

Indo-Pak Relation and Terrorism

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Abstract

Today, a deep chasm of distrust has formed in India-Pakistan relations that seems impossible to bridge. The toxic mindset that led Jihadi Muslims to partition India, in the current circumstances, solely to Pakistan, has now increased the number of such Jihadi-minded individuals in Pakistan to such an extent that they are now emerging from their hidden agendas and openly carrying out terrorist and separatist activities in India. They have unleashed such a vicious cycle of terror and separatism in Jammu and Kashmir, the heaven on earth, that it has become difficult to distinguish who is friend and foe in the valley. Today, terrorist activities are continuing not only in Jammu and Kashmir, but the average Indian cannot even imagine when and in which city across India these Jihadi Islamic terrorists will succeed in their nefarious designs. Balter Anderson, a professor at John Hopkins University and an expert on South Asian affairs, says, "India is a secular country, a democratic country, supports the war on terror, and has a Hindu majority population. All these things are considered enemies of the Islamic jihadist movement. Therefore, jihadist groups are not demanding Kashmir in the same way. They actually want to dismember India. To date, we have not been able to muster the courage to identify the real causes of terrorism and implement a well-thought-out plan to strike fatally at its root sources. Since Partition, Pakistan has had its deadly eye on Jammu and Kashmir. But I believe that those who think that Pakistan's evil eye is only on Jammu and Kashmir are deeply mistaken. Jammu and Kashmir is merely a gateway. In reality, it wants to completely destroy India. Between our friendship and your (Pakistan's) enmity, there is a deep rift that is also flooding and Bloodshed, too. For the past 80 years, India has been pleading with separatist elements in Jammu and Kashmir for peace, harmony, dialogue, love, and brotherhood. But their response has always been bloodshed. The Kashmir problem is the result of the Congress Party's deception of India's partition based on the religious principle of two-nation theory. It seems appropriate to evaluate the appropriateness or inappropriateness of minority Muslims accepting the partition of India on religious grounds against the yardstick of current circumstances. It would have been better if all pro-Pakistan people had built their own paradise on "Pakistani soil," separate from the infidels, and we Indians had also realized our concept of a Hindu nation. Today, we are constantly striving to quell the barbarity of this separatism and terrorism by sacrificing the fresh blood of the common people of the country. The termites that are eroding the unity, integrity, and sovereignty of the country have spread everywhere.

Keywords: Islamic Terrorism, India-Pakistan relations, Jammu and Kashmir, Infiltration, Jihadi Organizations.

Introduction

Today, a deep chasm of distrust has formed in India-Pakistan relations, making it impossible to bridge. The toxic mindset that led Jihadi Muslims to partition India, under a covert plan to single out Pakistan, has now increased the number of such Jihadi-minded individuals in Pakistan to such an extent

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that they are now emerging from their hidden agendas and openly carrying out terrorist and separatist activities in India. They have unleashed such a vicious cycle of terror and separatism in Jammu and Kashmir, the heaven on earth, that it has become difficult to distinguish who is friend and foe in the valley. Not only are terrorist activities continuing unabated in Jammu and Kashmir, but the average Indian cannot even imagine when and in which city across India these Jihadi Islamic terrorists will succeed in their nefarious designs. Walter Anderson, a professor at John Hopkins University and an expert on South Asian affairs, says, "India is a secular country, a democratic country, supports the war on terror, and has a Hindu majority population. All these things are considered enemies of the Islamic jihadist movement. Therefore, jihadist groups are not demanding Kashmir in the same way. They actually want to dismember India. To date, we have not been able to muster the courage to identify the real causes of terrorism and implement a well-thought-out plan to strike fatally at its root sources.

