Pakistan Relations with Azerbaijan in 21st Century

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ABSTRACT

The Nagorno-Karabakh conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan started after the collapse of USSR. Nagorno-Karabakh is internationally recognized part of Azerbaijan, but since the end of the war between the two countries in 1994, it has been governed by people of Armenian descent. Nagorno-Karabakh had the status of autonomy within Azerbaijan, but later the Azerbaijani parliament abolished this status and the territory was divided between several regions. The Kashmir problem also began after the end of British rule in the area and the establishment of India and Pakistan as sovereign nations. Kashmir also had status of autonomy till 2019 in the Indian constitution. India abolished the autonomous status of Jammu and Kashmir, bringing the long-running territorial dispute between Pakistan and India back into the world's spotlight. India wants to create two union territories in former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir. Uprising in the region of Nagorno-Karabakh that resulted in war between Azerbaijan and Armenia bring the issue of Nagorno-Karabakh in the spotlight of world. Kashmir conflicts and conflict of Nagorno-Karabakh bring the people and leadership of Pakistan and Azerbaijan close to each other and this study has explained the newly developed nature of relations between Pakistan and Azerbaijan.

Keywords: Azerbaijan, Kashmir, Nagorno-Karabakh, Pakistan, UNO

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Introduction

In modern times, the world is divided into different blocks, there is no way out without it, since for survival it is necessary that nations have to become part of one bloc or other. So that in the time of difficulties bloc can stand with. Pakistan has also been in different blocs since its independence. It has been part of the blocs to fulfill its defense and monetary prerequisites (Chari, 2012). Pakistan's most benefiting diplomacy is based on the Islamic Brotherhood. Because of this diplomatic approach Pakistan has earned such friendly nations countries that stand with Pakistan in every hour of need. Azerbaijan is one of the brotherly Islamic countries
Pakistan Relations with Azerbaijan in 21st Century

with which Pakistan has good relations. (Singh, 2002) Whether it is an earthquake or a flood in Pakistan, Azerbaijan has always stood by Pakistan with an open heart. (Irada, 2005) This is one of the reasons, when difficult times have come for Azerbaijan after its military clashes with Armenia over the Nagorno-Karabakh issue; Pakistan has not backed down from supporting Azerbaijan. (Prime Minister Aziz earlier discussed economic and political ties between Pakistan and Azerbaijan 2006) To understand the Nagorno-Karabakh issue, one can use the example of Occupied Kashmir, as Occupied Kashmir has been apparently disputed area between Pakistan and India despite being a Muslim-majority area has been under the control of India. Despite the resolutions of UNO, India has been occupying Kashmir since 1947. Azerbaijan support for Pakistan on the issue of Kashmir brings two nations close. Similarly, Nagorno-Karabakh is a Muslim-majority region under the control of Armenia. There are UN resolutions in favor of Azerbaijan, but Armenia still occupies it. Pakistan is the only country that does not recognize Armenia because of this occupation what is issue of Nagorno-Karabakh (Today.Az - Nilufer Bakhtiyar: FOR AZERBAIJAN Pakistan, 2006) and how this issue brings together two nations is very important for the scholars of international relations.

Hypothesis

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in 2020 was important event in the relations of Pakistan with Azerbaijan that played important role to bring close the people and leadership of two nations. As Pakistan demonstrated its resolve and support for the cause of Azerbaijan on the issue of Nagorno-Karabakh and expecting reciprocal support of Azerbaijan on the issue of Kashmir.

Literature Review

Soviet-Pakistan Relations and Post-Soviet Dynamics, 1947-92 by Hafeez Malik justifies to be read prudently by academics and common reader of foreign policy dealing with the USSR, Russian Federation and South Asian nations, and predominantly by the political leadership of Pakistan. The manuscript is a multi-dimensional investigation of (a) Soviet-American competitiveness; (b) Soviet resilience to increase influence in the South Asian region and the Gulf region; (c) the local changing aspects of the Middle East furthermore Central Asian states and particularly Afghanistan, Iran, and China. This book is important as it explain the relations of Pakistan and Azerbaijan (Malik, 1994).

Why Pakistan supports Azerbaijan by Javed Hafeez is an article publishes in newspaper” the Pakistan Post” in which he explained that Pakistan completely supports the position of Azerbaijan on Nagorno-Karabakh against Armenia while Azerbaijan approves Pakistan’s position on the issue of Jammu and Kashmir against India. He explained that Azerbaijan and Pakistan are very close as Azerbaijan has been a member of Contact Group on Kashmir in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) since 1996. Pakistan is also important for Azerbaijan as it was one of the second countries, after Turkey, to recognize the independence status of
Pakistan in 1991. A close juxtaposition of their opinions on numerous significant global matters is reasonably observable to a sensitive eye (Hafeez, 2020).

