The Partition of India / Social Issues in India

What was the Partition of India & Pakistan?

How has this event caused conflict between India & Pakistan on the years?
How did the British view the independence of India?

- British, after some convincing, looked upon independence for India favorable.
  - The cost of running an overseas colony after World War II.

- Agreed to grant India her independence by the year 1947 on one condition:
  - India had to develop a plan for dealing with religious issues.
The last British governor of India, Lord Mountbatten, & his wife with Gandhi, 1946
Where did the idea of “partition” come from?

- The first real idea of partitioning India came from the Muslim League
  - “partition” = “divide”

- 1940: The Muslim League presented a plan to I.N.C to partition India after independence
  - REJECTED!!!!

- Gandhi believed Hindus and Muslims could work their problems out
How did the British plan for “partition” work?

- The British left much of the ground work to the Indian people themselves
  - The British created the border of the two countries

- Government services / facilities would be slip equally (supposedly...)
  - The individual communities could decided for themselves which country they wanted to live in
How did the Indian people handle the partition of India?

- The people of India handled partitioning very poorly
  - Religious violence
  - Massive amount of refugees
  - Poor treatment

- British did little to mediate
  - Gandhi will be assassinated for defending fair treatment of Muslims
Refugee trains in India, 1947
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Refugee trains in India, 1947
Refugees fleeing to Pakistan, 1947
Hindu - Muslim violence as a result of the partition, 1947
Refugee camps in Pakistan as a result of the partition, 1947
Lord Mountbatten & “the Countdown Clock”, 1947
Freedom for India! Goodbye Great Britain!

Good luck! You'll need it!
Gandhi’s Assassination, 1948

The assassin:
Nathuram Godse
What are the major problems in India today?

- Overpopulation → 1 billion & climbing
- Economic development
- Hindu-Muslim tensions (More to come…)
- Gender issues → “dowry killings”
- Caste bias → discrimination against “untouchables” continues
- Border dispute and nuclear weapons.
- Political assassinations.
SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (2008)
“EVE TEASING” / CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN
“DOWRY SUICIDE”
The Pakistan / Indian border (1948-present)
Indian Soldiers Near the Pakistani Border - 2001
A Pakistani Ranger at the Indian-Pakistani Joint Border Check Post in Wagha, India - 2001
...SO MUCH FOR NON-VIOLENCE.
Kashmiri Militants - 2003
India / Pakistan's nuclear testing (1990’s)
Two words to keep in mind during negotiations over Kashmir...

PAGASAKI

HINDUSHIMA

Mike Keefe Yorkshire Post 2003
THE GOVERNMENT CAN’T AFFORD TO GIVE YOU AN EDUCATION BECAUSE WE’VE GOT TO TEACH OUR ENEMIES A LESSON.
India tests nuclear weapons...
What issues still exist over partition today?

- India & Pakistan continue to debate the unresolved issues of the partitioning
  - Border issues
  - Issues over resources
  - Religious differences

- Continue to hold one of the longest, continually armed borders in the world
  - New “nuclear” powers
IS GANDHI’S DREAM DEAD?