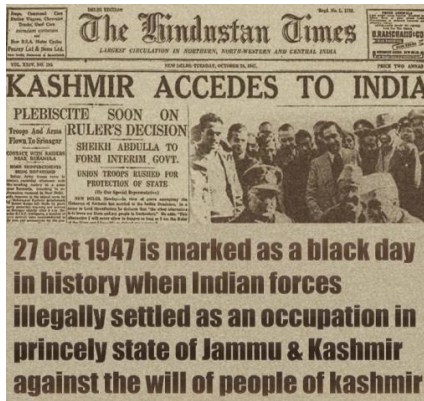


NO THIRD PARTY INTERVENTION RHETORIC ALREADY DEAD AND BURIED  
IS MADE CLEAR TO INDIA IN UNEQUIVOCAL TERMS BY ALL QUARTERS



- [KASHMIR FLIMFLAMMED](#)
- [PEACE INITIATIVE MISUNDERSTOOD BY INDIA](#)
- [COMPLAINTS ABOUT INDIAN ARMY'S ATROCITIES](#)
- [PAKISTAN – INDIA AT TASHKENT](#)
- [POLITICS AT RAWALPINDI](#)
- [HAMLA AWAR Khabardar](#)
- [HUM KASHMIRI HEIN TAYAAR](#)
- [GANDHI PLAYS THE ROLE](#)
- [HOW MAHATMA GANDHI STALLED KASHMIR'S INDEPENDENCE](#)
- [FREEDOM AT MIDNIGHT](#)
- [FUTURE AS AN INDEPENDENT KASHMIR](#)
- [RESPONSE TO NEHRU'S BETRAYAL](#)
- [JUNE 16, 1949](#)
- [PANDIT NEHRU TRAPPED](#)
- [VALLABH BHAI PATEL](#)
- [NATURAL ROAD LINK TO EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA](#)
- [INDIAN STORY - JUSTIFICATION FOR OCCUPATION](#)

## KASHMIR FLIMFLAMMED



To describe August 9, 1953 action taken by Pandit Nehru at the behest of elite privileged Kashmiri Pandit group, Dr. Karan Singh, the Yuvraj (Crown Prince) of Maharaja Hari Singh says: The history of the Indian sub- continent would have been "different" if the then Maharaja Hari Singh and Sheikh Abdullah had come to an agreement on the State soon after accession. Hari Singh had maintained a "dignified silence" over the events that took place in late 1940s and his "one statement could

have deeply embarrassed the Indian government. Hari Singh had agreed to go to exile after signing the Instrument of Accession agreement with India and Sheikh Abdullah wrote a letter to him saying that despite all happenings "he would be a loyal subject" to him. "Had Maharaja Hari Singh and Sheikh Abdullah been able to come to an agreement, the whole history of the sub-continent would have been different. Unfortunately, that did not happen. My father was exiled and Sheikh Abdullah was dismissed (as Prime Minister). *I dismissed him. I have to admit.*

The two arguments that Maharaja signed the Accession and Sheikh Abdullah ratifying it fall like a pack of cards as it did not take, the people at helm, long to exile Maharaja and imprison Sheikh Abdullah. On the day when Sheikh Abdullah was removed, then popular leader of Kashmir, an estimated fifteen hundred people died in indiscriminate firing, crushing uprising with an iron hand put last nail in the coffin of total alienation from India.

## PEACE INITIATIVE MISUNDERSTOOD BY INDIA

Giving peace a chance, Kashmiris changed the strategy (2010) and used stones and bricks to fight Indian army armed with lethal weapons that left more than one hundred fifty dead.

An impression created by mischief mongers that Muslim rulers of Kashmir converted people using force and also desecrated or destroyed places of worship belonging to the majority Hindu and Buddhist community. It is illogical to think that any Muslim ruler would make a few million Muslims to migrate and drive the local population out. The fact remains that the call of Islam heeded by huge majority rejected idol worship and would not need the idols any more. In this connection **M L Kapur** in his book *History of Jammu & Kashmir* talks about Muslim rulers and makes a special mention of Sultan Sikandar (1389-1413) who banned gambling, drinking of wine, dancing of women and the practice of Sati among the Hindus. In matters of religion also, Shah Mir and most of the successors were perfectly tolerant, and made no distinction between their Hindu and Muslim subjects. Qutb-ud-Din (1373-89) even used to offer prayers at the Hindu temples.

