

Journal of Strategic Policy and Global Affairs

Vol: 02, Issue: 01(2021) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.58669/jspga.v02.i01.03>**Kashmir as a Standpoint in Pakistan and India's Policy to View Regional Security**

Dr. Nousheen Jamshed*

*Lecturer Department of Pakistan Studies, Islamia College Peshawar

Email: nosheen_sahibzada@yahoo.com

Abstract: The Kashmir issue between India and Pakistan, which has not been settled, is one of South Asia's leading sources of unrest and hatred. It has resulted in two significant conflicts and other close calls throughout the centuries. India and Pakistan have been engaged in a "proxy battle" for Kashmir late in 1990s. When the proxy war started, diplomatic ties between the two sides were at an all-time low and highly influenced South Asia's overt nuclearization in 1998. It has further damaged chances for regional cooperation and stoked worries about a possible nuclear war between India and Pakistan. Thus, there has never been a greater pressing need for a solution to the Kashmir conflict than there is even now. This article examines Kashmir as a dispute between India and Pakistan. The first section will describe the overview of Kashmir and Pak-India relations. Then, the paper will highlight the theory of security dilemma. After that, the study will analyze the problem of regional security in Kashmir. Furthermore, to resolve the Kashmir dispute, the implementation of an action plan will be recommended.

Keywords: Kashmir, Disputed Territory, Nuclearisation, Regional Cooperation, Proxy Battle

Introduction

Kashmir is a paradise of everlasting summer, a lovely rosemary bush, and a legacy that enlarges the hearts of mystics. Its beautiful meadows and spectacular waterfalls are beyond words. There are an infinite number of waterfalls and flowing rivers. There is vegetation and flowing water anywhere the eye looks. The red rose, the purple, and the hyacinth bloom on their own; there are countless varieties of blossoms and sweet-smelling plants in the meadows. Young husband describes Kashmir as an area of colossal hills surpassing all other areas on the globe, Bernier, as it is the terrestrial heaven of the Orient. By Walter Lawrance, as a sight of astounding splendor with its outlying characteristics half showed half shrouded by mystical mist (Younghusband, 2012).

According to Nehru, It has a thousand heads and countless characteristics, and they are constantly changing. Occasionally they are happy. At other moments they are sad and filled with grief. But it is deplorable that Kashmir, the gem of the planet, is home to one of the old and longest-running wars in history. This never-weapons battle and vicious cycle of violence is raging between India and Pakistan over the Kashmir conflict. No agreement has yet been established on Kashmir because both worlds forces either demand control of the region or refer to it as the Kashmiri folk's right to sovereignty. Focusing on this matter, a vortex of distrust and animosity persists, with its expression being long-lasting, low-intensity confrontation (Ahmed & Chakma, 2012).

Pakistan and India Relation

In a conference call at the Indian Chamber of Commerce Bombay after Pakistan's freedom, Quaid-e-Azam

declared that we should live in Pakistan and you will stay in India. We will be neighbors in this manner. We wish to coexist amicably as two brothers who are buddies in business. (Hilali, 2005) Since their brutal split, which encouraged each to identify themselves in opposition to the other, India and Pakistan have fought four wars. India has a dominant structure and yet never keeps cordial ties with its smaller South Asian neighbors (Oimstead, 2014).

From 1984 and 1997, Pakistan and India engaged in negotiations with limited success on a number of problems, such as the conflicts over Siachen, Sir Creek, and Tulbul or Wular. Because of decades of hatred, enmity, and animosity between the two countries, the delegates met, argued, and created agreements, yet the company's certificate of completion was needed. Both India and Pakistan were ready to move past their current locations in search of a solution or the other stance. Military police remained to battle fatigue, terrorists kept claiming countless lives, and mediators remained to meet regularly, but at the time there was no good transition.