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Between our friendship and your (Pakistan's) enmity, there is a deep rift that has both floods and bloodshed. For 80 years, India has been pleading with separatist elements in Jammu and Kashmir for peace, harmony, dialogue, love, and brotherhood. But their response has always been bloodshed. The Kashmir problem is the result of the Congress party's deception of India's partition based on the religious principle of two-nation theory. It seems appropriate to evaluate the appropriateness or inappropriateness of minority Muslims accepting the partition of India on religious grounds against the yardstick of current circumstances. It would have been better if all pro-Pakistan people had built their own paradise on "Pak soil," separate from the infidels, and we Indians had also realized our concept of a Hindu nation. Today, we are constantly striving to quell the barbarity of this separatism and terrorism by sacrificing the fresh blood of the common people of the country. The termites that are eroding the unity, integrity, and sovereignty of the country have spread everywhere, a deep chasm of distrust has formed in India-Pakistan relations, making it impossible to bridge. The toxic mindset that led Jihadi Muslims to partition India, with a secret plan to single out Pakistan, has now increased the number of such Jihadi-minded individuals in Pakistan to such an extent that they are now emerging from their hidden agendas and are now openly carrying out terrorist and separatist activities in India. They have unleashed such a vicious cycle of terror and separatism in Jammu and Kashmir, the heaven on earth, that it has become difficult to distinguish who is friend and foe in the valley. Today, terrorist activities are continuing not only in Jammu and Kashmir, but terrorism has now spread throughout India. The average Indian cannot even imagine when and in which city these Jihadi Islamic terrorists will succeed in their nefarious designs. Walter Anderson, a professor at John Hoffkiss University and an expert on South Asian affairs, says, "India is a secular country, a democracy, supports the war on terror, and has a Hindu majority; all of these are considered enemies of the Islamic jihadist movement. Therefore, jihadist groups are not demanding Kashmir as such; they actually want to dismember India." Following the formation of a new government in India on May 1, 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Pakistan policy underwent a dramatic shift. Initial enthusiasm followed, with the Prime Minister making a surprise visit to Lahore in December 2015, to convey to the global community that India was in favour of improving relations with Pakistan. However, at a time when the global anti-terrorism environment is at its peak, even the most prominent terrorist leaders are on the run, and Osama bin Laden was killed in Pakistan, India becoming a favourite target for even small terrorists is not a matter of concern but a matter of shame. It is India's excessively soft and tolerant image that often attracts terrorists to attack India. This image was not created overnight but rather by our superficial and lax resolve to deal with the terrorist attacks that have plagued the country for more than two decades. Whenever a terrorist incident occurs, there is a brief outpouring of heroic statements, but soon, after democratically shifting responsibility, our rulers return to their work, leaving the country waiting for the next incident. To date, we have not been able to muster the courage to identify the real causes of terrorism and implement a well-thought-out plan to strike at its root sources.

India's foreign policy has always aimed at developing friendly relations with Pakistan, but the biggest challenge for India today remains repairing the strained relationship with its neighbouring nation. Whenever India has attempted to improve relations with Pakistan, Pakistan has not only betrayed us but also made every effort to drench India's bloodshed. Regarding supporting terrorism in Kashmir, Pakistan's policy is that it morally supports the freedom struggle there. However, the reality is that Pakistan has not only provided aid, shelter, and support to terrorists, but also nurtured them in Pakistani madrasas and government schools, and is using them against India. Following a terrorist incident, when

Pakistan comes under pressure from the international community, it takes some token action against the terrorists, only to revert to the same activities after some time. In fact, keeping Islamic jihadists quiet for some time and then giving them free rein to create terror is an old strategy of the Pakistani establishment.

Truth can never be a slave to politics, any situation, or any system. When the truth of an era flows through the flow of time and reaches the present, we call it history. It is through this history that the people and their ideas of any era are observed, examined, and tested. It is on this basis that heroes and villains are determined, and their nature is analysed and criticized, because the root of every problem lies in history in one way or another. Therefore, even an analysis of the causes of current terrorism, violence, and murder would be meaningless without the broad canvas of history. Ignoring or ignoring the experiences, consequences, repercussions, and wounds of history is inviting self-destruction.

