

# India Pakistan Relations: A Political Analysis Of Conflicts And Prospects For Peace

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## ABSTRACT

In South Asia, India and Pakistan are two immediate nuclear capable neighbour countries shared their geography, history and culture, but the relations between these two nations have never been cordial since their independence. Though both the nations have originated from common sub-continent, there has been constant threat of war due to certain major social, cultural, economic and political problems and conflicts between them. However, significantly c makes both the nations as distant neighbour and their relationship can be coined as a Snake- Ladder Game, has been briefly discussed in this study. In spite of having such hostilities, both countries have signed so many treaties to solve and minimise their problems as well as conflicts, and out of which the Tashkent Declaration and The Simla Agreement are considered as foremost peace building initiatives to maintain stability in South Asia region, which is well described and analysed in the following study. So, this study suggested that there is an urgent need to go ahead with rich and stable bilateral dialogues for the establishment of durable peace in between these two main players in South Asia.

**Keywords:** South Asia, India-Pakistan relations, Conflict, Kashmir dispute, Treaties, Durable peace.

## 1. Introduction

The word 'conflict' has come from the Latin word for striking which may not always be violent. In general, conflict is referred to a clash between two individuals arising out of a difference in ideas or thoughts, interests, acquirements understanding, perceptions or even attitudes. It also implies physical cruelties and loss of peace and harmony. On the other hand, international conflict signifies the conflicts between two different nations on various issues like- unresolved regional tensions, breakdown of existing laws, illegitimate economic gain etc. and also relates with the conflicts between people and organisations of the nations.

Again, peace defines a state or tranquillity or quiet, such as freedom from civil disorder or a state of security within a community on the situations that by law or custom, coordination in personal relations, a state or period of mutual concord between governments, a pact or agreement to end the enmities between those who have been in a state of hostility or at war. In international structure, some nations choose to resolve their conflicts through peaceful means and some desire the ways of resolution of conflicts by using forceful or violent acts. In connection with the Indo-Pak relations, both the nations have been taking shelter of war as well as peaceful talks and agreements to resolve their never-ending woeful political conflicts since their existence.

### 1.1. A brief accounts of Indo-Pak Relations since 1947

India and Pakistan are the most powerful and rivalry actors in the region of South Asia and both have nuclear capabilities. After attaining the independence by both these two nations in August 1947, their relations have never been cordial and both are said to be the hostile nations in regards to their ideologies, political directions, military administrations, economic perspective, tradition and culture, religion, etc. In spite of having common background of these two nations, it is unfortunate that the relations between India and Pakistan have remained far from satisfactory. Though both the countries have become independent and sovereign nations as a result of bloody partition based on religion, that encouraged each to define herself in hostility towards the other, and they have engaged in three major wars and one tiny war since 1947.

The relations of India and Pakistan have also been lacking due to years of hostility, mistrust and hatred over various sensitive political issues like- Kashmir dispute, demarcation of boundaries (LoC), Indus water distribution, Siachen Glacier, migrations, active support to cross border terrorism, visa permission and nuclear activities etc. Neither India nor Pakistan is ready to initiate the steps by changing the earlier positions mentioned and is trying to find a compromise or another position in these vital issues. Firearms are still continued to explode and the security personals have continued to battle, exhaustion and terrorism have also been continuing to kill thousands of innocents. Though the representatives of both the nations are searching of meet on a regular basis, no progressive conversions have been taken place till now in between these two powerful players of South Asia.

It is very significant that a massive rioting and population flows as Muslim and Hindus found themselves in the wrong sides of the delimited boundaries by the colonial administration where more than two million peoples have lost their life and near about 20 million have displaced where most of them from the area of Punjab province that divided into two parts during the partition of the British India.

The Kashmir conflict is the present issue of partition which may be associated with three major wars confronted by Pakistan: 1947-48, 1965, 1971, and later the Kargil battle and many other severe smashes where India and Pakistan have faced several security dangers from the very beginning of the partition of the sub-continent due to the aggressive connection which was the major challenge for both the countries in the past. For Pakistan, the major warning issue is considered as conventional Indian military capability and however the situation have been modified among the two influential South Asia nations after the nuclear explosion from 1998, it has generated a stability power in the region of Kargil crisis, 1999 with essential settlement.