The sham elections held for the last seventy years have always been used to mislead the international community and Kashmiris felt cheated on all occasions and the degree of anger took a leap. Kashmiris believe that these elections were rather a need of the successive governments in New Delhi to maintain credibility of India's "democratic" values that she has been struggling to uphold.

Elections, even if fair, cannot be an alternative for a plebiscite, a referendum or a right of self determination promised and conducted under the supervision of some UN body. Kashmiris believe that wars cannot be a solution as India cannot win the part held by Pakistan nor can Pakistan win the area held by India and Kashmir cannot be held as hostage to the argument that Pakistan should vacate the area occupied or vice-versa as that leads us back to square one.

India and Pakistan have to sit across the table and decide on a modus operandi for a plebiscite or referendum. Kashmiris plea that everything right or wrong has been tried to put across their point seeking their legitimate rights but nothing seems to work. A lot of blood has already been spilled and a sparsely populated Kashmir cannot afford anymore killings.

Kashmir's large majority believes that relation with India would not be at a point of no return if Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had allowed politically firm Sheikh Abdullah to continue with developed understanding and refused to succumb to the pressure of the notorious bureaucratic elite Pandit group.

1989 saw a violent uprising against India, people of Kashmir taking up arms and the resultant loss of two generations numbering more than one hundred thousand people dead (Indian official figure as sixty thousand dead), hundreds of rapes, thousands disappeared consumed in torture chambers and tens of millions worth of properties turned into a mound of rubble.

Given their record, whenever Kashmir is involved, how can anyone ask Kashmiris to welcome Union institutions (such as the Election Commission) with warmth?

This all is done by imposing curfew and putting the entire population behind doors so that they can demonstrate and prove to the people of India that Kashmir hamara hai (Kashmir is ours). A special reference can be made to Hindu fundamentalist Murli Manohar Joshi's trip on January 26th 1992 and this has been going on since October 14, 1947. The global political scene changed dramatically after 9/11 and it did help India to put Kashmir question on the back burner and a hope that the passing time might create an atmosphere of normalcy using a carrot and stick policy. India also received some help by managing to divide the political forces in Kashmir and because of the wrong approach, divided opinion among leaders any political progress is hampered and again Indian strategy, it seems, is working by receiving this indirect help. A glimmer of hope is envisaged due the current global political situation when USA is extending its sphere of influence throughout Europe and its control on the economic resources is becoming firmer day by day.

In this context, it is very important for rest of the world community especially third world countries to create an economic block of their own to be able to survive in future. It has become vitally important for India, Pakistan, China and Russia to lead this new block and in future this would guarantee to create a peaceful conducive atmosphere and allow people to live in a friendly environment. This all can be achieved if Kashmir is left alone by both India and Pakistan. As parties to the partition both India and Pakistan had agreed that the rulers of the Princely states would be given the right to opt either for India or Pakistan or in special case to remain independent. United Nations Organization in its resolutions of Jan 20, 1948, 1939 and April 21, 1948 insists that the opinion of Kashmiris must be ascertained.

### COMPLAINTS ABOUT INDIAN ARMY'S ATROCITIES



their throats.

One million strong outsiders in uniform, who do not understand their language, custom or culture, are given free licence to kill, loot, plunder and rape with impunity. People of Kashmir are punished because they want an end to Indian military occupation and resist forcible Hindi, Hindu, and Hindustan down

### PAKISTAN – INDIA AT TASHKENT

After 11 years of imprisonment, Nehru allowed Sheikh Abdullah to visit Pakistan and negotiate the return of Azad Kashmir (Pakistan held Kashmir) and if Pakistan agreed then India would also leave Kashmir that India was holding. As is said before, Sheikh Abdullah was least bit a politician and showed his immaturity when he came out of President Ayub's office after the meeting facing the international media; announced that he was satisfied with the negotiations he had with Pakistani President and would rush to Delhi to speak to Nehru. That statement was the last nail in the coffin and few hours later the unfortunate news came about Pandit Nehru's sudden death (May 27, 1964) and circumstances which many believe were mysterious.

There came another opportunity for Kashmir to see the light of freedom through this dark tunnel and that was provided by Tashkent Declaration. India and Pakistan decided to settle the dispute through the mediation of Soviet Union, it was decided to hold discussion and these were held in Tashkent on January 10, 1966 between Pakistan President Ayub Khan and Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri. Kashmiri people had very high hopes so had the international community whose attention was focussed on Tashkent but all the hopes were dashed the same night in Tashkent as the news came that Lal Bahadur Shastri is dead and again many believe those circumstances to be mysterious as well.

