# Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

### Situation of the Time

1. Muslim had week and feeble resources
2. No Muslim power in the World
3. Internal problems of **Jatts and Marhattas**
4. External problems of European Nations as they had better warfare and governance mechanisms
5. Muslims rulers were indifferent and

### “He realized that by no means of any type of armed struggle or revolt Muslims could gain their rule back”

**The Man**

* 1. Born on October 17,1817 in Delhi
  2. Father‟s name „Syed Muhammad‟
  3. Got education from the school of **SWU** so British called him „**Indian Wahabi‟**

### Time Line of Services and Achievements

1. **1855 –** became *“Sadar al-Amin”* a native judge
2. **1857 –** Protected British interests in the Mutiny as a reward British gave him large state but he refused
3. **1858 – “The Causes of Indian Revolt”** mentioned *absence of representative govt.*

as the main reason of Mutiny. He wrote this from Muradabad.

### 1858 – “Loyal Mohammedans of India”

1. **1860 – “Tabbay Ul Kalam”** a book *„Sympathetic Commentary on Bible‟* to bridge the gap between Muslims and British
2. **William Maure** wrote **“Life of Muhammad”** which was against the Prophet (PBUH) so Syed replied it in **“Khutbat I Ahmadi”** *which is considered as first book on Modern Muslim Thought*
3. He wanted to **uplift Muslims** and to create a **friendly relations between Muslims and British**

### 1863 – He believed that essence of their British success was in growth of physical sciences and hence started Scientific Society

1. **1864 –** Transferred to Ali Garh
2. **Went to England** where he closely studied **Cambridge University** *and* **Tatlor & Spectator** magazines
3. **Came back** and formed a society to establish a school and collect funds

### 1866 – Launched Ali Garh Gazette

1. **1870 –** Started his magazine **“Tehzib ul-Akhlaq”** on December 24 from Banaras
2. **1875 –** Established **Ali Garh School**
3. **1876 –** Took retirement form service to give time to school
4. **1877 –** Transformed school into college, **Lord Layton** laid its foundations and it was affiliated with **Calcutta Univ.** then to **Allah Abad Univ.** It became university in 1920, after Syed‟s death
5. **1886 –** Formed *All India Mohammedan Educational Conference*
6. **1888 –** Syed received the title of „Sir‟
7. **1891 –** He formed *Indian Patriotic Association*
8. **1898 –** Syed died

### His Religious Reforms

1. Developed rationale and scientific approach
2. There is no difference in *Word of God (Quran)* and in the *Work of God (Nature)*
3. Science should be interpreted in the light of Quran
4. Due to this people called as **“Naturey”**
5. **Abdul Kalam Azad in his “Al Hilal”** used to criticize this concept of Syed

### His Political Reforms

1. He believed initially in one nationalism of Hindustan as interests of Hindu and Muslims were same, to incapacitate British
2. He termed Muslims and Hindus as “**Two Eyes of A Bride”** and they are as indispensable for each other for India as two eyes for the beauty of face of bride

### He used to say “I am a Hindu as Hindu is not a name of any cult rather every inhabitant of Hindustan is a Hindu”

1. He presented the issue of **self-government in India** as a cause of Mutiny
2. His societies led to creation of Muslim League and Shimla Deputation

### Ali Garh Movement

**What Effected Syed to Deviate form One Nationalism to Two Nation Concept**

1. 1867 – Urdu Hindi Controversy of **Banaras:** *“This is the beginning, he who lives enough will see it grow”*
2. For the first time he used the term of **Two Nation** in the pretext of India
3. **Brahmu Samaj & Ariya Samahj** movements to revive Hinduism left deep imprints on the mind of Syed
4. Hindu attitude towards Muslims‟ rituals and religious process, especially **Kathiyawar** where Shiite used to morn Moharram processions, also effected his mind and thoughts
5. Minority role of Muslims and Hindu majority oppression
6. Educational and financial backwardness of Muslims
7. Formation of Congress and Syed forbade Muslim to join it as it demanded parliamentary form of government which clearly favors the majority i e Hindus
8. He formed **Indian Patriotic Association in 1891** to counter Congress activities
9. Hindu Muslim riots

### Educational Contributions

Besides all other institutions and their invaluable services to Muslims, Ali Garh produced scholars like **Shibli, Deputy Nazir Ahmad, Altaf Hussain Hali, Maulana Muhammad Hussain Azad** and many more.