There exists a clear nuclear weapon demonstration in South Asia region which draws attention to the international community region specifically the Kashmir disputes. The officials of both the countries have also focused their attention on nuclear discouragement to minimize the probability of a destructive war in the region. However, none can ignore that there is a risk of misunderstanding due to appeasement policy of the third parties that can lead to a nuclear war.

### **1.2. Research Questions:**

- Has there been adequate scrutiny on the conflicting issues in between India and Pakistan?
- Is there any possibility to build-up peace between these two nuclear power states?
- What will be the measures for the establishment of peace and security in South Asia region?

### **1.3. Aims and Objectives of the study:**

The aim of the study is to focus on the conflicting issues and prospects for peace in between India and Pakistan. Therefore, to achieve this, the following objectives can be placed for the study:

- To understand about the conflicting issues of Indo-Pak relations.
- To find out the possibilities of Indo-Pak peace process, and
- To put forward some prescriptive measures or suggestions to establish peace and security in South Asia region.

## **2. Literature Review**

In his article titled 'Pakistan, India's Neighbour: So Near, But So Far', (Bahadur, K. 2011), has described that why Pakistan's foreign policy is India centric in every aspect and how Pakistan give more priority to Kashmir issues. The study also explains about the creation of Bangladesh and India's role in it and describes the different steps taken by both India and Pakistan to advance their relationship in different phases. The paper examines about the role and use of SAARC and benefits of SAFTA (South Asian Free Trade Agreement) to resolve dispute between India and Pakistan.

In a research article 'Geo-Political Signification of Kashmir: An overview of Indo-Pak Relations' (Kalis, N.A. and Dar S.S. 2013) have discussed and analysed Geo-Political deliberation owe their significance to the very act of partition of India into two independent state and Kashmir as a disputed area between both India and Pakistan. The study also includes the atmosphere of chaos, hostility and a sorrowful outline of insecurities of property, illiteracy and underdevelopment of the Kashmiri peoples. The authors also made an attempt to focus on the political status of pre-divided Jammu and Kashmir, divide Kashmir, perspectives of India and Pakistan on Kashmir, resources of Kashmir, human and economic loss due to militancy etc. The study also suggests some measures for peaceful environment through soft hand policies like - common faith, trust, demilitarization, mutual respects, etc.

In an article 'Tracing the Pakistan- Terrorism Nexus in Indian Security Perspectives: from 1947- 26/11' (Ogden, C. 2013) has investigated the origin of Pakistan terrorism nexus and how did it become related to Indian Security Perspectives. The study also analysed the continuous strategies of Pakistan towards insurgency, terrorism and infiltrations by irregular troops against India. In this study, the author has also

found that the Pakistan terrorism connection will remain as a durable and critical base within South Asian security dynamics.

In the study titled 'Kashmir: A Conflict between India and Pakistan' (Majid, A. & Hussain, M. 2016), have discussed the old and most serious dispute on Kashmir between India and Pakistan and also about various peace processes on this conflict. The authors have made an analysis on the laws at variance with human rights like Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act 1978, Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act (TADA) 1987, Arms Forces Special Power Act 1990, Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA), etc. In this study the authors have mainly focussed on the violation of human rights in Jammu and Kashmir due to continuous confrontation on the issue of Kashmir and suggest a regular dialogue for evolving methods to complement the UN resolution on Kashmir to establish a peaceful political solution.

In a historical study 'M48 Patton Vs Centurion: Indo-Pakistani War 1965' (Higgins, D. R.2016), focused on the historical recognition of both the nations as separate entities which has been a boiling hostile relationship between the two nations. The study also examined the conflict related issues to Jammu and Kashmir that has acquired significant attention by the Indian and Pakistan armies to obtain a unique geo-political status. The author also makes an attempt to discuss on the pre-divided circumstances of Kashmir during colonial period of India. The study also tried to search about the relevance of the Amritsar Treaty of 1846 which was established between Maharaja Gopal Singh and the British, then a new treaty with Maharaja Hari Singh. In this historical analysis, a scrutiny has also been made over the Indo- Pakistan war in 1965 that witnessed some of the largest tank battles since World War II, notably between India's British-made Centurion Mk 7s and the American-made M 48 Patton fielded by Pakistan.

