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Q) Critically examine Congress ministries of 1937. How far it is connected to suggest that it paved the way for the separate muslim homeland in India?

Introduction:

The Congress has historically played covert communal politics in order to create what in India we call vote bank where you put one community against another and so on in order to secure vote."

Asundhati Roy

The Congress ministries, the outcome of the election held in 1937, proved to be the death nail in the coffin of united India under the British Raj. It convinced Quaid e Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and other Muslim League leaders in sub continent, to lay the foundation of separate homeland. After the election of 1937, the Indian Congress came into power. The unexpected results intoxicated the Congress leaders with a mistaken sense of power. Furthermore, the Congress ministries made the Muslim life miserable in all the eight provinces, having under its rule. The tyranny and oppression of congress's rule became an eye-opener for the Indian Muslims. They realized that the only option left for them was to demand separate homeland.

▨ No election held

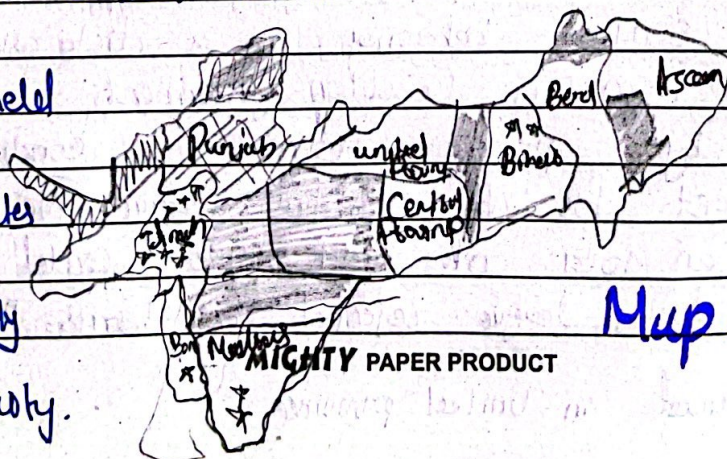
□ Indian Congress

■ Princely States

⚡ AML and

United party

▨ Unionist party.



Map Source: Wikipedia.

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A CRITICAL EVALUATION OF THE CONGRESS MINISTRIES OF 1937

I) Election of 1937 and its results:

As mandated by the Government of India Act 1935, provincial elections were held in 1937 between the Indian National Congress and the All India Muslim League. The result of the election were shocking for the India Muslims as they could not get meritorious support from the voters. Contrarily, the Congress achieved a big victory and managed to get a clear majority in five provinces, i.e. Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, United Provinces, and Central Provinces.

Party	Indian National Congress	AIML	Unionist Party
Seats won	707	109	101

Source: Wikipedia.

II) Formation of Congress Ministries and their actions:

The Coalition government was formed in Bombay, Bengal, and NWFP. After winning the elections, Congress adopted a dictatorial attitude, and they started behaving in a dictatorial manner. They refused to form a Coalition government with the Muslim League by putting terms and conditions almost impossible to meet for the Muslim League. No political party ~~could~~ with an iota of self respect could accept these terms. Therefore Muslim League rejected these terms. Thus, pure

Congress ministry formed in United Provinces

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HOW CONGRESS MINISTRIES PAVED WAY TOWARD MUSLIM HOMELAND:

i) Widya Mandir Scheme that promoting Hindu mindset in educational institutions:-

It was an educational policy introduced in Congress provinces for the students belonging to all sects and religions. It decided to convert non-muslim, especially muslim from their religion and to convert them. The young people were compelled to fold their hands before Gandhi's picture and sing his praises. The book edited for children expressed the greatness of Hinduism.

ii) Forcing young Muslims to Salute three coloured Flag:-
Congress hoisted three colour flag on all the official and important non official building to show that congress was the only representative organization of the Indian people. The flag became the cause of Hindu Muslim riots at the various places.

iii) Ensuring political victimization of Muslim League as its top political ideological rival:-

The arrogance of Congress leadership could be seen by the claim of Nehru that there were only two parties in India, the British and the Congress and all the other must be lined up. He refused to accept Muslim League and stakeholders in the political dimension of India.

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This was the height of arrogance to this the Quaid-e-Azam rejoined.

"I refused to lineup with the Congress. There is a third party in the country and that is the Muslim. We are not going to be dictated by any one!"

(Calcutta, January 8, 1937)

iv) Economic Stagnulation and harmed Muslims assets:

The Congress ministries did their best to to weaken the economy of Muslims. They closed the doors of government offices for them, which was one of the main source of income for the Muslim in the region. They also harmed muslims trade and agriculture.

v) Suppressing the Cultural ~~of~~ Rights: of Indian Muslim

After coming in power, Congress leader try to impose other culture on Muslim. Such as, Hindi declared as a National language in some state and Urdu were not allowed in workplaces.

vi) Suppressing Muslim nation into nothing but only a minority:

The administration and official apparatus became partial under the Congress rule. The just complaints of Muslim against the tyranny and despotism of Congress went ~~unheard~~ unheeded. The government even

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pressured the judges decisions were made in favour of Hindus and Muslims were sent behind bars.

