



The Long Partition and the Making of Modern South Asia: Refugees, Boundaries, Histories (Paperback)

By Vazira Fazila-Yacoobali Zamindar

Columbia University Press, United States, 2010. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 259 x 157 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Nation-states often shape the boundaries of historical enquiry, and thus silence the very histories that have sutured nations to territorial states. India and Pakistan were drawn onto maps in the midst of Partition's genocidal violence and one of the largest displacements of people in the twentieth century. Yet this historical specificity of decolonization on the very making of a nationalized cartography of modern South Asia has largely gone unexamined. In this remarkable study based on more than two years of ethnographic and archival research, Vazira Fazila-Yacoobali Zamindar argues that the combined interventions of the two postcolonial states were enormously important in shaping these massive displacements. She examines the long, contentious, and ambivalent process of drawing political boundaries and making distinct nation-states in the midst of this historic chaos. Zamindar crosses political and conceptual boundaries to bring together oral histories with north Indian Muslim families divided between the two cities of Delhi and Karachi with extensive archival research in previously unexamined Urdu newspapers and government records of India and Pakistan. She juxtaposes the experiences of ordinary people against the bureaucratic...



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