



Boğaziçi MUN
Advanced '22

**DISARMAMENT
AND
INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY
COMMITTEE**

STUDY GUIDE

Table Of Contents

- 1) Important Note Regarding the Committee**
- 2) Letter From the Secretary-General**
- 3) Letter From the Under-Secretary-Generals**
- 4) Introduction to DISEC**
- 5) Overview of the Kashmir Conflict**
 - a) Historical Background
 - b) Current Map of The Kashmir Region
 - c) Geopolitical Significance of the Kashmir Region
 - i) Location
 - ii) Water Sources
 - d) Demographic Structure of Kashmir Region
- 6) Recent Developments in the Last Decade in the Region**
 - a) Border Skirmishes (2014-15)
 - b) The 2016 Kashmir Uprisings
 - c) The 2019 Pulwama Riots
- 7) Social Impacts**
 - a) Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI), Jammu and Kashmir
 - b) Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF)
 - c) Tehreek-e-Azadi-Jammu & Kashmir (TAJK)
 - d) Jammu & Kashmir National Liberation Army (JNLA)
 - e) Jammu & Kashmir Students Liberation Front (JSLF)
 - f) Tehrik-e-Hurriyat-e-Kashmir (TeHK)
 - g) Al Badr
 - h) Mutahida Jihad Council (United Jihad Council)
- 8) Nuclear Weapons**

9) Key States

- a) India
- b) Pakistan
- c) P.R. China
- d) Non-State Organizations/Groups
 - i. Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF)
 - ii. Harkat-ul-Mujahideen (HUM) and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JEM)

10) Previous UN Attempts to Resolve the Conflict

11) Questions to be Answered in a Resolution Paper

12) References

1) Important Note Regarding the Committee

This committee is being conducted on 1st of January, 2022. Therefore, all the historical and current events, as well as information, shall be elaborated keeping this information in mind. Therefore, this Study Guide only provides background information up until the mentioned date.

2) Letter From the Secretary-General

Most Esteemed Participants,

On behalf of the Academic and Organization teams of Boğaziçi Model United Nations Advanced 2022 Conference, it is my utmost honor and pleasure to welcome you all as the Secretary-General of the 1st edition of one of the most prestigious conferences in Turkey. We are glad that you have decided to honor us with your presence on May 21-22, 2022 in our beautiful campus in Istanbul, Turkey.

My name is Kaan Ertan. I am currently studying industrial engineering at the Boğaziçi University and have been a part of the Boğaziçi MUN Society since the beginning of my university life. Today, it is my privilege to be serving you as the Secretary-General of our esteemed conference, despite the pandemic and all the misfortunes that we have recently faced. During the two days of our conference, both our Academic and Organization Teams will do their best to provide you with the most fulfilling conference in every possible way.

In order to make our conference as advanced as possible, we have created four marvelous committees that serve the concept that we wanted to cover this year. These will be executed by a group of the finest individuals in the Turkish MUN community. In the preparation of this conference, along with all of our beloved Academic Team, I owe my Deputy-Secretary-General Ms. Şebnem Yaren a huge gratitude for her assistance and cooperation in every aspect of preparing this conference. We hope that you are as excited as we are to have one of the best two days you have ever had in a Model UN conference, together!

With sincere appreciation,

Kaan Ertan

Secretary-General of Boğaziçi MUN Advanced 2022

3) Letter From the Under-Secretary-Generals

Esteemed delegates,

It is our pleasure to welcome you all to BOUN Advanced '22 and the Disarmament and International Security Committee. Our names are Oğuz Kaan Ataç and Recep Eren Durgut. We will be serving as Under Secretary Generals of our committee.

The agenda item on our table has had a dramatic impact on the stability of the Kashmir region for several decades, inevitably affecting the inhabitants of the region colossally. The United Nations have been pointing out the conflict of Kashmir from time to time for a long while, however unfortunately no solution that will satisfy the involved parties is reached. We are aiming to change that in this gathering.

In this study guide, you will find the details about the historical background of the conflict, the existing situation in the region, the humanitarian front of the conflict, and the impact of this issue on the global arena.

We would like to stress the importance of the instability this conflict creates is not just a regional one, so we request all parties to understand the topic as this problem is not two-sided, and the solution you are set to find should satisfy all the involved parties, and bring stability to the region after a decades-long crisis.

We kindly request all representatives to review this guide thoroughly and know their country's policy by heart to defend the interests of them.

We would like to remind you that since you are participating in an advanced conference, we may surprise you with some updates to challenge you. We are doing our best to make this conference a memorable experience for all our participants. We hope to see you very soon.

Best regards,

Recep Eren Durgut, Oğuz Kaan Ataç

Under-Secretary-Generals of the Disarmament and International Security Committee

Duhan Sevim

Academic Assistant of the Disarmament and International Security Committee

4) Introduction to DISEC

The First Committee deals with disarmament, global challenges, and threats to peace that affect the international community and seeks out solutions to the challenges in the international security regime.

It considers all disarmament and international security matters within the scope of the Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any other organ of the United Nations; the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as principles governing disarmament and the regulation of armaments; promotion of cooperative arrangements and measures aimed at strengthening stability through lower levels of armaments.

