

QUESTION #6

Discuss the salient aspects of Shah Waliullah's Movement and analyze its impact on the Muslims of Sub-Continent.

1- Introduction

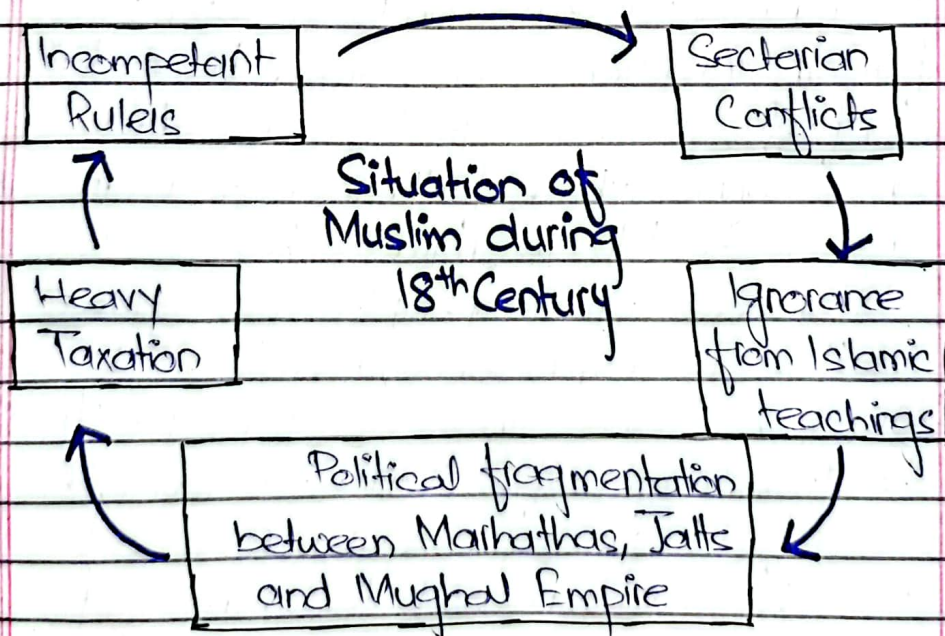
Shah Waliullah was a great Muslim saint, theologian and revivalist who worked to bring together the Muslim society on stable foundations. The start of 18th century can be attributed to the moral and political decay of the Muslims of sub-continent. After the death of Aurangzeb in 1707, the Mughal Empire was declining mainly due to incompetent rulers and consistent foreign invasions. Similarly, the sectarian conflicts also emerged among Shia and Sunnis which further created division among the Muslim ranks. There were differences among people of different school of jurisprudence, burden of taxations and ignorance of people from the teachings of Islam. However, the era of Muslim regeneration emerged with the emergence of teachings of Shah Waliullah. He introduced reforms in various aspects of life to uplift the Muslim society that was already in decline. He was the reformist of 18th century and continued the works of

Mujjaddid Alf Sani and struggled for religious, political and socio-economic survival of Muslims-

"He was Mujjaddid of 18th century, whose vision helped save Muslims identity in India from extinction."
(Ayesha Jalal - Struggle for Pakistan)-

2- Situation at that time

During 18th century, the situation of Muslims was declining and the Mughal Empire was weakened. There were several factors involved for such condition of Muslims-



(i) Incompetent Rulers When Shah Waliullah was only four years old, the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb Alamgir died. After him, there were around ten Mughal

rulers during the lifetime of Shah Waliullah. The rulers were indulged in luxurious lifestyle while the empire was continuously weakening.

(iii) Sectarian Conflicts

During the time of Shah Waliullah, the sectarian conflicts were intensifying. The tensions among Shia and Sunnis was mainly due to

Conflicts in Islamic Principles
Doctrinal Disputes and rituals

(iii) Ignorance from Islamic Teachings

The Muslim society neglected true teachings of Quran and Sunnah and were involved in unislamic teachings of biddah (innovations).

