

Quotes and Notes from Midnight's Fury by Mishid Hazari

- Pg. xvii Pakistan would be a secular, not an Islamic State, its founder M. Jinnah promised. -- "Division is better than union of unwilling parts."
- J. Nehru. The fight to establish Pak was less than 10 years.
- Pg. xix. At least 14 million refugees were uprooted. ... Western Pakistan was virtually emptied of Sikhs and Hindus; the Indian half of the Punjab lost almost all of its Muslims. The worst riots were confined in time and space. The worst killings lasted only about six weeks.
- Pg. 7. After the war (WWII) the British Gov't had had to beg for a \$3.7 billion loan from the US; the money had been approved only in May 1946.
- Britain could no longer afford to rule India.
- Pg. 8. Jinnah enjoyed a nightly drink (alcohol). He showed up at mosque only to give speeches, not to pray. Meaning seventy, Jinnah was as frail as Nehru was vigorous. He smoked two packs a day cigarette. He was 140 lbs, 6ft tall. He disliked Nehru.
- Pg. 12. The newspaper Dawn was/is founded by Jinnah, wrote - on 16 Aug. '46:
If Muslims wanted to survive, they had to be prepared to fight.
- Pg. 13. One lieutenant of Jinnah declared: "Muslims are not behaving in a humane. Direct action means action against the law." Anonymous leaflets appeared in several cities, showing caricature of Jinnah brandishing a sword as he warned ~~unbelievers~~ "Your doom is not far and the general massacre will come!"
- Pg. 17. (Seeing the massacre on 16 Aug. 1946, Calcuttans could see that their choice was to kill or be killed.
- Pg. 21. In Delhi the viceroy Wavell called Nehru and Gandhi on 27 Aug. 1946 begging them to work out a compromise w/Jinnah. Wavell hinted that in the absence of a deal, he might have to withdraw the offer to let Nehru form a gov't. Gandhi erupted at the threat. Whatever happened, Gandhi insisted, Britishers could no longer deprive Indians of their right to decide their fate for themselves.
- Pg. 23. At the beginning of his political career, Jinnah, not Nehru, had looked like India's man of destiny.
-- Indian National Congress was established in 1885. -- With British encouragement, a group of noblemen and large landowners had formed the Muslim League in 1906 specifically to counterbalance the Congress.

- Pg. 23. Like other Congressmen, Jinnah believed the British were deliberately stoking Muslim anxieties in order to justify the continuance of the Raj.
- Pg. 25. For the first time the Congress and the League agreed on a common set of demands to make the British - what became known as the Lucknow Pact. Jinnah won for Muslims a guaranteed 20% of seats in any future legislature, among other safeguards that would ensure they would not be perpetually overruled by the Hindu majority. - By coincidence the lead negotiator was Nehru's father, Motilal.
- Pg. 28. Bhandhi supported Khilafat Movement, but Khilafat supporters protested - Muslims - in the southern Malabar region turned on their Hindu neighbors and massacred hundreds of them. Bhandhi's rise pushed Jinnah to margin - by 1920's Jinnah's influence had become negligible. -
- Pg. 29. On Feb. 19, 1929 Jinnah's Parsi wife Ruthie died in Taj Mahal Hotel on her ^{25th} birthday. Her daughter Dina said she committed suicide. - In its two decades of existence, the League had accumulated fewer than 2000 members, most of whom did not pay their dues.
- Pg. 31. Nehru, 25, wed Kamla, 16.
- Pg. 32. As Jinnah's profile shrank in the 1920's, Nehru's grew, both inside and outside India. - Pg. 33. Jinnah returned to India in 1931 to fight election. Jinnah publicly suggested that after the election he would support Congress. Nehru mocked the idea, saying, "The fight for the freedom is going to be carried by Indian National Congress only." The election results swept Nehru/Congress. Nehru made a stiff rule: If any Leagues wanted a share of power, they would have to join the Congress and obey high command rather than Jinnah. Jinnah was 60 and lonely. In Nov. 1938 his 19 yr old daughter Dina defied him and married a Parsi boy. Pg. 34. In schools pupils were required to salute Gandhi's picture and sing Congress anthem Vande Mataram, which many Muslims found objectionable. Teachers favored Hindi or Urdu. Jinnah began loudly decrying these "nationalities." The editorials of his paper Dawn dispensed with any pretense to objectivity or moderation.
- Pg. 35. In by-elections, League flyers assured Muslim voters that God and the Prophet favored the party's candidates when the Viceroy Victor Stoeke declared on 3 Sept. 1939, that India had joined the fight against Hitler, the only Indian involved in the decision an old mouthy who translated the announcement in Urdu just minutes before it was announced on radio.
- Pg. 37. In mid-March 1940 Jinnah offered Pakistan to the British as a Muslim area run by Muslims in collaboration w/ Great Britain.

