middle class? Was there a lot of **poverty**? Were most of the **citizens well off**?

How was the law **enforced** in the kingdom? How were citizen complaints handled?

*How was **life in the kingdom different** after Independence Day and Partition? When did things begin to change?

*When you think of **the royal family**, what is the **first thought** that comes to your mind?

K) Questions to ask musicians

Describe the instruments you play (or voice).

When you did you **first start** playing your instrument (singing)? Your **age**?

If your other **family members** played instruments, what were they?

What inspired you to **play music**?

Why did you choose the **particular instrument** you play/sing?

Where did you **acquire your first instrument**? If it was **hand made**, where and by whom?

Describe your **teacher(s)/guru/master**. Where did you meet them?

Describe the **gharana (style) of your music**.

Describe **traditions and historical tales** associated with your style of music/
gharana.

If you played/sang with a **group**, describe what that was like.

Describe how musical traditions **changed** in your lifetime.

***HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:** Record the interviewee singing or playing their instrument.

L) Questions to ask traditional craftspersons (potters, cloth-makers, specialty traditional food makers, jewelers, other handicrafts and trades).

Describe your (pre-Partition) craft/trade. What do you/did you make? Where did you get the raw materials from? How did you sell your wares?

Describe if other **family members** engaged in the same craft/trade.

***Describe how and why you first started** making this product. How old were you?

How did you learn your craft/trade? Describe your teacher(s).

Were you **influenced** by parents or other elders?

If anything **inspired** you, what was it?

If you followed a **particular style**, describe it. Describe the history of your style and any details about how your style was different than others.

Describe **traditions and historical tales** associated with your style.

***HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:** Record the interviewee demonstrating or engaging in their craft, or showing created items, both pre-Partition and post-Partition styles.

M) Questions to ask those who served in the military

***Did you serve in the military before, during, or after Partition?**

[Interviewer: If the interviewee served in the military before or during Partition, turn to page 30-31 and ask those questions now. If they served after Partition, wait until you reach the post-Partition section of the questionnaire.]

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3. Partition

Throughout this section ask about names of specific people and times/dates.

*What was your **age** at the time of Partition?

***Where** were you when Partition happened?

*How did you learn about Partition? What was your **first thought** when you learned about Partition?

*Please **give your whole story**, recalling as much detail as possible.

*What happened **to those in your village/city who had to leave?**

How did they leave? If it was an organized attempt, describe how it was organized. Describe if they were forced to leave.

*Describe **anyone you knew personally** who had to leave.

*If there was **violence** in your town/village, describe it.

What events of unrest or violence do you specifically remember?

Were you or anyone you know involved in these events? Describe what kind of weapons were used, if any.

*Describe if both **men and women** were involved.

*If you **helped or harmed others**, describe the experience.

*If you helped to **drive out people** from your area, describe the experience.

*If you **acquired property** from those who left, describe how this happened and what you acquired.

If you know anyone who **acquired property** from those who left, describe what they acquired and how they obtained these things.

*How did you **feel** about the people of your town/village leaving?

*If you had to **defend yourself** against violence and mobs, please describe the experience.

*Who else in your city/village/neighborhood was helping defend?

If you were very young at the time, describe how your family explained the circumstances of Partition to you. How did you understand what was going on?

*What is the most personally significant event you can remember from this period in your life?

If you remember hearing about Ghandi's assassination, where were you when you heard?

How did you feel about the event? How did your family/ the people you were traveling with feel?

Questions to ask those who were in Hyderabad in 1948

What was your age at the time of the police action?

Where were you when the police action happened?

What was the first thought on your mind when you learned about the police action and integration of Hyderabad state into the Indian Union?

What were the conversations going on in your home and with family/friends with regards to Hydrabadi independence and the question of integration with the Indian Union?

Did you have to leave your home because of conflict between the Razakars and/or Indian forces?

If yes, ask the following questions:

How did you first learn that you would have to leave?

How did that make you feel?

Describe any special arrangements you made for your return or to protect your belongings.

On what date did you leave your home? At the what time of the day?

What prompted you to leave at this particular time?

Who in your family left with you?

Tell what you remember of their names and ages.

Who else was in your group in addition to your family?

What did you take with you?

Where did you stay during the duration of the police action?

Describe if friends, neighbors, or family take you in and protect you throughout the conflict.

Where did they live? Why was it safer? What were their arrangements to help you stay safe?

If you knew anyone who joined or fought with the Razakars, describe them.

Describe those you knew who were self-armed and fought against the Razakars or helped Indian forces.

If there were people you knew personally who turned against you, who were they and what was that experience like?

If you were ever in danger, from the Razakars, Indian forces, or self-armed locals acting independently, describe what that was like.

If you were you escorted by armed forces or police, who were they?

Describe measures you and/ or your group took for self-defense during this time.

If there were other armed people in your group, what were they armed with?

If there was a group (i.e., political party, paramilitary force, religious group) that armed you and/or trained you to use arms, who were they and how did they train you?

Describe if anyone in your family was **attacked or harmed** in the police action.

Did you **lose family members/ friends** in the police action? What happened?

Where did you stay for **safety** during the police action?

How did you **feel** when you heard that Hyderabad had been successfully integrated into the **Indian Union**? How did people around you **react** to this news?

Describe any **changes** (immediate or long-term) that you observed in Hyderabad **after integration into the Indian Union**.

How do you **feel today** about Hyderabad's integration?

