

# THE DELUSIONAL DIVISION

By Vidhan Sharma

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*“I told him, ‘Tussi Ghabrao Na, twadi zameen wapas nahi levange’  
They thought that we’ve come back from India to claim the land- even after  
50 years of the Partition that sore the subcontinent.”*

- polished excerpt from ‘In the Language of Remembering’ by Aanchal Malhotra

In the case of division and boundaries, when we- as humans fraught them, the intention very much manifests itself- while time takes its eventual course of action- to reveal it.

Hate. Prejudice. Loathe. Discontent. Disloyalty. Loyalty to the Self. Loyalty to the other. To an Idea. An Ideology. A Monarch. Crown. Nation. People. Community. These very much might be, in incidence- the ‘reason’ for division- although in reality- what sets as a base- is something far more tumultuous.

A pedestal that might, at the offset- seem simple, but in clarity of thought- is the cause of it all. ‘You and Me’ – ‘Them and Us’

A clear distinction between identities- not made in a code of discrimination by the almighty- but, created by the creation of almighty- perpetuating discrimination.

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I strongly resonate with Partition stories. Whenever I hear the phrases, ‘We came from that side’- or ‘We had a house there’- it’s as if intrigue sets its push- and I start asking questions, hear them out- and listen to the stories they have to offer. In complete honesty, if the concept of rebirth is true- I genuinely feel that I belonged to Lahore.

It is so ironical- that despite having a ‘Dilli Darwaza’ in Lahore, and a ‘Lahori Gate’ here at Delhi- none of the gates are actually open for the people of either cities to pass through them. Despite the culture, language, traditions and the hearts of people resounding with love- it’s all which politics eats up at the end of it.

There are times, mostly at night- when I strongly feel that I have been born in the wrong era. There’s something about the India of 30s & 40s that mumbles my imagination with allurements. My soul seems to be old. I very much enjoy Hindustani Classical Music- over any genre of *sangeet*. I love watching Kathak- and Odissi- which are forms of Traditional Indian Dances. I like reading Literature, and Poetry from an era that either dates to that time- or goes even further back. And, to really prove it to you- that I’m a 71-year-old

trapped in a modern Gen-Z torso of a 17-year-old- my favorite writer of all time proves to be *Sadat Hassan Manto*, who very much was a victim of the Partition- and wrote about it extensively through his short stories.

I am very picky about following pages on Instagram. It's a habit I loathe- for most of the times, my feed is only filled with *phone cover ads* and *university sign-ups*. Purposefully, other than my friends, and certain societal acquaintances that I oblige to follow- I choose to keep my guard checked and clean. Albeit. Among the three pages I follow out of will- one being on Cinema, and the other on Philosophy- the third one is which I can't bother to unfollow (anytime soon). Namely, 'The 1947 Partition Archive' on Instagram- is a handle which deals with human stories about the people who witnessed the Partition firsthand. Their accounts of grief, migration, settlement and finally- hope, is what keeps me connected and affixed to my roots.

Even if it is a petty thing like following pages on Instagram, making wise decisions to reject what you do not need- and gracefully accept what you do- is how life should work in simple terms.

#### *Vidhan's Morale Lecture- Recount #1*

Basically,

Life will throw situations where there are multiple options, alternatives, variations and preferences to choose from. To select and continue with what deems perfect for you- is a choice you need to make- at every step- to live a life with qualitative abundance- and not a plenty of meaningless and cretinous supply.

*\*Note- By the end of every article- I will recommend a piece of Music to listen and take in the appropriate feel that the article should generate.*

#### *Music Recommendation- #1*

*Mr. Tambourine Man* by Bob Dylan.

Thank You.

Would love to chat! Contact me through Instagram- @vidhansharmak05.

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