

Jam'iyatul Ulama-e Hind is an organization of Deobandi scholars of India, established in November 1919, when numerous ulama from all parts of India participated in the Khilafat Movement conference in New Delhi. Many of the members were associated with the Darul Ulum of Deoband. The organization came into being when Indians of all religious affiliations were united in the anti-British struggle. When most Muslim leaders participated in the non-cooperation movement with the Indian National Congress, Jam'iyatul Ulama-e Hind, in contrary, maintained its pro-congress attitude through out the struggle for independence and supported the idea of a united India and opposed the Pakistan movement.

The main contribution of the Jam'iyatul Ulama-e Hind to Indo-Muslim thought is the theory of "composite nationalism" to counter the "two nations theory" of the Muslim League, which formed the ideological basis of the Pakistan movement. The Jam'iyatul Ulama-e Hind thus accepted the idea of territorial nationalism. In order to expel the British from India and to achieve independence, there was the demand that Muslims cooperate with the Indian National Congress. The Deobandi scholars envisaged that in an independent and united India achieved with their cooperation, and their close association with the future Government would be ideal to spread Salafi beliefs into India. This way they will also gain the leadership of Muslim community in India. On this basis, they appealed to Muslim not to join the Muslim League.

In independent India, the Jam'iyatul Ulama-e Hind acquired increased importance in the new political structure. Shortly after independence, the Ulama called upon Indian Muslims to unite under their Umbrella and embrace Salafism. Several Salafi ideas adopted by these Deobandi Ulama after partition were quite rebellious from traditional Islam. They were branded as traitors who sold Muslim's interest to gain political clout in Indian politics. They supported Indian policies even on issues that were sensitive from the Muslim point of view.