The Committee works in close cooperation with the United Nations Disarmament Commission and the Geneva-based Conference on Disarmament. It is the only Main Committee of the General Assembly entitled to verbatim records coverage.

The First Committee sessions are structured into three distinctive stages:

1-General debate

2-Thematic discussions

3-Action on drafts

Over the years, efforts have been made to rationalize the work of the Committee, concentrating on rearranging its agenda and improving its organization of work (see resolution 42/42 [N] of 30 November 1987).

During the 48th session of the Assembly, in 1993, the item entitled “Rationalization of the work and reform of the agenda of the First Committee” was included in the agenda of the Assembly. Thereafter, the Assembly has focused on improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the First Committee (see resolutions 48/87 of 16 December 1993, 49/85 of 15 December 1994, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 58/41 of 8 December 2003, 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316 of 1 July 2004 and 59/95 of 3 December 2004).

During the 59th session, in response to a request of the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the First Committee, a report compiling those views was submitted by the Secretariat (see A/59/132 and addenda 1 to 6).

Since the 60th session, under the item “Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly”, the Committee has adopted its program of work and timetable for the forthcoming session. Please also see the note by the Secretariat (A/C.1/68/INF/4 - United Nations Website)

5) Overview of the Kashmir Conflict

The Kashmir conflict is one of the longest-standing ongoing regional conflicts that is causing severe instability in the Asian continent. With three major nuclear powers being involved, the issue is a true threat to the region. The conflict's roots trace back to 1947, to the partition of India from the British Empire. Right after the partition, both Indian and Pakistani parties claimed the region as their own territory. The escalation led to 3 wars and several other armed clashes afterward. The current distribution of the lands in the region goes as India controls approximately 55% of the land area of the region including Jammu, the Kashmir Valley, most of Ladakh, the Siachen Glacier, and 70% of its population; Pakistan controls approximately 30% of the land area that includes Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan; and China controls the remaining 15% of the land area that includes the Aksai Chin region, the mostly uninhabited Trans-Karakoram Tract, and part of the Demchok sector.

Following the separation of India and a series of rebellions that took place in the western districts, Pakistani militias marched into Kashmir, causing the Indian ruled part “Jammu” to join India, which ignited the flames of the “Indo-Pakistani War”. This battle was ended with a UN-mediated ceasefire that was also called as “The Line of Control”. After further escalation in the battles of 1965 and 1971, the Simla Agreement formally established the Line of Control between the territories controlled by the two nations. In 1999, an armed conflict between India and Pakistan broke out again in the Kargil region with no effect on the status quo.

Since 1989, Kashmiri protest actions were created to voice Kashmir's disputes and grievances with the Indian government in the Indian-controlled part of Kashmir Valley. These protests were made by some separatists in armed conflict with the Indian government, based on their demand for self-determination. The 2010s were marked by further escalation within the Kashmir Valley. The 2010 Kashmir uprising began after an alleged fake encounter between local youth and security forces. Thousands of young people raided security forces with rocks, burned official buildings, and attacked railway stations and government vehicles in rapidly intensifying violence. The Indian government pointed the blame on the separatists and

Lashkar-e-Taiba, a Pakistan-based militant group, for stoking the 2010 protests. The 2016 Kashmir uprisings started after the elimination of a Hizbul Mujahideen militant, Burhan Wani, by Indian security forces. Further riots took place in the region after the 2019 Pulwama attack.

According to academics, Indian forces are responsible for excessive human rights abuses and acts of terror against the Kashmiri civilian population, including unlawful killing, sexual harassment, torture, and enforced disappearances. However according to Amnesty International, no member of the Indian military deployed in Jammu and Kashmir has been tried for human rights violations in a civilian court as of June 2015, although military courts-martial have been held. Also, the Indian government has been accused by Amnesty International because of refusing to prosecute perpetrators of abuses in the region. Moreover, there have been examples of human rights violations in Azad Kashmir, including but not limited to political repressions and forced disappearances. In the words of Brad Adams, the Asia director at Human Rights Watch, “Although 'Azad' means 'free', the residents of Azad Kashmir are anything but free.



A) Historical Background

Kashmir, an 85,806-square-mile valley between the snowcapped Himalaya and Karakoram Mountain ranges, is a contested region between India, Pakistan, and China.

While the British rule the region, Kashmir was a feudal state that owns its ruler. In 1947, the ruler of the region decided to join India which led to the conflict fire between states.

Considering Kashmir's religious diversity, Pakistan (which was formed by the British in 1947) claimed the Muslim part of the Kashmir should be considered as Pakistani territory. This disagreement caused the first Indo-Paki war over Kashmir in 1947. India approached United Nations asking to intervene in the situation. This approach encouraged United Nations to create a "cease-fire line" that divides Indian and Pakistani territory over Kashmir as both sides could not agree on the territorial control. During the following years, caused by border disputes even though such a line was declared by United Nations, two more major Indo-Paki wars occurred in 1965 and 1999. An estimated 20,000 people died in these three wars.

Considering the civil resistance against the Indian rule in the region. Many human rights issues (mainly systematic massacres against Muslims) occurred in the region by Indian forces. On the other hand, India blames Pakistan for stirring the unrest by backing separatist militants in Kashmir - a charge its neighbor denies.

