



The Savvy Humanities

CLASS 12

POLITICAL SCIENCE

BOOK 2 

HALF-YEARLY SPECIAL

MARATHON



The Savvy Humanities



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Chapters Covered

Challenges of Nation Building



Era of One-Party Dominance



Politics of Planned Development

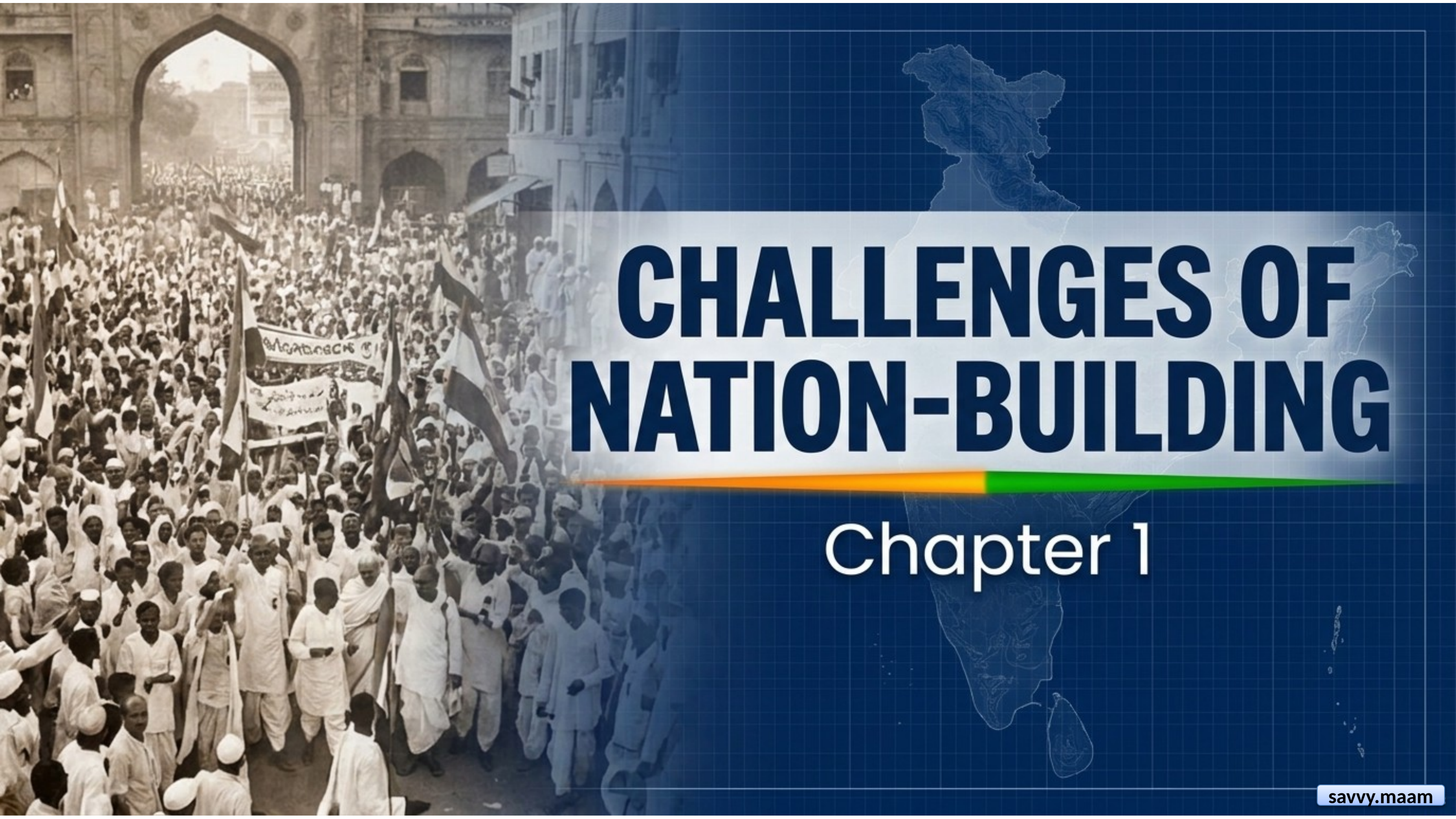


India's External Relations



**Challenges to and Restoration
of the Congress System**





CHALLENGES OF NATION-BUILDING

Chapter 1

After Independence, India faced several difficult challenges. The new nation had to build a united country, establish democracy and ensure development despite difficult economic, political and social circumstances.