## POLITICS AT RAWALPINDI



As is said, the General Ayub Khan at Rawalpindi had agreed to leave Kashmir held by Pakistan providing India reciprocates by leaving their part, but the delegation had to return to India, the following night, as the mysterious sudden death of Pandit Ji dashed everybody's hopes.

Maharaja Hari Singh of Jammu and Kashmir, inheriting the throne in 1925 was the reigning monarch in 1947. As parties to the partition process, both India and Pakistan had agreed that the rulers of princely states would be given the right to opt for either dominion or in special cases remain independent. Though the controversial article 370 of Indian constitution was very much in place that would not allow outsiders to claim 'state subject status', a systematic manipulation by successive governments imposed by India changed the demographic character by allowing Hindu population to infiltrate and settle in Jammu, the area dominated by Hindus. Muslim majority Jammu was converted to Hindu majority by belligerent Hindu population backed by Dogra army when within days more than three hundred thousand Muslim men, women and children were done to death in a planned manner.

The intrigue could not succeed in Kashmir as these would be settlers could easily be identified due to their culture, language, race or colour. The Maharaja offered to sign a "standstill" agreement with Pakistan, which ensured continuity of supplies, trade, travel, and communication between the two. The centuries old tradition of trade, between the areas that formed Pakistan and Kashmir had also a railway line and a road to Srinagar that made access to the valley easier.

## HAMLA AWAR KHBARDAR



Mesmerised by Nehru, Sheikh Abdullah managed to control the mind of Kashmiris and persuaded them to chant Hamla awar khabardar; when around half a million Muslims were butchered in Jammu by Hindus assisted by Dogra army and supervised by Maharani Tara Devi in 1947.

Hari Singh wanted Jammu and Kashmir to remain independent. In order to buy some time, he signed a stand-still agreement, which side-stepped the agreement that each princely state would join either India or Pakistan. Initially Hari Singh tried to resist their progress but failed. So on 26 October 1947 purported Kashmir accession papers were signed and Indian troops airlifted to Srinagar.

The growing Indian clandestine political activity sent alarming bells to the newly created independent nation of Pakistan and very little could be done by Pakistan's

shocked Governor-General Mohammad Ali Jinnah whose army Chief General Douglas Gracy preferred to act on the orders received from Governor General of India Lord Mountbatten. The invasion from North-West Frontier Province in October 1947 masterminded by Major Khursheed Anwar to occupy and annex Kashmir to become a part of Pakistan lacked planning having no initial support from Pakistan army.

### HUM KASHMIRI HEIN TAYAAR



Ready to fight the non-existent invader; people were taken for a ride by handing them simulation guns made of plain timber and exploiting the sentiments to fight people who had come to liberate them.

As there already was an uprising against the Maharaja it was wrongly presumed that the going would be easy and smooth. Little did the invading planners know that Sheikh Abdullah was in command of the ground situation and the fact that beguiled Sheikh had managed to sedate the local population who in turn offered no resistance and stayed indifferent to the landing of Indian forces In Kashmir? That was most important part of the plan and without Sheikh roped in the plan for India would definitely fail.

Pandit Nehru sharing smiles with Sheikh Abdullah and Maharaja of Kashmir Hari Singh; Nehru truculently imprisoned the former for eighteen years and banished the latter to Bombay to die in oblivion.

Maharaja fleeing in fear reached Jammu and arranged to contact Mountbatten for assistance and the entire running to and fro by a very close confidant of Mountbatten, V P Menon made this process easy, and the Governor-General agreed on the condition that the ruler accedes to India. Once the Maharaja signed the Instrument of Accession that is believed to be unauthentic, Indian soldiers transported by air and road entered Kashmir and a battle ensued and the only thing Indian military managed was to stop the raiders from advancing further to more than half the state. Pakistan, apart from a third of the region, controls the Northern Areas, or historically known as regions of Gilgit and Baltistan. The United Nations was then invited to mediate and the UN mission insisted that the opinion of people of Kashmir must be ascertained, while India insisted that no referendum could occur until all of the state had been cleared of irregulars. However, Pakistan and people of Kashmir who claim that the Indian army entered Kashmir before the Instrument of Accession was signed.

United Nation resolutions to hold a plebiscite with regard to Kashmir's future has not been held on either side. The legal requirement for holding of a plebiscite was the withdrawal of the Indian and Pakistani armies from the parts of Kashmir that were

under their respective occupation, a withdrawal that never did take place. In 1949, a cease-fire line separating the Indian and Pakistani occupied parts of Kashmir was formally put into effect.

