

PAKISTAN AFFAIRS

SECTION II

Q No: 2

Ans ALLAMA IQBAL AND IDEOLOGY OF PAKISTAN

Allama Iqbal was the first person, who gave the concept of separate state for the Muslims of sub-continent with the help of Two-nation theory. He emphasized on the ideology of Pakistan in his sayings and poetry.

1. Separate Recognition of Muslim

Allama Iqbal clearly said in the speech of Allahabad that Muslims have separate recognition from Hindus on the basis of culture and religion. He said that

"India is not a country but a sub-continent of human beings belonging to different religions, languages and cultures. Muslims have their own culture and identity".

2. Condemnation of Western Democratic Concept

Allama Iqbal was strongly against the western concept of democracy. Despite it is flourishing all over the world but it cannot give way forwards for the problems of Islamic world. According to Allama Iqbal, social and political problems can be resolved with the help of Islamic system.

3. Concept of Separate Muslim State

Dr Allama Muhammad Iqbal was the great supporter and preacher of Islamic state. In the annual meeting of All India Muslim League 1930, he gave speech.

"I want to see NWFP, Sindh, Baluchistan and Punjab in the form of homogeneous states".

4. Commendation of Idea of Single Nation:-

In March, 1909 when Allama Iqbal was asked to address a meeting held by Minerva Raj but he refused to address the meeting and said

"I remained supporter of this idea but now I am ~~the~~ view that preservation of separate nationhood is useful for Hindus and Muslims both

5. Concept of Two Nation Theory:-

Allama Iqbal explained two nation theory as:

"Despite living together 1000 years, but Muslims and Hindus are two separate ideologies, so the only solution of political conflict in India is to have a separate independent states..

6. Foundation of Pakistan:

Allama Iqbal not only put forwarded the proposal of Pakistan's creation by writing the "Muslim majority provinces of north-west India" he explicitly pointed out the foundation on which the state was to be established and was to function he said.

"To address this session of All India Muslim League you have selected a man who is not despised of Islam as a living force for freeing the outlook of man from its geographical limitation, who believes that religion is power of utmost importance in the life of individual as well as states.

QAID-E-AZAM AND IDEOLOGY OF PAKISTAN

Qaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah gave practical shape to the ideology given by Allama Iqbal.

In 1913, after joining Muslim League, he continued

with his effort to bring about Hindu Muslim unity but he was greatly disappointed to see the prejudiced attitude of Congress and Hindus towards Muslims. There are few speeches and statements of Quaid-e-Azam regarding ideology of Pakistan.

1) Address at Second Round Table Conferenceth 1931:

Quaid-e-Azam believed that Hindus will never recognize the right of Muslims. He said:

"The Hindu Muslim dispute must be settled before the enforcement of any system or constitution. Until you do not give the guarantee for the safeguard of the Muslims' interests, until you don't win the Muslims co-operation, any constitution you enforce shall not last for even 24 hours."

2) Quaid-e-Azam Two Nation Theory.

He said that Muslim and Hindus are two rivers who can flow parallel but can't be merged. On 23rd March, 1940, at historic session of Muslim League at Lahore he said:

"The Mussalmans are not minority, they are nation by any definition. By ^{all} covenants of international law we are a nation."

3) Quaid-e-Azam and Milat-e-Islami:

He believed that only Islam was the unifying force of the Muslims. Milat

"What relationships knits the Muslims into one whole which is the formidable rock on which the Muslim edifice has been erected, which is the sheet anchor providing base to the Muslim Milat, the relationship, the sheet anchor and the rock is Holy Quran."

4) Address At Islamia College Peshawar:

In 1946, at Islamia College Peshawar he declared

"We do not demand Pakistan simply to have a piece of land but we want a laboratory where we could experiment on Islamic principles".

In a nutshell, Allama Iqbal gave the idea of ideology of Pakistan and Quaid-e-Azam physically proved it. The statements and speeches of both Allama Iqbal and Muhammad Ali Jinnah prove that ^{they} wanted to establish an Islamic system on a code of life.

Q No: 6

Ans Poverty is the major problem of Pakistan

Poverty is major problem of the country which gave birth to other social problems as well.

According to World Bank report 2003, Poverty is expected to reach 37.2% which is slightly lower than last few years. The government employs a number of strategies to reduce poverty of which the most significant one is "Poverty Reduction Programme Strategy". However, there are various causes of poverty such as Poor Governance, Inequality in resource allocation, land tenure system, structure of society, and low level of human development. However, these can be eradicated by consistent means of can eliminate the poverty rate.

