Consequences of Colonization: Conflict over Disputed Territories
A Case Study of Kashmir’s Right to Self-Determination

By: Sarah Ahmad
Timeline

1526- Start of Mughal Empire
1600- Royal charter of East India Company
1753 - British East India Company begins “trade” in India
1799- Sikh empire defeated Mughals in modern day northern-Pakistan
1857- Indian mutiny (Hindus and Muslims unite to fight the British)
1857- British empire assumes direct control of India
Direct personal violence
(physical, verbal, psychological,
e.g. a man hits a woman)

Cultural violence
(used to justify direct or structural violence,
e.g. ‘victim blaming’ in the case of rape)

Structural violence
(embedded in social structures, e.g.
gender discrimination, femicide)
“Divide et impera was an old Roman maxim, and it shall be ours.”
-Lord Elphinstone

Britain’s strategy: “divide and conquer” or “divide and rule”
The Sykes-Picot Agreement of 1916 for the Partition of the Middle East

MAP OF EASTERN TURKEY IN ASIA, SYRIA AND WESTERN PERSIA

- ANATOLIA
- Lake Van
- Sivas
- Adana
- Diyarbakır
- Urfa
- Marchın
- Bitlis
- Samsun
- Trebizond
- Erzurum
- Ankara
- Konia
- Mersin
- Alexandria
- Aleppo
- Homs
- Beirut
- Damascus
- Akko
- Jaffa
- Jerusalem
- Gaza
- Amman
- Kirkuk
- Najaf
- Basra
- Kuwait
- Hamadan
- Kermanshah
- Tabriz

- MEDITERRANEAN SEA
- Cyprus

- RED SEA

- EGYPT

- ARA BIA

- BLUE ZONE (direct French control)
- A ZONE (under French influence)
- RED ZONE (direct British control)
- B ZONE (under British influence)
- Allied Condominium
Indo-Pakistani War of 1947-48
India

-Civilian deaths
-Unnecessary & disproportionate force
-Cordon and search operations
-Detention
-No prosecution for security personnel

Pakistan

-Update provincial constitution
-Restrictions of freedom of expression
-Exclusion in business projects
-Discrimination against Ahmadis

Office of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights
Where do we go from here?
Potential solutions: territorial autonomy
Works Cited


Blakemore, Erin. “What Is Colonialism?” Colonialism Facts and Information, 14 June 2019,


“India Pakistan | Timeline.” BBC News, BBC.

“India Timeline.” Ancient History Encyclopedia, Ancient History Encyclopedia.

Osman, Tarek. “Why Border Lines Drawn with a Ruler in WW1 Still Rock the Middle East.”

“Pakistan Mission to United Nations.” Kashmir - Pakistan Mission to UN.

