



CAA Why it matters



Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019

Passed by the Government of India in 2019

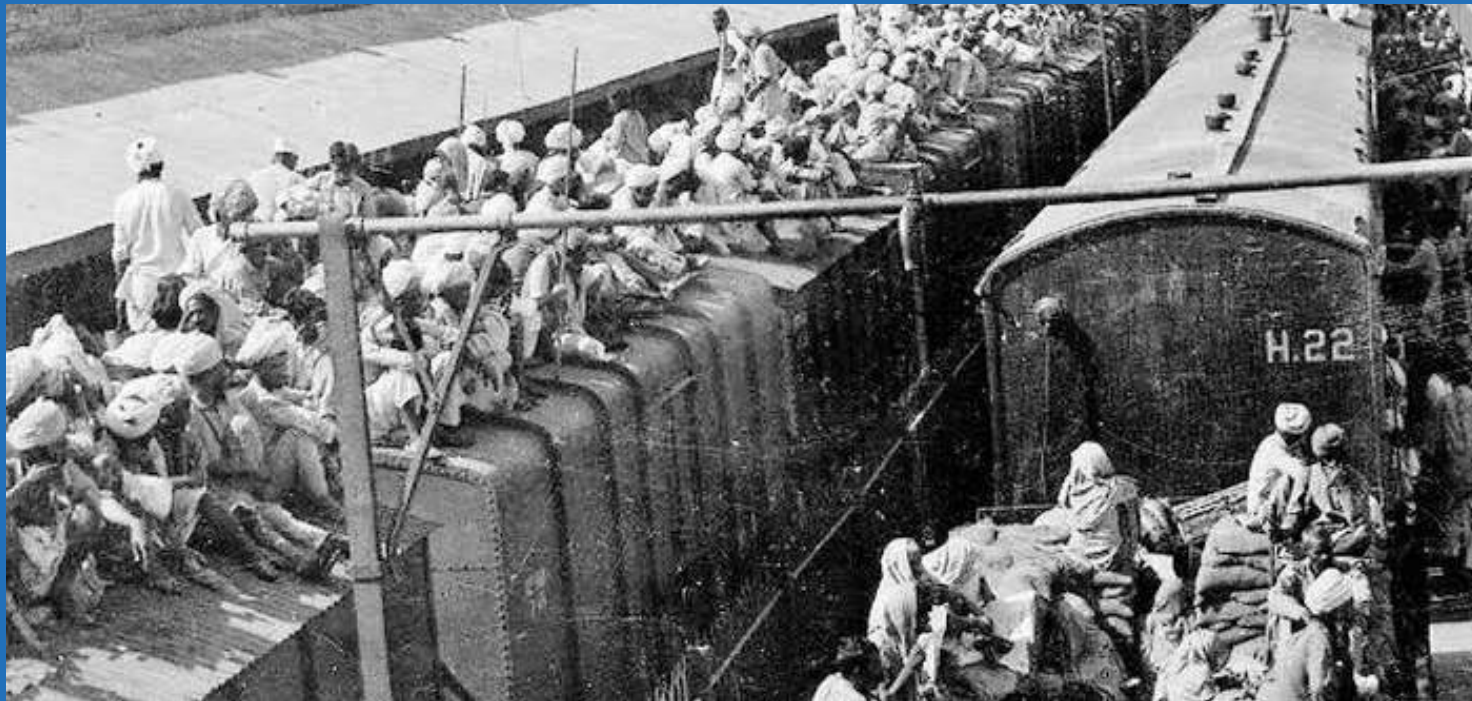


Introduction

The Citizenship Amendment Act 2019 was passed by the Government of India in 2019 with the objective of fast-tracking the process of granting Indian Citizenship to any person from Afghanistan, Pakistan or Bangladesh, belonging to the Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain, Parsi or Christian community and who entered India on or before December 31, 2014.



1947 Partition



- **One of the largest population displacements in history**
- **More than 1 million people became homeless.**
- **Families got divided**

1951 Census



- Minorities (Hindu, Sikh, etc) made up 14% of Pakistan's population*
- Minorities (Muslim, Christian, etc) made up 12% of India's population

* (includes Bangladesh which at the time was East Pakistan)





Jogendranath Mandal

A famous advocate of Dalits whom Pakistani administrators deemed as “untouchable”.
(He migrated to Pakistan with high hopes but moved back to India in 1950).

