

CalsMUN 2020
Historical Influences



Research Report

Forum: Security Council

Issue: The ownership of Kashmir

Chairs: Dionne Stolwijk and Timo Temming



Personal Introduction

Timo Temming

Hello delegates! I'm so proud of you opening this research report and preparing yourself for the conference. My name is Timo Temming and I will be your co-chair during this year's CalsMUN. I am a 17-year-old student at Cals college itself and will finally be able to help our own MUN in the form of chairing for you. Although my own brother and sister have brought me into the world of MUN's, I have loved participating in them ever since then. It has even led to my interest in geopolitics, which is why I love the security council in particular. As for my hobbies, I have no idea. MUN's can only take a small part of my life's schedule so in my free time I mostly play videogames, hang out with friends and cook food. That's as many bland things I can tell about myself, I think.

The reason why I am the one that will be sitting in front of you is because of my own burning hatred towards the CalsMUN organization. I never wanted to join the staff of this MUN until it was too late. I had to show them what they were missing out on. In some way this has worked out for me, as I now get to join as a chair (okay just co-chair) which is way more fun. My love for chairing has brought me all over the world (okay just Armenia) and I want to continue this path in future MUN's around the globe.





Introduction

The Ownership of Kashmir is an ongoing conflict on the Indian subcontinent that started after the partition of India. The Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of India both claim the region known as Kashmir. The disputed ownership of the region has led to 3 wars between India and Pakistan as both nations claim the area which was formerly known as the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir. As of now, the area is divided between 3 nations. India controls the southern areas of the Kashmir valley, the Saichen Glacier, Ladakh and Jammu. Pakistan controls the northern areas of Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. China also controls the region known as Aksai Chin and after the Sino-Pakistani treaty administers the Trans-Karakoram Tract. India still claims the Area administered by China, but Pakistan has recognised the Chinese claim after ceding the Trans-Karakoram Tract to China.

The Kashmir area is to this day still divided between the 3 nations of India, Pakistan and China, who each have their own zone of control. A line of Control was established over the borders of Kashmir after the 1972 ceasefire between India and Pakistan in the Simla Agreement. This line of control however does not acknowledge the Chinese claims to the region.

The Kashmir region is now known as an unstable and rebellious conflict region with issues regarding terrorism, human rights abuse and separatism. The security council has looked into the conflict in the past and in 2018 they made another report on the region. It is however now the time for the security council to end the border issue on the subject.





The Committee

The United Nations Security Council is one of the most important councils within the UN. It is also known as the most controversial council. The SC is the only body within the UN that can actually make binding resolutions. The council can put obligations on all members, which it can enforce with sanctions and military actions. What also makes the council unique is the veto. There are five permanent nations that hold the power of veto which are:

1. Russia
2. China
3. The United States of America
4. Great Britain
5. France

These 5 countries are able to block any submitted amendments if they desire to. The committee will also be working in AD-HOC, so there is no need to prepare any resolutions beforehand.

Definition of Key Terms

LoC (Line of Control)

The Line of Control is a word for the borders between the Indian and Pakistani administered areas within the Kashmir region. The borders used to move a lot because of the ongoing wars and border disputes between the two nations, but were established after the Simla Agreement in 1972. The Line of Control does not take into account the Chinese claims to Kashmir.

LAC (Line of Actual Control)

The Line of Control that takes into the Chinese claim to Kashmir into account. The 'Line of Actual control' is similar to the 'Line of Control', but acknowledges that China has control over its claims to the Kashmir region. The Republic of India does not acknowledge these borders.



Trans-Karakoram Tract and Aksai Chin

These are the two areas claimed and controlled by China within the Kashmir region. They were acknowledged by Pakistan after the 1963 Sino-Pakistani Agreement and added to the Xinjiang autonomous region.

The Partition of India

The division of India into the two state of India and Pakistan (with Sri Lanka and Myanmar seceding earlier and Bangladesh later). This division was largely based upon the religious majority of the states. The partition led to the displacement of 10 to 12 million people, violence and the hostile relations between India and Pakistan.

