

Froch-S Pakistan Affairs

Ammar Yasir - OIB S4

Date: _____

4- Sir Syed Ahmed Khan is one of the most prominent figures in dividing pathway to Pakistan. His famous Two Nation Theory played an important role in the creation of Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Post 1857, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan realised that Muslims were in shambles conditions with no ideal position to play part in active politics. This is because he wanted Muslims to attain the modern education to compete with Hindus in politics. The condition of 1857 and its results witnessed by Sir Syed convinced him that the advancement of Muslim was possible to loyalty with British. The role of Sir Syed is cornerstone to Muslim advancement.

Loyalty to British

After the War of independence, the conditions of Muslim deteriorated. The long reign of Muslims ended, and the Hindus started dominating various govt sectors. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan declared that pathway in line with modern British colonialism is a sustainable way to Muslims prosperity.

The British blamed Muslims for the mutiny of 1857. Muslims were harshly treated, and this was when Sir Syed Ahmed took action to improve the tarnished image of Muslims. He wrote and published the Loyal Mohammadias of India and highlighted on how Muslims

revered British. The misconceptions on Muslims to be totally against the British Raj was addressed. Similarity in Christianity and Islam was highlighted. He gave the reasons on the war of Independence. These efforts were made to build a soft corner in the British towards the Muslims.

The impact of the efforts towards British loyalty

These efforts of Sir Syed managed to fill the gap of spite between Muslim and the British. The British understood the issues relating to war and were ready to deal with Muslim through soft approach. This has been evident by the concessions given to Muslims during the Morley-Minto reforms of 1908 when the clause of separate electorate was granted to Muslims in an area with dominant Hindu population. Muslims were gradually given many concessions such as one-third of majority in legislative assembly and significant participation in elections of 1937. Had Sir Syed not made this efforts, the British would always had viewed Muslims as rebels who must be dealt with force and suppression. Therefore, loyalty with British was a significant initiative to ensure Muslims were being heard by the British which ultimately lead to the creation of Pakistan.

Devotion towards education

Sir Syed asserted that Muslims were deprived of modern education introduced by British in the subcontinent. Hindus, who already were enrolled in the modern education, were able to secure jobs in judiciary, medicine, etc. Hence, Hindus were advancing to modernism while Muslims showed reservation to the new invaders. This affected them politically as well since they were not familiar to the political system of the West.

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan took various initiatives with establishment of various schools inline with modern British education. His visit to Oxford envirioned him to create a university of similar sort for Muslims. Hence, Aligarh

college was established to ensure that Muslims attain modern British education.

Many scientific developments and researches were translated into Urdu to be understood by Muslims in his published articles. Annually, Mohammedan Educational Conference was initiated to gather and discuss various topics.

The role of education towards the creation of Pakistan

Sir Syed knew that Hindus were not sincere with Muslims. Hindus were gaining prominence

Date: _____

and demanded for replacement of Urdu with Hindu and Arabic script with Sanskrit. His efforts of raising efforts of Muslims to the modern standards enabled the creation of many future leaders. These leaders were staunch advocates of Muslim rights, and represented Muslim demands and concerns. Many of those graduates were from Aligarh University. The educational advancement, therefore, resulted in the modern efforts to uplift Muslim resulting in Pakistan's creation.

Aloofness From Politics of Muslims

Sir Syed Ahmad was aware of Hindus' active participation in the politics. The current conditions of Muslims convinced him to Muslims cannot compete with Hindus in politics due to their lack of modern education. Rather than encouraging political engagement, Sir Syed encouraged the Muslims to become well versed with modern education. Once they do that, they should initiate active political participation.

How this stance hold significance to the creation of Pakistan

Sir Syed Ahmad knew that Hindus were not sincere with Muslims. The ideologies of both the nations differed. He termed it as Two Nation Theory. It

were based on the idea that Muslims and Hindus were separate nation with their own language and culture. These nation have lift on thousand years and still, they were not able to live together. This is why his efforts were to bridge misunderstandings between British and Muslims rather than Hindus. His voice to achieve modern education was to prevent Muslims lagging behind Hindus and made them well-equipped to fight for their rights. The same 'Two Nation Theory' is a part of Pakistan's ideology because Pakistan creation was the result of the fact that Muslims and Hindus could not live together. This realisation hit during the congress rule of 1937-39 when Muslims realised that the rule of Hindus would clash with their interest and jeopardise their security.

Conclusion

Therefore, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan envisioned Muslims prosperity in line with modern British education to uplift their standard of living. He knew that education would pave long-term path to level playing politics. Hence, he stressed Muslim's loyalty to British to bring practicality to his vision. It was due to his efforts Muslims effectively competed in politics and formed Muslim League.

This political party was the platform for Muslims to ensure the fulfillment of their rights. The Two Nation Theory was the ground work for Muslims to eventually demand for a separate homeland.