Their relationship has been further hampered by antagonism and mistrust due to the Kashmir dispute and the unresolved issues of division. In addition to the Kargil Conflict and other significant conflicts, later on, Pakistan had to contend with three major wars in 1948, 1965, and 1971 (Yousaf, 2016). Since the first day of good transformation occurred at that time, India and Pakistan had to deal with numerous security risks. The greatest issue Pakistan faced in the past was the division of the country as a result of the unfriendly ties. Apparently, Pakistan was seriously threatened by Indian folk abilities, but

Kashmir as a Standpoint in Pakistan and India's Policy to View Regional Security following the nuclear explosion in 1998, bilateral relations improved. The Indian chief of nation and administration displayed their customary flexibility in their response to the protracted upheavals in Kashmir after the nuclear tests in May 1998. For India, Pakistan was no match for this army. Pakistan performed its own nuclear test and decided politically to defy all diplomatic pressure in the wake of this menace.

As a result of widespread public support for government actions, officials were able to deal with the limitations placed on their country by nuclear explosions. A new facet of ties between Pakistan and India is the interaction of nuclear and conventional concerns. Nuclear tests helped the country's power balance, which pushed a resolution to the 1999 Kargil conflict (Johnson, 2005). The global group has taken notice of this area as a result of the subcontinent's prominent nuclear weapons exhibition, particularly the Kashmir crisis. According to representatives from Pakistan and India, the probability of a catastrophic conflict in the area has decreased as a result of nuclear deterrence. Unintentional nuclear conflicts might, though, result from misunderstandings and technological mistakes. It is increasingly critical to have quick access to current nuclear weapons information. The populace and culture in both nations will be greatly concerned and challenged by this imbalance.

From their British colonizers or the native authoritarian leaders, Asian countries acquired a poor, archaic, and outdated socioeconomic foundation. With the exception of Sri Lanka and India, where considerable framework development had occurred during British colonialism, the other nations lacked even the most basic economic facilities. The process of modernization and growth started in the 1950s in South Asia. The South Asian economy has been impacted by a variety of issues and difficulties. With strong ties in terms of culture, society, geography, and history, the peculiar pattern of both active and passive hostilities between the two South Asian neighbors has the impact of alienating and dividing them. (Upreti, BC)

After 1947, additional and unanticipated issues appeared in the broad area of antagonism, skepticism, and hatred, adding to the indications of Pakistan and India's seemingly unending battle. The distance that had already grown in 1947 became much more comprehensive as a result of the mistakes, difficulties, and errors of one nation. Other variables, though, pull individuals along or, at the very least keep them from escalating the fight. Recognizing shared strong connections, financial integration, and, specifically, the wish to avoid a direct conflict under the threat of nuclear weapons are the driving forces behind contemporary competition. The argument Pakistan made for engaging the defensive coalitions headed by the US was very distinct. She believed that it would protect her democratic autonomy and regional freedom and keep India from Pakistan's neck. The Kashmir conflict was the

subject of two conflicts between India and Pakistan in 1948 and 1965, the first replete conflict erupting in September 1965. Despite these conflicts, however, the Kashmir issue was never resolved.

Kashmir as a Dispute between Pakistan and India

A major tangle was made in past as a result of British India's mistaken division, which left Pakistan and India with a large variety of complex challenges, the largest of which was the Kashmir issue. The former Viceroy of British India famously observed that normal considerations for the entrance of royal realms include factors like geographic location and regional benefits, among others. The guiding idea behind the royal state division was that territory with most of Muslims would adopt Pakistan and regions with a number of Hindus would join India. By August 15, 1947, every single one of the 600 empires that made up British India had joined either Pakistan or India, with the exception of three: Junagadh, Hyderabad, and Kashmir. In the unusual examples of Hyderabad and Junagadh, Hindus made up most of the people, but Muslims held the reins of power. The director general of India, Lord Mountbatten, scripted to Jinnah that Pakistan's approval of Junagadh's admission was in total breach of the grounds on which the division of India was decided and executed despite the fact that the leaders of these two nations desired to unite Pakistan (Fayaz, 2016).

