



THE FACTORS THAT SHAPED INDIA AND PAKISTAN'S TENSE RELATIONSHIP: A STUDY

K.Sukumar Reddy* **Dr. D. Chandramouli Reddy****

* Research Scholar, Department of Political Science & Public Administration, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapuramu, Andhra Pradesh.

**Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science & Public Administration, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapuramu, Andhra Pradesh.

Abstract

One of India's most complicated relationships with any of its neighbors is that with Pakistan. India and Pakistan have made significant progress in narrowing the "trust gap" during the last several years, despite numerous controversial topics. Due to a terrorist act inspired from Pakistani land, the two countries have not engaged in political leadership for a long time. Since both nations now possess nuclear weapons, a war between them would result in catastrophic losses and probably lead to destruction. India wants to have cordial, cooperative ties with Pakistan, but for that to happen, both countries need to be safe from terror and bloodshed. Both nations have much in common regarding language, culture, geography, and economy, but their relationship is complicated for political and historical reasons. Given this context, the current article adopted a chronological and realistic approach to concentrate on the important aspects that affected the bilateral ties between India and Pakistan.

Keywords: *Bilateral relations, Political leadership, Terrorism, Territorial claims.*

Introduction

The term "India-Pakistan relations" describes the two countries' bilateral interactions with one another. The India-Pakistan frontier is one of the most militarized international borders in the world due to the two nations' complicated and often antagonistic relationship, which has its roots in several historical & political occurrences, most prominently the division of "British India in August 1947". Populations of Indo-Aryans, who speak a wide range of related languages, are found in both northern India and much of modern-day Pakistan "(mainly Punjabi, Sindhi, and Hindi-Urdu)." ^[1]

However, the reciprocal repercussions of the partition and the formation of rival territorial claims over several princely states, with the dispute over Jammu and Kashmir being the most prominent, swiftly overshadowed the relationship between the two nations despite the rapid establishment of full diplomatic connections immediately after their official independence. Since 1947, "India & Pakistan have fought three major wars, one undeclared war," and many armed clashes and military stalemates; the Kashmir issue has been the spark for every war between the two nations save "the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971," which instead coincided with the Bangladesh Liberation War. "The Shimla Summit, the Agra Summit, and the Lahore Summit," among others, were all efforts to strengthen ties between the two countries. ^[2] Repeated incidents of cross-border Terrorism have resulted in icy ties between the nations. Based on responses from 2017, a BBC World Service survey found that just 5% of Indians have a favorable opinion of Pakistan's impact, while 85% have a negative one. "In contrast, only 11% of Pakistanis favor India's influence, while 62% have a negative opinion." In the context mentioned above, the current study examines India and Pakistan's bilateral ties through a realistic lens. It concluded that the two countries need to work toward peace and friendship to form the best possible neighborhood.

A brief chronology of events between India & Pakistan

On August 15 and 14, 1947, Britain officially withdrew from "the Indian subcontinent" and separated it into the "secular Indian Republic and Muslim Pakistan." One of the greatest people migrations in recorded history is sparked by division, which also leads to widespread unrest and bloodshed. **In 1947/48**, armed tribesmen (lashkars) from Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province (now called Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa) invaded the contested area of Kashmir. This invasion sparked the first conflict between India and Pakistan over Kashmir. Facing both an uprising within his ranks and an invasion from outside, the Maharaja seeks the protection of the Indian military in exchange for acceding to Indian rule. His defense, communications, and foreign policy are now



under Indian jurisdiction. After a halt to hostilities has been declared, both parties agree to hold a vote on whether or not to ratify the document of “accession signed by Maharaja Hari Singh. Whether the Maharaja signed the treaty after Indian soldiers occupied Kashmir (i.e., under duress) or whether he did so under no direct military coercion is a point of contention among historians on both sides of the controversy. The conventional Pakistani Army was called upon to secure Pakistan’s frontiers as fighting persisted during the second half of 1948. After the United Nations successfully negotiated a truce on January 1, 1949, a UN peacekeeping force was sent to the region. The UN recommends that the referendum on Kashmir’s accession to India be conducted as agreed upon.”^[3] That vote on it hasn’t happened yet. About a third of Kashmir is under Pakistani rule; they call their portion Azad (free). It has little independence. The government of Pakistan has direct authority over a broader territory, including the historical “kingdoms of Hunza and Nagar.” Jammu and Kashmir is the name of the state on the Indian side (the east) of “the ceasefire” line. Both sides of the ceasefire line are considered “occupied” by the opposite country.