Relations of Pakistan with Azerbaijan and role of conflicts of Kashmir and Nagorno-Karabakh

After the break-up of the Soviet Union, a number of new states emerged, including Armenia and Azerbaijan. There are UN resolutions in favor of Azerbaijan, but Armenia still occupies the Nagorno-Karabakh. The recent tensions in Nagorno-Karabakh date back to the Soviet Union, and so far there have been bloody wars between the two countries over the region. The Nagorno-Karabakh region in the North Caucasus, although officially part of the Republic of Azerbaijan, is also claimed by Armenia, which has been a source of contention between the Muslim-majority country of Azerbaijan and the Christian-majority Armenia since independence from the Russian Empire in 1918. After the Soviet expansion in the North Caucasus, the Nagorno-Karabakh region was annexed to Azerbaijan in 1923. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Armenia and Azerbaijan fought a six-year war for control of the region from 1988 to 1994, in which 30,000 people were killed and millions were forced to flee. The war forced the Azeri to migrate from the Nagorno-Karabakh region, and under strategy the majority of the Armenians were allowed to settle there. After the illegal occupation of this area of Azerbaijan, Armenia violated the sanctity of the historic Agdam Mosque and turned it into an animal pen. Pictures that went viral on the internet also showed pigs, donkeys and other animals tied up in the mosque resulted in fresh war. There have been sporadic clashes between local Muslims and Armenian people and government in the area, but now a regular war has broken out between Azerbaijan and Armenia, the scope of which is much wider than the four-day war in the past. In thirty years, Azerbaijan has realized that if they really want to liberate their Muslim brothers, they can do it only through their own strength (Aydogan, 2020). Pakistan has been on the path of dialogue for seventy years on the issue of Occupied Kashmir and as a result the condition of Kashmiris is getting worse with each passing day and the violence against them is increasing to a dangerous extent. Like Nagorno-Karabakh, there are UN resolutions on the issue of occupied Kashmir, but the UN has failed to implement them. Pakistan should also take a path other than dialogue and formulate a comprehensive strategy for the liberation of the Muslims of occupied Kashmir. There is no denying that India and Pakistan are nuclear powers. If a war breaks out between them, the consequences will not be the same as those of Armenia and Azerbaijan at the end of the war. Choosing the right time is crucial in the strategy to liberate occupied Kashmir, as Azerbaijan has clashed with Armenia at a time when Europe is embroiled in a new wave of the corona virus and the United States is engaged in the presidential elections. UN resolutions indicate that Nagorno-Karabakh is part of Azerbaijan and that Armenia is an occupying force. But in case of Kashmir situation is different. The following are some resemblances between Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir issues.
• Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir are occupied by the India and Armenia by force.

• Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir have UNO resolutions calling for diplomatic determinations of the conflicts.

• Muslim population is being exterminated in Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir by the Armenian and Indian forces.

• Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir, both disputes, caused in several wars between the states involved in these conflicts.

• Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir both disputes are the minefields of the areas.

• In case of Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir, UNO remained failed to peacefully resolve the problems.

• Azerbaijan support Pakistan’s stance over Kashmir and Pakistan support Azerbaijan’s stance over Nagorno-Karabakh at the international forums.

• Both Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir conflicts forced Azerbaijan and Pakistan to make tremendously armed preparations to save themselves from any possible incursion from Armenia and India respectively.

• Nagorno-Karabakh issue has come into international spotlight after skirmishes between Armenia and Azerbaijan in 2020 and Kashmir after 2019 mini-war between India and Pakistan.

• In the Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir areas, the borders are known as LoC (Line of Contact in Nagorno-Karabakh and Line of Control in Kashmir).

• Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir issues are the legacies of two colonialist empires, communist Soviet Empire and the imperial British Empire.

• Due to Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir issues, millions of people have to leave their homes and seek refuge in other nations.

• Ceasefire violations are common in both areas of Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir.

