

Question 01

Annulment of partition of Bengal turned the tables and changed Muslim politics from passive submission to active participation in the political life of Indian Sub-continent.

Discuss.

→ Introduction

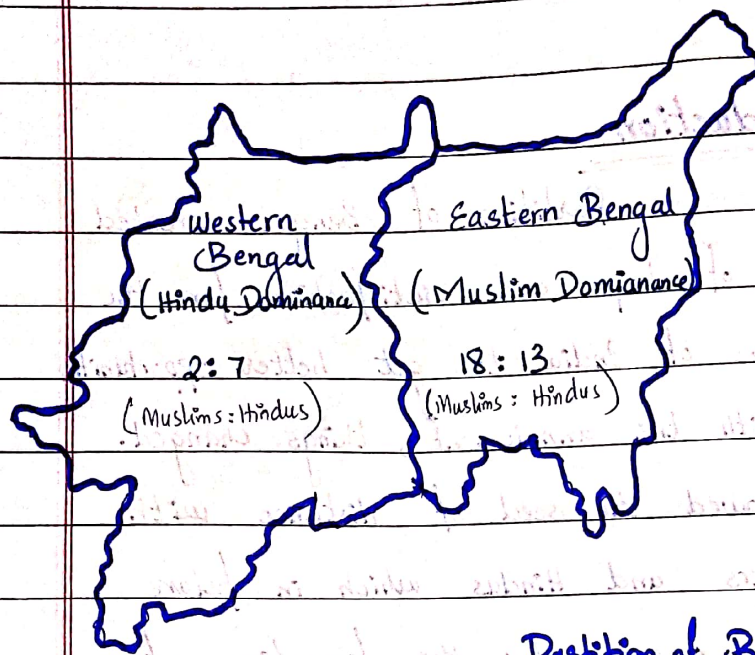
Partition of Bengal created sense of hope and satisfaction for the Muslims of India to get better opportunities but with the annulment, things changed. It sowed the seed of distance with Britishers and Hindus which in future became reasons for the formation of separate homeland for Muslims. Muslims felt betrayed and transformed their political movement from passive reliance on British governance to active political engagement.

→ Background

Partition of Bengal - In 1905, Lord Curzon divided Bengal into two parts. Eastern Bengal and Western Bengal.

due to multiple factors some of them are

- 1) Wide area of Bengal of 1,89,000 sq km
- 2) Difficulty in Administrative Management
- 3) Huge population of 80 million
- 4) Uneven economic growth in some areas.



Partition of Bengal

Reaction

Muslim's Reaction

- Welcomed partition
- Positive
- Economic uplift
- Got majority
- Rid of Hindu Dominance

Hindu's Reaction

- Started protests
- Negative
- Swadeshi Movement
- Division of Italy
- Motherland

→ Annulment of Partition

After the partition of Bengal, Hindus along with All Indian National Congress started protests and Boycott the British products with the Swadeshi Movement and created pressure on the British government to revoke the partition. This all created polarization in the subcontinent. Therefore in 1911, the king of Britain George V announced the annulment of Bengal and again unified it.

→ Impacts on Muslim Politics

- Betrayal of trust by the British Government
Muslims felt that it was clearly a favoured decision towards Hindus and felt betrayed by Britishers. Even though they were sincerely trying to cope up with all of their policies this time because it was the opportunity they got after very long to had some voice and dominance against Hindus since

- It strengthened the Muslim League. The annulment of the partition strengthened the Muslim League as Muslims realized they needed to assert their own political identity and some of those Muslims who were still supporting the Congress realized that it will never favour Muslims over Hindus, therefore they should only focus upon their own party.

- Muslims stance got more assertive with British, seeking to secure their political rights independently. Muslims loyalty which they were trying to show with Britishers got badly impacted because of this decision and they were not able again to trust them again. They were not in the position to stay dependent upon them for long now because they were now thinking to secure their political rights independently.

- Rise of Muslim Nationalism

Reversal of partition created feelings among Muslims that their interests could not be protected within a Hindu-majority political framework. It gradually contributed to the rise of Muslim Nationalism and demand for a separate homeland.

- Intensified the Communal tensions in the Subcontinent between Hindus and Muslims.