"Shah Waliullah was first to realize the real danger of Muslim Society lay in internal decay." (K-Ali).

(iv) Political Fragmentation Between Marathas, Jatts and Mughal Empire

The Mughal Empire was weakening and there were continuous attacks from Marathas and Jatts at Delhi. Marathas wanted to crush Muslim rule in India and place Peshwa's son Bhiswar Rao on throne.

(v) Heavy Taxation

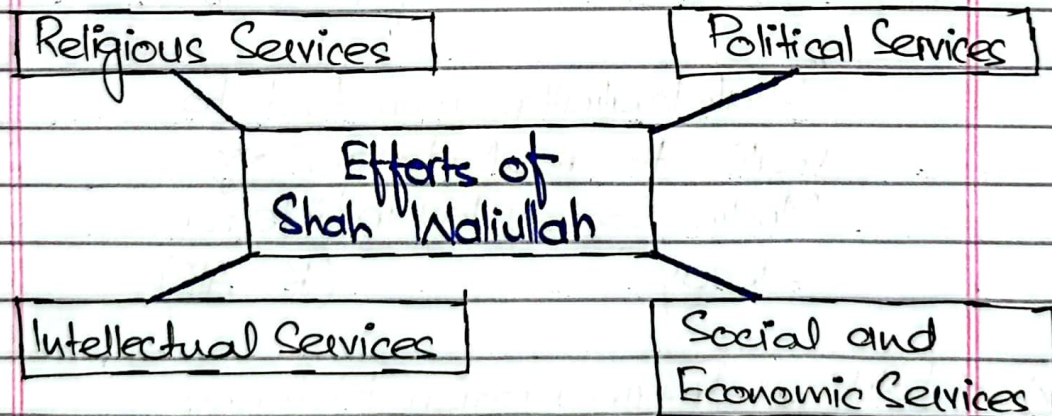
Heavy taxes were enforced on peasants and workers, along with the corruption of the rulers which further exploited the masses economically - Hence, resulted in the decline of Mughal empire -

3- Salient Aspects of Shah Waliullah's Movement - Efforts for Revival of Islam and Political Uplift of Muslims

When Muslim society was in moral, religious, intellectual and political

decay, Shah Waliullah emerged as the reformer to uplift the Muslim society -

Through his various reforms and teachings, he made efforts to regain ~~the~~ the lost glory of Muslims -



(i) Religious Services

Shah Waliullah translated Holy Quran into Persian language so that the local people could understand the meaning of Quran instead of just ~~learn~~ Arabic language -

He wrote *Khilafat al Khulafa* and *Izalat al Khifa* to end the misunderstandings between Shia and Sunnis -

He also encouraged the use of *Ijtihad* (independent reasoning) instead of blindly following others (*Taqleed*) - For this he wrote a book *Aqd al Jayyid fi Ahkam al Ijtihad wal Taqleed* -

Shah Waliullah also studied four schools of jurisprudence, understood their viewpoint and then wrote a comprehensive volume of *Al Insaf fi Bayan Sabab Al Khitlaf* about what is fair and just, and tried to balance between four schools of thought -

(ii) Political Services

The Mughal Empire was under constant threat of Marhathas, Sikhs and Jatts who wanted to crush Muslim power in sub-continent - Shah Waliullah wrote letters to different Muslim rulers and nobles and informed them about the bad situation of Muslim society - On the request of Shah Waliullah, Ahmad Shah Abdali invaded India and fought third battle of Panipat in 1761 to crush Marhathas and strengthen Muslim rule in subcontinent - Shah Waliullah through his wisdom helped in political reawakening of Muslims -

iii) Socio-Economic Services

Shah Waliullah directed his teachings towards reorienting Muslim society on basis of social justice and removing inequalities. He wrote 'Hujjat Allah al-Baligha' and talked about factors responsible for downfall of Muslims.

"Shah Waliullah played a key role in reawakening the moral fabric of society."