In 2004, a bilateral dialogue process was initiated by India and Pakistan. As a result of this so-called 'composite dialogue', a bus service was established that enabled people to have contact across the Line of Control (LoC), and for some families to reunite with loved ones. Limited trade has also been re-established across the line.

Since 2008 negotiation on peace was stalled. Terrorist attacks on Indian provinces pushed both sides to prominence of weapons including airstrikes. Considering both sides' nuclear weapon availability, a possible increase in military tension can induce a catastrophic result, not just for the states but for the whole world.

After decades, the situation is still complicated. Indian government declared Article 35A of the Indian Constitution which empowered the Jammu and Kashmir state's legislature to define "permanent residents" of the state and provide special rights and privileges to them. This legislation was empowered to satisfy the Kashmiri people to ensure belonging to India. Considering the attempts by the Indian side, the Kashmiri people still fighting for their independence or unification with neighboring Pakistan. Also, the Pakistani president stated

that Kashmiri will get relief only when India lifts the siege of "occupied" Kashmir, ceases the killing spree of Kashmiri people, gives up settling Indian Hindus in Kashmir, and stops attempts to change the demography of the state. During his interview with a news agency, he stated that the border truce, declared by United Nations cannot solve the issue and is ineffective.

B) Current Map of the Kashmir Region



C) Geopolitical Significance of the Kashmir Region

Understanding the geopolitical significance of the Kashmir Region is fundamental while comprehending the exact magnitude of the conflict.

i) Location:

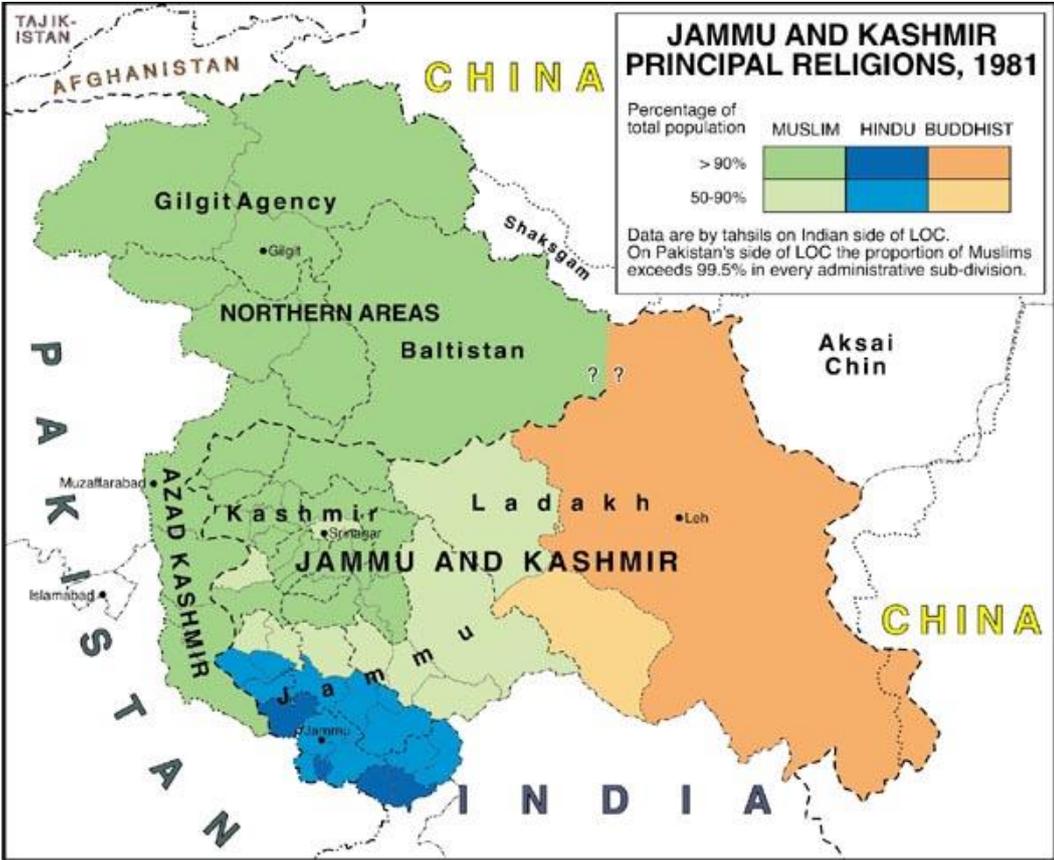
The Kashmir Region is a landlocked area, and can also serve as a gateway to Afghanistan for both India and Pakistan in addition to Russia and China, etc. The region bears this importance because the traditional trade route of the main silk road goes through Kashmir, and it is the gateway of trade for both Pakistan and India. But the importance of the region is not limited to mere trade routes. The Kashmir Region has high strategic importance for both India and Pakistan. India has two main rivals in the region: Pakistan and China, which do not enjoy very

intimate relations. Surrendering Kashmir would eventually make those two states a direct neighbor, a direct security threat for India. Also, because the area is quite mountainous, the region serves as a natural protection against each other, as well as a cover for potential military operations, both of which present strategic importance for Pakistan and China.

ii) Water Sources:

Moreover, the Kashmir region is important because it contains the Indus Water basin and starting points of many rivers feeding the water supplies for the region. India, and especially Pakistan depend on this source of water. For Pakistan, letting India control the area would eventually mean leaving the control of this fundamental source to the hands of India which is a threat to Pakistan’s survival. The water extracted from these sources is mainly used for agricultural activity but also for fishing and producing electricity. Currently, the Indus Water Treaty manages the division of water between these two nations; however, there have been several violations of this treaty on both sides. Also, the basin is threatened by the effects of climate change and environmental degradation. That is the reason why alternative water management ways may be necessary for the future.