Two major goals at Independence



Democracy
establish a democratic
government.



Welfare of all
improve the condition of the
poor and socially
disadvantaged.

Three Major Challenges of Nation-Building

The Indian Nation



Unity

India had great diversity in terms of language, religion, culture and region. The challenge was to shape one nation while maintaining this diversity.



Democracy

India had to establish a democratic system. This required a Constitution, elections and rule by the people.



Development

Development had to ensure the well-being of the entire society, not just some sections. The difficult economic situation made this challenging.

Partition and Its Challenges

The Partition of India in 1947 created serious problems for nation-building.



The Territorial Complexity

The question of Muslim-majority areas and their relationship with India/Pakistan. Some Muslim-majority areas did not necessarily want to join Pakistan.

The Reality of Partition



Communal violence and loss of lives.



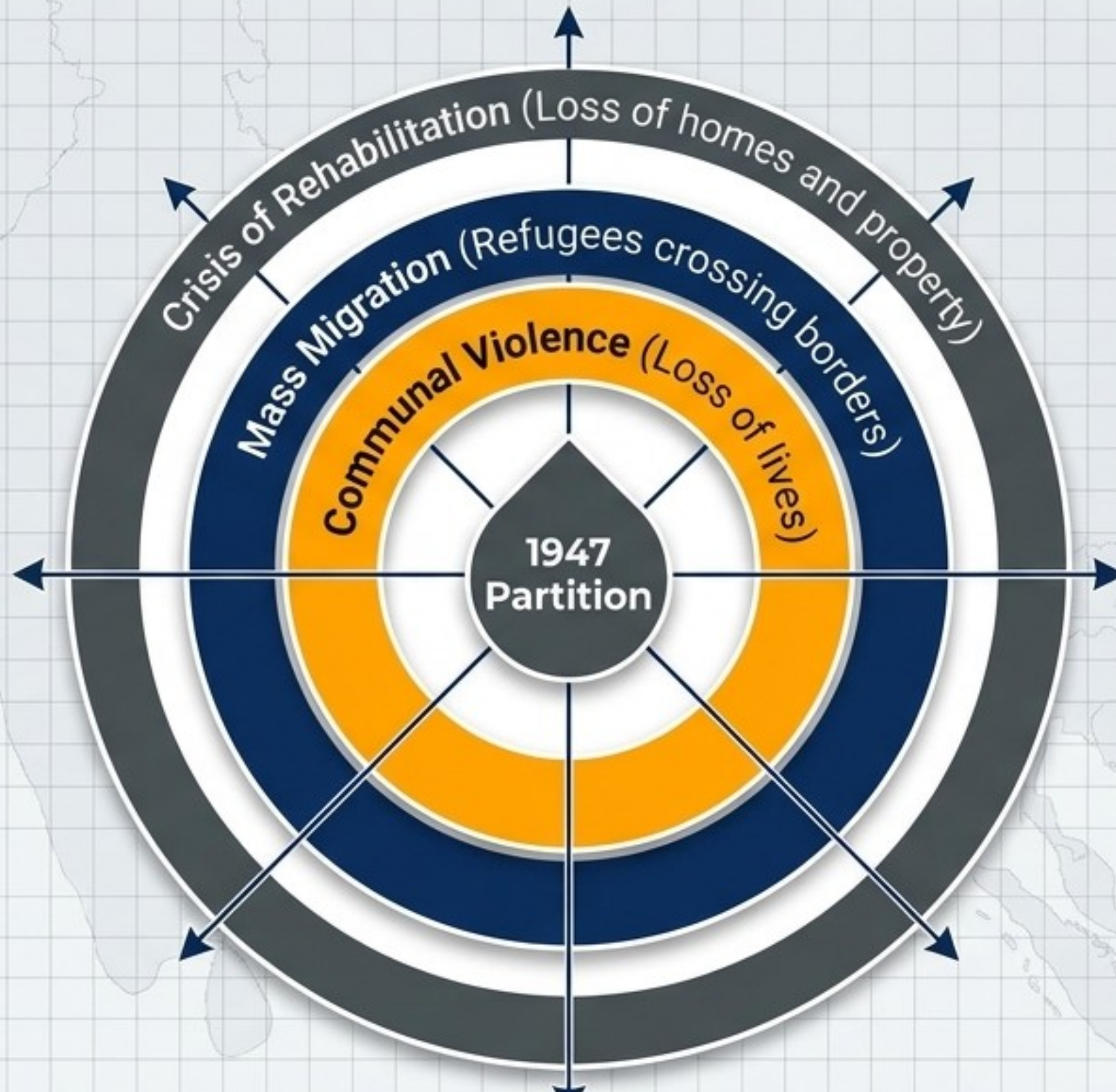
Large-scale migration of refugees between India and Pakistan.