(I.H Qureshi)

He talked about four ideals of economics -

(1) Resource of specific area should belong to people living there

(2) Everyone has right to own things according to their abilities

(3) Any practice that concentrates wealth in hands of few should not be allowed

(4) Balance should be maintained so that society can develop

(iv) Literary Contributions

Shah Waliullah wrote 51 books out of which 26 are in Persian and 25 are in Arabic. Some of them are,

(a) Fuyyuz Haemain → Depicts one of his dream during his stay in Arabia.

(b) Khilafat al Khulafa → To end misunderstanding

between Shia and Sunni-

(c) Hujjat Allah al-Baligha → Factor responsible for decline of Muslims-

He also wrote different open letters to

(a)	Mughal rulers to give up their inefficient and corrupt practices
(b)	Soldiers for forgetting to inculcate spirit of Jihad within themselves
(c)	Artisans, peasants and workers and reminded them that on their labor economic prosperity of state depends

4- Impact of Shah Waliullah's Movement on Muslims of Sub Continent

(i) Elimination of Sectarian Conflicts

Through various teachings of Shah Waliullah, the Shia Sunni divide that was intensifying, was cooled down.

(ii) Weakening power of Rajputs

Through his efforts and letters to different nobles and Muslim rulers, the Marhathas were defeated and Muslim rule was strengthened.

(iii) Revival of Religious Consciousness

His movement brought religious consciousness, bringing Muslims back to fundamental teachings of Islam. His translation of Holy

Quran in 1738, opened the way for Muslims to directly understand the teachings of Quran instead of relying on second person interpretation.

(iv) Political Awakening of Muslims

Ideas of Shah Waliullah created among Muslim society the awareness about decline of their social, political and moral character. It also emphasized the need of Muslim unity and strength.

(v) Training of Galaxy of Scholars

Shah Waliullah had four sons and they all were trained to spread teachings of Quran and Sunnah. He also inspired later scholars and movements including -

- (i) Syed Ahmed Shahzad
- (ii) Shah Ismail
- (iii) Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

(vi) Start of Nationalism among Muslim

Shah Waliullah was the first person to lay the basis of Two-Nation Theory as he condemned inter-religion marriages as Muslims are distinct from others.

5. Conclusion

Shah Waliullah through his political, religious, social and intellectual services helped Muslims of sub-continent to uplift themselves politically and practice the teachings of Islam. He popularised Islamic values among Muslims and presented Islam in a rational manner.

He saved Muslim society from foreign invasions and their extinction from sub-continent and Sikhs, Jatts and Marhattas wanted to crush them.

He inspired future scholars and movements in Indian subcontinent that paved the way for strengthening and unifying Muslim of sub-continent.

"Shah Waliullah acted as the ideological architect of Muslim political thought in India."

(The making of Pakistan by K.K. Aziz)-

QUESTION #1

The Objective Resolution (1949) satisfied both orthodox and modernists by combining the features of Western and Islamic democracy - Discuss critically -

1- Introduction

The objective resolution was a historic event in the early days of the country. It was passed on March 12, 1949 by the constituent assembly of Pakistan to lay down the framework for the future constitution of the nation. This document became the preamble of the future constitutions of the country i.e. the Constitution of 1956, 1962 and 1973. It was incorporated into the constitution of 1973 through eighth amendment as outlined in Article 2A.

The good thing about Objective Resolution is that it incorporate the principles of both Islamic ideology and Western democracy. For instance, from viewpoint of Islam, it addresses that sovereignty of the entire universe belongs to Allah Almighty and that Muslims shall be able to practice their lives in accordance with Quran and Sunnah. Similarly, this document also addresses the modernists with the

adoption of Western democracy of governance. It also promised fundamental rights of equality, protection of minorities and allowing people other than Muslims to practise their faith freely. To sum up, this document satisfied both orthodox and modernists as it contains mutual ideals of governance.