It was decided to divide India and it happened. India forcibly incorporated the nations of Hyderabad and Junagadh as a result of Pakistan's obedience to Lord Mountbatten's order. Even so, in the scenario of Kashmir, India under Lord Mountbatten pursued a completely different course of action. The regime was disregarded, and the significant located region of Kashmir was subjugated by India purely out of the whim of the Hindu king, despite the fact that his empire was populated at a 77% Muslim level. After a military dispute between the two rivals, India brought the situation to the UN, which, via Resolution, not only urged for peace but also requested India to offer the inhabitants of Jammu and Kashmir the right to sovereignty so they may choose their own political legacy. However, India has yet to grant the freedom of self-determination to the Jammu and Kashmir individuals because she refused to hold a referendum there. India's justification for her refusal was that Pakistan's having signed defense contracts with the US had endangered India's security, which justified India for backing out of her pledge to conduct a referendum.

The Concept of Security Dilemma

Professor John H. Herz of the City University of New York originated the concept of "security dilemma" in his writings. Since that time, the concept of a "security dilemma" has gained significant traction in the world of international relations research (Herz, 2003). A state cannot assure the safety of its neighbors when it implements certain measures to protect its own security. The bordering nation makes the decision to

implement certain similar security measures to make up for its breached security. These counter-methods, in return, weaken the country's initial security policy and increase the vulnerability of the government's protection. The "security dilemma" is then faced by both parties. Till one party achieves a substantial security edge, The nation is capable of solving the security puzzle. After joining the security dilemma, the action is endlessly repeated, seen on both ends, resembling a convict's problem. They cannot resolve the security challenge due to the chaos in which the two parties find themselves in the absence of a stronger team. Both parties must make the most vicious assumptions about the other side's motives and behavior due to this distrust, and both parties' activities amplify this uncertainty further.

In this process, the distinction between the two parties causes the impression of insecurity, and this sense of insecurity intensifies the emotional impact. Although the distance between the two parties may be the root of the security challenge, this impression of unease has a larger effect, significantly influencing if the situation will get worse or better. As a result of these ambiguous views, the two parties of the problem may be led to think that the opposing party will gain security at the cost of their own, which could lead to further misconceptions. Mearsheimer contends that the level of anxiety experienced by countries affects both the probability of war and the level of military conflict among nations. The more terror there is, the more intense the security rivalry and the higher the probability of conflict. At first look, the reasoning is evident that the nation that experiences anxiety is time the decision to find a means to increase its security and has the propensity to implement risky actions for that purpose. In other words, rather than being based solely on their differences, the views of both parties determine the security difficulty. How both parties view and respond to the security challenge will determine its seriousness. The inability to predict the other party's intentions and activities force both parties to pick tactics that strengthen their safety when their goals are at odds. This decision invariably sparks global wars, coalitions, clashes, and perhaps even hostilities.

Analysis of Regional Security Dilemma Towards Kashmir

The contextual relevance of the Kashmir issue makes it a constant regional security dilemma for both India and Pakistan (Fayaz, 2016; Korb, 2015). Several other parties are also participating in the conflict, namely Kashmir, Pakistan, and India, each of whom has a different position on the Kashmir problem (Fayaz, 2016). Given that most Kashmiris are Muslims and would back Pakistan, India is unwilling to grant the Kashmiris the freedom to sovereignty (Hussain, 2015). While categorically denying the Indian claim that Kashmir is an intrinsic element of India, Pakistan, in contrast, respects their freedom to sovereignty (Fayaz, 2016).

The Water Conflict

One point of disagreement between India and Pakistan is the issue of water, which stands in the way of solid legal cooperation (Malik, 2010). Specialists in the national economy

say Pakistan must resolve its water conflict with India because it poses a substantial challenge to the country's key water sources (Asif, 2013). In contrast, both Pakistan and India depend heavily on natural waterways for the operation of their hydroelectric projects (Cosgrove & Rijsberman, 2014). Both nations wanted to get the best's portion of the water because hydroelectric energy is one of the inexpensive sources of power and is utilized by many both domestic and foreign nations (Sameh & Kamel, 2017). The Indus Water Agreement between the two regions, which was signed in 1960, marked the stop to the water issue that had existed since the initial beginning of the division (Akhter, 2015). To reduce the likelihood of a military war between the two nations, a diplomatic settlement was reached with the assistance of the World Bank and Russia (Ali et al., 2015). But in the present-day information age, it is seen that the Indus Water Agreement's participants are breaking this deal, treating it like a mere document that is and pushing the water issue into the realm of safety concerns (Smith et al., 2014)

