Simla Conference 1945

Q: What was the Simla Conference? [4]

Ans: By 1945 it was clear war was going to end. In March Lord Wavell flew to London to consult British govt. its future policy in India. Wavell proposed that an executive council should be set up to govern the country under present constitution until a new constitution could be agreed on. The executive council would contain equal no. of Muslims and Hindus and be entirely Indian, apart from viceroy and a member controlling defense. To discuss proposals Wavell called a conference in June 1945. The conference at first made some grounds. All the parties agreed with principle of an executive council. But some points caused the failure. Jinnah pointed out that, as Sikhs and Scheduled Castes on the council were bound to vote with Hindus, this means a permanent Muslim minority in executive council. Jinnah also objected to the Congress suggestion that it could nominate Hindus as well as Muslims. Jinnah pointed out that the League had won every by-election for the last two years and was undisputed voice of the Muslims. This was a success as it put forth the necessity for elections to be held.

