



INDIA'S EXTERNAL RELATIONS

STUDYSHIP WITH KRATI



POLITICS IN INDIA
SINCE INDEPENDENCE

TEXTBOOK IN POLITICAL SCIENCE FOR CLASS XII



INTRODUCTION

- After independence India faced the twin challenges of Welfare and Democracy.
- In post-independence period, India faced many challenges to make a strong foreign policy.
- Moreover, India started participating in the world affairs as an independent nation state with the overall context like the legacy of many international disputes left by the British, pressures created by partition and poverty alleviation.
- India shaped its foreign relations with an aim to respect the sovereignty of all other nations and to achieve security through the maintenance of peace.
- In post Second World War period, world politics led to the division of countries of the world into two clear camps-one under the United States and other under the Soviet Union.



THE POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT

- The Indian national movement was not an isolated process. It was a part of the worldwide struggle against colonialism and imperialism. It influenced the liberation movements of many Asian and African countries.
- The Cold War era marked the political, economic and military confrontation at the global level between the two blocs led by the superpowers, the US and the USSR.
- The creation of the Indian National Army (INA) by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose during the Second World War was the clearest manifestation of the linkages established between India and overseas Indians during the freedom struggle.
- Along with this in other prevailing world politics Indian leadership was in the direction to pursue its national interests with these international contexts.



NEHRU'S ROLE

- Nehru exercised foreign policy from 1946 to 1964. The three major objectives of Nehru's foreign policy were to preserve the hard-earned sovereignty, protect territorial integrity and promote rapid economic development.
- Despite the fact that many leaders from India, wanted India to follow a pro-US foreign policy; Nehru wished to achieve his objectives of foreign policy through the strategy of non-alignment.



DISTANCE FROM TWO CAMPS

- India wanted to keep away from the military alliances led by US and Soviet Union against each other. The US was not happy about India's independent initiatives the policy of non-alignment.
- During 1950s India took an independent stand on various international issues and could get aid and assistance from members of both power blocs.
- India's independent stand and her growing relations with USSR hurt the sentiments of USA. Therefore, there was a considerable unease in Indo-US relations during 1950s.
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AFRO-ASIAN UNITY



- Nehru era marked the establishment of contacts between India and other newly independent states in Asia and Africa.
- Under the leadership of Nehru, India convened the Asian Relations Conference in March 1947.
- India supported the process of decolonization and opposed racism, especially apartheid in South Africa.
- The Afro-Asian Conference held in the Indonesian city of Bandung in 1955 which is known as Bandung Conference and marked the establishment of the NAM.
- The first summit of the NAM was held in Belgrade in September 1961.



PEACE AND CONFLICT WITH CHINA

- Independent India began its relationship with China on a friendly note as India was one of the first countries to recognize the communist government.
- Some of Nehru's colleagues like Vallabhbhai Patel, were worried about possible Chinese aggression in future but Nehru thought it was exceedingly unlikely that India will face an attack from China.
- Panchsheel (The five principles of peaceful co-existence) Agreement signed between Indian Prime Minister Nehru and the Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai on 29th April, 1954 was a step in the direction of stronger relationship between two.



Tibet

- Tibet, a plateau of the Central Asian region, is one of the major issues that historically caused tension between India and China.
- After the Panchsheel Agreement of 1954 India conceded China's claim over Tibet.
- In 1959, the Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama was given asylum (refuge) by India which worsened the relations between both countries.
- **The Chinese Invasion, 1962**
- China annexed Tibet in 1950 and removed historical buffer between two countries. The issue of Dalai Lama added fuel to the fire.
- China claimed two areas within the Indian territory: Aksai-Chin area in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir and state of Arunachal Pradesh in North Eastern Frontier Agency (NEFA).
- China launched a swift and massive invasion in October 1962 on both the disputed areas.
- The China war dented India's image at home and abroad.
- The Sino-Indian conflict and the growing rift between China and the Soviet Union created irreconcilable differences within the Communist Party of India (CPI). The Pro-USSR faction remained within the CPI and moved towards closer ties with the Congress.