When you think about this time, what **memory** that stands out to you the most?

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4. Post-Partition Life

A) *Ask them to describe changes caused by Partition.*

- *If you **resettled after Partition**, please explain why.
 - *If migrants who had left your village/city **returned to visit**, describe their visit.
 - *Have you **kept in touch** with those who relocated? How?
 - *What was your **religious affiliation** before Partition? What was it afterwards? If you have **changed your religious** identity, explain why.
 - *Describe any large **influxes of people** who immigrated into your village/city?
 - *How did the local population **respond to these newcomers**?
 - ***Where did the new people moving into your village/city take up residence**?
 - *How did the **look and organization of your village/city change** after Partition?
 - *How did the relationship **among members of different religious groups change** in your village/city?
- How did caste/ economic relationships between people change?
- If you were in school at the time, how was your **schooling changed** by Partition?
- Describe post-1947 **social and cultural changes**.

B) *Describe post-1947 agricultural practices?*

- *Describe any changes in **agricultural practices** in your area after 1947.
- *What **crops** were grown? Were new **crops introduced**? Did different crops become dominant?

C) *Describe post-1947 foodways.*

- *Describe any changes to the **types of food you ate**.
- *Describe how **food production changed** in your home after Partition.

*Describe how **sources of your food** changed after partition. (Purchased vs. produced locally or at home)

G) How did you get to where you are today?

*Describe your **whole journey**.

*Describe all important events in your **life since** Partition. **Marriage? Children? Jobs? Degrees?** Travel?

[Interviewer: Return to page 17 for specific questions about marriage/career]

*If you have **siblings**, where are they **living** today? What did they do for their **careers**?

*Whom do you **live with now**?

Whom have you **lived with previously**? If you moved from residence to residence, describe what that was like.

Have you ever lived close to a **border**? If yes, describe what it was like. Describe your interaction with people living across the border.

What are some of the **changes** that you've noticed the society around you undergo in terms of **culture and lifestyle** over the last few decades?

*What do you **do** with your **time today**?

*Describe your job(s) today. If retired, the job(s) you had during your working life.

Have you ever **written** anything (newspaper articles, books, poetry) about Partition or about anything else? Please describe it in detail. Are you comfortable showing it?

[Interviewer: please take pictures or scan the written item in question so that it can be included in the Archive, if the interviewee is comfortable with this.]

H) Questions for South Asian diaspora (living outside of South Asia)

*Describe your **transition and move to** your current country of residence.

***How did you get to where you are?** Tell us your **full story**.

*Where did you live **before you settled** where you are today? Describe each location.

***Why** did you decide to **migrate** to your current location?

***How was your move?**

***What did you do for work in your new home?**

***What was it like integrating into a new land?**

***How often do you visit** South Asia?

***What do you miss the most about South Asia?**

What was the **biggest change** you experienced in terms of lifestyle, cultural practices, and habits of your new residence?

Since having settled in your new place of residence, how have **perceptions of your culture changed?**

I) Question for Bengali witnesses

What do you think of the **Kolkata-Dhaka bus connection** today?

What do you think of the **Maitreyi Express (Friendship Express)**, which renews the train route between the two places after many decades of frozen communication?

J) Question for Muslim witnesses

How did you feel about the **Babri Masjid incident in 1994?**

If you have ever been on **Hajj**, describe your experience.

K) Question for Shia witnesses

If you have ever been to **Karbala**, describe your experience.

L) Questions to ask musicians

Did you continue your musical practices (playing instrument/singing) after migration?

If yes:

Describe if music played a role during the Partition.

Describe if your relationship with your teacher/master was affected during and after Partition. If so, how?

Describe if your practice/style was affected by Partition. If it was, how?

Describe if you changed styles/*gharanas* after Partition.

Describe others you played with. How was the group affected by Partition?

If no:

What prompted you to discontinue, specifically?

How did you feel about discontinuing?

M) Questions to ask traditional craftspersons (potters, cloth-makers, specialty traditional food makers, jewelers, other handicrafts and trades).

Did you continue your craft/trade after migration?

If yes:

Describe your craft/trade practice after migration. How did it change?

Describe how your relationship with your teacher/master was affected during and after Partition.

Describe how your craft/trade has been affected by Partition.

If you changed styles after Partition, describe your new influencers.

Describe others you practiced with. How was the group affected by Partition?

If no:

What prompted you to discontinue, specifically?

How did you feel about discontinuing?

M) Questions to ask those who served in the armed forces

What branch of the military did you join?

What inspired you to join the military?

When did you join?

Where and what kind of training did you undergo?

Describe special memories of your training.

Describe memories involving your instructors/supervisors.

Describe memories of your batchmates.

Why did you choose the army/navy/air force?

What regiment/unit were you in?

What was your first posting?

Describe any memorable COs or positions of responsibility that you held.

If you were a part of 1962, 1965, or 1971 operations, describe your experiences during those wars.

What was your role during the war(s)?

Describe any violence you may have experienced.

What were your most memorable postings?

Describe memorable (good or bad) experiences with your superiors.

How did your wife and family cope? How did you communicate with them?

If you were ever posted near a border, what was it like?

If you were ever **taken prisoner**, describe your experience?

Describe any meetings or interactions you had with **soldiers from other countries**.

What are your **thoughts about the armed forces**?

When did you **retire**?

Describe any **changes** that have occurred within the army or armed forces since the time when you were in active service.

