

Quadrant II – Transcript and Related Materials

Programme:	Bachelor of Arts (Third Year)
Subject:	History
Paper Code:	HSC-105
Course Title:	Indian National Movement (1857-1947)
Title of the Unit:	Unit IV
Module Name:	Transfer of Power: Cabinet Mission Plan -1946 Mountbatten Plan Indian Independence Act-1947
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Notes

World War II ended in August 1945. The British Govt. had realised that their time was up in India and they needed to find a viable way to transfer power to the Indians. The greater challenge was to bring the two major parties in India to a compromise on seat and power sharing.

In February 1946, Sir Clement Attlee, PM of the Labour Govt. made an announcement of his Govt.'s decision to send a Cabinet mission to India to hasten the transfer of power to Indians.

The Cabinet mission presented its plan that suggested the creation of a Constituent Assembly, and an Interim Govt. at the Centre to take charge till the full modalities of self- rule was set in place by the Indians.

The conflict of egos and communal suspicions resulted in failure to implement the Cabinet Mission in totality. The League and Congress were unable to work together.

In another attempt to find a solution to the communal tangle, The British Govt. recalled Viceroy Lord Wavell and sent Lord Mountbatten as new Viceroy to India to resolve the communal problem. Mountbatten met with all important leaders and after assessing the situation prepared a plan which tried to find an acceptable solution. The Mountbatten Plan gave in the Jinnah's demand for a separate state of Pakistan for the Muslims, with some important reservations which left Jinnah dissatisfied. The Congress and League were forced to accept the Plan which suggested partition of India and all other issues settled under the circumstances of the creation of two Dominions of India and Pakistan from 15th August 1947.

The Mountbatten Plan was accepted by the British Parliament and based on it the Indian Independence Bill was brought in the House of Commons and was passed as Indian Independence Act 1947. India got her independence on August 15, 1947, Pakistan on August 14, 1947.

