

Pak Affairs

Paper: CSS 2017.

Q: Discuss the 3rd June Plan and also describe how it was implemented?

Ans:

1) Introduction:

"The Mountbatten plan, announced on June 3, 1947, marked a turning point in India's history. It proposed the division of British India into two separate nations along religious lines, leading to the birth of India and Pakistan. The plan set in motion a chain of events that would forever alter the course of the sub-continent."

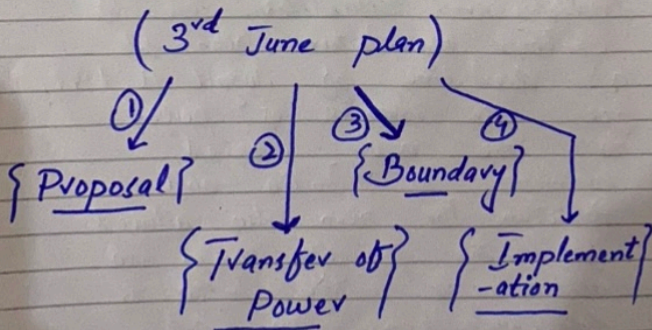
Larry Collins & Dominique Lapierre - Freedom.

The plan played a significant role in the process of partitioning British India. The plan was implemented, leading to the formal establishment of India and

Pakistan as independent nations

2) Background of 3rd June plan

Lord Mountbatten was appointed the viceroy of India in early 1947, with the mandate to oversee the transfer of power from British rule to Indian hands. The mounting communal tensions and the failure to reach a consensus between Indian Congress and All-India Muslim League necessitated the formation of plan to resolve the political dead lock.



3) Proposal and Components of the plan

The Mountbatten plan proposed the partition of British India into two separate nations: India and Pakistan, based on religious lines. The plan aimed to create Hindu-majority India and a Muslim-majority Pakistan.

4) Transfer of power from British government to respective governments of India and Pakistan.

The Mountbatten plan set a deadline of August 15, 1947, for the transfer of power to the newly-created dominions of India and Pakistan. The plan also allowed for the princely states to accede to either India or Pakistan based on their geographical contiguity and the wishes of their rulers and populations.

5) Boundary Demarcation for India & Pakistan

The plan provided for the delineation of the boundaries for the new nations of India and Pakistan. The process involved the drawing of the Radcliffe line, named after the British lawyer Sir Cyril Radcliffe.

6) Acceptance and Implementation of the plan

The Indian-National Congress, led by Nehru, and the All-India-Muslim League, led by Muhammad Ali Jinnah, both accepted the plan, albeit with reservations. Despite concerns and objections from various political leaders, the plan was implemented.

7) Significance of 3rd June plan

The 3rd June plan played a pivotal role in the partition of India and the creation of new separate

nations. The plan provided a frame work for the division and transfer of power, but it also resulted in widespread violence, communal conflicts and mass migrations.

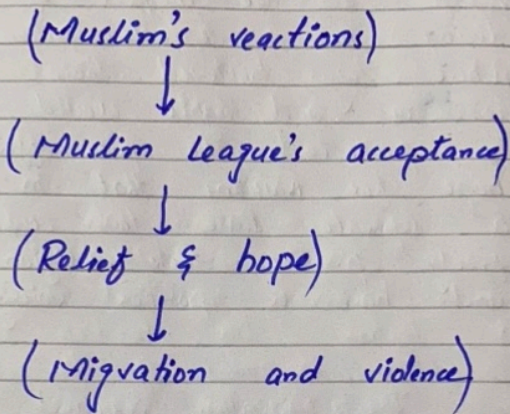
"The Mountbatten plan played a crucial role in shaping the future of Pakistan and India. While it provided a frame work for the transfer of power and the establishment of two nations, its implementation witnessed the tragic consequences of partition, including violence, displacement and the loss of countless lives."

(H. V. Hodson - The partition of India)

8) Reaction of Muslims and Hindus

The Mountbatten plan and the subsequent partition of India evoked mixed reactions among Muslims and Hindus. The reactions varied based on

regional, political and religious affiliations.



9) Muslim Reactions:

a) Muslim League's Acceptance

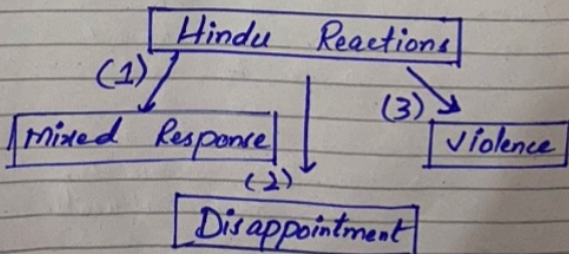
The All-India - Muslim League welcomed the plan and the partition of India. Jinnah saw it as the fulfillment of the demand for a separate home land and the creation of Pakistan. Muslims saw it as a step towards safeguarding their political and cultural rights.

b) Relief and Hope for Muslims

Many Muslims expressed relief at the prospect of living in a separate nation where they believed their interests and rights would be protected. The plan offered hope for Muslims that in a separate state they could freely practice their religion and have a political voice.

c) Migration and violence

The migration resulted in large-scale migration of Muslims from India to Pakistan. Muslims faced challenges and violence during their migration, including communal riots, attacks and displacements.



10) Hindu Reactions:

a) Congress' Mixed Response

The Indian Congress initially had reservations about the partition of India. They advocated for a united and secular India, where all religious communities could exist. However, faced with the political realities and the mounting communal tensions, the Congress eventually accepted the plan, albeit reluctantly.

b) Disappointment and Resentment

Many Hindus felt disappointed about the partition of India. They believed that it went against the idea of a united India and the principles of secularism.

c) Communal Violence

The partition unleashed widespread communal violence,

with incidents of rioting, looting and killings. The communal riots resulted in the loss of lives and properties and left a lasting impact on the communities.

11) Conclusion:

The Mountbatten plan of June 3, 1947, marked a crucial moment in the history of British India, leading to the partition of India and Pakistan. The plan aimed to address deep-seated communal tensions and political dead-lock.