

## **Simla Deputation (1906)**

### **Introduction**

- Landmark in history in modern Muslim India and the Hindu Muslim conflict was lifted to constitutional plane.
- Indian council Act 1892 (Indian majority owing to joint electorate)
- Partition of Bengal, 1905.
- Victory of Liberal Party in 1905.
- John Morley (Sec. of state for India) in July,1906 announced constitutional reforms in India.
- Letter of Hajji Ismael to Nawab Mohsin-ul-Mulk

### **Preparation for Simla Deputation**

- Arrangement of meetings among Muslim personalities like Mohsin-ul-Mulk, Waqar-ul-Mulk and Agha Khan.
- Mohsin-ul-Mulk got the memorial signed by 1411183 Muslims from Peshawar to Bihar.
- Mr. Archbold (principal of M.A.O College), contacted Dunlop Smith the private secretary of viceroy and arranged a meeting between Muslims and Lord Minto.

### **The Deputation**

- A Muslim delegation comprising of 35 leaders headed by Sir Agha Khan met Viceroy Lord Minto at Simla on October 1, 1906. The draft of Simla Deputation was written by Syed Ali Bilgrami. They presented following demands.
  1. Muslims should be given the right to vote under separate electoral system.
  2. The Muslims should be given representation in the Imperial Legislative Council in excess of their population.
  3. Electoral system should be given preference over nomination system as far as possible.
  4. The Muslims should be given due share in the gazetted and non-gazetted cadres.
  5. The Muslims should be appointed as judges of High courts as well as chief courts.
  6. Seats should be reserved for Muslims in the Senate and Syndicate of various universities.
  7. Financial help should be given for setting up a Muslim university.
  8. Muslims should be given representation in the Executive council of Viceroy.

### **Results of Simla Deputation**

- Separate electorate was accepted in Minto-Morley Reforms in 1909.
- It created unity among Muslims.
- Hindu-Muslim conflicts rose to the constitutional level.
- Distrust on Hindus.
- Basis for creation of Muslim League.

**Reaction of Hindus**

- Hindus did their best to malign the Simla Deputation by alleging that it was engineered by the British Government to create a resistance to all activities of Indian National Congress.