

Pakistan Affairs Jihad Movement

NOA, Islamabad

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Reform Movements – Jihad Movement

- Syed Ahmad Barelvi (1786-1831) – Biography
 - Born in Rai Bareli
 - For two years studied under sons of Shah Waliullah
 - In 1810, he joined forces of Amir Khan to learn war tactics
- Beliefs
 - Man of Action
 - To end British rule – re-establish Muslim rule
 - Believed in armed struggle against foreign & non-Muslims
 - Need to end social evils as they corrupt society
 - Morality and intellectual improvements
 - Furious at the Sikh rule in Punjab
 - Mughal rulers had little real power
 - Time for Jihad – Action to protect Islam & Muslim

Reform Movements – Jihad Movement

- Jihad Movement
 - Travelled across India to motivate Muslims for Jihad
 - 1823- Punjab under Mahraja Ranjit Singh alongwith NWF region
 - Suffering of Muslims under Sikhs - Muslims were not allowed to live according to their religion
 - Syed Ahmad started his Jihad against Sikh Rule
 - Toured Punjab and NWF region to enlist Mujahideen
 - Even went to Afghanistan but was dismayed

Reform Movements – Jihad Movement

- 1826.... Beginning of an end
 - Established his headquarter near Peshawar
 - Sent message to Ranjit Singh to allow Muslims to follow Islam or face Mujahideen
 - Earliest victories against Sikhs establish him as successful military leader
 - This encouraged tribal people to join him- 80,000
 - He became the Imam- Later **Amir ul Momineen**
 - Imposition of Sharia
 - Battle of Balakot 1831 and martyrdom of Syed Ahmed

Reform Movements – Jihad Movement

- Impact
 - First armed Movement to free Muslims
 - Religious and Spiritual freedom
 - Uniting force for Muslims
 - Inspiration for later generation
 - Fore-runner of Pakistan Movement
 - Defense of Religion- culture
 - Example for later generations
 - Serious setback for Muslim
 - 1863- British Army dealt with Mujahideen Threat

Jihad Movement

- Reasons for Failure
 - Well equipped army of Ranjit Singh
 - Financial constraint
 - Disputes over distribution of war booty (mal e ghanimat)
 - Betrayal – Yar Muhammad Khan & Sultan Muhammad Khan
 - Ethnic diversity of Syed Ahmad's army
 - Strict promulgation of sharia – tribes were not ready yet – zakat- early marriages- widow marriages- severe punishment etc.

