

# **PAK301 SHORT QUESTIONS FULL BOOK**

**Prepared by:**  
**Jhanzaib Pervaiz**  
**&**  
**Ghazal Aziz**

## **1: What is ideology?**

**IDEOLOGY** is a set of beliefs, values and ideals of a group and a nation.

## **2: What is the Ideology of Pakistan?**

Ideology of Pakistan sought its roots from the religion of Islam. It basically means that Pakistan should be a state where the Muslims should have an opportunity to live according to their faith and creed based on the Islamic principles. They should have all the resources at their disposal to prosper and to enhance Islamic culture and civilization without any fear of being dominated by an unsympathetic Hindu majority.

## **3: What is Two Nation Theory?**

Two Nation Theory means that there were two major nations in the British India. Both the nations were different and distinct from each other with regard to their culture and civilization, language and literature, art and architecture, names and nomenclature, sense of values and proportions, legal laws and moral codes, customs and calendars, history and tradition, in short they had their own distinct outlook on life and of life, so they would have their separate homelands

## **4: What was the Khilafat Movement/Tehrik-i-Khilafat?**

The Khilafat movement was a religio-political movement launched by the Muslims of British India for the retention of the Ottoman Caliphate and for not handing over the control of Muslims' holy places to non-Muslims.

## **5: What was the Objectives Resolution?**

The Objectives Resolution was the first constitutional document that proved 'foundation' of the constitutional developments in Pakistan. It provided parameters and sublime principles to the legislators. It made the constitution-making process easy task setting some particular objectives before them that would be acceptable to the people of Pakistan

## **6: What is foreign policy?**

Foreign policy usually refers to as the general principles by which a state governs its reaction to the international environment and its interaction with other states

### **7: RCD and ECO?**

RCD and ECO Pakistan, Iran and Turkey signed Regional Cooperation for Development (RCD) in July 1964. It worked for economic development till 1985. As it fell short of expectations and could not meet the goals set forth before it, so it was renamed as Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). Later on, Afghanistan and five Central Asian Republics, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan joined it. Now ECO is working for more cooperation among its members to enhance development level of its members. Hope it will prove its worth and achieve the goal of development for its members

### **8: Islam believes in one nation (Ummah) then why Two Nation theory was propounded for the Muslims of the subcontinent?**

Islam creates one Ummah (Nation). In no way it means that all the Muslims of the world should come together and form one country. Islam believes in justice, peace, security and welfare of humanity. It exhorts its followers to struggle for the cause of Justice, peace, security and welfare of humanity. No matter where they are, they should follow its commands and injunctions. Boundries do not matter in Islam, what matters complete submission to Allah, following in the footsteps of the Holy Prophet and continuous struggle for justice and welfare of humanity. Pakistan was created on the basis of Two Nation theory because the causes for which Islam has stood since its inception was under threat in the subcontinent. It was not possible for the Muslims of the subcontinent to struggle freely for Islamic causes. It was in the fitness of things to propound Two Nation theory to create a separate state for the Muslims where they can prosper without the fear of unsympathetic majority.

### **9: What was the purpose of the Two Nation Theory of Sir syed Ahmad khan?**

The purpose of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was to create awareness among the Muslims about their separate identity, to warn them of the Hindu designs and plots hatched to subjugate the Muslims, and to make the British accept and treat the Muslims as a separate nation. As he was a great well-wisher of the Muslims, so he thought the Two Nation Theory as a way to protect the Muslims' interests in the subcontinent. Given the conflicting interests, if Hindus and Muslims had been together after 1857, there would have been civil war in the subcontinent and the resultant destruction and dejection. Giving them their separate status and separate domain to work for their prosperity was the only solution to the complicated situation of the subcontinent. This was the real idea behind the Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's struggle.

### **10: What was Hindi-Urdu controversy?**

During the last days of the Muslim rule, Urdu emerged as the most common language of the northwestern provinces of India. It was declared the official language, and all official records were written in this language. In 1867, some prominent Hindus started a movement in Banaras in which they demanded the replacement of Urdu with Hindi, and the Persian script with the Deva Nagri script, as the court language in the northwestern provinces. The reason for opposing Urdu was that the language was written in Persian script, which was similar to the Arabic script, and Arabic was the language of the Quran, the Holy Book of the Muslims.

