

8



MAH/MUL/03051/2012
ISSN-2319 9318



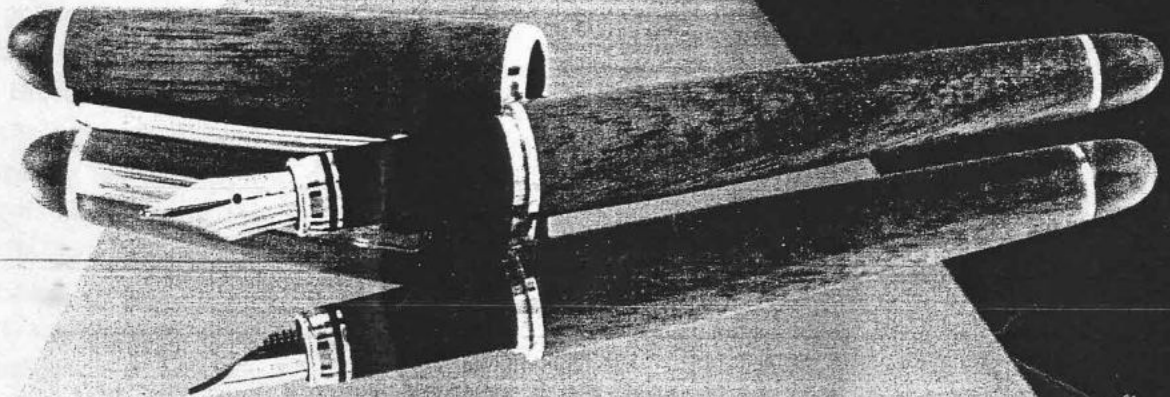
Dr. Nidhi Rajadga

34

Issue-20, Vol-03, Oct. to Dec.2017

Vidyawarta®

International Multilingual Research Journal



Editor

Dr. Bapu S. Ghelap

Social Isolation of Muslim Minority in India

Dr. Sarita Rani,

Post Doctoral Fellow, Department of History,
KMGGPG College, Gautum Budh Nagar, U.P.

Dr. Nidhi Raizada,

Associate Professor, Department of History,
KMGGPG College, Gautum Budh Nagar, U.P.

Ever since the beginning of human society, there has been a constant grading in the social spectrum of human society. The formation of human groups is determined by attraction and repulsion of all these phenomena, which may be said to be produced by fields of force. Since the identity of interests of all types of social groups has not been achieved, the majority minority relation is greatly heightened. It is most useful to think of majority-minority relations as an ongoing social function, characterized by varying degrees of repressive measures underlined by overt and covert hostility. The objects of competition may range from political power and opportunities for education to economic power and employment. Therefore, there is an inevitable conflict of interests in consequence. This sets in the process of conflict seeking rewards by the demands for eliminating or weakening the competitors, attention shifts from the contest itself to an effort to eliminate rivals. In this regards, examples of red Indians and Negroes in the USA, the protestants in Spain and Latin America, the French in Canada, the Japanese in Brazil and the Muslims in India can be cited as some of the classic examples of minority groups. Due to the psychology of ethnocentrism, people are harassed in varying degrees from complete social isolation to compromise or persecution.

Therefore, the following are the general effects of a minority position:

1. Minority groups are held in lower esteem and are objects of contempt, ridicule and violence.
2. They are specially segregated and socially isolated.
3. They are victims of unequal access to education, employment and professions.
4. They may suffer from restricted property rights.
5. They may be deprived of the right to suffrage and public office.
6. Generally speaking, a minority is "a group of people differentiated from others in the same society by race, nationality, religion and language who think of themselves as a differentiated group with negative connotations.

It is a distinct ethnic group or community with certain characteristics, ethnic, linguistic, cultural or religious, living together, within an alien civilization and are objects of collective discrimination.

Differentiation is not an inevitable or natural process-it has to be culturally set before being defined as such. There are mainly five functional characteristics in a minority position as comprehensively defined and attempted by UNESCO conference. A minority is a

- a) Subordinate segment of the population
- b) With special physical and cultural traits
- c) Possessed of self consciousness bound by some special traits and disabilities.
- d) Whose membership is compulsorily transmitted by a rule of descent.
- e) Marriage is confined within the group by choice or necessity.

In India, although its constitution proclaims the state to be secular, yet an insight at the last six decades shows that Indian secularism, works invariably in favour of the Hindu (Majority). The Muslims are looked upon with suspicion and hostility. They find it difficult to get into government service. Trade and industry do not employ them. Economically they have been ruined and the deterioration gets more severe everyday. Culturally it is expected of them to be assimilated



International Multilingual Research Journal
Issue 34, Vol-05, October 2017