- Pg. 42. The League grew from 112,078 members in 1941 to an estimated 2 million in 1944. Pg. 43: Jinnah's Pakistan was "mad and foolish and fanatic and criminal and... a huge barrier to all progress," Nehru fumed.
- Pg. 45. A vast network of British-designed network of canals had transformed the Punjab scrub desert into most fertile land on the subcontinent.
- Pg. 46. Elections were called for the provincial legislatures and central assembly in India during the winter months of 1945-46. One Punjab mullah went so far as to say that any Muslim who did not vote for the League and Pak would be "fuel for the fires of Hell." League volunteers in Punjab were told to parade the Koran and hold rallies in mosques and shrines, even to lead prayers. "like Holy Wamons" many Sufi saints, or pirs, issued fatwas saying that the "Muslim League is the only Islamic community and... all the rest are kafirs." In some districts, the League won 3/4 of the Muslim vote. Even the whiskey-drinking, chain-smoking Jinnah emerged as a messianic figure.
- Pg. 47. The League fell just short of a majority in the Punjab legislature, and could not find Hindu or Sikh allies to help form a govt. Jinnah gave the demand for Pakistan - a fact not stressed in Pakistani textbooks - Jinnah's leadership had always been based partly on bluff, partly on his image as an inveterate defender of Muslim rights. Jinnah told the League that he was rejecting the British compromise and calling for "direct action" to win a fully sovereign Pakistan, which would kick off 3 weeks later on 16 Aug 1946. This time the Muslim dignitaries roared in approval w/ vehemence.
- Pg. 51. [Nehru went to NWFP with loving heart, and met violent reception or at one place the mob could easily have lynched him. He was convinced the tribesmen's anger had not been spontaneous. All those demonstrations were League-organized, Cargil later admitted to viceroy.
- Pg. 54. The "eyewitness" ^(incorrect or exaggerated) accounts of violence in Noakhali had been hysterical. The man leading the Noakhali deaths (of Hindus) squads, Ghulam Sarwar, was a local League strongman. Violence was widespread. Butcher estimated that ~2000 homes and shops had been burned, and ~200 Hindus had been killed. But by the time he arrived, his troops had already regained control of the district. Rather than mass uprising, he found that a few hundred thugs had conducted the bulk of the raids. Ghulam Sarwar was quoted as instructing Bengali Hindus to "die fearlessly" at the hands of their neighbors (Muslims), w/o fighting back, to shame Muslims by their moral example. To Hindu women of Noakhali he advised to commit suicide before anyone rapes them.

Pg. 57. Jinnah did not condemn the bloodshed for a full two weeks after the first raids were reported. He did not admit any League responsibility. Nehru was touring the frontier at the time. Pg. 58: In the autumn of 1946, "Congress party opinion began to express itself in anti-Muslim (rather than anti-League) terms". Pg. 60 [Hindus ~~in~~ reacted violently.] Whole villages of defenseless Bikaner Muslims were wiped out, Mosques were decimated and burned to ashes. Estimated death toll 7000 Muslims. Nehru urged Hindus to protect the Muslims. Pg. 61: At one Muslim village, a platoon of Madras Soldiers had to ~~be~~ open fire to fend off several thousand frenzied Hindus. When Nehru heard that one hundred of the (Hindu) attackers had been killed, he wrote to Padmini Naidu, "Would you believe it? I was greatly relieved to hear it!"

