

# **Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence**

**A story**

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence

- Before the creation of the Pakistan, during the British colonial era, the main source of education for the people of Indo-Pak Sub-continent was also “*Madaris*” for Muslims and temples for the Hindus which were mostly associated with “*Gurukul or Pathshala*”.
- These both types of institutions were run by the religious scholars and were supported by the local communities.

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)

- Lord Macaulay was sent on a special task to study the educational system of this continent and change it or replace it according to their plans and he reported back as:
- “If I had shut down all the local schools, cancelled the Arabic script prevailing in the country, I would have failed. The effects of whatever I am doing will become apparent in a few years. I have travelled the length and breadth of India but failed to come across a single beggar or thief.

# **Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)**

- The morals of these people are exceptionally high, and they hold their pure values very dear. We can never truly conquer India until we break its backbone, and that is their spiritual and social infrastructure, taught and strengthened by their system of education.
- Therefore, I propose that we replace her old and ancient education system, her culture, for if the Indians think that all that is foreign and English is good and greater than their own, they will lose their self-esteem, their native self-culture and they will become what we want them, a truly dominated nation.” **Speech to Parliament – 2nd February 1835**

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence

## (Cont...)

- To implement those policies the new English Medium Public School system was introduced throughout the continent and still, we can see an example of such an institution as “Aitchison College of Lahore”.
- Along with those, the missionary schools were also established which were under the direct supervision of Bishop of that area and entire teaching staff consisted of the Christian missionaries and church or chapel were the part of the school.

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)

- The main objective of those teachers were to teach their pupil the manners which they brought from Britain and brainwash young generation of that time so they become part of their system in the name of so called better education.
- That was also the part of the mind control agenda. The Kinnaird College for Women, St. Stephen School, St. Andrew's High School and St Anthony's High School Lahore are the examples of such system.

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)

- On the other hand, *Madaris* were also functioning as full-fledged educational institutions. Those *Madaris* were playing a vital role in the unity of the Muslim Ummah. The main infrastructure and the system of those institutions were based on the traditional system of institutions of the time of *Khilafat-e-Rashida*.
- Along with the religious studies, spirituality, and contemporary sciences, multi-lingual manners were also the part of their teachings, which were taking the part of the revival and awakening of Muslims enormously throughout the Indo-Pak Sub-continent.

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)

- Those institutions were managed by the “*Ulama* and *Sufi*” (Religious & Spiritual Scholars) who were not only teaching the exact and modern way of life according to the Quran & Sunnah but were also the hurdles in the cunning and deep rooted satanic conspiracies of British think tanks to destroy the Islamic culture and manners since the 7th century.
- The basic languages in those *Madaris* were Arabic or Persian.



# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)

- They started to reduce the *Madaris* along with the killings of *Ulama* and *Sufi*, the people knowing or having educational medium as Arabic and Persian were discouraged in all manners of life and were forced to realize that the English language is superior language and it is the necessity of this modern era to penetrate in the society designed by the foreign rulers.
- The Britishers not only reduced the count of the *Madaris* but also the religion was taken out from the mainstream education system and was marginalized into imparting only religious sciences.

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)

- The degrees got from those *Madaris* were no longer valuable and students educated and graduated from there were unable to get employment and prominent place in society.
- Someone has rightly said, “*If you want to destroy the future of any nation, no need to wage war with them; defunct their education, they will remain no more live on the map of the world.*”

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)

- At the time of educational slump, Hindus took more readily to the new education than did the Muslims. Muslim leaders such as Sir Syed Ahmad Khan saw the danger that their co-religionists would fall behind the Hindus and be kept out of the bureaucracy if they did not prefer the modern educational system over the traditional.
- Under Sir Syed's leadership, the Anglo-Oriental College (later upgraded to Aligarh Muslim University) was founded in 1875. It did not eliminate the traditional system of education, but there is no doubt that it seriously undermined its standing and standards.

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence

## (Cont...)

- The Anglo-Oriental College provided higher education on the British pattern (more particularly that of Cambridge University) and produced a remarkable leadership for the Muslims of the Sub-continent, particularly in present-day Uttar Pradesh, for educational, social, and legal reform and promoted the Muslim nationalist movement, which eventually led to the partition of the Sub-continent and the birth of Pakistan.
- It also produced brilliant graduates, who went to England for higher education, some of them serving in the Indian Civil Service, which prided itself on being the iron framework of the British imperial edifice in India.

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)

- In 1947 when Pakistan emerged as an independent nation, breaking apart from India on the ideology of a two-nation theory and in the name of Islam, it had a poorly educated population, only 189 *Madaris* or according to another estimate 245, very few schools and only 1 institution of higher education, “The University Of Punjab”.

# **Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)**

- The literacy rate of women was the lowest in Pakistan as compared to the rest of the developing countries of the region, and at the time of independence it was only 16 % and has been increasing approximately at the rate of 4 % per decade after an increase in population.
- The female literacy rate in 1947 was around 2.8 and has been increasing at the rate of approximately 2 percent per decade till 1961 and about 5 percent since 1961.

# Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)

- In the year 1947-48, there were in all 644 students including 56 girl students on the role of two universities located in Lahore and Karachi. The level of acquiring higher education was very low among youth in this region prior to the partition of sub-continent.
- The number of enrolment started increasing gradually among girls and boys with an increase in a number of universities. The total number of enrolment increased from 644 to 799215 (122 times) during the period from 1947-48 to 1996-97.

# **Education in Pakistan: Pre- Independence (Cont...)**

- The girls' enrolment increased by 316 times and boys' enrolment by 103 times during this period. The trends in enrolment indicated that the gap between girls and boys was slowly narrowing down which was a good sign for a recently born developing country.





Thank  
you