In 1954, “Jammu and Kashmir’s constituent assembly voted to join India.”

In 1957, the state’s constituent parliament ratified a constitution for Jammu and Kashmir. As per India’s constitutions of 1954 and 1957, Jammu and Kashmir are recognized as fully integrated into the Indian nation.

In 1963, British and American mediators helped bring together India and Pakistan’s foreign ministers, Swaran Singh and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto,” to discuss the Kashmir conflict in the wake of “the 1962 Sino-Indian war.” The details of the discussions are still secret, but they resulted in a deadlock. Based on a declassified US State Department memorandum, “Pakistan signaled readiness to accept alternatives other than a plebiscite, and India agreed that the status of Kashmir was in question and territorial changes could be required” (dated January 27, 1964).

In 1964, after failed negotiations in 1963, Pakistan brought the Kashmir issue to the United Nations Security Council. India and Pakistan engaged in their second war of independence the same year.” The fighting started in April when a border patrol clash in “the Rann of Kutch (in the Indian state of Gujarat), but it heated up on August 5 when between 26,000 and 33,000 Pakistani forces breached the ceasefire line disguised as locals and entered Indian-administered Kashmir.” While the fight is confined to the Kashmir theater, infantry, armor, and air force units participated. On September 6, however, Indian soldiers crossed the international border at Lahore, expanding the war internationally. In the Sialkot area, between 400 & 600 tanks are involved in unresolved combat, making it the greatest single engagement of the conflict. By September 22, the war had reached a stalemate, with both forces controlling portions of territory formerly held by the other.

Tashkent (now in Uzbekistan) – “On January 10, 1966”^[4], “Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and Pakistani President Ayub Khan” signed an agreement committing their countries to a withdrawal to pre-August lines and the restoration of commercial and diplomatic ties. As a result of tensions over East Pakistan, India and Pakistan went to war for the third time in 1971. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the head of the Awami League, is a Bengali whose party won the majority of seats in the 1970 parliamentary elections. However, the central Pakistani government in “West Pakistan, led by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto,” refuses to allow him to become prime minister.

In March, the Pakistani military began its assault on Dhaka. By December, however, India had intervened when the Pakistani air force launched a pre-emptive strike on airfields in India’s northwest. India then begins an attack on East Pakistan from the ground, the air, and the water. More than 90,000 members of the Pakistani Army were taken as prisoners of war when they surrendered in Dhaka. In terms of the length of the conflict, this was one of the shortest conflicts in recent memory, lasting just 13 days.

On December 6, 1971, East Pakistan gained its independence as the nation of Bangladesh.



In Shimla, India, in 1972,^[5] Prime Ministers of Pakistan and India signed an agreement to “put an end to the strife and antagonism that have previously disfigured their ties and strive for the development of a cordial and harmonious relationship and the building of a permanent peace in the subcontinent.” If there is ever a disagreement, it will be resolved “by peaceful methods,” as both parties have agreed to do. According to the Shimla Agreement, “the ceasefire line” established on “December 17, 1971,” is now the “Line-of-Control (LoC) between the two nations and must be observed by all parties without prejudice to the recognized position of any side. Kashmir’s state government officially declares that it is a constituent element of the Union of India in 1974.” The government of Pakistan does not accept the agreement with India. In a mission dubbed “Smiling Buddha,” India detonated a nuclear weapon at Pokhran on May 18. This gadget is being called a “peaceful nuclear explosion” by the Indian government.

In 1988, the nations signed a pact promising “not to attack one other’s nuclear plants or sites. These include installations with fresh or irradiated nuclear fuel and materials in any form and establishments storing significant quantities of radioactive materials,” such as “nuclear power and research reactors,” “fuel fabrication,” “uranium enrichment,” “isotopes separation,” and “reprocessing” facilities. The coordinates of all nuclear facilities will be shared between the two parties. After the agreement is approved, information between the two nations is shared annually on January 1. In the Kashmir valley, armed opposition to Indian control began in 1989. Muslim political parties organized activist groups after alleging electoral fraud in the state government in 1987. Pakistan has said it supports the campaign “morally and diplomatically” and has renewed its request for an UN-sponsored referendum. India calls the assaults it has suffered in Kashmir the result of “cross-border terrorism, claiming that Pakistan is aiding the resistance by giving arms and training to fighters.” This is something Pakistan emphatically refutes. An inflow of “mujahedeen” who fought in Afghanistan against the Soviet Union in the 1980s has fuelled the growth of activist organizations fighting in Kashmir during the 1990s.