Factors contributing in increasing poverty

1) Poor Governance - Governance is the manner in which power exercised in the management of a

Country's social and economic resources for development. Political instability is fundamental to the creation of an enabling environment for growth and development. Political conditions are unstable since its creation, which is root cause to increase political instability in the country. Major example is current scenario of political situation, which unstabilized the economy increased inflation and increased the gap between rich and poor class.

2) Non-Transparency in Resource Allocation:

The lack of transparency in public sector planning, budgeting and allocation of resources. Pakistan has ensured that those who do not constitute the political elite, are unable to make political leaders ~~and~~ government responsive to their needs or accountable to promises.

3) Inadequate access to justice:

Inadequate access to justice is widely perceived in Pakistan to be a key governance issue that directly contributes to the powers of poor and reinforces social and economic inequality widely prevalent in the institutional fabric society.

4) Land tenure system:

Access to land is the basic factor for production, is crucial to reduce poverty in the rural areas. Data from the Agricultural census Pakistan shows that cultivated land is highly unequally distributed in Pakistan. About **47%** of the farms are smaller than 2 hectares, accounting for the **2%** of cultivated area. Approximately **19%** of farms are 5 hectares or more account for **61%** of the total cultivated land.

5) The Structure of Society:

Pervasive inequality in land ownership intensifies the degree of vulnerability of the poor section of the rural society, because the effects of unequal land distribution are not limited to control over assets. In rural societies, ownership of land is unequal and even ~~the~~ strongly hierarchical with major landowners or ~~the~~ feudal lords of areas.

STRATEGIES TO DEAL WITH POVERTY

The biggest development challenge factors in Pakistan is how to meet the millennium development goals of ~~bring~~ bringing down the influence of poverty from the level of 33% to 18% in 2020, but it was not successful, currently poverty rate of Pakistan is expected 37.2% in 2023 (World Bank, 2023).

1) Increase Economic growth rates.

~~economic~~ Economic growth rate can decrease the poverty rate in the country. China and India are two recent examples demonstrating the strong correlation between higher economic growth rate and poverty reduction. Growth rate is necessary but not sufficient condition for poverty reduction.

2) To Improve the living standards and income of rural population.

It can be improved by enhancing agricultural productivity including living stocks. The main instrument that has been used for this purpose is to ease the credits constraints and extending commercial banks loan to small farmers. It will support farmers to purchase fertilizers and other factors, and use updated equipment to increase

yield of production.

3) Provide vocational trainings of technical education.

These programme will provide skills to youths which help them to earn income on daily basis. It will provide practical training and apprenticeship in the fields for which there is heavy demand. such as electrician course, marketing course, freelancing.

4) Improve Zakat system.

All above policy measure are taken, there would always remain segment of weak and vulnerable population in the society. This segment can be supported by social safety nets and homes such as Zakat Baitul Mal and private philanthropy. There must be proper check and balance to give zakat fund to needy people of Pakistan.

~~The above~~

EDUCATION IS THE ROOT OF ALL PROBLEMS IN PAKISTAN

The key to success for any nation lies in its concern and development of the education sector. If education is promoted in the nation, this reduces the literacy rate that ultimately reduces unemployment which is one of biggest curses for any nation.

According to Article 25 A of the Constitution of Pakistan obligates the state provide free and compulsory quality education to children aged 5 to 16 years. Article 37 B of the constitution of Pakistan requires the state to remove illiteracy from the

country and provide free compulsory education.

EXISTING PROBLEMS AND APPROACH

By the day of independence from British colonial rule on August 14, 1947, 85% of Pakistan's population was illiterate and condition of women and backward areas was even worse. In first steps towards education development of Pakistan was the National Education Conference in 1947. In 1951, a Conference for educational development was held to adopt 6 year plan for period of 1951-57, Then first 5 year Plan (1955-60), 2nd (1960-1965), 3rd (1965-1970) Social Action programmes (1993-1993 and NEP (1998-2010) were launched. In every development plan Pakistan made commitment to increase literacy and ensure compulsory education at the grassroots level. But There are following problems in education sector

1) **In appropriate importance**:- The Government provides large sums to finance scholarship programme and grants to higher learning institutions, while the running primary education is left to local districts, provinces and federal governments authorities.

2) Funds for education

Pakistan spends 2.4% of its GDP on education. At the nation level, 89% of education expenditures comprise current expenses such as salaries of teachers, while only 11% for development expenditure which is not sufficient to raise the quality of education.

