

KASHMIR CRISIS: STRATEGIC OPTIONS FOR PAKISTAN AND KASHMIR



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FORMER PRESIDENT AZAD JAMMU AND KASHMIR

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Monograph



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Major General (R.) Sardar Muhammad Anwar Khan is the former President of Azad State of Jammu and Kashmir. He served as Pakistan's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Ambassador of Pakistan to China. For six years, he was Pakistan's chief negotiator for nuclear security summits. He became President of the UN Security Council in January 2013. He was Chairman of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Geneva, where he also represented, as Chairman of the Group of 77 and China, 131 developing countries in various international organizations. During his five-year period in Washington D.C., he worked to urge US lawmakers and Administration to help Kashmiris secure their freedom and liberty. He spoke widely on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir at American universities and think tanks, and to the international media.

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The Centre for Peace, Security and Developmental Studies (CPSD), an outreach of Dadabhoj higher educational pursuits, is a nonprofit public policy organization based in Karachi and Islamabad. CPSD - an independent, non-partisan, and multidimensional forum - conducts research on security, political, and economic issues of national and international importance. CPSD promotes innovative ideas and is a platform of cutting-edge analysis for informed decision making.

Introduction:

The long-standing dispute of Jammu and Kashmir is, as old as Pakistan. Right from the beginning it has been a very emotive issue. It was born when the ruler of Jammu and Kashmir Maharaja Hari Singh decided to accede with India by negating the wish of majority to join Pakistan. It has been an irony that Pakistan came across the chances and is unable to capitalize on them. In 1947 the people of Jammu and Kashmir fought but unfortunately there was no substantial support from Pakistan and it was one of the initial chance which Pakistan lost to gain Kashmir. When this matter went to United Nations Security Council, luckily UN resolution came in our favor. The United Nations Security Council said that the issue of Jammu and Kashmir will be resolved through the Plebiscite under UN auspices. The situation was favorable for Pakistan as the ally of western camp, but the Soviet support to India was a hindrance in the materialization of this proposition of plebiscite. The Indo China war of 1962 scenario brought one more opportunity for Pakistan to culminate its strategic plan to help the Kashmiri cause when all Indian forces were redeployed on the borders of Nepal and Laddakh. But western promises didn't allow Pakistan to implement its plan and eventually western world backed off from its promises in the coming years. In this case Pakistan has always struggled after 1962 on its diplomatic front to garner support for the freedom of Kashmir. 1965 war of Kashmir was also a hasty decision by Gen Ayub Khan, so is the criticism on the Simla Pact of 1972. Though Gen Zia was criticized for his decisions, but he began the training for cause of Jammu and Kashmir. Unfortunately, the sudden demise of Zia-ul-Haque put a comma on the plan But the Kashmiris who was trained had resumed their struggle in 1989. Since last 30 years this struggle has been going on politically as well as by the means of weapons. This increased of pressure by the modi government is called the surge operation by the Americans. In strategic terms surge operation are launched, when a state is sure of its win. In the case of Kashmiris there are 55 percent of chances that Kashmiris can survive this, but 45 percent are still in the favor of India. Now it is the call of Pakistan that how Pakistan pullout the feather from its cap. Because India considering Pakistan a vulnerable state. In this situation Pakistan needs to device its policies on the economic, social diplomatic and strategic front to bridge this gap of 45 percent of Kashmiri resistance.

The way Forward for Pakistan:

In the context of current Kashmir scenario, it is inevitable for Pakistan to contain the progress of Indian government because Indian suppression of Kashmiri struggle can put Pakistan in disarray on most of the fronts. Being an agricultural state, irrigation and water supply are the priority fronts for Pakistan. If India succeed in Jammu and Kashmir, it will absorb the water disproportionately,

because India also in pursuit of water to meet its agricultural demands. Modi government also has aspirations to increase their military front in Kashmir. Their success in this venture will turn Indian government into a monster. Modi will also looking forward to sabotage the interest of Pakistan in CPEC and contain the Chinese progress. After containing China Modi will eventually looking to progress towards the territory of Azad Kashmir, though it is very difficult to achieve, since Azad Kashmir got independent with the help of Pakistan. The resistance which India is facing currently in Jammu and Kashmir makes it more difficult to achieve for the Indian government. One of the hopes of modi to succeed in Kashmir is his strategic partnerships. Currently Modi government is sharing a good strategic partnership. By this strategic alliance India has its eyes set on the afghan territory. It is important for Pakistan that it should not let go India easily. For this it is important that Pakistan should use its cards wisely. There are few recommendations which could prove viable for Pakistan to curb Indian aspirations on the fronts mentioned above.

