

# THE ROHINGYA CRISIS

Human Rights Issues, Policy Concerns  
and Burden Sharing

Edited by

**NASIR UDDIN**





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To  
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman,  
the Father of the Nation, on his birth centenary  
and  
the people of Bangladesh  
on the golden jubilee of Independence



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# Situating the Rohingya in India's Citizenship Conundrum

Parvin Sultana

## 7.1. Introduction

The Indian subcontinent underwent the plight of partition on two occasions; first in 1947, when two nations were formed—India and Pakistan—based on the two-nation theory which subscribed religion as the basis of a nation state; second in 1971, when East Pakistan broke away to form the new state of Bangladesh. The second partition foregrounded language and culture as the basis of the nation state, and the new state of Bangladesh was carved out of erstwhile East Pakistan. The newly formed Bangladesh and India shared multifaceted sociocultural and economic commonalities owing to geographical and cultural continuity. The region has also witnessed mobility of people for social practices, travelling and resettlement. However, the landscape started changing with the colonial expansion, demarcation and categorization of the territory (Sonowal 2018). In both instances of partition, people belonging to similar cultural and communal stock were randomly divided. People became aliens in their own homes overnight. The