Khushwant Singh's Train to Pakistan and Margaret Bourke-White's Partition Photographs: Clash of Narratives or Postmemory Project

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Summary/Abstract: Memories of the Partition of India have, over the last decades, been constructed through a broad range of media, such as biographical memory,
Khushwant Singh with Partition photographs by Margaret Bourke-White. Description. About the Book: In Train to Pakistan, truth meets fiction with stunning impact, as Khushwant Singh recounts the trauma and tragedy of Partition through the stories of his characters-Stories that he, his family and friends themselves experienced or saw enacted before their eyes. A bestseller when it was first published in 1956, Train to Pakistan is now widely accepted as one of the classics of modern Indian fiction. Bourke-White remained with Life as a photographer until 1956, photographing everything from the Korean War to South African goldmines to the Connecticut river valley. In the 1950s, Bourke-White discovered she had Parkinson's Disease. In addition to Train to Pakistan, Singh is also known for his two-volume work A History of the Sikhs, 1469-1964 (vol. 1, 1963; vol. 2, 1966) and The Company of Women (1999). He received many honors for his work in journalism and fiction, including a lifetime achievement award for his contributions to Indian literature. An estimated 14 million people were displaced by the Partition, which aimed to divide the nations along religious lines and initially led to widespread chaos and violence. A Train to Pakistan was published after the Second World War and at the beginning of India's decolonization, alongside other literary works that featured the voices of former colonial subjects.