Quaid-i-Azam Mr. Mohammad Ali Jinnah on behalf of the All India Muslim League declares that the ensuing General Election of the Central and Provincial Legislatures of India will be taken as a plebiscite of the Muslims of India on Pakistan and the Working Committee of the Bengal Provincial Muslim League in its meeting on the 1st August, 1945 adopted a resolution to this effect. Major Attlee’s Labour Government on behalf of the British Imperialism has accepted this challenge.

In these days the ballot box is the only medium through which the public opinion can be ascertained with the greatest possible accuracy. The Muslim League, therefore, as the organisation of the plain blunt Muslims who are not addicted to clever machinations have straightway demanded general election in India and have declared that they would take this election as a plebiscite on Pakistan and a plebiscite on their claim to represent the whole of Muslim India. His Majesty’s government have decided to hold election in the next winter. “We are, therefore, in the midst of a

war as the General Election is going to be the first pitched battle for Pakistan with the enemies of Muslim India."

The Bengal Provincial Muslim League is making necessary preliminary preparations for fighting this battle. We have to marshall and mobilise our resources for winning this war. The Bengal Provincial Muslim League represents the thirtyfive millions of Muslims of Bengal and it has now on record over ten lacs of members. In such a democratic organisation as this it is quite natural that there will be difference of opinion among its leaders, workers, members and supporters. "I appeal to all in all sincerity and earnestness to bundle up all their differences and to preserve them if necessary in cold storage during the pendency of our common struggle. Our internecine conflict either for power, personal likes and dislikes or for anything for the matter of that at this juncture would be suicidal." The result of the coming General Election shall have far reaching consequences and for sometime the destiny of India shall be determined by it.

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In this war of ours in spite of all our differences legitimate or otherwise, ideological or personal, we must unite. As a first step, in order to avoid all possible chances and apprehensions of disruption in our own army the Working Committee of the Bengal Provincial Muslim League in its meeting of the 27th August, 1945 passed a resolution suspending all elections for reconstituting the union, the sub-Division, the District and the Provincial League till the declaration of the result of the elections
of the Central and Provincial Legislatures. I am summoning the council of the of Bengal Provincial Muslim League Parliamentary Board. "It does not require much wisdom to understand that our winning this General Election would much depend upon the composition of the Parliamentary Board. I, therefore, want the gentlemen of the council of the of Bengal Provincial Muslim League from now not to allow personal interest to overpower their sense of Patriotism."

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Pakistan means complete independence. They are fools, dreamers, visionaries or the hypocrites who think that Pakistan can be achieved without the greatest imaginable struggle or sacrifice. It must be known clearly to every soldier of Pakistan that the way to Pakistan is harder than the way to cavalry.

Our poets and literators, artists and artisans, youths and students, landlords and peasants, ulema and laymen must answer to the clarion call of the great leader of Muslim India, sink all their differences, forget the past, and pull all their resources for the winter struggle, the General Election of the Legislatures....

The Congress played itself into a useless and unnecessary conflict with the League. Let us gallantly meet the challenge. Moulana Abul Kalam Azad has in his recent statement talked of territorial autonomy and the right to secede from the centre and has kindly promised to place his proposal to the All India Congress Committee. It is very kind of him indeed. But the Muslims of India are unfortunately
for the Congress not just as foolish as they would like them to be. They can by the grace of God now see below the surface.

The Pakistan formula is very simple and corresponds with the realities of Indian politics. The basis of Pakistan is real democracy, freedom equity and justice and is opposed to Imperial domination and economic exploitation which is the basis of the favourite, 'Akhand Bharat' of the Congress.

Free India was never one country. Free Indians were never one nation. In the past India was Akhand under the domination of the Mauryas and the Mughals and is now Akhand under the domination of Great Britain. Liberated India must necessarily be, as God has made it, a sub-continent having complete independence for every nation inhabiting it. However, much weakness the Congress may have for the capitalists of the Bombay and however, much they may desire by way of doing a good turn to them to open opportunities for exploiting the whole of India under the cover of Akhand Bharat, Muslim India to a man will resist all attempts of the Congress to establish dictatorship in India of any coterie, group or organisation. Pakistan means freedom for all, Muslims and Hindus alike....

While appealing to the Muslims to join the army of the League and to fight its defensive war against the Congress I would warn them not to forget the now quiet and apparently indifferent imperialist of Delhi and London. We must not forget that the achievement of Pakistan lies in the ultimate liquidation of the British imperialism.... We shall win Pakistan by the toils and sacrifices of our own people and not through the courtesy and benevolence of the British. Since we have taken our stand upon the solid rock of equity, justice and fair play, since freedom and liberty
and not domination and exploitation is the mixture of our struggle, by the grace of
God we are going to win, if we are united. So unity, fraternity and liberty shall be the
battle cry for our first war for Pakistan.

The head and the heart of the people as I have seen during my tour in Bengal
are perfectly sound and they will not make any mistake unless the Leaders at the top
in their anxiety to secure their leadership create confusion in their mind.