The movement grew quickly and within a few months spread throughout the Hindu population of the northwestern provinces of India. The headquarters of this movement were in Allahabad. This situation provoked the Muslims to come out in order to protect the importance of the Urdu language. The opposition by the Hindus towards the Urdu language made it clear to the Muslims of the region that Hindus were not ready to tolerate the culture and traditions of the Muslims. The Urdu-Hindi controversy had a great effect on the life of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. Before this event he had been a great advocate of Hindu-Muslim unity and was of the opinion that the "two nations are like two eyes of the beautiful bride, India". But this movement completely altered his point of view. He put forward the Two-Nation Theory, predicting that the differences between the two groups would increase with the passage of time and the two communities would not join together in anything wholeheartedly.

**11: What was Swaraj (self-rule)?**

Swaraj was meant that India should be ruled by Indians not by the Britains. It was an objective to get the Britain leave the Indian subcontinent and establish a government led by the Indians. In other words it was meant independence for India.

**12: What kind of disagreement had Jinnah with Gandhi on the issue of Swaraj (self-rule)?**

Gandhi wanted the type of Swaraj that was awarded by the British to its other colonies in which there were democratic governments (government by the majority). Quaid-e-Azam was opposed to the kind of setup. He wanted self-rule suitable to India and with due safeguards for the minorities. As the government by the majority was meant Hindu Raj in the subcontinent. Quaid-e-Azam was against the Hindu-Raj.

**13: What was 'Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam'?**

Some leading and sincere Muslim leaders picked up the incentive in order to lessen the influence of the Hindu and Christian missionaries and decided to set up Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam on September 24, 1884 in a mosque known as Masjid Bakan Khan inside Mochi Gate, Lahore, where nearly 250 Muslims decided to set up the Anjuman for the educational guidance of the Muslims of the Punjab.

**14: What was Moplah Revolt?**

Moplahs were the descendents of the Arab Muslims settled in the Sub-Continent even before the arrival of Muhammad Bin Qasim. In August 1921, at Malabar Coast, near Kalicut, they revolted against Hindu landlords. Hindus feudal lords of that area with the collusion of the British managed to transfer large tracts of agricultural land to their name and this act antagonized the local Muslims who were poor peasants. These suffering poor peasant Muslims started an armed revolt against the local landlords and the government. The government resorted to repressive measures which resulted into deaths of thousands of Moplahs. It is called Moplah Revolt.

**15: What was 'Indian Home Rule League'?**

On April 23, 1916 Bal Gangadhar Tilak formed The Home Rule League in Bombay. Joseph Baptista became President and N.C. Kelkar Secretary of Tilak's Home Rule League which forestalled that of Mrs. Besant. Six months later Mrs. Annie Besant founded the league in Madras. "Dr. Besant started the Home Rule League in India for obtaining the freedom of the country and reviving the country's glorious cultural heritage. The objective of both Home Rule League was to attain 'self-government within the British Empire by all constitutional means', and to educate public opinion for the same. They were Moderates and against the Liberal Party

Dr. Annie Besant is one of those foreigners who inspired the love of the country among Indians. She declared in 1918 in her paper 'New India', "I love the Indian people as I love none other, and... My heart and my mind... have long been laid on the altar of the Motherland". Annie Besant, born of Irish parents in London on October 1, 1847, made India her home from November 1893. Dr. Besant started the Home Rule League in India for obtaining the freedom of the country and reviving the country's glorious cultural heritage. She started a paper called "New India". She attended the 1914 session of the Indian National Congress and presided over it in 1917. Dr. Besant died in 1933

**17: Why were the minorities of Pakistan not interested in separate electorate?**

In Pakistan the minorities were in a scattered position and it was too much difficult for their representative to go to them, listen to their problems and finally solve their problems. They were only 3 percent of the total population. Moreover, there was no bias against them in the Muslim society. They had complete independence with regard to every sphere of life. The experience of separate electorate was not good for them. That was why they wanted to be the part of the big majority.

**18: What was the 2nd constituent Assembly?**

Governor General Ghulam Muhammad called a Convention on May 10, 1955 for the purpose of electing a constituent assembly. All its members were to be elected indirectly (by the provincial assemblies). In this way, the Second Constituent Assembly came into existence. The Second Constituent Assembly convened in 1955. It differed in composition from the First Constituent Assembly because of the notable reduction of Muslim League members and the presence of a United Front coalition from East Bengal. In 1956 the Constituent Assembly adopted a constitution that proclaimed Pakistan as a Islamic republic and contained directives for the establishment of an Islamic state. It also renamed the Constituent Assembly the Legislative Assembly

**19: What were some "weak aspects" of the western culture which Dr. Allama Iqbal knew at that time?**

There are a number of weak aspects of the western culture that were observed by Allama Iqbal i.e. separation of state and religion, territorial nationalism, deteriorating moral standards etc.