Invasion of Frontier

India is known for it linked to incidents that demonstrate Indian meddling in Pakistan's domestic matters, which has a negative impact on that country's security (Muzafar, 2015). The violence of the Indian military in the seized region of Kashmir is igniting the conflict. Pakistanis view Kashmir as a part of their country from an intellectual, political, and moral standpoint (Fayaz, 2016; Korb, 2015). A current security problem occurs between the two nations as a result of Indian meddling in inside Baluchistan problems. An Indian army agent named Kalboshan Yadav is detained in Baluchistan, Pakistan (Tariq, 2016). He didn't admit to continuing to work as an Indian army leader at the time of his arrest. Still, he also revealed that he had been operating in Baluchistan for several years to undermine Pakistan's stability and peace (Fayaz, 2016). Moreover, it was discovered that the Gawadar and China-Pak Economic Corridor were his main targets for causing security concerns (Muzafar, 2015). Making the required preparations to prevent Indian intervention in Pakistan has turned into a significant security challenge for Pakistan. Due to his acknowledged participation in and assistance with bombarded acts in Pakistan, Kalboshan Yadav was working on the death penalty. As well as posing a severe threat to India-Pakistani ties, this endeavor to destabilize Pakistan also serves to discredit RAW, Pakistan's leading intelligence organization (Usman & Hussain, 2017).

Recommendations of Policies For The Kashmir Conflict

Action Plan 1

Kashmiris' UN-guaranteed right to self-determination across both sides of the LOC.

Pakistan

- By supporting Pakistan's formal stance and adhering to the apartheid system, a referendum in Kashmir

would satisfy the interests of both Pakistanis and Kashmiri Muslims.

- In addition to providing security for the Silk Roads between China and Pakistan, the potential accede of Kashmir to Pakistan may eliminate all of its geopolitical weaknesses, including its economic and strategic ones.
- With the area currently having secured nuclear equality, this would effectively establish a power structure.

India

- India would lose possession of the whole state in case Kashmir joined Pakistan.
- Close links from other Indian states will threaten the stability of the Indian Union if Kashmir is given the opportunity for self-determination.
- Even if India successfully manipulates the vote, the issue won't be resolved because the majority of Muslims will always remain resistant.
- As a result, India and Pakistan would continue to worry about security.

Action Plan 2

India suggested covert LOC into the border but Pakistan disagreed.

Pakistan

- The idea fails to take into account the reality that the inhabitants of Kashmir have refused the popular de-facto split
- In addition to betraying the Kashmiri cause, it would constitute a surrender to the firm stance on Kashmir taken since 1947.
- Indian sovereignty would remain over a substantial area of the Muslim-habitat country.
- Pakistan's fundamental weaknesses will also need to be rectified.

India

- India will be much stronger if this possibility comes to pass because it currently controls more than 65% (Ali, 2020).

Action Plan 3

Another possibility is to divide Kashmir into Muslim- and non-Muslim-majority regions.

Pakistan

- By retaining Azad Kashmir and the Northern Areas and notably ground in the Kashmir region, the Northern Areas, and the Jammu district, Pakistan would be able to address its military weaknesses.
- The relationship with China, which is currently essential for Pakistan's financial stability, shall be preserved.

- The majority of people in Pakistan and Kashmir will reject it since it represents a retreat from Pakistan's original stand since 1947.

India

- India will have to cede some of the territories she controls to Pakistan, which might elicit the same kind of response from the Indian populace as when Kashmir joined Pakistan due to the referendum.
- This alternative is somewhat affected by all the drawbacks of Kashmir joining Pakistan in the event of a referendum.

