

Departmental Colloquium: New Interventions in the History of Partition

The 1947 Partition Violence in Punjab: Opportunistic Characteristics and Political Imperatives

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Using largely underutilised police reports from the period, this talk explains the array of public/political motivations and individual opportunistic characteristics of the partition-related violence. It describes looting as a key feature of the locally-rooted violence to seize non-Muslim minorities' property and wealth. As well, individual motives for revenge or a desire to best one's business rival fuelled the violence alongside ideological imperatives such as the commitment to the idea of Pakistan. It contends that personal and political motivations reinforced one other and contributed to the degree of the violence in situations in

which perpetrators perceived impunity for undertaking acts of violence and criminality.



Registration and
Information

Thursday 08.12.2022
16:15 CET (Zoom)

Image: Police FIRs Images/Records