

The Lucknow Pact 1916

Introduction:

- ↳ Signed b/w the Indian National Congress & All India Muslim League in Dec 1916 in Lucknow
- ↳ signed at the annual session held by both parties to put forth the demand of Self Governance. (1906-1920)
- ↳ M. Ali Jinnah, mem of both parties had suggested session to put pressure on Britishers for self governance.
- ↳ Arose friendly relation b/w INC & AIML.

M. Ali Jinnah was given the title of "Ambassador of Hindu-Muslim Unity" by Sarojini Naidu."

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Background:

AIML came into existence in 1906 to represent Muslims in subcontinent.

After the first World War, when Britishers were busy in Europe, then M. Ali Jinnah,

Joined Congress in 1906 → AIML → 1913)

who was mem of both parties, INC & AIML, decided to use the opportunity for both parties and put pressure on the reforms of British.

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- ↳ It was the first time when both the parties stood indifferently at a joint session.
- ↳ The Leader of both the parties gathered & in Oct 1916, a total of 19 elected mem from both parties, addressed a memorandum to the Viceroy for constitutional Reforms.
- ↳ Ultimately, Muslim League & INC confirmed their agreement at Lucknow in Dec 1916 which was then known as, "The Lucknow Pact, 1916."

Key Provisions of Lucknow Pact:

- ① Representation in Imperial Legislature:
 - ↳ Imperial Legislative Council in center with 150 members. (80% seats)
 - ↳ $\frac{4}{5}$ shall be elected for decision making
 - ↳ $\frac{1}{3}$ seats will be of Muslims
- ② Separate Electorate: CSSPMS360
33% seats \rightarrow through separate electorate system.
- ③ Dominion Status:
Demand of self governance together.
- ④ Introduction of Communal Veto:
If a bill introduced in Legislature which is affecting a community shall not be presented unless approved by the community.
- ⑤ Autonomus Units:
Maximum autonomy to provinces.
(Indians should elect their governor General)

⑥ Representation in Executive Council:

Half of the members of the executive council would be Indians, elected by Imperial Legislative Council.

⑦ Other key points:

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- ↳ Sec of state of India shouldn't be paid from Indian Funds.
- ↳ Term of Legislative council should be made 5 years rather than 3 years.
- ↳ Reserved seats for Muslims in Hindu Majority provinces.
- ↳ provincial legislative will have $\frac{4}{5}$ elected & $\frac{1}{5}$ nominated members.
- ↳ Judiciary should be independent to the executive.
(High Court Judges were also mem of provincial executive)
- ↳ Right of discussion over bills.
- ↳ Supplementary Questions Right.

Analysis of Lucknow Pact:

- ↳ Pact made it clear that Ind has different communities.
- ↳ Both parties, INC & AIML had agreed on the proposal of separate electorate.
- ↳ Nevertheless, the Lucknow pact at that time was called a symbol of "Hindu Muslim Unity" which lasted for sometime. CSSPM5360
- ↳ Muslims had to pay big price of losing majority in Bengal & Punjab to obtain some concession

Conclusion:

The agreement was outstanding. But, it was impossible to the parties to make a united India. The Hindus & Muslims are two different Nations, therefore Lucknow Pact failed to make a long lasting cooperation in India & terminated after almost 2 years.