

{ Pakistan Affairs }

Question # 1

Critically examine the concept of ideology of Pakistan. How does it differ from territorial nationalism. Support your answer with reference to historical context and key philosophical underpinnings

Solution

Ideology is a set of values, beliefs or principles that govern a nation or a group. It is deeply engrained in the sub-conscious of the people. It is a set of principles, a framework of action and a system of guidance that gives meaning and order to life and human actions.

Ideology emphasizes the ideals and principles of a nation. It is based on social, political, and economic arrangements that create consciousness. Ideology gives a nation direction and a worldview. Its implementation

is the responsibility of the concerned people.

Ideology of Pakistan

The ideology of Pakistan was shaped through a historical process. ~~He had~~ Historical experiences provided it a base. Javhal's poetry gave it a philosophical view. Quaid-e-Azam's efforts turned it into a political reality. The constituent assembly of Pakistan passed objective resolution in March 1949, giving it a legal sanction. The ideology of Pakistan is based on the following:-

a) Religion:-

Religion served as the base of Pakistan's ideology. Primarily, there were 2 different religions in the sub-continent i.e. Hinduism and Islam. These religions have totally opposing beliefs, practices, and values. Muslims demanded a separate country so that they could freely practice their religion. Explaining the religious bases of

Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam said

"Pakistan was not created just to acquire a piece of land, but to provide a laboratory where we could experiment with Islamic principles and values"

b) Historical perspectives:-

Recent findings suggest that Muslims and Hindus are not only different due to their religion, but they also belong to different races. Muslims were foreigners and they conquered India. They ruled India until the British occupied their position. The Muslims and Hindus had distinct culture and civilization even after living together for a thousand years. Emphasizing the importance of this historical perspective Quaid-e-Azam said

"We are a nation with our own distinctive culture, civilization, names, nomenclature, sense of value and

proportions, moral codes,
custom and calendar, history
and tradition, aim and
ambition. In short we
have our own distinctive
outlook on life and
of like. By all canons
of international law
we are a nation".

c) Two-nation Theory

Two nation theory
suggests that there are
two major nations in the
sub-continent. In the words
of Allama Iqbal

"India is not a nation.
It is a continent of
nationalities."

Muslims demanded a separate
homeland because in the united
India they were deprived of
their social, political, and
economical rights.

Difference b/w territorial nationalism
and Pakistan's ideology

The ideology of most

of the nations is based on their population, language, caste, creed etc. Pakistan is the only nation in the world whose ideology is based upon religion. Individuals from different nationalities i.e. Sindhi, Punjabi, Pakhtoon etc. gathered under the banner of Islam. Muslim majority areas formed Pakistan. In the words of Allama Iqbal

"I would like to see Punjab, NWFP, Sindh, and Balochistan amalgated into a single state, self government under the British rule or without the British rule. The formation of a consolidated North-west India Muslim State appears to me to be the final destination of Muslims"

All the area which Iqbal addressed had Muslim majority. A concise difference b/w territorial nationalism and ideology of Pakistan is given as follows

Ideology of Pakistan

- 1) Based on religion
- 2) Amalgated different nationalities under the banner of Islam
- 3) Demanded a separate country in order to freely practice Islamic values

Territorial nationalism

- 1) Based on Caste, creed, civilization etc
- 2) Consist of a single nation
- 3) Demands a country due to political, social, and economic reasons.

To sum it all, Islam provides a set of principles which became the basis for the ideology of Pakistan. The ideology of Pakistan is totally opposite to the concept of territorial nationalism.

Question #2

Evaluate the role of Quaid-e-Azam and Allama Iqbal in articulating the ideology of Pakistan. How did their speeches and statements shape the demand for a separate Muslim State?

Solution

Ideology is a set of values, beliefs, and principles of a nation. Our ideology is based on Islam. Ideology gives a direction and worldwide worldview. Its implementation is the responsibility of the concerned people. Implementing the ideology required visionary leadership, self-consciousness, awareness and mobilization. Fortunately, these requirements were fulfilled due to the charismatic leadership of Quaid-e-Azam and Allama Iqbal.

Role of Quaid-e-Azam

Quaid-e-Azam was a born leader. He played an important role in articulating the ideology of Pakistan. He faced many difficulties from Hindus as well as British government, yet his determination paved way for the creation of Pakistan. Initially he joined Indian National Congress. He was a strong supporter of Hindu-Muslim unity. He left Congress due to his disagreement with Nehru and Gandhi on self government and

other issues. He left Congress and joined All India Muslim League. His efforts for Hindu-Muslim unity materialized in Lucknow Pact when Muslims were:-

- a) Given separate electorate.
- b) One third representation in central legislature.
- c) Protection of minority rights.

When Nehru-report was published, it ignored Muslim demands. Quaid-e-Azam retaliated and presented his Fourteen Points. He discarded his views on Hindu-Muslim unity and advocated that Muslims are a separate nation. Emphasizing the separate identity of Muslims he said:-

"We are a nation with our own distinctive culture, civilization, names, nomenclature, sense of value and proportions, moral codes, custom and calendar, history and tradition, aim and ambition. In short we have our own distinctive outlook on life and of

life. By all canons of international law we are a nation"

Quaid-e-Azam believed that Islam is a complete code of life. He wanted a separate homeland for muslims based on Islam. He believed that Islam was the only way to deal with the crises of modern times. According to him

"Let us lay the foundation of our democracy based on truly ~~ideal~~ Islamic ideals and principles"

He further added

"Pakistan was not created just to acquire a piece of land, but to provide a laboratory where we could experiment with Islamic principles and values"

Quaid-e-Azam was a strong supporter of minority rights. Addressing the minorities he said

"You are free to go to your mosque. You are free to

go to your temples. You may belong to any religion, caste, creed. It has nothing to do with the state"

Role of Allama Iqbal

Men like Iqbal are born but in centuries. His soul stirring poetry awakened the spirit of freedom in muslim nation. He presented the idea that India was a home to more than one nation. According to him

"India is not a nation.
It is a continent of
nationalities"

Iqbal was a strong advocate of a seperate nation for Muslims. He was of the opinion that Muslim majority areas should be constituted to form a seperate muslim country. He expressed his views in the following words

"I would like to see punjab, NWFP, Sindh, and Balochistan amalgated into a single state. Self government

under the British Empire
or without British
Empire. The formation
of a Consolidated North
West Indian Muslim
State appears to me
to be the final destination
of muslims"

Acknowledging the efforts of Allama
Iqbal, Quaid-e-Azam said

"Iqbal is the spiritual
father of Pakistan"

Quaid-e-Azam and Allama Iqbal
both played an important role
in articulating the ideology of
Pakistan. It was due to their
Vision and charismatic leadership
that muslims of sub-continent
are freely living in a separate
state.