

PAKISTAN STUDIES

TOPIC: MUSLIMS AWAKENING AND PAKISTAN RESOLUTION (1940) AND THE START OF PAKISTAN MOVEMENT WITH CLEAR DESTINATION (1940-1947)

MUSLIMS AWAKENING AND PAKISTAN RESOLUTION (1940):

At the 1940 Muslim Alliance meeting in Lahore in 1940, Jinnah stated: "Hindus and the Muslims have a place with two unique religions, philosophies, social traditions and literature.... It is very evident that Hindus and Muslims get their motivation from various wellsprings of history. They have diverse stories, distinctive saints and diverse episodes.... To yoke together two such countries under a solitary state, one as a numerical minority and alternate as a greater part, must prompt developing discontent and last decimation of any texture that might be so developed for the administration of such a state. At Lahore the Muslim Association formally recommitted itself to making a free Muslim state, including Sindh, Punjab, Baluchistan, the North West Wilderness Area and Bengal, that would be "completely independent and sovereign". The resolution ensured assurance for non-Muslim religions. The Lahore Resolution, moved by the sitting Chief Minister of Bengal A. K. Fazlul Huq, was embraced on 23 March 1940, and its standards and its principles formed the foundation for Pakistan's first constitution. Talks among Jinnah and Gandhi in 1944 in Bombay failed to achieve agreement. This was the last endeavor to achieve a solitary state arrangement.

THE START OF PAKISTAN MOVEMENT WITH CLEAR DESTINATION (1940-1947):

1- PAKISTAN RESOLUTION (1940):

This was the day when the Muslims of the subcontinent of India declared their commitment to achieve an independent state of their own. Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah was the first to demand a separate and single homeland for Muslims in the subcontinent because of differences in Hindu and Muslim religion, culture, customs, norms, values, concepts and civilization. He built a separate homeland for us and Allama Iqbal woke the conscience the Muslims of the subcontinent through his philosophical work. The Lahore Resolution proved to be a successful struggle by the Muslims of the subcontinent for their emancipation from British rule. It took almost seven years after the Lahore Resolution to take final shape into the new state of Pakistan. There should

be a democratic, Islamic Pakistan which is free from dictatorship and we should remember that Pakistan is our country. It is proud of its youth, who are the future of the nation. May our country be bestowed with the blessing of peace.

2- CRIPPS MISSION (1942):

The British government wanted to get the cooperation of the Indian people in order to deal with the war situation. The divergence between the two major representative parties of the country harassed the British government. It found it difficult to make the war a success without the cooperation of both the Hindus and the Muslims.

On March 22, 1942, Britain sent Sir Stafford Cripps with constitutional proposals.

The important points of the declaration were as follows:

- a) General elections in the provinces would be arranged as soon as the war ended.
- b) A new Indian dominion, associated with the United Kingdom would be created.
- c) Those provinces not joining the dominion could form their own separate union.
- d) Minorities were to be protected.

However, both the Congress and the Muslim League rejected these proposals. Jinnah opposed the plan, as it did not concede Pakistan. Thus the plan came to *nothing*.

3- GANDHI-JINNAH TALKS (1944):

Lord Wavell released Gandhi from jail in 1944 due to ill health & he proposed to Jinnah to hold talks to discuss different issues, especially regarding partition of India, Jinnah accepted his proposal & meetings were arranged at Jinnah's house Bombay from 9 to 27th of September. Gandhi tried his best to take the decision of partition back but Jinnah refused.

Then Gandhi accepted Sindh, Baluchistan and N.W.F.P as Muslim majority areas but he tried that Punjab, Bengal and Assam were not completely Muslim so these areas should be divided communally.

Jinnah refused to accept this & tried to convince Gandhi, provinces would become "maimed and mutilated" in case of division.

Gandhi gave another option that people of Punjab, Bengal and Assam should decide their own future. Jinnah was aware of that if elections would be conducted in these areas the results would be in favor of Congress so he refused to accept his platform.

4- SHIMLA CONFERENCE (1945):

Lord Wavell invited 21 political leaders including Mahatma Gandhi and M A Jinnah to Shimla, the summer capital of British India to discuss the Wavell Plan. The Shimla Conference took place on June 25, 1945. The conference was a failure because the League and the Congress could not settle their differences. Jinnah insisted that only League members could be the Muslim representatives in the Council, and opposed to the Congress nominating Muslim members. This was because Jinnah wanted the League to be the sole representative of Muslims in India. The Congress would never agree to this demand. In the Wavell Plan, there were 6 Muslim representatives out of 14 members, which was more than the Muslim share of population. Despite this, the League wanted the power of veto to any constitutional proposal which it believed was not in its interest. The Congress opposed this unreasonable demand also. Jinnah refused to give the names to the council unless the government acknowledged that only the Muslim League was the exclusive representative of Indian Muslims. The Wavell Plan, thus, was dissolved with the failure of the conference. After this, the war ended and a new Labor government was elected in Britain. This new government was intent on giving independence to India without much delay and sent the Cabinet Mission with that purpose.

5- 3RD JUNE PLAN:

The British Govt. chose Lord Mountbatten as the Last Viceroy of India. The British Prime Minister, Lord Attlee wanted to transfer the power as soon as possible to the Indians till June, 1948. Atlee chose short time due to reason that in case of long time there would be more disagreements. Mountbatten had very limited time & for a long time in spite of the govt. efforts they could not get an acceptable solution for the Muslim League & the Congress. The Viceroy worked very hard to meet his target & finally he was able to form a partition plan. The congress accepted it in May 1947 and Muslim League also accepted it. After the approval from the British Govt. it was announced on 3rd June.

The some main characteristics of the plan were:

- There would be two states name **Pakistan & India**
- The division of the both the provinces of Punjab and Bengal would be decided by the Legislatures.
- The people N.W.F.P would be given a choice through referendum.
- The people of Baluchistan would be given a chance to decide their future.

6- INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 1947:

It was approved on 15th July 1947 by the Govt. & it was decided there would be two dominion states India & Pakistan. The first Govt. of Pakistan accepted the power on 14th August. The Govt. also approved that till the formation of a new constitution the Govt. of India Act 1935 would be used as the temporary constitution for both the countries. Princely states would be free to join with any country according to their choice.

