

(Q1)

Role of religious reformers
in the socio-political awakening
of Indian Muslims in the 19th
century.

(Ans)

Outline.

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Answer to the Question.

Introduction.

Religious reformers played a key role in socio-political awakening of Indian Muslims in the 19th century. Syed Ahmed Braveli, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Haji Shariatullah are the most important contributors of the 19th

century. They started reform movements. Syed Ahmed Barelvi started Jihad movement, for the unity of Indian Muslims. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan founded Aligarh movement (1875), for socio-political and educational reforms, likewise, Haj Shariatullah led Faraizi movement (1818-1857). These movements played a vital role in socio-political awareness of Muslims in the Subcontinent.

• Post-1857: Situation of Muslims

After war of Independence, 1857, Muslims of Indian faced socio-economic and political downfall. They were suppressed by Britishers of Subcontinent in all walks of life.

They were deprived from their property and education. They were very disappointed and frustrated. At that time, many religious scholars rose for the protection of Muslims' identity in the subcontinent.

• 19th century Reformers.

Most important reformers of the 19th century include Syed Ahmed Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Haji Shariatullah. They started reform movements; Syed Ahmed started Jihad movement (1926-1931) for the protection of Islamic values and unity among Muslims. Sir Syed led Aligarh movement (1875) for educational and social

reforms, but it had indirect political consequences. Haji Shariatullah formed Faraizi movement (1818-1845) for distorting un-Islamic values and practices in the subcontinent.

• Contributions of Religious Reformers in Socio-Political Awakening.

• Jihad Movement.

Jihad movement (1826-1831) was led by Syed Ahmed Barelvi. He was born in Rae Barelvi, India in 1776. He was a religious scholar of the 19th century, but he didn't stop himself to the religious reforms, but extend his influences to Muslim

politics. Braveli wanted to preach Islamic practices among Muslims and refrain them from unIslamic customs and trends, condemned superstitions and narrowmindedness. He promote unity among Muslims and aware them from their distinctiveness. Jihadid movement laid the foundation of Pakistan movement. It arose political consciousness among Muslims. They started struggle for their separate religious state, eventually, led to the formation of Pakistan in 1947.

• causes of Jihad Movement.

- Social, political and religious downfall of Muslims.
- Disintegration among

- Widespread of unIslamic practices.

• Impacts and Significance of Jihad Movement

- Jihad movement arose political awareness among Muslims.
- It led to the Muslims towards their separate path from Hindus.
- It laid the foundation of Pakistan movement.

Although this movement had left an incredible impacts on Muslims, but its ^{military} remained unsuccessful due to disunity.

• Faraizi Movement:

Faraizi movement (1818-1857) led by Haji Shariatullah. The word Faraizi came from farz (Obligatory Islamic practices). Haji Shariatullah was a religious scholar of the 19th century. He played an important part in the restoration of Muslims' identity in the subcontinent. He started this movement after the Muslims' socio-political, economic and religious downfall in India. He is the revival of Islam. He preached true Islamic values among Muslims. He purified Islam from un-Islamic practices.

• Causes of Faraizi Movement.

- Spread of unislamic trends (bid'ah and Shirk).
- Decline of Muslims.
- Disunity among Muslims.

• Outcomes of Faraizi Movement.

- Muslims were aware from Islamic and unislamic practices.
- Muslims were aware from their separate identity.
- Ideological foundation of Pakistan's formation.

• Aligarh Movement.

Aligarh movement (1875) launched by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan in Aligarh for the

protection of distinct identity of Muslims. Sir Syed Ahmed was a religious scholar. His movement, Aligarh movement, had profound impact on the history of Indian Muslims. It led to the political awareness among Muslims. They started to struggle for their separate homeland. Its core purpose was to uplift education and social reforms, but it had an indirect political impact.

• causes of Aligarh Movement.

- Betrayal British promises with Muslims.

- Loss of identity of Muslims in the subcontinent.

- Miserable condition of Muslims after 1857.

• Impacts of Aligarh Movement.

- Muslims started struggle for their own distinct homeland.
- Played role in Pakistan movement.
- It arose unity among Muslims.

• Critical Analysis.

Reforms movements like Aligarh, Faraizi and Jihad movement had positive as well as negative consequences. Like Jihad movement laid the foundation of Pakistan movement, but it led to disunity among members of Hindus and Muslims. Similarly, Aligarh

movement led Muslims to struggle for their separate homeland, but it may led to disunity among Hindus and Muslims.

add a few more arguments in this part.

Conclusion:-

Religious reformers played a vital role in socio-political awareness of Muslims in the subcontinent, in the 19th century. Sir Syed Ahmed, Syed Ahmed Barelvi, Haji Shariatullah etc are the most prominent and influential personalities and reformers of the 19th century. They led movements, built educational institutions and wrote many books,

magazines and journals for
teaching true Islamic concepts.

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the answer is lengthy and will affect your time management.