

## Zeshan Afzal

Interviewer: How your family had migrated from India to Pakistan?

Zeshan: Families of my grandparents were divided along the partition line. Actually, my grandfather's family lived in Indian side and grandmother's family lived here in Pakistan.

Interviewer: In which city your grandparents live?

Zeshan: Ferozepur. It was undivided. My grandfather was a blacksmith there. At that time people did not have set working standards on the basis of castes. People were very less aware about partition gossips.

Interviewer: People also had no source of information at that time?

Zeshan: Yes, there was only one such forum called BBC. It was also not much effective. People were even oblivious till May of 1947 about any kind of information about partition. It was June 3 plan of partition which was finally accepted. Ironically, our area (Ferozepur) was deliberately divided with the change of plan by Lord Mountbatten. Fortunately, my grandmother was already here in Pakistan for attending the marriage ceremony of some relative. But as the news of partition announced, the communal violence aroused very much. As my grandfather was still there, he decided to stay there for some more days so that situation become normal. Gradually, people were coming from India with different kind of news. One of the men came from India stated that my grandfather had been killed by someone with the fire of bullet on his head.

Interviewer: It was told about your grandfather?

Zeshan: Yes.

Interviewer: What was the name of your grandfather?

Zeshan: M Hussain. As this heart wrenching news reached here and was expressed by authentic source. So, it was accepted as a truth.

Interviewer: Your family was familiar about the man who came with the news?

Zeshan : yes, he was from the same locality. He said, my grandfather was riding a bicycle and suddenly fires were opened in the bazaar and grandfather was also hit by the fire and he fell down from the bicycle. This news was accepted as a truth here and it was greatly deplored by the people here. Almost one week had been passed in this depressed situation. However, after one week suddenly my grandfather came back. When he was asked about the incident of the fire. He said, Yes, I was hit by the fire but I had a iron box on my head which kept him safe. It

was miracle like situation for my family. Migration was the big problem at that time. some people came here in kasur and settled here but some of them could not be fit here so they moved to other areas like lahore. Government have also not announced anything about the setttlement.

Interviewer: your relatives here have not much space here to settle all the migrated people here?

Zeshan : Whole family of my grandfather migrated in kasur,then they decided to settle down in different areas according to need.The metrnal uncle of my grandfather really helped a lot in this regard.So they went out to Lahore there was an empty home in Lahore and of family make shift over there,It was very huge building.

Interviewer : Did the administration of that time co-operated with you ? They gave you any claim of your home in Ferozepur ?

Zesahn : Yes there was very miserable condition of economics.Govt announced to make claim of your home in India but there was a condition to charge minimum commission from Candidates but people even cant afford that amount.The benefit of the family of my grandmother here that they supported us in this regard and helped us to purchase home in kasur, then my grandmother purchase land for multiple homes in kasur and we left Lahore very soon and settled kasur.People who migrated from India received even huge lands with the very less percentage of commission and now some of migrants families are landloard even after migration.But we were not enough strong financially .

Interviewer : What about the education of your grandfather ?

Zesahn : No, there was no any specific education at that times ,because the age of my grandfather was very less and he got married in early age .The age of my Grandfaherat the time of marriage was 16 to 17 and grandmother was 12 years old, that was the reason of maximum child birth of people at that times and my grandfather had 12 children.Four of my uncles and aunts born in British India.There was an epidemic in India and british govt didn't care About the local many more.some of my uncles and aunt died in childhood due to epidemic in British India.

Interviewer : Ok let me know about your family survival from Cholera ?

Zesahn : Diseases are defined today but in earlier times there was no awareness of diseases to take precautionary measurement against that illnesses.

Interviewer :Did your family mentioned any kind of blood shed or any kind of riots in the way to kasur ?

Zesahn : Most of the family members shifted in the time of peace in kasur but my grandfather was late due to ongoing riots in the way.Abruptly riots began in the British India at that time.My grandfather stayed at home due to prevailing situation of violence,But they never narrated any incident of bloodshed.

Interviewer : When your family went out to Lahore to live that place or home you received in claim ?

Zesahn : NO, that was not claim that was a random place to live.The whole atmosphere of different so we return to kasur to make permanent settlement.

Interviewer : Thanks alot

Zesahn : Well come.