

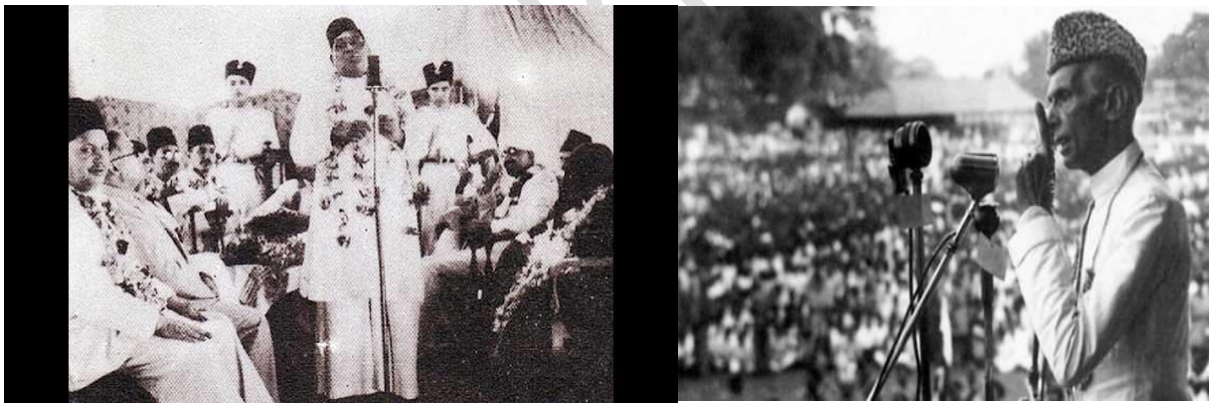
❖ Lahore Resolution (1940) :

The Lahore resolution is an important event in the history of the Indian subcontinent. The Lahore Resolution was a formal statement, which sought the creation of a separate Muslim state. At the Lahore session of the Muslim League on 23 March 1940, Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Huq, proposed the establishment of several independent states in the Muslim-dominated areas of northwestern and northeastern India, known in history as the Lahore Proposal. That's why Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Haque is called the proponent of the Lahore resolution. The Lahore resolution is also called the first constructive resolution of the Muslim League to solve the Indian problem. However, later it became the Pakistan Proposal and in 1947 the state of Pakistan was created on the basis of religion.

❖ Background of Lahore Resolution:

The prospect of Hindu-Muslim unity of the Bengal Pact was failed. The efforts suggested by Nehru to make negotiations between the Hindus and the Muslims also failed in 1928 on the issue of election for the minorities. Failing in his efforts to establish a Hindu-Muslim harmony Jinnah presented his famous 14 point formula in 1929, where Muslim interests had special priority. Under these circumstances all political parties refused the Symon Commission report in 1930. Three consecutive roundtable conferences in London between 1930 to 1932 ended without any decision. This time leaders of different communities created pressure on the British Prime Minister to solve this crisis. In this context, the British Prime Minister Ramsey Macdonald declared the

"Communal Award" to solve the crisis. Afterwards the British parliament accepted the India Rule Act in 1935 which included federal system of government and provincial autonomy. Though the Act was an important document in the administrative history of India, the federal government system could not be enacted according to it. Both the parties demanded extended legislative and political reforms. On the other hand, Hindu Mohasova opposed the Act. In 1938 in a meeting of the provincial Muslim League in Sindh Jinnah termed the Muslims and the Hindus two different nations. Thus before the Lahore resolution was presented, the view that the Muslims and the Hindus were two different nations created the idea of creating two separate states for them. The practical example of this view was the Lahore Resolution.



❖ The Principal features of the Lahore Resolution:

The main theme of the Lahore resolution is the establishment of Muslim rights and autonomy.

(a). Independent states to be formed with the Muslim majority regions in the North Western and North Eastern India.

(b). These independent states will be autonomous and sovereign.

(c). Sufficient measures must be taken in the constitution to ensure the rights and interests of the minority groups after discussing with them.

(d). Powers on defense, foreign affairs, communication would be bestowed upon the concerned subsidiary states.

❖ Reaction to Lahore proposal:

Muslim League welcomed the Lahore proposal. But the Congress opposed the Lahore proposal. Gandhi called the partition of India a crime or sin. The Hindu newspapers in Calcutta criticized the Lahore resolution and referred to it as the Pakistan resolution. On the other hand, the British government took a neutral position.

❖ Importance of Lahore Resolution :

- The Lahore resolution destroyed communal harmony. It created mistrust and suspicion between Hindus and Muslims. As a result, the Hindu-Muslim communal harmony was destroyed forever.
- Inspired by the Lahore resolution, the election of United Front was in 1954 and the United Front won the election.
- The six-point demand raised by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in 1966 was based on the Lahore resolution.
- The Lahore resolution also played a role in the 1971 war of liberation and independence.