• A Nagorno-Karabakh and Kashmir issues have potential to flare-up the concerned regions. (Das, 1950: Oganesiäñ, 1999: Jän & Sarwar, 1991) (Fai, 2020: Graaf , 2020)

Azerbaijan has not abruptly abolished the autonomy of Nagorno-Karabakh. The wave of Separatism began by the Armenian occupying people in that area and
then it became an occupation on the Muslim population, and after these events, the Azerbaijani parliament abolished the autonomy of Nagorno-Karabakh. After separatism, the refugees began to arrive from the areas of Nagorno-Karabakh, which led to the eradication of autonomy (Montez, 2020). Jammu and Kashmir also had the status of autonomy within India, but India abolished this autonomy. It is very clear that "until this last Indian decision, Kashmir had a high status of autonomy. India's final decision is to solve this problem once and for all, to fully establish its sovereignty over this territory." The majority of Kashmir's population, about 70 percent, is Muslim, and Nagorno-Karabakh has a large Armenian population. Although a ceasefire agreement was signed between Azerbaijan and Armenia, there were occasional ceasefire violations and small-scale fighting on the front line. Same like as there have been occasional ceasefire violations and small-scale fighting on line of control between India and Pakistan since 1947. (Modi's revocation OF Kashmir's autonomy, 2019)

One of the differences is that the issue of Jammu and Kashmir has always been legally controversial, but it is not same in Nagorno-Karabakh," There has been controversy since the end of British rule, and Kashmir has been divided between three states. Part of Kashmir is ruled by India, one part by Pakistan and another part by China. Nagorno-Karabakh has been recognized as an autonomous region within Azerbaijan since the establishment of the Soviet government. The territories of Nagorno-Karabakh have never belonged to another state, ie Armenia."Nagorno-Karabakh was not a disputed territory, but internationally recognized as Azerbaijani territory, and it is not disputed territory like Kashmir," So legally Nagorno-Karabakh has not been disputed. Azerbaijan has given the status of autonomous region with special powers to people of the Nagorno-Karabakh. Looking at the Armenian case about this, Armenian historians and politicians have always claimed the lands of Karabakh, considering it an ancient Armenian land (Kru ̈ger, 2014). Now looking at the Kashmir, according to the Indian constitution, all powers related to internal governance in Jammu and Kashmir belong to the local government of the region, and foreign policy and defense issues belong to the central government of India (Ram, 1983). Nagorno-Karabakh did not have its own constitution or state symbols, but it did have a parliament and certain powers related to local government. From a legal point of view, Azerbaijan's sovereignty existed in Nagorno-Karabakh. There is a Minsk Group format for international talks on Nagorno-Karabakh, (Copley, 2006) but there is no such format for the Kashmir issue. Another main difference was related to the powers of the autonomies. The autonomy of the Jammu and Kashmir region had very high powers. The province had its own constitution, flag, and an autonomous territory with all the rights over the territory. From time to time, Pakistan and India negotiated and reached agreements through various international participants, including the USSR and the United States. After the wars, they also held talks and signed an agreement on a temporary peace, but there is no permanent format of negotiations. It is a fact that both countries have nuclear weapons that is a major deterrent to war on both sides. It prevents long-running wars between the two countries. (Mattoo, 1999) After the abolition of the autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir
in India, an emergency contact group meeting was held at the headquarters of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. Azerbaijan was represented at the meeting of the contact group of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation by Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Shahin Abdullayev. According to the organization's website, members of the Contact Group "expressed support for the people of Kashmir and a statement in support of their right to self-determination."

"Azerbaijan supports the peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions, and this is a principled position of Azerbaijan on the issue of Kashmir. Azerbaijan's approach to this conflict is very sensitive as Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Leyla Abdullayev said "We support the settlement of the Armenian-Azerbaijani Nagorno-Karabakh conflict on the basis of UN Security Council resolutions, as well as the settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions, and all efforts to ensure peace, security and prosperity in the region. Pakistan is one of the few countries that unequivocally support Azerbaijan in the Karabakh issue. In this regard, Pakistan is an unequivocal friend of Azerbaijan and Azerbaijan does not want to lose it. On the other hand, India is one of the largest countries in the world. And it is in its own interest to not break relations with any such nation. Azerbaijan is not one of the countries that determine international policy. It is not necessary to take a concrete position on this issue, and the parties do not expect it from Azerbaijan."

The essence of the current peace process between Azerbaijan and Armenia can be explained by three discussion plans of the talks.

1. The first plan envisages measures to increase trust, such as the restoration of contacts between Azerbaijanis and Armenians.

2. Allocation of more resources for ceasefire monitoring is among the issues on the second agenda. This requires "political investment" from the leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan, which could narrow future room for maneuver.