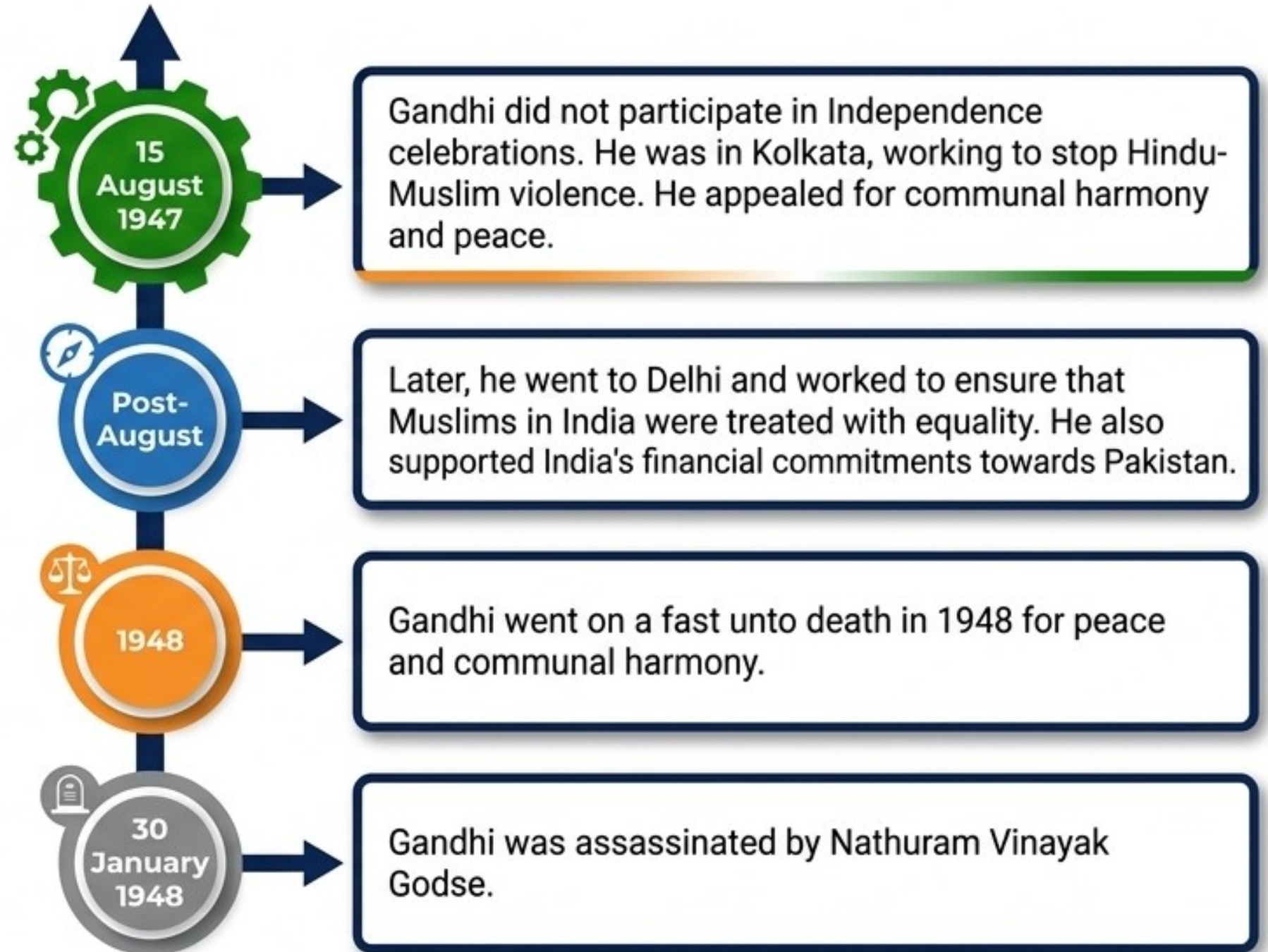
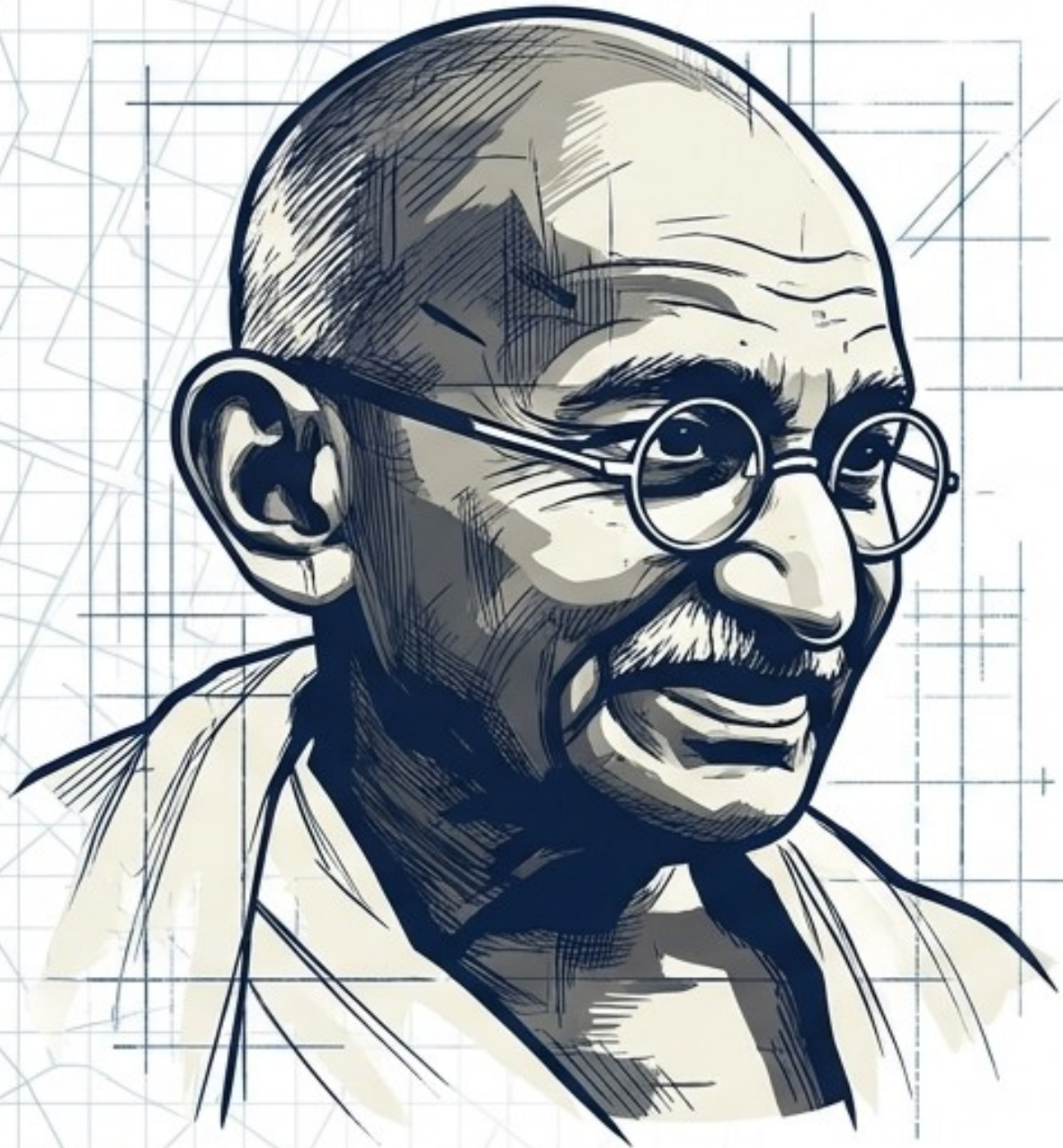
Rehabilitation of people who had lost their homes and property.

