

Q:- What is the significance of the Simla deputation?
How did it reorient the political ideology of the Muslims of subcontinent?

Introduction:-

Simla deputation is the landmark event and ^{crucial} ^{initial step} in the history of Muslims ^{strivings} of subcontinent towards the achievement of their political participation and the safeguard of their rights in the political arena of subcontinent. After witnessing the vehement opposition of Hindus towards Bengal partition, Muslims of the subcontinent decided to stand up and form their own political platform, instead of relying on the so called champion of "Representative of Indian people", the Indian National Congress, which only works for Hindu interests. When Secretary of State for Indian Affairs, John Morley, ^{in July 1906} presented a bill to increase the number of legislative members in Provincial Legislation, in the British Parliament, a Muslim deputation of 35 members under the leadership of Sir Agha Khan met the Viceroy (Lord Minto) on 1st October 1906, to forward the apprehensions of Muslim community of subcontinent and demanded separate electorates for them. Simla deputation produced good results and provided the Muslims ^{with} a new vigor to consolidate their power and efforts towards strivings of Muslim rights and this event reoriented the political ideology of the Muslims of subcontinent.

Significance of Simla deputation.

Simla deputation opened new avenues for muslims and filled them with hope that they can acquire their political and fundamental rights from british government by showing them their loyalty and by presenting their case ^{intelligibly} in front of them.

- 1) In Simla deputation muslims demanded for separate electorate and viceroy accepted their demand.
- 2) The deputation also stressed on the absence of muslims on important governmental and institutional posts like judiciary, legislation that makes them vulnerable and exposed to hindu blatant behavior. Viceroy gave them positive response and ensure that muslim rights will be safeguarded.
- 3) When asked about the provision of funds for university, the viceroy's encouraging response settled the muslims at ease and it created an atmosphere of friendship and goodwill between britishers and muslims which was badly tarnished after the war of independence 1857 or mutiny from britishers perspective.
- 4) After coming back from Simla meeting viceroy in Simla, muslim leaders started working towards the formation of a political platform which represents the muslim community of subcontinent.

Sirka deputation reoriented the political ideology of muslims of subcontinent in myriad of ways:-

The war of independence and failure made the muslims a subject of wrath of britishers. Muslims were prohibited to join important positions. An atmosphere of mistrust and resentment clogged the smooth relationship between muslims and britishers. Sir Sayyid Ahmed Khan advised the muslims to obtain modern scientific education and to not take part in political activities so to come at good side of british empire. This minimized the muslims activation and participation in politics. In 1885 after the formation of Indian national congress, muslims thought that it will also represents muslim interest as the INC claimed. But the repeated events like Hindu-urdu controversy and riots after Bengal partition provided the muslims with a clear view and made them realize that muslims and hindus are two different nations.

pragmatism of two nation theory:-

Two nation theory aligned the muslims of subcontinent towards a single goal and Sirka deputation was a first concrete step towards that goal. It strengthened the concept that in subcontinent there are two important nations, each different from each other and each working for their own interest.

All India Muslim League: A political platform for Muslims

Simon deputation speed the birth of a new political platform for Muslims, a need of the time, thus resulted in the formation of All India Muslim League in 1906.

So the efforts for the protection of Muslim rights were consolidated and they took a concrete shape. Muslim League proved itself to be an important player in the struggle of Muslim participation in political area and then further the formation of new state for Muslims.

The achievements of all India Muslim Leagues are remarkable.

Despite being minority, Muslims political importance is undeniable:-

Sim. Through Simon deputation and other leading events, Muslim leaders tried to show British government that the political importance of Muslims is huge in subcontinent and their participation in legislation should also be on the basis of their political importance not population.

Efforts to show loyalty towards Britishers:-

Muslim leaders of the subcontinent realized that Britishers are the rulers of the region and the fight against them will only lead to disastrous consequences, the recent example was of failure of war of independence so they reoriented their political ideology and

started to work toward the betterment of relations with the British government and the political journey on this track proved fruitful in the future.

Stress on Muslims representation in legislation

Legislation makes the laws for subcontinent people and if the legislative positions are only for Britishers and Hindus then Muslims rights will not be guaranteed. So Muslim leaders started working towards the goal of getting representation in imperial legislature so they can influence the big decisions concerning the Muslims.

Separate electorate

Muslims are ^{were} in minority in the subcontinent and joint electorate can not fairly give them the opportunity in the electoral process. So Muslims demanded separate electorate in Simla deputation which was given in Minto-Morley reforms. Muslims stuck to separate electorate demand and right in the future too.

Conclusion:

Muslims ~~had~~ ^{and activation} participation in politics after Simla deputation took an exponential rise and it saw a reformation in the political ideology too. Simla deputation for Muslims signifies a great achievement and step towards the era of struggle.

response from Lord Minto in Simla, Muslims became active on political grounds and starting seeing Hindus eye to eye. Hindu leaders started showing their true nature and opposed Muslim efforts and movements at all fronts but it only strengthened the Muslims' ^{leaders} commitment towards safeguarding Muslim rights. Simla deputation was the first step towards the right path of independent state for Muslims, after Muslims took the first step, there was no stopping after that, every event, every further step took them closer to their goal.



time consumed - about 20-30 minutes