



HUM 113 IDEOLOGY AND CONSTITUTION OF PAKISTAN

Lecture 05
Pakistan Movement
(1909-1940 Historical Events)

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Minto Morley Reforms 1909



Indian Councils Act 1909

- The Indian Councils Act 1909 , commonly known as the **Morley-Minto Reforms** (or **Minto-Morley Reforms**), was an Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom that brought about a limited increase in the involvement of Indians in the governance of British India.

Salient Features [1/3]

- The number of members of legislative council of Governor General and the Governors of various provinces was increased.
- The powers of Members of Legislature were increased. They could now criticize the actions of the executive, ask questions and even supplementary questions, and express their views by moving resolutions. Matters of public interest were also discussed in the Legislative Council.
- The Indians were included in the councils, where ultimate decisions were made, of the India Secretary and Viceroy. Before these reforms they were excluded from such councils. In fact, a type of consultative body was formed.

Salient Features [2/3]

- For the first time, the demand for a separate electorate was accepted. A constitutional recognition of Separate Electorate was a great achievement for the Muslims. Muslims could now have their own representative members at the Legislative Councils. They were to be elected by Muslims alone.
- The Indians were not satisfied with these reforms. Strict qualifications of property and education were imposed on franchise. Consequently, the number of voters was restricted. Moreover, the system of election was indirect. The members of local bodies were elected by the people who, in turn, were to elect members of electoral colleges. The members of electoral colleges were to elect members of Provincial Legislature who, in turn, were to elect members of Imperial Legislature.

Salient Features [3/3]

- In order to win the support of maximum factions of the society, the Government wanted to give special representation to the loyalist classes. In this context, a special representation was given to landlords, chambers of commerce and other influential groups.
- Further, S.P. Sinha, an Indian, was included in the Viceroy's Executive Council. However, this act was bitterly criticized by the Muslims, for they had previously demanded that two Indian members including one Muslim should be included in the Council. The Government promised to appoint Muslim the next time. After Sinha's resignation, Sayed Ali Imam was appointed as a Member of the Executive council.

Criticism



- Demand of responsible government was rejected.
- Importance of landlords and industrialist increased which was resented by the common Indians.
- Restricted Franchise (women were not given the right to vote).

Reaction



- **Hindu Reaction**

- Demonstrative campaign against this act.
- They were against separate electorate given to Muslims.
- Congress condemned it and demanded for the withdrawal of separate electorate.

- **Muslim Reaction**

- Muslims welcomed the provision of separate electorate.

Lucknow Pact 1916



Lucknow Pact 1916

- Lucknow pact is considered as a significant event in the political & constitutional history of India.
- It is regarded as an excellent example of Hindu Muslim unity.
- It was the first and last pact signed between Congress and Muslim league.

Factors Behind the Pact



- The relations between the British government and Muslims were tense due to aggressive and unilateral policies of the British.
- The annulment of the partition of Bengal in 1911 the British policies in the international system had caused deep anguish among the Muslims.
- Thus the Muslims leaderships decided to change the strategy of the Muslim league after the annulment of Bengal in 1911.
- In December 1912, Muslim league changed its aim from loyalty to form self-government suitable to India.
- However, the league retained the right to modify self-rule in accordance with their needs and requirements.

Jinnah and the Pact [1/2]

- Jinnah arose as a devoted champion of Hindu Muslim unity, he convinced All India Muslim league to change their policies for the betterment of India.
- Muhammad Ali Jinnah in his early career was a member of both the Congress and the Muslim league and was well known as a man free of any religious prejudice, as well as a brilliant advocate and debater.
- In 1915, mainly due to his efforts, both the Muslim league and the Congress party had their annual meeting in Bombay. At the end of this meeting, a committee was formed with the intention to sort the common understanding between the two communities.

Jinnah and the Pact [2/2]

- The committee prepared a scheme in November, 1916. The scheme was approved by both the parties in December, 1916 at the respective sessions at Lucknow.
- Jinnah (Quaid-e-Azam), in his presidential speech at Lucknow, said: *“India’s real progress can only be achieved by a true understanding and harmonious relations between the two great communities. With regard to our own affairs, we can depend upon nobody but ourselves.”*

Features of the Pact [1/2]

- The Congress agreed to the right to separate electorate for the Muslims for first and last time in the history of subcontinent.
- The Hindus conceded that the Muslims would have one third representation in the imperial legislative council.
- A weightage formula was proposed under which the Muslims would get less representation than their population in the legislative council in those provinces where they were in majority but more in provinces where they were in minority.
- Provinces should be given maximum administrative and financial autonomy.
- Elections should be conducted on the basis of general adult franchise.
- The secretary of the state for India should be given same powers as are given to the secretary of state for other colonies.
- The executive and Judiciary should remain separate from each other.

Features of the Pact [2/2]

- The Muslim League and the congress should jointly demand for the establishment of complete self government in India.
- The Muslims should be given separate reserved seats in the legislature with the right of separate electorate.
- Any resolution affecting a particular community should require $\frac{3}{4}$ (75%) majority of the members of that community for its advancement in any council.
- All India Muslim League withdrew from the demand that Muslims were in majority in the Punjab and Bengal.

Importance of the Pact [1/2]

- The Lucknow pact was a great achievement of Hindu and Muslim leaders, who were successful in offering for the first and last time. It was a mutually acceptable solution of the Hindu Muslim problem.
- It appeared to be of special significance in the history of India. It was the Quaid-e-Azam, who had always been a staunch supporter of Hindu-Muslim unity.
- The scheme provided for a substantial step taken halfway towards the establishment of self-rule in India which was the main core of the jointly sponsored scheme of Lucknow pact.
- The Congress for the first time accepted the demand of separate electorate for Muslims.
- The pact ensured the protection of political rights of Muslims.
- Muslim league's separate status was also accepted. Through this pact both parties were able to put a joint demand before the British.

Importance of the Pact [2/2]

- It was basically a give and take sort of agreement between both the parties.
- The Muslims had to pay a big price of loosing majority in Bengal and Punjab to obtain some concessions.
- Similarly, it carried great constitutional significance in future for many developments.
- The scheme of representation of Muslim community in the central and provincial legislatures as embodied in the Lucknow pact was generally followed in the Montague Chelmsford reforms 1919.

Khilafat Movement [1/7]

- The Khilafat movement (1919-1924) was an agitation by Indian Muslims allied with Indian nationalism in the years following World War I. Its purpose was to pressurize the British government to preserve the authority of the Ottoman Sultan as Caliph of Islam following the breakup of the Ottoman Empire at the end of the war.