vii) Congress Ministries was reflection of Hinduism
Congress leader was ~~not~~ forced to suppress Muslims in India. They imposed ban on Muslim rituals and impose sanction.

viii) Declared Bande Mataram as a National Song
In the Congress governed provinces, Muslim children were forced to sing Bande Mataram. This song was anti Islamic as well as idolatrous and hence, distasteful to the Muslim. ~~Congress~~ Muslim League condemned the Congress policy of forcing bande Mataram as the national anthem upon the country is called disregard of the feeling of the Muslim. (Lord Zetland)

^{as} Bande Mataram was not a nation anthem, it is a declaration of war:??

ix) Behaviour of Congress forcing Muslim to demand a separate piece of land:

Congress rule in eight province was, no doubt doubt a period of immense suffering for the Muslims. It convinced them that the Hindu and Muslim were two different identities, cultures, religions. It would not possible to live under same banner. As Quaid-e-Azam said:

"Hindu and Muslim through living in the same town and village have never been blended into one nation. They were also two separate ~~identities~~ identities."

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Conclusion

The struggle of freedom in the subcontinent had not confined to a specific occasion, but it was an ultimate outcome of a series of events. However, the Congress Ministers and their policies towards the Muslims provided the Indian Muslims to put forward the demands of separate state. With the end of the Congress rule in 1939, the Muslims celebrated the Day of Deliverance on December 22, 1939. Thus they put forward demand for a separate Muslim state, Pakistan.

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Q) Give an account of the life and services of Shah Waliullah. How did he save the Indian Muslim from political annihilation and religious degeneration?

INTRODUCTION:

In the eighteenth century, the Muslim of the Indian subcontinent were socially, politically, spiritually and economically in a sinister condition. The Mughal empire was on a decline that further deteriorated the condition of the Muslim. Shah Waliullah the Conqueror started of Modern Islam in the subcontinent, came forth to eradicate the problems of the then Muslims. Muslims were pushing away from the Quranic teachings elucidated the lives of the Muslims. Shah Waliullah translated the holy Quran into Persian language, the language of the time. Moreover he also worked against sectarianism and dictated Ulema to work according to the principles of Islam.

Condition at the time of Shah Waliullah:

Internal Conflict between Muslims.

Decline of Mughals and Rise of Marathas and Sikhs

Conditions

People of Sub Continent away from Islam.

Socio-Economic Condition of Muslim not good

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Shah Waliullah came to sub continent during the period of Muslim decline. After the death of Aurangzeb the decline of Muslim power in the sub continent started. Muslims were degenerated and away from Islamic practices. He took bold step to the revival of Muslim power.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES OF SHAH WALIULLAH, THAT RESCUE MUSLIMS DEGENERATION;

i) Translation Of Holy Quran Into Persian Language;

Shah Waliullah regained the lost glory of Islam through his services in British India. The most influenced work of Shah Waliullah was his translation of Holy Quran into Persian language. It helped the Muslim of the Indian subcontinent to learn closely from the Quranic teaching in the every field of life. It proved to be very fruitful to resurrect the true Islamic values in the subcontinent.

ii) Eliminating Sectarianism tensions between Shia and Sunni;

Shah Waliullah bridged the gap between Shia and Sunni conflict. Muslim were divided into sects and were too rigid in their views. He tried his best to gather them, and guided them according to lives of Khulfa-e-Rashideen.

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iii) Highlighting the actual role of ulama in the light of Islam:

Shah Waliullah explained how to live their lives according to the Quran and Sunnah in his famous book "Hujjatullah-al-Baligha". He also changed the habits topic-wise to make it very easy for muslim to seek guidance.

iv) For the solution of new Problems, Shah Waliullah reintroduced Ijtihad Principle:

Shah Waliullah was a firm believer of the institution of Ijtihad. He considered Ijtihad obligatory because each age present new problem and new situation which were not envisaged by law maker of bygone days. He mentioned Ijtihad rules in his famous book, Hujjat-al-Baligha.

SERVICES OF SHAH WALIULLAH, WHICH SAVE POLITICAL ANNIHILATION OF INDIAN MUSLIM:

i) Calling Ahmed Shah Abdali to fight against Marathas

During the tenure, the Mughal empire was continuously debility socially, politically, and religiously. The threat of Marathas who were gaining power by invading Punjab needed to be encouraged. Critically evaluating the circumstances, Shah

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Waliullah wrote letter to Ahmed Shah Abdali. As a result Ahmed Shah Abdali crushed the Marathas in the third battle of Panipath, and the Muslim rule in the sub continent was saved from collapse.

ii) Stressing upon the Implementation Of Islamic Law

He criticized the lavish life style of the emperors rather than focusing on state and making policies for the poor to uplift their socio-economic conditions. Along with this, he stressed that adopting the Islamic law by the Muslim ruler to set practical examples for the masses,

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LEADER CONCLUSION:

Conclusively, recuperating Islam in the subcontinent in the eighteenth century was only possible through the struggle of Shah Waliullah. He emphasized the Islamic values in life and translated the Holy Quran and Hadiths to set practical example to adopt morals easily. His political services by stopping the growing threat of Marathas, Sikhs, and Hindus also proved fruitful. Nevertheless, he wrote 51 books to carry the legacy for future generation..