N) Post-1947 incidents of communal or military violence**

(including but not limited to: 1950 and 1965 riots in Bangladesh, 1971 Bangladesh war for independence, 1984 Delhi riots, 2002 Gujarat violence)

***Referred to below as a “conflict.” You can substitute this word for the event name.*

At the time of the conflict, **where and with whom were you living**?

How did you **first hear** about the conflict?

What was your **initial reaction** to hearing about it? How did your family members and friends react?

[For Bangladeshis only]: If you, your family members, or your friends were involved in the **movement for independence**, describe what that was like.

How did the conflict **unfold**? How quickly or slowly did it happen?

What events did you **witness personally**, and what did you **hear about** from others?

Describe any **firsthand experiences** that you, your family, or your friends had with the conflict.

How did you **feel** about the conflict **at the time** it took place? How do you feel about it **now**?

How did your **family and friends react** to the conflict?

If you **lost any family members or friends** in the course of the conflict, describe how it happened.

What was the **effect on your lifestyle and family life**?

If you or your family had to **move**, where did you go?

Describe the **aftermath** of the conflict.

Describe the **memory** from the time of the conflict that stands out to you the most.



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5. Supplementary Questions

Note: This is a new section, designed to be built upon and filled out by interviewers. Please add your own supplementary questions, according to your own areas of expertise, and submit them to stories@1947partitionarchive.org to be considered for our next version of the Questionnaire. Questions at the beginning of each section are generalized and designed to be applicable to most interviewees. Questions specific to certain groups are labeled accordingly.

A. Holidays and festivals

*Ask about festivals including: Eid, Gurburb, Diwali, Muharram, etc.***

***Referred to as “the holiday,” you may supplement the appropriate holiday/festival name.*

Ask about multiple holidays/festivals.

Describe the holiday in as much **detail** as possible.

How did your **local region** celebrate the holiday? What traditions were different from other regions?

Describe any **traditions** specific to your family or neighborhood on the holiday.

If there were **things that were made** specifically for the holiday (costumes, offerings, etc.), what were they? Describe how they were made.

Describe the **foods** made during the holiday. What was your favorite holiday/festival food? If you know how it was made, describe the process.

If your family had a **specific role** to play in the festivities, describe it. What did you do, in particular?

If you witnessed any **processions** during the holiday, describe them.

If there was **music/singing** during this holiday, describe it. If you remember a tune, please hum or sing it.

If you saw any **performers** perform, describe them.

Who came to the festival? Which **groups** attended the festivities?

Describe any **specific memories** you have associated with the holiday. What **image** comes to mind when you think of it?

Describe any **changes** you witnessed in the celebration of the holiday **before and after Partition**.

Describe any **changes** you witnessed in the celebration of the holiday in the **decades following Partition**.

How has your **personal celebration** of the holiday **changed** from when you were a child?

Today, which celebrations do you **continue to participate** in? Describe how you **feel** about them today.

B. Linguistic matters on cross-community lines

How have you noticed your **native language change** over the course of your lifetime?

Who spoke the language when you were young? Who speaks it now?

Describe your **relationship** with this language in detail.

In what **realms** was the language spoken when you were a child (home, school, places of worship, in the wider community)? In what realms is it spoken now?

If there was a change in environments, what do you think has **caused** this change?

Describe if the people who spoke your native language were **persecuted** for doing so, or **forced** to speak in a different language.

If you live in a community that has seen a shift in language use, how do you feel this change has **affected your community**?

If you moved away from the community where your native language is spoken, describe your **relationship** with the language after you moved. Did you **continue** to speak it? How is your native language regarded in your current community?

How do you feel about your **cultural identity** as it relates to your native language?

How did you feel about being **a speaker of your native language** while growing up? How do you feel about it **now**?

URDU LANGUAGE

If you learned to read and write at home, who was it that **taught** you?

If you attended **mushairas, Qawwalis, or Na'ats**, describe them.

If you moved away from a place where Urdu is spoken, are you **still able to read and write** in Urdu? **Do** you?

If you read Urdu literature/poetry, how did you **feel** about it?

What **genres** did you read? What **writers?** 'Urs?

How would you describe the **changes** in the state of the Urdu language since Partition?

PUNJABI LANGUAGE

Describe any **changes in cultural perceptions** of the language. How did people regard those who spoke Punjabi before Partition? How are Punjabi-speakers regarded nowadays?

If you noticed any changes in the language itself OR in its perception, what do you think was the **cause?**

How do you feel about the presence of Punjabi in **modern South Asian cinema and music?**

BENGALI/BANGLA LANGUAGE

Describe how you felt about the Bangla national movement, and if you or your family felt it was connected with Bengali as a language.

For those in Dhaka in 1952: how did you feel when you heard about the **riots near the University of Dhaka** on February 21, 1952? Were you or your family at all involved?

How do you feel about **February 21** being recognized as **Language Movement Day** within Bangladesh, and international Mother Language Day by UNESCO?

If you **commemorate** this day in any way, describe how.

C. Regional identity

*How did you feel your community or cultural group **changed** as a result of Partition?

What community **movements** were you a part of/ did you witness?

How did these movements **compare** to the changes in regional identity experienced as a result of Partition?

HYDERABAD

Telangana movement

Have you ever been a **supporter** or had involvements with the **Telangana (or anti-)** movement? If so, describe.

If your family or friends were involved, **describe their involvement**. What did they tell you about the movement?