“Those Hindus who will continue to stay (in Pakistan) I am afraid, by gradual stages and in a planned manner be either converted to Islam or completely exterminated”.

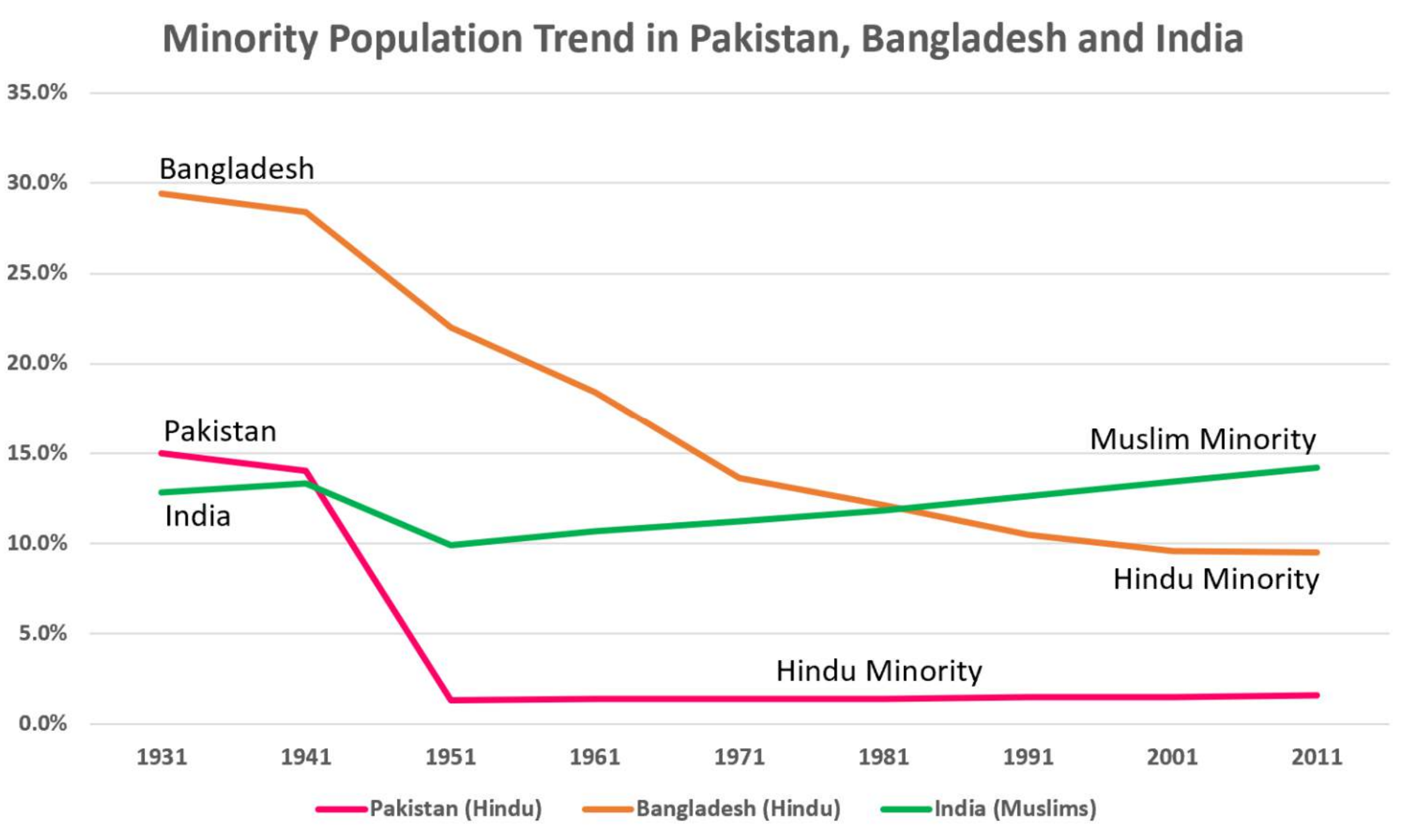


History Of Persecution Of Minorities



Population

Depopulation of minorities in Pakistan and Bangladesh.



History of Persecution in Pakistan

(3 Examples)



1992

Pakistani mobs attacked five Hindu temples in Karachi and set fire to 25 temples in the province of Sindh. In Lahore, thousands accompanied a bulldozer in demolishing an abandoned Hindu temple.



2010

Around 60 members of the minority Hindu community were attacked and evicted from their homes in Karachi after a Dalit Hindu Youth drank water from a tap near a Mosque.



