

The Congress Raj (1937-39)

Introduction:-

- ↳ Government of India Act 1935 provided for representative govt at provincial level.
- ↳ Govt held elections → on the basis of separate electorate.
- ↳ Congress won most of the seats reserved for Muslims, Hindus, etc
- ↳ it formed coalition government in 3 provinces → and formed complete govt in 8 provinces

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- ↳ Started in 1937 → ended in Dec 1939
Resigned in protest against unilateral decision of British declaring India at war with Germany.

Congress ministries made the Muslims' lives miserable → tyranny of Congress rule became an eye opener for the Indian Muslims. Thus Muslim League demanded a separate homeland for Indian Muslims. → formally put forwarded by Indian Muslims rigorously.

Policies of Congress Ministries & impact on Muslims.

Congress achieved big victory & formed govt in different provinces. After winning the elections, they adopted rigid policy
→ they refused to form coalition govt with the Muslim League by putting terms & conditions, impossible to meet for Muslim League (SSPMS360)

→ Thus Muslim League rejected the terms & pure Congress ministry formed in the United Province.

1) Bande Matram:

Congress → imposed Hindu nationalism @SSPMS360 on the Muslims

→ declared Bande Matram → national Anthem & three coloured flag → national flag
→ insisted on commencing the day by recitation of Bande Matram & ordered the hoisting of three coloured flag which represent congress & British.

2) Warda & Widia Mander Scheme:

The main objectives of these schemes were to brainwash the Muslim Youth by infusing in them the ideology & theory of one nation. Supremacy & dominance of Hindu religion & culture was the primary intentions of these schemes
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3) Urdu-Hindi Controversy:

Acc. to Wardha scheme → medium of instructions in the school would be Hindi. Eventually Hindi language was given topmost importance in their policies & declared Hindi as their national language.
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4) Hindu-Muslim Riots:

Hindus were free to assault innocent Muslims in United India. → houses, properties were set on fire & women & children were abducted.

Hindrance in the way of Religious Practices:

↳ erase the identity of Muslims
Some anti-Muslim activities "History & Culture of Pakistan"

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Congress Raj in CP → considered as the authentic history of Congress ministry the book contained report on state of law & order, Wardha Educational Scheme, Vidya Mander Scheme, exploitations & Carnage of the Muslims, injustice & ill-will of Hindus & usurpation of rights of the Muslim.

Two other booklets, Muslims sufferings Under the Congress Rule & It shall Never Happen Again were brought out.

5) Hindrance in Religious Practices:

- ↳ Ban on the slaughter of cows
- ↳ Anti-social elements without any fear created noise & disturbances outside the mosques
- ↳ no-one → bother to stop the anti-Muslim trends/activities.
- ↳ Congress didn't even condemn the anti-muslim activities

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- ↳ Acc. to **Nigel Kelly**, author of 'History & Culture of Pakistan' During two years rule, Congress kept mum over deliberate anti-Muslim riots, e.g. attacks on Houses & setting the property on fire.

Hence it is not wrong to say that 27 months rule of congress was just a nightmare for Muslims

"The Muslims can expect neither justice nor fair play under congress government."

(Quaid-e-Azam M. Ali Jinnah)

Conclusion:

The struggle for freedom in the subcontinent had not confined to specific occasion, out of series of events. → Congress ministries & their policies → provoked muslims → for separate home land. Muslims → Two-Nation Theory. With the end of Congress rule in 1939, the Muslims celebrated Day of Deliverance on December 22, 1940. Thus they formally put forward the demand for separate home land, Pakistan. @SSPM5360.