In his book on 'Indo-Pak Relation, Beyond Surgical Strike,' (Singh, U.V. 2017) has mentioned about the nature of antagonism over seven decades passed by both India and Pakistan and also the influence of China on diplomatic relations of Pakistan towards India. The author also focused his attention over the issues of mutual understanding and friendship. Basically, stake holders of Pakistan like – role of Pakistan army, state sponsored terrorism are to be ignored for peace between India and Pakistan. Here, surgical strike by India became the focal point for future to sustain peace in South-East Asia.

The research article 'Right of Self Determination and Kashmiris: A Conceptual Understanding and Perspective' (Effendi, M. 2021) has covered wide range of discussion on the perspectives of various nations and authors over Kashmir conflict. In this study the authors have widely explained the Kashmir conflict as an internal conflict for India and defined the freedom movement of Kashmiris as an insurgency. The paper also highlighted the Kashmir conflict through its technical interpretation under legal framework whether it is a struggle for the right to self-determination or an insurgency. Ultimately, the authors agreed to focus on self-determination of the Kashmiri people and suggested a plebiscite for clear mandate as per UN resolution.

In his article "Jammu and Kashmir: A premier (Singh,Y.2021) has examined demographical status of entire Jammu and Kashmir regions into (6) regions – Jammu region, Ladakh region, Kashmir valley, Pakistan occupied Kashmir, northern areas Baltistan and Gilgit region along with the historical background of Kashmir. In his article, the author has briefly mentioned about Accession of Kashmir to India and after i.e., first war for the valley, Shimla agreement, advent of terrorism, abrogation article 370 and 35A. The study also focuses on two pronged approaches conclusively defeat Wahabi Jihadis and Pakistan and restore mixed composition of population in Kashmir valley. The paper also analyses the necessity of bold steps of the present government for permanent solution to both Pakistani intransigence and Jihadi tendencies in Kashmir.

In a research article titled "Kashmir problem: from the partition to reorganisation", the author Kumar,A.Atri (2021) has focused on the geographical importance of area especially for a state. The paper also discusses the strategic geo-political importance of the region Jammu and Kashmir. In this paper, it has mentioned that the outlooks of both the nations towards the state of Jammu and Kashmir. It has also analysed the bilateral talks and agreements after every unexpected major incidents in between India and Pakistan. Moreover, it has clearly scrutinised the issues of cross-border terrorism and the withdrawal of Article 370. In this article, the author has suggested to give more importance on the local issues of the Kashmiri people instead of instigated issues by the third parties and has mentioned about the importance of hard decision regarding establishment of permanent peace in the region.

In a study "Kashmir dispute and India-Pakistan relations" (Singh,N. 2022), with reference to historical background of Indo-Pak relations, the Kashmir issue has been mentioned as the bone of contention among India and Pakistan since 1947 due to its geostrategic importance. The author has focused on the unsolved Kashmir issue with reference to present situation of the region and also the narrowmindedness of the political opportunists. The article also explains the future big challenges for both the nations like – the issue of POK, mobilization of international public opinion, to ambit of Knowledge and awareness on POK, etc. Again, the study suggests a peaceful conversation to resolve the Kashmir dispute through which the Indo-Pak relations can be normalised.

In his article "Kashmir in Indo-Pak Relations: Changing Dimensions" (Singh, S. 2021), the author has focused on the geographical area of Kashmir and its percentage wise position of present territories. Along with this, the article examines the historical events of pre-partition and post-partition era of Jammu and Kashmir region. The study has also mentioned the major root causes of India-Pakistan conflicts as its

undemocratic partition, territorial disputes, communal antagonism on ethnic lines, partition tragedy and post partition cross-border terrorism. In this article, the author has analysed the difficulties to investigate the peaceful and confidence building solutions for two nuclear armed powers in South Asia. The study has suggested a strong economic development policy for the Kashmir people through which trade and economic exchange be encouraged to overcome the problem and for this, an unbiased political will is the need of the hour to normalize the issue.