In 1991, the two nations understood the prevention of airspace infractions and the establishment of over-flight regulations, as well as the mutual reporting of military drills, maneuvers, and troop movements.

1992 – A unified statement barring chemical weapons usage is agreed upon in New Delhi.

Despite a series of violent incidents in 1996, military commanders from both nations convened near the Line of Control to discuss ways to calm the situation.

India exploded five nuclear weapons in Pokhran in 1998. In retaliation, Pakistan exploded six nuclear weapons in the Chaghai Hills. Because of the testing, both nations face worldwide condemnation. Both nations conduct long-range missile tests in the same year.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee of India and Nawaz Sharif of Pakistan met in Lahore in 1999.^[6] The two nations finally came to an understanding after years of tension and signed the Lahore Declaration. Both nations reiterate their dedication to “the Simla Accord and agree to implement a series of ‘Confidence Building Measures (CBMs).’” However, “diplomatic” progress is partially reversed following the May outbreak of the Kargil war. Strategic sites on the Indian side of the LoC” are occupied by Pakistani soldiers and Kashmiri rebels, sparking an Indian counter-offensive that drives them back over the LoC. Kargil is the first time the two neighbors have gone to war openly since the latter country conducted nuclear testing.

“An attack on the Kashmiri parliament in Srinagar in 2001” claimed the lives of 38 people, further increasing tensions along the Line of Control. After the incident, Indian-administered Kashmir’s chief minister, Farooq Abdullah, demanded that India undertake full-scale military action against what he called “training camps” in Pakistan. There will be a two-day meeting in Agra, India, between “Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf and Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee” in July. After two days, the summit failed since the two parties could not agree on Kashmir. Fourteen people were killed on December 13 when a shooter stormed the Indian parliament building in New Delhi. Both Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Muhammad are being held responsible for



the assaults in India. As a result of the strikes, troops from both India and Pakistan have converged on the Line of Control (LoC). International mediation finally resolved the conflict in October 2002.

In 2002, Pakistan's President Musharraf said his nation would do more to fight Terrorism at home, but it still had a claim to Kashmir.

During a September 2003 United Nations General Assembly meeting, Musharraf called for a ceasefire along the LoC. This demand led to an agreement between the two countries to end hostilities along the de facto boundary.

“At the 12th SAARC summit in Islamabad in January 2004”^[7], Vajpayee and Musharraf had face-to-face discussions, and later in the year, their respective foreign secretaries met. “This year saw the launch of the Composite Dialogue Process, a series of bilateral talks with representatives from all branches of government (including foreign ministers, foreign secretaries, military officers, border security officials, anti-narcotics officials, and nuclear experts). On the eve of his November visit to Indian-administered Kashmir, India's new Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, said that the country would be lowering the number of its soldiers stationed there.”

“2006 - India takes back 5,000 soldiers from Jammu and Kashmir” due to an “improvement” in the situation there. Still, there is no agreement between the two nations about “the withdrawal of troops from the Siachen glacier.” An institutional anti-terrorism system between India and Pakistan was agreed upon by “President Musharraf and Prime Minister Singh” in September.

“2007 — On February 18, the rail service between India & Pakistan (the Samjhauta Express) is attacked near Panipat, north of New Delhi. Sixty-eight individuals were murdered, and many were wounded. “As part of the Composite Dialogue Process,” the sixth round” of discussions about evaluating CBMs relating to nuclear and ballistic missiles is conducted. The JATM also meets for the second time.

