

PAKISTAN'S CHIEF PUTS HOPE IN ISLAM

Prime Minister Says Moslem
Religion Provides Positive
Ideology Against Reds

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KARACHI, Pakistan, July 17

—Prime Minister Mohammed Ali said today, "Islam and only Islam, not secularism, can save Pakistan and the world."

His statement drew long cheers in the Constituent Assembly as he ended a four-day debate on the imposition last month of Central Government control in East Bengal. The provincial ministry in that province, Pakistan's largest, lying 1,000 miles from here across India, was dismissed May 31 as incapable of administering law and order following a series of labor riots.

The concluding part of the Prime Minister's speech defending the Central Government's action was a reply to an address by Prof. Mahmood Hussain, member of the Government's Moslem League party and former Minister for Education and Refugee Rehabilitation in the previous Cabinet.

Professor Hussain, head of the History Department at Karachi University, attributed the blame for the crisis in East Pakistan to the enmity, hostility and suspicion that the Moslems of East Pakistan hold against those in the Western zone. He said it began immediately after Pakistan was partitioned from India in 1947.

The source of the breach, he said, was the Central Government's consistent practice of placing West Pakistanis in high administrative posts in the East Pakistan Government. "The situation became so bad that one could walk through the secretariat and not find a single Bengali among the secretaries in the ministries," he said.

West's Attitude Decried

"The patronizing attitude of the West Pakistanis," he continued, "was resented by the East Bengalis and the unsympathetic attitude of the officials was conducive to corruption that brought in its wake moral degeneration in the form of drink, which true Moslems did not like.

"The attitude of the West Pakistani women also appalled the conservative Moslem women in the Eastern zone and this contributed to a feeling of contempt that led to hatred."

Deploring the manner in which the Central Government took over control of the province, Professor Hussain said, "On the one hand we speak of democracy, while in East Pakistan we deprive people of their democratic rights."

The Prime Minister agreed with Professor Hussain that poverty was a cause of "Communist success" in the eastern zone. But the Prime Minister disagreed that material poverty alone breeds communism.

He said: "It is not material poverty but spiritual and moral poverty that breeds communism." Then he drew a comparison on the resistance to communism between the Moslem countries and France, Italy and Yugoslavia.

"In those European countries," he said, "they have a higher standard of living but communism is on the march. In the Moslem world, where the standard of living is below normal, we have no communism because we are spiritually and morally rich."

The Prime Minister said, "Our Islam gives us positive ideology, and that is why Moslem countries resist communism—even on one meal a day."

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