

8.7.24

Class: X Chapter 9:- Independence and Partition of India

Subject: History and Civics

Ms. Rameet

This lesson is of class X for the Subject of History and civics. Topic: Independence and Partition of India starting on page number 97 of your textbook and is being submitted to you on 8.7.24

Lord Mountbatten

In March, 1947 Lord Mountbatten became the Viceroy of India. He was the last Viceroy of India who was given the task to transfer the power to Indians.

Mountbatten Plan:-

Lord Mountbatten put his plan for the Partition of India before the 'big seven' leaders - Nehru, Patel, Kripalani, Jinnah, Liaquat, Nishtar and Baldev Singh. The Congress and Muslim League both accepted the Plan. The Plan was announced on June 3, 1947.

Clauses of Mountbatten Plan.

The main clauses of the Mountbatten Plan were:-

1. Partition:-

India would be divided into two dominions - India and Pakistan.

2. Relations between the two new Dominions.

The dominions would be free to join British Commonwealth or be independent.

3. A Boundary Commission:-

A Boundary Commission would be established to decide the boundaries of India and Pakistan.

4. The Princely States:-

All treaties and agreements with the Princely

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States would come to an end. They would be free to join India or Pakistan or remain independent.

5. Bengal and Punjab:-

Both Bengal and Punjab were to be partitioned.

6. Sindh:-

The Legislative Assembly of Sindh was to decide how it should be partitioned.

7. North - West Frontier Province:-

A plebiscite in North-West Frontier Province would decide whether it wanted to join India or Pakistan.

8. The District of Sylhet:-

The district of Sylhet would decide by majority vote whether it would join East Bengal or remain in Assam.

9. Constituent Assembly:-

The Constituent Assembly would make constitution only for India.

10. Transfer of Power:-

The transfer of Power will be implemented before August 15, 1947.

Acceptance of Mountbatten plan:-

The Mountbatten Plan was accepted both by the Congress and the Muslim League. Keeping in view the large-scale bloodshed, chaos and anarchy the Congress and Gandhiji accepted the partition. They were of the view that a small but strong India is better than a large but weak one.

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The reasons for the acceptance of the Mountbatten Plan

1. Non-Cooperative attitude of the Muslim League:-

The Muslim League had joined the interim government to create problems for the Congress and not to cooperate with it.

2. Communal Riots:-

The large scale communal riots that spread in the whole country convinced all that the only solution to the communal problem lay in the partition of India.

3. To put an end to Undemocratic Procedures:-

The leaders felt that the system of separate Electorates, British policy of Divide and Rule and other undemocratic procedures would weaken the democracy. So to put an end to these, Partition was must.

4. Immediate end of the British rule:-

The people of India and the leaders were sick of British rule they wanted to get rid of their rule immediately and were ready to pay any price for it.

The partition was the price paid for the Independence of India.

5. The leaders felt that a smaller strong central authority was better, than a bigger country with a weak Centre.

6. It was felt that any further delay in the transfer of Powers could find India in the middle of civil War.

The Indian Independence Act, 1947.