Pg. 62. Ultimately, Nehru decided that the culprit was the "unpatriotic and highly objectionable attitude of the Muslim League." Pg. 66: Vallabhbhai Patel had reportedly learned of his wife's death while arguing a murder case in court - and had continued with his cross-examination.

Pg. 74. In 17th century, the Mughal emperor Jehangir had ordered burning sand poured over the 5th guru. Aurangzeb had the 9th guru beheaded. The Nawab of Sirhind in the Punjab is alleged to have bricked up the 10th and the last guru's two younger sons - alive. Among Muslims "the name Sikh shahi - the Sikh Rule - is synonymous for misgovt & oppression -- to this day", Sir Olaf Caroe, the NWFP governor wrote in his book.

Pg. 76. The empire in 1946 was broken and unsustainable.

Pg. 77. When a crowd of Leaguers were shouting 'Pakistan Zindabad', Master Tara Singh whipped his kirpan out and waved it above his head, and roared "Pakistan Muddat! Turn-out the Lahore and beyond. Hindus and Sikhs took up the cry.

Pg. 79. With no coalition in sight, Jenkins had assumed control over the disturbed province (Punjab) himself under so called Section 93, which allowed the British governor to override the legislature. ["We are willing to die for Pakistan, why talk of compromise when there is no basis for compromise?" - Jinnah while the Leaguers were rioting.]

Pg. 91. A photograph showed the erstwhile leader of Asia (Nehru) - curled at her (Mountbatten's wife Elinor's) feet like a cat. Pg. 92: The Quaid "had not been able to in his (Mountbatten's) presence to adduce one single feasible argument in favor of Pakistan."

Pg. 95. On 23 Apr. 1946, Jinnah reiterated to Mountbatten the League's maximalist demands: full provinces, full sovereignty of Pakistan.

Pg. 97. In a phone call to Simla, Patel pressed Nehru to accept this alternate scheme of Partition (offered by Mountbatten). With India secured as a

- dominion, Sardar New, Mountbatten would have even had reason to tolerate Jinnah's stone walling.
- Pg. 99. The deal (of partition) Mountbatten had taken with him to London pleased no one entirely. Pg. 102: Brendon (who went to control riots in Bursgaon) made no secret of his League sympathies.
- Pg. 102. Mountbatten had chosen 15 Aug. 1947 out of thin air w/o reason [This 10 month accelerated date caused tremendous suffering.]
- Pg. 103. Nehru had made clear that he was accepting dominion status only as a means to gain power faster. Pg. 104: "He, Jinnah, accepts what he gets and goes on asking for more." - Nehru to Mountbatten. -- Kashmir then was 80% Muslim. Pg. 107: "We must make it clear that political ends are not to be achieved by method of violence now or in the future." - Nehru [But the League (and Pak) did achieve political ends by violence.] -- "All gov'ts, w/o exception, are stable only insofar as they can effectively reward and punish. In Punjab we began to lose this power in Feb. 1947." - Gov. Sir Evan Jenkins
- Pg. 108. Although minority in Lahore, Hindus owned more than 3/4 of the property. Pg. 110: The Shahalami Kate fires in Lahore, which was masterminded by a Muslim judge, raged for days. "Hindus and Sikhs would henceforth live in Lahore on Muslim terms" - and they took it. -- Some 38 ~~suburbs~~ had been transferred out of Punjab by 8 July.
- Pg. 111. Punjab's and Bengal's voted to divide their province.
- Pg. 113. Patel refused to let Pakistan have even one of the six printing presses that all sat in Indian territory. "No one asked Pakistan to secede," the Sardar growled when Mountbatten pressed him to show more generosity. -- The position of Governor-General was the constitutional link between a dominion and the British crown. Pg. 114: The 2nd in command in Patel's Intelligence Bureau, a Muslim, became Pak's first spy chief. Pg. 115. Nizam of Hyderabad was the richest man in the world. He ruled over a state the size of France through a predominantly Muslim court elite, even though 86% of the state's population was Hindu. Pg. 116: Jinnah advised Nizam to stay independent, and so as of 15 Aug. the Nizam still had not acceded to India. Washington (the US) pressed Attlee to reject any overtures from the Nizam or any other independent-minded rulers. Pg. 118: Jinnah swore to not press Kashmir one way or other. Nehru, for one, did not believe him [Nehru liked Kashmir, but not his king Hari Singh.] Most of the Kashmir population was very poor. [Hari Singh spent his state income on gambling, horse races and prostitutes.]

