

## Muhammad Qasim Majeed

Interviewer: So where you heard such stories about partition of British India ?

Qasim : Story of partition told me by my grandfather and father as well.

Interviewer: Which city of British India your Grandfather belonged ?

Qasim : My grandfather belonged to a city of Indian Punjab Batala Village Sham Pura.

Interviewer: What was the occupation of your Grandfather in Batala ?

Qasim : They had agricultural land in Batala and he used to cultivate.

Interviewer: What was the quantity of that agricultural land ?

Qasim : Yes land was good enough Round about 10 to 12 Muraba.

Interviewer: Ok your home was also there. So any of your relatives lived with your grandfather in Batala ?

Qasim : Yes we had our relatives also in Batala and some of the relatives lived in Pakistan Punjab also .

Interviewer: How was your grandfather's common dealings and social relations with the people of different communities in Batala ?

Qasim : At that time they may have good social relations with them like on Humanitarian basis. They don't had any serious problem with them

Interviewer: How and what was the reaction and feelings of your grandfather when he came to know about Partition and to leave his home ?

Qasim : Yes definitely it was not a good feeling for him but they had to do it due to prevailing situation in British India. Yes it was not easy to leave your belongings but nothing is precious than lives so they prefer to save the lives of family and migrated successfully and protected the family against the prevailing situation of Riots.

Interviewer: Did they face any kind of problem by Sikhs or Hindus of India during partition ?

Qasim : Look , both Muslims and Sikhs made atrocities against each other and our family was a victim of Robbery of precious things like jewellery. The jewellery box got invisible during partition. He made migration to his relatives in Pakistan.

Interviewer: There were very precious things in that box ?

Qasim : Yes indeed as I told before.

Interviewer: Did your grandfather migrate alone or some relatives were along with him ?

Qasim : Yes all the relatives of my grandfather including the sisters of my grandfather were with him. So they made migration towards Pakistan together.

Interviewer: Did your family receive any claim of property home or agricultural land in Pakistan after arriving in Pakistan ?

Qasim : As I told you before my grandfather was uneducated so he doesn't exist any sense of such complicated things so he didn't care about claim or to take property from claim commission. Relatives of my Grandfather suggested him to refuse to take any claim , it has no benefit at all and we are fine here with our relatives. We don't need any claim.

Interviewer: At that time there was no worth of property in my opinion ?

Qasim: Yes no doubt because people used to do cultivations and farming on land and it was the main source of income but right now real state has prevailed.

Interviewer: So after arriving in Pakistan what occupation they adopted to run lives of his family ?

Qasim: At that time there were no offices, companies and business, backwardness was everywhere in Pakistan and Pakistan was a new-born state and my Dada was not educated so he adopted labourer as the only thing he could do at that time.

He started to sell things in village. He also took the experience to drive donkey cart after this he started to sell cloths on cycle then he took a shop of cloths and started a mini business. He also purchased shares of cloths mill of our family and other relatives were also involved in that business. So the cloths were main part of income.

Interview: What was his role in the education of his children?

Qasim: My senior uncle started to study but he could not stand long on studies and left studies but my father continued the studies till he passed intermediate. The siblings of my father could not study and remained uneducated.

Interviewer: Qasim let me brief about the views of Grandfather about Pakistan. He was pleased or sad on the formation of Pakistan and division of British India?

Qasim: If you look at the reason behind the creation of Pakistan, you will know that Islam was the main factor. People were very optimistic about the Islamization of Pakistan, people were expecting to thrive the rules and regulations of Islam will be implemented in Pakistan but unfortunately it didn't happen.

Actually the behavior of Hindus towards Muslims was the main factor of division. They were mistreating the Muslims of subcontinent. Muslim leadership got the intention of Hindus on time and Muslims felt they shall be treated like second citizens in British India. Muslims felt their rights in danger. Hindus used to give the loans to people and received interests on those loans.

Even Quaid-e-Azam was a supporter of Hindu-Muslim unity when he was in Congress but he got the politics behind that so-called unity and very soon left Congress and joined Muslim League. Today whatever is happening in India with Muslims forced to think that our leadership was right and done the right decision on time. Muslims are being killed in India even to eat beef or slaughter a cow. Indian govt is backing such extremist organization in India, they are humiliating the Muslims on roads of India.

Whatever is happening with Muslims in Kashmir, they are fighting against Indian govt and Indian govt is making consecutive atrocities on Kashmiri people. They are demanding freedom from Indian and Hindutwa. Whole world is watching such things.

Interviewer: What were the feelings of your Grandfather about Pakistan? He was rather optimistic about his life in Pakistan?

Qasim:yes definately he was optimistic but on ground the circumstances are totally diferent from expectations and we are hopefull about the future of this land.we are expecting good leadership of pakistan in future.