

After Independence India Foreign Policy Context In Jammu and Kashmir

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The partition of India was the most significant event in the history of India. No doubt, in the partition of India and making of Pakistan, the policies of English Government and Muslim League were responsible to great extent but the policy of appeasement of the Muslim, adopted helpful in this sphere. Seeing the poisonous atmosphere of communalism in the country. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel said in this connection, "I felt that if we did not accept partition, India would be split into many bites and would be completely ruined. "He further said, "After having worked for a year I have become sure that the path which we are treading leads to destruction, I have felt that in place of one there would be many Pakistan in India and every office would be a Pakistan cell.¹

Nehru was a in favour of a strong centre and the new construction gave it wide power. Jawaharlal Nehru had a specific vision of world order based on destructive and deeply held values. He had enunciated the foreign policy of India on 7th Sept. 1946: "We shall take full part in international conferences as a free nation with our own policy and not merely as a satellite of another nation. We hope to develop close and direct contracts with other Nation and co-operate with them in furtherance of world peace and freedom. We propose as far as possible, to keep away from power politics of group aligned against one another which have led in the part to world war and which may again lead to disaster on avouch vaster scale. We believe that peace and freedom are invisible and the denial of freedom any where must endanger freedom elsewhere and lead to conflict and wear. We are particularly interested in the emancipation of colonial and dependent countries and people and in the recognition of theory and practice of equal opportunities for all races.²

He was aware that the Indian's material weakness with her abysmal poverty preduced it from a significant role in global affairs he pursued the strategy of Non-alignment to keep India away from the titanic super power struggle in the post world war II

era. He was fully aware the India's involvement in the cold war would be jeopardized its political and economic development. He defended the policy of Non-alignment.³

Non-alignment enabled India to develop economic ties with block lead by U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. Nehru's policy tilted in favour of the Soviet Union rather than with U.S.A. despite India's efforts to cultivate friendly relations with the latter remained insensitive. The US stand on Kashmir disappointed India's hope of friendship. The U.N. Security Council, dominated by the US and its allies, side-lined India's charge of Pakistan as an aggressor in Kashmir.⁴

Pakistan has been training, financing and sponsoring militant terrorist campaigns in Kashmir. As per the report of India's Defence Intelligence Agency there are more than 70 Islamic militant camps operating in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. There are five pan-Islamic Jehadi organizations run by Pakistan. They are Al-Qaeda, Harkat-ul-Mujahideen, Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami, Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammed. These organizations are mostly responsible for the terrorist violence in India under the instruction of ISI.

Johan Blank, Western analyst in his article, Kashmir: Fundamentalism Takes Roots, published in Foreign Affairs observes that, "most of the militant fighting in Kashmir are based in Pakistan, trained in Afghanistan, and motivated by pan-Islamic fundamentalism rather than Kashmiri nationalism, their ranks filled with Punjabis and Pashtuns, Afghans and Arabs, many of the fighters wage war on behalf of a people whose language they do not even speak. Even the ISI activities in India include infiltrating its agents in India providing sanctuaries, training and material support to Kashmir militants, smuggling, proliferation of small arms, supporting Muslim fundamentalist organizations, circulation of fake currency.

The massacres of innocent people in the Kashmir valley, attack on Indian Parliament in 2003 and Jammu and Kashmir state assembly in 2001, attacks on Indian temples by the terrorists are the few recent examples of horrific acts perpetrated by cross-border terrorists. After 9/11 it has been proved that the kind of terrorist that India is facing in Kashmir valley is not just cross-border terrorism but as a part of international terrorism and requires international means and international co-operation to combat it.

Kashmir issue could not be resolved through negotiations. India decided to refer the

Kashmir issue to the security council of UN-United nation organization. On 1st Jan 1948. The UN resolution admitted that Jammu and Kashmir was an integral part of India and the presence of accepted by India but was not accepted by Pakistan. The UN resolution has stipulated that Pakistan must withdraw its troops and nationals from Kashmir. But Pakistan never withdrew its troops from the areas which it had illegally occupied which called 'Pakistan occupied Kashmir'.⁵

The famous Tashkent declaration both India and Pakistan declared their firm resolves to restore normal friendly relation. The armies of both the countries were to be withdrawn by 25th Feb. 1966 to the position they had prior to 5th august 1965 India had to agree this unfavourable terms as this meant withdrawing from the strategic Hajipir pass conduct for Pakistan infiltrators and the surrender of other gains in Kashmir both the countries agreed to the principle of non-interface in the internal affair of each other and agreed to maintain friendly relation between two countries prisoners of war were to be exchanged. The Tashkent conference was followed by tragic death of Lal Bahadur Shashtri death on 11th Jan 1966 India emerged from conflict with honor and prestige. As a result of war Lal Bahadur Shashtri became a National Hero and domically Political figure.

Even in post Nehru and Shashtri era Indo- Pak relations continue to be hostile. The indo- Pak war of 1965, 1971, 1999 Kargil crises have further aggravated bilateral relation.

Pakistan continue its proxy war against India by training and financing military group across the line of other part of India. India's approach is that the Kashmir question is not religious issue but on administration and political matter.

Koffi Annan United Nation Secretary general during his visit to India in March 2001 gave a severe jolt to Pakistan leaders where he explain that U.N. resolution of 1948 has no longer revelest because Pakistan dis not withdrawn its troops from P.O.K. (Pak occupied Kashmir) which was pre condition for plebiscite. He advised both. The countries to restraint and resort bilateral talk he said "Pakistan and India should take constructive steps and exercise restraint and show wisdom to reduce tension the region."⁶

Relation between India-Pak suffered set back in wake of terrorist attack in U.S.A. on 11th Sep. 2001 India sought U.S. help and support over disputed area ok Kashmir and to combat global terrorism. Pakistan tried to gloss over the issue by insisting that it was

freedom struggle in Kashmir.

Pakistan arrogance was revealed in the wake of terrorist attack on India as Parliament on 13th Dec. 2001 the attack was engineered by Pakistan sponsored terrorist organization the Jaish-e-Mohammad and the Lashkar-e-Taliba. Despite General Mushraf commitment to break off relation with these radical organization terrorist attack continued. Another attack on an India Military base at Kalachowk in the state of Jammu on 30th May 2002 strained. The relation between the two countries the troop movement from both the side intensified U.N. along with number of other western power made diplomatic efforts to defuse tension.⁷

Conclusion :

- 1) It must be admitted that since the beginning of the Kashmir imbroglio it has considerably changed its character from a mere political issue to a religion coated terrorism having an International dimension, the solution of which is perhaps hidden in the remote future.
- 2) It is evident from the preceding discussion that Kashmir issue has been a key issue in India's foreign policy.
- 3) To conclude thinking beyond the strict political boundaries of Kashmir issue can be the only remedy for resolving it in a peaceful manners.
- 4) In my opinion the problem can be very conveniently solved either by ballet or by bullet.

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