It intensified the polarization in the Subcontinent because annulment was a big loss for Muslims and Hindus were celebrating it which created distrust and hatred among both the communities and this made Muslims more defensive and inclined to form their own political strategies to counteract Hindu dominance.

- Economic Disruptions

Reversal caused economic disruptions because of the

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the trade and businesses which got adjusted with partition had to change it which created a lot of problems specially for Muslims because they were again turned into a minority with Hindu dominance.

→ Legacy of Annulment of Partition of Bengal

Muslims learnt a great lesson from this event and then later on considered All-India Muslim League as its only representative party. Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah also joined AIML in 1913 realizing it was the only representative body for Muslims. This event catalyzed the foundation for future movements against Britishers such as Khilafat Movement and eventually Pakistan Movement.

Without experiencing this event Muslims might not get that much united against British and stayed dependent on them for their political matters.

→ Conclusion

The announcement of partition of Bengal was the key event which created a sense of nationalism among Muslims and was a turning point that pushed Muslims from passive submission under Britishers to active participation in politics to achieve their political rights independently. It started the era of Muslims being more assertive and organized as a political entity.

Historical Context in which
1947 Partition was Drafted

Question No. 02

Describe the historical context in which Nehru report was drafted and presented? what were the long-term implications of the Nehru Report on subsequent constitutional and political developments in India?

→ Introduction:

Nehru Report was in response to several dissatisfactions with Britishers actions. This period was marked by intense political activity and growing demands for greater indian participation in Governance.

Moti Lal Nehru gave his report to propose several changes in the constitutional structure of India. But it faced criticism for creating more communal tensions particularly between Hindus and Muslims.

Historical Context in which Nehru Report was Drafted and presented

Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms:

It was the reforms act introduced by Britishers for Colonial India. They presented it in 1919 by Lord Montagu and the Secretary of State Chelmsford. There were several reforms introduced in the system which later on created some problems.

One of the most important of them was Dyarchy System. It gave a shared control over certain areas to both Britishers and Indians elected representatives which did not fulfill the Indians aspiration for self-governance, leading to disappointment.

- Multiple uprisings, polarizations and movements against Britishers:

From 1918 to 1932, there were multiple events happening because of the dissatisfaction of Indians with Britishers. Indians participated in World War I in huge number for Britishers but did not receive any expected incentives. This led to Non-cooperation movement by Hindus and

Khilafat Movement. By Muslims. There were multiple incidents took place in this time which created unrest such as:

- Rowlat Act and Jallianwala Bagh protest incident (1919)
- Hijrat Movement (1920)
- Moplah's uprising (1921)
- Chauri-Chauri incident (1922)

With the violent incident of Chauri-Chauri Gandhi called off the Non-Cooperation Movement and with the end of Caliph system by Kemal Ataturk in 1923 Khilafat Movement also ended. But these incidents had long lasting impact.

- Simon Commission: Multiple members were sent in the end of 1927 who reached in India in 1928. It was created to find the loopholes in the act of Montagu-Chelmsford reforms and to present the report about the implementation of these acts. They were also tasked with suggestions for the future constitutional development.

