

Subject:- PERSIAN

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Unit-III

Topic- **Study of Allama Shibli Nomani**

Online Class Materials

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Allama Shibli Nomani

Aligarh movement

According to some scholars, Shibli was against the Aligarh movement. He opposed the ideology of Sir Syed and that is why he was debarred from the services of Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College. Kamleshwar wrote a novel 'Kitne Pakistan' (How Many Pakistan?) and in that novel he portrays Nomani as a narrow-minded Muslim theologian. In another book, 'Ataturk Fi Karbala by Arif ul Islam', the author alleged that Shibli was not happy with Sir Syed's policies and ideologies and was involved vehemently against Aligarh movement. There does not appear to be evidence of any difference of opinion between Nomani and Sir Syed either in the former's writings or in the correspondence during the life-time of the latter. Shibli's first critical reference is not to Sir Syed but to Altaf Hussain Hali with reference to "Hayat-i-Javed" which Shibli referred to as "sheer hagiography" (sarasar madah sarai). It was only later, i.e. after 1907 that Shibli made many critical references to 'Aligarh College' and occasionally to the founder Sir Syed.

From these writings, one is inclined to agree with the reasons assigned by Shaikh Ikram for this change of attitude. These are:

- (a) Nomani's desire to show that the traditionalist model of Nadwa was superior to that of Aligarh.
- (b) Nomani's affection and reliance on Abul Kalam Azad who was allergic to Aligarh and Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. One of the primary objectives of 'Al Hilal' newspaper was "Aligarh ke Aiwan-i-Ghulami ko girana". Shibli and Azad's desire that promoters of the proposed Muslim University should not give up the demand for an all India affiliating jurisdiction.
- (c) Lack of agreement on ideology between Shibli and Viqar-ul-Mulk. Shibli had deep affection for Mohsinul Mulk, who had appointed Shibli as the first Secretary of the Anjuman-i Taraqqi-i Urdu which started as a subsidiary of the All India Muslim Educational Conference.
- (d) The effect of the Muslim families of Bombay on Shibli. These Muslim families were favorable to the ideology of Indian National Congress party. They were called 'pro-Congress' people.