

Role of Jinnah in Partition of India- Pakistan

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Abstract— India was under control of British for about 200 years. It finally got freedom on 15th August, 1947. Many people, nationalist have sacrificed their lives for the freedom of the country. One such prominent nationalist who fought for the freedom of India was Mohammad Ali Jinnah. It is said that Pakistan is created because of dispute between Jinnah and Nehru. It is often said that Jinnah played prominent role in the partition of India- Pakistan. In the research the researcher has tried to trace out that whether Jinnah was the sole reason of partition or not. India faced lots of problem but this was drastic decision taken by our leaders. It is difficult to say that we should be happy that we got Independence or we should be sad that we got divided with our brothers on this very day with creation of Pakistan. Jinnah was a leader of Muslim League. From very starting he did not wished that Pakistan should be created. It was only due to some circumstances that led him take this decision. We will be dealing with such causes that made Jinnah changed his ideology and made him demand for separate state i.e. Pakistan. It is always said that person never claps with one hand. So it will be interesting to see that whether demand of partition by Jinnah was for his sole profit motive i.e. for acquiring political power or something else was there behind his demand. Therefore, researcher will be carefully dealing with events which involves Jinnah and which played important role in partition of India- Pakistan.

Index Terms—About four key words or phrases in alphabetical order, separated by commas.

I. INTRODUCTION

India has struggle a lot to get freedom. India was under the rule of Britishers for about 200 years. They were able to rule upon India through their divide and rule policy. India finally got independence on 15th August, 1947. India was able to achieve this because its rightly said by Mother Teresa that I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things. Indians were able to achieve their freedom because of their unity. Prominent leaders of Independence were Mohammad Ali Jinnah, Mahatma Gandhi, and Jawaharlal Nehru etc. Despite of having such a great unity it difficult to say that what went wrong and India got divided into Hindustan and Pakistan. Mohammad Ali Jinnah is said to be main person responsible for India-Pakistan partition. We will further discuss about his early life, political career and events leading to India-Pakistan partition.

II. EARLY LIFE

Mohammad Ali Jinnah was born on 25th December, 1876 in Karachi now in Pakistan, but then part of British controlled India. His father name was Jinnahbhai Poonja. He was eldest of his seven siblings. He belonged from Khoja family of Gondal. His father was merchant, emigrated from Gondal

State of Khatiwar to Karachi, and Mithibhai. He had no political background. His education began in an infant vernacular school from where he went to a Gujarati- medium Madrasa. He told his father that he wish to join family business at very tender age instead of going to school. His father denied to his wish. He was not much interested in studies and he was pronounced horribly poor in mathematics by his teachers. It was decided to send him to Bombay to his aunt for his studies but his mother recalled him and called him back.

Going to Bombay and having exposure to outside world changed him a lot. On returning to Karachi after 6 months he again joined Sindh Madressah-tul-Islam and learnt both Gujarati and English. In March 1892, he went to Christian Mission School. Meanwhile his father was collaborating with Grahams Shipping and Trading Company, which offered Mohammad Ali Jinnah to get training in business at Company's head office in London. Mohammad Ali Jinnah and his father were very happy with this but Jinnah's mother did not wish to send her son to London as she feared he might bring a foreigner daughter- in law. His mother kept a condition before him that if wish to go to London he will have to marry afterwards Emibai, a 14 year old girl who belonged from Paneli in Gondal State.

III. JINNAH'S NEW BEGINNING IN LONDON

He was earlier not able to match standards of students of London as his English was bit weak in front of them. Soon he brushed himself and was able to adapt to new environment. Soon his attire also changed from Indian turban and Kathiawari coat to western-style suits. He did not enjoyed apprenticeship in English company and finally decided to give up business as career and choose law. His father was very much disappointed with his decision and decided to call him back. He argued his father that he won't ask him for any allowances but just give him some time to prove himself. He decided to give entrance exam called Little go to secure admission in one of Inns of Court. His petition for exemption of Latin portion of preliminary exam was granted. In June, 1893 he joined Lincoln's Inn. In April, 1895 he finally cleared Bar examination.

