

Historical Context – Assignment #3

EMB101– Emergence of Bangladesh

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Rabindranath Tagore, a very renowned Bengali author, released his novel "The Home and the World" for the first time in 1916. The book, which takes place in early 20th century India during the time of British rule, is a portrayal of the cultural and political developments occurring at just that time.

The Swadeshi movement was a key and important period in the history of the Indian nationalist movement, and it can be said that this movement was nationalism's first outward symbol. The decision to divide Bengal by Lord Curzon was what sparked this movement. Will Durant stated the significance of this campaign by mentioning, "The Indian revolution started in 1905."

According to Mahatma Gandhi, the resurgence of sattika in India began only after Bengal was partitioned.

Swadeshi is a blend of the Sanskrit words for "self" and "country" in that language.

The approach made using and purchasing locally produced goods more prominent. Indians began switching from British to Native items. With the arrival of the Swadeshi Movement, women, students, and a large percentage of the urban and rural populations of Bengal and other regions of India became actively involved in politics for the first time.

The boycott of foreign goods and the Swadeshi message eventually extended to the remainder of the nation.

Bengal for administrative reasons, but his major goal was to harm Indian nationalism by doing so, as Bengal was the main bastion of Indian nationalism. A spontaneous movement opposing the plan to split Bengal was created in Bengal on July 10, 1905, when it was formally stated.

To illustrate, the purpose of the partition of Bengal was to improve administrative efficacy, according to Baig (1969, p.122.), The British government and Lord Curzon, in their opinion, aimed to weaken and eliminate Bengal's national politics while disguising their targets as administrative expansion. This is the reverse of the stance taken by Indian politicians and publicists, who think that the partition's motivations were political rather than organizational.

Considering they affect the actors' intentions and conduct throughout the book, recognizing these themes is vital for comprehending the book's content. A better comprehension of the characters' difficulties and the concepts covered in the book is made possible by the historical background and public issues that are discussed in the book. The novel is still a powerful reflection of the multiplexes of Indian society and culture in the early 20th century since it emphasizes the tensions and conflicts that existed between tradition and modernity, nationalism and imperialism, and individual wants and socialization.

References:

- Baig, M. R. A. (1969). THE PARTITION OF BENGAL AND ITS AFTERMATH. *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, 30(2), 103–129. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41854318>
- Biswas, A. K. (1995). Paradox of Anti-Partition Agitation and Swadeshi Movement in Bengal (1905). *Social Scientist*, 23(4/6), 38–57. <https://doi.org/10.2307/352021>