D) Demographic Structure of Kashmir Region



Jammu and Kashmir are located in the Himalayan region in the north of India. Jammu and Kashmir's population in 2022 is estimated to be 14 million (1.4 Crores). According to Unique Identification Aadhar India, updated 31 Dec 2020, by mid of the year 2020 the projected population is 13,606,320. On 5 August 2019, the Government of India scrapped the Article 370 from the Constitution of India and integrated with other states and union territories (Article 370 was created on 26 October 1947, signed by Hari Singh, the last Maharaja of Kashmir) and introduced a bill to divide the state into two Union Territories, Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh. Jammu and Kashmir is home to several valleys such as the Kashmir Valley, Tawi Valley, Chenab Valley, Poonch Valley, Sind Valley, and Lidder Valley. The Jhelum River is the major Himalayan river that flows through the Kashmir valley. This valley has an average height of 1,850 meters (6,070 ft) above sea level. Some major tourist attractions in Jammu and Kashmir are Srinagar, Gulmarg, Pahalgam, Patnitop, and Jammu. A popular local etymology of Kashmira is that it is land desiccated from water. The word Kashmir was derived from the Sanskrit language and was referred to as Káśmīra often referred to as the valley of waters. The Nilamata Purana describes the valley's origin from the waters, a lake called Sati-saras.

6) Recent Developments in the Last Decade in the Region

A) Border Skirmishes (2014-15)

The Border Skirmishes of 2014-15 are a series of armed confrontations between Pakistani and Indian forces (and paramilitary forces). Tensions started to rise from mid-July 2014 and severely deteriorated in October 2014, as Indian Defense Minister Arun Jaitley demanded Pakistan halt their “unprovoked” hostile actions and warned that the response from the Indian side will have dire consequences. On the 12th of October 2014, Sartaj Aziz, a national security adviser from Pakistan, sent a letter to Ban Ki-moon, the UN Secretary-General of the time, requesting assistance for a resolution to solve the conflict. Aziz said that officials from the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) were going to the disputed border region to observe ceasefire violations.

In September 2015, a delegation from Pakistan, led by General Umar Farooq, visited India for bilateral talks and met with the Indian delegation led by Border Security Force director

general Devendra Kumar. Both parties agreed upon a ceasefire over the Line of Control, concluding these clashes over the border.

B) The 2016 Kashmir Uprisings

On the 8th of July 2016, a high-ranking militant from the Islamist terrorist organization Hizbul-Mujaheddin group called Burhan Wani was neutralized by Indian security forces. After his killing, protests against Indian authorities and Hindu nationalism started in all 10 districts of the Kashmir Valley. Authorities imposed a 53-day curfew starting on the 15th of July 2016. Pellet guns, tear gases, etc. were used by the security forces to gain control over protests.

C) The 2019 Pulwama Riots

On the 14th of February 2019, a suicide bomber called Adil Ahmad Dar drove a vehicle packed with explosives into a 78-piece Indian military convoy. 40 Indian soldiers died in this attack, and many were injured. It was the worst attack targeting Indian forces in decades. After the attack, violent protests took place in Jammu Region resulting in a curfew. Then on the 26th of February, 12 Mirage 2000 jets from IAF bombarded the Balakot region of Pakistan, claiming that they were targeting the Jaish-e-Mohammed training camp and killed a large number of terrorists, reported to be between 300-350. On the political frontier, Indian authorities revoked Pakistan's "Most Favoured Nation" status, and a variety of economic measures were taken. India also terminated Kashmir's autonomous status, which had a significant political impact.

7) Social Impacts

The Kashmir conflict has a social impact on the local people. Since the beginning of the problem dates back half a century, it has been widely reported by the parties that ethnic cleansing, manipulation, and pressuring the people are some of the used tactics in the region to claim territorial dominance. When we consider that our committee is DISEC, we must state that such social issues lose their weight, yet, should not be ignored. Organizations and formations that are formed in the region and terrorize the parties will gain more importance in terms of social effects.

A) Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI), Jammu and Kashmir

Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI) is a terrorist organization formed in Indian territory, after the liberation of Pakistan. JeI's first leader (imam) Abul A'la Al-Maududi was born in a former Indian province, which belongs to Pakistan. As this territorial change happened, Abul A'la Al-Maududi formed two major parties for the JeI: Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan and Jamaat-e-Islami Hind. He became the leader of Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan. During the Kashmir issue, Abul A'la Al-Maududi gave a fatwa on jihad during the ceasefire negotiations in Kashmir. Thus, Abul A'la Al-Maududi was thrown into jail in 1948. Another claim is that during the ceasefire negotiations, the Pakistani government was secretly sponsoring locals for civil resistance against the Indian government which partially cropped up by the jihad fatwa of Abul A'la Al-Maududi. Even though Abul A'la Al-Maududi's actions appear to be anti-Pakistani, JEI has only been classified as a dangerous organization by the government of India.