**20: Who was Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi?**

Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi (Hazrat Mujadid Alf Sani) was a great saint and mystic of the Naqishbandi order. He challenged the might of Akbar, the great Mughal emperor, to re-establish the glory of Islam which had been greatly threatened by the anti-Islamic trends of Akbar.

**21: What were the circumstances that led to the Lucknow Pact?**

Important developments occurred during the first decade of the 20th century like annulment of the Partition of Bengal and Western aggression against Muslim countries, Balkan wars, Libya-Italy war, demolition of the mosque in Kawnpur (1913), etc. weakened the Muslims' faith in the British. This led to a major drift in the Muslim League's policy. In 1913, the League changed its goals: 1: Self government under the British Crown keeping in view the peculiar conditions in India; 2: Good relations with other communities; 3: Cooperation with any party working for similar goals. This change brought the ML and the Congress closer. In this way the era of cooperation between Hindus and Muslims set in. The role of the Quaid-i-Azam is highly noteworthy to bring the Congress and the Muslim League to the table. All these developments led to the conclusion of the Lucknow Pact.

**22: what is the impact of Aligarh movement on today's Pakistan?**

Majority of the leadership of Pakistan Movement was the product of Aligarh Movement. All India Muslim League was also created from one of the different platforms of Aligarh Movement. Emergence of Pakistan was the result of the efforts of the Aligarh Movement. Aligarh Movement is the best example for all of us today to learn how we can create dedicated and sincere leadership by the power of knowledge and how we can create a movement for the welfare of the Muslims of today.

**23: What was SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan?**

Scientific Society was an organization that was established by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan in Ghazi Pur. The purpose of this society was to create a scientific temperament among the Indians in general and the Muslims in particular and to make the Western knowledge available to Indians in their native languages. The society performed its job efficiently. Under this society the books of science, history and literature were translated into native languages because, according to the concept of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, it was impossible to spread the scientific knowledge amongst the Indians in general and the Muslims in particular till the scientific knowledge which was available in English would be made available to the Indians in their native languages.

**24: How did ALIGARH MOVEMENT play a SCIENTIFIC ROLE?**

Aligarh Movement played important role in scientific field by establishing different institutions which worked for the spread of scientific knowledge among the Indians. Prominent among those institutions was Scientific Society. The purpose of this society was to create a scientific temperament among the Indians in general and the



Muslims in particular and to make the Western knowledge available to Indians in their native languages. The society performed its job efficiently. Under this society the books of science, history and literature were translated into native languages.

**25: As British were against the Muslim so did they try to create any obstacle in the way of Aligarh Movement?**

The British Government was in favor of modernization amongst the Muslims and Aligarh Movement was striving to spread modern knowledge amongst the Muslims. The British did not create any obstacle in the way of Aligarh Movement which was working for educational and political development of the Muslims.

**26: what is Charismatic Leadership?**

Charisma is a rare personal quality attributed to leaders who arouse fervent popular devotion and enthusiasm or personal magnetism or charm. Charismatic leader is a leader who possesses these traits and with the help of these qualities he inspires the masses to follow him and his program. This kind of leadership can bring revolutionary changes.

**27: What are extra-constitutional means?**

Extra-constitutional means are those means which can not be justified under the prevalent constitution and are in violation of constitution.

**28: What is agitational politics and prejudice?**

Agitational politics is a type of politics in which more and more protests and demonstrations are used to achieve political objectives. Prejudice means: 1: An adverse judgment or opinion formed beforehand or without knowledge or examination of the facts. 2: The act or state of holding unreasonable preconceived judgments or convictions. 3: Irrational suspicion or hatred of a particular group, race, or religion. 4: Detriment or injury caused to a person by the preconceived, unfavorable conviction of another or others.