In 2008, India became a part of a memorandum of understanding “between Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan for a \$7.6 billion gas pipeline project.” In addition, several CBMs tailored to the situation in Kashmir have been reached “(including the approval of a triple-entry permit facility).” “In July, a bomb assault on the Indian embassy in Kabul” claimed the lives of 58 people and injured another 141. India immediately pointed the finger at Pakistan's “Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) directorate” for the incident. “President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Singh publicly announced several new commercial corridors between Pakistan and India in September. In October, cross-LoC trading began. However, it is restricted to 21 products and may occur twice a week. Multiple locations in Mumbai, India, were attacked by armed attackers on November 26. An almost three-day siege of the Taj Mahal Palace & Tower ensues after attacks on the Taj, the Oberoi Trident Hotel, the Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, the Leopold Cafe, the Cama Hospital, the Nariman House Jewish community center, the Metro Cinema, St. Xavier's College, and a lane near the Times of India office.” The shooters remain holed up in the Taj until all but one are killed in the operation by Indians. The assaults have claimed the lives of almost 160 individuals. Only one terrorist, Ajmal Kasab, was apprehended alive; he claims the others were all members of the terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba. As a result of the assaults, India and Pakistan have stopped communicating.

2009 - While vehemently disputing claims that the plotters were approved of or assisted by Pakistan's intelligence services, the Pakistani government acknowledges that the Mumbai bombings may have been partially organized on Pakistani territory. During a meeting “in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt,” on the margins of a “Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) conference, Pakistani Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani and Indian Prime Minister Singh” issued a joint statement outlining their plans for future discussions. To be clear, Singh says that the “Composite Dialogue Process” will not be restarted. However, India's coalition government maintains its hard stance against Pakistan, arguing that it must first take the initiative to resume serious negotiations by suppressing domestic activist organizations.



In August, India provided Pakistan with updated information relating to the 2008 Mumbai attacks, requesting that Pakistan bring to justice “Hafiz Mohammad Saeed, the leader of the Islamic charity Jamaat-ud-Dawa,” which has connections to the terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba.

January 2010 saw the latest in a series of events “along the Line of Control (LoC)” in Kashmir that have contributed to escalating tensions between Pakistan and India. The foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan have discussions in New Delhi every February. The two nations’ foreign ministers will meet again in Islamabad in July after this summit. Ajmal Kasab, the man responsible for the May 2017 Mumbai attacks, was convicted guilty of murder, conspiracy, and waging war against India in May. He has been given a death sentence.

In January 2011, “Indian Home Secretary GK Pillai said that India would share information with Pakistan over the 2001 bombing of the Samjhauta Express. In February, foreign secretaries from both nations met in Thimpu, Bhutan, and agreed to restart peace discussions on all matters.”

India hanged Pakistani national Kasab in November 2012, “days before the fourth anniversary “of the assault that murdered 166 people in the financial hub of Mumbai in 2008.

In January 2013, India and Pakistan accused one other of breaking the ceasefire in Kashmir. India claimed that Pakistani shelling had damaged a residence on its side.” At the same time, Pakistan accused Indian soldiers of conducting a cross-border incursion that resulted in the death of a soldier. It was expected that India and Pakistan’s prime ministers would in New York in September 2013 on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly. The leaders of the two parties on the Kashmir issue have agreed to stop hostilities between their troops.

“**On May 1, 2014**, Pakistan’s Army leader General Raheel Sharif called Kashmir the country’s jugular vein, saying that the issue should be addressed in accordance with the desires and ambitions of Kashmiris and keeping with UNSC resolutions for enduring peace in the region. Talks between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif took place in New Delhi on May 27, 2014. Both parties welcomed a new era of bilateral relations.”

In 2015, “on Sharif’s birthday and the occasion of his grand-daughter’s wedding, Modi unexpectedly travelled to the eastern Pakistani city of Lahore.”

“**In September 2016**, less than two weeks after an assault on an Indian army” post claimed the lives of 19 troops, the Indian government launched what it called “surgical operations” against “terrorist groups” in Pakistan-administered Kashmir. Pakistan has said they didn’t launch any strikes. Seven Indian soldiers were murdered in November when insurgents were posing as police raided a key army installation close to the Pakistani border.

“**In the early hours of February 26, 2019**, India launches air strikes on what it says is the largest training camp of the Pakistan-based rebel group Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), killing many terrorists.”

