

Q: Explain in detail Congress Rule from 1937-1939 as forerunner to creation of Pakistan in 1947.

Ans.

INTRODUCTION:

The 1937 elections were the first elections conducted in the sub-continent after the partial promulgation of the Government of India Act, 1935. The outcome of the elections of 1937 were a disappointment for the Muslims, as the Muslim League performed poorly in the elections and was unable to gain majority in any province.

Resultantly, Congress gain the majority and held the mandate. Congress rule started in 1937, and they adopted negative and cruel attitude towards Muslims. Muslim activists were targeted by Congress and the unjust treatment of Congress compelled the Muslims to be disciplined in every aspect of life. Congress nationalists took every possible step to pin down the Muslim League and its activists. However, without any retaliation Muslims suffered the policies of the Congress against them and observed them keenly along with collection of facts which were helpful for Muslims to raise against Congress. Muslim League worked on their activists and redefined their position in world war II, as it proved a blessing for Muslims by the resignation of Congress in November 1939.

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1937 ELECTIONS:

First elections with the approved demand of Muslims for separate electorate. Also a big failure of Muslim League due to great defeat from the Congress. The elections compelled in February 1937, in which Congress got majority in five provinces, i.e.; Madras, UP, Bihar, Orissa and CP. Muslim League failed to perform well in the elections and secured only 21% of Muslim seats and no majority in any province like NWFP, Sindh, ~~Coastal~~ Punjab and Bengal. Some of the major reasons of the failure was the internal disagreements and organizational problems, which led to defeat.

CONGRESS RULE (1937-1939):

The two years of Congress rule was only an anti-Muslim drive, whose major focus was to discriminate and tear down the Muslims from the sub-continent. Majority of the policies of Congress were aimed to ~~and~~ exclude Muslim League and the Muslim organizations from the government.

Congress started "Muslim Mass Contact" movement for the defamiation of the Muslim League. Muslim League was a party with strong roots in masses which was a threat to Congress. Hence, they started the mass

contact movement to defame Muslim League.

Hindu culture was being promoted at different levels in the name of Indian culture, and Muslims were forced to follow that culture. Hindu symbols were promoted at offices and educational institutions. Muslims were unable to go to the offices and educational institutions.

They introduced their anthem of *Banday Māram* and made compulsory to sing that in schools in the morning. Muslim students had no choice but to follow their rules. Gandhi's photos were placed in the entrance of the institutions and everyone was forced to bow in front of the photo before entering the institution. These policies further gave birth to hatred in the heart of Muslims against the Hindus.

Other than this, Hindi language was also made compulsory and given priority over Urdu. Wardha Educational system was introduced at primary educational literature, which was to convert Muslims to Hindus to gain the Hindu majority.

These religious expansionist policies of Congress further fired up the motivation of Muslims to demand for the separate homeland and the concept of "Two-Nation Theory". The theoretic inclination of the Hindu people was observed by the Muslims and then they raised their concerns and demands with original facts of Hindu atrocities.

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Muslims were not given the freedom to practice their religion. Whenever, the time came out for the call of Azaan, Hindus would play music and later policies were made which took away the right of Muslims to call out Azaan. The mosques were targeted and attacked at the time of Namaz and Muslims could not offer prayer.

The slaughtering of cow was forbidden especially during the time of Eid-ul-Azha calling it Cow-Maata and did not allow Muslims to slaughter the cow according to their religion. Noisy processions of Hindu soundrels were made at the time of Azaan and prayer to disturb the Muslims and not let them practice their religion.

Muslims in Bihar were targeted and the Muslim organizations were forced to give up their religion and their party which was made on the basis of religion. Muslims suffered from these atrocities at that time as they had no other chance of denying from the policies of the government.

RESPONSE OF MUSLIMS:

The theocratic inclination of Hindu people further strengthened the "Two Nation Theory" and Muslims now were not demanding separate electorate but a separate homeland.

Muslim League formed committee to make a report named as "The Pirpur Report" which was presided by Raja Syed Muhammad Mendi of Pirpur. The report highlighted the cruelties of the rule of Congress and took up the Congress support to the rival Muslim Organizations.

