

The Two-Nation Theory

Muhammad Ali Jinnah's Two Nation Theory or Two Nation Theory of Jinnah is one of the chapters in the history of our subcontinent. Various exams ask questions about biracial theory and having a little understanding of it will help you to explain biracial theory and accurately present what biracial theory was presented for.

The two-nation theory

The word Dijati means two races. A proposal was presented to divide the Indian subcontinent into two parts, Hindus and Muslims, and the main reason for this was the many conflicts and inequalities between Hindus and Muslims at that time. Given this, the two-nation theory was presented to divide Hindus and Muslims into two separate nations and states on the first day of the Council Session of the Muslim League held in Lahore, the capital of Punjab, in March 1940. Muhammad Ali Jinnah was instrumental in presenting this theory.

Many believe that the Lahore Resolution was presented based on Muhammad Ali Jinnah's two-nation theory and Muslim nationalism took full form. On the first day of the Council session of the Muslim League held in Lahore, the capital of Punjab in March 1940, Muhammad Ali Jinnah announced the famous two-nation theory. In the said declaration, he said, India's problem is not between two communities, but between two nations. It mainly refers to the racial differences and inequality between Muslims and Hindus in India.

At that time Hindus and Muslims were so divided that Ali Jinnah thought it was impossible to keep them together. He thought it would be wise to keep them separate as separate races and not unite them in any way. Since they are two distinct and separate nations, the solution is to create a separate state for them.

He explains the two-nation theory thus,

"Hindus-Muslims have different religions, different philosophies, different social customs, different literature, they have no custom of intermarriage, no custom of going together. They have two separate civilizations based on conflicting ideologies. Their outlook and sense of life are different. They gather inspiration from different parts of history. Kan's epic is different; History is different, and different heroes characterize them. One side is the hero, and the other side is the dead. What is a victory for one group is a defeat for another group. If a state is formed with two such groups, one the majority and the other the minority, discontent will increase and eventually the constitution of the state will collapse."

At a session of the Hindu Mahajan Sabha held in Calcutta in 1939, President Savarkar declared, "India can no longer be considered an indivisible and unified nation".

This speech of the Hindu Mahasabha inspired Muhammad Ali Jinnah to declare his famous two-nation theory. He declared, "The Mussalmans are a nation according to any definition and they must have their homeland, their territory, and their state," Muhammad Ali Jinnah's two-nation theory served as the philosophical basis for Lahya's proposal.

The Zillah identified Muslims as the first caste in the Lahore session. Based on this explanation by Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the then Chief Minister of Bengal, AK Fazlul Haque, proposed a resolution on 23 March 1940 in the session of the Muslim League outlining the establishment of separate habitations for Muslims. Chowdhury Balekuzzaman supported the proposal on the instructions of Mohammad Ali Jinnah. The chapter we now know as the Lahore Resolution in the pages of history was largely based on this whole incident. This issue of creating two nations or states based on religion is the two-nation theory.