In 1986, as part of a long-term strategic policy, Pakistan began sponsoring separatist and terrorist activities in Kashmir, providing funds and weapons to local militants who were trained, organized, and mobilized by Afghan Mujahideen. Pakistan received support from the United States, Saudi Arabia, and other foreign nations in providing them with military equipment. Thus, the rise of Islamic ideology in Indian Kashmir established a strong base between extremists active in Kashmir, their supporters, and Islamabad. Thus, the increase in support for militancy in Indian Kashmir provided Islamabad with an opportunity to strengthen its domestic policy by promoting dialogue between Pakistani and Afghan militants. The ISI itself created a Kashmiri terrorist organization and activated it in Jammu and Kashmir. The most important of these organizations is Hizb-e-Islami, which comprises former Kashmiri mujahideen trained by the ISI and fought against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan alongside Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's organization. Another active organization is Harkat-ul-Jihad, formed by experienced fighters from Pakistan and Kashmir. Similarly, Jihad-e-Islami (Pakistan), Hizb-e-Islami and Jamaat-e-Islami (Afghanistan), and Hizbul Mujahideen all became members of the Popular International Organization led by Turabi.

The true extent of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir over the past forty years can be gauged by observing its terrified and helpless citizens. The goals of these militant Islamic organizations have been to paint Kashmiri society and culture with the colours of extremist Islam, to violate human rights and liberty, to deny freedom of life and expression, to destroy property, to commit ethno-religious genocide against minority Hindus, to take people hostage, to attack or assault security forces, to detonate landmines and bombs, to subvert the legitimate civil and political authorities of Jammu and Kashmir, and to covertly undermine democratic and pluralistic socio-political institutions based on equality and peaceful coexistence.

During the first phase of terrorist activities in Kashmir, which began in 1989, Islamic terrorists attempted to culturally divide Kashmiri society by Islamizing the socio-political environment of the Kashmir Valley and calling for it to become a part of Pakistan and the Muslim Ummah. Initially, terrorism in Kashmir was promoted by the Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front, directly for the independence of Kashmir. Within a few months, several terrorist organizations emerged, which declared the attainment of "Nizam-e-Mustafa" as the goal of their struggle. Now, the slogan of independence had taken the path of jihad. Various Islamic organizations like Jamaat-e-Islami and its terrorist organization Hizbul Mujahideen, women terrorist organization Duktarani-e-Millat, Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen, Allah Tigers, Jamaat-ul-Ulema-ul-Islam, Al Badr, Al Jihad Force, Al-Umar-Mujahideen, Muslim Mujahideen, Islamic Students Federation, Zia Tigers etc., all said that the aim of their struggle is Islamization of the social, economic and political system of Pakistan as well as Kashmir, unification of the Ummah and establishment of the Islamic religion. The extremist women's organization, Duktarani-e-Millat, declared at a press conference in November 1992 that "The merger of Kashmir with Pakistan would be the first step towards the unification of the Ummah. Any other solution to the Kashmir problem would be anti-Islamic. Since we want to establish the Islamic religion throughout the world, the unity of the Ummah is a prerequisite."

Hizbul Mujahideen emphasized that its objective was "the establishment of the Islamic religion throughout the world. We do not recognize any ideological or geographical boundaries." Syed Ali Shah Geelani, a former pro-Pakistani leader who has broken ties with Pakistan and is the leader of the Jamiat-e-Islami organization in Kashmir, clearly stated in his statement that - "Kashmiri Muslims are part of the Millat or Ummah and the feeling of being part of the Millat has attracted Mujahideen from countries like Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan etc. to Kashmir." Geelani's Islamization efforts, which are based on the principle of Millat being superior to national boundaries, are the root of all terrorist activities in Kashmir.

Following the declaration of religious war against Kashmir's non-Muslim minorities by fundamentalist and terrorist organizations such as Hizbul Mujahideen, Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen, Harkat-ul-Ansar, Lashkar-e-Taiba, Markaz-ul-Dawa-ul-Irshad, etc., the spread of Islamic extremism in Kashmir led to the public pride in killing minority Hindus in the name of jihad. Muslim extremists maintained an anti-Hindu atmosphere by continuously waging a hate campaign against Kashmiri Hindus in local newspapers and through religious sermons in mosques. The final warning to the minority Hindu community was issued through the press on April 14, 1990, urging them to leave the Kashmir Valley within two days or face death.

