

India and Pakistan relations with US

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In Colombo, Chou Enlai had said, "we are deeply distressed by the unfortunate situation that has arisen in the dispute between Pakistan and India, over Kashmir. We appeal both parties concerned, in their own as

well as in the wider interest of Asian-African solidarity, to strive to solve this problem" (Peking Review, July 28, 1956). China's recommendations that the question should be solved, in the interest of all concerned as stated above, was in fact, meant to prevent the United States from exploiting the dispute to her advantage. The Dulles era had ended and a new situation was evolving for which the inflexible diplomacy of 1945-58 would no longer be suitable.

This did indeed happen in 1962, when India attacked Chinese border posts in Ladakh. President John F. Kennedy became president of the USA in Jan 1961. He said: "We want India to win that race with Red China. We want India to be a free and thriving leader of a free and thriving Asia."

So, India was picked up with all the good wishes for her by US to confront China, for the achievement of US interests. Even now India will pay a very heavy price to meet the US interests against China. Thus we saw Dr. Henry Kissenger, President Kennedy's special emissary,

sent in early Jan 1962, to assure the Indians that the US did not intend to take any action against India and on 6th Jan Dr. Kissenger declared in New Delhi: "We are not going to spite India because of Goa (Goa at that time was

Portugal's colony, which was NATO's member), in the matter of Kashmir dispute, when it is raised before the Security Council.

Dr. Henry Kissenger said that if Pakistan were 'Stupid enough' to make an alliance with China, how long would Asia survive without a strong independent India"? He also promised the Indians that the US would support India against invasion from China. So, India was more or less pushed to attack Chinese border posts in Ladakh in early 1962.

As promised by Henry Kissenger, the US came out with instantaneous response to exploit the situation through Prime Minister Nehru. However, the border skirmishes ended very soon, and the same weapons and equipment was used by India against Pakistan in 1965 war. That seemed to be the purpose of Nehru's attack on Chinese posts and that's what happened exactly.

The governments that came to power in India after 1998 were too weak to resist US pressures. Hence Indo-Israeli nexus to begin with, to control

and keep the Indian governments on the US desired track. We must remember at least now that Kashmir was always US first love, for Lop Noir for itself, to dominate China.

How can be India sure of her

Col M Zaman Malik (Retd)

1947.

How can Pakistan face emerging scenario?

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own independence if US gains a stronghold in Kashmir? Indian intransigence will cost the sub-continent another long period of colonial rule even worse than the one ended in

struggle of the oppressed against exploitation. The contemporary history of Pakistan is but an example of such struggle. However, no struggle can be successful if it does not

command the support of the masses. Every Pakistani knows too well to ignore that how ridiculously was the country's fate being compromised.

The Atom Bomb was ready long before 1998. During the decade 1989-99, they considered Pakistan as their personal property; Capital was ferried out, foreign reserves were touching their rock bottom; both the political parties were on each other's throats round the clock; while Pakistan was about to be declared a failed and terrorist state. The 17th Amendment amounted to having the rights of a Caliph for oneself; Day assault was launched on the Supreme Court; Editors of the forth pillar of State were kept under constant threat of life and property; Chiefs of Armed Forces were disgracefully dismissed; police consisted of persons belonging to own party men, without test or merit. One shudders to think of the consequences if at this critical point in time, for Pakistan, the same lot comes back to do the same to drown Pakistan!

Now while on the one hand the US seems to grab not only Kashmir but something inexplicable also in the near future we would be landing ourselves in the parlour of the same leadership which was there before Oct 1999, on the other. The situation is too vol-

canic to absorb a slip even a bit. Besides, President General Musharraf must have full confidence in his Armed Forces, and take no time to live up to his promise. He would most probably do that but in the meantime, let us look at these rhetoric mongers who find nothing better to do. Dec 31 is far away! Pakistan faces a dreadful choice if it failed. We must strengthen the institutions.

India must bear in mind that cooperation cannot co-exist with injustice. The bonds of geography, history and culture are not to be denied. However, in order to be productive, cooperation must be on the basis of true equality between nations, which have no prejudices against each other and no territorial or other fundamental disputes. We live in Asia and have to take into account the Asian situation; just as European countries do. We should not miss this momentous opportunity lest we should be carried far away by the fast moving hurricane. Let us settle our long-standing dispute soon enough.

The 'have-nots' of Pakistan have always risen to the occasion unhesitatingly. Now, the 'Haves' must rise to the occasion to address the Macro as well as Micro sides of the same coin. Corruption Culture has gone deep down in the bone marrow.