



Kashmir: Unresolved Issue Between India and Pakistan

KEYWORDS

Kashmir conflict, confidence building measures, peace dialogue, Indian-Pakistan relations.

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ABSTRACT

The fact remains that India-Pakistan relationship had been and rather remains complex and variable. Based on a compromise approach, the peace process enabled the two countries to discuss all issues including Kashmir, simultaneously. Since its inception, the dialogue process has gone through highs and lows in bilateral relations. It has remained susceptible to unfortunate incidents which have derailed the process several times in the past. The analysis of the peace process in this paper hinges on key questions that over six decades, bilateral relations between Pakistan and India have been shadowed by the Kashmir conflict. However, Pakistan's ability to broaden engagement with India and move beyond Kashmir depends on a sustained democratic transition. While Pakistan's relations with India should certainly evolve and to some extent are already going beyond a narrow Kashmir-centric approach, stronger economic links would not only strengthen existing and create new constituencies for peace dialogue in both countries but also opened new opportunities for a composite dialogue on longstanding disputes, including Kashmir.

INTRODUCTION:

India and Pakistan are two countries of Asian Continent, which got their independence in the middle of twentieth century from the British Empire. The conflict aroused when these nations got independence from British Empire and divided into two countries i.e. India and Pakistan. Before independence whole country was divided into 562 princely states which were directly or indirectly governed by the British Government. When India got independence on 15th August, 1947, all the princely states unified to the Govt. of both countries with different treaties and Agreements. But three states Hyderabad, Junagad and Jammu and Kashmir ruled by independent rulers were given choice to join either of the Nations before 14th August, 1947. Jammu and Kashmir was ruled by Dogra rulers, last being Maharaja of Jammu & Kashmir, Hari Singh.¹ According to Two Nation Theory of Mohammad Ali Jinnah, Kashmir should be a part of Pakistan due to its Muslim majority. Pakistan claims Kashmir as her lifeline; Jugular Vein.² Kashmir is not a zone of peace rather a zone of chaos, a militarised zone in the world, insecurity, tensions over where India and Pakistan claims. In 1947, during the visit of Kashmir, Mountbatten urged the Maharaja of Jammu & Kashmir and his Prime Minister to ascertain the will of their people and to join one of the two dominions before 14th August, 1947. A few days after the independence of both the Nations, Lord Ismay also urged the Maharaja of J&K on behalf of the Governor General of India, Lord Mountbatten, to ascertain the wishes of his people's and join either India or Pakistan.

The main conflict aroused when Jammu and Kashmir was attacked by the Tribesman (pathans) of North frontier of Pakistan and Maharaja's Army incapable to face it. As Jammu and Kashmir having maximum population of Muslim Community, they were already fighting against Maharaja's rule since 1930's because of his insensitivity and heavy taxation.³ According to C Dasgupta, the raider in Kashmir started on 22nd of October in 1947 at 4:30 am, and moved swiftly up the Jhelum Valley Road to Uri, and then towards Baramulla. After an orgy of massacre, pillage and rape, in which the sisters of European Convents were not spared, the invaders continued their march".⁴ These Pa-

thans being supported by the local people and captured several towns of J&K, massacred large number of civilians, and advanced towards the capital Srinagar. As Maharaja's army was incapable to fight against these tribesmen, on 26th October 1947 Maharaja of the state wrote accession letter to Governor General of India, against the wishes of state people. On Oct 27th, 1947, Governor General of India, accepted accession Agreement on behalf of Maharaja of Jammu & Kashmir. After that Indian army landed on the Srinagar Airport and started to fight against the tribesmen, Prime Minister of Pakistan, Liaquat Ali Khan refused to accept the Accession and declared on 4th November, 1947, „we do not recognize this accession, the accession of Kashmir to India is a “fraud” perpetrated on the people of Kashmir by its cowardly ruler”⁵. The dispute become more serious after India and Pakistan openly clashed in Kashmir and India brought the issue before United Nations.

