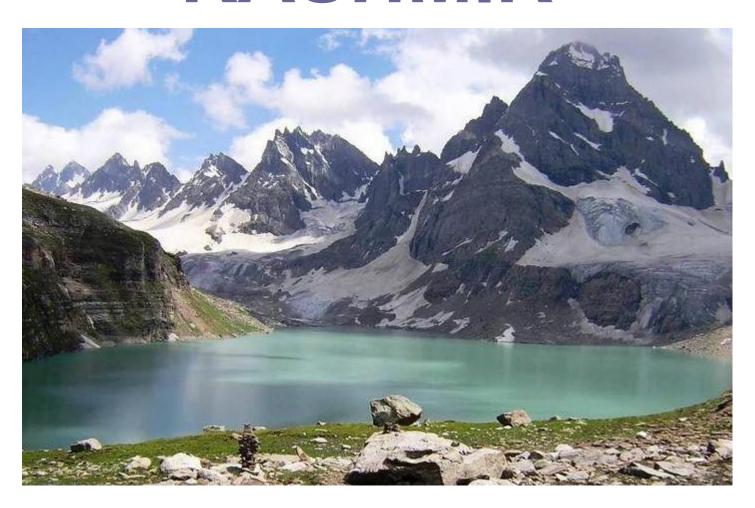
# KASHMIR



#### Vocabulary

**<u>Autonomous</u>**: Having the freedom to act independently

**Monarchs**: A sovereign head of state, especially a king, queen, or emperor

**Annexed**: Add as an extra or subordinate part, especially to a document

**<u>Descendants</u>**: A person, plant, or animal that is descended from a particular ancestor

**<u>Paramount</u>**: Above others in rank or authority; superior in power or jurisdiction

**Former**: Having previously been a particular thing

**<u>Affiliated</u>**: Officially attached or connected to an organization

**<u>Demurred</u>**: Raise objections or show reluctance

**Incursions**: An invasion or attack, especially a sudden or brief one

Kashmir



**Kashmir** is the northwestern region of **South Asia**.

Until the mid-19th century, the term Kashmir geographically denoted only the **valley** between the **Great Himalayas** and the **Pir Panjal** mountain range.

Today, it denotes a larger area that includes the Indian-administered state of Jammu and Kashmir (which consists of Jammu, the Kashmir Valley, and Ladakh), the Pakistan-administered autonomous territories of Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan, and the Chinese-administered regions of Aksai Chin and the Trans-Karakoram Tract

#### Some information about Kashmir

In the first half of the 1st millennium, the Kashmir region became an important centre of **Hinduism** and later of **Buddhism**.

In 1349, **Shah Mir** became the first **Muslim** ruler of Kashmir.

For the next five centuries, Muslim monarchs ruled Kashmir, including the **Mughals**, who ruled from 1526 until 1751, and the Afghan **Durrani Empire**, which ruled from 1747 until 1820.

That year, the **Sikhs**, under **Ranjit Singh**, annexed Kashmir.

In 1846, after the Sikh defeat in the **First Anglo-Sikh War**, and upon the purchase of the region from the British under the **Treaty of Amritsar**, the Raja of Jammu, **Gulab Singh**, became the new ruler of Kashmir.

The rule of his descendants, under the paramountcy (or tutelage) of the British Crown, lasted until 1947, when the **former princely state** of **British India** became a **disputed territory**, now administered by three countries: India, Pakistan, and the People's Republic of China.

# Reasons behind the dispute

The Kashmir Conflict arose from the **Partition of British India** in 1947 into modern India and Pakistan.

Both countries subsequently made claims to Kashmir, based on the history and religious affiliations of the Kashmiri people.

The **princely state** of **Jammu and Kashmir**, which lies strategically in the north-west of the subcontinent bordering Afghanistan and China, was formerly ruled by Maharaja **Hari Singh** under the **paramountcy** of **British India**. In geographical and legal terms, the Maharaja could have joined either of the two new countries.

Although urged by the Viceroy, **Lord Mountbatten of Burma**, to determine the future of his state before the transfer of power took place, Singh demurred.

In October 1947, incursions by Pakistan took place leading to a **war**, as a result of which the state of Jammu and Kashmir remains divided between India and Pakistan.

## **Statistics from the BBC**

Administered by	Area	Population	Muslim	Hindu	Buddhist	Other
<u>■ India</u>	Kashmir Valley	4 million	95%	4%	_	_
	Jammu	3 million	30%	66%	_	4%
	Ladakh	0.25 million	46%	_	50%	3%
Pakistan	Azad Kashmir	2.6 million	100%	_	_	_
	Gilgit–Balt istan	1 million	99%	_	_	_
China	Aksai Chin	_	_	_	_	_

### **TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN KASHMIR**



**Dal Lake** 

**Shalimar Garden** 

ALBEST

### **TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN KASHMIR**

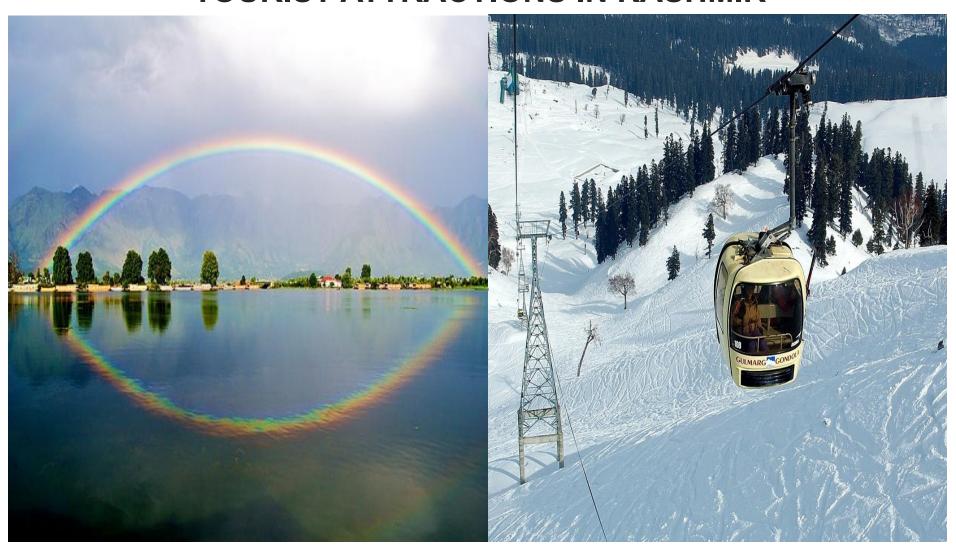


**Betaab Valley** 

**Nishat Garden** 

Kashmir

# **TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN KASHMIR**



**Nagin Lake** 

**Gulmarg, Gondala**