

The Indian Independence Act, 1947

—A Study— (2)

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The second part of my article concerns three topics of the external affairs of India and Pakistan before and after Independence. How and why the Indian National Congress decided Indian's independence as a Dominion within the British Commonwealth of Nations? What effect did her Independence make on the dominion status? These are the first problems of my analysis, which are mainly based on *The Transfer of Power*, edited by Professor N. Mansergh. It might be interesting to compare her Independence with Burma and Ceylon's Independence from the constitutional point of view.

In Pre-independence times Jawaharlal Nehru was thinking that India would secede from the Commonwealth before India's Republic. Why the Congress leaders decided to remain in the Commonwealth? I examined this second topic, referring to the works of Professors M. Brecher, S. Gopal, and R. J. Moore. Furthermore I discussed on the Declaration of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference on 28 April, 1949, particularly on Indian's recognition of the King "as the symbol of the free association of its independent member nations and as such the Head of Commonwealth".

The third topic, that is the succession of international personality of British India, is important for India's Post-Independence foreign relations, which Jawaharlal Nehru had been very eager to establish with USA, USSR and others since September, 1946. Independent India succeeded the

membership of the United Nation on 15 August, 1947. This secession problem was studied in connection with the secession versus division controversy between the Congress and the Muslim League as well as British Government's attitude on this matter.