

The Bengal Partition and Political Contestations: Shyama Prasad Mukherjee's Influence

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Abstract: *The study explores the political and communal dynamics of Bengal leading up to the 1947 partition, with a particular focus on the role of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee in contesting the United Bengal proposal and advocating for the creation of West Bengal within the Indian Union. By examining the interplay between escalating communal tensions, electoral outcomes, and social unrest, the research highlights how Mukherjee leveraged his leadership of the Hindu Mahasabha to mobilize Bengali Hindus through political campaigns, grassroots activism, and strategic alliances. Drawing on archival letters, speeches, newspaper reports, and contemporary scholarly analyses, the study demonstrates Mukherjee's ideological and organizational impact in shaping the discourse surrounding Bengal's partition. The findings underscore the significance of leadership, communal mobilization, and policy advocacy in influencing historical outcomes during critical transitional periods*

Keywords: Bengal Partition, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, United Bengal, Hindu Mahasabha, communal politics, political mobilization, 1947, West Bengal