Describe any **protests, marches, rallies, or conflicts** that you have witnessed or participated in as part of the Telangana (or anti-) movement.

Describe how you **felt** with the recent news of approval for Telangana independence from greater Andhra Pradesh.

PUNJAB/HARYANA/HIMACHAL PRADESH/CHANDIGARH

Indian Punjabi Suba movement of 1950s and 60s

Were you or your family a part of the **demonstrations** in 1955 and 1960-61?

Was anyone you knew **arrested** as a result of these demonstrations? Who was it? Did they tell you about their experience?

How did you feel about Indian Punjab being **split** into three different states?

How did the split **affect** your daily life?

Did you feel as though the splitting of Indian Punjab **changed** your “Punjabi” identity? How so?

How did this split **compare** to the changes in cultural identity **following the 1947 Partition?**

D. Personal identity

QUESTIONS FOR THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY

Describe the first realization when you felt you were different from your siblings/friends/peers. What made you realize this? What was your age?

If you shared it with anyone, describe the experience. If you kept it to yourself, how did you feel?

Describe the reaction of the people around you when you first told them.

Describe the clothes you wore when you were younger, and the clothes you wear now. How were they made? Do you always wear the same clothes?

How does your wardrobe relate to your gender identity?

Describe the gender with which you identify: male, female, or gender-fluid?

What name and gender do you associate with on official identification documents (ID card, passport etc.)?

Guru/Mentor

Describe your first guru/ mentor.

Describe how you were taken under their tutelage. Did the guru have a selection process? Describe the guru-disciple relationship in your community.

Describe changes in your lifestyle when you were taken under their tutelage.

Did you continue to live with your biological family?

If not, did you maintain communication with your family?

What was your experience like? Describe some important life skills your guru taught you, memorable moments, and valuable lessons.

Describe **other gurus** who might have influenced you. Describe your relationship with other gurus and their disciples.

Describe your **source(s) of income**: what did you do for a living? If you have had multiple jobs, which one of them has been the best for you, and why?

Questions for professional singers or dancers

Describe your **art**, what attracted you to it?

Where did you learn it?

Describe your **teachers**, and your apprenticeship.

Describe your most **memorable performance**.

Partner and Daily Life

Describe your **partner**. How and when did you meet them? Did you marry?

Whom do you **live with nowadays**?

Describe your present daily life: what is your **routine**?

Describe your **disciples (*chela*)**. How do you select them?

How many ***chelas*** do you have today and what are their professions?

What do you **enjoy** teaching them the most?

Describe any **changes you have perceived** over your lifetime in **social perception** of the transgender community.

6. Opinions About Partition

What are your thoughts about Partition?

*How did you feel about the Partition when it occurred? How do you feel about the Partition now? Could things have been done differently?

*When you think about the Partition years, what image comes to mind? OR has stayed with you the most?

What do you think of each year on Independence Day, August 14th/ 15th? What feelings does that day bring with it? What memories does it bring forward?

*Are there sights and smells that evoke this time in the past?

*Describe your friends today. Are they mostly Partition witnesses?

*In your opinion, what could the governments have done to handle things differently?

Are there any days/dates in particular when you or your community commemorate the Partition? Is August 14/ 15 one of those days?

How do you commemorate this time? E.g., observe fasts, prayer meets, community service?

7. Final Thoughts

Is there anything else you would like to add?

Do you have a message for the current and future generations?

How does it feel to have told your story?

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7. Keyword-Only Interview Packet

The following pages are a replication of the interview questionnaire keywords only. It is intended for experienced interviewers to use if they prefer keyword prompts to full questions.

1. Background

A) Personal information

- * Name?
- * Name at birth?
- * Nick names?
- * Father's name?
- * Mother's name?
- * Place of birth?
- * Birthdate?

B) Can you tell us a bit about your family history?

- * Family history on your father's side?
- * Forefathers?
- * Origin of your last name?
- * Father's family tales
- * Family history on your mother's side?
- * Mother's ancestors?
- * Origin of your mother's maiden name?
- * Mother's family tales
- * Parents' childhood stories
- * Where?
- * Parents' favorite childhood activities?

2. Pre-1947 Life

A) Describe your family life before Partition.

Household

*How many individuals

*Roles

*Brothers and sisters, cousins

Fun

*Daily life

*Affected by sunrise and sunset

*Languages

*Primary language/ secondary language

*Poetry, songs, or stories in the language of your homeland

*Special occasion songs

***Friends**

*Friends' religious affiliations

*Do together

Activities with friends change

*Places of worship

How often...worship...enjoy

Family entertainment— did you host or attend picnics

Town affairs

***Holidays**

Activities on holiday

Holiday gifts

Extended family on your father's side—visits? gifts?

Extended family on your mother's side—visits? gifts?

Favorite holiday or festival

***Regional/seasonal festivals**

Delicacies—who prepared?

Changed?

Street entertainment

*Plays and performances

Nature or message

Further questions

- First encounter with electricity?
- First encounter with a movie hall?
- First encounter with a motor vehicle. Refueled?
- Listen to music
- What did you play?
- *Childhood memories
- *Favorite toys
- *Myths and stories
- *In what setting? Who? source?
- *Family heirlooms

B) Describe your house and neighborhood

- *House.
- *Sleep
- *Cooking
- Chores
- Animals
- Water supply
- Source of water
- What surrounded your home?
- Rivers, mountains, forests or wilderness
- Transportation
- Motor vehicle...fuel
- How did you get...distances?
- Sick; Systems of medicine

C) Describe culture, people, society, any details you remember.