The Pakistani government immediately contested the accession, suggesting that it was fraudulent, that the Maharaja acted under duress, and that he had no right to sign an agreement with India when the standstill agreement with Pakistan was still in force.

Maharaja Hari Singh's refusal to accede to either dominion created a wedge between Indian leaders especially Nehru, Patel and the Maharaja. This led to a different strategy adopted by Nehru and the caucus around him and it was decided to sideline Maharaja and win over Kashmir's upcoming leader Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah instead. Sheikh Abdullah by then had emerged a strong political leader but due to his lack of political maturity fell a prey to Nehru's machinations and faltered. Maharaja fearing pressure from NWFP who entered Kashmir agreed to join India by signing the controversial Instrument of Accession on 26 October 1947.

Kashmir was provisionally accepted into the Indian Union pending a free and impartial plebiscite. This was spelled out in a letter from the Governor General of India, Lord Mountbatten, to the Maharaja on 27th October 1947. In the letter, accepting the accession, Mountbatten made it clear that the State would only be incorporated into the Indian Union after a reference had been made to the people of Kashmir. In the last days of 1948, a ceasefire was agreed under UN auspices; however, since the plebiscite demanded by the UN was never conducted, relations between India and Pakistan soured.

The UN Security Council on 20th January 1948 passed Resolution 39, establishing a special commission to investigate the conflict. Subsequent to the commission's recommendation, the Security Council ordered in its Resolution 47, passed on 21 April 1948, that Pakistan retreat from Jammu & Kashmir and that the accession of Kashmir is determined in accordance with a plebiscite to be supervised by the UN. In a string of subsequent resolutions, the Security Council took notice of the continuing failure by India to hold the Plebiscite, and Pakistan never left the part of the Kashmir they occupied as required by the Security Council resolution 47. The Government of India holds that the Maharaja signed a document of accession with India on October 26, 1947. Pakistan has disputed whether the Maharaja actually signed the accession treaty before Indian troops entered Kashmir.

This not being enough for Kashmir ordeal, in the mid-1950s the Chinese army entered the northeast portion of Ladakh. By 1956-57 they completed a military road through the Aksai Chin area to provide better communication between their Muslim province of Xinjiang and western Tibet. China has occupied Aksai Chin since 1962 and in addition to this; unfortunately, Trans-Karakoram Tract was ceded by Pakistan to China in 1965.

Hari Singh in 1949 left Jammu and Kashmir, and yielded the government to Sheikh Abdullah, backed by Nehru. Since then, a bitter enmity has developed between India and Pakistan and three wars fought between these new nuclear powers over Kashmir have made this a volatile situation having dangerous consequences. The growing dispute over Kashmir also led to an uprising by local population against India and rise of militancy in the state to fight the Indian rule. The year 1989 saw the intensification of conflict in Jammu and Kashmir as more than one hundred thousand men, women and children are slaughtered for a mere crime of asking for freedom from foreign rule.

The Maharaja made an Order on October 30, 1947 appointing Sheikh Abdullah the Head of the Emergency Administration, replacing it, on March 5, 1948, with Interim Government with the Sheikh as Prime Minister. It was enjoined to convene a National Assembly "to frame a Constitution" for the State.

Sheikh Abdullah had no cards to play when he concluded an Accord with Indira Gandhi and became Chief Minister on February 24, 1975. At the outset, on August 23, 1974, he had written to G. Parthasarathy: "I hope that I have made it abundantly clear to you that I can assume office only on the basis of the position as it existed on August 8, 1953. 'Judgment on the changes since' will be deferred until the newly elected Assembly comes into being".

### GANDHI PLAYS THE DEVIOS ROLE

Gandhi is believed to have said: "that in an age of Empire and Military Might, the powerless had power and that force of arms would not forever prevail against force of spirit".



Mahatma flanked by Begum Jehan Ara and daughter Khalida Shah led to distribution of political work:

"To his followers, he was a saint. To the British bureaucrats whose hour of departure he'd hastened, he was a conniving politician, a bogus Messiah whose non-violent crusade always ended in violence and whose fast unto death always stopped short of death's door. Even a man as kind-hearted as Wavell, detested him as a malevolent old politician, Shrewd, obstinate, domineering, double-tongued, with little true saintliness in him".

Maharaja Sir Hari Singh and his Prime Minister Ram Chandra Kak loathed Nehru and to tackle these two; the job was assigned to V.P. Menon, Dwarka Nath Kachru and M.C. Mahajan and above all Lord Mountbatten. Nehru took charge of an easy prey Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah and Mahatma Gandhi entrusted himself the job of keeping Begum and the family in good stead.



