**Nationalism**

We may not be able to agree on a particular definition acceptable to all, but there is a substantial agreement on the point that it is a sentiment, a desire, a consciousness, a sympathy, which binds a group of people together. Nationalism can also mean the desire for political independence or self-determination of a nation that is controlled by another country.

A study of modern nationalism points to some conditions or beliefs which seem to make up for its creed. The most pre-eminent of them are common ethnicity, language, religion, culture, art, history and territory and love for fellow nationals. Nationalism can also mean the belief that one’s nation is superior to others and deserves more respect or power. Nationalism can sometimes lead to conflicts or wars between nations, especially when nationalism is used to justify aggression or oppression of other groups.

**OR**

Nationalism is quite a broad term, and it is a toilsome effort to define this term without going into detail. However, it suffices to say that nationalism is essentially a European Concept. During the medieval times, a group of students from one country studying in a European university were called “nation”. If someone threatens their unity or oneness, then they fight them with power, but they try to go living as one they would try to protect their way of life. They will try to live together if that aspect is being threatened and nationalism created havoc. We have seen nationalism in the earlier twentieth century in the shape of World War 1 and World War 2. That is purely the outcome of narrow nationalism. Nationalism is paving its way towards good society to live in harmony and consider themselves as a part of one society. Nationalism can be called consciousness, a sentiment or sympathy which binds a group of people together. We may call it the desire of a group of individuals, who are already united by certain ties, to live together and, if necessary, to die together. It is the wish of people who feel that they are one, to go on living as one.

**14 Conditions**

**Emotional Basis**

* Common group feelings
* Love for the fellow nationals
* Common hostility to other similar groups

**Political and Social Apparatus**

* Common territory possessed
* The existence of common sovereign government or the desire for it
* The existence of common moral, social or economic institutions or ideas

**Spiritual Equipment**

* Possession of some common cultural characteristics i.e., language, customs, manners, literature, art, music and folk-lore
* Common religion
* Common history or common origin
* Common character shared by the national group

**Three Levels (Past, Present, Future)**

* Common pride in national achievements and common sorrow in national tragedies
* Simple devotion to the nations as “My country, right or wrong”.
* Hope that the nation will one day become a great nation
* Or if already a great nation, then hope for it to be the greatest in the world

**Consciousness of Muslim Nationalism**

The consciousness of Muslim nationalism evolved due to the differences between the Muslim and Hindu communities, such as, cultural, religious, and political aspects, and other various factors.

One pivotal event contributing to this consciousness was the decline of the Mughal Empire. During British colonial rule, Muslims feared that their rights might not be protected in independent India where Hindus were the majority.

Leaders like Sir Syed Ahmed Khan pushed for better education for Muslims. Then, the All India Muslim League was formed to safeguard Muslim interests. However, it was Muhammad Ali Jinnah who became a prominent advocate for Muslim rights, eventually championing the idea of a separate Muslim-majority nation—Pakistan.

The idea of Pakistan gained momentum as Muslim fears of minority status in an independent India intensified. Jinnah's efforts to rally Muslims behind the demand for a separate nation ultimately led to the partition of India in 1947, resulting in the creation of Pakistan as a homeland for Muslims.

**Ideology**

Ideology refers to a set of fundamental beliefs, values, and ideas that shape a person's or group's perception of the world and their role in it. It provides a framework for understanding social, political, and cultural issues. Ideologies often guide individuals' decisions and actions, influencing their opinions and behaviours. For example, science of ideas, visionary speculations, the manner of thinking, characteristics of a class or individual ideas based on some economic, social or political theory or system.

**How does an ideology emerge?**

“An ideology emerges when people strongly feel that they are being mistreated under an existing order, when their fundamental rights are being exploited, and when their freedom has been snatched away from them”.

**Why ideology is important?**

Ideology is a motivating force for a Nation which is striving hard to bring stability to its Nationhood that controlled by another country. It provides a common platform for the scattered groups in a society who have similar thinking about the existing order and bring them closer to each other.

**Pakistan Ideology - *Meaning, Aims & Importance***

The primary ideology of Pakistan was to establish a separate homeland for Muslims to protect their rights and practice their religion freely. Pakistan ideology is based on the ideals of the Islamic system. It started with the fundamental political changes which occurred in the subcontinent. The Muslims were being checked thoroughly and Hindus were given leverage over the Muslims and that was the fundamental change occurring in the society. In the war of 1857, the whole blame was put on Muslims. The British government tried to suppress Muslims and to crush that rebellion. So, the ideology of Pakistan was a reaction to the Hindus and British exploitation of the Muslims of the sub-continent. It was a revolt against the prevailing system of India where the Hindu Nationalism was being imposed on the Muslims and their culture. It contained a strategy to save the Muslim culture from total elimination. That is why, they didn’t prefer to live in India rather they prefer to ask for an independent state for themselves.

**In short:**

The primary ideology of Pakistan was to establish a separate homeland for Muslims to protect their rights and practice their religion freely. Pakistan ideology is based on the ideals of the Islamic system. It was a reaction to the Hindus and British exploitation of the Muslims of the sub-continent. It was a revolt against the prevailing system of India where the Hindu Nationalism was being imposed on the Muslims and their culture. It contained a strategy to save the Muslim culture from total elimination.