- Life...before Partition
- Family's role
- Specific duties
- Friends' families ... What duties?
- *Tell the time
- *Calendar system
- *Postal service
- Read the letters ... reply
- Enforced the law
- Authority

Presence of police officials
*Remember the British rule
*Famous political leaders or freedom fighters
Newspapers and magazines
Stories
Local library
*Sellers. Where?
Shops
Relationship with shops
Interfaith relations
Religious services and festivals
Religious background
*Gender relations
Local artists and craft traditions
Folk tales
Local personalities
Attacks by dacoits or bandit groups

D) Tell us about your school days.

School
Transportation to
Remember learning, playing, eating
Subjects
Fee
Write
Exams
Stories
*Makeup of the student body
*Interact
*Best memory
*Worst memory
Punishment
Grading system
Favorite teacher(s)
Inspections
Scholarships or financial assistance
*Informal education

E) Describe pre-1947 agricultural practices

*Crops

Who owned the land and how large?

Where?

Your role, if any

Seasons ... crops and the harvests

Celebrations and customs

Seeds were stored

Fertilizers/pest control methods

Bodies of water

Process for harvesting

Process the crops

Crops distributed

Products produced locally

Cotton

Weave cloth, describe the process

Types of cloth/Who?

F) Describe pre-1947 food ways and household necessities

*Foods

*Where the food came from?

Where did you purchase the foods?

Food bazaar

Where your clothes came from

Pots/pans

Household items made

G) Were you or anyone you knew involved in politics:

*Political movements

Freedom or resistance movements

Activities

Names

Religions backgrounds

Group leader

Assignments

Group's goals
 Trainings
 Men and women
 Gender dynamics
 Local population
 Experience
 Feel today

H) Describe your marriage and family life:

Were you married before Partition? [If yes, ask the following question now. If no, return to this section and ask them later.]

- *How old?
- *Wedding
- *Match made?
- *Relocated after marriage?
- *Children
- *How old were they?

I) Describe your job and occupation before Partition:

*Did you have a job before Partition? [If yes, ask the following questions now. If no, return to this section and ask them later.]

- *Occupation
- *Workplace
- Who owned ... where?
- *Describe how you ran your workplace and operation
- *Travel
- *Typical day
- *Customers
- *Raw materials
- *Details you remember

J) Questions to ask those who lived in Princely states:

- *The king/queen
- Wars

Feudal fights
 *Encounters with the royal family
 *Specific memories
 Legends or rumors
 *Feel?
 Royal court/ “darbaar”
 *Economy and well being
 Relationship with the British
 Poverty—were most citizens well of?
 Law enforced
 *Life in the kingdom different
 *The royal family...first thought

K) Questions to ask musicians

Instruments
 First start— age?
 Family members
 Play music
 Particular instrument
 Acquire your first instrument
 Hand made
 Teacher(s)/guru/master
Gharana (style) of your music
 Traditions and historical tales
 Group
 Changed
 ***HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:** Record the interviewee singing or playing their instrument.

L) Questions to ask traditional craftspersons (potters, cloth-makers, specialty traditional food makers, jewelers, other handicrafts and trades).

Describe your (pre-Partition) craft/trade
 Family members
 *How/why you first started
 How did you learn?
 Influenced

Inspired

Particular style

Traditions and historical tales

**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:* Record the interviewee demonstrating or engaging in their craft, or showing created items, both pre-Partition and post-Partition styles.

M) Questions to ask those who served in the military

****Did you serve in the military before, during, or after Partition?***

[Interviewer: If the interviewee served in the military before or during Partition, turn to page 55-56 and ask those questions now. If they served after Partition, wait until you reach the post-Partition section of the questionnaire.]

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3. Partition

Throughout this section ask about names of specific people and times/dates.

- *Age
- *Where?
- *First thought
- *Give your whole story
- *To those in your village/city who had to leave?
How did they leave?
- *Anyone you knew personally
- *Violence
Events of unrest or violence
Were you or anyone you know involved
- *Men and women
- *Helped or harmed others
- *Drive out people
- *Acquired property
- *Feel
- *Defend yourself
- *Was helping defend
How your family explained?
- *Personally significant event
Ghandi's assassination?
How did you feel?

Questions to ask those who were in Hyderabad in 1948

- Age
- Where were you?
- The first thought
- Conversations...Hyderabad independence
- Leave your home?
If yes, ask the following questions:
First learn

Feel
Special arrangements
Date/ Time of the day
Family
Names and ages
Who else?
Take with you
Where did you stay?
Friends, neighbors, or family...protect
Safer arrangements
Stayed behind and waited through the conflict
Joined or fought with the Razakars
Fought against the Razakars
Turned against you
Danger
Escorted by armed forces or police
Self-defense
Other armed people
Group...train you
Attacked or harmed in the police action
Lose family members/ friends
Stay for safety
Feel...Indian Union/ React
Changes...in Hyderabad after integration into the Indian Union
Feel today
Memory

4. Post-Partition Life

A) *Ask them to describe changes caused by Partition.*

- *Resettled after Partition
- *Returned to visit
- *Kept in touch
- *Religious affiliation...changed your religious
- *Influxes of people?
- *Respond to these newcomers
- *Where did the new people moving into your village/city take up residence?
- *Changes in look and organization of your village/city change
- *Among members of different religious groups change
- Schooling changed
- Social and cultural changes

B) *Describe post-1947 agricultural practices.*

- *Agricultural practices
- *Crops? New crops introduced?