The question of Muslim-majority areas and their relationship with India/Pakistan.

Consequences of Partition



Gandhi's Role & Sacrifice



His message centred on truth, non-violence, justice and tolerance.

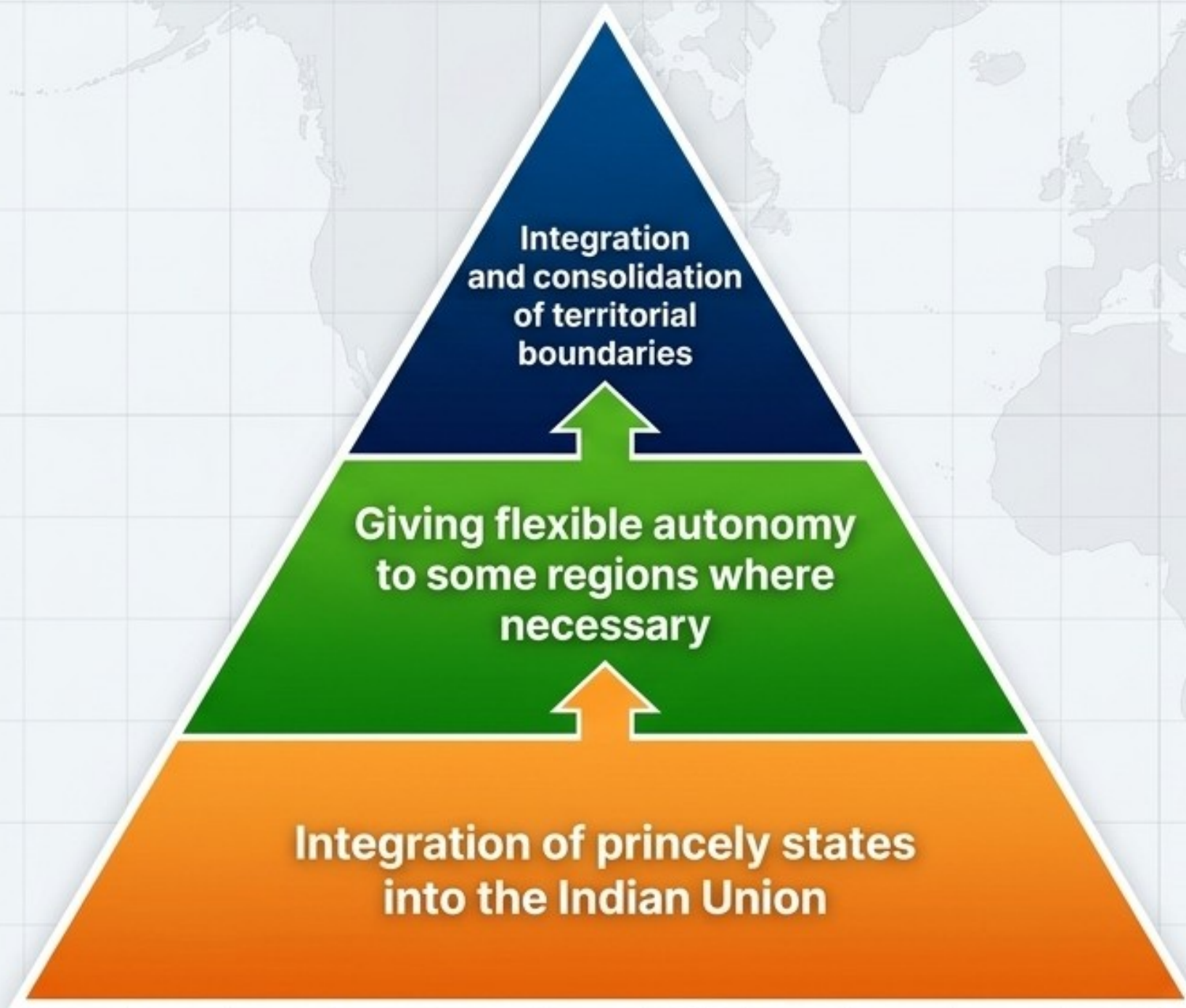
Integration of Princely States

At Independence, India had 565 princely states.



Problem: If many states became independent, India's unity and territorial integrity would be seriously affected.

The Government's Approach



Instrument of Accession

Most princely states joined India through the Instrument of Accession. It was an agreement between the ruler of a princely state and the Indian Union.



Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel played a major role in this process. He was the Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of India.

Case Study: Hyderabad



- Hyderabad was the largest princely state.
- Its ruler was the Nizam, one of the wealthiest men in the world. The Nizam wanted to maintain an independent status.
- He signed a Standstill Agreement with India in November 1947.