IV. JINNAH'S ENTRY IN POLITICS

Jinnah first entered in Indian politics in 1906. He first time attended the session of Indian National Congress as secretary of Dadabhai Naoroji. Jinnah was inspired by Gokhale and wanted to become Muslim Gokhale. All India Muslim League was founded in 1906. It was 1910 that he with his individuality began to rise in Indian politics. Jinnah was not much enthusiastic with idea of separate electorates which

were granted to Muslims by Morley Minto in 1909. Only in 1913, when authoritatively assured that the league was as devoted as the Congress Party to the political emancipation of India, did Jinnah join the league.¹ When the Indian [Home Rule League](#) was formed, he became its chief organizer in Bombay and was elected president of the Bombay branch.

V. POLITICAL UNITY

Some scholars call Jinnah as an ambassador of Hindu - Muslim unity. It is said that it was due to efforts of Jinnah only that Congress and Muslim League started conducting their sessions together. The main aim behind this was to facilitate mutual consultation and participation. The two organizations that is Muslim League and Congress held their meetings in 1915 in Bombay. On 1916 also they held their meeting together in Lucknow where famous Poona Pact was concluded. Under the terms of the pact both the organizations agreed on constitutional reform and it became their jointly demand from British government. When Muslims got separate electorate under British rule it resisted Congress.

VI. CHANGING EVENTS BY 1919

Things started changing in Indian politics by 1919. The main reason of this was the Mahatma Gandhi occupying prominent position. Gandhi gave support to khilafat movement and this made Muslims happy. But twist was that this support was given by hidden motive. Gandhiji wanted support of all the people in policy of non violent non-cooperation. Jinnah was not at all happy with this fusion of religion and politics. His ideology was that the religion and politics should not be integrated. This move of Gandhiji left Jinnah in cold wings.

Jinnah publically declared Gandhiji wrong. He said that Gandhiji made Hindus fight with Hindus, Father fight with sons. He was not in favor of Gandhiji's non-cooperation policy. He was of the view that this movement will lead to complete disorganization and chaos.² After the failure of non-cooperation the actual trouble started. After the failure of non-cooperation movement Hindu revivalist movement emerged that led to antagonism and riots between Hindu and Muslims. Due to this Muslims leaders started forming their own political parties in the provinces and a big problem in front of Jinnah was to unify them.

VII. JINNAH BACK IN ROLE BY WAY OF SIMON COMMISSION

In 1927 it was announced in the House of Commons in England that commission will be sent to India to look after Indian politics and suggest reforms. This Commission had no Indian member. There was protest in whole India that there is no Indian member and people demanded that Indians should also be given equal participation in it. Jinnah and many Hindu leaders revolted against this. Jinnah strongly criticized the commission calling it a 'butchery of our souls'. As president of the Muslim League he said:

"a constitutional war has been declared on Great Britain.

Negotiations for a settlement are not to come from our side...We are denied equal partnership. We will resist the new doctrine to the best of our powers...I welcome Pandit Malaviya, and I welcome the hand of fellowship extended to us by Hindu leaders from the platform of the Congress and the Hindu Mahasabha....this offer is more valuable than any concession which the British Government can make."

On 16th February, 1925 a resolution was passed by Lala Lajpat Rai which was strongly supported by Jinnah. It was declared in this resolution that Indians had no confidence in Simon Commission.

Jinnah secluded himself from politics between period of 1930-1935. He remained in London during this period. He returned to India in the year 1934.

VIII. MORE RIGOROUS MUSLIM LEAGUE

Jinnah finally and officially secluded himself from Indian National Congress in 1934. Jinnah decided to dissolve the disputes of Muslim League and make it more rigorous and strict. Under Muslim League also many Muslim leaders parted their ways and Jinnah wanted to unite them. Mohammad Ali Jinnah was quite successful in his attempt. By 1935, many Muslim leaders rejoined Muslim League and many Muslim leaders had joined Muslim League by leaving Indian National Congress.