Mujahideen

A term used for people participating and fighting in Jihads. In English the modern terms it refers to Afghan Muslim warriors that fought during the Soviet-Afghan war supported by the Pakistani, US and Saudi governments. Taliban and Al-Qaeda forces have since established themselves in Pakistani and Indian controlled Kashmir.



General Overview

The conflict in Kashmir is often overlooked in international politics. The ownership of the area has been an issue ever since the Partition of British India. Both Pakistan and India have held on to their claim, which has resulted in a multitude of wars. The first and second Indo-Pakistani wars, also known as the Kashmir wars, never formally created borders between the two nations.

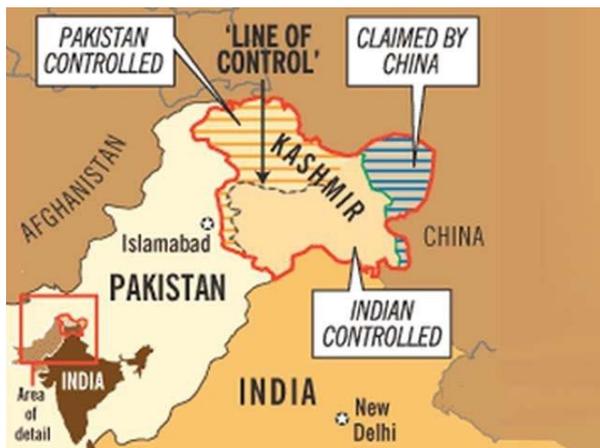
India and Pakistan have fought 4 wars in total. Although not all wars were about the ownership of Kashmir, the root of the hostility between the two nations is the many border disputes and wars they have fought.

Especially over the Kashmir region.

Both nations have established a zone of control and have signed a ceasefire during the course of the 20th century. It can however be noted that the two nations have not signed an actual peace treaty after the Kargil war (otherwise known as the Fourth Indo-Pakistani war or the Indo-Pakistani war of 1999), which means that India and Pakistan are to this day still formally at war with each other. India, Pakistan and the other countries of the world do not acknowledge this however and the Line of control is relatively well respected.



The Kashmir area is now divided between three nations. The modern border between India and Pakistan is the ceasefire line that was created after the 1972 Simla agreement, which is otherwise known as the line of control. China also controls an area of the Kashmir. The



Aksai-Chin area had been claimed by the People's republic of China long before the independence of India. They were fully able to press this claim after the 1962 Sino-Indian war. In 1963, China and Pakistan also signed the Sino-Pakistan Agreement. The treaty made Pakistan recognised the Chinese claim to the Trans Karakoram tract and Aksai-Chin, while getting some territory in return as well.

This treaty established friendlier relations between China and Pakistan and also established the Line of Actual control. The Republic of India does not however acknowledge the Chinese claim to the area.

The princely State of Jammu and Kashmir is India's most rebellious state. India is a very diverse country, but the borders that were created during the partition of India were made in order to split up the Muslim and Hindu majority areas between India and the Muslim state of Pakistan. Jammu and Kashmir however was and still is the only continental Muslim majority state in India and during the partition of India the princely state was ruled by a Hindu prince, Hari Singh, who decided on joining India instead of Pakistan. The violence that came after the partition of India was especially bad in the Kashmir area, a majority Islamic area under Indian rule. Pakistan would eventually stir up a conflict in order to take over the state of Kashmir. This invasion however failed and we are now left with the borders that we still have today.

The Conflict over the ownership of Kashmir has not been solved with warfare or intervention from the United Nations. The area is still prone to rebellions, border skirmishes, terrorism and other forms of armed conflict. As of now, a peaceful resolution to the conflict is not in sight.



Major Parties Involved

Organisations

Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front

A separatist political organisation that works towards the goal of an independent Kashmir. It has been banned in India under the 2019 anti-terror law.