We, therefore, must guard ourselves against this only possible source of
disruption. We must never forget for a moment that Pakistan is our end and a
ministry under the Government of India Act of 1935 will be merely incidental.
Whoever amongst the leader will exhibit any tendency to secure his position from
now in the future assembly either as a Minister or a Prime Minister shall be marked
well and Muslim Bengal shall never forgive him.

The General Election is the beginning of our struggle. Immediately after
recording our votes in favour of Pakistan at the polling centres, immediately after
winning our plebiscite liquidating the false claim of the Congress to represent the
Muslims shall direct our attention towards British imperialism and demand immediate
transference of power to the peoples by India on the basis of Pakistan. Our battle is a
battle for freedom for all and we hope and trust that every genuine freedom loving
man and woman shall be with us.

We are going to fight the Congress but we don't feel quite happy about it as
we never liked to consume any part of our energy in fighting the Congress, the
Mahasabha or in fact any Indian people or organisation. Our battle is hundred percent
defensive. We did not like to fight the Congress, they unjustly and unfairly like the Fascist aggressors have forced war on us.

Therefore, without malice, without vengeance, with complete faith in our ultimate victory, with heart within and God over head LET US GO TO WAR.
COMING ELECTION AND THE HINDUS' DUTIES

The general election to the legislative assemblies of India is impending. Two main issues that will be raised before the countrymen are - national unity of India and complete freedom.

The ideology of the Hindu Mahasabha is very clear. Hindu Mahasabha has clearly announced to the countrymen that it would follow the same policy towards both the Hindus and the Muslims, even if they are in minority in any province in India.

No scientific procedure has been followed in defining the existing provincial boundaries. On the contrary, the self interested imperialists have drawn them in such a way that the people of the country be forced to indulge in suicidal quarrels amongst themselves; so there is no point in mentioning the flaws and injustices in defining the present boundaries. We have to solve the problem of redefining the boundaries on a scientific basis.

Ideally and justifiably, the provinces should be defined on the basis of language and culture. Unless this policy is followed, dissatisfaction and loss of interest among a large section of the population enhances the administrative complexities perennially and endanger the peace and well being of the country.

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Nowadays, quite a few, swayed by the bluff of ‘self determination’ are being attracted to unrealistic plan. I hope, people will not be deceived by these unrealistic promises. In fact, to strengthen the imperialist role by dividing the country in the name of self determination is the aim of a group of communal and selfish people. Their real intention is to create national disunity and separation. But the majority community of India cannot let their fatherland, their holy land disintegrate to serve the interests of a group of narrow minded communal opportunists. Those, who want to divide the country and the nation unnecessarily and unjustifiably would be considered as anti-national in the eyes of international justice and they should be treated likewise.

The communal award has erected the wall of disunity and separation among the concerned communities. Until this award is repealed and joint electorate established, no fair election is possible. The really independent wishes and feelings of the people of the country cannot be properly reflected in an election based on separate electorate (communal award). A genuinely democratic election cannot be held without a joint electorate comprising every adult citizen of the country. So, the so-called demands for ‘self determination’ cannot be proved by a hastily and spuriously held election.

Here, till now communal obstinacy is stronger than reason. The influence of a middle agedly fanaticism is more effective than political or economic reasons. So, is it possible to know the real wishes of the people if this situation prevails?

In India there was any obstruction in celebrating religious rights by different communities. India has always been famous for liberality and tolerance to other faiths. So, religion is not a problematic matter in India.
If the 35 crore people of India unitedly raised their demand despite their different religious beliefs, then there would be no resistance, and no nation in the world, however strong, would dare to dismember India, resisting this. Our neighbouring countries, Russia and China, are the glaring examples of it. Now our common people also know it will be a matter of Russia and China.

There is no doubt that the death toll would have been much higher in the Great Famine of 1943 if assistance had not come from the other provinces, or had the central government not intervened in the matter of Bengal directly. In Bengal, Muslims are relatively poorer, so it was not impossible for them to become minority from majority due to a higher death toll among them. Those Muslim League slyboots, stupefied with the day-dream of forming a separate independent state do not even remember the tragic lesson of the Great Famine of Bengal.

Moreover, if India disintegrates, the neighbouring countries will be more tempted to attack India. Such examples are frequent in Indian History. Especially, the aggressors will become more daring with the belief that the different communities of India would not or could not unite and resist them. There is no hope for India from self interested and unsympathetic communities - under these circumstances, it will be cause for great danger to link the fate of an independent state with the interest of such a community.

These apart, Hindus will have some more important religious reasons. Hindustan is their fatherland, their holy land and their divine land. Hindus must see that their ever worshipped motherland is not destroyed. Hindus will not hesitate to make sacrifices to preserve the unity and integrity of the holy motherland. For the Hindus, India is not only
their motherland but also the holy place to worship. Hindus will never tolerate the dismemberment of their motherland until the last. So their aim is clear, duties are clearly defined - united India and complete freedom. In this crusade, the Hindu Mahasabha will never be deprived of the Hindu’s sympathy.

Vande Mataram

Shri Haridas Mazumdar,
Secretary,
Parliamentary Board,
Bengal Provincial Hindu Mahasabha.

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