2014

A member of the ruling political party Pakistan Muslim League (N) said that around 5000... were forcefully converting Hindu girls (to Islam) in the interior areas of Sindh province

Forced Conversions

Newsletters

The Atlantic

GLOBAL

Hindu Today, Muslim Tomorrow

What reports of forced conversion in Pakistan say about the country on the 70th anniversary of its creation

By Saba Imtiaz

The New York Times

Poor and Desperate, Pakistani Hindus Accept Islam to Get By

Drawn by jobs or land offered by Muslim groups, some Hindus, facing discrimination and a virus-ravaged economy, are essentially converting to survive.

B B C

Home

News

Sport

Stories of forced conversion to Islam in Pakistan

Every year in Pakistan, several hundred young Christian or Hindu girls are forcibly converted to Islam, and sometimes married off.

The growing radicalisation in the country is making life increasingly hard for the 10% of non Muslim Pakistanis - and they have little recourse in the face of violence.



 **THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS**

World

Persecution, forced conversion of Hindu girls on rise in Pakistan

Hindus and other minorities in Pakistan are facing atrocities in the hands of the Muslims and the government authorities.

Attacks on Places of Worship

News

Mob attacks and sets fire to Hindu temple in Pakistan

Videos circulating on social media showed men using hammers to damage the temple after an address from Muslim leaders.

Miscreants vandalise 14 Hindu temples in northwestern Bangladesh

Baliadangi police station's officer in-charge Khairul Anam said the attacks took place between Saturday night and Sunday dawn at several villages

February 06, 2023 12:27 am | Updated 08:18 am IST - Dhaka

Afghanistan

Afghanistan: dozens killed in attack on Kabul Sikh temple

Isis gunmen held hostages for hours while Afghan special forces tried to end siege

TODAY'S PAPER | MARCH 14, 2024

4 killed in assault on Kabul gurdwara

Agencies | Published June 19, 2022

A Taliban fighter stands guard in front of a Sikh temple following an attack by gunmen in Kabul on June 18. — AFP

Forced Burials



Minorities forced to bury their dead

Faridullah Khan, Peshawar / shs06/01/2016

Hindus and Sikhs living in Pakistan's northwestern areas are forced to bury their dead instead of cremating them. What are the reasons behind this discrimination? Faridullah Khan reports from Peshawar.

THE EXPRESS
TRIBUNE
TODAY'S PAPER | MARCH 14, 2024 | ADVERTISE

In DI Khan, Hindus forced to bury their dead

Official data shows that around 7,000 square yards in Madina Colony belonged to the community.

Creative Samra Aamir/Zulfiqar Ali | November 28, 2012

EQ The Washington Post

ASIA & PACIFIC

In expansive Pakistan, Christians struggle to find space for cemeteries



By [Tim Craig](#)

The Indian **EXPRESS** NATION WORLD BUSINESS CITIES SPORTS ENTERTAINMENT LIFESTYLE

Cremation banned? Hindus in Pakistan's DIK forced to bury their dead ever since country's birth

Fleeing From Persecution



SOCIETY

Afghan Sikhs and their quest for a new home

Seerat Chabba
12/01/2020

There were nearly 700 members of the Sikh community in Afghanistan at the start of 2020. After a brutal attack, most have turned to India to seek refuge. But they still haven't found a permanent home.

The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

ASIA & PACIFIC

Hindus from Pakistan flee to India, citing religious persecution

INDIA TODAY

Hindus are untouchable: Minority immigrants from Pakistan narrate stories of misery



Manjeet Sehgal

Jalandhar, UPDATED: Dec 22, 2019 22:35 IST

The Hindu and Sikh families, who were forced to flee Pakistan after the religious persecution crossed its limits in the past two decades, have settled in various parts of Punjab including Amritsar, Khanna, Jalandhar, and Pathankot.



'Fear And Anxiety': Pakistan's Minority Sikhs Flee Restive Province In Face Of Rising Violence

Stateless Predicament of Pakistani Hindus



World

Living on the edge, Pakistani Hindus still feel safer in India

By Anushree Fadnavis

June 17, 2020 4:55 AM GMT+5:30 · Updated 4 years ago



Hindu migrants — Persecuted in Pakistan, ignored in India

Hundreds of Pakistani Hindus have migrated to India in search of security and citizenship but are caught in a maze of rules and regulations that have left them stateless for years. Mohammed Iqbal reports on their plight and the politics around citizenship



THE | DIPLOMAT



Safe But Betrayed: Pakistani Hindu Refugees in India

After fleeing religious persecution in Pakistan, life in India brings its own challenges.