Religious struggles caused them to struggle with other sects. As a result of the operation, they carried out against the Ahmadiyya sect, they caused the death of thousands of people. If we look at the danger it poses for the region, the call for jihad in the Kashmir region may lead to the emergence of more extremist groups and deadly actions in the long term.

B) Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF)

Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front is a separatist militant organization active in both Indian ruled and Pakistan ruled Kashmir. JKLF is an organization advocating the independence of Kashmir. Although they had planned many things such as raiding sports events, hijackings, and explosions in New Delhi (where Kashmir agreements were made); their only tangible action was to kidnap an Indian diplomat in Birmingham.

The organization has existed for many years and is one of the separatist groups that receive the most support from those who live in the region. Until the early 90s, JKLF engaged in a great struggle against the Indian armed forces. However, this struggle resulted in the deaths of most of the JKLF militants, as they were faced with a conventional army.

Mohammed Yasin Malik, the leader of this organization, which is a political party on paper, was arrested by the Indian authorities. Previously, the JKLF declared lawlessness in the Kashmir region and defended the region's independence. Among the reasons for the arrest of the leader are accusations such as supporting the armed organizations in the region and disrupting the state.

“The JKLF was an active terrorist outfit until 1994 when it declared a cease-fire by which it still abides (SATP n.d.; Washington Quarterly 22 Mar. 2001). After declaring the cease-fire,

the JKLF reportedly "disbanded its military wing" (Al-Sharq al-Awsat 8 Sept. 2002), and by March 2001, the group had "little military capacity" (Washington Quarterly 22 Mar. 2001)"

C) Tehreek-e-Azadi-Jammu & Kashmir (TAJK)

Unlike other organizations, it is an organization that advocates not the independence of the Kashmir region, but that the region should be under Pakistani control. Although they are known as Tehreek-e-Azadi-Jammu & Kashmir, the Indian government has included this organization in the list of terrorist organizations, claiming that TAJK is linked to Jamaat-ud-Dawa and supports the Taliban and al-Qaeda. For this reason, it is seen as a continuation of Jamaat-ud-Dawa, which was previously responsible for many bloody terrorist acts in India. TAJK leader Hafiz Muhammed Saeed was detained by Pakistani authorities after the governments of India and Pakistan approved the declaration on the prevention of financing of terrorism signed in Paris in 2017.

The Jamaat-ud-Dawa, to which Tehreek-e-Azadi-Jammu & Kashmir is allegedly linked, is a part of Operation Tupac carried out by the Pakistani secret service, which ensures that action is taken to reduce and end Indian control in the Kashmir region. Considering Jamaat-ud-Dawa's connections to al-Qaeda and the Taliban, additional research by all member states on this issue may lead to a step towards the prevention of global terrorism in addition to solving the problem in the region.

D) Jammu & Kashmir National Liberation Army (JNLA)

Jammu & Kashmir National Liberation Army can be shown as the armed forces of the Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front. As mentioned before, Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front appears as a political party on paper and there are allegations that they support armed organizations. There are reports that Jammu & Kashmir National Liberation Army, which was founded in 2003, is also related to Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front.

It does not seem possible to mention a specific action of the Jammu & Kashmir National Liberation Army. At this point, we can say that Jammu & Kashmir National Liberation Army's signature is under the armed actions of the Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front.

E) Jammu & Kashmir Students Liberation Front (JSLF)

Another branch connected to Jammu & Kashmir Liberation Front is Jammu & Kashmir Students Liberation Front. It would not be wrong to think of this formation as the youth

branches of a political party. Among the activities of this formation, conflicts with the police can be given as an example. It aims to transform the youth, whom they indoctrinate with youth manipulation and national values, into people who will fight for the independence of the Kashmir region in the long run.

“At an 11 February 1996 anniversary rally in Muzaffarabad commemorating the death of Maqbool Butt, members of the JKLF and the Jammu and Kashmir National Students Foundation (JKNSF) threw rocks and "engaged in scuffles" with the police, who "baton-charged dozens of students" (AFP 11 Feb. 1996).”

F) Tehrik-e-Hurriyat-e-Kashmir (TeHK)

This formation again appears before us as a political party. The founder of the party, Syed Ali Shah Geelani, formed his own party after being expelled from the Jamaat-e-Islami party, of which he was a member. “In over seven decades of his political life, Geelani remained a conservative internationalist whose politics and understanding were shaped and influenced by the partition of the subcontinent, communist literature of the cold war era, creation of Bangladesh, the Iranian revolution, Afghanistan Wars, and the attacks of 9/11. He was a vocal critic of the US invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan, and became the only leader in Kashmir to offer funeral prayers in absentia for Osama Bin Laden.”

As the party leader, he intervened and vehemently rejected the agreements by the governments of India and Pakistan. Likewise, by calling for strikes across Pakistan, he caused problems in the country. As an extreme Pakistani nationalist, he went to the Kashmir region and evaluated the situation there. While this party is on the list of active terrorist organizations by Pakistan, it is on the list of inactive terrorist organizations by India.