C) *Describe post-1947 foodways.*

- *Types of food you ate
- *Food production changed
- *Sources of your food

G) *How did you get to where you are today?*

- *Whole journey
- *Jobs and career

[Interviewer: Return to page 44 for specific questions about marriage/ career]

- *Life since: marriage/ Children/ Jobs/ Degrees
- *Siblings...living? Careers
- *Live with now
- Lived with previously
- Border

Changes ... culture and lifestyle

*Time today

*Job(s)

Written anything? Describe in detail

[Interviewer: please take pictures or scan the written item in question so that it can be included in the Archive, if the interviewee is comfortable with this.]

H) Questions for South Asian diaspora (living outside of South Asia)

*Transition and move to

*How did you get to where you are? Full story

*Before you settled

*Why ...migrate?

*How was your move?

*What did you do for work in your new home?

*Integrating into a new land

*How often do you visit home?

*What do you miss the most?

Biggest change

Perceptions of your culture changed?

I) Questions for Bengali witnesses

Kolkata-Dhaka bus connection

Maitreyi Express (Friendship Express)

J) Questions for Muslim witnesses

Babri Masjid incident in 1994

Hajj

K) Question for Shia witnesses

Karbala

L) Questions to ask musicians

Did you continue?

If yes:

If music played a role
 Relationship with your teacher
 Practice/style was affected by Partition
 Changed styles/*gharanas*
 Group affected
 If no:
 Discontinue?
 Feel ... discontinuing?

M) Questions to ask traditional craftspersons (potters, cloth-makers, specialty traditional food makers, jewelers, other handicrafts and trades).

Did you continue?
 If yes:
 Change
 Relationship with your teacher/master
 Craft/trade has been affected by Partition
 Changed styles
 Others you practiced
 If no:
 Why...discontinue?
 Feel ... discontinuing?

M) Questions to ask those who served in the armed forces

What branch?
 What inspired you to join?
 When?
 What kind of training?
 Memories of your training
 Instructors/supervisors
 Batchmates
 Why did you choose?
 Regiment/unit
 First posting
 COs or positions of responsibility
 1962, 1965, or 1971...wars
 Role during the war(s)
 Violence

Memorable postings
 Experiences with your superiors
 Wife and family: communicate
 Border
 Taken prisoner
 Soldiers from other countries
 Thoughts about the armed forces
 Retire
 Changes

O) Post-1947 Partition incidents of communal or military violence**

(including but not limited to: 1950 and 1965 riots in Bangladesh, 1971 Bangladesh war for independence, 1984 Delhi riots, 2002 Gujarat violence)

Where and with whom were you living?

First hear

Initial reaction

[For Bangladeshis]: Bangladeshi movement for independence

Unfold

Witness personally vs hear about

Firsthand experiences

Feel...at the time vs now

Family and friends react

Lost any family members or friends

Effect on your lifestyle and family life

Move

Aftermath

Memory

5. Supplementary Questions

Note: This is a new section, designed to be built upon and filled out by interviewers. Please add your own supplementary questions, according to your own areas of expertise, and submit them to stories@1947partitionarchive.org to be considered for our next version of the Questionnaire. Questions at the beginning of each section are generalized and designed to be applicable to most interviewees. Questions specific to certain groups are labeled accordingly.

A) Holidays and festivals

*Ask about festivals including: Eid, Gurburb, Diwali, Muharram, etc.***

***Referred to as “the holiday,” you may supplement the appropriate holiday/festival name.*

Ask about multiple holidays/festivals.

Describe ... detail

Local region

Traditions

Things that were made

Foods

Specific role

Processions

Music/singing

Performers

Groups

Specific memories...image

Changes...before and after Partition

Changes ... decades following Partition

Personal celebration ... changed

Continue to participate

Feel

B) Linguistic matters on cross-community lines

Native language change

Who spoke?

Relationship

Realms

Caused

Persecuted ... forced

Affected your community
Relationship ... continue
Cultural identity
Growing up vs nowadays

URDU LANGUAGE

Taught
Mushairas, Qawwalis, or Na'ats
Moved away...Still able to read and write? Do you?
Urdu literature/poetry...feel
 Genres? Writers? 'Urs
Changes...since Partition

PUNJABI LANGUAGE

Changes in cultural perceptions
Cause
Modern South Asian cinema and music

BENGALI/BANGLA LANGUAGE

Bangla national movement
Riots near the University of Dhaka on February 21, 1952
February 21 ... Language Movement Day... feel?
Commemorate

C) Regional identity

Changed
Movements
Compare

HYDERABAD

Telangana movement

Supporter ... Telangana (or anti-) movement?
Describe their involvement.
Protests, marches, rallies, or conflicts
Felt

PUNJAB/HARYANA/HIMACHAL PRADESH/CHANDIGARH*Indian Punjabi Suba movement of 1950s and 60s*

Demonstrations in 1955 and 1960-61

Arrested

Split

Effect

Changed

Compare ... following the 1947 Partition

D) Personal identity**QUESTIONS FOR THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY**

Different...realize/ Age

Shared vs. kept it to yourself

Reaction

Clothes...younger vs now. Same clothes?

