

Ideology of Pakistan

Concept of ideology:

The concept of "ideology" originated during the French Revolution, with the term **idéologie** being coined by French philosopher Antoine Louis Claude, Comte Destutt de Tracy. He initially used it to denote a "**science of ideas**," or a systematic study of how humans form ideas based on their experiences. The term later evolved to encompass a broader meaning, referring to **a system of ideas and beliefs** through which people interpret the world.

"An ideology emerges when people feel strongly that they are being mistreated under an existing order when their status is threatened by fundamental changes occurring in society and when the prevailing ideology no longer satisfies them."

(Ideologies and Modern Politics: Reo M. Christenson)

Ideology of Pakistan

The ideology of Pakistan has deep historical roots dating back to the early Islamic period in South Asia. ***Abu Rehan al-Biruni, in the 11th century, observed stark differences between Hindus and Muslims in his book Kitab-ul-Hind.*** He noted:

- Muslims believed in equality and brotherhood, while Hindus followed a rigid caste system.
- Hindus considered Muslims as impure (mlachha) and avoided any social contact, including eating or intermarriage.

Despite living together for centuries, Hindus and Muslims developed distinct identities. They differed in religion, social practices, language, dress, food, music,

architecture, and overall worldview. These contrasts reinforced the belief that Muslims formed a separate nation with their own civilization and values. *The Muslim identity in South Asia was shaped by Islam as a complete code of life, not by geography, race, or language.* Muslims aimed to preserve their unique identity and resist being absorbed into Hindu-majority culture.

Pakistan's ideology was founded on the basis of **"Two Nation Theory"**.

Basic Principles of Two-Nation Theory

Mushtaq Ahmed describe basic principles of two nation theory in his book "Government and politics in Pakistan". These are

1. Muslims' Realization of a Separate National Identity

The Muslims had become conscious of the fact that they formed a separate nation and they did not lose their identity by merging themselves into the so-called Indian nationalism.

2. Political Awareness and Population Strength

The Muslims were alive to their importance as a major large community, which formed a majority in four out of eleven provinces. Their population strength of 90 millions was far too big to become minority.

3. Right to Political Representation

The Muslims claimed that they had every right to share the sovereign power in proportion to their population strength and could not be deprived of their due share of power on any ground.

4. Geographical Concentration and Homeland Aspiration

The Muslims realized that they were not minority in the sense of minorities. Therefore they concentrated in the zones of North-West and North-East of India, which were their homelands. They wished to see their homelands as independent state.

5. Lessons from Congress Rule (1937–1939)

The Muslims had learnt from the past experience of Congress's rule of 1937-39. The adoption of Gandhian philosophy, Wardha scheme, Harijan uplift, promotion of Hindi language and Muslims mass contact campaign had convinced the Muslims that Congress aimed at an utter failure of Muslim political thought and it was working for the cause of Hinduism.

6. Ideology as a Foundation of Pakistan

Pakistan's Ideology is the fundamental basis of Pakistan movement and Pakistan's solidarity and existence. The Indian Muslims had to face great opposition from the British Government and Hindu majority to translate the *ideology into Pakistan*.

Turning Vision into Reality: Pakistan's Ideological Odyssey

DR Shamshad Ahmad discuss the journey of Pakistan creation in his book "Pakistan and world affairs".

The Two-Nation Theory affirmed that Muslims and Hindus were two separate nations. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan argued that India was a continent of diverse peoples and that Muslims and Hindus differed in religion, traditions, culture, and history. This theory gained momentum due to **several factors**.

- First, Islamic reform movements in the 19th and 20th centuries revived Muslim identity.
- Second, Hindu nationalism and the use of Hindu religious symbols by the Indian National Congress alienated Muslims.
- Third, British political reforms, like democratization, threatened Muslim political representation.

Political developments

The Simla Deputation in 1906, which demanded separate electorates for Muslims, marked the political beginning of Muslim separatism. The same year, the All-India

Muslim League was formed to safeguard Muslim interests, highlighting the lack of trust in the Hindu-dominated Congress. Issues like the Urdu-Hindi controversy, partition of Bengal, and rising Hindu revivalism increased communal tension.

After failed joint movements like the Khilafat and Non-Cooperation Movements, Muslim leaders pursued a separate path. Allama Iqbal's Allahabad Address in 1930 proposed the creation of a separate Muslim homeland, and this idea was officially adopted by the Lahore Resolution of 1940, demanding independent Muslim states.

Result: Creation of Pakistan

Eventually, religious, social, and political differences between the two communities intensified and the ideology of Pakistan evolved over time. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan initiated a Muslim awakening, Allama Iqbal offered philosophical justification and Quaid-e-Azam turned the idea into a political movement. Their struggle ultimately bore fruit with the creation of Pakistan on 14th August 1947, by the grace of Almighty Allah. Finally, the Objectives Resolution of 1949 gave it legal and constitutional status.