Siddiqi, F. H. (2023) addressed about the India and Pakistan zero-sum methods which is premised on winning and assuring about other loss also. Minimalist framework formed and the two nations participated for mutual interests which are opposed to dominant leaders. However the engagement more than agreement is considered as short-medium term goal. At last the discussion about solving Kashmir conflict is less likely to bring the longer term of dividends of stability and peace among the two countries.

Majeed, G., & Hameed, S. (2023) highlighted that it is significant to understand that Kashmir is a difficult problem and focusing of about seven decades longer tortured history and must be reviewed in a focused way and frequent efforts should be framed for attaining the expected results and however immediate pressure can encourage India from human rights violations and people sufferings of Kashmir may be reduced. If the violence in Kashmir is ignored then it is dangerous globally for entire world peace since both India and Pakistan have nuclear powers and their opinions are dominated by basic fanatics.

### 3. Methodology

In this study, the authors have made an attempt to apply the historical analytical and descriptive methods in which selected and important dimensions relating to Indo-Pak political relations, especially conflicts and peace process are considered to assess holistically. And for this purpose, the secondary sources of data are important to analyse the problem and therefore, data have been collected from various secondary sources like-books, journals, conference proceedings, dissertations, abstracts of research articles, magazines, newspapers, government reports, internet services etc.

#### 3.1. The major issues of conflict between India and Pakistan:

As the British India has partitioned in 1947 on the basis of religious ideology into two states, since then several conflicting issues have been found in frontline tensions not only between India and Pakistan but also in International community. The major conflicting issues can be discussed as follows:

##### 3.1.1. Kashmir Issue

The Kashmir dispute has been a boiling issue in between India and Pakistan since their independence and waiting for a peaceful solution.

*"There are various viewpoints regarding Kashmir issue due to a difference in ideology and interests. The simple issue of the right of self –*

*determination has been turned into a complex conflict between India and Pakistan"* (Rizvi, 1994).

Since 1947, there have been many wars and skirmishes over Kashmir region and both the countries never agreed to resolve this burning issue due to their opposite views and demands. The UNSC has passed the resolution no- 47 on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 1948 over Kashmir Conflict and formed a five members commission as United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan(UNCIP) to investigate and mediate the dispute for restore peace and law and order in Kashmir region. Furthermore, the commission also instructed to prepare for a plebiscite to decide the fortune of Kashmir along with two other proposals that to withdraw the troops from the region by both the nations.

Due to this mediation outcome, ceasefire agreement has been registered among India and Pakistan with respect to UN resolution. Since the views and demands of both the parties over Kashmir region are different, this significant problem is remains as serious conflict and not solving and hence proved as South Asian security threat.

The accounts and memos of India and Pakistan on Kashmir issue are always different from each other and day by day there claim over Kashmir mountainous region is upgrading to a destructive nuclear war in near future. Even after 75 years of independence, both the nations have not been able to reach to a common trustful consensus, but carried on to a zero-sum outlook to this unfinished agenda of Kashmir.

##### 3.1.2. Cross Border Terrorism

It is known to all that the South Asian region has been declared as the most politically unstable and also an area of well organised use of violence for political ends where terrorism, target killings, suicide attacks and assassination are regular occurrences to irritate the security and peace of the area with respect to sectarian, national lines, political, and so on.

The cross-border terrorism sponsored by Pakistan has to be situated in the broader context of the mounting terrorism that has plagued contemporary Pakistan. The links between top army personnel, bureaucrats and political leaders, on the one hand, and terrorists and drug barons, on the other, have acquired a measure of legitimacy under the banner of Islam and jihad. The transnational links of terrorist outfits also necessitate international coalitions to weed out terrorism. Nevertheless the India-Pakistan peace initiatives that are currently

under way represent a positive development because they can make an incremental contribution to ending cross-border terrorism.