3) **War on Terror**:- Pakistan's engagement on war on terror also affected the promotion of literacy campaign. The militants targeted schools and students.

educational institutes were blown up. Teachers and students were killed in Balochistan, APS attack Peshawar. This may have to tribute not much on other factors, but this remains an important factor.

4) Poor Monitoring: - There is a contradiction between policies declared on paper by the government and actual steps taken by government to achieve the objectives of the commitments made in those policies. In policy it is mentioned, the importance must be given to primary and ~~secondary~~ secondary education to all at no change is strongly emphasized but all the attention is devoted to speed up higher education all programmes subsidize higher education.

REMEDIAL MEASURES TO ENHANCE EDUCATION IN PAKISTAN

- 1) Provide economic incentives in the form of stipend to students at primary level to encourage the parents to send their children to school.
- 2) There is major corruption in education department which is root cause behind poor literacy rate, it can be resolved through effective monitoring system.
- 3) For any set proper structure and plans must be developed. Legislation and structure should be framed to plan for the promotion of education in the country. After 18th amendment, education is under the control of provincial subjects so provinces should make legislation and design educational programmes and policies that ensure quality education.
- 4) Unemployment is the major concern for Pakistan. There should be career counseling of students at schools so that they have an understanding of the job market and they can develop their skills accordingly.

5) There are two approaches to acquiring education
 i) Many Pakistanis get education to earn bread and butter.

ii) Elite class get education for the sake of personal development and learning at private schools and abroad. The

Hence, the mindset of sending one's children to university only for becoming officers and managers needs to be changed.

Hence, Education and Poverty are prevailing social problems of Pakistan but can be changed through above given remedial measures to eradicate poverty and enhance literacy rate of Pakistan.

Q No 5

Ans: **EVOLUTION OF DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM IN PAKISTAN**

Pakistan is the 5th most populous country in the world, created on the ^{basis of} popular will of people in 1947 with a vision to have liberal, moderate and democratic parliamentary ~~the~~ federation. Soon after the independence, Pakistan adopted British legacy constitutional frameworks and introduced the parliamentary democracy and following much form of Indian act 1935 (The last constitution of British India).

The democratic experience was underpinned by steel frame of bureaucracy and political stability and institutionalized democratic setup remained a distant dream.

1st Constitution of Pakistan: The first constitution of Pakistan was adopted in 1956 which was abrogated ~~just~~ after two years through ~~constitutional~~ amendments.

During the first eleven years, eight successive governments were formed and soon collapsed. Unfortunately the inconsistent democratic history continued till 2008, alternating between elected governments and long spell of military dictators since its inception. Pakistan has traveled long distance towards its march on the path of democracy.

The parliamentary democracy collapsed primarily due to mismanagement, disappropriation of institutional matrix and mounting political ambitions of the military general. The military dictators have always sabotaged political development and mainstream political parties and have advocated religious, ethnic and tribal politics to legitimize their regimes by rigged referendums. Over the years, the support to religious and ethnic groups has led to underground nurseries for breeding of extremism and terrorism. During military regime there was considerable economic development and prosperity. However Pakistan democratic institutions were crushed and country had to endure two wars with India. On the other hand, elected politicians have not much contributed towards democracy rather have been involved in incessant cycle of corruption, dynastic politics, nepotism and money laundering during the short duration they were at the helm of affairs. The fruit of democracy and good governance remained a dream.

CHALLENGES OF DEMOCRACY FACES IN PAKISTAN & WORLD

1) Political instability: Political situation in Pakistan is unstable.

- 2) Transparency in Elections. Election of 2013 and 2018 is major example.
- 3) Interference of Military: Since its birth independence military interference and martial law has created major challenge for democracy of Pakistan.

Q4

Ans: There is almost a consensus that the major economic challenges facing Pakistan are rising poverty, and unemployment, heavy external and domestic indebtedness, high fiscal deficit and low investment.

The current debate about economic ~~survey~~ recovery in Pakistan has surprisingly boiled down to a number of simplified observations. Pakistan was implementing stabilization policy post crisis of 2017-18 and the economy was recovering from macroeconomic imbalance but Covid-19 slowed down the pace which was recovered initially but the advent of 2nd and 3rd wave brought significant challenges which were met by the timely prudent policies.

Pandemics like Covid-19 are once-in-a-century event that devastate global economies. Pakistan did much better in coping up with pandemic compared to many countries.

Currently Pakistan is facing challenge of foreign reserves, devaluation of rupee, inflation increase in inflation rate.