1- Pakistan has witnessed economic roller coaster throughout its history with high contemporary alert of economic default. The country has undergone through nationalisation during the 1970s to the recent pursuit of privatisation. With the ^{towards} later IMF deal of Extended Fund Facility worth \$7 billion, the country has intensified its hunting to widen net tax base. Such measures has caused grievance in the population of 240 million who are engulfed in rising inflations and unemployment. Whereas, the majority of Budget is being utilized in debt servicing, the population does not see any relish in the near future time.

Why is Pakistan's economic policy focused on widening tax base

With the IMF deal, Pakistan has been obligated to increase its tax base. The reason being the greater payment than revenue by the govt during budget evaluation. This obligates Pakistan to take more loan to fill the gap of deficit. However, it is ~~with~~ ^{on} a short term approach to gain political popularity among the masses and ensure security

of their victory for the next elections. Such attitude would bound strict IMF clauses in loan agreement. This would ensure security of repayment as well as enable govt to take other sustainable measurements to ensure Budget Surplus.

The measures taken to increase tax net base

Pakistan's govt, currently, has initiated many policies to ensure targeted tax collection of 12% to the GDP as required by IMF. ~~Plat Extension~~ Extension has been given to the public until 31st October 2024 to file their taxes with Federal Board of Revenue(FBR). This failure to do so will result in sin blockage. This has been strategized as direct taxes involving income from business, property, salary etc. For indirect taxes, the govt has imposed a GST of 17%. Many measures are taken at both Federal and Provincial level to ensure strict accountability.

Grievances of the people regarding tax policies.

Business Sector:

Recently, the traders showed strong reservation in the collection of taxes. Although govt has been trying to introduce trader friendly measures, the issue is yet to resolve. The reason being the high cost that is already involved

in the business. The slabs of electricity units consumed has already put strained on the businessman as coupled with reduction in demand amidst inflation and unemployment. During the start since the start of third decade of 21st century, Pakistan has witnessed the shutdown of hundreds of industries. The reasons being long-term losses due to uncompetitiveness in pricing of the product especially in international markets.

Frustration of domestic sector:

In domestic sector, people are being pushed towards the poverty line with rising poor population amidst inflation and unemployment. People are facing difficulties to fulfil even their basic needs of healthy ^{and} education. The stagnating electricity prices has already created frustration in the public. The increased and stricter imposition of taxes is termed 'suffocated'!

The public is of the view that relaxations were given to huge business tycoons and industries while they are being taxed.

They state that impose such tax policies are imposed by the policies of elite who would never understand the grievances of this segment.

Interestingly, people mistrust govt with their taxes. The high corruption and unsustainable policies of govt raise questions on the justification of tax collection on already stricken population.

The question of economic self-reliance

Many economists termed Pakistan's economic policies to be short-termed. Each successive govt creates policies that reap quick fruits. This also includes the highly questionable artificial dollar exchange rate policy to appease the general public.

Projects have either focused on 'window dressing' initiatives or has been victim of poor planning, poor governance and rampant corruption.

For all such purposes, debt had been sought throughout the history of Pakistan. In reality, debt is being used to bring down the countries to stand back on the facts as evident in Europe after the World War economic repercussions.

These countries needed support to recover and become self-reliant. In Pakistan, unfortunately, the debt is utilised on unsustainable policies.

The cause of great economic debt and way-forward

The leaders of the Pakistan should provide their justification to increase their rigidity over collection of tax but they must look at structural and technical inefficiencies that creeps within Pakistan's government. As mentioned before, the unsustainable short term projects we could not justify tax collection on already straining population.

Rather, the country should initiate sustainable projects of development in trade, education, IT, etc. An increase in well informed

Date: _____

An increase in budget toward health and education, for example, will need more than just allocation.

A well-versed planning in line with later educational development should be indicated. Universities should be transformed to the high-class international standards and the issue of corruption should be addressed with Iron-Fist. Therefore, it should be not just limited to the call for increase in tax collections. The govt must realize that it is more than tax collections that needed would address the cries of 'Pakistan in danger'.

In conclusion, it would be highly unjustified to raise the cries of tax collection, ensuring fiscal surplus while turning a blind-eye towards the underlying problems within the govt. Strict actions must be taken on internal level to ensure sustainable policy initiation.

Focus should be diverted towards developmental projects such as education rather than non-developmental expenditures of defence and pension. The govt must enhance self-reliance with exports by enhancing industrial sector.

Otherwise, Pakistan would remain stuck in vicious cycle of taxes and debt. With rising frustration and fading patriotism, the national security of Pakistan is stakes. Therefore, it is the time of urgency more than ever.

