**An untrustworthy ally**

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India’s political leadership deceived the world by presenting a secular point of view, but this melody did not last forever as the basic ideology of Hindutva exposed a gulf between Hindus and non-Hindus. Today, ethnic and religious minorities in India not only feel insecure where they face segregation and persecution, but also question the importance of the Indian Union. The growing dissatisfaction of minorities in India, religious segregation and growing separatist movements in different states reflect that the ideology of the Indian Union, which was built on deceptive and false promises, has failed and its building is about to fall.

Currently, the United States and Russia are threatening each other with war over Ukraine. US President Joe Biden and Secretary of State have openly threatened Russia if it ever invades Ukraine. Indeed, if war breaks out in Europe, more people may be killed this time around than in WW1 and WW2, because these war-torn nations now have stockpiles of nuclear weapons and missiles. India, on February 1, did not participate in procedural voting in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) that determined whether the situation in Ukraine will be discussed. Russia and China voted against and all 10 other council members—including Norway, France, the US, the UK, France, Ireland, Brazil and Mexico—voted in favor of the meeting. The meeting on the situation on the border with Ukraine proceeded and some news of the deployment of about 100,000 soldiers near the border of Russia with Ukraine broke out. Russia has denied that it is planning to attack Ukraine.

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The basic question here is; why did India not participate? It has good relations with Russia. Apart from this, it also has better relations with America. It is believed that the reason why India was absent from the UNSC voting process was to keep cordial relations with both America and Russia. However, very cleverly, New Delhi called for finding a solution that would take into account ‘the legitimate security interests of all countries and securing long-term peace and stability in the region and beyond’. According to the Indian media, back in November 2020, New Delhi had made its preferences clear by voting against a Ukraine-sponsored resolution at the third committee of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) condemning human rights violations in Crimea.

In November 2021, India signed a deal on the buying of S-400 with Russia. Previously, India used to pen arms’ deals with US and Israel as arms suppliers. This move has exposed India to the punitive actions under the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA), which was adopted by the US Congress to deter countries to buy military equipment from Russia. Despite warnings by the US officials, India has moved ahead to buy the Russian arsenal. The United States has not imposed the same global sanctions on its friend and partner that it has been imposing on other countries that have adopted such a system. For US leaders, who believe in neo-primacy, this is a moment of reflection on whether they can trust India?

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Last but not the least, the latest statement of a US representative just ahead of the Beijing Olympics asserted that the US stands with India against Chinese intimidation after Beijing deputed a PLA officer who was part of the military command that allegedly attacked Indian soldiers in the Galwan Valley in 2020. The US is relying on India in its line-up against China, which is hostile to it, but India is not openly supporting the US, which is causing concern.

While concluding here, I must say that India became an untrustworthy ally to the world as even the US is shifting its preferences away from India. It is possible that India will use weapons to threaten its neighbors and other US allies such as Japan, Australia, and the European regions. Therefore, instead of India, Pakistan is well suited to play a positive role in ensuring sustainable regional security. The United States must urgently strengthen its political, economic, and strategic ties with Pakistan in order to balance its Asia Pacific policy as New Delhi would never stand with the United States when the time came, because of its double standards.