2- Historical Background of Objective Resolution in Pakistan.

Pakistan came into existence on August 14, 1947. After independence, Pakistan didn't inherit any constitution from British. The Government of India Act, 1935 became the interim constitution of the country. The founder of Nation and the first Governor-General of Pakistan Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah started quest to draft the first constitution of the country. The Ulama and orthodox Muslims wanted the constitution to be based on Islamic principles as the country was made on the ideology of Two Nation Theory. However, after the death of Father of Nation, his loyal and closest companion and also the first Prime Minister of Pakistan Liaquat Ali Khan presented the document of Objective Resolution within six months. This constitutional document gave the pathway of the future constitution of

Pakistan.

3- Salient Features of Objective

Resolution

Some of the core features of objective resolution are as follows;

- (1) Sovereignty of entire universe belong to Allah Almighty.
- (2) Muslims shall be able to live their lives in accordance with Quran and Sunnah.
- (3) The authority shall be delegated to state through its people under rules set by Allah (S.W.T)
- (4) The State shall ~~exercise~~ exercise its power through chosen representatives
- (5) Principles of democracy, freedom, equality, tolerance and social justice shall be followed as described by Islam.
- (6) Minority shall be enable to practice their faith freely.
- (7) The judiciary would be made independent
- (8) The integrity of territory and sovereignty of state was to be safeguarded

(4) Synthesis of Islamic Ideology and Modernist Ideology

(1) Features of Islamic Democracy to Appeal Orthodox

- (a) Sovereignty of Allah
- (b) Promotion of Islamic Principles
- (c) Commitment to Shariah

(a) Sovereignty of Allah

The fundamental aspect of Objective Resolution is that Sovereignty of the entire universe belongs to Allah Almighty. His authority is entrusted to the State and it shall be exercised by the chosen representative of the people.

(b) Adherence to Islamic Values

Islamic Principles
The constitutional document clearly emphasizes that the Muslims to be able to live their lives in according to teachings of Quran and Sunnah.

— "The State will create such conditions as are conducive to the building up of a truly Islamic Society, which means that State will have to play positive role in this effort."

(Liaquat Ali Khan)
First PM of Pakistan

(c) Commitment to Shariah

The Objective Resolution clearly states that no future law shall be made that contradicts the Islamic principles. It should be in accordance with Shariah principles. If the law are against Islamic injunctions, it shall be declared null and void as witnessed many times in constitutional history of Pakistan.

(d) Promotion of Islamic Principles

The promotion of democracy, freedom, equality, tolerance and social justice shall be in accordance with the principles of Islam.

(2) Features of Islamic Democracy to ~~Attract~~ Appeal Modernists

(i)

Equal Fundamental Rights

(ii)

Governance Through Democracy

(iii)

Protection of Minorities

(iv)

Secularism Accommodation with Islamic Framework

(i) Equal Fundamental Rights

The Objective Resolution clearly mentions that state will provide equal rights to all citizens with any discrimination based on cast, creed, colour and gender. The shall equality before law, education, socio-economic and political justice and equal opportunity for all. Similarly, there will be freedom of expression, association, faith, speech and thought.

(ii) Governance Through Democracy

It clearly propose that principle of governance shall be democratic. The authority of the state shall be exercised by the representatives chosen by the people.

(iii) Protection of Minority

The objective Resolution guarantees the protection of minority and freedom of religion and equal citizenship to non-muslims of state. This promotes inclusivity and pluralism.

(iv) Secular Accomodation with Islamic Principles

By giving equal fundamental rights to all ~~relig~~ citizens and protection of all religions, the objective resolution gives

secular touch with Islamic framework.

"The Objective Resolution is the compromise between Pakistan's modernists and religious class."

