

KASHMIR



Vocabulary

Autonomous : 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

Descendants : A person, plant, or animal that is descended from a particular ancestor

Paramount : Above others in rank or authority; superior in power or jurisdiction

Former : Having previously been a particular thing

Affiliated : Officially attached or connected to an organization

Demurred : Raise objections or show reluctance

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



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
 India	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–Baltistan	1 million	99%	—	—	—
 China	Aksai Chin	—	—	—	—	—

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN KASHMIR



Dal Lake



Shalimar Garden

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN KASHMIR



Betaab Valley



Nishat Garden

TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN KASHMIR



Nagin Lake



Gulmarg, Gondola