

Q. No. 1

Policies of Congress Ministries : an  
Impetus to the Muslim League

Congress Ministries (1937-1939)

are the turning point in the political history of Indian sub-continent. At that point, Congress, especially Hindu leaders, express themselves openly and unveiled their true feelings about the Muslims of sub-continent.

The unjust behaviour of Congress leaders with Muslims strengthen the Muslim League ideology and proved an impetus to unite Muslim populace under a single political banner. The Hinduism based policies of Congress fused the last spark of coalition of Hindu-Muslim in Jinnah and he turned from "ambassador of Hindu-Muslim unity" to "the founder of Pakistan."

(i) Congress Ministries policies based on Hindu Nationalism:

Congress leaders started promoting Hindu Nationalism in Indian

sub-continent even being a party on the ideology of representative of All India.

The Shungatun and Satyagraha movements were promulgated. Congress rule had following atrocities in India:

(a) **refusal of coalition with League:**

Congress refused to form a coalition government with AIML in provinces of sub-continent.

(b) **humiliating conditions for AIML in UP**

UP is of great importance due to the Mughal dynasty ~~party~~, Nehru home province, Hindu cultural development point but formed pure Congress Ministry.

(c) **congress role for toppling Muslims government in Assam**

Congress played role in fall of Sir Saad Ullah government in Assam.

"the enthusiasm of masses for Congress Raj melted into Hindu Raj" (Sir Hary Haig)

(d) **Nehru's mass contact campaign**

Nehru hired Maulvi's to create "narrow mindedness" and split among Muslims.

### (e) economic exploitation

Congress adopted economic exploitation policy against Muslims by depriving them from employment opportunities.

### (f) religious interference

They prohibited cow slaughtering and introduced criminal law against defiant of this rule.

### (g) eruption of communal violence

During congress rule, communal riots began b/w Muslims and Hindus, till August, 1939, there had been 57 communal riots with 11100 casualties

## (ii) Unification of Muslim Populace under Muslim League's Banner:

Atrocities of Congress Ministries proved a unification force for Muslims as they had a deep sense of strong need of strong political party through exclusive identity.

### (a) basis of ideology of Pakistan

This unjust treatment strengthen the ideology of Pakistan.

## (b) popularity of Pakistan Demand:

During Congress Ministries, Sindh Assembly passed a Resolution for Pakistan in 1938. As well as, Jinnah instructed Muslim leaders to ~~purpose~~ prepare various proposals for partition.

## (c) Lahore Resolution:

On the 27<sup>th</sup> annual session of AIML which was held between 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> March, Jinnah laid proposal of separate state open for discussion. Which is also termed as Lahore Resolution

## Role of Separate Electorate

### In Winning 1946 Elections in the Muslim Majority Province:

The 1946 elections in British India were crucial, as they played a significant role in the <sup>political</sup> landscape of Indian sub-continent leading to the partition of the country in 1947.

The separate electorate system was introduced by British in 1909 and continued in the Government of India Act, 1935, allowed Muslims to vote for Muslim candidates, ensuring that they could elect their own representative.

### Securing Muslim votes for Muslim:

This system allowed Muslim League to focus its campaign on securing votes from the Muslim community, presenting itself as the sole representative of Muslim interest.

### Strengthening of Muslim League position:

Muslim League performed well in the areas with the significant Muslim population, winning a majority of the Muslim seats and strengthening its position in

-the overall political scenario.

Proving a strategic advantage in securing representation:

Many communal parties were against separate electorate. However, from the perspective of Muslim League, it provided them with strategic advantage in securing political representation for Muslims and advancing their demand for a separate nation.

**CONCLUSION:**

To cut the long story short, ~~for~~ atrocities of Congress ministries awaken the stalled ideology of Pakistan and proved an impetus for Muslims of sub-continent to gather under singular political banner. Moreover, concept of <sup>Muslim</sup> votes for Muslim representative strengthen the position of Muslim League to win 1946 elections.

Q. No. 2

## Influence of Religious Reformers in Shaping Muslim Identity in United India:

Religious Reformers had played a very important yet critical role in shaping the Muslim identity in United India. Muslims were under the shadow of dream of ignorance and were aloof from the true essence of Islamic civilization, culture and beliefs. Scholars like Mujaddad Alaf Sani, Shah Wali Ullah, Syed Ahmed Shaheed sensed the backlash of Muslim identity, especially in Mughal rulers and started their religious, political, social and educational efforts to awaken the sleeping Muslims.

~~(a) Syed Ahm~~

(a) Mujaddad Alaf Sani

Sheikh Ahmed Sirhind diagnose the evils of Muslim society and reformed the Muslims by sending

letters known as "Maktubad-i-Islam: Rabani" to many royals, opposed "Din-i-Ilahi" of Akbar and advised to adopt simple lifestyle. He revealed the importance of Namaz and Fast, and also emphasis on Oneness of Allah.

"It was Mujaddad who laid the ideology of Hindu Muslim separate nation" (Nehru)

## (b) Shah Wali Ullah

Shah Wali is a renowned religious reformer. He was the first who found the cause of Muslim political decline in Indian sub-continent. Shah Wali Ullah re-defined the religious beliefs in simple terms and translated Quran in Persian.

Waheed-uz-Zamam recognised him the greatest father of Pakistan.

"He is to Pakistan as Martin Luther is to Germany" (Hafeez Malik)



(c) Syed Ahmad Shaheed

He is the founder of revolutionary Islamic movement, "Mujahideen" and "The Way of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)". He promoted Jihad in United India that led to the war of Independence 1857 and rise of separate Muslim ideology.

**Role of Aligarh Movement in forming Muslim ideals in 20<sup>th</sup> Century:**

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan laid the foundation of Aligarh Movement. This movement was based on the "trinity of ideas".

This movement provided the base of political ideals of Muslims in 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**(a) Strengthen Muslim through education:**

This movement provided Muslims with modern education and laid foundation of educational

institutes like Madrasah Muradabad, Madrasah Ghaziabad, Muhammadan educational conference, MAO school, MAO college and Aligarh university. That became the foundation of Muslim Political party (AIML).

### (b) Trained future politicians:

All the students of Aligarh university were well equipped with Islamic and modern knowledge and through the platform of Muhammadan Educational Conference well trained the founders of Pakistan.

### (c) provided strong basis of two nation theory:

Muslim Politics of United India was laddered with two nation theory. Sir Syed Ahmed was the first to lay foundation of two nation theory that shaped the political landscape.

## Impact of Aligarh movement in comparison to Mujahideen movement:

A pure Jihad based movement, Mujahideen, failed to unite Muslims of united India as it failed at organizational level but Aligarh movement provided complete organizational structure and fulfilled all the needs of an hour.

Aligarh movement had a great impact on religious, social and political landscape of India.

## Impact of Aligarh movement in comparison to Khilafat movement:

Khilafat Movement was the only movement in the history of United India in which Hindu and Muslims were united but this movement failed due to the difference in ideology. Hindu was supporting Khilafat movement

to get rid of Britishers while, Muslims were participating for Religious importance of Khalifa (Caliph). But on the large scale, this movement had little impact.

On the other hand, Aligarh movement had strong ideology of reformation of Muslims through education and balancing of ties ~~bet~~ with Britishers by clearing Muslims stance and aloofness from politics succeeded with long-term impact in the form of ~~other~~ creation of Pakistan.

## CONCLUSION

To conclude, religious reformers had shape Muslim identity through teachings, and Aligarh movement provide organizational basis for political ideals of Muslims of 20th century. Moreover, Aligarh movement changed the socio-political outlook of Indian - sub-continent.