The Factors which influenced bilateral relations between India and Pakistan

India wants to have friendly ties with Pakistan as part of its “Neighbourhood First Policy.” The government of India has always maintained that any problems that may arise between it and Pakistan should be settled amicably and without resorting to violence. Pakistan must take the initiative to establish such a welcoming atmosphere. India has made it plain that it would not negotiate on national security matters and will respond forcefully and decisively to any effort to compromise India’s security or territorial integrity.

Terrorism across Borders

The threat of Terrorism emerging from Pakistani-controlled territory is, and always will be, a major issue in our ties. India has repeatedly pressed Pakistan to make good on its promise never to allow terrorists to use territory



under its control to launch attacks inside India. This promise was first made at “the highest level in January 2004” and has since been reaffirmed several times.^[8]

India has often demanded that Pakistan speedily prosecute those responsible for the terrorist attacks in Mumbai. Despite all the evidence supplied to the Pakistan side, the ongoing trial in the Mumbai terrorist attacks case has made little progress.

The fact that India would keep taking hard and fast measures to defend its sovereignty has also been emphasized. Following the September 18, 2016, terrorist assault “on an army camp in Uri, Jammu, and Kashmir, and continuous occurrences of terrorist incursions over the Line of Control, the Indian Army launched surgical strikes against multiple terrorist launch pads from across the Line of Control, based on precise and verifiable intelligence.” This caused a lot of deaths among the terrorists and their backers.

Cross-Border Terrorist Attack in Pulwama

On February 14, 2019, in Pulwama, Jammu, and Kashmir, 40 members of the Indian security forces were killed in a cross-border terrorist strike. Terrorist organization Jaish e Mohammed (JeM), located in and backed by Pakistan and commanded “by UN-designated and internationally-proscribed terrorist Masood Azhar”, is responsible for this attack.^[9]

It was learned from reliable sources that JeM was preparing terrorists for another suicide strike nationwide. India launched a successful preemptive air attack on a JeM training camp in Balakot, Pakistan, in the early hours of February 26, 2019, after an intelligence-led operation. In response to India’s counter-terrorism operation on February 27, 2019, Pakistan launched airstrikes on Indian military targets. India’s high level of preparedness and vigilance ensured the effective thwarting of Pakistan’s plot.

Trade and Commerce between India and Pakistan

Foreign trade between India and Pakistan during the last five years has looked like this:

“Trade	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Exports	US\$2.2bn	US\$1.85bn	US\$2.1bn	US\$1.83bn	US\$ 1.92bn	US\$ 2.06 bn
Imports	US\$0.426 bn	US\$0.497bn	US\$.441bn	US\$.456bn	US\$0.488bn	US\$ 0.495 bn
Trade Balance	US\$1.8bn	US\$1.3bn	US\$1.7bn	US\$1.3bn	US\$1.435	USD 1.57 bn”

Source: Ministry of External Affairs, a Note on Bilateral Brief-2019

India granted Pakistan MFN status in 1996. The reciprocity decided by Pakistan’s cabinet on November 2, 2011, has not been implemented. In August 2012, India stated that it would reduce tariffs on 264 products on “its SAFTA Sensitive List for non-LDC members of SAFTA [including Pakistan]” by 30% over three years. But Pakistan kept its trade restrictions on India in place. “India revoked Pakistan’s Most Favoured Nation” status on February 15, 2019, after a cross-border terror assault in Pulwama. On February 16, 2019, India increased the customs tax on Pakistani exports to 200%. A day later, on February 16, 2019, it jumped to 200%. Subsequently, on August 7, 2019, Pakistan banned bilateral trade with India as part of its unilateral actions.^[10]

Treaty on the Indus Waters

On August 29 and 30, 2018, the 115th meeting of the “Permanent Indus Commission (PIC)” took place in Lahore^[11]. The Indian and Pakistani delegations were headed by their respective commissioners for the Indus River and Bay of Bengal, respectively (PCIW). The two-day discussion focused on the Pakal Dul HEP, the Lower Kalnai HEP, and the exchange of inspection trips between the two countries across the Indus River. After that, on



January 28-31, 2019, a PCIW-led team toured many Chenab Basin hydropower plants, including Pakal Dul, Lower Kalnai, Rattle, and others.

