

Not all the rulers signed the Instrument of Accession at once. Afraid that the Socialist Congress Party would strip him of his amusements, flying, dancing girls and conjuring delights which he had only just begun to indulge since he had only recently succeeded his father to the throne, the young Maharajah of Jodhpur arranged a meeting with Jinnah. Jinnah was aware that both Hindu majority and geographical location meant that most of the Princely states would go to India, but he was gratified by the thought that he might be able to snatch one or two from under Patelfis nose. He gave Jodhpur a blank sheet of paper.

"Write your conditions on that" he said, "and I fill sign it."

Elated, the Maharajah returned to his hotel to consider. It was an unfortunate move on his part, for V.P. Menon was there waiting for him. Menonfis agents had alerted him to what Jodhpur was up to. He told the young ruler that his presence was requested urgently at a viceroyfis House, and reluctantly the young man accompanied him there. The urgent summons had been an excuse, and once they had arrived, Menon had to go on a frantic search for Viceroy, and tell him what had happened. Mountbatten responded immediately. He solemnly reminded Jodhpur that Jinnah could not guarantee and conditions he might make, and that accession to Pakistan would spell disaster for his state. At the same time, he assured him that accession to India would flout automatically mean end of his pleasure. Mountbatten left him alone with Menon to sign a provisional agreement.

## The unjust Accession: Role of Mountbatten

At the time of partition not all the rulers signed the accession document. The recently throned maharaja of jodhpur met jinnah. Jinnah wanted atleast one princely state to annex with Pakistan, so he gave maharaja a paper to write his conditions and he will sign it. When maharaja returned to his hotel v.p menon took him to viceroy mountbatten house. And he ask him ~~to~~ that \$ accession to Pakistan may not ensure his pleasure but accession with india, will surely do, and left him alone to sign the document of accession.

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