**Causes for the Failure of War of Independence**

For a war to be won, one needs a definite aim and a military discipline apparatus; however, the Indian mutineers lacked clear aim. Every group and faction fought for personal reasons without a central Indian command. Some had a problem with job insecurity, while others had a problem with high taxes, while others were concerned with preserving their rule in their states etc. Moreover, there was a visible lack of unity among those who were fighting against their oppressors. The revolt was not pre-decided and spontaneous incidents sparked it. It could not start at one time in the whole of India. Therefore, the EIC effectively crushed it. Moreover, the lack of public support also played a role in the failure of the war. The Educated groups (mainly converted into Christianity), many traders, and lots of peasants did not participate in it because they were blossoming in the rule of the EIC. Another factor which can be attributed to the failure of the War of Independence 1857 is the lack of national spirit among the Indians. Lucknow, Jhansi and Bihar just revolted to safeguard their rulers’ narrow interests rather than safeguarding the larger interest of India. The Mughal ruler and other local rulers had quite weak armies which had no match for the English officers and their war tactics. Therefore, the efficient English officials were able to suppress the revolt in 1857.

**Nature of the War of Independence**

The War of Independence was not a religious war. It was fought by both religious communities, i.e., Hindus and Muslims alike to reclaim their independence in India. War of independence was fought because of economic and socio-cultural reasons rather than religious reasons. After the defeat at the hands of EIC, the Hindus blamed that the Muslims were alone responsible for it. They blamed a religious conspiracy against the British by the Muslims.

**Hindi/Urdu Controversy**

Language is a crucial way for people to communicate and connect with each other. However, in places with diverse cultures, language differences can sometimes lead to division. In India, the Urdu language has an interesting history. It was born when various groups of people, including Muslims from different parts of the world like Arabs, Persians, and Turks, came to India. As they mixed with the local population, a new language, Urdu, developed. This language wasn't just for Muslims; people from all communities in India contributed to its growth.

Over time, though, some Hindus began to see Urdu as the language of invaders. The British rulers in India also didn't favor Urdu, and they both started trying to replace it with Hindi. They even created a version of Hindi that removed Arabic, Persian, and Turkish words and replaced them with Sanskrit words.

This effort to promote Hindi and suppress Urdu continued in the 19th century, especially after the Indian War of Independence in 1857. In 1871, the Governor of Bengal banned Urdu in the province, which encouraged Hindus in other regions to oppose Urdu as well. The situation became even more challenging for Muslims and Urdu when Anthony MacDonnel became the governor of the United Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh) and dismissed Urdu as the official language in favor of Hindi.

Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, who had previously advocated for Hindu-Muslim unity, shifted his focus to support the cause of Muslims and Urdu. He established the Urdu Defense Association and later the Anjuman-e-Tarraqi-e-Urdu to counter efforts to replace Urdu with Hindi. Ultimately, Urdu continued to be recognized as an official language alongside Hindi in the province.

**Formation of Indian National Congress**

The Indian National Congress was established on December 28, 1885, during a time when Indians were protesting various issues under British rule. It aimed to unite the diverse Indian population and work toward their improvement in different aspects of life. An Englishman named A.O. Hume founded the Congress with the support of Lord Dufferin, the British Governor-General of India, but Dufferin's involvement was kept secret.

However, the prominent Muslim leader Sir Syed Ahmed Khan was critical of the Congress and advised Muslims not to join it. He believed that even if top British officials and the British Parliament supported the Congress, it would lead to unrest and conflicts in India.

Many Muslim newspapers and organizations also opposed the Congress, saying it wouldn't benefit the interests of Muslims in India.

In simple terms, the Indian National Congress was formed to address issues in British-ruled India, but some influential Muslims and organizations believed it wouldn't serve the best interests of the Muslim community and opposed it.

**Partition of Bengal**

In 1905, the British government reorganized the provinces of Bengal and Assam to create two smaller provinces for easier administration. This change upset the Hindu population in Bengal because it resulted in the formation of East Bengal, which had a Muslim majority. Hindus believed this partition was an attempt to suppress the strong nationalist movement in Bengal, which was more developed than in other regions. They protested against the partition through mass gatherings, rural unrest, and a movement to boycott British goods.

On the other hand, the Muslim community welcomed the partition because it favored them. They believed it would spare them from some of the oppression they had faced from Hindus. Large Muslim gatherings in Dacca expressed gratitude for the change.

However, despite the benefits of the partition for Bengal's Muslims, the British government eventually gave in to the protests from Hindus and the Indian National Congress. In 1911, East and West Bengal were reunited as one province. This decision aimed to please Bengali sentiments while maintaining administrative convenience. While this move achieved its objective temporarily, it left many Bengali Muslims feeling frustrated and disappointed, as they had benefited from the earlier partition.

The final division of Bengal occurred during the partition of the Indian subcontinent in 1947, leading to the creation of West Bengal in India and East Pakistan (later Bangladesh) in the east. This division was accompanied by intense violence.