**29: If British Government was in favour of Indian Muslims' modernization then how Hindu community came closer to the British Government rather than Muslims?**

After the War of Independence of 1857 the Hindus immediately adapted themselves to the changed rulers and environment. They started learning English and modern knowledge. On the other the Muslims refused to learn English and modern knowledge which was available in English. The blame of the War of Independence of 1857 fell on the Muslims. So it was natural for the British to co-opt the Hindus. The British thought that as the Muslims had been the rulers of the subcontinent prior to the British and they (Muslims) wanted to regain the control of the subcontinent and the War of Independence of 1857 was started by the Muslims to achieve that object. These were the reason which resulted into British-Hindu collusion. The British were of the opinion that the narrow-mindedness of the Muslims was the real cause of the problem so they if not supported but countenanced the Muslims thrust towards modernization.

**30: what was main cause of clash between Jinnah and Nehru on which Jinnah left the Congress?**

The Congress had become explicitly a Hindu organization and had started working openly for the interests of the Hindus. This was the major reason that had convinced Mr. Jinnah to leave the Congress.

**31: Why and when did the British bestow the title of "Sir" upon the Sir Syed Ahmed Khan?**

It was the tradition of the British to award the title of 'Sir' upon the people with distinction. When Syed Ahmed Khan visited London in 1869-70, the title of 'Sir' was bestowed upon Syed Ahmed Khan, which entitled him to prefix his name with 'Sir'. Thence he became "Sir Syed Ahmed Khan".

**32: What is the difference between Aligarh Movement and Khilafat Movement?**

Aligarh Movement and Khilafat Movement were different movements. Aligarh Movement was launched for the educational, political, social and religious uplift of the Muslims while Khilafat Movement was launched to protect the Ottoman Empire, Institution of Khilafat and the Muslim holy places

**33: Did Sir Syed Ahmed Khan have any enmity with ULEMA?**

Sir Syed had no ill will or feelings against any Ulema rather he wanted the Ulemas not to reject modern knowledge which was available in English because of their hatred against the British. He wanted them to work for the uplift of the Muslims by acquiring modern knowledge and also urged the Muslims to seek modern knowledge.

**34: What was the 'Day of Deliverance'?**

In protest against the policy of the British government over India regarding World War II, all the Congress Ministries resigned till October 22, 1939 and All India Muslim League decided to celebrate this development. So it was decided to celebrate December 22, 1939 as 'Day of Deliverance'. Deliverance was meant to be deliverance from the oppressive policies of the Congress Ministries.

**35: What was Jallianwala Bagh incident of 1919?**

In April 1919, a number of Indians gathered in Jallianwala Bagh to protest against the brutal policies of the British government. General Duiyer ordered the troops, who were deployed there to suppress any protest, to open fire on the protesting Indians. As a result 379 people died and thousands injured. It was the most tragic incident in the history of the subcontinent. This incident is also evident to fact that the British treated the Indians brutally and ruthlessly.

**36: What is the difference between Parliamentary and Presidential system?**

In Presidential system the center of political power is the President but in the parliamentary system power rotates around the prime minister who is head of the

government. In the parliamentary system President is only the ceremonial head of the state

**37: What is the difference between Supreme Court & High Court in terms of their powers?**

Supreme Court is the highest court which accepts the appeals against the cases decided by the High Courts. The High Courts are at provincial level while the Supreme Court functions at the federal level.

**38: What is the meaning of 'Dar-ul-Harb'?**

This is meant an area where non-Muslims ruled.

**39: In which book did Sir Syed point out the similarities between Islam and Christianity?**

In 'Tabyin-ul-Kalam' Sir Syed pointed out the similarities between Islam and Christianity. Due to lack of resources the work was not finished, but it showed Sir Syed's commitment to improve relations of British and Muslims

**40: Who was the founder of the 'Indian National Congress' and who was the Indian Viceroy at that time?**

A former member of the Indian Civil Service, Allan Octavian Hume (commonly known as A. O. Hume), was founder of Congress. He formed Congress in 1885 and Lord Dufferin, was Viceroy of India at that time, fully supported him in his efforts.

**41: What was 'Doctrine of Lapse'?**

In 1848 Governor Dalhousie extended British control even further by applying the Doctrine of Lapse. According to this doctrine when a ruler dies without a natural heir the British would annex his land. This doctrine also stipulates that when a person dies without a natural heir his property would be acquired by the British Government.

**42: What was 'The Loyal Muhammadans of India'?**

In 1860 Sir Syed wrote 'The Loyal Mohammedans of India'. In this work he defended the Muslims from the British accusation that they were disloyal. He gave a detailed account of the loyal services rendered by the then Muslims and named various Muslims who had shown particular loyalty to the British. At the same time he called on the British to end their hostility towards the Muslim community.