On 1st January 1948, India lodged a complaint in UNO demanding the withdrawal of Pakistan troops. On 6th January 1948, Security Council of UNO urged both Nations to stop the war and in the same year UNO passed resolution to enforce a cease-fire and required the contestants to withdraw their forces from Jammu & Kashmir and to hold a plebiscite. As Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of India, according to Indian constitutional Acts but still Jammu & Kashmir is suffering from last six decades to form stable democracy and peaceful government, so that people of Jammu and Kashmir have peaceful life.

India has a geo-political importance of the region especially Gilgit-Baltistan, a part of princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, presently under Pakistan's control, because it has physical contiguity with Afghanistan, East Turkistan and close to central Asian states. Thus, has a great economic and strategic importance for India. The people of Gilgit-Baltistan are not satisfied by Pakistan govt, 60% of them want Independent Jammu and Kashmir, 30% to Pakistan and 10% people of that area wants to join India.⁶ one of are with key importance is the Siachen Glacier in the Karakoram Pass. The expenditure of maintaining troops

at the Siachen glacier alone is approximately US \$ 2 million a month. From 1984 to 2009 India and Pakistan's military expenditure on Siachen Glacier is \$5 billion each with 1025 and 1344 deaths respectively.⁷

From the last 24 years, the problem is in Indian administered Jammu and Kashmir, there witnessed a mushrooming growth of terrorism and militancy in the state supported by Pakistan's born terrorist organisations. One of the devastating turmoil in Kashmir was that insecurity forced the Kashmiri pundits to left their homes. Panun Kashmir wrote that 350,000 Kashmiri Pandits expelled from the valley when militancy emerged. Women and Kashmiri Pandits were the frequent victims of such movement.⁸ All Party Hurriyat Conference Azad Jammu and Kashmir disclosed that from 1989 to 15 Oct. 2012, 93,274 Kashmiris died, 6,969 custodial killings, 1,17,345 arrest and destruction of 1,05,861 houses, Indian security forces orphaned over 1,07,351 children, widowed 22,728 women and 9,920 women were gang-raped.⁹ The enormity of economic damage due to militancy can be gauged by the fact that the estimates of damage till December 1996 were approximately INR 4 billion.¹⁰ Jammu and Kashmir is one of the most militarized zones in the world. In Kashmir there is presence of the military and Para-military forces approximating 600 000 to 700 000 enforce a coercive regime on the people.¹¹

OBJECTIVES:

Historians are trying their best from last six decades to know about the base of this conflict and also put forward their possible solution about the issue of Kashmir. With the passage of time so many agreements and treaties are enacted between India and Pakistan, but still the situation about Jammu & Kashmir is as it is, as it was six decades ago. Lot of agreements and treaties between two countries, but still there are three bloody wars between two nations and insurgency in Jammu and Kashmir. Due to which, innocent people of Jammu & Kashmir are suffering and paying price without any crime.

This critical position of Jammu & Kashmir insists every person and Historian to know about the actual situation of the Kashmir in which innocent people of Kashmir, lost their life. As a Historian, this thing insists us to research about the situation and to study about the base of conflict which is still unsolved from past six decades. In the present research, the main area which requires attention is conflict over the boundaries of Kashmir, insurgency in Kashmir and the problems faced by the Kashmiri people. All these three bloody wars took place between India and Pakistan because of Boundary conflict. Second objective is insurgency or militancy for this most of the reason show links about the problem faced by the Kashmiri's. Last objective of the research work is to know about the actual situation about Kashmir boundaries Insurgency, Militancy and to evaluate ground level situation of the problem, i.e. problem faced by Kashmiri's.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Historians having limited option for their research work upon which they will rely to collect their information and study about the problem and put forward their view and solutions. These research methods mostly depend upon the review of literature (Literary Method), archeological sources, their study and findings or oral historical findings. But among all these methods literary method is most acceptable in research work, because written information is more authentic than any other source. In Archeological

source exact information can be changed or modulated with the passage of time. In the same manner oral History, research became little bit tough because, this information and way of method regarding research is least acceptable. Because this information will change, with the passage of time from one generation to another.