The issue of terrorism is not only an irritating matter for both India and Pakistan but also an international problem. Though both the states are extremely suffering and disturbed with trust deficit due to active terrorists' organisations available in this region but India is always raising her strong voice in international platform against all kinds of terrorist organization along with their activities. In Jammu and Kashmir, some prominent insurgent groups like – Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), Hizb-ul-Mujahidden (HUM), Hizbulla, Laskar-e-Toiba, Harkat-ul-Mujahideen, Ikhwanul Muslimeen etc. have been active in Kashmir for many years and therefore, India is taking quick actions against all such activities sponsored from the soil of Pakistan where blaming and threatening to each other is a regular event. The high pitched issue of terrorism is rising as one of the major hindrance in peace building process between these two conflicting South Asian actors.

### **3.1.3. Water dispute**

After bloodletting partition of the British India, there have been many issues that become the threat to the national interest of both the nations. The water issue is one of them in which both India and Pakistan are still not in a position to be claimed as peaceful settlement especially on Indus Water basin. During the year 1948, India detach the Indus Basin water supply to Pakistan which is considered as significant water dispute among both the countries. It makes the Pakistani people to upset in viewing the situation in which the Jammu and Kashmir is under the full India dominion. It has shared by the frequent conflicts of distribution and conflicts over water resources, ethnic minority violent actions accusations and several border issues and created conflict outbreak in Kashmir.

It has been factual that the water resource is significant and it creates a crisis due to the raising population globally in which energy plays major role in satisfying the national interest of state. Hence due to this, many countries are upholding their domination over various water reservoirs to safeguard it for future requirements. India is upper and lower riparian state is Pakistan are said to be frequent turf over distribution of Indus basin water. In building dams on Pakistan, India is violating the treaty, and thus power shortage is considered as higher challenge in Pakistan which is the major one. Hence Pakistan is tent to begin hydroelectric power projects and eases the political tensions for addressing the energy requirement. Both states are reaching their friendly solutions in association with water specifically the peace among the India and Pakistan which is refer as peace and tranquillity in South Asia.

### **3.1.4. Ideological Issues:**

Since their independence, India and Pakistan have been preoccupied with their varied mutual conflicts based on psychology. India, since its inceptions recognised herself as a secular nation with a Hindu majority populace along with large Muslim people. On the other hand, in the early birth of Pakistan appeared also as secular nation with Muslim majority and later altered herself as an Islamic state. Both nuclear capable nations have already fought three major wars in 1947, 1965 and in 1971 and also an unofficial Kargil war in 1999 along with numerous skirmishes.

The background of the ideological conflict lies in the bloodletting partition of the Indian sub-continent along religious shapes by the departing British administrators in the last part of 1940s and therefore, the conflict over Kashmir and several disagreements are based on ideological dimensions. As the partition neared on the basis two nation theory, it was believed by the leaders of the Muslim League that the reservations of Muslims were not proportionately considered and their demands were accordingly not met. The leaders of the Muslim League also made allegation against the leaders of the Hindu dominant Indian National Congress that minority was excluded from most of the decisions, which created in them a panic of “not mattering at all”.

The creation of Pakistan was based on the nationalism that strongly rooted in the idea of refusing a shared previous history with the Hindus and theorised by the front-runners of the Muslim League in pre-partition British India with an assumption that the ideological differences between Hindus and Muslims were incompatible, and that the Muslims would never exist in the same showcase with the Hindus in a Hindu-majority country. Hence, the ideological difference has always been a predominant cause of conflicts between the two powerful states of South Asia since their birth as sovereign nations in the domain of world politics.

### **3.1.5. Nuclear Issue:**

After China, In the midst of 1960s, India has started to go for its own nuclear weapons and conducted its first nuclear test “Smiling Buddha” in the desert of Rajasthan, namely at Pokhran village. As India has conducted nuclear test in 1974, Pakistan also developed its own nuclear programme in the and finally tested “Ghauri” in April, 1998. In the next month, India has conducted five underground nuclear explosions at the same village to retaliate Pakistan's nuclear development programmes and subsequently, a competition of nuclear mobilisation has been started in the South Asia region.

However, the nuclear development and explosion programmes of India and Pakistan were widely condemned along with varied criticism throughout the world and also imposed sanctions against these two nations by some powerful states of the world. But in spite of having strong pressure from international communities, neither India nor Pakistan has signed the NPT (Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty) or the CTBT (Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty).