During this period, approximately 1,000 members of the Hindu minority community were brutally murdered, and 350,000 members of this community were forced to flee their homes. The terrorists resorted to the most brutal forms of killing, including hanging, strangulation, beheading, burning alive, blowing people up with dynamite, slitting throats, pulling out nails, and shooting innocent people. The minority Hindu community, accustomed to living in Kashmir, has been displaced and has been suffering in refugee camps in Jammu, Delhi, and other parts of India for the past thirteen years. Terrorism and religious fundamentalism have devastated the social, psychological, physical health, and demographic balance of the displaced people. 30,000 Kashmiri Pandit homes, hundreds of business establishments, educational, cultural, and religious institutions were destroyed, along with symbols representing the 5,000-year-old history and culture of the Kashmiri Pandits.⁴⁵ Lashkar-e-Taiba chief Hafiz Mohammad Saeed issued a written statement saying, "Democracy is our hereditary problem. These are all useless processes and part of the system we are fighting against. If Allah gives us a chance, we will try to establish a completely Islamic religion."

In February 1992, at the Kashmir Unity Day celebrations in Rawalpindi, Qazi Hussain Ahmed, head of Pakistan's Jamaat-e-Islami, declared that "after Kashmir's independence, a new Islamic state will emerge from Kashmir to Central Asia." Shortly thereafter, new organizations such as Tehreek-e-Ahyaai-e-Khilafat (Organization for the Restoration of the Caliphate) and Tehreek-e-Khilafat-e-Islamia (Tehreek-e-Islamia) announced their presence in Kashmir. They presented the ideology of Islam and the Caliphate from foreign countries. TKI (Tehreek-e-Islami Organization) insisted that "Islam does not recognize nationalism or regional patriotism."

Slogans based on caste, sect, and nationality are all false; the ideology of the Caliphate is the true Islamic ideology. The slogan "Kashmir's future should be decided by Kashmiris alone" gave birth to a monster that distorted the existing Islamic identity and reduced it to the lowest democratic activity. It was against this backdrop that a close relationship was developing between Kashmiri Islamic militants and the Afghan mujahideen, who were held together by a pan-Islamic ideology. Thousands of Kashmiri militants, some of whom had fought alongside the Afghan mujahideen, went to Pakistan and Afghanistan to receive weapons and guerrilla warfare training, fostering a new dimension of terrorism in Kashmir. Now Kashmiri guerrilla warfare not only lost its natural character but was replaced by extremist Islamic terrorists, Afghan and Pakistani mercenaries, as part of Pakistan's new strategy.

By any measure, India has been the most affected country by terrorism in the world over the past thirty-six to thirty-seven years. Yet, beyond ritualistic condemnation of terrorism, meaningless sermons, and rhetoric, our governments and intellectuals do nothing. Even informing the public about the essential facts about terrorism, there is a grave negligence. The dirty game of petty political interests is the biggest reason for this. Pseudo-secularists have declared writing or speaking about Islamic terrorism synonymous with speaking against Muslims. Therefore, even knowledgeable people hesitate to raise public awareness about it, fearing accusations of being Hindutva.

Ultimately, India shamefully released dreaded terrorists like Maulana Masood Azhar, Mushtaq Mohammad Zargar, and Ahmed Saeed Sheikh in exchange for the release of passengers from Indian Airlines flight IC 814. The limit was reached when, while freeing the passengers, the hijackers declared, "Go and raise brave men this time." After all, how have terrorists become so audacious? We, our government, and our entire nation must answer this question to future generations. We and our government cannot shirk this responsibility. Because countless questions regarding terrorism continue to plague the minds of our citizens. Kashmir is an integral part of India, evidenced in Kalhan's book, **Rajatarangini**. This history must be brought to the attention of the nation and the world, and it must be included in school curriculums. Only then will any statement by a national leader regarding Kashmir have a tangible impact on the traitors and global political and economic traders. Only by familiarizing citizens with the true history can separatist forces be given a befitting reply. Remember, separatist forces first

distort history, then destroy culture, and then, by spreading confusion, initiate and instigate a fight for an independent nation-state. There is no justification for not being harsh on those who support terrorists and vowing to destroy them, even in this 21st century. Remember, allowing venomous snakes to roam freely is suicidal.