Regarding our research Methodology, we went through a lot of books which were written by Historians on "issue of Kashmir". Analyse different dimensions to access the problem (political, social, Cultural, administrative, constitutional) and collects lot of information. We rely most of time on this method of research, because this method provides authentic and exact situation of the problem. Along with this we also relay upon the oral history, collect valuable information from eminent senior citizens of the Kashmir. Interact with them know the exact problem faced by the people since independence of India. Along with this we also interact with Historians of Kashmir region and discuss issues with them. Only few information collected though Archeological sources, mostly from war memorials.

FINDINGS:

Every coin having two faces, in the same way we noticed some good and bad faces in the peace process and in the solution of "Kashmir issue" between India and Pakistan. Since independence none of the Govt. took bold steps for the solution of Kashmir. A lot of treaties and agreements between two countries like Karachi Agreement (1948), Indus Water treaty (1960), Tashkent Declaration (1966) and Shimla Agreement (1972), but all these treaties were in vain, because no solid steps taken related to demarcation of boundaries which is the main issue between two countries.

Though, a lot of good steps are taken by Indian Govt. to solve the issue, to maintain the peace in the region. The peace process whose major objective was people to people contract has embraced the disconnected communities. Srinagar-Muzaffarabad, Amritsar-Lahore, Poonch-Rawalakote are the glaring achievements for the two nations. Jammu-Sialkot is the recent proposal. Both the states should open further routes and economic linkages in order to boost their relations. On positive sides, direct bilateral trade has increased substantially in recent years, to \$2.6 billion in 2010-2011, but remains far below an estimated potential of \$40 billion.¹¹ Every time Pakistan took some unexpected steps which block the possible solutions whether it's in 1948, 1965 or 1999. Or we can take an example of insurgency in Jammu & Kashmir, all these things are Black truth of Pakistan. Pakistan's mentality totally based on, that if he was not in regular conflict with India its status will become zero at world level. Other than this knows 100% that he will never face India, for this history is the biggest witness in front of whole world. Along with this on ground level there are no problems faced by Kashmiri's but some anti-national elements ruins the situation for their own interest in Kashmir.

CONCLUSION:

All Quotations and Tags are changed for Kashmir which was given to Kashmir by the whole world. Up to the Ninth century Kashmir is known as "Paradise on Earth" but Quotation has been changed and Kashmir is known as "Hell on Earth" only because of boundary dispute, Terrorism (Insurgency) and aggressive attitude of Pakistan and Anti-national elements present in Kashmir.

The main thing is that there is no possibility of solution

over Kashmir, until Pakistan will change its current attitude towards Kashmir. So first possible solution of this issue is that both countries will be confined to their original boundaries which were demarcated at the time of independence, because Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) is an illegal occupation by Pakistan since 1947. This can be possible with the help of international agencies like UN. Second main problem is insurgency in Kashmir, infiltration or terrorism since last six decades, Kashmir has witnessed so many blood-shed incidents in which innocent people lost their lives. Violence in Indian-administered J&K is at the lowest levels since the separatist uprising began in 1989.¹² As international agencies said that Pakistan is a base camp for terrorists. Especially in India all terror attacks were controlled by Pakistan-based militant groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba, Hizbul Mujahideen. This problem can be solved only with the help of bilateral talks

between two nations and after the destruction of all terrorist base camps operated by Pakistan. Last problem noticed in Kashmir region is anti-national attitude of youth towards India. This problem can be solved only after revoking article 370 (special status for Jammu & Kashmir) so that best job opportunities can be provided to Kashmir youth. Apart from this after revoking this Article all restrictions imposed upon outsiders coming in Jammu & Kashmir can be secured. Also there is no immediate and direct correlation between bilateral trade and the Kashmir dispute, deeper economic ties would help repair the breach between Pakistan and India. Potentially a roadmap for a far broader relationship between the two countries lies in the current composite dialogue. The challenge is for Islamabad and New Delhi to build on what has been achieved.

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