G) Al Badr

Al Badr is a terrorist organization that has been active since the early 2000s. Their first release was when they declared jihad against the US armed forces during the Afghan civil war. After this declaration, they took responsibility for many major attacks in Afghanistan. Al Badr is in close ties with Hezbollah, Al-Qaeda, and some Indian terrorist organizations.

Pakistan's Operation Tupac is shown as the starting point of this organization. Al Badr reportedly has close links with Inter-Services Intelligence and Jamaat-e-Islami in Pakistan. During the regime of the Taliban militias in Afghanistan, the outfit's cadres secured weapons and ideological training in many camps across that country.

Al Badr is also a member of the United Jihad Council (Mutahida Jihad Council). For this reason, the solution of an organization like Al Badr will help solve the terrorism problem not only in the Jammu & Kashmir region but also in a larger area.

H) Mutahida Jihad Council (United Jihad Council)

Mutahida Jihad Council is a council established to prevent inter-organizational conflicts and to establish a stronger decision mechanism by coming together with 16 jihadist organizations that declared jihad in the Kashmir region. At the head of this council is Hezbollah militant Syed Salahuddin. When we look at the purpose of the formation of the council, we see the purpose of jihad as the common point. There is no common goal of ensuring the dependence of the region on one side or independence.

The United Jihad Council was the primary public voice of the Mujahideen in the Kargil offensive. Pakistan backed the guerrillas in a bid to change the cease-fire line through the territory. The United Jihad Council, including four fighting in the Kargil mountains, said the guerrillas would not leave the area because it is their homeland. The Pakistani government pulled back its troops and allied Kashmiri secessionist and Taliban fighters from the Kargil-Dass-Batalik region of Indian-held Kashmir in July 1999 causing considerable criticism of the Pakistani government and contributing to the military coup of October 1999.

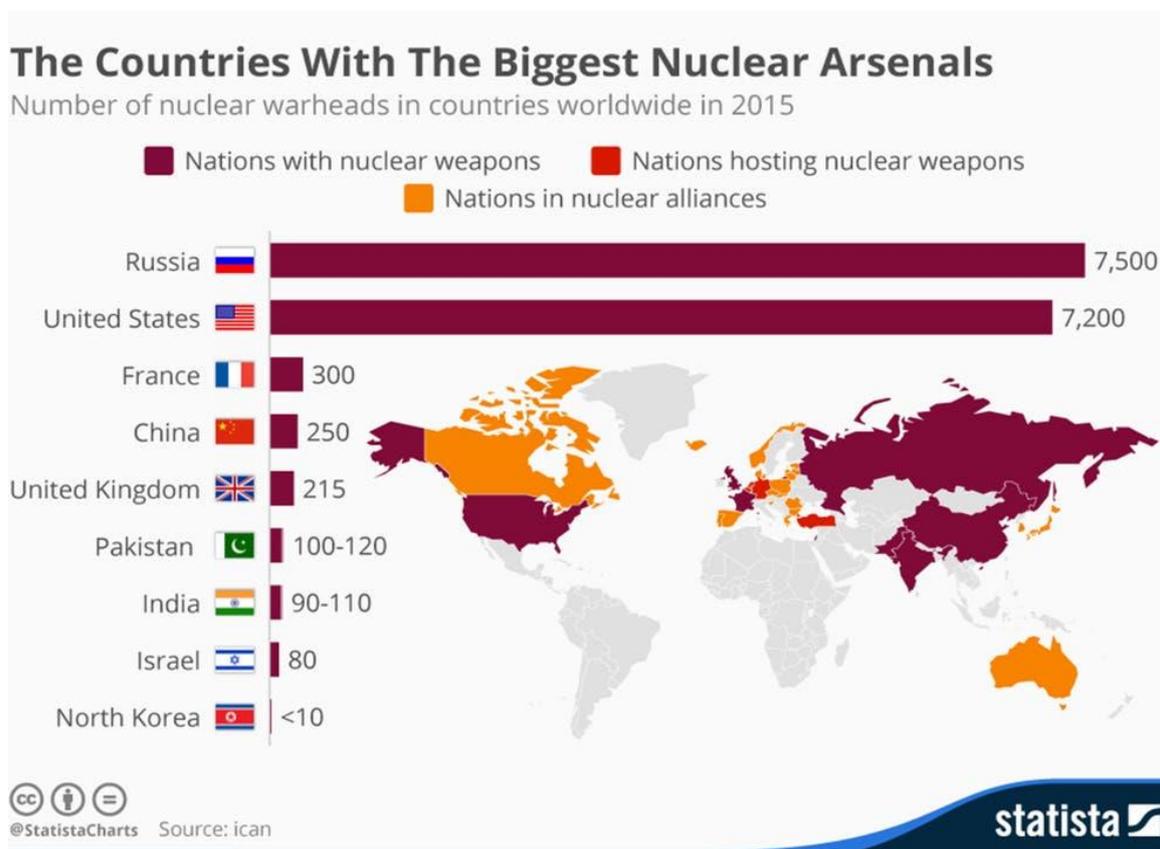
The Pathankot attacks occurred just one week after the December 25, 2015, surprise meeting between Indian and Pakistani prime ministers in Lahore. The attacks led to the cancellation of scheduled follow-up talks between respective foreign secretaries and cooled the warming diplomatic relations between the two countries (The Hindu, January 15).