However, deceit knows no bounds, whether it involves relocating terrorist bases or allowing jihadists to remain quiet for a while before resuming their trade of death with ferocious force. Pakistan deliberately orchestrates such terrorist attacks in India because it knows full well that it cannot defeat India in direct combat, so it resorts to proxy terrorism. It is a grave mistake to think that resolving the Kashmir issue will normalize India-Pakistan relations. Pakistan was not created by the Kashmir issue. It was created by the disease called the two-nation theory. Pakistan's bitterness towards India will not end with its existence. This is certainly not the case in India. Here, every dream, good or bad, is in the context of Western countries. Pakistan is not the context of our development and national life. Whereas in Pakistan, everything is decided in the context of India. In the face of this, even Pakistan's self-respect in the world is not a concern. It is an absolute truth that lasting peace between India and Pakistan is impossible until the Specter of Islamic superiority is exorcised. The Indian sentiment of religious harmony and the Pakistani sentiment of Islamic superiority are two opposing ideologies. The conflict will end only with the defeat of one of them. We must formulate our policies with this clear understanding.

India-Pakistan Relations after the Formation of the Modi Government: -

Signalling a significant shift in India-Pakistan relations, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made it clear that terrorism and dialogue cannot coexist. The restraint and tolerance demonstrated by previous governments will likely no longer be seen under this government. Home Minister Rajnath Singh stated clearly that any talks between India and Pakistan will now be on Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, and not on any other issue. Had previous governments spoken so clearly to Pakistan, perhaps we would not have suffered so many terror attacks. Unfortunately, previous governments have sacrificed national interests solely for the sake of international acclaim. In fact, after the terrorist attack on the Parliament House, India had a golden opportunity to retaliate against Pakistan and destroy the terrorists and terrorist camps thriving on its soil. However, despite the military's full preparations, the then political leadership failed to take any firm decision, and Pakistan's morale continued to grow. The audacity of terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir is not being suppressed because neither is there any success in stopping their infiltration from across the border nor is strict action being taken against their supporters and patrons at the local level. This is the reason why terrorism is failing to break the backbone of this state. It's not that the state government or the central government are unaware of where terrorists find refuge and who creates an environment favourable to them, but the problem is that they are being treated with excessive leniency. If the Indian government is unable to eliminate Pakistan-based terrorist organizations operating in Jammu and Kashmir, then claiming that it is capable of defeating terrorism on its own is beyond comprehension. Since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States have not been able to carry out any violent acts there, so why is India repeatedly condemned to this poison? Clearly, a ruthless and decisive attack on terrorism and its sources has so far been avoided. Should it not become a matter of national concern that the more the Central Government expresses its commitment towards fighting terrorism, the more the terrorist organisations are becoming unbridled and fearless? Even more dangerous is that they are capable of garnering all kinds of support at the local level. Certainly, the policies of the central and state governments are responsible for this. Ironically, the root causes of these ambivalent policies towards terrorism appear to lie in vote-bank politics.

Today, the terrorism we have been discussing for so long in India-Pakistan relations is a new form of terrorism disguised as religious garb, and we are fully capable of giving a befitting reply to this challenge. However, the terrorist challenge becomes insurmountable when, instead of doing anything concrete to defeat it, some people begin to undermine everything that is being done. It seems as if our secularism is simply being lenient with these enemies who are stabbing the nation in the chest. Despite being repeatedly deceived, we continue to hope that Pakistan will one day reform, end terrorism and separatist activities, and begin to treat us with friendship. Perhaps we have forgotten that Pakistan, which was created due to anti-Hindu mentality, that Islamic state Pakistan will not rest until it completely Islamises India. It is our humble request to our newly formed lapdog government that while considering furthering relations with Pakistan, it should always keep in mind this basic fact that Pakistan can never be our well-wisher and if Pakistan now carries out even one terrorist attack in India, it should be taught such

a lesson that it realises that India will now give a befitting reply to any terrorist attack by Pakistan, which was not happening till now.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, from his early days in office, invested considerable energy and capital into improving relations with Pakistan and bridging the mistrust between the two nations. Among other things, he invited his Pakistani counterpart, Nawaz Sharif, to his swearing-in ceremony in 2014 and made a surprise visit to Pakistan in December 2015, solely to improve relations between the two countries.¹⁰ However, Pakistan, as always, continues to stab India in the back, the consequences of which will be faced by Pakistan and its terrorist organizations.