3. The third point in the plan covers the withdrawal of Armenian forces from the "occupied territories", the return of refugees and steps towards a "major peace agreement" on the status of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Kashmir Conflict

Kashmir is one of the world's most militarized zones and a source of serious tension between India and Pakistan, two nuclear powers. India's air strikes on targets in Pakistan have significantly increased tensions. India says Jaish Mohammad group has bombed a large training camp. The group has claimed responsibility for a recent attack in the Indian-administered part of Kashmir. Pakistan's National Security Committee has said that Islamabad will respond to India's strike at any time and place. The escalation comes amid the highest death toll in the region in a decade. Thus, in 2018, the death toll reached 500 people, including civilians, security forces and militants. (Pulwama attack: What is militant group
Jaish-e-Mohammad? (2019) Kashmir has become a hot spot between India and Pakistan: after these countries gained independence, Kashmir's territory was divided into zones controlled by India and Pakistan. Part of Kashmir has also come under Chinese control. There is no hope that India-Pakistan relations will soften in the near future. India and Pakistan are both nuclear powers, so a new confrontation between the two countries could develop on a different level. There have been two wars between India and Pakistan (1947 and 1965), several military campaigns, countless attacks on the military and civilians, and strained relations with neighboring countries. As a result, the region's economy is now weak, with high levels of unemployment and an unstable political situation. Kashmir was the subject of controversy in 1947, before the end of British rule - the subcontinent was divided into Indian-majority India and Muslim-majority Pakistan. The ruler of Kashmir could not decide whether to unite with India or Pakistan, and eventually he chose India, and a two-year war broke out between the two countries for the territory. Following the ceasefire, Pakistan refused to withdraw its troops from Kashmir, and Kashmir was divided. (Wolpert, 2011) As relations between India and Pakistan soured, China gradually occupied the area known as Aksay China in eastern Kashmir in the 1950s. After the Second Indo-Pakistani War of 1965, in the 1980s and 1990s, protests against Indian rule led to armed resistance, mass protests, and the activation of militant groups backed by Pakistan. In 1999, there was a short but violent conflict between Indian and Pakistani- backed forces. Since the 1950s, the UN has called for a plebiscite in Kashmir. Although India initially supported the proposal, it later changed its mind, saying there was no need for a plebiscite because the Indian-led elections in Jammu and Kashmir supported the unification of the region with India. However, Pakistan disagrees, saying that the people of the region want to be independent or allied with Pakistan instead of being ruled by India. (Ganguly, 2002).

**Azerbaijan on Kashmir issue**

Ilham Aliyev president of Azerbaijan during his meeting with Imran Khan PM of Pakistan discussed the condition in Nagorno Karabakh and acknowledged for Pakistani support. Prime Minister of Pakistan also conversant about the condition in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir and acknowledged the support and vision of Ilham Aliyev. (Pakistan Embassy in Azerbaijan Organizes Event to Mark Kashmir Solidarity Day, 2020) A day after the ambassador made the issue public at a closed-door meeting, on 15 August, the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry issued an official statement and commented on the problem, albeit cautiously. Baku's position is that Azerbaijan supports the settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue in accordance with the norms and principles of international law and the requirements of the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. (Azerbaijan supports Pakistan's stance ON Kashmir dispute, 2020) At the same time, the Foreign Ministry notes that Azerbaijan is also a member of the contact group on Jammu and Kashmir within the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. This means that Azerbaijan, as a member of the ECO, is in solidarity with this position, as the OIC usually supports Pakistan in the
Pakistan Relations with Azerbaijan in 21st Century