**43: What was 'Tabyin-ul-Kalam'?**

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan wrote 'Tabyin-ul-Kalam', in which he pointed out the similarities between Islam and Christianity. Due to lack of resources the work could not be completed, but it showed Sir Syed's commitment to improving relations between Islam and Christianity. This book was another effort on the part of Sir Syed, in the academic field, to create an atmosphere of good will between the British (who were Christian) and Indian Muslims.

**44: What was 'Tahdhib-ul-Akhlak'?**



Sir Syed did not like conservative attitude of Muslims. He was worried about the social condition of Muslim and wanted the revival of their social life. He took many steps for betterment of the Muslims. For this purpose he published the magazine "Tahzib-ul-Akhlaq" This magazine outlined the ethical aspect of the Muslims life. Sir Syed criticized the conservative way of life of Muslims and advised them to adopt new trends in life. This magazine was written to teach the Muslims to adopt the true teaching of Islam and do not follow the social custom. For this purpose he opened a number of orphanage houses for Muslims children to save them from the influence of Christian missionaries.

**45: What was difference between Viceroy and Secretary of State in British India?**

Viceroy was head of Indian affairs within India appointed by British government and Secretary of State was in charge of Indian affairs in London.

**46: When the British government created the North West Frontier Province?**

In 1900, Lord Curzon created the North West Frontier Province in order to settle the constant battles that were going on there amongst the tough independent tribesmen. Before this NWFP was part of the Punjab Province. In 1900 it got the status of individual province in the British India.

**47: What was difference between Viceroy and Governor-General?**

The office was created in 1773, with the title of Governor-General of the Presidency of Fort William. Complete authority over all of British India was granted in 1833. In 1858, India came under the direct control of the British Crown. The title "Governor-General" applied to his relationship to the British Provinces of India (Punjab, Bengal, Bombay, Madras, United Provinces, etc.). However, much of British India was not ruled directly by the government; the territory was divided into hundreds of nominally sovereign princely states or "native states" whose relationship was not with the British government, but directly with monarch. To reflect the Governor-General's role as representative from the monarch to the feudal rulers of the princely states, the term Viceroy of India was applied to him; the title was abandoned when India became independent in 1947. The office of Governor-General continued to exist until India adopted a republican constitution in 1950.

**48: What was 'Khutbat-i-Ahmadiya'?**

Sir William Muir, a Christian writer, wrote a book with the title 'Life of Muhammad' in which he had made highly objectionable remarks about the Holy Prophet (PBUH). In return, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan wrote 'Essays on the Life of Muhammad (Khutbat-i-Ahmadiya)' in which he gave proper answers to William Muir's remarks in his book.

**49: What was Muhammadan Educational Conference?**

Muhammadan Educational Conference was set up by Sir Ahmad Khan in 1866. Muhammadan Educational Conference held public meetings in various parts of the country. It established its sub-committees in all parts of the country. This

Conference rendered valuable services in cultivating spirit of action and self-help among the Muslims. The meetings of this Conference discussed modern techniques for the development in the field of education and suggested ways and means for the adoption of modern techniques for the improvement of the educational standard. Some very eminent scholars and leaders were included in this conference who with their dedicated approach aroused hope, spirit and enthusiasm among their brethren. They were Nawab Muhsin-ul-Mulk, Nawab Viqar-ul-Mulk, Maulana Shibli and Maulana Hali who inspired the people with their spiritual, academic and political acumen and insight.

**50: What was the outcome of Gandhi-Jinnah Talks (1944)?**

In September 1944, Gandhi Jinnah talks were held at Jinnah's residence at Bombay. Rajgopalacharia's formula and the Lahore Resolution formed the basis of these talks. In these parleys Jinnah stressed on his famous Two-Nation Theory but Gandhi refused to accept Muslims as separate nation. Thus these talks remained fruitless.

**51: What was Quit India Movement (1942)?**

After the failure of the Cripps Mission, India National Congress started 'Quit India Movement'. In this Movement Congress was demanding that British should Quit India immediately and hand over powers to Indians. The British Government dealt with this Movement with iron hands. Thousands of Congress workers were killed arrested or detained. Muslim League remained aloof from this Movement.

**52: What was August Offer (1940)?**

In the start of Second World War Germany pushed the British troops out of the European mainland. At this critical juncture Great Britain needed the assistance of Indians to boost its War efforts. As a result the Viceroy of India Lord Linlithgow in August 1940 made a constitutional offer to the Indians in which he promised to expand the Executive Council of the Governor-General, to establish a War Advisory Council, to give constitutional safeguards to the minorities and to set up a constitution making body after the War. The Muslim League welcomed the offer but the Congress rejected it terming it insufficient and unsatisfactory.

