

When, where, and how Islam spread in Indian Subcontinent?

INTRODUCTION

Islam spread in Indian Subcontinent through a series of Muslim's interaction with Hindus. ~~in Indian~~ Before the advent of Islam, Arabs used to trade with Hindus. Their interaction played crucial role in spreading the principles of Islam. As the Arabs embraced Islam, their continuous interaction with the Indians attracted the lower and marginalized castes of India Subcontinent. Similarly, the arrival of Muslim rulers set the stage for Sufi saints to spread the message of Islam. In nutshell, inter-marriages, interactions, preaching of saints played greater role not only in the establishment of Muslim society but in the establishment of a civilizational force in India.

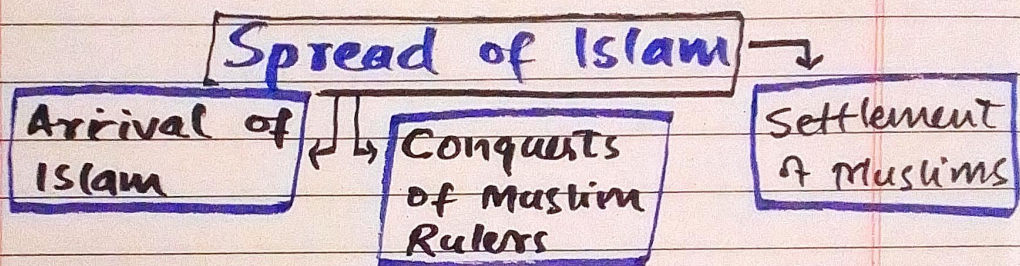
Spread of Islam in Indian Subcontinent

Islam spread in the Indian Subcontinent through four phases.

- ① Hindu-Arab Trade
- ② Arrival of Islam and rulers
- ③ The phase Muslim conquests
- ④ The settlement of Muslim in Indian Subcontinent

Hindu-Arab Trade: The Birth of Islam in Indian Society.

The Arabs used to trade with Hindus. Arabs usually had their stay at **Malabar** port (**Kerala**) and Gujrat. The egalitarian principles of Islam attracted many marginalized people who would then embraced Islam as their faith. The acceptance of Islam by the first Hindu was the first stone laid in the foundation of Islamic civilization.



Arrival of Muslim Rulers in 8th Century:

The arrival of Muslim rulers was not only with physical force but with spiritual and cultural forces as well. The principles of Islam and assimilation of Muslim rulers in Indian subcontinent also played greater role in spread of Islam.

Settlement of Muslims in Indian-Subcontinent

With political system became conducive for the Muslims, many Arabs migrated to Indian-subcontinent and settled there. Their practices and ease of life with equal treatment for each other greatly

appeared to the lower class of Indian society.

The Preaching of Sufi Saints

With the arrival of Muslim rulers, Sufi saints also came to Indian sub-continent, who played crucial role by teaching and showing with their actions the real face and peace of Islam. Saints, such as Ali Hajveri, Baba Farid, Baha addin Zakaria and many more rendered their invaluable services for the cause of Islam.

Inter-marriages between Arabs and Hindus

With the great wealth in hands, the Arab traders attracted the attention of many Hindus who wanted to keep close and friendly relations due to business ties, encouraged inter-marriages with Arabs. The cultural practices were silently giving birth to a new civilization.

Class-based Society of India

India had class-based society, where prestige and honor was matter of class-status. The higher the class, the more the rights and privileges; and lower the class; the marginalized the class. In such situation, Islam dominated due to its classless nature in society.

Educational Institutions

Apart from the mentioned points, educational institutions like Darul-ulum Deoband and Nadwatul ulama also played crucial role

in spreading the message and principles of Islam. These institutions did not only protect the identity of Muslims but also left a long-lasting impact on the cracking foundation of united India.

Conclusion

The egalitarian principle of Islam greatly attracted the marginalized class of Indian society that gave birth to what Quaid-e-Azam called it "The birth of new nation". This message of Islam spread not by sword but by the preaching of Sufis and equal treatment of Muslims and their practices, which greatly assimilated in social fabric of Indian subcontinent.

Jinnah considered Nehru Report as 'Parting ways' why?