According to the Federation of American Scientists (FAS), India and Pakistan, both are ninth nuclear capable states of the world and also among the ‘not much’ that have been growing their nuclear weapon stockpiles. As

per the estimates by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Pakistan holds about 100 to 120 nuclear weaponries, which can be delivered by aircraft and land-based missiles and on the other hand, India's nuclear arsenal is around 90 to 110. Indian nuclear delivery systems also feature a land-attack cruise missile called Brahmos, which has been jointly developed with Russia.

Therefore, both countries possess a comparable size of nuclear arsenals and publicly demonstrating their nuclear expansion programmes committing to a nuclear doctrine of 'no first use' against a non-nuclear weapons states, but Pakistan's policy on first use against countries that have nuclear weapons - particularly India - remains ambiguous (US-Arms Control Association). Thus, a conflict has always been stand up in between two powerful states of the South Asian region on nuclear hegemony.

Furthermore, both the countries have been facing some other conflicts on the strategic issues like- the control of the Siachen glacier to overlook the area of Gilgit-Baltistan of Pakistan occupied Kashmir (POK) and to guard the way to Leh (the capital of Ladakh), disagreement on the demarcation of the line in Sir Creek in the Rann of Kutch that has always important from the point of economic perspective for both the nations. Again, cross-border infiltration and liberalised visa policy, demilitarization, drug trafficking etc. which have also been promoting both the countries to be suspicious of each other over security and political settlement of their disputes.

#### **4. Suggestive requisites of Indo-Pak Peace process**

For any kind of peace building effort, it is important to have the trust, confidence, cooperation and reciprocity which are vital in terms of peace process or settlement. Peace process which can be modestly well-defined as the method or an action of a series and arrangement of consultations or negotiations among the states in order to make efforts for searching the means to solve the tensions, disputes or problems within the states either at inter-regional or intra-regional bases. The shared or mutual action of plans is the important necessity to resolve any kind of dispute between states

Both India and Pakistan should back down from their toughened positions on Kashmir issue and other political issues and should take solid steps towards the resolution to unwind and discontinue the toughest tensions of the South Asia region. There are certain self-assured essentials of peace process in between India and Pakistan, and without this prerequisite, the peace exercise cannot properly be planned.

These prerequisites are as follows:

- Willingness of the major political parties of India and Pakistan is important so as to start the procedure of negotiating or dialogs in order to resolve the vital political issues relating to each other, exclusively the oldest dispute on Kashmir region.
- The top ranking political leaders of both the nations must go with clarity in their aims and goals, transparency in their deliberations for hands-on implications of the resolutions of the political disputes in between the two nuclear capable actors of South Asia. The policy makers and the masses of both the states must have solid determination along with high quality of patience to remove the negative images of each other for best solution of their problems.
- Positive attitude, methods of understanding, broadening and advancing the intelligence, proper interpretation of the problems, well-being and strength of the political leaders to the peace process are significant and a sincere trustworthy series of regular conversation or dialogs between India and Pakistan can bring the light to the darkness of conflicts.
- For any peaceful settlement of conflicts between the states, it is very significant to identify and proper recognition of the critical issues and it depends on the skills and intelligence of the political leaders of the nations.
- Both the nation should go for dialogs at least twice in a year to generate convenient surroundings for healthy and trustful relationship. Such initiatives will definitely be helpful in advancing peace talks on the issue of Kashmir as well as on other political issues.
- Focusing on hypercritical issues rather than on less controversial matters is also important for peace dialogs. In 2015, both India and Pakistan agreed to regenerate comprehensive dialogues where Indian Foreign Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and Pakistan's Sartaj Aziz have emphasized on the talks relating to issue of peace, Kashmir dispute, Siachen, Sir Creek in the Rann of Kutch, economic and commercial collaboration, cross-border terrorism, humanitarian issues, liberalised visa policy, religious tourism, etc.
- The top stake holders of both the nations must have the capability to pick up the past experiences from the confrontations and the negotiations through which start afresh for future peace initiatives and that can be placed on the table of dialogues. For example, the Kargil war (1999) had a serious negative impact on the economy as well as military fields in Pakistan.
- In modern democratic philosophy, it is essential to provide importance and boldness to the public opinion while the dialogs are going in process for any settlement of disputes. For example, to honour the public opinion, both the countries have agreed and formed a new liberal visa policy (2012) in order to fulfil the demand of the public and also to increase cooperation between the two big actors of the South Asian region.
- The concerned actors must have a noble outlook for the expansion of communication along with proper understanding and cooperation. Such noble feelings of both the states will provide better opportunity for

peace dialogs. For example, the parliamentary dialogues (2011) over peace, security and stability issues of India and Pakistan were very significant due to proper understanding and cooperation of members.