In fact, the root cause of Pakistan's hostility towards India in Indo-Pak relations is the Islamic principles and ideology on the basis of which the Muslim League demanded the partition of India and the creation of a separate Islamic state within its natural boundaries. According to these principles of Millat and Kufr, Dar-ul-Islam and Dar-ul-Harb, Pakistan is Dar-ul-Islam. It is Pakistan's religious duty to continuously strive against this to transform a divided India, which is Dar-ul-Harb according to these principles, into Dar-ul-Islam. ¹¹ Pakistan has always followed these principles and is not foolish; at least its ambitions in strategic matters have grown due to India's stance, and it has maintained its policies only after assessing the behaviour of various political parties in India. ¹² In the name of peace, non-violence, and friendship, 'keeping the snake in the grass around our neck is not the snake's fault, but ours. If we do not wake up in time, then one day it may happen that Pakistan may again drench India's blood with attacks like the Parliament House and wipe out our top political leadership.

We must note that whenever Pakistan initiates talk, its only argument is that Kashmir is majority Muslim, and therefore, it should be under its control. It is over this very issue that it has fought four wars with us. We must also not ignore the fact that some global powers are conspiring to force a compromise with Pakistan at the cost of our national sovereignty and integrity. This is driven by their interests, while others are driven by their fears. One of these fears is the threat of nuclear war. The truth is that the threat to the world community and world peace is not from India, but from Pakistan and Pakistan-backed Islamic jihadists and their terrorist network. The repeated mention of the threat of nuclear war in South Asia is part of this fear-mongering. Pakistani rulers constantly propagate the idea that if the Kashmir issue is not resolved according to their wishes, a nuclear war could erupt between the two countries. In fact, it is a trick of Pakistan to distract India through terrorist violence or nuclear war when the peace talks are not in its favour, but Pakistan should now understand that today in India there is a strong nationalist government with full majority under the leadership of Narendra Modi which is capable of answering Pakistan in its own language.

Conclusion

Pakistan is entirely responsible for the current decline in India-Pakistan relations, as it seeks to constantly engage India through terrorism and maintaining a deadlock on dialogue. If India is unable to expose Pakistan diplomatically, then it should not delay in exploring other measures that will force Pakistan to abandon its anti-India policy.

The Pakistani establishment has consistently told its people that India is responsible for the violence in Kashmir and that it is oppressing our brothers and sisters in Kashmir. The reality is that to maintain Pakistan's existence, its army generals have always tried to control internal hatred and ethnic animosity by fuelling the Kashmir issue. In reality, Pakistan is not a nation but a multitude forced to live together by an accident of history. Pakistan has never been a nation. It is a gathering of intolerant and militant tribes, and Punjabis have dominated both the government and the military. They constitute approximately 60 percent of Pakistan's population, Sindhis approximately 20 percent, Pashtuns 10 percent, Baloch 5 percent, and Urdu-speaking Muhajirs approximately 7 percent.¹⁴ Whatever Pakistani thinking may be, we must firmly understand that no matter how much we try to improve India-Pakistan relations, normal relations between the two countries will never be possible because Pakistan's primary objective is to destroy India's existence and establish Islamic rule there. It is a proven fact that Pakistan will not allow any peaceful solution to the Kashmir problem because it has a different agenda, which is being played under the pretext of Jammu and Kashmir. If India does not formulate a concrete strategy to crush these Islamic jihadist forces in time, then there should be no doubt that it will hardly be able to save its existence.

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