

QUESTION NO. 01

Critically Analyse the Salient Features of Lucknow Pact. Also discuss its Long term impacts on the Pakistan Movement:

I. Introduction:

Lucknow Pact is regarded as a milestone in the political constitutional history of India, marking a rare convergence of interests between the Indian National Congress and All India Muslim League. Signed during British rule and World War I, this agreement aimed to give Indians more autonomy. It was a moment of hope for unity, but also showed how hard it can be to bring people together when they have different needs and backgrounds. So, while the Lucknow Pact was a step forward, it also highlighted the challenges India faced on its road to freedom.

II Factors Driving Unity: The Lucknow Pact Collaboration

Lucknow Pact was not a result of

an accident but rather it was expression of sentiments of unity and cooperation which was developing since beginning of 2nd decade of 20th century since 1912 between Hindus and Muslims.

(i)

Common Objective

The common objective shared by the Indian National Congress and the All India Muslim League during the negotiation of Lucknow Pact was aimed for greater autonomy and representation for Indians within the British Colonial system. Despite their different ideologies and constitutions, both parties recognized the need to advance Indian interests in the face of colonial oppression. This shared goal was driven by a desire to assert their right to self-determination served as the catalyst for the cooperation between these two political entities.

(ii)

Emergence of New Leadership:

Another factor that paved way for

Lucknow Pact was new leadership. At that point of time, both Congress and Muslim League were dominated by Liberal elements and espoused cause of Hindu-Muslim Unity. The most prominent amongst them was Muhammad Ali Jinnah, who was already a member of Indian National Congress and Muslim League. The Muslim League changed its major objective and decided to join hands with the Congress in order to put pressure on the British Government. Muhammad Ali Jinnah was brought in and became a bridge between League and Congress.

(iii)

Outbreak of first World War

The outbreak of the First World War in 1914 had profound implications for the Indian Subcontinent, profoundly altering its political landscape. War increased realization among Indian leaders that it was a right time to press joint demands before the British Government, because British badly needed Indian support for achieving motives set during war.

III Salient Features:

(i)

Representation of Minorities:

The Lucknow Pact of 1916 marked a watershed movement in Indian Political history, particularly in addressing the representation of minorities, notably the Muslims community. The Hindus agreed to the right of separate electorate for Muslims, for the first and the last time. The Hindus conceded that the Muslims would have one third representation in the Imperial Legislative Council. It was really an occasion of joy for the Muslims because their right of separate electorate was explicitly conceded by Congress. It was really a breakthrough.

(ii)

Proportional Representation:

A 'weightage' formula was proposed under which the Muslims would get less representation than their population in the legislative council in those

Provinces where they were in majority but more in Provinces where they were in minority. The following were the proportion of Muslim representation that were agreed to for the Provincial Legislative Councils.

Province	• Muslim • of Population	• of total Legislative Seats for Mus.
Central Province	4.3	15
Bihar and Orissa	10.5	25
Madras	6.5	15
U.P	14.0	30
Bombay	20.4	33.3
Punjab	54.8	50
Bengal	52.6	40

(iii)

Autonomy and Self-Government

Autonomy and self-Government were crucial goals for both the Indian National Congress and the All India Muslim League. They aimed to lessen British control and increase Indian involvement in governance. Autonomy meant Indians

governing themselves with minimal British interference, while self-government involved establishing representative institutions for Indian participation. This teamwork of Congress and Muslim League for autonomy and self rule laid the foundation for future changes in how India was governed and eventually for India to become independent.

(v) Unity and Cooperation.

Congress and Muslim League showed unity and cooperation during the negotiations leading to the Lucknow Pact. This unity allowed them to work towards common goals. It showed that despite their separate interests, they could collaborate for the greater good of India. This unity laid the groundwork for future negotiations and advancements in the Indian independence movement.

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IV Legacy of the Lucknow Pact: Shaping the Course of the Pakistan Movement:

(i)

Foundation of Division: Seeds of Separatism.

The Lucknow Pact set the stage for India's eventual division by introducing the idea of separate voting for Muslims. While the intention was to ensure fair representation for Muslims, it unintentionally created a sense of separateness. Over time, this feeling of separateness grew stronger, eventually leading to the demand for a separate country, Pakistan. So the seeds of division were planted by the Lucknow Pact's decision to give Muslims separate voting rights.

(ii)

Empowerment of Muslim Identity: Strengthening the call for Pakistan.

The Lucknow Pact, by recognizing Muslims as a separate political identity entity, boosted Muslim identity and their sense of belonging. As Muslims

began to assert their distinct identity; the idea of having their own nation gained strength. Leaders like Muhammad Ali Jinnah capitalized on this growing sentiment, advocating for a separate Muslim homeland. As a result, the idea of Pakistan became stronger, eventually leading to the division of India.

(iii)

Strategic Alliances: Congress-Muslim League Dynamics.

The Lucknow Pact brought together the Indian National Congress and the All India Muslim League to work together for common goals. However, the breakdown of trust and cooperation between the two parties in the aftermath of the Pact, particularly during events such as the Khilafat Movement and the Non-cooperation movement, highlighted the tensions and different ~~in~~ divergent interests between Hindus and Muslims. These differences made it clear that their interests didn't always align. Eventually this led to the demand for a separate

Muslim state.

V Conclusion:

In conclusion, the Lucknow Pact was a significant event, showing how hard it can be to stay united in the fight for independence. While it brought Congress and Muslim League together at first, their different needs and goals made it tough to stay on the same page. This reminds us that the unity isn't always easy, especially when dealing with such big and diverse communities.