Again an important year in life of Jinnah was 1937. Now Jinnah again started getting attached to his roots. Now he started wearing Muslim dress and giving importance to Islam. It can be said that year 1937 was the year from where actual conflict, hatred between Hindus and Muslims started. Provincial elections were held in this year. In the year 1937 it became clearly evident that neither Muslim League nor Indian National Congress was ready to work together. Indian National Congress straightaway declines to collaborate with Muslim League in areas with mixed religion.

IX. A CALL FOR PAKISTAN

Finally first time in Indian history the something happened that should have not happened. It was 24th March, 1940 when at the Lahore session Jinnah called for a separate country that is Pakistan. He was of the view that areas where majority of Muslim population is living should be clubbed together and a separate state i.e. Pakistan should be made. His aim besides this was that Hindus will stay away from Muslims and this will bring stability to the nation and will end any scope of religious violence.

X. CALCUTTA RIOTS, 1946

"Great Calcutta killing" is the other name used for Calcutta Riots, 1946. This was four days Hindu- Muslims riots that led to death of about 10,000 people and about 15,000 were wounded. The reason of this riot is as followed:

• Difference in the ideology of two parties

The very first and prominent cause was difference between Indian National Congress and Muslim League. A proposal was made by British Cabinet Mission on May 16, 1946 to avoid the partition that an interim government should be formed that will be composed of representatives from the

Muslim League, Congress and other forces. In this one more seat was given to Congress than League. This was not acceptable by Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the leader of Muslim League. The Muslim League under the leadership of Jinnah rejected this proposal and called for "Direct Action Day" in protest on August 16.

- **Majority of Muslims**

Another main cause was that in Bengal province the majority was Muslim population. Muslim population was 54% and Hindu population was 44%. In this province the Muslim League was in power.

- **Economic disparity between Hindu and Muslims**

Another cause for this was economic disparity between Hindus and Muslims. Muslims of Calcutta were basically artisans, factory workers, rickshaw puller and domestic servants. There were rich Hindu Marwari in Calcutta and big Muslim merchants were unable to compete with them. Although in the province population was of Muslim majority but in Calcutta, the Hindus were more financially strong and stable in comparison of Muslims. This also encouraged Muslim underworld which included smuggling, gambling and prostitution.

XI. INDIA- PAKISTAN PARTITION

As the communal riots were increasing day by day it was decided that it's better to part ways then to stay together so as to maintain peace. It was announced by Mr. Attlee on February 20, 1947 that before June, 1948 British would leave India. It was Lord Mountbatten who was sent as Viceroy of India at that time. In June, 1947 he put his plan for partition of India and Pakistan. This was not acceptable by Mahatma Gandhi but Muslim leaders including Jinnah and many Congress leader agreed to this. Finally in 1947 Jinnah got what he wants. In 1947, India Independence Act was passed. It created two independent states i.e. Pakistan and Indian Union. Pakistan and Indian Union were given independence by British government on August 15, 1947.

XII. CONCLUSION

It can be clearly laid down that Mohammad Ali Jinnah had played prominent role in partition of India and Pakistan. Here, the Britishers took advantage of our weakness that is they used divide and rule policy. This can be clearly seen in Govt. of India Act, 1909. Other reasons were Lucknow Pact and Calcutta riots. Jinnah cannot be said to be the sole person responsible for partition as somewhere Gandhi ji is also responsible for this as he was the one who integrated politics and religion in Khilafat movement which was disliked by Jinnah. The clash between Nehru and Jinnah for acquiring political power is also main reason for this. It can be concluded that Jinnah was not the sole person responsible for partition but policy of British Govt., Jawaharlal Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi, Indian National Congress leaders and many other pacts and riots are responsible for this drastic partition.

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