Conclusion

The current politics of Kashmir since 1947 demonstrates that the Kashmiris have opposed Indian aspirations to implement Kashmir into the Indian federation fully. The Kashmiris have endured the hatred of the Indian security arms, but they have not changed their opinions over the fate of Kashmir. India's relations with Pakistan have suffered as a result of this issue. The Kashmir crisis requires a fair political settlement. In order to achieve this goal, Pakistan and India should have ongoing discussions about how to execute the UN treaties on Kashmir. The Indian administration should take action to stop human rights abuses committed by its security forces in Kashmir, which is under its administration. Importance should be given to easing the suffering of the Kashmiri people. The recommendations in this paper may serve to better the lives of common citizens in the region of Kashmir to foster conditions favorable to a fair resolution of the Kashmir issue.

References

- Ahmed, S., & Chakma, A. (2012). Kashmir Conflict: A Critical Analysis. Society & Change. https://bellschool.anu.edu.au/sites/default/files/publications/attachments/2019-03/chakma_kashmir_conflict.pdf
- Ali, S. (2020). Kashmir Dispute and Challenges to the National Security of Pakistan: An Analysis. Electronic Research Journals. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/341882234_Kashmir_Dispute_and_Challenges_to_the_National_Security_of_Pakistan_An_Analysis
- Ali, M., Mujahid, N., & ur Rehman, A. (2015). Pakistan-India Relations: Peace through Bilateral Trade. *European Scientific Journal, ESJ*, 11(4)
- Akhter, M. (2015). The hydropolitical cold war: The Indus Waters Treaty and state formation in Pakistan. *Political Geography*, 46, 65-75
- Asif, M. (2013). Climatic change, irrigation water crisis and food security in Pakistan.
- Cosgrove, W. J., & Rijsberman, F. R. (2014). World water vision: making water everybody's business. Routledge.
- Fayaz, S. (2016). Kashmir Dispute between Pakistan and India: The Way Out. Qurtuba University. https://www.qurtuba.edu.pk/thedialogue/TD/The%20Dialogue/11_1/Dialogue_January_March2016_65-82.pdf
- Herz, J. H. (2003). The Security Dilemma in International Relations: Background and Present Problems. *International Relations*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0047117803174001>
- Hilali, A.Z. (2005). "Confidence-and Security-Building Measures for India and Pakistan. *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political*. Vol. 30. 2. Sage Publications, Inc
- Hussain, T. (2015). Kashmir dispute. *Regional and Ethnic Conflicts: Perspectives from the Front Lines*, 41.
- Korbel, J. (2015). *Danger in Kashmir*. Princeton University Press
- Malik, A. (2010). *Political survival in Pakistan: Beyond ideology*. Routledge.
- Muzafar, M. (2015). Terrorism in South Asia: Anatomy and the Root Causes. *Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, 20(1), 01-07
- Oimstead, J. (November 2, 2014). "India-Pakistan Relations: A Destructive Equilibrium". *The Diplomat*.
- Sameh, S. H., & Kamel, B. (2017). A Framework to Promote Energy Efficiency as a Solution to the Energy Problem in Egypt. *Energy and Power Engineering*, 9(03), 187
- Smith, R., El-Anis, I., & Farrands, C. (2014). International political economy in the 21st century: Contemporary issues and analyses. Routledge.
- Tariq, S. (2016). SINO-INDIAN SECURITY DILEMMA IN THE INDIAN OCEAN: REVISITING THE 'STRING OF PEARLS' STRATEGY. *Regional Studies*, 34(3), 3-28
- Usman, A., & Hussain, S. (2017). The Pakistan-India Security Dilemma - Contemporary Challenges. *Journal of Indian Studies*. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/319141050_The_Pakistan-India_Security_Dilemma_-_Contemporary_Challenges
- Younghusband, F. E. (2012). Kashmir. <http://www.gutenberg.org/files/39642/39642-h.zip>

How to Citation: Jamshed, N. (2021). Kashmir as a Standpoint in Pakistan and India's Policy to View Regional Security. *Journal of Strategic Policy and Global Affairs*, 02(01), 14–18. <https://doi.org/10.58669/jspga.v02.i01.03>