FAZLUL-HAQ REPORT:

This was a pamphlet written by A.K. Fazl-ul-Haq, entitled as the "Muslim Sufferings Under the Rule of Congress". This report highlighted the crucial policies of the Congress against Muslims, and responded the indictments by the Congress on the Muslims.

CONCLUSION:

Muslim leaders redefined themselves and their demands after going through the Congress rule. In 1939, during Second World War, Muslims were lucky enough to get the chance to take a breath when the Congress

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resigned in November 1939. Muslims observed Day of Deliverance on 22, Dec, 1939. Muslims worked on their internal organizational weaknesses and redefined their objectives, from separate electorate to Separate Homeland.



Q: Explain in detail the evolution of Khilafat Movement. Also shed light on reasons of its failure.

Ans.

INTRODUCTION:

During World War I, Germany got the support of Turkey, when they started to lose the war the Muslims in the sub-continent were concerned as the Ottoman Caliphate was considered as the symbol of unity for Muslims. Hence, to support and retain the rule of Ottoman Caliphate, Muslims of British India launched a religio-political movement named as Khilafat Movement. Major reason of the evolution of this movement was only to protect the Muslim rule and do not let the Muslim Holy places go into the hands of non-Muslims. However, Muslims failed in this movement and could not protect the Ottoman Caliphate.

KHILAFAT MOVEMENT

Khilafat Movement was a religio-political movement to protect the Ottoman Caliphate from declining. This

movement also united the Hindus and Muslims in the sub-continent. However, it did not long last and they parted their ways again very soon.

Goals OF THE MOVEMENT:

However, the concern was to protect the Muslim rule. Other goals of this movement were;

- ① Protect Ottoman Caliphate.
- ② Protection of Muslim Holy Places.
- ③ Retain the territorial solidarity of Turkey.

KHILAFAT CONFERENCE:

In Khilafat movement, All India Khilafat Committee was formed in 1919 and Khilafat conferences were held ~~by~~ and attended by leader like Jinnah and Muhammad Ali Brothers.

First Khilafat Conference, held in Delhi and Gandhi and Nehru participated in the conference. The major political parties had joined the hands for a united cause. The cause was to stand against injustices being done against the muslim community in the worldwar. They announced to boycott the British goods and not to cooperate with the British government.

Second Khilafat Conference, was held in Amritsar, which was attended by famous Muslim personalities like Mawlana Muhammad Ali Jauhar and Shaukat Ali, after being released

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from prison. First ~~conf~~ conference was by the Hindu leaders and the second conference was ~~be~~ attended and led by the Muslim leaders. The Khilafat committees decided to continue to non-cooperation movement and unite against the British.

KHILAFAT MOVEMENT FAILURE:

Muslims and Hindus were united for the same cause but they failed in their mission, as it led to major atrocities of the government on the masses.

ROWLETT ACT, 1919:

Government introduced this black law in 1919, in which government had the authority to arrest Indian and they had no right of legal assistance. Rowlett Act was the ~~ed~~ cut-copy-paste of the "Léved De Cachés" in France before the French Revolution.

Jinnah protested against the act and resigned from the central legislature.

JALLIANWALA BAGH INCIDENT, ~~1919~~ 1919:

Masses had gathered at Jallianwala Bagh to protest against the British atrocities in the sub-continent and in Ottoman Caliphate, Turkey. However, the protest turned into a

red Flood, as General Dyer opened direct fire on the masses and 379 human lives were lost. This incident led to more hatred against the government and again a non-cooperation Movement was announced, which was opposed by Jinnah. These casualties led to failure of the Khilafat Movement.

CONCLUSION:

Muslim and Hindus joined hands against the government of British, but they failed to achieve their goals and the Ottoman Caliphate in Turkey was invaded by the English men. In Khilafat Conferences, the participants stood against the British and expressed their loyalty towards Turkish Sultan. They had announced to support Turkey until the foreign forces were pushed out of Turkey, but they failed due to the in-humane acts and policies of British government in the sub-continent.

