

Kashmir, majority of muslims, yet this strategic location

[Government](#), [Military](#)



Kashmir, or rather commonly renowned as Paradise Valley with the attribution, ascribed by the indigenous to the region is the junction point of the countries where India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and China converge. Located at the most northern demarcation line of India, the territory is of utmost strategic value to the Indian state inasmuch as it naturally provides an inherent protection for a larger Indian maneuver in North and renders a more dynamic security to the detriment of its rivals. To maintain the region under control and in the Indian borders, India is seemingly obliged to enforce the military stance over the issue. Therefore, the Indian motives of Kashmir for imposing superiority over Pakistan characterize the stark traces of realism, which especially typifies those of offensive.

1 At the partition plans devised by a commission established by the British to assign the new demarcation lines between the recent states of Pakistan and India, the Indian side wielded their close association with Britain to secure the only accessible routes to Kashmir under its control. At the original partition plot, the district of Gurdaspur, which is a gateway to the land routes winding through the Kashmir Valley, was to fall within Pakistani border as stipulated by the partition act that the majority of the district should determine to side with either Pakistan or India, and this region was populated by a majority of Muslims, yet this strategic location was plotted in Indian side at the expense of Pakistan thanks to Indian manipulations to suit the partition to their purpose and advantage. 2 Such supervision and control so close to the Pakistani border as in Gurdaspur would undoubtedly endow India with an effective tool to maintain national security and surveillance over Pakistan. Besides the Gurdaspur, the Indian attempts to increase its land mass and win

at all cost and by all means so as to secure the districts of Junagadh and Kashmir are also well worth mentioning to expose the strategic value of the region and demonstrate the realist Indian actions. The provisions for partition of Kashmir and Junagadh contradict each other.

As stated clearly by the partition act, the states ruled by princes and bordering India or Pakistan should accede to either with the decision to be made by ethnic majority in these states. Much to India's surprise, the district of Junagadh sided with Pakistan as the Muslim ruler went for Pakistan despite the wish of some 80% Hindus there. As a matter of course, India, who had the fear to lose the control of princely states, repudiated the result and deployed the army to Junagadh and seized it, as a consequence of which a plebiscite was taken by the populace to determine which side they should remain with. The outcome of the voting was certainly in favor of Indian accession in advance thanks to the large number of the Hindu voters.

Compared to the case in Junagadh, the precept on the accession process of Kashmir to India clearly clashes with what India displayed with that of Junagadh. 1 Varun, "Negotiating the India-Pakistan Conflict," 55-75 Kapur, "Peace and Conflict," 66. 2 Rahman, *Divided Kashmir*, 52.