

Pakistan Affairs

Q:- Examine Allama Iqbal's concept of Muslim nationalism in the light of Allahabad address.

I. Introduction

Allama Iqbal was the great supporter of united India under the concept of Indian nationalism. However, after realizing the tactics and nature of Hindus, he became the strong advocate of Muslim nationalism. This concept is clearly depicted in his famous Allahabad address. In the address, he profoundly focused on the distinct identity of Muslims and demanded a separate homeland where they could profess Islam. It is due to the impact of his address that Muslims of the sub-continent recognized their identity and started their struggle for the establishment of a homeland.

II. Understanding the term "Muslim Nationalism"

Muslim nationalism refers to the

political ideology in which a defined territory exists where Muslims with common interests, culture, and objectives. They exist to promote the common identity. Following verses given by Iqbal depicts the concept of Muslim nationalism.

ایک یوں مسلم قوم کی پاسبانی کے لئے
نیل کے ساحل سے پتھر تانبے کا شغریں

III. Events that led the foundation of Allama Iqbal's concept of Muslim nationalism

Allama Iqbal was the staunch advocate of Indian Nationalism where all nationalities of the sub-continent could live together happily. However, certain events took place which diverted his attention from Indian nationalism to Muslim nationalism. This transition enabled him to transform the Muslim's thoughts and mentality by infusing in them their distinct identity and principles.

Events solidifying Iqbal's concept of Muslim Nationalism

- ↳ Annulment of Bengal Partition
- ↳ Simon Commission and
- ↳ Hindu mentality
- ↳ The promotion of Nehru report
- ↳ The outcome of Khilafat
Movement and non-cooperation
Movement
- ↳ Hindus' response to Jinnah's
14 points

IV. Allahabad Address and Muslim Nationalism

In this address, Iqbal focused on the creation of separate homeland by inculcating in Muslims their unique identity.

i- Promotion of Muslim identity

Allama Iqbal strongly professed

The unique identity of Muslims by realizing their pillars, tradition, customs, and values made them realize their

"Iqbal's thought was undoubtedly the most powerful single influence on the Indian Muslim nationalism in the 20th century."
(Francis Robinson)

ii- Advocacy for separate Muslim state under the concept of Muslim nationalism

By focusing on the term of Muslim nationalism, he demanded the formation of separate state for the Muslims. In this state, they could live according to the principles of Islam.

"India is the continent of human being belonging to different languages"

and professing different religions. I therefore demand the formation of a consolidated state in the best interest of India and Islam.

(Allama Iqbal)

He also said,

"Country is supreme among all the contemporary idols. Its clock is the shroud of Islam."

(Allama Iqbal)

iii- Hindu mentality a threat to Muslim nationalism

Allama Iqbal was acknowledged with the mentality of Hindus that they wanted to create Hindu raj in the subcontinent where Muslims would become a minority. Therefore, he urged Muslims to realize their principles in order to save them from their hidden tactics.

"Muslim desire is actuated by a genuine desire for free development, which is practically impossible under the type of unitary government contemplated by nationalist Hindu politicians with a view to secure permanent communal dominance in the whole of India."
(Allama Iqbal)

2. Impact of Allahabad Address on Muslim Nationalism

Profound impact had been observed on the personalities of Muslims and they started recognizing their identity. As a result, the struggle for the creation of separate homeland began to start with zeal and zest and Muslims began to follow the instructions of their leaders.

"Iqbal's message galvanized the Muslim community and they inspired them to take up the cause of separate Muslim identity and right.

(Khurram Husain)

VI. Conclusion

In a nutshell, Allama Iqbal's address of Allahabad held a significant impact on the lives of the Muslims of the sub-continent. Before that, Muslims did not know their values and distinctive identity. Nonetheless, his speech had galvanized the Muslims toward the Pakistan movement inspired by the concept of Muslim nationalism given by him. Thus, Muslims recognized their potential and started following their leader's advice.

Q.- Allama Iqbal's Allahabad address paved the way for the creation of Pakistan.
Discuss.

I- Introduction

II- Conceptualizing the reasons which urged him towards the idea of separate homeland

- i- Annulment of Bengal
- ii- Promotion of Nehru report
- iii- Outcome of Khilafat and non-cooperation movement
- iv- Hindu's response to Jinnah's 14 points
- v- Hindu's desire of dominating the sub-continent

III- Allahabad address and the creation of Pakistan

- i- Advocacy of Muslim nationalism
- ii- India the land of different communities
- iii- Formation of consolidated Muslim states
- iv- Tactics and mentality of Hindu nationalist politician

IV- Impact of Allahabad Address

- i- Spiritual basis for Pakistan
- ii- Strengthening two-Nation Theory
- iii- Separate homeland or Muslim state

V- Conclusion