WARS AND PEACE WITH PAKISTAN

- The conflict started with Pakistan just after independence over the dispute on Kashmir.
- The India-Pakistan Indus Waters Treaty was signed by Nehru and General Ayub Khan in 1960 which has worked well despite all ups and downs in the Indo-Pak relations.
- In April 1965, Pakistan launched armed attacks in the Rann of Kutch area of Gujarat which was followed by a bigger offensive in Jammu and Kashmir in August-September.
- The hostilities came to an end with the UN intervention. Indian Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri and Pakistan's General Ayub Khan signed the Tashkent Agreement, brokered by the Soviet Union, in January 1966.



BANGLADESH WAR, 1971

- In a dramatic internal politics during 1970 the East and West Pakistani rulers were not willing to accept the democratic verdict.
- Throughout 1971, India had to bear the burden of about 80 lakh refugees who moved to East Pakistan and took shelter in the neighbouring areas in India.
- After months of diplomatic tension and military build-up, a full-scale war between India and Pakistan broke out in December 1971.
- On 3rd July, 1972 the Shimla Agreement was signed between Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.



INDIA'S NUCLEAR POLICY

- The first nuclear explosion undertaken by India in May 1974.
- In India nuclear programme was initiated in the late 1940s under the guidance of Homi J. Bhabha.
- Nehru was against nuclear weapons and India wanted to generate atomic energy for peaceful purposes.
- The five permanent members of the UN security council- tried to impose the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) of 1968 on the rest of the world.
- India always considered the NPT as discriminatory and had refused to sign it.
- India conducted a series of nuclear tests in May 1998, demonstrating its capacity to use nuclear energy for military purposes.



ADDED TOPICS

**INDIA'S RELATIONS WITH
USA, RUSSIA AND ISREAL**



INDO-U.S. RELATIONS

Relations between India and the US have transformed from being **Estranged democracies (during the cold war)** to **Strategic partners (in the Post-cold war era)**.

Recently, the **US President, Donald Trump visited India**.

While only three of the nine US Presidents during 1947-2000 visited India, every President in the last two decades has visited India at least once.

Many **reasons** could be ascribed to the higher frequency of visits —

a shift in global geopolitics in the post-Cold War era,

India's economic ascent,

the rise of an assertive China and

India's place on the global high table.

Indo-U.S. Relations during Cold War

- In 1954, the United States made Pakistan a Central Treaty Organization (CENTO) treaty-ally.
- In 1961, India became a founding member of the non-aligned movement to avoid involvement in the Cold War powerplay.
- India cultivated strategic and military relations with the Soviet Union to counter Pakistan-United States relations.
- India's 20 years treaty of friendship with USSR (1971) portrayed a definite tilt towards USSR.
- Disintegration of Soviet Union in 1991, emergence of unipolar world and new economic policy of India gave a new turn to Indo-US relations.

Relation in the Post-Cold War Era

- Indo-U.S. bilateral relations have developed into a global strategic partnership with the signing of comprehensive global strategic partnership agreement during the visit of President Donald Trump in February 2020. The frequency of high-level visits and exchanges have gone up significantly in the recent past.
- The two countries have instituted structured dialogue covering East Asia, Central Asia, West Asia, Africa and the Indian Ocean region.



INDO-RUSSIA RELATIONS DURING COLD WAR

Political:

- Though India led the non-aligned movement, very close ties emerged between India and USSR right since independence.
- Soviet Union exercised veto in UNSC to block anti-India initiatives on Kashmir issue in 1957 and in 1962. During the 1971 Indo Pak war Soviet Union cast three vetoes in UNSC to block attempted to stop India from its ongoing military campaign,
- USSR remained neutral during the 1962 Sino-India war and brokered a peace between India and Pakistan during 1965 war.
- The 1971 Indo Soviet Treaty of Peace and friendship proved to be a great help in the 1971 war against Pakistan.

Economic:

- USSR provided technical assistance to India for establishing core industries. It gave aid and technical assistance for steel plants like Bhilai, Bokaro and Visakhapatnam and machinery plant like BHEL. In the energy sector it held in the setting up of ONGC.
- Soviet Union accepted Indian currency for trade when India was short of foreign exchange.