- Pg. 119. Nehru was not allowed to enter Kashmir in June 1946.
- Pg. 121. The Sikhs who would end up on Pak side of the border would be useful to Pa as "hostages", Jinnah told Raj Inam.
- Pg. 123. Mountbatten created Boundary commission to keep Sikhs quiet until transfer of power. After that, when the Sikhs confronted the reality of their position (partition of Punjab) they would be the problem of the new dominions; the British would be gone. "Jinnah, Nehru, and Patel told me that they wanted a line on or before 15 Aug. So I drew them a line." - Radcliffe - Pg. 126: Jinnah refused to take power unless he had an army under his command -
- The first Pakistan Special train set out from Delhi on 9 Aug. for Karachi [Sikhs blew it up] but only 3-4 ^{not killed} ~~deaths~~. Pg. 128: [Jinnah's speech to Pak's Constituent Assembly indicates that he wanted Pak to be a secular state]
- Pg. 129. At birth, amazingly, the subcontinent's new nations would not know their exact shape (boundaries). In fact, the Punjab border had been mostly ready several days before.
- Pg. 133. "We think ^{and} of our brothers and sisters who have been cut off from us by political boundaries, and who unhappily cannot share at present in the freedom that has come. They are of us and will remain of us, whatever may happen." - Nehru on 15 Aug 1947. Pg. 135: Even Tara Singh had wept when he learnt of the \$ Sikh's ~~misdeeds~~ misbehaviour to the Muslim women, Rees claimed.
- Pg. 136. In Amritsar and Lahore killing stopped when there was no one left to kill. Pg. 138: on 18 Aug. 1947 in Ferozpur, Hoshiarpur, Gurdaspur and Jalandhar, Sikhs took revenge of Muslims massacring Sikhs in Rawalpindi. Pg. 145: "50,000 Hindus and Sikhs are daily butchered by the military and police here, no high commission can save them, all Hindus and Sikhs in West Punjab will be finished." - Samparan Singh, India's deputy high commissioner in Lahore cabled Delhi on 27 Aug.
- Pg. 147. Now (in late Aug.) Nehru talked about Hindus being trapped on the other side of the border, in need of rescue by India.
- Pg. 155. The rioters in Delhi arguably posed a greater threat to the new dominion than the Punjab massacres. Patel called in Delhi's Sikh leaders and threatened to toss their followers into concentration camps if the violence did not stop. He also gave Army free hand "to go after Sikh troublemakers." Pg. 157: Patel believed that if the Muslims in India did not believe themselves as Indians, then they belonged in Pakistan.
- Pg. 162. [Junagadh's] nawab was obsessed w/ dogs, so of them - He would spend 8 Rs. 300,000 for each ~~one~~ 3-day wedding of his dogs.]

