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Q NO 6

The diverse Muslim reformist movement of the sub-continent nurtured the sequential unity in the formulation of Two nation theory. Delineate.

Ans:

Introduction:

The Muslim identity have significant transformation owing to the influence of several Muslim reformist. The reformers like Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi, Sheikh Waliullah, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and other reformists played a crucial role in defining and strengthening the Muslims identity amidst the rising tide of colonialism, Hindu revivalism and western culture influence. These reformist through their social, political educational and regional reforms made them realized that they are in a dire need of separate homeland and nurtured the sequential unity in the formulation of two

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nation theory.

- Religious Reformist and their contributions
- 1- Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindhi:

Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindhi was a first reformer who ~~through~~ <sup>had</sup> social, political, religious reforms improved the conditions of then Muslims. During his time, Ulama ceased to refer Quran and Hadith and many un-Islamic practices are performed by then Muslims. He started preaching actual values of Islam. He abolished the Akbar Deen-e-Elahi and prohibited inter-marriages. He reimposed jizya and encountered the concept of Wahdat-ul-Jamood and presented the concept of Wahdat-ul-Shahid. He greatly emphasized that; "To consider ~~as~~ Ram and Rehman as one is stupidity, Because creator cannot be same as creature". He is the first one who put the thought of two nation theory in the minds of the Muslim of Subcontinent. According to Allama Iqbal, "He is the guardian of



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## Attempt by giving self explanatory subheadings

Muslim faith in the sub-continent whom God had given a timely warning."

### 2- Shah Waliullah:

Shah Waliullah was also considered as one of the earliest figure who laid the foundation of Islamic reform in the subcontinent. He advocates for the return to Quran and Hadith teachings and emphasized on the muslims unity. His efforts were aimed at reviving Islamic value which were evolved from the muslim society. He translated Quran into Persian to make it accessible to Non-arabic muslims fostering a sense of religious awareness and unity.

### 3- Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

In 19th century, the emergence of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan is remarked as a pivotal moment in the socio-political consciousness of Muslims. He emphasized the modern education for Muslims to

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compete with Hindus and other communities under British rule. His Aligarh movement led to the establishment of educational institution where science and Islamic education given and create a new educated Muslim class who were conscious about their distinct identity.

#### 4- Deobandi Movement:

The Deobandi movement in 19th century aimed to encounter British colonial influence and perceived <sup>moral</sup> decline of Muslim community. The Deobandi scholars advocated for strict adherence to Islamic law (Shariat) and rejection of western cultural influence. They established madrasa system across the country sub-continent to produce Islamic leaders to uphold Islamic value and revived Muslim identity.



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### Barelvi Movement:

The Barelvi movement stood in contrast to deobandi approach, promoting the sufi practices and veneration of saints and Prophet Muhammad. Its main focus to define muslim identity and practice traditional Islamic values rather than aligning modern interpretations.

### Role in Identity Formation:

The effort of these reformist contributed significantly to the creation of a distinct movement identity in the subcontinent by:

#### 1- Cultural and Religious Revival:

Reformists like Shah Waliullah and Syed Ahmed Barelvi encouraged a return to ~~the~~ Islamic values, fostering the consciousness of religion and unity among muslims. This helped in nurturing the seed of Two-Nation Theory.

#### 2- Educational Reforms:

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

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emphasis on modern education to create a new Muslim class who are conscious of their distinct identity. Also equipped to navigate challenges opposed by British rule.

### 3- Resistance to Non-Muslim Dominance:

The Tihad movement led by Syed Ahmad Barelvi and establishment of religious institutions led by Deobandi movement provided a framework for religious and political resistance towards non-muslim dominance.

### 4- Social and Religious Cohesion:

Both Deobandi and Barelvi movement, despite their difference worked towards the preservation of Muslim tradition and reinforcement of religious identity in the face of British colonialism.

### • Conclusion:

The religious reforms in the subcontinent played a critical role in shaping the



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Muslim identity and promoting education for consciousness of religious values. These efforts laid the groundwork for the Two Nation theory, the demand for separate homeland and the creation of Pakistan.

Q No 4

Critically evaluate Sir Syed's trinity of ideas i.e. loyalty towards Britishers, devotion to education and aloofness of Politics.

1- Introduction:

Sir Syed remained affiliated with Mughal Administration because his maternal grandfather has twice served as a Prime Minister of Mughal Emperor of his time. He started his career as a clerk with East India Company and after completing education served in the judicial department at

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various places. He served 20 British families during war and was made sadar-ul-sulook. But after the war the British became sole power. They blamed Muslims for revolts. Owing to this, Sir Syed insisted Muslims to be ~~allegiant~~ with allegiance <sup>to</sup> British. A'ali also instructed Muslim to aloof from politics as they were not equipped with modern education. The Aligarh movement played a crucial role in making the Muslim conscious for their distinct identity. Th through teaching science and Islamic values to them

## 2- Loyalty to Britishness:

After the war of independence, British became the sole power in India and the Mughal empire had reached its end. Moreover, British became hostile to the Muslims and blamed the Muslims for being cause of revolt. In this hard time, Sir Syed Ahmed



insisted the Muslims show  
allegiance to British rules,  
as the Muslims were the  
minority. So, it's the only  
way left for their survival.  
Perhaps he was implementing  
democratic action, but it  
is good sometime.

Attempt by giving  
subheadings

### 3- Aloofness from Politics: ~~temporarily~~

The visionary reformers instructed  
his fellow Muslim to aloof  
themselves from politics as they  
were not equipped with  
modern education and political  
tactics. Because he no his  
fellows have no skill and  
politics demanding an educational  
mentality for <sup>its</sup> successful  
delivery. Hence, his intellectuality  
compelled him to  
instruct Muslim to keep  
them away from politics  
and exercise with education.  
As education is the  
only which bring them  
out of this colonialism.

#### 4- Devotion to Education:

Sir Syed Ahmad was very devoted to education. He is the Author of 42 books. His famous work is 'Khutbat-e-Ahmadiya'. In which he responded to the controversial point of William Muir in his book about Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W). He collected the reference to respond during his stay to UK. His Aligarh Movement was a pure education venture. In this movement he made several societies, schools, colleges, universities. The <sup>students</sup> university helped him in the political campaigns regarding muslim unity.

#### • Aligarh Movement Objectives:

- 1) To create a atmosphere of mutual understanding between British and Muslims
- 2) To persuade Muslims to learn English education
- 3) To persuade Muslims to abstain from Politics of agitat
- 4) To produce an intellectual class of Muslims from Muslim



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Community.

## • Educational Aspect of Aligarh Movement:

His main goal was to open the minds of Muslim to European education, science and technology. For this, in 1859 built Gulshan School in Muradabad. In 1884, set up scientific society in Aligarh this society was involved in translating English works into native language. In 1856, published Aligarh Institute Gazette. This Gazette contain information on history, ancient and modern science and technology, natural and physical sciences and advanced mathematics. In 1875, built Muhammadan Anglo-Oriented School which later raised to level of college and in 1920 transformed into Muslim University.

## 5- Conclusion:

In a nutshell, Sir Ahmed Khan was a Mullah for the Muslim in the 19th century. He single handedly

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Worked towards social, political  
educational and religious uplifting

This revival brought cult  
from the shadows of menance.

Sir Syed's Aligarh movement  
played a crucial role  
in bringing the revolution  
among the Indian Muslims.

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