#SWARAJYA

POLITICS

Pakistani Hindu Refugees — Nobody's Children

Minorities in Pakistan and Bangladesh

1951 - 28%
of Total Population



2024 - Less than 3%
of Total Population



Pleas from the Stateless





LAUTENBERG AMENDMENT - 1989

A Law in USA similar to CAA

Los Angeles Times

Applications under the Lautenberg-Specter program began stalling in late 2016.

Enacted in 1989 to facilitate resettlement of Jews from what was then the Soviet Union, the program later was expanded to include non-Muslims from Iran. Run in partnership with the Austrian government, it requires refugees to have a U.S. sponsor who will cover the costs associated with their travel as well as the typical three- to six-month stay in Vienna.

<https://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-lautenberg-order-iran-refugees-20190221-story.html>



Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.

The Lautenberg Amendment, first enacted in 1990 to facilitate the resettlement of Jews from the former Soviet Union, has allowed HIAS to bring tens of thousands of refugees to safety. As the worldwide refugee situation changed, the Lautenberg Amendment, originally proposed by Senator Frank R. Lautenberg of New Jersey, was later expanded to include persecuted religious minorities in other countries, such as Jews, Christians, Baha'is, Sabaeen-Mandaeans, and Zoroastrians from Iran. Despite being a crucial part of U.S. refugee policy, the amendment expires each year and must be reauthorized.

<https://hias.org/lautenberg-amendment/>



The Lautenberg Amendment allows citizens in former Soviet Union countries, including Ukraine, who are members of a religious minority group to join their family members living in the United States. These religious groups include Jews, Evangelical Christians, Ukrainian Catholics, and members of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church and Greek Orthodox Church.

The program created under the Lautenberg amendment operates through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP). Unless reauthorized by Congress, it expires each fiscal year on September 30. The Specter Amendment in 2004 opened up Lautenberg program eligibility for certain members of religious minority groups in Iran, including Jews, Christians, Baha'is, Sabaeen-Mandaeans and Zoroastrians.

<https://refugees.org/lautenberg-program-fact-sheet/>



Open-access P-2s inside their country of origin:

- **Certain Members of Religious Minority Groups** in Eurasia and the Baltics: Jews, Evangelical Christians, and Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox religious adherents identified in the Lautenberg Amendment, Section 599D of Title V, P. L. 101-167, as amended (the Lautenberg Amendment), with close family in the United States. Based on the annual statutory renewal of the Lautenberg Amendment, these individuals are considered under a reduced evidentiary standard for establishing a well-founded fear of persecution.

<https://2017-2021.state.gov/refugee-admissions/u-s-refugee-admissions-program-access-categories/>



SACRAMENTO

The PA must be:

- 18 years old
- A citizen of an FSU country, which includes: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
- A member of a religious minority and able to prove this. This includes Jews, Evangelical Christians (Baptists, Pentecostals, Seventh Day Adventists, and Jehovah's Witnesses), Ukrainian Greek Catholics, and members of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church
- Related to the UST as a spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandparent, or grandchild
- Additional notes:
 - Every applicant in addition to the PA must be a citizen of an FSU country and also a member of a religious minority to successfully process.
 - Individuals who are not directly related to the PA but living in the same household may be considered for processing on a case-by-case basis.

<https://worldrelief.org/sacramento/lautenberg/>

Stateless - The Film



PG-13



'STATELESS' is a documentary short film depicting the case of Pakistani Hindus who have fled religious persecution in Sindh Province of Pakistan. They are living in Jodhpur (Rajasthan) currently and seeking citizenship in India.

The documentary explores the conditions of the Hindu families which fled the atrocities in the hands of Jihadists in Sindh state of Pakistan. The documentary also shows the plight of these persecuted refugees while they start building their life back from zero in India with traumatizing memories still haunting them.

Year: 2021 **Time:** 28 min **Genre:** Documentary

Directed By: Manvendra Singh Shekhawat

Produced By: Nikhil Singh Rajputt

SCREEN THE FILM **“STATELESS”** IN YOUR CITY

FIND OUT THE TRUTH BEHIND THE CAA LAW IN INDIA



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INDIC
DIALOGUE