

Course Title: Politics of Conflict and Peace in Kashmir

Course Code: PCS 829

Credit Hours: 3 (3-0)

Course Description

This course explores the historical, political, legal, and socio-cultural dimensions of the Kashmir conflict. It situates the issue within the broader context of South Asian regional politics, India-Pakistan relations, and global power dynamics. Starting from the Partition of 1947 and the princely state's accession, the course examines successive wars, insurgencies, peace efforts, and international mediation attempts. Special attention is given to the freedom struggle, human rights concerns, the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, and the evolving positions of Pakistan, India, China, and global actors. The course also highlights voices from within Kashmir, exploring identity, resistance, and peacebuilding initiatives.

Course Objectives

- To provide a historical grounding of the Kashmir conflict from 1947 to the present.
- To critically assess the political, legal, and diplomatic dimensions of the dispute.
- To analyze the role of state, non-state, and international actors in the conflict.
- To explore human rights, identity, and the everyday lived experiences of Kashmiris.
- To evaluate peace initiatives, negotiations, and confidence-building measures.
- To enable students to propose research-based solutions and policy options for sustainable peace.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Explain the historical and legal foundations of the Kashmir conflict.

- Assess the impact of India-Pakistan wars and bilateral diplomacy on the issue.
- Analyze the freedom struggle in Kashmir and its regional/global implications.
- Evaluate the 2019 constitutional changes in Jammu & Kashmir and their consequences.
- Critically engage with human rights reports and peacebuilding strategies.
- Apply peace and conflict theories to the Kashmir case in comparative perspective.

Course Contents

- Introduction: Why Kashmir Matters? Theories of Ethno-National Conflict
- The Princely State of Jammu & Kashmir: Accession and Partition 1947
- The First Kashmir War (1947–48) and UN Resolutions
- Wars of 1965 and 1971: Shifting Territorial and Political Dynamics
- The Simla Agreement and Bilateralism in Indo-Pak Relations
- Freedom struggle in Kashmir: Roots, Phases, and Actors
- Human Rights, Militarization, and Kashmiri Civilian Experiences
- Peace Efforts and CBMs: Lahore, Agra, Track-II Dialogues
- Abrogation of Article 370 (2019): Legal, Political, and Regional Implications
- Media, Narrative Warfare, and Information Politics on Kashmir
- Role of Regional Actors: Pakistan, India, China, and Afghanistan
- Role of International Actors: UN, U.S., EU, OIC, and NGOs
- Women, Minorities, and Marginalized Voices in the Kashmir Conflict
- Socio-Economic Dimensions: Development, Education, and Tourism in Kashmir
- Diaspora, Transnational Advocacy, and Global Kashmir Solidarity Movements
- Future Trajectories: Autonomy, Integration, or Independence?

Reference Material

Compulsory Readings (Pakistani + International Mix)

- Schofield, Victoria. *Kashmir in Conflict: India, Pakistan and the Unending War*. 3rd ed. Bloomsbury, 2020.
- Bose, Sumantra. *Kashmir at the Crossroads: Inside a 21st-Century Conflict*. Yale University Press, 2021.
- **Hilali, A.Z.** *Pakistan's Foreign Policy: An Historical Analysis*. Routledge, 2020 (Chapters on Kashmir).
- **Sattar, Abdul.** *Pakistan's Foreign Policy 1947–2019: A Concise History*. Oxford University Press, 2020 (sections on Kashmir diplomacy).
- Lamb, Alastair. *Kashmir: A Disputed Legacy 1846–1990*. Oxford University Press, 1991.

Pakistani Writers / Perspectives

- **Rais, Rasul Bakhsh.** *War Without Winners: Afghanistan's Uncertain Transition After the Cold War* (Chapters on Kashmir & Pakistan's regional security). Oxford University Press, 2022.
- **Khan, Amina.** "Kashmir after Article 370: Implications for Pakistan and the Region." *Strategic Studies* (ISSI, Islamabad), Vol. 39, No. 2, 2020.
- **Cheema, Pervaiz Iqbal.** "The Kashmir Dispute: Key to South Asian Peace." *Strategic Studies*, 2019.
- **Yousaf, Farhan Hanif, and Sher Ali.** "Kashmir Conflict and the Politics of Human Rights: A Pakistani Perspective." *Journal of Political Studies*, University of the Punjab, 2021.
- **Malik, Iftikhar H.** *Pakistan: Democracy, Terror and the Building of a Nation*. Pluto Press, 2019 (chapter on Kashmir).
- **Shahid, Hina Jilani.** "Human Rights and the Kashmir Dispute: A Civil Society View from Pakistan." *Pakistan Horizon* (IPS), 2022.

International / Mixed

- Behera, Navnita Chadha. *Routledge Handbook of the Kashmir Conflict*. Routledge, 2022.
- Ganguly, Sumit, and Srinath Raghavan. *India, Pakistan, and the Kashmir Dispute*. Cambridge University Press, 2021.
- Zutshi, Chitralekha. *Kashmir: History, Politics, Representation*. Cambridge University Press, 2020.
- International Crisis Group. *Raising the Stakes in Jammu and Kashmir*. Asia Report No. 310, 2020.
- Fazili, Muzamil. "Post-2019 Kashmir: Constitutional Changes and the Politics of Integration." *Asian Survey*, 2023.

Reports & Policy Papers (Pakistani Institutions)

- Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI). *Policy Briefs on Kashmir after Article 370*. ISSI Reports, 2020–2023.
- Pakistan Institute of International Affairs (PIIA). *Kashmir: Self-Determination, Statehood and Security*. Karachi, 2021.
- Institute of Policy Studies (IPS). *Kashmir: Charting a Path to Peace*. IPS Monograph, 2022.
- Azad Jammu and Kashmir Council Secretariat. *White Paper on the Kashmir Dispute*. Islamabad, 2020.