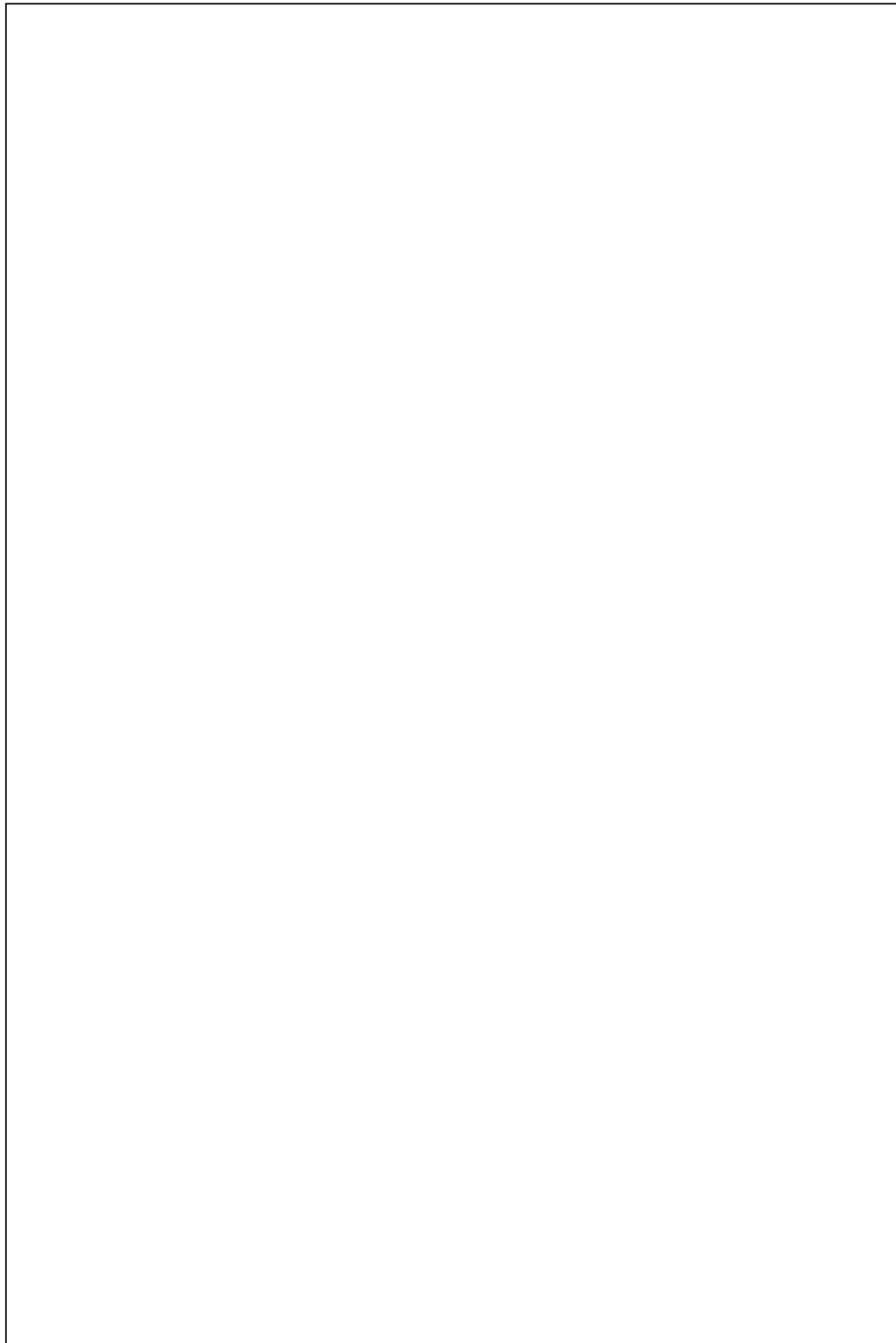
Recommendations:

1. The morale of the Nation is down, it will impact negatively on the physical war as well. In the case of Kashmir struggle they need moral support from their Muslim brothers to fight Indian suppression. Even the Syed Ali Gilani came on media and expressed that how difficult this situation is for the Kashmiris. After this it is our moral duty to let them know that we are standing with them. Because without making them realized it is difficult to keep their morale high.
2. Pakistan is lacking a focused diplomatic front. It should be focused and adamant to unite the world on sending humanitarian mission through international Red Cross and other organizations/NGOs, so that medicine or humanitarian assistance could be provided to them. This will one more way to increase the morale of Kashmiris in their struggle. Though our foreign minister is very much vocal, but effective foreign policy is still yet to come. Though china is long lasting friend, but this government is unable to extract anything substantial from them. There is a point of view that china is the one who took us in Security Council but should expect more from the emerging power like china. At least our Prime Minister should pave a visit to china to voicing our stance on Indian violations in Kashmir. Furthermore, due to our weak diplomacy we are unable to approach the United State on this critical matter. Trump could be a viable option for Pakistan to curb the Indian intentions regarding Kashmir and the whole region, because it is the strategic ally of India.
3. The people of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan can be mobilized. A service mobilization can be done for the assistance of people of Jammu and Kashmir. We should revive National guards to mobilize Kashmiris.

The advantage of ceasefire line can be taken by marching towards the ceasefire line so that Indian forces could be distracted. National guards should be revived to support the Kashmiris. Furthermore, Pakistan army should degrade the fence and start patrolling, so that Indian forces will attract towards ceasefire line.

4. We can also do this vis-à-vis Simla agreement, but in return India can sabotage Indus water treaty. According to me as nuclear state we should avoid such irresponsible statements that we are ready to use the atomic bomb. Nuclear bomb is for survival not for war. If either of the state applies their nuclear weapons, it would be a disaster.

5. Finally, we need to follow the strategy of Ways and means. The end here is that we must establish Status-quo ante. We must revive the situation of 4 August, when Article 370 was intact. We must use all means because if the Kashmiris fail that means we also fail. It will take centuries to pay for our failure. This is the time when we must have to save ourselves from India. We should use our all means to keep the struggle alive, because the failure of this struggle could be the failure of Pakistan.





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