(Yasir Latif Hamdani)-

(15) Legacy of Objective Resolution

The objective Resolution is an important document in constitutional history of Pakistan. Liaquat Ali Khan described it an important event after inception of Pakistan. The Objective Resolution was made part of the preamble of all three constitutions of Pakistan. - Former President Zia-ul-Haq incorporate this document into 1973 constitution through eighth amendment - It addressed the concerns of both orthodox and modernists. Therefore, Objective Resolution had a lasting impact on the constitutional history of Pakistan.

(6) Conclusion

The Objective Resolution, to sum up, is indeed an important document in the country's historical archives. It incorporates the ideals of Islamic principles along with the principles of Western democratic governance. It satisfies the concerns of Muslims who vows to the commitment to Shariah and protection of Islamic

principles; and at the same time calls for governance through democracy, protection of minorities and equal fundamental rights for all citizens. Moreover, it also has a significant influence on the subsequent constitutions of 1956, 1962 and 1973.

QUESTION #2

"The Simla Deputation, 1906 laid the foundation for the creation of Pakistan".
Substantiate your viewpoint with solid arguments?

1- Introduction

The Simla Deputation of 1906 is the crucial event in the history of Indian Sub-continent. It laid the foundation of All India Muslim League in 1906 which played a crucial role in the struggle for a separate homeland for Muslims.

This was the first formal demand of the Muslims from British government.

The deputation was successful in securing the rights of separate electorate from the British government.

This was a crucial step in the political life of the Muslims. as separate electorate ensured that Muslims are distinct community. This led to the rise of Muslim nationalism among the Muslim society that played a crucial role in the creation of Pakistan.

2- Historical Background

2.1 Conditions of Muslims Before Simla Deputation of 1906

Before 1857, Muslims were the ruling community in the subcontinent. They ruled India for more 800 years. However,

after the War of Independence of 1857, Britishers took control of India.

The started atrocities on Muslims as they believed Muslims were responsible only for the rebellion of 1857. Muslims were not given government jobs, access to education and political representation. They were marginalized in every sphere of life. Whereas, Hindus were allowed to take government jobs and education.

2.2 Political Awareness Among Muslims

After War of Independence of 1857, most of the Muslim scholars including Sir Syed Ahmed Khan advised Muslims to stay away from politics. However, by the end of 19th century, Muslims decided to part in politics of the country. This was mainly due to Indian Council Act of 1892 which provided limited representation to locals in legislature. The Hindus occupied all the seats as they were politically active from the platform of Indian National Congress, founded in 1885. Although, they ensured that the party represented all segments of society, but Muslims were often ignored. This was clearly visible in Partition of Bengal in 1905 when Indian National Congress and Hindus completely opposed it as the partition benefitted Muslims economically and administratively.

3 Simla Deputation : A Turning Point

3.1 Composition of Simla Deputation

The Simla Deputation was the group of 35 prominent Muslim leaders who met British Viceroy Lord Minto on October 1, 1906, in Simla. The deputation was led by Sir Agha Khan III. Its members included Nawab Wajid ul Mulk, Nawab Mohsin ul Mulk and Nawab Salimullah of Bengal. They all belonged to different regions of Indian Subcontinent with the common objective of securing Muslim interests.

3.2 Major Demands of Simla Deputation

The deputation submitted the memorandum to Lord Minto, containing the specific administrative and political needs of Muslims. The demands included;

- (i) Separate electorates for Muslims
- (ii) Proportionate Representation
- (iii) Job opportunities in government services
- (iv) Protection of cultural and religious identity of Muslims.

3.3 British Response and its Significance

Lord Minto gave a positive response to the Muslims demands and said that

he will consider the demands - His assurance led to the introduction of Minto-Morley Reforms (1909) which granted the Muslims separate electorate for the first time. This was a significant achievement of Muslims as they were recognized the separate entity and paved the way for Muslims to participate in future political activities of Indian subcontinent.