Military and Space Technology:

- ISRO's first satellite Aryabhata was launched by Soviet Union. Rakesh Sharma became the first Indian in space in 1984, when he flew aboard the Soviet spacecraft Soyuz T-11.
- 1991, about 70% of Indian army's armaments, 80% of its Air Force systems, and 85% of its naval platforms were of Soviet origin.



21st Century Indio-Russia Relations

In 1991 to watershed moments happened – economic liberalization was introduced in India and the Soviet Union was dissolved. When Vladimir Putin became Russia's president in 2000, the bilateral ties were put on a solid foundation again after about a decade of post-Soviet confusion and stagnation.

Trade:

- Free trade agreement exists between India and Russia. Russia is investing a lot in India's 'Make in India' project and in building smart cities.
- In terms of investment two countries had set a target of US \$30 by 2025. The goal was reached by 2017 and the new target is set of US \$50 billion 2025.

Defence:

- Russia India defence relationship has begun to move beyond the buyer-seller model to a more cooperative relationship with the joint research, design and production.
- India is the second biggest market for Russian defence industry. In 2007, 68% of India's military hardware import came from Russia. Joint military program of India and Russia include Brahmos Cruise Missile programme, Sukhoi SU 30 MKI programme, KA – 226T twin Engine utility helicopters, Naval Frigates, S-400 surface to air missile defence system deal.

Science and Energy:

- Both the countries have embarked on an Integrated Long-Term Programme of cooperation (I LTP) on science and technology.
- Russia will assist in the construction of 12 nuclear power plants in India. India's investment in Russia is oil and gas industry is likely to reach \$15 billion 2020.

Culture:

- India and Russia historically enjoyed ties in the cultural sphere: long-term scholarly and student exchanges, culture festivals and out exhibits, observance of Year of Russia and India and vice versa.



INDIA ISRAEL RELATIONS

- Nearly 45 years after Independence, due to political reasons, India's foreign policy in the Middle East region, now called West Asian region,

and India's relations with the West Asian countries were mainly concentrated with the Islamic countries.

- During this period India's attitude towards Israel, the only non-Islamic nation in the region, remained neglected notwithstanding the two nations gaining independence from the British colonial rule in 1947 and 1948 respectively.
- The historical and cultural ties between India and Israel have gone back from times immemorial, diplomatic relations formally developed between the two after the opening of Israeli Embassy in India in 1992.
- But even after the establishment of formal diplomatic relations, the relations between the two countries started gaining firmness only after the formation of the BJP led NDA government in 1996 and 1998 onwards.
- Relations between the two democratic nations further intensified with the visits of the two heads of government: Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Israel in 2017 and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to India in 2019.
- The two nations have started cooperation in various fields like cultural exchange, security and defence, counter terrorism, space research, water and energy and agriculture development.

MOST IMPORTANT

AREAS OF COOPERATION

Political Cooperation:

- Since the up-gradation of relations in 1992, defence and agriculture have become the two main pillars of the bilateral engagement. The political ties have become especially cordial under the Modi Government. In 2017, Prime Minister Modi became the first-ever Indian Prime Minister to visit Israel.



- During this visit, the diplomatic relationship was upgraded to a strategic level and seven agreements were signed in the areas of R&D, innovation, water, agriculture and space.
- In 2018, the Israeli Prime Minister visited India, during which Government to Government (G2G) agreement on cybersecurity, oil and gas cooperation, film cooperation and air transport were signed, along with five other semi-government agreements.
- An increase in the high-level exchanges in recent times has expanded cooperation in areas like trade, agriculture, science and technology and security.

Economic Cooperation:

- Major exports from India to Israel include precious stones and metals, chemical products, textiles and textile articles etc.
- Major imports from Israel include chemicals and mineral products, base metals and machinery and transport equipment. Potash is a major item of Israel's exports to India.

