

Test Series

Pakistan Affairs.

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Question no. 1:

Ideology of Pakistan is essentially the confluence of Muslim nationalism in South Asia and Islam as a code of life.

Introduction:

The strength of ideology of any state determine its future orientation. Pakistan came into being from Hindu-majority India. According to 1941 census, Muslims comprised 24.3% of total population of India. This created sense of distinction among Indian Muslims. The ideology of Pakistan is rooted in the belief that Indian Muslims are different from Hindus in term of not only religion but also socially and culturally. The concept was based on 'Two-Nation Theory'.

which argued that cultural, social and political difference between Muslims and Hindus are unresolvable. Therefore, Pakistan came into being by the confluence of Muslim nationalism in South Asia and by adopting Islam as a comprehensive code of life.

Muslim Nationalism in India:

Muslims in India from the very first day of Islam in India have felt the sense of distinction. As the Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah stated, "Pakistan came into being the day the first Hindu converted to Islam".

1) Historical Context.

When Islam reached South-Asia, it brings its own code of life which Muslims used to follow. Beside this, Sub-Continent had been ruled by Muslims for hundreds of years. When however, when the Mughal rule started to decline and British rule started to

wise, Muslims in Sub-Continent found themselves side-lined. This created sense of Muslim nationalism.

Additionally, Hindu revivalist movements like the Arya Samaj sought to assimilate Muslims into Hindu folds through movements like Shuddhi and Sangathan. These developments fostered a growing sense of survival among Muslims. Muslims realized that in order to survive, there is a strong need for political unity and self-determination.

ii) Cultural and Religious Differences.

Muslims and Hindus had inherently distinct cultural, linguistic and religious practices that evolved as their separate identities. It mainly started after Urdu-Hindi controversy (1867) when Hindus advocated for Hindi to be replaced with Urdu. This linguistic ^{divide} resulted in further division among Hindus and Muslims. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan famously remarked;

"India is a continent, not a country. Muslims and Hindus are

two nations by every definition"

Islam as a Code of life for Muslims in Sub-continent:

Islam has played role not only as a code of life but also played major role in Pakistan movement by confluencing with Muslim nationalism.

1) Provides Comprehensive System.

Islam offers guidance for personal, social and political life, emphasizing justice, equality and morality. Allama Iqbal emphasized that;

"Religion in its essence is not mere faith, but a living force which inspires the individual and society"

This thinking made Muslims to make struggle for independent state where they can implement Islam's teaching and live accordingly.

11) Role in Pakistan Movement.

Islam played the most important and basic role in Pakistan freedom

movement. Quaid-e-Azam was of the opinion that Islam and Hinduism are not religions in the strict sense of opinion word but are two different social orders. This distinct nature has helped Muslims to develop their own nation.

iii) Unifying identity.

Islamic principles were central to the demand for Pakistan. Pakistan Muslim League unified all Muslims of India to get independence. It can be seen in 1940's Pakistan Resolution where need for an independent state was highlighted. Following this in 1946 elections, Muslim League won 87% of muslims vote.

Conclusion.

The ideology of Pakistan was not merely a political strategy but a vision for a nation where Islamic values can be fostered. It was this integration of religion and nationalism that led to the creation of Pakistan as a distinct homeland for Indian Muslims.