There are reports that Pakistan Army's Border Action Team attacked Indian troops in a joint operation with these jihadist units.

Almost after a decade of relative calm in the region, the December 5, 2014, serial attacks in Kashmir and Srinagar killed 21 people, including 11 security personnel and two civilians, in three separate incidents. The fatalities also included eight Pakistani militants who carried out multiple strikes, including an attack on the Indian Army's 31. Field Regiment Ordinance Camp at Mohra, Baramulla district.

8) Nuclear Weapons

Following the end of the Cold War, major nuclear powers (being USSR, USA & China) had helped their allies to reach nuclear strike capability or contributed to their arming process. This triggered other states to acquire nuclear weapons because of this potential threat to their national security. India and Pakistan are no exemptions.



In 1974, India successfully tested its first nuclear warhead, sending a clear message to its adversaries in the region (being Pakistan & China.). Since then, Indian authorities adopted a “no first strike policy”, which means that India will not launch a nuclear strike on any country unless it has been struck with one. Thus, India made its nuclear weapons a deterrent power. However, in 2010, India revised its deterrence policy to “No first strike against non-nuclear states”, raising concerns in the region. It is also important to note that India has not signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) or the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) of the UN, causing further disturbance.

Pakistanis developed their own nuclear program in response to the existing threat posed by India which became evident after the 1971 Indo-Pakistani war. Pakistani officials emphasized

that no such harm will be done to their country, and necessary measures will be taken to secure that promise. Pakistan also has not signed the aforementioned NPT and CTBT treaties. There are also rumors that the U.S.A has aided the Pakistani Nuclear Program with equipment and safeguarding of the warheads.

INDIA AND PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR ARSENAL (ESTIMATES)



Delivery System	Number of warheads
Aircraft	
Vajra	32
Shamsher	16
Subtotal	48
Land based ballistic missiles	
Prithvi-2	24
Agni-1	20
Agni-2	8
Agni-3	4
Subtotal	56
Cruise missiles	
Dhanush	2
K-15(Possible)	12
Subtotal	14



Delivery System	Number of warheads
Aircraft	
F-16 A/B	24
Mirage III/V	12
Subtotal	36
Land based ballistic missiles	
Ghaznavi (Hatf-3)	16
Shaheen-1 (Hatf-4)	16
Shaheen-2 (Hatf-6)	8
Ghauri (Hatf-5)	40
NASR (Hatf-9)	6
Subtotal	56
Cruise missiles	
Babur (Hatf-7)	8

Infograph: Mohammad Razon/Dhaka **Tribune**

9) Key States

A) India

India has repeatedly stated that Kashmir is an integral part of their country. Originally, at the start of the conflict in 1947, they were willing to support a plebiscite determining the fate of the Kashmir region, they now believe that history has shown that Kashmir has willingly become part of India. The Prince had the legal power to decide the fate of Kashmir and chose an accession to the State of India. Furthermore, the Kashmiris have been fully incorporated into Indian political institutions, have been provided adequate opportunities for internal self-determination, and hence have no grounds for external self-determination or accession to Pakistan (or any other state). It thinks that the notion that the Muslim population belongs to

Pakistan because of their shared religion is erroneous because India is a multicultural country with the world's second-largest Muslim population (120,000,000), only surpassed by Indonesia. Pakistani infiltration and propaganda are to blame for the current unrest in Kashmir, which is why it is currently refusing to engage in dialogue.

B) Pakistan

Pakistan maintains that Kashmir is the "jugular vein of Pakistan" (this analogy is used to define the importance of the water for the Pakistani people, without control over Kashmir Pakistan cannot live). Pakistani opinion is that the territorial status of the disputed area must be determined by the people of Kashmir. A further argument is that India's legal claim to the region is void because the Prince who signed the accession paper was not a supported figure in his country and he was under pressure from the Indian military.

There are areas in which the population is predominantly Muslim, and Pakistan claims that those territories should belong to themselves since, again according to Pakistan, India failed to organize a plebiscite. Moreover, with regards to the Simla agreement, Pakistan holds that it entailed exploring the possibility of bilateral negotiations without excluding the help of the UN or third parties. Furthermore, the fact that the Simla agreement calls for seeking to resolve the conflict with bilateral negotiations does not supersede the earlier UNSC resolutions that tried to establish the plebiscite.

Pakistan's domestic political status quo should be mentioned to better analyze and comprehend the stand of the government over the issue. Political indexes such as World Bank's political stability index suggests that Pakistan has been in a state of weak political stability since 2006. The instability caused people to experience mental fatigue due to oppression, years of political corruption from the bottom to the core, conflicts between in-state branches and institutes and allegations against Pakistan suggesting links between terrorist organizations and the government. Despite worldwide condemnation, the new Interim Constitution of Pakistan from 2018 kept the articles that directly offend international human rights legislation. "No person or political party in Azad Jammu and Kashmir shall be permitted to propagate against, or participate in acts prejudicial or damaging to, the ideology of the State's accession to Pakistan," it goes on to say.

