

Hasrat Mohani and Muslim League: Mainstream Politics and Foundation of Muslim League

Dr. Mohammad Arshad

Assistant Professor, Department of History, Motilal Nehru College, (Evening)
University of Delhi, Delhi

Abstract:

Hasrat was not satisfied only by establishing his own Swadeshi Store. He wanted to see a network of these shops throughout the country. In the same issue of Urdu-i Mualla he wrote – “Efforts are being made to open such shops in every city and big town of U.P. and also in Ahmedabad, Bombay, Nagpur, Kanpur and elsewhere”. The Urdu-i Mualla generally contained the articles against the Government policy. Most of these were seditious. Consequently his press was closed and fined by the Government. But he did not feel discouraged. Rather he spent more and more time in promoting and popularizing the Swadeshi and Boycott movement. The paper discussed about this matter in detail.

After the Simla Deputation¹ the need of forming a regular organization of the Muslims was seriously felt by the Muslim leaders. The All

¹ . Simla Deputation: At the end of the 19th Century, Muslims went disturbed because of the political development that were taking shape in India. The Aligarh alumni did not like passive attitude of the Muslims towards Indian politics. Some of them like Mohammad Ali, Shaukat Ali, Khaliquzzaman, Dr. Syed Mahmood and Hasrat Mohani etc. were some of the alumni of Aligarh who would not like loyal policy of Sir Syed. They wanted a change because of the political consciousness of the Muslims. It was also realized by the Government and the English Principals of the M.A.O. College. Morison would not like any All-India Political body. He wanted to confine Muslims to only educational development, exhorting the Muslims that their political participation would jeopardize their educational development. The Home Government did not like any participation of Muslims in political Congress had already become an headache and the foundation of any political organization among the Muslims world create further problems. But the Muslims found their political future break. They got anger and it found expression through public meeting of Muslims. The Congress was gradually hiring to extremist thinking to achieve their objective, and the Muslims felt that their interest would be undermined. Muslims felt that their representation to the Council was very meagre and unless a proper representation was given they could not go ahead.