**53: What is the difference between Presidential system of government and Parliamentary system of government?**

In Presidential system the center of political power is the President but in the parliamentary system power rotates around the prime minister who is head of the government. In the parliamentary system President is only the ceremonial head of the state.

**54: What is the difference between a 'Theocratic state' and a 'Secular state'?**

The system under which there is no state religion yet all religions and faiths enjoy equality of treatment. In the strict literal sense, secularism denotes a system that rejects belief in God, religion and future life. Theocracy is opposite to Secularism, a 'religious State' called theocratic state.

**55: What is the difference among 'Partition of Bengal' and 'Division of Bengal' and 'Emergence of Bangladesh'?**

Partition of Bengal occurred in 1905 under Lord Curzon, in which Bengal was divided in two provinces-East Bengal and West Bengal. This Partition was annulled in 1911 and the British government reunited Bengal province this incident known as 'Annulment of Partition of Bengal'. Division of Bengal took place in 1947 under Radcliff Award when Bengal a large province of British India divided between Pakistan and India. East Bengal came to Pakistan and West Bengal went to India. Then in 1971 East Bengal was separated from Pakistan and achieved a status of separate country named as 'Bangladesh' and it is called 'Emergence of Bangladesh' or 'Fall of Dhaka'

**56: What is difference between Prime Minister and Chief Minister?**

Prime Minister is head of the federal government and Chief Minister is head of the provincial government.

**57: What was Achhut Community?**

Achhut Community is a term which refers to all the untouchables, lower class communities and Pariahs. They were highly suppressed and deprived peoples of the subcontinent. Brahmans and peoples of higher class had been exploiting them since long. It was generally perceived that they have lot of duties but no rights.

**58: What is the difference between the creation of Israel and creation of Pakistan or what is the difference between ideology of Pakistan and ideology of Israel?**

There are a number of differences between the emergence of Israel and Pakistan. Pakistan was the result of a legitimate political struggle but Israel came into being through conspiracies, collusions, hidden plots, manipulations and by usurpation of the land and rights of the residents of the land of Palestine. The Muslims were in majority in all the areas which later became the parts of the state of Pakistan but today which is Israel even in that area Jews were in minority and local people were forced out of their homes and Jews were brought there from all over the world to create a numerical majority. The creation of Israel is the worst example of the usurpation of the rights of the hapless people and the creation of Pakistan is the best example of the legitimate political struggle for the rights of a group of people who takes inspiration from the same source which is Islam. Ideology of Pakistan was based on the just demands and legitimate rights of the peoples of the subcontinent but ideology of Israel was based on conspiracies, collusions, hidden plots, manipulations and on the idea of usurpation of the land and rights of the residents of the land of Palestine.

**59: Why did Sir Syed Ahmad Khan started Aligarh Movement?**

The purpose of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's Aligarh Movement was to create awareness among the Muslims about their separate identity, to warn them of the Hindu designs and plots hatched to subjugate the Muslims, and to make the British accept and treat the Muslims as a separate nation. As he was a great well-wisher of the Muslims, so he thought Aligarh Movement a practical way to protect the Muslims' interests in the subcontinent. Given the conflicting interests, if Hindus and Muslims had been together after 1857, there would have been civil war in the subcontinent and the resultant destruction and dejection. Giving them their separate status and separate domain to work for their prosperity was the only solution to the complicated situation of the subcontinent. This was the real purpose of the Aligarh Movement and Sir Syed Ahmad Khan effectively drove the Movement towards success.

**60: What were the ideas of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan about religion?**

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan stood for a rational approach towards religion. He was not in the favour of blindly following the religious injunctions. He wanted the Muslims to develop thorough understanding of the religious injunctions and then follow these injunctions. He was of the view that man was not created for religion but religion was created for man. He argued that revealed truth could best be understood through reasons. The revelation of physical sciences could not be ignored in the understanding of religion. He was of the view that there could be no contradiction between the word of God (revealed truth) and work of God (the laws of physical science and phenomenon of nature). Same rational approach he used in explaining the creation of Angels (Malaika). He had considerable knowledge of the religion. Had he not been well-versed with knowledge of the religion he would not have been able to write a book on the life of the Last Prophet of God.