Kashmir issue. Azerbaijan's diplomacy on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict has long been based on two pillars: first, the priority of the principle of territorial integrity of international law; the second is the requirement to implement the documents adopted by international organizations, including the UN Security Council, on the conflict. Baku's approach to all similar conflicts - territorial disputes - is based on this approach, which is fully consistent with international law. Hence it is it's the cautious stance on Kashmir. The declaration of the principle of territorial integrity as a priority inevitably brings Azerbaijan closer to India's position, as the ownership of Jammu and Kashmir is disputed by Pakistan and China, but the region is on the Indian side of the 1949 ceasefire line. That is, it is considered the territory of India. The line of control is, in fact, the Pakistan-India state border. On the other hand, Azerbaijan's support for the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions on Kashmir means solidarity with Pakistan because the UN resolutions adopted in 1948-49 reflected the demilitarization of the region, ie the withdrawal of the parties from these territories and the determination of the status by holding a plebiscite (referendum) as a solution to the problem. Due to the large Muslim population, it is not difficult to predict the outcome of the referendum, so Islamabad supports the idea of a referendum. However, as in the case of Nagorno-Karabakh, the resolutions on Kashmir have not yet been implemented (Mirza, 2020). India is also a growing regional power with a growing role in global geopolitics, and in the near future this Asian giant is expected to become the world leader in terms of population, leaving China behind. Dynamically developing India is currently the 6th largest economy and is projected to rise to 3rd place in the next 10 years. Relations with such a state cannot be damaged. Therefore, Baku's cautious position on Kashmir is understandable. In general, it is the traditional foreign policy of the Azerbaijani government not to take sides in the competition of the great powers and not to choose one of them. Currently, the Indo-Pacific region is the most important region where geopolitical competition is intensifying, and the Indo-Pakistani confrontation can be considered one of the fronts of this great struggle. India's abolition of Jammu and Kashmir's high autonomy status (Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh) stems from its desire to fully establish its sovereignty over these territories bordering China and Pakistan. According to Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, Jammu and Kashmir was a state with its own constitution, parliament, flag and other state symbols. Other Indian could not set up business there. This article was revoked by the Indian parliament, and Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh became union territories. These areas are now under the direct control of the federal government, ie Delhi. In the Kashmir issue, Azerbaijan is following the principle "not to offend Pakistan, not to anger India" (Article 370 abrogation led to Ladakh standoff? Chinese report causes stir, 2020).

Pakistan on Nagorno Karabakh Issue

Although Azerbaijan's balanced position does not fully satisfy the parties, it does not cause their obvious dissatisfaction. Pakistan is one of the few countries that unequivocally support Azerbaijan in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. Even Islamabad has not established diplomatic relations with Armenia for this reason. Undoubtedly, such a position is very valuable for Azerbaijan. Political and military
cooperation between the two countries is at a high level. Pakistan also supports Azerbaijan's policy of diversifying its sources of arms, and it was recently reported that Baku would buy JF-17 Thunder fighter jets from the country. The importance of maintaining and developing a relationship with such an important partner and sincere friend is obvious. (Pakistan-Turkey-Azerbaijan Trilateral Partnership Emerges As A Big Threat To Armenia, 2020) Pakistan's Foreign Minister recently issued a statement on Armenia's provocation against our country. This statement fully supports efforts and position of Azerbaijan. In response to the Pakistani statement Azerbaijan said that they were grateful for Pakistan's resolute position on the issues of Azerbaijan's territorial integrity. Pakistan does not recognize Armenia due to Armenia's occupation of Azerbaijani lands. This is a true demonstration of brotherhood and this position is far better position than the Azerbaijan position on Kashmir. In all cases, Pakistan is always with Azerbaijan. Pakistan's support for Azerbaijan is very important. Azerbaijan has felt this support throughout the years of cooperation. It is clear who will stand by Azerbaijan at this important point. Those with Azerbaijan today are countries that have openly expressed their positions - brotherly Turkey and brotherly Pakistan; The Turkish President has repeatedly expressed his very strong position on the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict and during the Armenian aggression, he repeatedly stated that Turkey stands by Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan is not alone. All leading Turkish political parties also expressed their support for Azerbaijan (Siddiqui, 2020). Foreign Minister of Pakistan Shah Mehmood Qureshi has said that Pakistan supports Azerbaijan's position on Nagorno-Karabakh. In a telephone conversation with the Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan, he said that Pakistan is with the leadership and people of Azerbaijan in this difficult time. During a telephone conversation between Shah Mehmood Qureshi and his Azerbaijani counterpart, the two leaders discussed issues of mutual interest, including bilateral relations. Tensions between Azerbaijan and Armenia were also discussed during the telephone conversation. The Foreign Minister further said that Pakistan was deeply concerned over the deteriorating situation in Nagorno-Karabakh. Shah Mehmood Qureshi said that the heavy shelling on the rural population of Azerbaijan by Armenia is reprehensible. Azerbaijan says they are grateful to their brothers in Pakistan for standing by them at this important occasion (Siddiqui, 2020). This, as they say, is a moment of truth. Azerbaijan sees who is who, who stands by whom, and will never forget it. The Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan has congratulated the President and people of Azerbaijan on the occasion of Azerbaijan's Independence Day and reiterated his support for Azerbaijan. Prime Minister Imran Khan said in a tweet on 18 October 2020 that he saluted the Azeri army for protecting territorial integrity and sovereignty in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. Pakistan stands with Azerbaijan in resolving Nagorno-Karabakh in the light of Security Council resolutions. The Prime Minister's statement came after the Armenian Prime Minister claimed that Pakistani forces were involved in the battle of Nagorno-Karabakh. In an interview with Russian TV, the Armenian prime minister said that Pakistani Special Forces were also involved in the conflict with the Azeri army in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. Pakistan's foreign office dismissed the claim as baseless. (Pakistan rejects 'baseless' Armenia claims, 2020) After the support of
Pakistan, the demand for Pakistani flags has also increased in Azerbaijan, which was confirmed by Azeri Ambassador to Pakistan Ali Alizadeh (Demand for Pakistani flag grows in Azerbaijan: envoy, 2020).