Wardrobe...gender identity

Gender with which you identify

Official identification

Guru/Mentor

First guru/ mentor

Under their tutelage– selection process

Changes in your lifestyle

Biological family

Communication with your family

Experience/ important life skills

Other gurus

Source(s) of income

Questions for professional singers or dancers

Art

Where?

Teachers

Memorable performance

Daily Life

Partner

Live with nowadays

Routine

Your disciples (*chela*)

How many *chelas*?

Enjoy teaching

Changes you have perceived...societal perception

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6. Opinions About Partition

What are your thoughts about Partition?

*Feel about the Partition when it occurred? Now? Done differently?

*Image comes to mind

Think of each year on Independence Day, August 14th/ 15th? Feelings?
Memories?

*Sights and smells ... evoke this time in the past?

*Your friends today?

*Governments have done to handle things differently?

Commemorate?

7. Final Thoughts

*Is there anything else you would like to add?

*Do you have a message for the current and future generations?

*How does it feel to have told your story?

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8. Post-interview Checklist

- Interview and B-roll Video files in order? **required**
- Summary digitally written and submitted online (600 words length minimum) at <http://bit.ly/1Mc6THV> ? **required**
- Online version of Post Interview Questionnaire complete (at <http://bit.ly/1b25vaS>)? **required**
 - Release form complete (paper, pages 1 and 2)? **required**
 - Release form scanned or photographed pages 1 and 2 (high resolution)? **required**
- At least **Five Photos** taken during interview? **required**
- Other Scanned photos and documents? **highly recommended**
- Blog post? **highly recommended**
- Thank you note for interviewee, to be mailed in. Hand written by you.

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The 1947 Partition Archive: Oral History Release Form

INSTRUCTIONS: 1. PLEASE PRINT, COMPLETELY FILL OUT AND SIGN THIS FORM.
2. ANYONE WHOSE VOICE IS RECORDED MUST SIGN THIS FORM.
3. SCAN A COPY AND SUBMIT ONLINE.
4. MAIL IN THE ORIGINAL COPY TO: PO BOX 9505, BERKELEY, CA 94709-9505.

In consideration of the recording and preservation of my oral history memoir by The 1947 Partition Archive, I,

interviewee _____ and
interviewer _____, and
other narrator(s) _____, herein permanently give, convey, and assign to The 1947 Partition Archive, a California non-profit organization, the oral history interview listed below, transcripts thereof, and all photographic and historical materials taken during the interview process. In so doing I understand that my interview and any transcript made of it, will be made available to the public by The 1947 Partition Archive for research and educational purposes, and may be cited, quoted from, published in original or edited form, or broadcast in any medium, including print, television, radio and electronic formats such as the World Wide Web and future technological mediums. I hereby give The 1947 Partition Archive the right to distribute the recording(s) and/or transcription(s) to any other libraries and educational institutions for scholarly and educational uses and purposes.

I convey all legal title and literary property rights that I have or may be deemed to have in my interview and any transcript made of it, as well as all my rights, title and interest in any copyright that may be secured under the laws now or later in force and effect. My conveyance of copyright encompasses the exclusive rights of reproduction, distribution, preparation of derivative works, public performance, and public display as well as all renewals and extensions. This Agreement and Release shall be binding upon, and shall inure to the benefit of my legal representatives, heirs, successors and assigns.

PLEASE FILL OUT COMPLETELY, CLEARLY AND LEGIBLY

Date/s of interview: _____
Name of Interviewee: _____ Signature of Interviewee or Proxy: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Date: _____
Name of Interviewer(s): _____ Signature(s) of Interviewer(s): _____
(1) Date: _____
(2) Date: _____
Other narrator(s) present: _____ Signatures of other(s): _____

** OTHER NARRATORS** are those other than interviewer and interviewee whose voice gets recorded.

1947
ARCHIVE

The 1947 Partition Archive: Oral History Release Form

INTERVIEWEE PREFERENCES:

In addition to storage of my testimony in educational libraries, other physical or digital archives, I have the following preferences for distribution of my testimony for educational and research purposes:

1.) Project website: I, the interviewee, am comfortable if my testimony is made available publicly on The 1947PA website.
Check one: yes, video and transcript yes, video only
 yes, transcription or summary only no

2.) YouTube, Vimeo or other online video channel: I, the interviewee, am comfortable if my testimony is made available in whole or in part on The 1947 Partition Archive's online video channels.
Check one: yes yes, but I choose to remain anonymous (name not shared)
 no

3.) Facebook, Twitter, and other Social Media: I, the interviewee, am comfortable if my testimony is made available in whole or in part on The 1947 Partition Archive's Facebook and Twitter pages.
Check one: yes yes, but I choose to remain anonymous (name not shared)
 no

4.) Radio broadcast: I, the interviewee, am comfortable if my testimony is made available in whole or part for occasional radio broadcast.
Check one: yes yes, but I choose to remain anonymous (name not shared)
 no

5.) Television broadcast: I, the interviewee, am comfortable if my testimony is made available in whole or part for occasional television broadcast.
Check one: yes yes, but I choose to remain anonymous (name not shared)
 no

6.) Print: I, the interviewee, am comfortable if my testimony is made available in whole or part in printed form.
Check one: yes yes, but I choose to remain anonymous (name not shared)
 no

7.) Delay: If you, the interviewee, are providing information that you consider sensitive, you may elect to delay the release of this information (i.e., 10 years, 50 years, or more). Until release, this document will remain sealed.
Check one: no, make available immediately yes delay till _____ (enter date)

8.) Would you, the interviewee be interested in participating in public speaking events that involve narrating your Partition experiences?
Check one: yes no

9.) May we contact you in the future for more details with regard to your story?
Check one: yes no

Signature of Interviewee: _____ Signature of Interviewer: _____

** OTHER NARRATORS** are those other than interviewer and interviewee whose voice gets recorded.

9. Basic Interview Requirements

Only interviews that meet the following criteria are accepted upon submission. Please see the complete Interviewer Evaluation document.