The electoral law of Azad Jammu and Kashmir has not been amended, and it continues to disqualify anyone running for elected office who does not sign a declaration stating solemnly that they believe in Pakistan's ideology, the ideology of State's Accession to Pakistan, and Pakistan's integrity and sovereignty. Members of nationalist and pro-independence political

parties have reported receiving threats, intimidation, and arrests from local authorities or intelligence agencies regularly for their political activities, with such threats being directed at their family members, including their children.

C) P.R. China

China, as another neighboring country in Kashmir, has a great interest in the matter. They believe that the part bordering China (Aksai Chin) should become a permanent part of China. They do not recognize the borders of Kashmir as drawn up by Britain in 1947.

On this account, China leans towards supporting Pakistan on the issue, because of its complicated history with India, since the Indo-Chinese war in 1962. The war was a result of a border dispute between the two countries and ended when China unilaterally declared a ceasefire when it had obtained its claimed territories. Both parties then established the Line of Actual Control (LAC) that set the borders between China and Pakistan.

India argues that China continues to violate the provisions of the agreement on occasion, as it did in 2013. In response to these claims, China and India negotiated a border agreement that prevents border patrols from turning into incidents. In the case of Kashmir, China is currently a key roadblock in the fight against the JEM, claiming that India's definitions of terrorism are incompatible with their own.



D) Non-State Organizations/Groups

There are military groups that are subsidized and supported by the Pakistan government operating in the Kashmir region. These groups are operating either for the independence of Kashmir or in favor of Pakistan. These groups are -by some authorities- perceived as terrorist organizations. Some of the prominent organizations are briefly outlined below:

i) Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF):

Originally a militant organization, it has recently tried to convert itself into a political party. Despite having significant relations with - and being trained by - Pakistan, it asserts the viewpoint of Kashmiri independence.

Historically, the JKLF has been split and rejoined into various factions, each with its own ideas about how to achieve Kashmiri independence, whether through bloodshed or politics. They represent the overwhelming majority of Kashmiris who want independence, with polls indicating that between 87- 95% of the local populace want independence. However, the accuracy of these figures may be questioned.

Furthermore, scholars have questioned Kashmir's ability to become an independent nation, citing, among other things, a lack of resources and infrastructure.

ii) Harkat-ul-Mujahideen (HUM) and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JEM):

These are the two most active terrorist organizations in Kashmir, and both have reported ties to larger organizations like al-Qaeda. Unlike the HUM, which is fighting for Kashmir independence, the JEM aims to join Pakistan. The JEM, in particular, has been linked to Pakistan numerous times, but the group has been formally designated as a terrorist organization by both Pakistan and India since 2002. Both factions are still carrying out guerrilla-style attacks on Indian infrastructure.

ISIS has recently claimed responsibility for incidents in the region, and ISIS flags have been observed in Kashmir. However, recent reports indicate that their foothold in the region is to this day not as large as that of the HUM and JEM.

10) Previous UN Attempts to Resolve the Conflict

The Kashmir Conflict is the longest-standing armed conflict on United Nations' agenda. UN involvement in the crisis traces back to 1947, with the first Indo-Pakistani War over the region after the separation from the British Empire. India took this matter to United Nations Security Council's table and the council then approved the resolution no:39 and managed to reach a ceasefire. Also, to deescalate the tension in the region, UN Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) was founded to observe and mediate the hostile situation between the two nations. Shortly after the establishment of UNCIP, in April 1948, by its resolution 47, the Council decided to enlarge the membership of UNCIP and to recommend various measures including the use of observers to cease the fighting. At the recommendation of UNCIP, the Secretary-General appointed the Military Adviser to support the commission on military aspects and provided for a group of military observers to assist him. However, these efforts were not satisfying in the means of stabilizing the region as the confrontations continued. So, in 1972, The United Nations managed to broker a ceasefire deal once more, with the Simla Agreement, the agreement that defined today's "Line of Control" as a border between two hostile parties. The agreement also demanded that both Indian and Pakistani troops shall be withdrawn from the conflicted region. Despite all the efforts, the conflict continues to trouble the people's lives and harm the stability of the region to this day.

Some of the UN Documents that are relevant to the conflict are listed below;

UNSC resolutions numbered:

38,39,47,51,80,91,96,98,122,123,126,209,210,211,214,215,303,307

11) Questions to be answered in a Resolution Paper:

(Please note that this list is merely a helpful tool for the debates and not a strict guideline)

1. If there will be, how much autonomy should the region have?
2. What are the ways to determine possible new borders and how will they be shaped?
3. What are the possible measures to be taken to create long-term peace in the region taking into account water, terrorism, human rights issues, and WMDs (weapons of mass destruction)?
4. What will be the demographic environment of the region as a result of a possible resolution and how will this resolution prevent any further hostile escalations? (i.e, considering the Muslim majority, there might be assimilation attempts.)
5. Considering the effects of globalization such as growth in the usage of social media, how can child soldier recruitment within the Indian administered region be tackled?
6. What are the ways to tackle issues caused by WMDs and clear the environment from nuclear threats?
7. What can be done by the United Nations or other international organizations, what kind of collaborations can be facilitated?

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