Conclusion

During the military engagement of Armenia and Azerbaijan, the two leading nations of Muslim world, Pakistan and Turkey, in support of the brotherly Islamic country of Azerbaijan, have demanded the immediate withdrawal of Armenia from Nagorno-Karabakh. Pakistan's view Azerbaijan's position on Nagorno-Karabakh is in accordance with the unanimous resolutions of the UN Security Council by making comparison of issue of Kashmir to Nagorno-Karabakh. When the Armenian army saw signs of retreat in the recent clashes, it first accused Pakistan and Turkey of intervening. When no evidence was found, they were forced to flee and kneel down for peace. Issue becomes public when these accusations came in media especially in social media of Pakistan. Friendly and brotherly atmosphere created in both nations after these accusations. Azerbaijan has not backed down from its principled position. It has stipulated that if Armenia wants to resolve the issue through negotiations, it must first evacuate Nagorno-Karabakh. As long as the Armenian army was advancing and inflicting losses on Azerbaijan, no one can think of a ceasefire. If a permanent solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict is not found in accordance with UN resolutions, the clouds of war will continue to hover. No pressure has been put on India to at least lift the curfew, but with each passing day, the violence against Kashmiris is escalating to a dangerous level. There are UN resolutions on the issue but the international body seems to have failed to implement them. Pakistan should now formulate a comprehensive strategy for the liberation of Kashmiri Muslims instead of looking to the UN. Pakistan always, sided with Azerbaijan and passed resolutions condemning Armenia's move against Azerbaijan. The people of Pakistan and Azerbaijan celebrated the cooperation among two nations that created an atmosphere in which Azerbaijan can openly stand with Pakistan on the issue of Kashmir, leaving its former approach on Kashmir issue. Mr. Ali Alizadeh, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan also thanked the Pakistani government and Pakistanis for standing by Azerbaijan in this difficult time that is very positive sign for the two nations to develop environment in which they can work for better relations. (Azerbaijan-Pakistan friendship is eternal and unshakable, says Ali Alizada, 2020).
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Pakistan in 21st Century

Pakistanis need to express the fact that other mature societies have also overcome difficult moments in their bilateral relations with others, such as, Russia and the US as two separate sets of examples. Unlike in past periods, Russia is now very close with Germany, Turkey, and China, just like the US is now partnered with. Russia and the US are two separate sets of examples. Unlike in past periods, Russia is now very close with Germany, Turkey, and China, just like the US is now partnered with. 235

Pakistan in the 21st Century. Germany, Japan, China, and India, despite each pair of countries having previously experienced differing degrees of problems with one another at various stages of their shared histories. With this in mind, there’s nothing strange about Russ Pakistan’s actions are driven by its geographical location, sandwiched between India and Afghanistan, as well as its international alliances (with the United States and China). These geopolitical realities have made Pakistan undertake actions that have been linked to its ongoing efforts for survival. These actions have included change in Pakistan’s Taliban policy, amid growing domestic terrorism concerns. Pakistan’s Strategic, Political and Security Challenges. India: India has operationalized a proactive military doctrine, which is intended for limited conventional war below the nuclear threshold... Arooj Naveed is a M.Phil scholar in International Relations from the University of Punjab. Her areas of interest include foreign policy, diplomacy, conflict management and conflict resolution. The challenges of the 21st century especially to the developing states like Pakistan are indeed daunting. In this era of globalization, only those states can compete for a larger role in international political order that are politically stable, technologically advanced and economically sound. After the fateful incident of 9/11, the world was put in a dangerous situation. It is pertinent to mention here that Pakistan is always pivotal to US interests in South Asia and progressive, amicable relations with Pakistan are also crucial in managing restraint in the South Asian region for nuclear proliferation of both India and Pakistan. In South Asia, the policymakers of the United States have always focused on the China-India-Pakistan triangle.