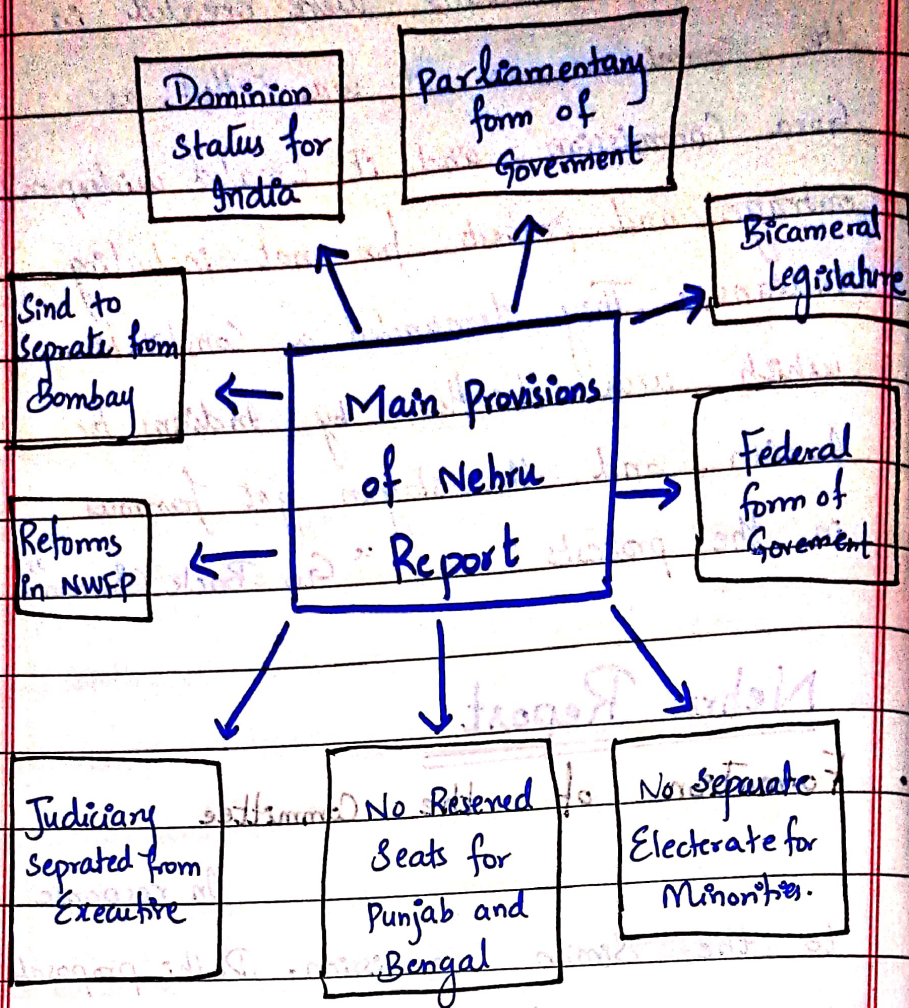
However, No Indians were created in the Commission so it was called as Gora Commission, and it created widespread outrage and protests for not including Indians. They demanded a Constitution which was drafted by Indians for Indian and the slogan got famous in the protests was "Go Back Simon".

Nehru Report

- Formation of the Committee in response to the Simon Commission.

All parties Conference was held and Committee was led by Moti Lal Nehru. He was tasked with the drafting of Constitution for India which will fulfill their aspirations. He was supposed to form Constitution, keeping in mind all of the communities present and living in the subcontinent and such Constitution which would be favourable for all.

- Main provisions of Nehru Report



→ Long term Implications of Nehru Report on Constitutional and Political Development

- Rejection by Muslims League and Quaid-e-Azam's 14 points:

Quaid-e-Azam rejected Nehru's report ~~was~~ because it had no Muslim benefits and gave new suggestions for the Constitutional development by giving 14 points in 1929.

which he included rights for Muslims as well as for Minorities and said that Muslims should get $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the representation in legislative Council.

• Hardened Hindu-Muslim Relations

Report's lack of provisions for Muslim representation and its rejection of the separate electorates intensified the divide between Hindus and Muslims which then never got better. It also created dissatisfaction among Muslims which led to the demand of Pakistan.

• Failure to Achieve Consensus on Constitutional Development:

The report failed to achieve consensus between Hindus and Muslims which led to the Round Table Conferences from 1930-1932.

• First Round Table Conference (1930-31)

• Second Round Table Conference (1931)

• Third Round Table Conference (1932)

- Demand for separate Homeland for Muslims by Allama Iqbal:

It led to the Allahabad address of Allama Iqbal which held in 1930. In this address he critiqued about Indian Nationalism and demanded a separate homeland for Muslims. He proposed a suggestion and said that:

"I would like to see the Punjab, the North-west Frontier province, Sindh and Baluchistan amalgamated into a single state"

- Influence on Pakistan Movement:

By this report it became more clear that if Hindus got dominance in United India they would never allow Muslims to have an active and major role in politics therefore they started thinking about separate homeland which converted into a proper movement in 1940s.

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Conclusion.

The Nehru Report was one of the most important event in India's Constitutional Development. Although it didn't turn out well and got criticism from Muslims but it cleared many things between Hindus and Muslims that they have different aims and motivations in politics and they should work upon them.