

22/12/22

PAKISTAN AFFAIRS

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(Final mock)

OB-043

Question 2: Aligarh movement was the arsenal of Pakistan movement. Discuss how reforms initiated by Aligarh has impacts of the cause of Muslims of India.

Aligarh Movement's background (Reasons)

During the second half of the 19th century the British rule was at its peak and while maintaining relations with the Hindus & other communities, Muslims were their sherd of animosity. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, being a member of the British government started Aligarh movement to speak on the behalf of Muslims & also take steps as initiatives to educate Muslims inient for their survival. The main objective of the movement was for Muslims's safety in the acquisition of western education & knowledge. As Muslims were being deprived of equality & basic opportunities by being termed as "the prime instigator of war of independence 1857", Sir Syed put his heart & soul into revival for Muslims of India.

Aligarh Movement

Sir Syed expressed primary goal for Muslims to get western education to deviate them from getting involved into politics. ["Do not show the face of Islam to others; instead show your face as the follower of true Islam representing character, knowledge, tolerance & piety."] - Sir Syed Ahmed Khan. His next objective was to open minds to science, technology & literature. Therefore, Sir Syed took steps ^{establishment} for Aligarh reforms on multiple aspects; educational, political, ^{social} and Religious. & and later also served for spreading the perspective

of the two-nation theory

Educational Aspects of Aligarh Movement

Keeping educational & social reforms as the two planks of his program, Sir Syed began establishing schools at Muzaffargarh (1859) & Ghazipur (1863). In 1857, established Muhammadan Anglo-oriented school (MAO) which later in 1877, converted into MAO college. He set-up a scientific society in Aligarh for social education through a bilingual journal known as the 'Aligarh Institute Gazette' in 1866. This imparted information on history & modern science of agriculture, natural & physical sciences & advanced mathematics.

How it helped Muslims of India

Sir Syed was conceiving change & ^{was} very deal on how to guide the Muslims. The connection with modern world & modern learning led to many benefits for the Muslims as they now had the eligibility to apply for all sorts of governmental jobs and their rights as being part of a community in India. To ensure its durability, Muhammadan Educational Conference met every year to take stock of Muslims Educational problems & to persuade them towards modern education.

Political Aspects of Aligarh Movement

Sir Syed's writings played an important role in popularizing the ideals for which Aligarh stood. Such as: 'The causes of Indian Revolt in 1858', 'Loyal Muhammadans of India'. It helped to solve misunderstandings the British government & Indian Muslims. To mend over their relationship & views about each other.

Urdu-Hindi controversy

In 1867, the Indians demanded Hindi to replace Urdu as the official language in the Aligarh gazette. as Urdu grew as a common language of all Indians regardless of their origins.

Mohammedan Defense Association

Sir Syed founded this association for the main purpose to protect the political, religious & social rights of Muslims. For these reasons he is considered & proven to be the greatest asset for Muslim's identity & struggle.

How it helped the ~~impact of the~~ cause of Muslims
sir syed used 'Nation' to describe the Muslims of India. Even though he believed that Muslims should stay away from all politics, he still created the AIMEC platform for the Muslims. He set up United Indian Patriotic Association for unity of Hindus & Muslims.

Religious Aspects of Aligarh Movement

sir syed philosophical commentary "Tabaen - al - Kalam" on Bible in which he pointed out similarities between the Muslims & Christians, as a reminder that ^{they} ~~we~~ were not that opposite & to spread unity b/w them. He also address the objectionable remarks made by a writer in life of Mohammad through "Essay on the life of Muhammad."

How it helped the cause of Muslims in India

He not only defended the integrity of Muslim sentiment but also tried to bridge gaps between the two communities which was very much needed in the light of war of 1857.

As stated by Allama Iqbal ; "The real greatness of the Sir Syed consists in the fact that he was the first Indian Muslim who felt the need of a fresh orientation of Islam & worked for it."

Social Aspects of Aligarh Movement & its Impacts

Sir Syed wanted Muslims to get acquainted with the modern lifestyle so that they could adjust with the emerging trends after British finally took over the control of India. So he initiated 'Tahzib-ul-Akhlaq' to promote social interactions between Muslims & British without any kind of prejudices. This would allow Muslims confidence & place in community to rise.

Aligarh Movement as arsenal for Pakistan movement

Sir Syed's contributions through this movement made him the 'Messiah' of the Muslims of India. He developed & motivated Muslims towards better & modern education, established Islamic Educational Institutes & invested in the economic uplifting of Muslims. He gave a political platform for the voice of Muslims, all while developing the integrity of Urdu language & Muslim Identity. He earned the title of 'Prophet of Education'. He instigated the employment, financial, political & social awakening of Muslims. His movement also supported the Two-Nation Theory, also called the Pakistan Movement as after trying to bridge gaps between Muslims & other communities, he shifted his focus to primarily on Muslim Indians. He inspired his successors & formations of Simla Deputation or AIML and as All India Muslim League was the cause of formation of Pakistan, we can say that Pakistan owes its contributions to Aligarh Movement (the cause of Muslims in India).