

Assignment topic: From 1857-1947, discuss the events that are related to Pakistan Movement or creation of Pakistan.

WAR OF INDEPENDENCE¹⁸⁵⁷, 1857

It was referred as "Mutiny" by British. It was started under the last Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar. Muslims participated in large numbers in this rebellion against British rule. The British suppression of the rebellion led to significant changes in British policy towards India. In the end, Mughal Emperor with his family was exiled to Rangoon, Myanmar.

HINDU - URDU CONTROVERSY, 1867

Prominent Hindus campaigned to replace the existing court language Urdu (Persian ~~transcript~~) with Hindi (Devnagri script). This proposal faced strong opposition from Urdu speaking Muslims. This controversy did not lead to any resolution regarding language policy in India instead it highlighted the emerging social political problems of the time.

PARTITION OF BENGAL, 1905

The British decided to redraw boundaries, the provinces of Bengal and Assam were re-constituted to form two provinces - Western Bengal, and Eastern Bengal, and Assam - because of administrative problems. Incidentally Western Bengal became the Hindu majority province, and the Eastern Bengal and Assam became a Muslim majority province. This partition was strictly opposed by Hindus. The British Government bowed down before their movement and reunited both provinces in 1911.

SIMLA DEPUTATION, 1906

A delegation of 35 prominent Muslim leaders from all over the subcontinent headed by Sir Agha Khan met the Viceroy Lord Minto at Simla and presented the Muslim demands. They had hitherto suffered from the fact they had not been adequately represented. In response, Lord Minto assured that their political rights would be secured in the coming electoral representation.

FORMATION OF ALL INDIA MUSLIM LEAGUE, 1906

All India Muslim League was founded at Dacca under the leadership of Nawab Samiullah Khan Bahadur. Its purpose was to protect and advance the political rights of Muslims of India. Various provincial committees were formed to have this body established in all provinces of the Indian Subcontinent. Formation of separate organization of Muslims was necessary to represent the views of the Muslims in India.

LUCKNOW PACT, 1916

The 9th session of All India Muslim League in Lucknow presided over by Jinnah, approved a joint scheme of reforms prepared by the Congress and Muslim League committees. The Lucknow Pact adopted by both parties in order to establish a complete self-government in India based on democracy with separate electorates for Muslims and minorities. Jinnah contacted the British government to negotiate for self-government suitable for India and Round Table Conferences was planned to discuss the issue.

ROWLATT ACT, 1919

This law was passed by Imperial Legislative Council. The act conferred extensive powers upon the colonial government to arrest and detain individuals without trial. All the elected Indian members including Muhammad Ali Jinnah resigned. Jallianwala Tragedy in Amritsar occurred in which more than 400 people were killed by British Indian forces.

MONTAGU-CHELMSFORD REFORM, 1919

Government of India Act, 1919, incorporating the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms, was approved by Crown after the bill was passed by British Parliament. Its purpose was to gradually increase self governance in India. However, they did not meet the demands of Indian nationalists, leading to further agitation for independence.

KHILAFAT MOVEMENT, 1919-1924

The Khilafat Movement was launched by Indian Muslims to protest against the dismantling of the Ottoman Caliphate by the Allied forces after World War I. Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar was arrested in 1921 and then released from jail in 1923. Lausanne Treaty was concluded. This movement lost momentum because Gandhi had separated himself from movement.

NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT, 1920-1922

This movement was led by Mahatma Gandhi, aimed to boycott British goods, institutions and services as a means of non-violent protest against British rule. Muslims participated in large numbers, seeing it as an opportunity to assert their political rights. This was against the stance of Jinnah but Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind and Central Khilafat committee joined Gandhi.

ALLAHABAD ADDRESS, 1930

As planned by All India Muslim League Council presided over by Jinnah, Allama Iqbal delivered his Presidential address at the Allahabad Session of political party. While delivering his historic address, Iqbal proposed the idea of separate Muslim state in the north-western regions of India to secure Muslim interests.

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE (1930-1932)

There were a series of conferences held in London to discuss constitutional reforms in India. While representatives from different Indian communities including Muslims participated, they failed to reach a consensus.

LAHORE RESOLUTION, 1940

27th session of All India Muslim League was held at Lahore which was presided over by Quaid-e-Azam. In this session, more than one lac Muslims from all over the subcontinent participated. The famous "Pakistan Resolution" was presented and passed unanimously. Under this resolution the provinces of Bengal, Assam, Punjab, NWFP, Sindh and Balochistan were demanded as parts of Pakistan. The Congress leaders and Hindu press were shocked over Jinnah's announcement and they strongly opposed it. Jinnah did not fear because he had already organized the Muslim nation from all over the subcontinent to achieve Pakistan.

CRIPPS PROPOSAL, 1942

Sir Stafford Cripps came to India to discuss the issue of transfer of power to Indians. He heard Jinnah's vision on Pakistan and also held discussions with Indian leaders. He gave his proposals and these were rejected by both Muslims and Hindu-Congress.

SIMLA CONFERENCE, 1945

The Second World War came to an end in Europe in 1945. As promised by the British Government, 22 Indian leaders belonging to different parties were invited to meet at Simla for the purpose of settling the future of India. Pakistan issue was the single one on which Quaid was not ready to surrender. The Congress did not agree. On this plea, the British announced failure of the Simla Conference.

June 3, 1947

With the consent of Indian leaders including Jinnah, Gandhi and Nehru, and approved by British Prime Minister, Lord Mountbatten announced the Partition Plan. According to this plan, India was to be divided into two parts; Hindustan and Pakistan - each having its own Constituent Assembly.

August 14, 1947

At the transfer of power ceremony held at Pakistan Constituent Assembly, Mountbatten transferred power to Pakistan on behalf of the British Crown. Thus Pakistan became an independent country under the leadership of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.