Introduction

Nehru Report of 1928 came out of the British challenge to Indians to formulate a constitutional for themselves. Nehru report issued in 1928 after rejection of Simon Commission of 1927, provided a parliamentary form of government; however, it eliminated the possibility of future cooperation by removing the clause of separate electorate, minorities rights, reserve seats, and quotas in central legislature. Jinnah responded with his 14 points in 1929. However, with the rejection of Jinnah's recommendation, Congress hammered the muslim's demands. Moreover, Jinnah rightly called it a "parting ways, because it provided a clue that dominant Hindu majority will always overlook the rights of Muslim in united India. Hence, a struggle for an independent nation began.

Background:

In 1919, Montague-Chelmsford reforms suggested reforms in India after every ten years. In 1927, Simon Commission arrived in India to oversee the future reforms. However, the Indians unanimously rejected the commission because it had no Indian representation; and until and unless any Indian is part of part of it, the commission won't address the core issues of Indian society.

Nehru Report 1928

After rejection of Simon Commission, the British challenged the Indians to formulate their constitution so they would implement it. All parties conference one after another convened in Delhi to fulfill the challenge. In May 1928, the All parties conference agreed to formulating constitution under the chairmanship of M. Nehru.

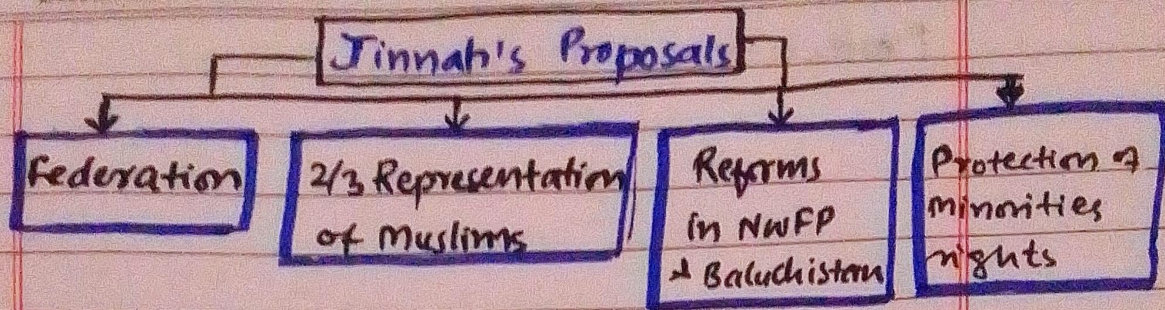
Silent features of Nehru Report

It suggested parliamentary form of government; however, it also removed the provision of minorities representation; separate electorate was also removed, two-third representation was also revoked; eradicating the possibility of cooperation.

Jinnah's Recommendations

On observing that the report has systematically neglected the rights of minorities. Jinnah proposed several amendments which, later, the Congress majority rejected. Some of the points are as under.

- ① Federal Parliamentary form of government, with all the residuary powers vested with provinces.
- ② Two-third representation of Muslims in Centre.
- ③ Minorities should be given representation.
- ④ Reforms in Baluchistan and NWFP be as same as for other provinces.



Reasons Behind "Parting Ways"

Hindus Domination

Jinnah's proposal were not turned down by a majoritarian political party but it was turned down ~~down~~ by a nationalist dominated party because once 2/3 representation was given to muslim was revoked to promote the concept of united a India

Rejection of 2/3 Representation

Two-third representation of the Muslims were given under Minto-morely reforms 1909, which the congress agreed in 1916, Lucknow pact. However, its rejection showed their earlier sentiments and divergence of interest which could only get to a long-lasting conflict.

Reversal of Reserve Seats

In Muslim majority provinces, Hindus were given reserved seats; and in Hindu majority provinces, Muslims were given reserved seats. Nehru report worked and reversed it to the previously established hindu-dominate central legislature.

Protection of Minorities Rights

Nehru report deliberately neglected minorities rights protection, which Quaid saw as losing spirit and essence of democratic principles. Thus, in his recommendations Quaid, proposed minorities right under Federation.

Control of Central Legislature

Congress was seen as the only party to protect the rights of Hindus and thus, it was dominated by majoritarian Hindu elites who'd friendly relations with British. Quaid saw that even democratic government can't protect the rights of Muslims in united India; and hence, Quaid responded with his fourteen points, demanding $\frac{2}{3}$ Muslim representation.

Conclusion

In nutshell, Quaid called it ~~parting~~ parting ways because the fear of Hindu domination created a theory which Nehru translated into practicality that a united India would be dominated and controlled by Hindus without the protection of Muslims and other minorities rights and representation in the high legislative echelons of India.