

## Muhammad Shafi Hamadani

**Interviewer:** Sir, this is basically a research program. So if you do not mind, would you like and permit us to record all the memories of you from the past?

**Mr. Muhammad Shafi Hamadani:** Yes I do.

**Interviewer:** Okay, thank you. Kindly tell us that in 1947 during the time of partition, what you have witnessed at that time. Kindly share all that memory you have in your mind.

**Mr. Muhammad Shafi Hamadani:** When this freedom war started, I was around 13-year-old. When the bunches of men came in and started firing, where there were Hindus in numbers, they pointed them out to shoot them, people get injured and also many casualties happened as well. Houses were burnt out along with their crops as well. After that, airplanes came from one direction India, they bombarded in this area and what their forces advanced by road, they reached to Garhi Dupatta. So, the bunch of force tried to repel that Indian force and crossed them away from Chakothi. This bunch of people was not an organized force, they were militants, led by Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayum Khan. These bunches of people were basically organized by him. So, these militants fought on their own ways. There was not having Arms, nor anything that they were able to face them, still these militants fought against Indian forces. These militants even moved up to Sri Nagar, but then they were killed there according to a plot. They were cheated there, so many of them were martyred there. After that, when cease fire declared, a bridge that connected two areas, was cut off, so as a result, after cease fire, this area was cleared and came to us and the area of occupied Kashmir named to them.

**Interviewer:** I have heard that when I once visited Chakothi, there is a rock there Chakothi where people told me that Major Server Shaheed was martyred there. So, it means that Pakistan army was headed to that point?

**Mr. Muhammad Shafi Hamadani:** Pakistan army was here on a little scale, the remaining was bunches. Army was not such organized or equipped. Army appointed all the majors in different area points of this area, so Server was martyred here in 1947. Similarly, the other military men were martyred here as well.

**Interviewer:** Kindly also tell me that what was all the social environment of your village. Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus were living together?

**Mr. Muhammad Shafi Hamadani:** At that time, Hindus had their own living boundary of village where they were living, Muslims in their own. There is a village named Nain

Suth, there the Hindus were in majority. Adjacent to that village, we had our village; there Muslims had their own populated area.

**Interviewer:** So, they were not allowed to visit each other's villages?

**Mr. Muhammad Shafi Hamadani:** No, no, they always used to come to each other's villages. They had good understandings and relationships. When a particular night, a few of Hindus were killed, our elders arranged food for whom that were injured, bandaged them as well because there was no medicine or hospital sort of place there at that time and the system was so simple there. Later on, those Hindus migrated and during that migration many people killed including Muslims and Hindus.

**Interviewer:** What do you think, why this all happened that a number of killings happened from the both side.

**Mr. Muhammad Shafi Hamadani:** According to me, what I understand is that people actually were tended towards spoiling wealth and cash from the both sides. They lost the actual purpose of freedom and started all this spoiling. According to me, this was totally bad act.

**Interviewer:** I also would like to give my opinion in that, that there was neither government act, nor the organized army, no one was there actually to stop those people, so all this happened.

**Mr. Muhammad Shafi Hamadani:** Hindus had one thing in their minds that as its Hindus government, so whatever we are doing is acceptable. Muslims tried to repel all of them and this all became the cause of loss of multiple lives. Maybe, the second reason of all was that when the war started, it had not to be started in the whole Azad Kashmir. It had to be started from the area of Pathan Kot, this was had to be defended on that particular point where every Muslim or Hindus was Kashmiri, it could also be the cause of that brutal killing. To bring war in a huge part of land is not actually humanity. It is not even easy to control a small area if war happens, and if war starts on a big place of hand was such an unfortunate act. People started killing others according to their own choices on the basis of personal grudges. Secondly, British were also intended that this may all happen. He actually wanted this temptation to be happen, he wanted this Hindu-Muslim temptation act and they may destroy each other. Pakistan had not had any organized army or any Arms, nor did any Air Force, but India have everything. India had maximum area of defense with them, so India used its all powers. Many of the areas had to be with the Pakistan after this division or separation, but India showed its aggression and occupied them as well. Similarly, India occupied the Kashmir as well. This aggression basically started from them, and even India kept saying that Pakistan is doing aggression, but it was India, not Pakistan who was doing this aggression. India did this in East Pakistan. India did this aggression in the areas of Junagarh, Duccan and Hyderabad, also occupying Kashmir as well. India is openly responsible of this all

aggression. India created this issue, destroyed everything, oppression with Kashmiris, oppression with Pakistanis, it was Hindustan.

**Interviewer:** Kindly tell us, when people were migrating from there, were they moving different bunches of people?

**Mr. Muhammad Shafi Hamadani:** Yes, they were in bunches, and they were even protected to migrate them. Also organized camping was done in different areas. People intended to gather at camps and then were able to migrate to next, but facilities were in a very little level.

**Interviewer:** In the last, I would like to ask, was that a correct decision of this division for the Muslims or Pakistanis?

**Mr. Muhammad Shafi Hamadani:** My point view is still the same that occupied Kashmir is basically the part of Pakistan. What Quad-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah had the decision and declared, according to that decision, where there were Muslims in numbers it had to be added to Pakistan and where Hindus were in majority, had to be concluded in Hindustan. India actually deviate that decision as negative. At that time, even United Nation tried to raise that issue, but when it was time for decision, United Nation declined Kashmir's opinion. Even United Nation declared that as the situations will be under control, a justice will be given in the rights and will of Kashmiris, even Nehro too said so. India army and its bureaucrats never intended that issue of Kashmir may resolve. India committed aggression and occupied all the states including Siah Chen Glacier, East Pakistan, Junagarh, Duccan and Hyderabad and Kashmir as well. You see that history is telling that India is basically terrorist, and India names Pakistan as terrorist. Violation basically is always done by the India.

**Interviewer:** Sir, thank you so much for giving us your precious time.