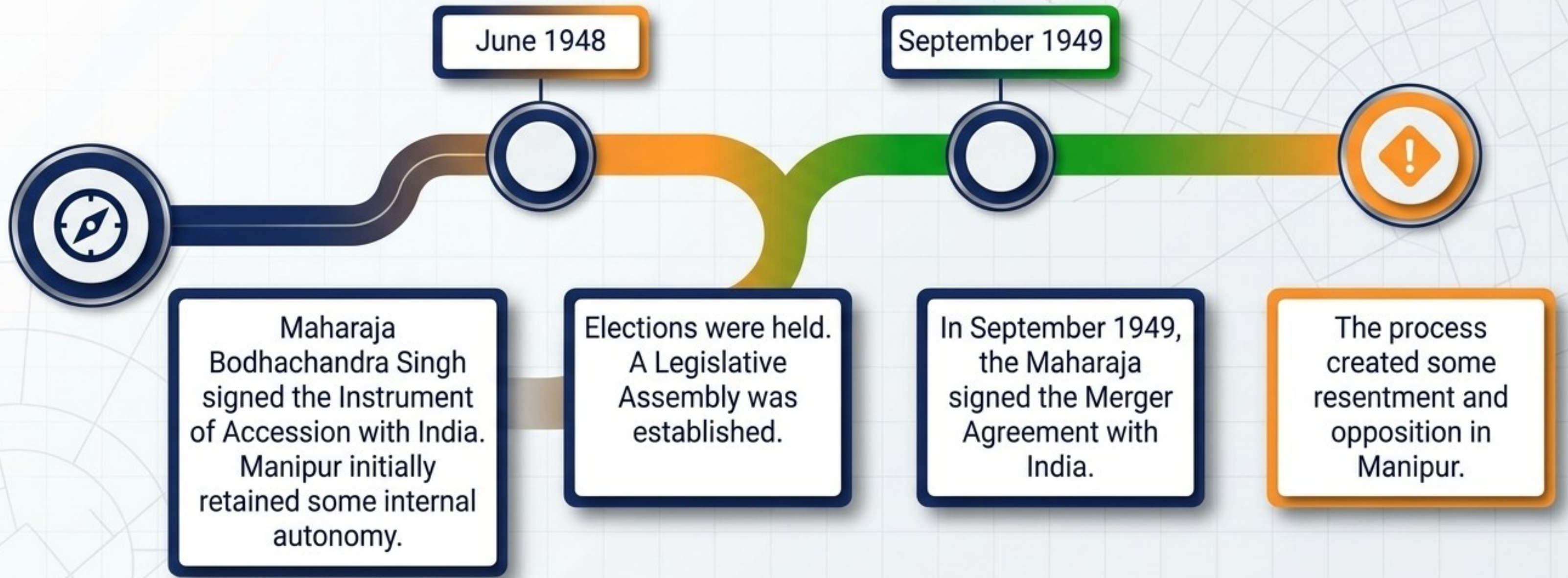
The Conflict

- The Razakars supported the Nizam.
- There was opposition from the people, including peasants.
- The situation became increasingly violent.

Operation Polo

- India launched Operation Polo in September 1948.
- The operation lasted about four days.
- Hyderabad was finally integrated into India.

Case Study: Manipur



**“After Independence, another major question was:
Should states be organised according to language?”**

The Linguistic Principle

The idea was that people speaking the same language should be able to form a state.

The Nagpur session of the Congress (1920) had already accepted the linguistic principle.

The Andhra Movement

People in the Madras Province demanded a separate Telugu-speaking state.



Potti Sriramulu, a Congress leader, went on an indefinite fast. He died after 56 days of fasting.



His death led to strong protests.

Result: Andhra State was created in December 1952.

States Reorganisation Commission (SRC)

1953

Assessment Card

The Trigger: The Central Government appointed the States Reorganisation Commission (SRC) in 1953. Its purpose was to examine the redrawing of state boundaries.



Assessment Card

The Commission accepted that language was an important basis for reorganisation.



