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Introduction:

The subcontinent has always been a hotspot for the tensions between different nations living in it. The Muslims and the Hindus living in the subcontinent were both worlds apart from each other in every sense. Their social, political, cultural, religious and even economic systems were totally different from each other. Though, it can be said that so, it was natural to have a sense of nationhood among the Muslims of the subcontinent. Though, it is said that the Muslim nationalism started from the day when Muhammad Bin Qasim set foot in India in 712 A.D, but after him what followed was mostly wars for succession between different Muslim rulers. The rise of Muslim nationalism

can be rightly attributed to the period of the Mughals, especially Akbar and his policies. To safeguard and protect the Muslim identity, various leaders worked for the betterment of Muslim nationhood. ~~Therefore~~ both the history before

Evolution and Growth of Muslim Nationalism and the Role of Leader Leadership in it.

1) Zahiruddin Babur:

The Battle of Kanwar took place in 1527 A.D. where Zahiruddin Babur defeated the Rajputs under Rana Sangha. This battle sealed the fate of India for centuries to come. After winning the battle, Babur broke wine bottles to motivate his army. This was the start of Indi Muslim Nationalism in the subcontinent.

2) Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi:

He opposed the dissident opinions prevalent in the time of Emperor Akbar. The Muslim identity and supremacy of Islam

were jeopardized during Akbar's reign. He instilled in Muslims the idea that their identity and their religious supremacy were in danger.

3) Shah Waliullah:

During the 18th century, the Muslims had become de jure rulers of only whereas the de facto rulers were Marhattas and there was a resurgence of Hindu power. It was a period of moral decline of the Muslim nation in the subcontinent. The betrayals and conspiracies of Muslim elites such as Mir Sadique and Mir Jafar and the degeneration of Muslim nobility had greatly jeopardized the Muslim identity and supremacy. To unite the Muslim nation ~~the~~ Shah Waliullah wrote "Hijjatullah-il-Baligha", where he emphasized the suitability of Islam for all the times and for all the people and the ability of Islam to solve all the problems faced by humanity. Furthermore, to unite the different sects of Muslims, he wrote "Izat ul Ikhya Wal Khilafat ul Khulafa", where he highlighted the similarities between Sunnis and Shias. He opposed Marhattas power and it was due to

his letter Ahmad Shah Abdali attacked the Marathas and defeated the Maratha Confederacy at the Third Battle of Panipat in 1761.

4) Sir Syed Ahmed Khan:

He was no doubt in favour of Hindu-Muslim unity in the beginning but after Urdu-Hindi controversy he came to know ~~the~~ that Muslims and Hindus were entirely different nations. This controversy changed the political outlook of Sir Syed. When Indian National Congress formed in 1885, Sir Syed observed that, "The larger community (Hindus) would totally override the interest of the smaller community (Muslims)." He laid the foundations of All India Muslim Educational Conference (AIMEC) in 1886, to provide a political platform for the Muslims and to unite the Muslim nations.

5) Allama Iqbal:

Allama Iqbal firmly believed that the Muslims of India have a separate identity, to protect this identity the establishment

of a separate nation is necessary. At his presidential address in 1930, on the occasion of the annual session of Muslim League at Allahabad, He said, "Hindu-Muslims in the sub-continent belonging to different race, speaking different languages and possess different religions. Therefore, demand for the separate state for Muslims is in the best interest of India and Islam!"

6) Quaid-e-Azam:

He was the liberator of the Muslim nation. He struggled for the separate state on the basis of Islamic Ideology. Relationship to the foundation of Muslim nation he said, "Pakistan came into being the very day when the first Hindu became a Muslim".

Conclusion: It is concluded that Sheikh Ahmed Sarhindi saw the decline of Muslims and Shah Waliullah actually witnessed the decline of Muslim nation. Both worked for the reformation of the Muslim identity and supremacy. In addition to this, Sir Saeed Ahmed Khan also worked for the prosperity of Muslim nation in India. Lastly, by and large,

It can be said that Quaid-e-Azam worked day and night for the establishment of separate nation and Iqbal tried to awaken the Muslims of India through his philosophies and poetry.