

Date: _____

Day: _____

Explain the rise of Muslim nationalism in south Asia. what were its implication for nationalist politics of Indian National congress?

Introduction:

Muslim nationalism in India, which emerged prominently during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, significantly influenced the nationalist politics of Indian National Congress (INC). Muslim nationalism in south Asia emerged in response to the decline of Mughal empire and rise of British colonialism led to the sense of cultural loss of the Muslim elite. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and All India Muslim League plays important role in Muslim nationalism. The significant impact of Muslim nationalism on the Indian politics is the partition of India.

Muslim Nationalism

Muslims of south Asia were classified into categories during the time of the Indian independence movement. Nationalist Muslims

Date: _____

Day: _____

(individuals who opposed the partition of India) and Muslims nationalists (individuals who wanted to ^{create} a separate country). The All India Muslim League represented the Muslim nationalist while, the All India Azad Muslim Conference represented nationalist Muslims.

The beginning of the Muslim nationalism in the sub-continent is attributed to the the statement of Jinnah who said that Pakistan Movement started when first non-Muslim in India was converted to Islam. The war of Independence (1857) was a crushing the Indian Muslim who were held responsible for the revolution by the British. The Arab ^{traders} had introduced the new religion, Islam, in the Indian subcontinent. Muhammad Bin Qasim was the first Muslim encroacher who conquered some part of Sindh and after that, Mahmud of Ghazna launched seven attack and provided gateway to spread of Islam. Qutub-ud-Din Aibak permanently established Muslim reign in India that followed sultanate and Mughal ~~dynasties~~ ^{dynasties}. Thus,

Date: _____

Day: _____

a strong Muslim community had emerged in India who has its own way of spending life, and had a concept of Akirat (day of Judgement).

Factors that leads the emergence of Muslim Nationalism

Cultural Issues:

The political and cultural history of the subcontinent shows that Muslims often considered some actions of the Hindu Leaders unfriendly to Muslim's benefits. Whenever, wherever and in whatever capacity they got a chance to practice their authority. This phenomenon increased the differences between the two nations and concept of Muslim Nationalism in India was imposed due to this.

Congress Rule:

The history of Muslim nationalism in India is mainly in the reaction of the winning Indian National Congress. starting point of the nationalist movement

Date: _____

Day: _____

in India was because, the India National Congress came into existence. As Congress grew into a political, nationalist organization, Muslim political nationalism accelerated Muslim nationalist thinking.

Language:

Muslim nationalism grew well and did a lot of work during the Hindi-Urdu controversy. On the very issue, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan predicted about the unstable future of Hindu Muslim unity. Aligarh movement saved Urdu from extinction and despite the backing of British, Hindi failed to replace Urdu mainly due to efforts of Sir Syed Ahmad and his colleagues. This enhanced the importance of the sense of Muslim separatism i.e. Muslim Nationalism.

Unfair Partition of Bengal:

British viceroy Lord Curzon divided Bengal in 1905, despite strong Indian nationalist opposition. It began

Date: _____

Day: _____

a transformation of Indian National Congress from a middle-class pressure group emerged as a nationwide powerful political party.

The partition of Bengal had the incidental effect of bringing attention on the development of the rural areas of east Bengal and Assam.

West Bengal, being the first area to come under western influence, was already developed and industrialized. It was striking contrast to the eastern part where the Muslim peasantry was crushed under the Hindu landlords, the river system was infested with pirates, and very few funds were allocated for education. It was dreaded as a place of banishment. The Muslims outnumbered the Hindus in Eastern Bengal and this alleviated the Bengali Muslims politically and ~~socially~~ economically. This resulted in a series of unprecedented agitation by the Hindus.

Its subsequent annulment in 1911 led to a further widening gap between the two communities. So the fluid political situation in India and cult of Hindu revivalism

Date: _____

Day: _____

The British decided to undo their decision to please the Hindus. The provinces were reunited. This act disappointed the Muslims. It was a catalyst in Indian Muslims realizing the need for a separate homeland. The Hindu revivalism and anti-Muslim campaigns led to a corresponding rise in nationalistic sentiments among Muslims in India. The final division of Bengal at the partition of Indian subcontinent in 1947, which divided Bengal into India in the west and East Muslim (Pakistan) in east, was accompanied by heavy violation of law.

Implications for the Nationalist Politics of the Indian National Congress (INC)

The rise of Muslim nationalism posed significant challenges for the INC, which had sought to present itself as the representative of all Indians, regardless of religion.

Hinderance to unity in the independence movement:

The INC dominated by Hindu leaders

Date: _____

Day: _____

faced increasing difficulty in accommodating Muslim demands within its broader nationalist framework. The emphasis on Hindu symbolism, alienated some Muslims who perceived the Congress as a Hindu-majoritarian organization.

Polarization of Politics:

In the general elections (1945-1946), Quaid-e-Azam declared that Muslims were not ready to accept any settlement less than a separate homeland for them and the All India Congress Committee characterized the proposal as vague and unsatisfactory because it had not address the issue of independence. The polarization of politics culminated in the elections 1946, where Muslim League captured approximately 45% of the Muslim seats, demonstrating its dominance among Muslims voters.

Negotiation Failures:

The rise of Muslim nationalism complicated the negotiation between INC, the British and Muslim League.

Date: _____

Day: _____

Such as in the cabinet Mission plan of 1946
after the general election 1946, the
British want to transfer its power to
Indian leadership by creating a federal
structure. But Muslim response was negative
because they felt the plan did not fulfill
the demand of separate homeland and
withdrawal from the plan.

Partition of India:

The growing influence
of Muslim nationalism ultimately led to
the partition of India. The INC's inability
to address the Muslim issues led towards
the division of subcontinent: India and Pakistan.

Pakistan was accompanied by widespread
violence and mass displacement.

Critical Analysis:

critically, The rise of Muslim nation-
alism was both a response to the colonial
decline, national politics and British role.
The British were hooked on a culture of
segregation and followed a divide and rule

Date: _____

Day: _____

Policy provoking general disillusionment with their policies. The creation of Pakistan does not resolve the issues of Muslim, but Muslims continued to face challenges as minorities in India.

Conclusion:

The rise of Muslim nationalism is a complex phenomena result from the failures of both colonial and nationalist politics to address the aspiration of Muslims. The rise of Muslim nationalism comes from socio-economic divide that led Muslim towards the separate country. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan is the pioneer of Muslim nationalism who worked for the modern education for Muslim and save Urdu language. The emergence of Muslim nationalism in British India led to the creation of Pakistan as a separate country in 1947.