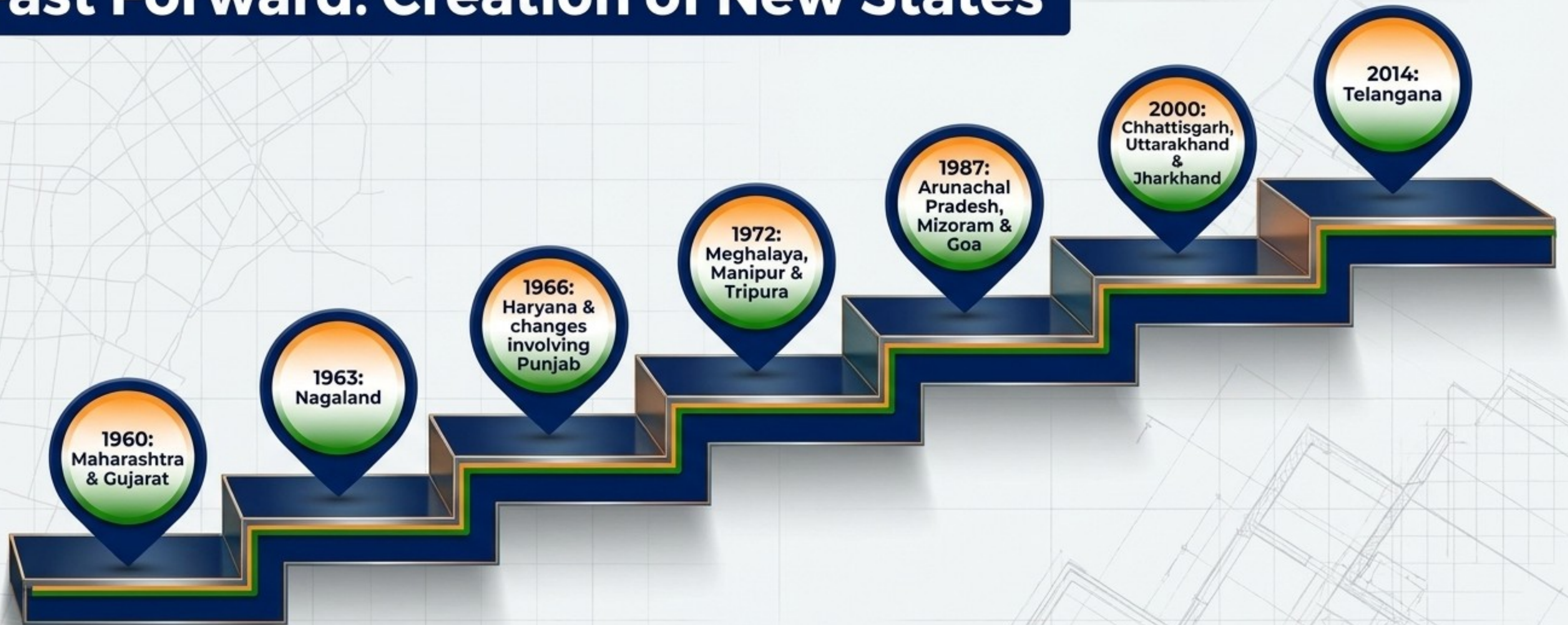
1956

Assessment Card

On the basis of its recommendations, the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 was passed.

It led to the creation of 14 states and 6 Union Territories.

Fast Forward: Creation of New States



Main Idea: Linguistic reorganisation did not destroy **national unity**. Instead, it helped **accommodate regional aspirations** and strengthened the **unity and integrity** of India.

Objective Assessment: MCQs (1-3)

1. A newly independent India faced a situation in which national unity had to be built without eliminating regional and cultural identities. Which approach best describes this challenge?

- A. Complete cultural uniformity**
- B. Unity through accommodation of diversity**
- C. Centralisation without regional representation**
- D. Political isolation of minority groups**

2. Consider the following statements about the integration of princely states:

Statement I: India inherited the problem of integrating hundreds of princely states after independence.

Statement II: Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel played a major role in negotiating their accession to India.