- **Minimum length one hour:** There is plenty to ask and probe when recording a life story shaped by Partition.
- **Basic etiquette and procedures:**
 - Questions asked must be open ended
 - Interviewer must be professional and courteous
 - Interviewer must let interviewee speak without interruption
 - Interviewer must speak clearly
 - Interviewer must remain sensitive to interviewee needs
- **Interview content:**
 - All sections of the enclosed questionnaire must be covered
 - Questions must encourage rich and detailed responses
 - Interviewer must remain unbiased
 - Interviewer must encourage interviewee to elaborate
- **Responses and reactions:**
 - Interviewer allows pauses when interviewee is thinking
 - Interviewer must respond with patience, humility and empathy when things get emotional, and encourage interviewee to focus on strengths
 - Interviewer must gently bring interviewee back to main topic
- **Video techniques and quality:**
 - Interviewee must be well framed, according to rule of thirds.
 - Proper lighting
 - Clear voices of interviewer and interviewee
 - Minimal background noise

10. Submitting your Interview Online

After ensuring your interview meets our requirements, it can be uploaded following these steps. **NOTE:** The video upload system is currently under development. It will become more sophisticated over time. For now, please follow these directions.

- Name all interview files using the following convention:

Release form: **Firstname_Middlename_Lastname_mm-dd-yyyy_RELEASE_#of#**
Sikandar_Baptista_01-25-2017_RELEASE

Photos: **Firstname_Middlename_Lastname_mm-dd-yyyy_PHOTO_#of#**
Sikandar_Baptista_01-25-2017_PHOTO_1of6
Sikandar_Baptista_01-25-2017_PHOTO_2of6

Video files: **Firstname_Middlename_Lastname_mm-dd-yyyy_VIDEO_#of#**
Sikandar_Baptista_01-25-2017_VIDEO_1of4
Sikandar_Baptista_01-25-2017_VIDEO_2of4

Audio files: **Firstname_Middlename_Lastname_mm-dd-yyyy_AUDIO_#of#**
Sikandar_Baptista_01-25-2017_AUDIO_1of4
Sikandar_Baptista_01-25-2017_AUDIO_2of4

B Roll: **Firstname_Middlename_Lastname_mm-dd-yyyy_BROLL_#of#**
Sikandar_Baptista_01-25-2017_BROLL_1of1

Please take special note that...

- B-Roll files need to be named separately from the main interview videos. Please remember B-Roll is used to establish an after partition life image of the interviewee.
- Only the full name (first, middle and last name) of the interviewee should be written: no initials, no title;
- Each names (first, middle and last) should be separated by _ instead of a space;
- The date is that of the interview;
- The date in each file name should be in this format: MONTH-DAY-YEAR;
- The date should not be separated by _ or spaces, but each MONTH-DAY-YEAR by - ;
- The month and the day, if a single number, should be headed by 0, as in, 01 (January), 02 (February), 03, 04, etc.;
- The PHOTO files should be identified as such and separated by _ instead of spaces;
- There should be no space separating the #of#;
- The "of" of #of# should be written in lowercase.

To submit your files...

- Login to our website: <https://www.1947PartitionArchive.org>
- **Step 1:** After logging in, under the “Share A Story” drop down menu tab, click on the “Upload Files” sub tab. Click “Choose files,” and after the window pops up, the green “Add files” button.
- Once you have added all the files you are ready to upload, click the blue “Upload” button.
 - Files uploaded this way are the Release Form, the Photos, the Video/ Audio files of the interview, and the B-Rolls.
- Fill out and submit the digital post-interview form here: <http://bit.ly/1b25vaS>
- Copy and paste the summary to submit online here: <http://bit.ly/1Mc6THV>
- Please expect to receive a confirmation email within 48 hours of submitting your story. *In the future*, the confirmation messages will be sent immediately upon submission of interview.



11. Tips for post interview blogging

We highly encourage you to analyze the content of an interview, and write your reflections in a blog. If you do write a blog post, please contact us and we will post it to our online blog and social media sites.

Ask yourself these questions when reflecting on the interview.

1. Summarize the interview.

What are the most important points made in the interview? What patterns, key phrases, themes emerge from the stories told? How does the interviewee express his/her feelings about the topic? If this isn't your first interview, perhaps compare this with your other interviews.

2. How did you feel before the interview?

Were you apprehensive? Calm? Why? How did you expect your interview to go? Why?

3. How did you feel after the interview?

Was it awkward? Uplifting? Ignorant? What made you feel this way? Was this different from how you expected the interview to go? Why?

4. Did anything stick out during the interview?

What did your interviewee believe regarding the necessity of Partition?

5. Anything new you learned?

Did you learn anything about South Asian Culture? Did you learn anything that changed the way you perceived Partition? How does the input of your interviewee compare to the popular characterization of Partition? Can you relate anything you heard to what you learned in class?