Mahatma Gandhi tried to make Maharaja Hari Singh concede the Nehru backed demand of Sheikh Abdullah for installing a democratic government immediately on accession; he though termed it a demand of the people. But surely Sheikh was not everything in Kashmir. And Delhi treating Kashmir different than other princely states is for what people of Kashmir are paying price today.

Both Nehru and Gandhi have been very anxious that the Maharaja of Kashmir should make no declaration of independence. (Campbell Johnson, Mission with Mountbatten, p. 117) To clear this anxiety Gandhi visited Kashmir by the end of July, 1947. The *windows of his car were shattered in Baramulla*, where an angry crowd protested his visit. Nevertheless, he was to go ahead and obtain a cure for his and Nehru's anxiety: a guarantee of Maharaja's accession to India.

But the Union of India has been taking a lively interest in the subject and indications are that the Hindu Maharaja of Kashmir, Sir Hari Singh, has lately been much influenced by representations made by Gandhi who visited Kashmir three months ago and by other congress leaders. (The Times, London, October 25th 1947)

Columnist Swaminathan Aiyar of New Delhi who wrote in The Times of India, "We promised Kashmiris a plebiscite six decades ago. Let us hold one now, and give them three choices: independence, union with Pakistan, and union with India. Let Kashmiris decide the outcome, not the politicians and armies of India and Pakistan".

(In History, Kashmir, Politics on 25 June, 2006 at 7:12 pm)

M. K. Gandhi, pioneer and perfecter of Satyagraha – the resistance of tyranny through mass civil disobedience, played a very shadowy role in the politics of Kashmir. He was successful in preventing the Maharaja of Kashmir from declaring independence and thus paved the way for a forceful accession of Kashmir.

The events of the summer of 1947 reveal astonishing facts about Gandhi and thus his role in the present conflict of Kashmir, a conflict that has the potential of sparking a nuclear war between India and Pakistan.

### **HOW MAHATMA GANDHI STALLED KASHMIR'S INDEPENDENCE**

A sincere Mahatma "spiritually elevated" would and should have stopped Nehru and the caucus from indulging in intrigues to occupy Kashmir; keeping in view the mirror situations of Hyderabad and Junagadh.

### **FREEDOM AT MIDNIGHT**

In India, supposedly the world's largest democracy, the leadership of the rapidly growing Dalit movement has nothing good to say about Mohandas K. Gandhi. To be honest, Gandhi is actually one of the most hated Indian leaders in the hierarchy of those considered enemies of India's Dalits or untouchables by the leadership of India's Dalits. (THOMAS C. Mountain)

## FUTURE AS AN INDEPENDENT KASHMIR

The elderly among us shall have bequeathed an evil legacy for which they do not surely deserve any encomiums. Neither the extremism of pro-India sections nor the extremism of pro-Pakistan classes can bring us nearer to solution. If every participant insists on having his way it is impossible to arrive at an agreement. We can turn the present situation to great advantage not only for ourselves but also for the people of India and Pakistan. We can help to restore communal harmony in India, hearten secular democratic forces in Pakistan.

The fact remains that India and Pakistan for political compulsions have emotionally charged up the electorate to the extent that the status quo maintained will not allow a political settlement for Kashmir divided and ruled by the nuclear armed countries. The only viable solution that will be a win-win situation for India, Pakistan and the actual stake holders Kashmir is to create an INDEPENDENT KASHMIR defended by both India and Pakistan.

## RESPONSE TO NEHRU'S BETRAYAL



Alastair Lamb in his [Birth of a tragedy](#) comments on the political situation in Kashmir. *The tragedy of Kashmir, and all its ramifications and consequences must stop. No person with the modicum of concern for human rights can contest this proposition. What is disputed, of course, is how the horror can be ended.*

That Maharaja of Kashmir; Sir Hari Singh signed the Instrument of Accession with India; and the popular upcoming leader of Kashmir, Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah ratified the [Accession document](#) and;

The plebiscite or Right of Self- Determination as per the understanding reached with a commitment to Last Viceroy Lord Mountbatten or UN Security Council Resolutions is null and void due to the reason that Kashmir held various [local elections](#) to choose their elected government and representatives. So, no need for a plebiscite, and

As per the UN [Security Council Resolutions](#), Pakistan must vacate its occupation of the area of Kashmir and also minimal presence of Indian troops for a plebiscite, if at all, to be held, and finally, the present uprising in Kashmir is nothing but Islamic terrorism helped, aided and abetted by Pakistan from across the border.

