

Overview

Students will read and compare speeches by Jawaharlal Nehru and Muhammad Ali Jinnah at the founding of independent India and Pakistan using reading questions.

Length

One class

Materials

South and Central Asia (World101)

Jawaharlal Nehru, [Speech to the Constituent Assembly of India on the Eve of Independence](#)

Muhammad Ali Jinnah, [First Presidential Address to the Constituent Assembly of Pakistan](#)

Handout (below)

Instructional Plan

- Have students read the two speeches and consider the discussion questions below, underlining parts of the speech that address each question.
- Lead a full class discussion on the questions.

Extension and Additional Resources

- This could easily be the basis for a writing assignment, or question 5 about fulfilling goals could be the basis for an in-class debate.

Founding Speech Analysis

Questions on Nehru and Jinnah

For each speech, consider the following questions:

Nehru	Jinnah
1. How does each leader see the place of his country in the world?	
2. How does each leader talk about differences and diversity in his own country?	
3. How does each leader talk about the other country?	
4. What challenges does the leader see for his new country? What are his goals?	
5. Looking at each country today, how successful has it been at achieving the goals stated in the speech?	