- Pg. 162. On 15 Aug Junagadh had offered to accede to Pakistan. Pak cabinet voted to make the state part of Pakistan Pg. 164: An estimated 1.75 million Muslims had crossed into Pakistan (by mid Sept. 1947) from East Punjab; [about same in the opposite side]. Millions more were on the move. Pg. 170: Gandhi swore that "he would be finished with Patel forever" if Patel moved against Nehru.
- Pg. 171. All of India's military service chiefs were British (in late Sept. 1947). Patel vowed to quit (resign) within 24 hours if Nehru did not back him against the military chiefs (who refused to obey Patel). Pg. 179: In Oct. King Hari Singh had replaced his former pro-Pakistan diwan with one who was known to have ties to the Congress leaders. He had refused Jinnah permission to visit Kashmir, even for vacation. Most worrying to be on 29 Sept. the king had w/o warning released Sheikh Abdullah from prison. Hari Singh is reported to have said that even though his body be cut into 700 pieces, he would not accede to Pakistan.
- Pg. 179. Hari Singh's Dogra ancestors had administered only the Jammu region until 1846, when the British had sold them the rest of the kingdom for 1.75 million rupees as a reward for their loyalty in the Anglo-Sikh wars. On the other hand, if Kashmir's had been asked their opinion in Oct. 1947, they might well have preferred to join India.
- Pg. 181. On 19 Sept., Nehru, Chand Mahajan, Hari Singh's diwan flew to Delhi to confer with Patel and Nehru. Kashmir, he told them, wanted to accede India.
- Pg. 185. On 13 Oct. the Governor Cunningham noted in his diary that tribes in Hazara region were rallying "for Jihad against Kashmir."
- Pg. 187. Khurshid Anwar led his columns of Jehadi fighters across the rushing, mined Jhelum River before first light on Wed. 22 Oct. Pg. 188: Within a day the lashkar had secured Muzaffarabad. The Maharaja's army crumbled quickly. Many of his Muslim soldiers switched sides. [Journalist Smith saw Uri city looted and Hindus & Sikhs killed] When correspondents in Lahore tried to wire reports of the fighting on Friday, 24 Oct., Pakistan officials blocked and delayed the cables. Pg. 190: Patel ordered that the guns be shipped to Srinagar immediately. Pg. 191: "The future of Kashmir is vital to India's existence." - Nehru told the Army chief. Pg. 179. Pakistan's backing for the jihad quickly became apparent to impartial observers.
- Pg. 202. By 8 Nov Indian forces had reoccupied Baramulla. At 70 Jinnah got T.B. Pg. 206: In late Oct. Samaldas Gandhi's provisional Gov't militia had seized 16 villages that belonged to Junagadh, but were separated from the state proper. On 1 Nov., India had quietly moved forces into the disputed principalities of Baramulla and Mangrol. The Junagadh's Nawab had fled to Karachi, bringing with him his wives, dogs, and most of the contents of the state treasury. Pg. 207: Indian troops quickly pushed forward another 25 miles past Baramulla, retaking the town of Uri and