At the outset; the Accession Document signed by Maharaja Hari Singh is considered [highly controversial](#) as many quarters believe that no such document was ever signed. In this connection Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw (erstwhile Army Chief of India) observed throwing light on the claim saying:

“I was in the Palace when V P Menon, Mehr Chand Mahajan and the Maharaja were discussing the subject. The Maharaja was running from one room to another. I did not see Maharaja signing it (accession document), nor did I see Mahajan. All I do know is that V P Menon turned around and said, Sam we've got the accession”.

Lord Mountbatten visited Kashmir in June, 1947 and in a conversation Mountbatten suggested to Maharaja that he should join Pakistan.

I don't want to accede to Pakistan on any account, Hari Singh answered. Well, Mountbatten said, it is up to you, but I think you should consider it very carefully since after all 90% of your people are Moslem. But, if you don't, then you must join India. In that case, I will see that an infantry division is sent up here to preserve the integrity of your boundaries.

No, replied the Maharaja, I don't wish to join India either. I wish to be independent.

So history proved Maharaja to be on the right and his tough stance for staying independent would have changed the course of history saving thousands of innocent lives. Unfortunately the die was cast to lay the foundation for more than a billion people to nurse a festering wound for decades. A serious dispassionate and objective effort must be made to probe into reasons that led to removal of Sheikh Abdullah from seat of power as interim Prime Minister, on August 9, 1953.

Initially, the intention of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, it is perceived, cannot be doubted as on several occasions he reiterated his declared position to Sheikh Abdullah's person, people of Kashmir, the international community and more importantly to the United Nations Security Council to grant the right of self determination to the State of Kashmir. To this effect, one of his (Pandit Nehru) several statements can be quoted to reveal his intention as on July 6, 1951 he said:

People seem to forget that Kashmir is not a commodity for sale or to be bartered. It has an individual existence and its people must be the final arbiters of their future.

The umbilical cord tightly in place of two bosom friends was smashed to smithereens and again it is vitally important to probe into the reasons creating a breach of trust and parting of ways. The history of Kashmir had to be re-written and the caucus of Kashmiri bureaucratic elite surrounded Pandit Nehru to remind him of imaginary threat to 4% Kashmiri Brahmans from Muslim majority Kashmir. The group succeeded to inveigle Pandit Ji in believing a farfetched possibility; though Kashmir, all along, had been peaceful under the leadership of Sheikh Abdullah with a popular slogan on every Kashmiri Muslims lips SHERI KASHMIR KA KYA IRSHAD HINDU MUSLIM SIKH ITIHAD (Sheikh Abdullahs avowed slogan, unity of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs) compared to whatever on the day was happening beyond Udhampur in Jammu Province.

**JUNE 16, 1949**

Sheikh Abdullah, Mirza Afzal Beg, Maulana Masoodi and Moti Ram Bagda joined the Constituent Assembly of India. Negotiations began in earnest on Article 370. N. Gopalaswamy Ayyangar tried to reconcile the differences between Patel and Abdullah. A text, agreed on October 16, was moved in the Constituent Assembly the next day, unilaterally altered by Ayyangar. "A trivial change," as he admitted in a letter to the Sheikh on October 18. Patel confirmed it to Nehru on November 3 on his return from the United States. Beg had withdrawn his amendment after the accord. Abdullah and he were in the lobby, and rushed to the House when they learnt of the change. In its original form the draft would have made the Sheikh's ouster in 1953 impossible.

The State's Constitution was overridden by the Delhi's orders. Its basic structure was altered. A Governor nominated by the Centre replaced the head of the State elected by the State legislature. Article 356 (imposition of President's Rule) was applied despite provision in the State's Constitution for Governor's rule (Section 92). This was done on November 21, 1964. On November 24, 1966, the Governor replaced the Sadar-i-Riyasat after the State's Constitution had been amended on April 10, 1965 by the 6th Amendment in violation of Section 147 of the Constitution. Article 370 was used freely not only to amend the Constitution of India but also of the State. On July 23, 1975 an Order was made debarring the State legislature from amending the State Constitution on matters in respect of the Governor, the Election Commission and even "the composition" of the Upper House, the Legislative Council.

This was a political accord between an individual, however eminent, and the Government, like the Punjab Accord (July 24, 1985); the Assam Accord (August 15, 1985); the Nagaland Accord (November 11, 1975); and the Mizoram Accord (June 30, 1986) - each between the government and the opposition. It cannot override Article 370; still less sanctifies Constitutional abuse. It bound the Sheikh alone and only until 1977.

