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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-52085 **Date**: 06/04/2025

Title: "Sir Syed Ahmad Khan: Visionary Reformer and Architect of Modern Muslim Education in Colonial India"

Recommendation:

Accept

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		\checkmark		
Techn. Quality		\checkmark		
Clarity		$\sqrt{}$		
Significance		$\sqrt{}$		

Reviewer Name: Dr Abdul Haseeb Mir Date: 06/04/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

This article presents a comprehensive and scholarly analysis of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's educational, social, and political contributions in colonial India. It provides a well-structured and nuanced narrative of how Sir Syed envisioned and executed a reformist agenda for Indian Muslims during a period of crisis following the fall of the Mughal Empire and the Revolt of 1857. The paper's key strength lies in its multi-thematic approach—organizing Sir Syed's legacy through education, social reform, interfaith dialogue, and political engagement—anchored in extensive use of both primary and secondary sources.

The section on the Aligarh Movement is particularly strong, tracing how the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College became a blueprint for modern Islamic education. The article does not shy away from discussing the limitations and controversies surrounding Sir Syed, including his cautious stance on women's education and the political implications of his communal identity emphasis. Furthermore, the engagement with intellectual movements such as rational Islamic thought and post-Enlightenment modernism adds depth to the analysis.

The language is generally clear and academic, though some sentences may benefit from minor grammatical polishing and tightening for style. The use of figures and thematic structuring enhances readability and organization.

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Overall, the article makes a significant contribution to South Asian intellectual and educational history. It successfully situates Sir Syed as both a product of his time and a visionary ahead of it. With very minor revisions to enhance clarity and coherence, this article is suitable for publication.

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This article offers a rich and well-researched account of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's role as a transformative figure in colonial India, particularly in the domains of education, social reform, and Muslim political consciousness. It skillfully traces the evolution of Sir Syed's ideas in response to the post-1857 crisis, highlighting his efforts to modernize Muslim society while preserving Islamic identity. The discussion on the Aligarh Movement and the founding of the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College is especially compelling, showing how this initiative laid the groundwork for modern Muslim leadership in South Asia. The author makes effective use of both primary and secondary sources, and the inclusion of his associates adds important context. The article's strengths lie in its thematic organization, clarity of argument, and relevance to contemporary debates on Islamic modernism and minority empowerment. While the writing is generally clear, some sections could benefit from minor grammatical polishing and tighter synthesis to reduce repetition. Additionally, incorporating a deeper theoretical framework would strengthen the analysis further. Overall, the article presents a balanced and insightful study of Sir Syed's legacy and is suitable for publication after minor revisions focused on improving language and stylistic coherence.

Final Recommendation:

The article is the article covers an important topic with relevant discussion.

This article falls within the IJAR domain.

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