4 Impact of Simla Deputation

(i) Formation of All India Muslim League

(ii) Strengthening of Two Nation Theory

(iii) Hindu Opposition and Rising Communalism

(iv) Foundation for Pakistan Movement

(i) Formation of All India Muslim League

The success of Simla Deputation gave Muslims the realization of the single platform from where their demands are made and rights are protected. This led to the establishment of All India Muslim League on December 30, 1906 in Dhaka. The League became an important Muslim organization that led to the creation of separate Muslim homeland after four decades.

"The foundation of Muslim League is the first important step towards national self development."

(Sir Agha Khan III) -

(ii) Strengthening of Two Nation Theory

The success of acquiring separate electorate for Muslims and the demands of Simla Deputation emphasized that Muslims and Hindus have different identities and have ~~to~~ different political, religious and cultural interests. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan had earlier stated that,

"It is impossible that Hindus and Muslims can ever become one nation, as their religion, customs and way of life are different."

(iii) Hindu Opposition and Rising Communalism

Hindus and particularly Indian National Congress strongly opposed the right of separate electorate for Muslims, stating that it would divide India. The tensions were rising and communal riots started to increase, further strengthening Muslims concern that Hindus cannot secure their political, religious and cultural interests.

(iv) Foundation of Pakistan Movement

The political awareness created by Simla

deputation gave rise to Muslim nationalism. After four decades, Muslims started demanding for more autonomy and eventually a separate independent state. Muslim League became a strong voice for this demand of Muslims. This laid down the foundation of Lahore Declaration in March 1940, where Muslims demanded for separate homeland.

"Pakistan came into being the day first Indian national entered into the field of Islam."

(M. Ali Jinnah in 1940).

Conclusion

The Simla Deputation was the crucial moment in the history of Indian Sub-Continent. It not only acquired the demands from British government but also the recognition of Muslims as a separate identity. This led to the rise of Muslim Nationalism that led to the Pakistan movement which demanded a separate homeland. This demand of Muslims culminated into the creation of Pakistan on August 14, 1947. Without Simla Deputation, the journey towards a separate homeland would have been difficult, making it a historic achievement for the Muslims of Indian Subcontinent.

QUESTION #3

The proposals of Cabinet Mission (1946) could defer the establishment of Pakistan, if accepted by Muslim League. Evaluate critically -

1- Introduction

The Cabinet Mission was an important effort by the British government to resolve the deadlock between All India Muslim League and Indian National Congress. The main objective of Cabinet Mission was to give autonomy to the provinces with weak central government. This was done so that Muslim League could agree of a strong autonomous province and a unified India. This would have given enormous power and autonomy to Muslim majority area. If Muslim League had accepted this plan, the creation of Pakistan would have been delayed as Cabinet Mission proposed a strong Indian Federation. Muslim League and in particular rejected the plan and insisted on a separate homeland for Muslims.

2 Background of the Cabinet Mission

- (i) Political Temperature was high in 1946. The tensions between Muslims and Hindus were on the rise in 1946. Muhammad

Ali Jinnah along with Muslim League said that they won't accept anything less than Pakistan as Muslims are separate nation with distinct political, cultural and religious beliefs. On the other hand, Indian National Congress and Jawaharlal Nehru insisted on united India with strong central government. Realizing this, the British government sent a Cabinet Mission to address this issue.