This was explicitly an accord on "political cooperation between us", as Indira Gandhi wrote (December 16, 1974). On February 12, 1975, Abdullah recorded that it provided "a good basis for my cooperation at the political level". In Parliament on March 3, 1975 she called it a "new political understanding". He was made Chief Minister on February 24, backed by the Congress' majority in the Assembly and on the understanding of a fresh election soon. Sheikh Abdullah's memoirs *Aatish-e-Chinar* (Urdu) record her backtracking on the pledge and the Congress' perfidy in March 1977 when she lost the Lok Sabha elections. It withdrew support and staked a claim to form a government. Governor's Rule was imposed. The Sheikh's National Conference won the elections with a resounding majority on the pledge to restore Jammu and Kashmir's autonomy, which was also Farooq's pledge in 1996. The 1975 accord had collapsed.

## PANDIT NEHRU TRAPPED

Pandit Ji fell into a trap and took a somersault to hatch a conspiracy of sedition and treason against Sheikh Abdullah which became a turning point forcing Indian establishment to resort to schemes or intrigues deciding future of Kashmir relations as per the whims, wishes and directions of this elite group. Sheikh Abdullah, a towering personality, a crowd puller, a political messiah of Kashmiri masses was sidelined and replaced by poodles and puppets kept in power through rigged elections and each time deployment of army to conduct such elections meant more deaths.

In the spring of 1953, Pandit Nehru was made to believe that Sheikh Abdullah was playing with the idea of creating an independent sovereign nation of Kashmir as he met visiting US Democrat leader Adlai Stevenson and if that happened 4% fellow Kashmiris either would have the option to migrate to India or get annihilated. And charging him (Nehru) up emotionally was reminded of his ancestral heritage and culture of his forefathers that eventually would become a history.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, initially, seemed sincere towards Kashmir but the caucus of hardliner Hindu fundamentalist forces around made him to think otherwise, in this connection Pandit Nehru, in the Lok Sabha (Parliament) on June 26 and August 7, 1952 said:

"I say with all respect to our Constitution that it just does not matter what your Constitution says; if the people of Kashmir do not want it, it will not go there. Because what is the alternative? The alternative is compulsion and coercion..." We have fought the good fight about Kashmir on the field of battle... (And) ...in many a chancellery of the world and in the United Nations, but, above all, we have fought this fight in the hearts and minds of men and women of that State of Jammu and Kashmir. Because, ultimately - I say this with all deference to this Parliament - the decision will be made in the hearts and minds of the men and women of Kashmir; neither in this Parliament, nor in the United Nations nor by anybody else,

To describe August 9, 1953 action taken by Pandit Nehru at the behest of elite privileged Kashmiri group, Dr. Karan Singh, the Yuvraj (Crown Prince) of Maharaja Hari Singh says: The history of the Indian sub- continent would have been "different" if the then Maharaja Hari Singh and Sheikh Abdullah had come to an agreement on the State soon after accession. Hari Singh had maintained a "dignified silence" over the events that took place in late 1940s and his "one statement could have deeply embarrassed the Indian government. Hari Singh had agreed to go to exile after signing the Instrument of Accession agreement with India and Sheikh Abdullah wrote a letter to him saying that despite all happenings "he would be a loyal subject" to him. "Had Maharaja Hari Singh and Sheikh Abdullah been able to come to an agreement, the whole history of the sub-continent would have been different. Unfortunately, that did not happen. My father was exiled and Sheikh Abdullah was dismissed (as Prime Minister). I dismissed him. I have to admit."

The two arguments that Maharaja signed the Accession and Sheikh Abdullah ratifying it fall like a pack of cards as it did not take, the people at helm, long to exile Maharaja and imprison Sheikh Abdullah. On the day when Sheikh Abdullah was removed, then popular leader of Kashmir, an estimated fifteen hundred people died in indiscriminate firing, crushing uprising with an iron hand put last nail in the coffin of total alienation from India.

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Elections, even if fair, cannot be an alternative for a plebiscite, a referendum or a right of self determination promised and conducted under the supervision of some UN body. Kashmiris believe that wars cannot be a solution as India cannot win the part held by Pakistan nor can Pakistan win the area held by India and Kashmir cannot be held as hostage to the argument that Pakistan should vacate the area occupied or vice-versa as that leads us back to square one.