“People-to-People (or P2P) Relations”

“There are 275 Indians, including fishermen,” in Pakistani detention. In any case, Pakistan has admitted that they have 262 of them in custody. As a consequence of India’s relentless efforts, 2133 Indians, including fishermen, who were being held in Pakistani custody, were released and repatriated to India in 2018.^[12]

In March 2015, a group of “fishermen’s representatives and authorities from Gujarat traveled to Karachi” to obtain the repatriation of 57 Indian fishing vessels. The Indian government has repeatedly demanded that Pakistan return 1,100 Indian fishing vessels believed to be in Pakistani captivity.

During their bilateral meeting in October 2017, India proposed the idea of reviving the Joint Judicial Committee to Pakistan. “This body looks into humanitarian concerns involving fishermen and detainees in both countries’ custody. India has proposed that Pakistan take steps to help inmates who are mentally ill. In March 2018, Pakistan responded positively, in principle, to the proposal. Pakistan has ignored repeated requests for a response, while India has recreated its Judicial Committee and suggested sending a team of medical specialists to evaluate its mentally ill inmates.”

The visit to religious sites between “India and Pakistan is controlled by “the Bilateral Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines” agreed between India and Pakistan in 1974. Three Hindu and four Sikh pilgrims visit 15 sites in Pakistan yearly,” whereas five Pakistani pilgrims are permitted to go to seven Indian shrines.

“The Kartarpur Corridor”

“On November 22, 2018, the Government of India officially informed the Government of Pakistan that it would launch the Kartarpur Corridor on the Indian side and encouraged Pakistan to establish a corridor with sufficient facilities in its territory from the international border to Gurdwara Kartar Sahib in Pakistan to ease the entry and easy movement of Indian pilgrims throughout the year. On November 22, 2018, the Government of Pakistan accepted India’s proposal.”^[13]

India and Pakistan struck an agreement on October 24, 2019, to make it easier for pilgrims to go to the sacred “Gurudwara of Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur, Pakistan.” This was in response to a long-held desire on the part of devotees. The sacred “Gurudwara of Kartarpur Sahib in Pakistan” is accessible to Hindu and Sikh pilgrims from India without needing a visa because of “the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor Agreement.” “On the occasion of the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi” officially opened “the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor” and sent the first set of pilgrims on their way to Gurudwara Kartarpur. Since the opening of the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor, about 44,000 devotees have traveled there to worship at the sacred Gurudwara.

Efforts for engagement

India has made many overtures to normalize ties with Pakistan as a good neighbor. The invitation was extended to former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to attend his May 2014 swearing-in ceremony, the July 2015 meeting between the two countries Prime Ministers in Ufa, and the December 2015 visit of the European Union’s External Affairs Minister (EAM) to Islamabad are all examples of this trend. In December 2015, EAM also proposed “a Comprehensive Bilateral Dialogue. These efforts have been met with acts of cross-border Terrorism and violence, such as the attack on the Pathankot Airbase on January 2, 2016, the attack on the Army Camp in Uri on August 8, 2016, and the attack on the convoy of Indian security forces in Pulwama by Pakistan-based Jaish e Mohammad (JeM) on February 14, 2019.”^[14]

On July 30, 2018, the Prime Minister congratulated Mr. Imran Khan on his political party being the biggest “in the National Assembly. On August 18, 2018, PM issued a congratulations letter to PM Imran Khan, expressing



the hope that the two leaders will work together to benefit the area's people. On August 22, 2018, EAM congratulated the new Foreign Minister."

Pakistan replied to the PM's congratulations letter on September 14, 2018, "suggesting a meeting between Foreign Ministers during the UN General Assembly in New York. On September 17, 2018, Pakistan's new foreign minister wrote to EAM" with the same request. Pakistan's willingness to address Terrorism was also mentioned in these letters, along with a desire for reform and a shared wish for peace. Indian officials acknowledged Pakistan's offer of a meeting on September 20 in response to Pakistan's overt overtures in these letters. Only hours after India's admission did terrorist groups headquartered in Pakistan brutally murder "three police officers in the state of Jammu and Kashmir." An Indian Border Security Forces member had been brutally slain on the border on July 18, 2018, the previous Monday. All these events "occurred after Pakistan's prime minister, and foreign minister submitted letters to India's leadership requesting a change in policy and a return to peace. Even more so, India's strong objections to Pakistan and requests for corrective measures were rejected with open denial." It was determined that talking to Pakistan would serve no useful purpose at this time. Due to security concerns, India's Foreign Ministers' meeting in New York had to be cancelled.