Choose the correct option:

- A. Both I and II are correct, and II explains I**
- B. Both I and II are correct, but II does not explain I**
- C. I is correct, but II is incorrect**
- D. I is incorrect, but II is correct**

3. Why did the demand for linguistic states initially create apprehension among Indian leaders?

- A. It was opposed by all regional communities**
- B. It was seen as potentially encouraging regionalism and weakening national unity**
- C. Linguistic states were prohibited by the Constitution**
- D. It was exclusively an economic demand**

Objective Assessment: MCQs (4-6)

4. Arrange the following in the correct chronological sequence:

1. Creation of Andhra State
2. Appointment of States Reorganisation Commission
3. States Reorganisation Act
4. Independence of India

- A. 4 → 1 → 2 → 3
- B. 4 → 2 → 1 → 3
- C. 1 → 4 → 2 → 3
- D. 2 → 4 → 1 → 3

5. Which of the following best explains why Partition made nation-building more difficult?

- A. It ended all regional conflicts
- B. It created communal violence, displacement and rehabilitation challenges
- C. It immediately solved the question of minorities
- D. It eliminated administrative difficulties

6. A political system accommodates a regional demand through constitutional and democratic means rather than suppressing it. Which principle of Indian nation-building does this illustrate?

- A. Majoritarianism
- B. Accommodation of diversity
- C. Cultural homogenisation
- D. Political centralisation

MARATHON MCQ ANSWER KEY

1. B | 2. A | 3. B | 4. A | 5. B | 6. B

Board Exam Prep: Core Challenges

The Marathon Blueprint

Q1. "India's independence brought freedom, but also created serious challenges for nation-building." Explain the three major challenges faced by independent India.

- **Challenge of national unity:** India had to remain united while accommodating its enormous social, cultural, and linguistic diversity.
- **Establishment of democracy:** India had to establish democratic institutions and practices based on the Constitution.
- **Development and welfare:** Ensure economic development and social welfare, particularly for disadvantaged groups and minorities.

Conclusion: Nation-building required combining unity, democracy, and inclusive development.

Q2. "Partition was not merely the division of territory; it created enormous challenges for the newly independent India." Analyse.

- **Mass Migration & Violence:** Resulted in large-scale displacement across borders and triggered widespread communal violence and loss of life.
- **Administrative Division:** Punjab and Bengal were divided; government employees, assets, and administrative resources had to be split.
- **Rehabilitation & Minorities:** Refugees had to be rehabilitated and resettled; India faced the challenge of protecting religious minorities remaining within its borders.

Board Exam Prep: Integration & Reorganisation

Q3. “The integration of princely states was a major test of India’s national unity.” Explain the role of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in this process.

- **The Scope:** At independence, India had 565 princely states requiring integration.
- **Diplomatic Approach:** As Deputy PM and Home Minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel used negotiation, diplomacy, and persuasion to integrate most states.
- **Difficult Cases:** Addressed complex cases like Junagadh (integrated via political pressure/plebiscite), Kashmir (accession amid conflict), and Hyderabad (secured via military action).

Conclusion: Patel's efforts were crucial in protecting India's territorial integrity.

Q4. Why did the demand for linguistic reorganisation of states become a major challenge for the Indian leadership? How was it eventually addressed?

- **Initial Fear:** National leaders feared linguistic states might encourage regionalism and threaten national unity.
- **The Catalyst:** The death of Congress leader Potti Sriramulu after a fast intensified demands, leading to the creation of Andhra State in 1953.
- **Institutional Resolution:** The States Reorganisation Commission (SRC) was appointed in 1953, leading to the States Reorganisation Act, 1956, which redrew borders on linguistic lines.

Conclusion: Accommodating regional identities ultimately strengthened national unity.

Board Exam Prep: Accommodation & Synthesis

Q5. "India's approach to nation-building was based on accommodation rather than suppression." Explain with reference to linguistic diversity.

- **Recognizing Legitimacy:** Instead of suppressing linguistic demands permanently, leadership recognized linguistic identities as legitimate.
- **Democratic Response:** Created Andhra in response to Telugu demands and systematically addressed others through the States Reorganisation Commission (SRC) and the 1956 Act.
- **Ongoing Framework:** Later demands for statehood were continually accommodated through democratic and constitutional processes.

Conclusion: Recognizing diversity within a constitutional framework actively contributed to national integration.

Q6. "The challenges of nation-building were interconnected rather than separate." Examine the statement.

- **Cascading Impacts:** Partition directly created communal tensions and a massive refugee crisis.
- **Territorial Unity:** Simultaneously, the integration of 565 princely states was essential to secure the borders.
- **Internal Identity:** Concurrently, linguistic demands challenged regional identity vs. national unity.
- **The Ultimate Synthesis:** While managing these crises, the government also had to establish democratic institutions and pursue economic development. India had to build a united, democratic, and socially inclusive nation simultaneously, not in isolation.