India and Pakistan have to sit across the table and decide on a modus operandi for such a plebiscite or referendum. Kashmiris plea that everything right or wrong has been tried to put across their point seeking their legitimate rights but nothing seems to work. A lot of blood has already been spilled and a sparsely populated Kashmir cannot afford anymore killings.

Kashmir's large majority believes that relation with India would not be at a point of no return if Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had allowed politically firm Sheikh Abdullah to continue with developed understanding and refused to succumb to the pressure of the notorious bureaucratic elite group.

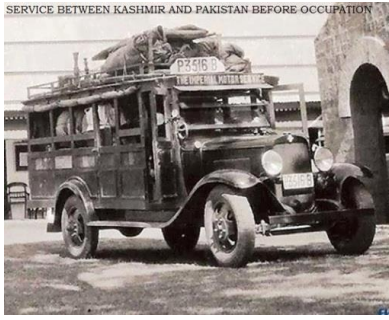
1989 saw a violent uprising against India, people of Kashmir taking up arms and the resultant loss of two generations numbering more than one hundred thousand people dead (Indian official figure as sixty thousand dead), hundreds of rapes, thousands disappeared consumed in torture chambers and millions worth of a huge number of properties turned into a mound of rubble.

### VALLABH BHAI PATEL



Vallabh Bhai Patel hatching the conspiracy, a historical deceit of installing Bakshi Ghulam Muhammad, Sheikh's deputy as prime minister of Kashmir. Bakshi later becoming too big for his boots was dispensed using infamous 'Kamraj Plan'. Kashmir has seen a posse of puppets put in place through rigging of elections and calling it a replacement for a promised plebiscite through United Nations Resolutions.

## NATURAL ROAD LINK TO EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA



M Ashraf, one of the leading journalists of Kashmir writes about the Traditional Routes of Kashmir; and says: The frequent closure of the Srinagar-Jammu Highway linking valley by surface to the outside world during the current winter has almost turned the local population claustrophobic. Traditionally, the river Jehlum along the Baramulla gorge towards the west is the easiest route as it does not involve crossing of any

high mountain passes. For last seventy years Kashmir has been totally cut off from the ancient routes and has only one channel of communication with the outside world.

## INDIAN STORY - JUSTIFICATION FOR OCCUPATION

Using Hindu trickery to occupy Kashmir; in spite of stabbing Sheikh Abdullah in the back the killers of Gandhi and promoters of Hindutva, the likes of fascist Subramanian Swamy brand Pandit Nehru a traitor and an anti-Indian.

The people of India are generally perceived to be sympathetic to the plight of Kashmiris and believe that holding on to Kashmir is a political mistake and believe Kashmiris to have the legitimate right to choose their future as was promised to them by the leaders of India and United Nations resolutions. The people are also aware that huge resources are being diverted to defence rather than improve the situation of more than sixty percent population living below the poverty line. Apart from turning the valley into a concentration camp with nearly a million troops armed to teeth, the situation becomes clear with just one example among many others.

The leaders of scores of Hindu fundamentalist organisations, Sang Parivar, Bajrag Dal, Hindu Mahasabha and many others travel to the valley to fly Indian national flag and sing national anthem in Lal Chowk (red square) of Srinagar, the capital city. This all is done by imposing a curfew and putting the entire population behind doors so that they can demonstrate and prove to the people of India that Kashmir hamara hai (Kashmir is ours). A special reference can be made to Hindu fundamentalist Murli Manohar Joshi's trip on January 26th 1992 and this has been going on since October 14, 1947.

The global political scene changed dramatically after 9/11 and it did help India to put Kashmir question on the back burner and a hope that the passing time might create an atmosphere of normalcy using a carrot and stick policy. India also received some help by managing to divide the political forces in Kashmir and because of the wrong approach, divided opinion among leaders any political progress is hampered and again Indian strategy, it seems, is working by receiving this indirect help. A glimmer of hope is envisaged due the current global political situation when USA is extending its sphere of influence throughout Europe and its control on the economic resources

is becoming firmer day by day. In this context, it is very important for rest of the world community especially third world countries to create an economic block of their own to be able to survive in future.

It has become vitally important for India, Pakistan, China and Russia to lead this new block and in future this would guarantee to create a peaceful conducive atmosphere and allow people to live in a friendly environment. This all can be achieved if Kashmir is left alone by both India and Pakistan. As parties to the partition both India and Pakistan had agreed that the rulers of the Princely states would be given the right to opt either for India or Pakistan or in special case to remain independent. United Nations Organization in its resolutions of Jan 20, 1948, 1939 and April 21, 1948 insists that the opinion of Kashmiris must be ascertained.