- Due to the need for security and stability, Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) could act as a suitable measures for security of both the big players of South Asia. Furthermore, CBMs will also help in improvement of Pakistan-India relations and also resist acceleration to traditional war threats and the threats from sophisticated nuclear weapons.
- The arbitrators of both the nations must have the knowledge of the pertinent and applicable manifestations before they go for a conversation on a specific conflicting issues. It is also important to have rich information and consciousness about what measures would be efficiently performed in order to eliminate the negative images, actions and attitudes between India and Pakistan.
- The media of both nations can play a constructive role in terms of moulding public opinion in such a way that represents a sound environment of trust and positive image of joint-confidence building. For example, 'Aman Ki Asha', the joint peace campaign led by the Jang group in Pakistan and The Times of India group, that has evidently reduced threat sagaciousness among the people in both nations. The government of both the states should agree to initiate the process for a joint committee or organisation to control the fake and manipulated media news that harmful to the national security of India and Pakistan.
- Militarization and accusing to each other's security forces can never be a good sign for the stability and prosperity of a democratic country. This type of awful attitude along with sectarian arguments of elite leaders and military officials are always against the opportunity to gear up for a peace process. Therefore, demilitarization or phased withdrawal of troops, reduction on military expenditure and enhancement on the budget for quality development of the country's human life are more significant rather than confrontation. The Annual Social Progress Index (SPI) is a comprehensive measure of a country's quality of life has reported the position of both India and Pakistan as 117 and 141 respectively in 2020 which is very negligible.
- Terrorism is always contrary to advancement of social progress and it indirectly affects the economic position of a nation by creating uncertainty, weakens law and order situation, threatens the life of the masses, etc. Terrorism is just like a bullet of a rifle which has no permanent friend or enemy. Therefore, here is an urgent need to work jointly with full cooperation to overcome all inhuman activities of the terrorists groups that available in South Asia.
- More focus on bilateral talks on the outstanding conflicting issues can bring closeness to the people of India and Pakistan that not only escalations trust at the governmental level, but also generates goodwill among the publics. Agreements mediated by external powers, such as the Tashkent Declaration (1965) arbitrated by Soviet Union, or de-escalation attempted by the United States after episodes like- Kargil war and Twin Peaks military standoff, have never been lead to a stable resolution.

## 5. Conclusion

New Delhi and Islamabad should criticize adversely the previous agreements they have already reached. And joint suspicion and distrust in the minds of the top ranking leaders of India and Pakistan should be removed through reliability and proper execution of peace strategies that depends on how much each party is willing to do this. It is much better to resolve their bilateral conflicts through peaceful means and both should come closer for the benefit and wellbeing of their citizens. Hence in this research, the Kashmir dispute, which the Tashkent Declaration and The Simla Agreement are considered as foremost peace building initiatives to maintain stability in South Asia region, are briefly discussed and analysed in descriptive manner. The two big players of South Asia should go for a proper joint supervising mechanism to review the progress of the Indo-Pak dialogues with peace resolutions or agreements like- Tashkent Declaration (1965), Simla Agreement (1972), Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines (1974), Pakistani Instrument of Surrender (1971), Non-nuclear aggression agreement (1988), Liaquat-Nehru Pact ( Delhi Pact)(1950),Lahore Declaration(1999), Karachi Agreement (1949), Indus Waters Treaty (1960), Delhi Agreement (1973) etc. Finally, this study concluded that in order to achieve peace and security between two powerful states of South Asia, both have to step up along with negotiating attitudes in each other problems for touching ahead on the road of prosperity and transparency so that they can prepare the ground for more determined accords in future.

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