Al-Qaeda

Although the organisation is not as relevant as it used to be, Kashmir was one of their most important operative locations. The United States worked together with India and Pakistan in order to fight Al-Qaeda, but Pakistan was not as cooperative as the United States wanted to be and created sour relations between the two.

Countries

The Republic of India

Ever since the partition of India, the republic of India has held on to its claim on the Kashmir area. India has since lost some territory to Pakistan and the People's republic of China, but still claims the entire region. India has built up hostile relations towards China and Pakistan over the past few decades. India's goal is to regain its lost territory from China and Pakistan in order and reincorporate in back into its own federal republic.

The Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Pakistan has always denied the Indian claim to the region of Kashmir. Pakistan often supports any separatist movements in the Indian controlled areas of Kashmir as it would rather see the area under independent control than Indian. However the scenario Pakistan works towards is that of the 'two nation theory', where India and Pakistan are split up into Muslim and Hindu majority area. Pakistan remains close to China on the Issue.



The People Republic of China

The people's republic of China also plays a role in this conflict. They have control over the Aksai-chin area and the Trans Karakoram Tract and have recognition from Pakistan. They mostly support Pakistan on the issue and

United States of America

The United States of America holds no direct position within the conflict, however they cooperate with both India and Pakistan in order to fight terrorists hiding within the conflict area of Kashmir. They have closer relations to India as Pakistan is often unwilling to cooperate with US interventions.

Timeline of Key Events

Date	Description of Event
1846	Jammu and Kashmir princely state is created, loyal to the British east India company
1857	India's first war for independence
1858	End of company rule and establishment of the crown rule in India
1932	Establishment of the Praja Sabha (Jammu and Kashmir's legislative assembly)
1940	The Pakistani resolution passes
1945	Sheikh Abdullah start the quit Kashmir movement and is later arrested
1947	Partition of India, Pakistani tribal militia enters the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir
1947	The First Indo-Pakistani War, otherwise known as the first Kashmir war
1948	The UN Security Council considers the situation in Kashmir as a problem



1949	Ceasefire
1963	Sino-Pakistan agreement, the Trans-Karakoram Tract is ceded to the People's Republic of China
1965	The Second Indo-Pakistani war, otherwise known as the second Kashmir war
1971	The Third Indo-Pakistani war and the Independence of Bangladesh
1972	Ceasefire is declared between India and Pakistan and the Simla Agreement is signed
1999	The Fourth Indo-Pakistani war, otherwise known as the Kargil war
2018	UN report on Kashmir

Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

The Kashmir Ownership conflict has never truly been attempted to be solved. The UN SC mediated the conflict and has considered it a problem since 1948, but has never intervened within the conflict. 3 wars between India and Pakistan have been fought since that moment and the region is still divided to this day. The United Nations has looked into the issue again in 2018, but whether or not this will result in anything significant is still unknown. Although this is not a problem with a simple solution, most nations accept the situation as is and wish to keep the status-quo.



Possible Solutions

Plebiscites

A solution very popular with Pakistan is the idea of plebiscites. Make people within the area vote on which country they would rather align so within smaller, local governments. This idea is not popular with India as they know that they would lose a large part of their borders in Kashmir.

Status-Quo

To simply keep the border as it is. Try to keep the situation stable. This is the most likely scenario to come out of this issue. Both India and Pakistan wish to gain the entirety of the Kashmir region, but do not want to risk all-out nuclear warfare. Holding on to their own zone of control, with occasional border skirmishes is not the most terrible outcome for both.

Acceptance of the Line of Control Borders

This is different from the status-quo, as both India and Pakistan can come to an agreement to for example keep the borders as they are now with the Line of Control, but let go of any claims in other territory.

All-Out Nuclear warfare

I mean, what are India and Pakistan supposed to do with those nukes? They were expensive. might as well use them. (You are not allowed to start a nuclear war within the Security council).



Bibliography and Further Reading

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