On May 26, 2019, PM Modi was congratulated by his counterpart in Pakistan on the phone. Modi congratulated and reminded him that he had previously proposed that the two countries work together to combat poverty. Prime Minister Modi also emphasized the need to establish mutual trust and a safe and secure community free from acts of violence and Terrorism to promote peace, development, and prosperity in the area.

Conclusion

There has been no normal neighbourly response from Pakistan as of yet. It has persisted in obstructing regular commerce, people-to-people interactions, and connection with India by funding cross-border Terrorism against that country. Pakistan downgraded diplomatic ties with India, halted bilateral commerce, and said it would examine existing bilateral agreements with the neighbouring country on August 7, 2019. Following this, Pakistan stopped operating buses or trains between "India and Pakistan. India" has pushed back against Pakistan's unilateral attempts to portray a tense state of bilateral relations to the international community. To keep open diplomatic channels, India has asked Pakistan to re-evaluate its unilateral actions against India.

References

1. Mandel, R. (1980). Roots of the modern interstate border dispute. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 24(3), 427-454.
2. Fair, C. C. (2014). *Fighting to the end: The Pakistan army's way of war*. Oxford University Press, USA.
3. ALAM, G. S. (1982, January). Peacekeeping without Conflict Resolution: The Kashmir Dispute. In *The Fletcher Forum* (pp. 61-89). The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy.
4. Edwardes, M. (1966). Tashkent and After. *International Affairs* (Royal Institute of International Affairs 1944-), 42(3), 381-389
5. Ashraf, T. (2015). The Pakistan-India conundrum: a historical survey. *Pakistan Journal of Social Sciences*, 35(1), 309-320.
6. Adnan, M. (2013). Pakistan's Domestic constraints viz-a-viz India in Lahore Declaration 1999, Agra Summit 2001, and Peace Talks 2004. *Journal of Political Studies*, 20(2).
7. Saffee, A. (2016). Media and Foreign Policy Discourses. *Strategic Studies*, 36(1), 92-113.
8. Wolf, S. O. (2017). Pakistan and state-sponsored terrorism in South Asia. In *Terrorism Revisited* (pp. 109-155). Springer, Cham.
9. India Today (On February 14, 2019). Pulwama Attack 2019, everything about J&K terror attack on CRPF by terrorist Adil Ahmed Dar, Jaish-e-Mohammad. Available at: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/pulwama-attack-2019-everything-about-jammu-and-kashmir-terror-attack-on-crpf-by-terrorist-adil-ahmed-dar-jaish-e-mohammad-1457530-2019-02-16>
10. The Hindustan Times (February 16, 2019). India raises customs duty on all imports from Pakistan to 200% after withdrawing MFN status over the Pulwama attack. Available at:



<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/india-imposes-200-customs-duty-on-all-imports-from-pakistan-after-withdrawing-mfn-status-over-pulwama-attack/story-wo3AlelWWAYcpluwrEwnYP.html>

11. Business Standard (August 27, 2018). India, Pak to hold Permanent Indus Commission meet from August 29. Available at: https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/india-pak-to-hold-permanent-indus-commission-meet-from-aug-29-118082700161_1.html
12. The Hindustan Times (February 6, 2019). Over 500 Indian fishermen believed to be in Pakistan's custody: Government. Available at: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/over-500-indian-fishermen-believed-to-be-in-pakistan-s-custody-government/story-iDRykEhHpu3ZBOIDpCtDtJ.html>
13. Ministry of External Affairs –Annual Report (2018-2019). Available at: https://www.mea.gov.in/Uploads/PublicationDocs/31719_MEA_AR18_19.pdf?fbclid=IwAR33VPR6gyDJGQLKvSDn-uROnD3ZcXXVWS-2aW8pUNbCqldX2gYub6CHS88
14. Ministry of External affairs- Bilateral Brief-2019. India –Pak Relations. Available at: https://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/Bilateral_Brief_pakistan.pdf
15. The Hindustan Times (September 20, 2018). After Pak PM's letter, Govt says foreign ministers met in New York. Available at; <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/after-imran-khan-letter-india-warms-up-to-sushma-qureshi-meet-in-new-york/story-ndXb1Pu3dgpoyqvFIP1 5UK. html>