3- Pakistan was established in-line with the spirits of democracy. It is termed as one of the ideologies of the Republic. Unfortunately, the historical realities and contemporary realities has posed a different image. Democracy is the selection of leader by the general public. Although there has been repeated accusations of election rigging through out the electoral history of Pakistan. A question is still triggered on the underlying issue of illiteracy in both the general public and Pakistani leadership, making it one of the root causes of dysfunctional democracy.

Issues revolving around democracy and its relation with lack of proper education

Historical context involving military political participation
 The hot-debate of current military involvement cannot be ignored. The accusations leveled by the previous two consecutive elected govt of 2013-2018 and 2018-2022 has accused military directly and indirectly to meddle in elections process in pursuit of results favorable to them. The recent election of Feb, 2024 has still raised concerns on the lack of level playing field and indirect involvement of military. This is a historical issue with around 35 years of military rule in the country. The reason being lack of educated civilian govt civil servants and public. After 1947, the govt institution was struggling to build while the well-

disciplined military had favorable grounds to impose their power. It was until 1956 when the govt couldn't make a constitution. The reason being lack of sufficient 'man-power' in civilian govt in terms of education.

The issue of healthy participation in contemporary times among general public

The govt of Pakistan has issued established firewall to oversee the information dissemination over social media, a very powerful tool for propaganda.

However, the same tool could be utilized to demand justice and freedom and can show critique on govt policies. Although the spirits of the youth are high, lack of proper education has created 'cult' following. People ridicule each other rather than forming a constructive debates on ongoing issues. This is being evident on various social media platforms as well as real life. The concept of 'lets agree to disagree' does not exist. One of the main reasons to this issue is lack of proper education to enable people to utilize use analytical reasoning and critical thinking rather than blind following.

Such an approach jeopardize democracy since people draw their opinions on sentiments rather than rationality making them vulnerable to a political manipulation.

The aspect of education in-line with the vision of leaders

Pakistan Although, the requirement of 16 year of education in Pakistan is mandatory to hold a political, governmental and executive or judiciary position. The quality and standards of education system has raised eyebrows.

The robust democratic order is jeopardized when the vision of leaders involves personal gains. The reason being their exploitative behavior and lack of democratic vision. Mass accusations of selling of political and executive seats is bottleneck approach to the spirit of democracy. This would ultimately create a system of corruption and bad governance.

How an educated leader looks like.

On political level, educated leader would strive to convince the general public on his visionary approach and patriotic sincere remarks. His moral values would not allow him/her to unjustifiably exploit the sentiments of the people.

Rather, he would put his political stance with integrity while ensuring constant improvements.

The classical example of Nelson Mandela. For 27 years, he was in prison fighting for the rights of black people in South Africa. His strong moral principles did not bend him down. He maintained his stance with integrity.

The example of Prophet (SAW), the greatest leader in the history of mankind, can be another example of how morally grounded leadership gave way to democracy. When the Quraish persecuted him, he remained steadfast to the divine command of Allah. When he was offered prominent position among Quraish, he rejected it. He ensured his small group of followers who follow him to the commands of Allah without despite of many difficulties he faced.

- A leader with strong moral principle admits his mistakes & A morally strong leader will always ensure the utmost integrity of the institutional system. If he causes any negligence, or if he failed to achieve his task, he steps down or resigns. This ensures a truly capable person to take over. Unfortunately such culture of integrity does not exist with active role of blame game among the leaders. In Europe, there were many instances of resignation of head of state due to failure or negligence from his/her part.

How educated participatory followership looks like

Rationality over sentiments on political stances

The concept of education has been misinterpreted to attainment of education in school and colleges. Its success has been limited to academic achievement. This issue is rather concerning in educational environment of Pakistan that is based on crony. Rather on educated participatory followership basis reasoning in line with the ideology of Pakistan and understand the eligibility of leader qualified to rule over them and make national policies. It is based

on analytical judgement involving facts, statistics, reports and historical events. This would enable appointment of leaders in line with the true agenda of Democracy. Such a person will ensure integrity of Democracy. Hence it is necessary to have education based on its essence. Then the

Stronger, realistic and legal accountability of democratic leaders with healthy, participatory leadership:

One of the under issues of democracy is that people are being manipulated and confused over what is right and wrong. This complexation in mass public arises due to inappropriate education. Hence, the leaders easily evade themselves from accountability. A well aware general public would create deterrence since the leaders could be easily sacked on rational and legal grounds. Therefore ensuring the preservation of the sanctity of democracy.

Conclusion

In conclusion, education in its true spirit must be instilled to promote healthy, rational debate among the public. This would drive the appointment of a more democratic leader in line with appropriate election process. The appointment of educated, moral leader would ensure sustainable democratic policies, ensuring economic and social prosperity. The leader's approach will be aligned with public interest rather than self interest, revitalising democracy.