

(PAK AFFAIRS)

Q Discuss the salient aspects of Shah Waliullah's movement and analysis its impacts on the muslims of subcontinent

Ans

1)

INTRODUCTION

"Shah Walillulah was the leading reformer who halt the decline of mughal rule and revive intellectual traditions of muslims"

(A Brief history of Pakistan by James Wynbrandt)

In the lightening of the quoted lines it can be seemed that Shah Walillulah was the muslim reformer who reformed the disorientated muslim society in the sub-continent politically, socially, and economically.

2) BACKGROUND: SITUATION OF MUSLIMS AT THAT TIME

The muslims were going in a downward slope politically, economically as well as socially at that time. The mughal rule had become weak due to extravagancy, continuous war of succession and incompetent successor of Aurangzeb. Besides, British and hindu rulers were rising. Moreover, the state's treasury was empty and muslims were living under poverty. Socially, the muslims had become divided and away from islamic teachings, and society was full of other social evils.

3) THE ASPECTS OF HIS MOVEMENT AND IT'S IMPACT ON THE MUSLIMS

3.1 Political Aspects Of His Movement

i) Letters to mughal rulers and soliders : The mughal rulers were spending extravagantly and thus he wrote letters to them to shun their extravagant and inefficient expenses. Moreover, he wrote to the soliders to tell them to inculcate within them the spirit of jihad.

ii) Invitation to Ahmed Shah Abdali : He invited Ahmed Shah Abdali to fight with the marathas who were a threat to the mughal rule.

Impacts: He successfully stopped marathas with the help of Ahmed Shah. Moreover, his movement helped in the development of later Islamic movements as entailed by Barbara Metcalf in his book the Conquest of British India.

3.2) Economic Aspects Of His Movement.

i) Shah Waliullah gave economic principles to the muslims;
He gave four economic principles to the muslims for the whole development of society which are;

- 1) People of geography has first right on resources.
- 2) Resources' ownership depends on one's capabilities
- 3) People should avoid concentration of wealth

4) All these aspects should be balanced for the development of society as whole

iii) He wrote letters to masses; He wrote letters to the masses to tell them fulfill their duties and not engage in concentration of wealth.

Impacts; He succeed in reconciling various sectors of the society.

3.3) Social and Religious Aspects Of His Movement

i) He translated the Holy Quran; He translated the holy Quran into persian, which was the language of common people, to make people understand and follow the true teachings of islam.

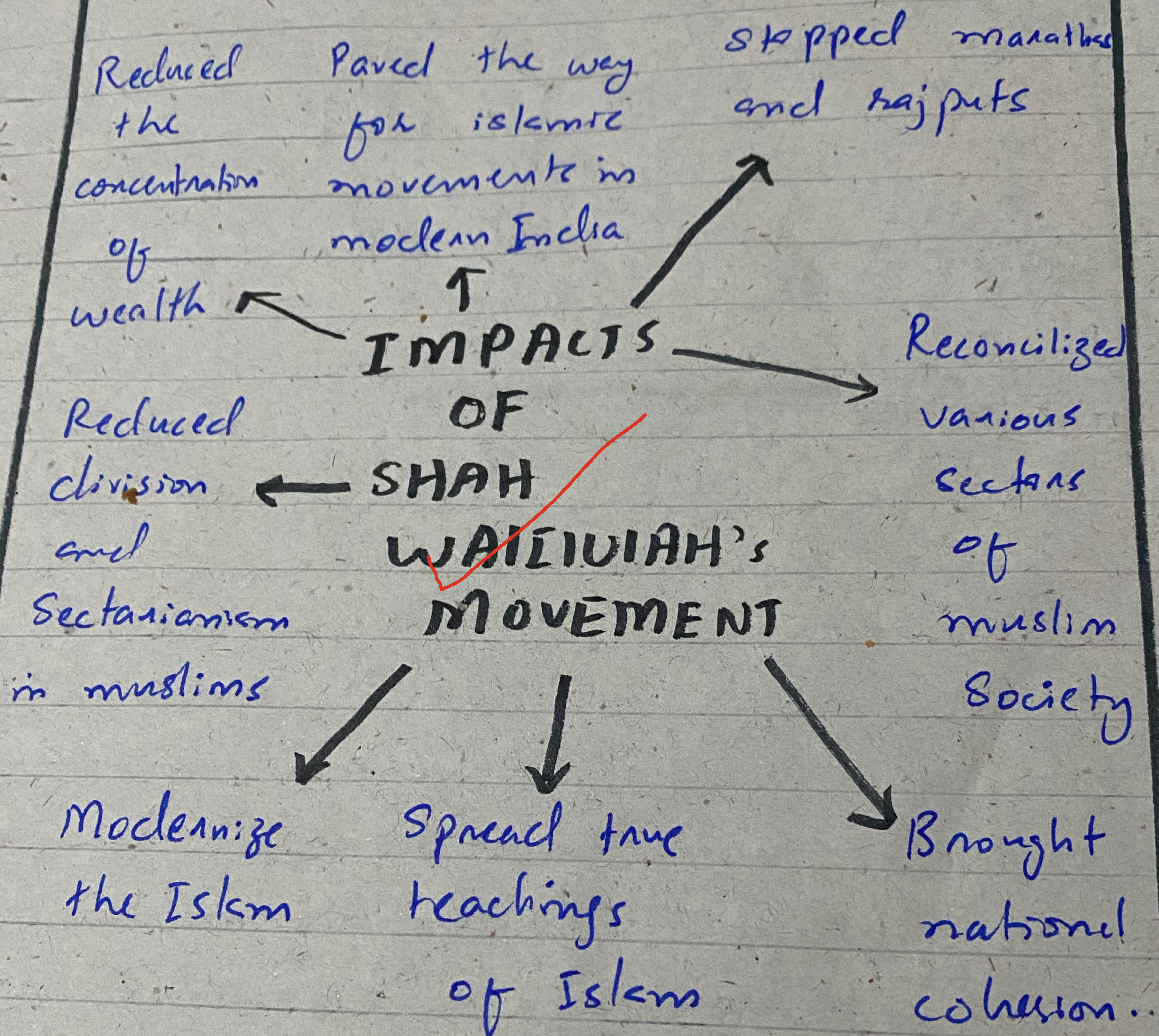
ii)

He supported the concept of Ijtehad over Taqlib: He supported the concept of ijtehad and discouraged Taqlib. He interpreted the Quran and Sunnah as per the context of that time.

iii)

He analysed various School of thought. He analysed various school of thoughts and made a system of beliefs and faiths that all except extremists could agree. Thus, he made spiritualism as a source of national cohesion.

Impacts: The muslims started understanding and following true Islam due to his efforts. Besides, the sectarianism and division between them was reduced.



4)

CONCLUSION

To conclude, Shah Waliullah's movement tried to uplift the Muslims who were in political, social, religious and economic degradation.