- reconnoitering the road that led all the way to Pakistan border.
- Pg. 212. Mountbatten said that when Patel had agreed to give Pakistan the 550 million rupees, the Sardar had remarked, "That ought to show Pakistan that India was not out to throttle her." Patel, however, had vowed to rescind the order unless Pakistan agreed to a final deal on Kashmir.
- Pg. 215. ... the British commander in chief agreed to supply a million rounds of ammunition and another dozen serving officers to lead the insurgency (against India). Pg. 215: Nehru had been hearing his own stories from Kashmir of abducted Hindu women being auctioned off for ¹⁵⁰ rupees a piece.
- Pg. 217. At one point (in a meeting with Lohia), Nehru burst out operationally that he would rather "throw up his Premiership and take the sword himself, and lead the men of India against the invasion." Pg. 218: After unofficially promoting in Kashmir as a "holy war", Patel could hardly back down now (in Dec-1947). Yet the govt had only 20 million rupees left in account. ... Nehru had warned against that India could no longer tolerate the bases allegedly being provided to insurgents in Pakistan. Pg. 222: Nehru had begun to assume more control over the Kashmir campaign - usurping authority that the Sardar, as states minister, rightfully believed to be his. ... Guns allotted to a ~~located~~ by Nehru for Abdullah's militia disappeared on their way to Srinagar - allegedly diverted by Sardar to RSS fighters in Jammu. In late Dec. Attlee wrote to Nehru: "I am greatly disturbed by your assumption that India would be within her rights in international law if she were to move forces into Pakistan in self-defence." ... Meanwhile sympathetic British officers quickly alerted Patel to India's military buildup. Pg. 223: Ignoring particulars, Nehru filed India's formal complaint to the UN on 1-1-1948, which at least temporarily slowed the march to war. The (UN's) Security Council postponed discussion of the complaint until mid-January. Patel had warned the Muslims of India: "I want to tell you very clearly that you cannot ride two horses. You select one horse, which ever you like better. ... while fasting at Birla's compound, Gandhi pressed Patel to pay Patel the funds promised. The funds paid to Patel did not buy anything, quite the contrary: at the UN in NY, world powers seemed to be taking Pakistan's side in the dispute. Pg. 227: Nizam gave 200 million rupees to Pak.
- Pg. 229. Five days after Gandhi was assassinated, RSS was banned. Pg. 230: Gandhi had viewed the struggle in Kashmir as a moral one. "Any injustice on our land, any encroachment on our land should be defended by violence, if not by non-violence." He had told Patel right after the Indian troops had landed in Srinagar.
- Pg. 230. On 6 Feb 1948 Tribesmen from Dir state of Pak had launched one last desperate offensive before the winter snows deepened. ... The commander who led Indian resistance successfully was a Muslim - Brig. Mohammad Usman.
- Pg. 238. On 16 Apr 1948, Pakistani newspapers (falsely) claimed that after retaking the town of Rajouri, Indian troops deliberately killed 400 Kashmiri Muslim women.

Pg. 239. Accepting Gargay's recommendation, Jinnah now ordered the Pakistani Army to enter the (Kashmir) fray. - cables burned between London and Washington, although none of the two chose to alert India or the UN to the Pakistan intervention. Pg. 240: on 16 Aug. 1948 Nehru instructed Defence Minister Baldev Singh to move a full armoured brigade - "quietly, w/o any precipitate moves" - into position along the Hyderabad border. Pg. 241: Liaqat Ali and Nizam appeared to have adopted Jinnah's negotiating tactics - reaching agreements, then reversing themselves shortly thereafter and raising new demands. [This is just as Koran teaches.] Pg. 242: On 19th May (India's) Bogey Ser's men took heavy fire from 4-inch mortars, which they were certain the tribesmen and Kashmiri rebels did not possess. Pg. 246: In a flash of bitterness Nehru leaped onto a chair, shouting at the Czech delegate Josef Korbel. "You do not seem to understand our position and our rights. We are a secular state - Pakistan is a medieval state with an impossible theocratic concept. It should never have been created, and it would never have happened had the British not stood behind this foolish idea of Jinnah." Pg. 248: The only way to deal with the Nizam, V.P. Menon told to an American diplomat, was "to hit him over the head with a hammer." Patel threatened to resign if Nehru did not order Indian tanks to roll (in Hyderabad.) Pg. 249: Jinnah died on 11 Sept-1948. Pg. 250: As Jinnah was being laid to rest, Nehru gave his commanders the green light to advance into Hyderabad. Nizam's forces held out for a little more than a 100 hours. The commander of Indian ground forces, Maj. Gen. J.N. Chaudhri, accepted Hyderabad's word of surrender at 5:00 p.m. on 17 Sept. 1948. [The undeclared war in Kashmir stopped on 1 Jan. 1949. Pg. 256: "Hatred of India is the cement that holds Pakistan together.", wrote Talbot, voicing a common sentiment.