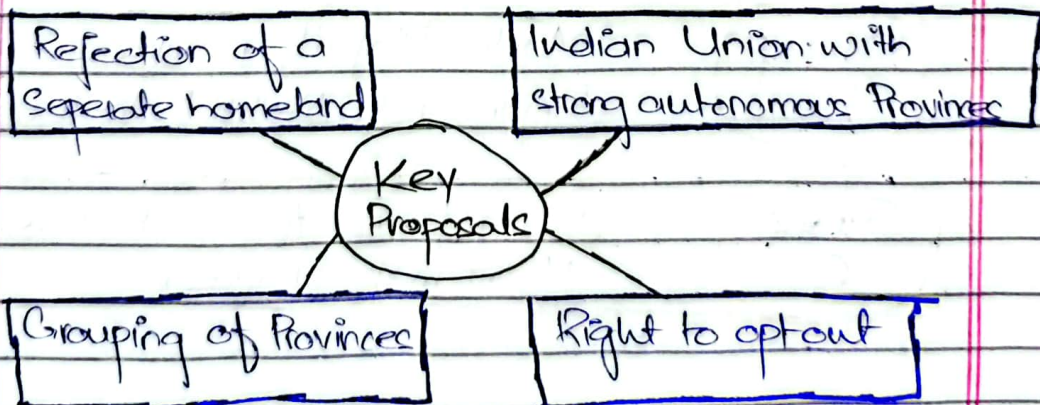
(ii) Composition of Cabinet Mission

The Cabinet Mission was comprised of three senior British officers;

- (a) Lord Pethick Lawrence
- (b) Sir Stafford Cripps
- (c) A.V Alexander

Their primary objective was to resolve the conflict between both sides and find a middle path that would satisfy both Muslims and Hindus.

3. Proposal of Cabinet Mission



(i) Rejection of Seperate Homeland

The Mission categorically rejected a seperate Pakistan as it would ~~be~~ create political, economic, administrative and military challenge. Also, they believed that it would intensify the communal problems.

(ii) Indian Union with strong autonomous provinces

The plan proposed India to remain a union, with strong autonomous provinces. It would be a federation with weak central government only responsible for defense, communication and foreign affairs. As there were Muslim majority provinces, the plan created a balance between demands of both sides.

(iii) Grouping of Provinces

Group A

Hindu majority provinces — Madras, Bombay, Bihar, Orissa, United Provinces.

Group B

Muslim Majority provinces — Punjab, Sindh, NWFP, Balochistan

Group C

Bengal and Assam, both were Muslim majority areas

(iv) Right to Opt out

After elections, groups had the options for realignment as any province can opt out, creating a way for future towards independence of Muslim majority areas. However, Muslim League was uncertain -

4- Consequences if Muslim League had accepted the Plan.

Had Muslim League accepted the plan, it would've strengthened the political power of Muslim League in Muslim majority provinces in a unified India. However, Muhammad Ali Jinnah was uncertain and had doubts over future actions of Hindus and Indian National Congress as they had already experienced the atrocities of Hindus after 1935 elections. There was also a fear that Congress might undermine the Muslim provinces autonomy once the Britishers left the country. Therefore, Quaid-e-Azam insisted on a separate homeland for Muslims to safeguard their interests.

5- Why Muslim League rejected the Plan?

(i) Statements made by Nehru

Jawaharlal Nehru in his statement to press conference said that,

"Congress will not be bound by any groupings of provinces laid down in

Cabinet Mission Plan:-

This created fear in the mind of Jinnah and Muslim leaders that they might try to diminish league's influence in Muslim majority provinces. Hence, Jinnah rejected the plan.

(ii) Jinnah's Strategy

Jinnah called for Direct Action Day on August 16, 1946 to show that Muslims are united and determined. He rejected the plan and demanded for separate homeland.

6. Final Result of Cabinet Mission

After rejection of plan by Muslim League, the communal riots intensified between Hindus and Muslims. British government unable to resolve the differences, decided to the partition of India. In June 1947, the last viceroy Mountbatten proposed the plan which led to partition of India and emergence of Pakistan on August 14, 1947.

7. Conclusion

The cabinet mission plan was a sincere effort of British government to resolve differences between Hindus and Muslims and avoid the partition of ~~the~~ India. However, the mistrust between both communities, followed by statements by the Hindu leaders made Muslim League demand for separate homeland. The British government proposed a plan for united India with a weak

federation and strong autonomous provinces as Muslims had majority in provinces - However, Quaid-e-Azam feared future Hindu domination, categorically rejected the plan and demanded a separate homeland for Muslim. This led to emergence of Pakistan on August 14, 1947 -