

Book Review: Foundational Thoughts of Pakistan Movement

Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR). (2019). Foundational Thoughts of Pakistan Movement. Rawalpindi: Hilal Publications, Hilal Road, Rawalpindi Cantt. Pp. ii, 110: ISBN: 978-969-7632-06-0

This book is based on the speeches/letters of all those renowned figures who contributed well in the making of Pakistan. It also includes Texts of the Pakistan and Delhi Resolutions. The prominent names of all those personalities are: Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal, Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and some other known leaders. Sir Syed speeches depict, 'Soul of Pakistan' which was based on 'Two-Nation Theory' as it is now known as 'Ideology of Pakistan'. This theory shows his 'Rational approach' for an independent and separate homeland for Indian Muslims. It seems like a reason and a spirit for them to be united under the flag of a separate country. Allama Iqbal's speeches and letters show his 'Emotive reasoning' as a vibrant demand of an independent state. He gave a comprehensive speech at All India Muslim League's 21th session on December 29, 1930 at Allahabad. This book presents his thought as, "Sind, Punjab, Baluchistan, and the NWFP be amalgamated into a single Muslim State." He also wrote some confidential letters to Jinnah which show how both great leaders were on a same page for demanding of an independent country. Jinnah himself endorsed it in 'Foreword' of book, 'Letters of Iqbal to Jinnah'.

Meanwhile, Jinnah's continuous determination, struggle, and prudence for a separate homeland have been observed in his speeches/addresses in this book which is a great source of inspiration to all Pakistanis. Quaid's speeches and addresses show that he was urging his people to make great efforts to achieve the milestone and turn the dreams into a reality. He always presented the idea, 'Muslims in India as a 'Nation' not as a minority. They have different social customs, literary traditions and religious philosophies which do not match with Hindus' at all.'

This book mainly comprises eight parts. The first part i.e. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Genesis of Two Nation Theory covers his speeches which highlight the Muslims as a separate nation, different from others in India. Chronologically moving forward, Presidential Address by Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal All India Muslim League 21th Session-1930, and Few Letters of Allama Muhammad Iqbal to Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah show his ideology for an independent country. Similarly, other remaining parts are named as: All India Muslim League Twenty-Seventh Session – 1940, All India Muslim Legislator's Delhi Convention – 1946, Address by Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah – 11 August 1947, Address by Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah – 14 August 1947, and Pakistan ---- Birth of a Nation.

The publication of this book, at a time when country is facing both internal and external threats to its security and safety is highly needed step. The rich historical recollection of the speeches and addresses of the great Muslim leaders who played a vital role in making the separate homeland for the Muslims seems as a reminder both to its citizens and the world. It shows the vision of its great leaders and their sacrifices to achieve a milestone as separate homeland. Reading of these speeches and details of historical events can also serve as a reference source for those who have keen interest in history. It is also suitable to be used as a text book as it gives an insight of Pakistan Movement. But, it may also include speeches/statements of other Muslim leaders who did not move with Pakistan Movement like Moulana Abdul Kalam Azad and there should be an encounter of such

speeches/statements by those leaders who supported that movement. This will enhance the beauty of this book and readers may enjoy and explore it more critically.

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