Agriculture:

- Cooperation in the field of agriculture is being prioritised by India. Several India-Israel Centre of excellence for Cooperation in agriculture have been set up in states like Haryana, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan etc.
- India has significantly benefited from Israeli's expertise and technologies in horticulture, mechanisation, protected cultivation, orchard and canopy management, nursery management, micro-irrigation and post-harvest management, particularly in Haryana and Maharashtra. C
- Currently, Israeli drip-irrigation technologies and products are widely used in India.
- Furthermore, India is gaining Israel's expertise in managing and improving dairy farming and high milk yield.

Military and Strategic Cooperation:

- India's arms trade with Israel had reached almost \$600 million in 2016, making Israel the second-largest source of defence equipment for India, after Russia.
- The common aspiration to fight the menace of terrorism led to the enhancement of defence cooperation.
- Four working groups in areas of border management, internal security and public safety, police modernisation and capacity building for combating crime, crime prevention and cybercrime were established.



What is India's stand on Israel-Palestine Issue?

India, for a very long time, had called for the 2-state solution that supports the establishment of a sovereign independent state of Palestine. However, India's stand on Israel-Palestine conflict has not hindered the growing diplomatic relationship with India and Israel. Yet, the recent close ties with Israel have diluted India's stance on the issue.

Prime Minister Modi's noteworthy visit to Israel in 2017 did not lead to diplomatic tension with Arab nations, making it a successful turning point. For Israel, India is an enormous market for its technologies and expertise.

CONCLUSION

Modi and Netanyahu both share an affinity for neoliberalism and religious conservatism and judging from the political climate in both countries, they are expected to continue being in power for the near future. The shared sociopolitical climates in both the countries is perfectly encapsulated in anthropologist Arjun Appadurai's words, "Open markets – closed cultures".

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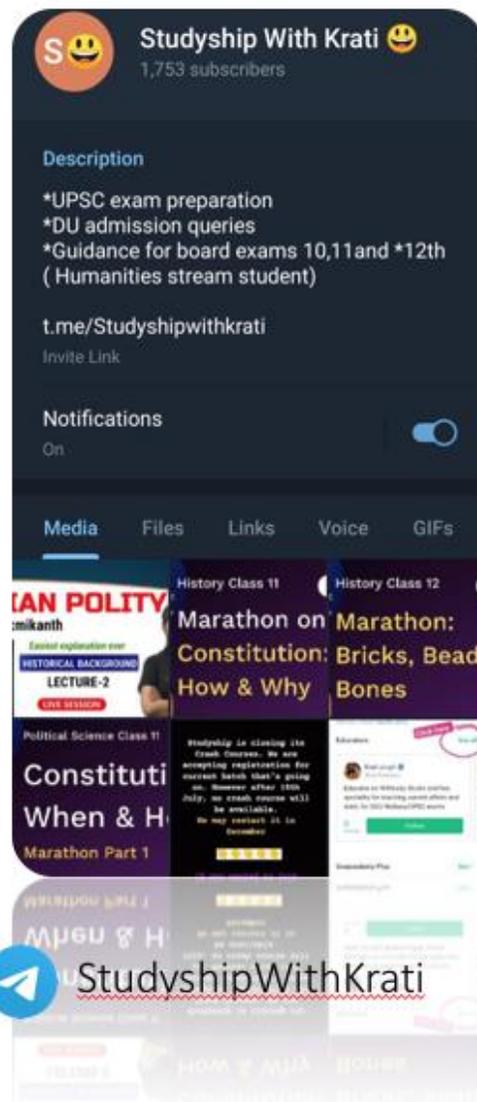
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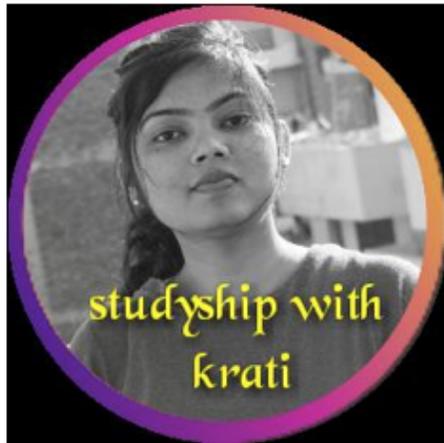


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Website for notes- www.studyshipwithkrati.com



THANKS FOR WATCHING!

