

## **Water Dispute between India and Pakistan and its Implications on the Political Relations between both the States**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This research paper focuses on water dispute between India and Pakistan and its implications on the political relations between both the states. Water is very essential in the world of today and a tussle over water is seen quite on and off. Similarly India and Pakistan are facing problems regarding equitable water sharing because India by building dams and reservoirs on Pakistan's share of water is hampering their water resources and consequently are unable to support their bulging population. India presents its reasons that it has to support its general public and is doing everything in accordance with Indus Water treaty in national interest of its state. The data has been collected from primary and secondary sources. Moreover hydro hegemony theory has been applied in relation to water dispute between both the states. Thus it has been concluded that a proper amicable solution should be found in relation to water and a balance should be generated in sharing the "resource" rather dividing it.

**Key Words:** Water dispute, India, Pakistan, Indus Water treaty

### **Introduction**

South Asia has at all times been the epicenter of attention and interest for the major powers of the world because of its topography, strategic location and warm water access because the region lies in middle of important regions of the world like Central Asia, Southeast Asia and East Asia. Moreover it has important Indian Ocean at its helms. More than a fifth of the world's population resides in South Asia. The region is regarded as the hub of most ancient cultures in the world. Due to the following reasons, South Asia is regarded as the heartland of Asia (Lipschutz, 2010).

South Asia consists of eight SAARC states Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Afghanistan. Out of all these states India and Pakistan hold immense significance because of their population, economy, land size and possession of nuclear weapons (Nabeel, 2013).

Nevertheless both the states do not share worthy and cordial relations with each other. It is due to the reason that Muslims and Hindus when lived in joint India had undergone partition in 1947 and established themselves as segregated states of India and Pakistan. East Pakistan which is now known as Bangladesh used to be part of Pakistan (Nosheen, & Begum, 2011).

Pakistan and India had certain teething troubles amid each other of which the most imperative ones are Kashmir issue, Sir Creek, Siachen and water. Water

dispute between India and Pakistan was prevalent even before partition (Ranjan, 2012).

The water dispute started off among the neighbors even before the partition primarily between the states of Punjab and Sindh. The dispute was settled by Britishers through establishment of Rao Commission which made the provinces signed off “Sindh-Punjab Agreement” in 1945. Eventually with the partition of subcontinent Punjab was divided between India and Pakistan. The partition posed a threat especially for Pakistan because India being the upper riparian could block Pakistan’s water. Moreover due to imperfect demarcation of boundaries done by Sir Cyril Radcliffe Pakistan was “awarded” with fewer shares of water and land. With the partition the water woes increased between both the states consequently they decided to continue with Sindh-Punjab agreement allocation of water which chief engineers of East Punjab (India) and West Punjab (Pakistan) named as Standstill Agreement. Consequently with the end of agreement India did not provide water to Pakistan which posed a serious threat not only to its people but to agriculture as well (Kamal, 1998).

After immense negotiations, deliberations and arbitration regarding water distribution; the Indus water treaty was signed between India and Pakistan in 1962 in which World Bank was the arbitrator. The water of the Eastern rivers i.e. Ravi, Sutlej, Beas were handed over to India while Western rivers water Indus, Jhelum and Chenab belonged to Pakistan (Kamal, 1998).

Nonetheless it has been observed that India is continuously violating the treaty by building dams on Indus consequently blocking the water supply and hampering water allocation to Pakistan. Dams like Baglihar, Kishanganga, Salal, Bursar, Uri 2, Nimbo-Bazgo and Wullar etc. are hampering water in Pakistan. India holds the stance that it is not violating the treaty but building dams for its energy needs, for its population and for its agriculture. While Pakistan holds its stance that water is hampering in Pakistan due to India building of dams moreover sword of danger is always in the mind of Pakistan that it can block water supply due to its status of upper riparian. Furthermore water released by India creates condition of flood in Pakistan moreover it causes damage to agriculture and livestock of Pakistan (Poomeranz, 2013).

It is said by international scholars that Pakistan is water scarce and in the coming year’s water level in Pakistan could be affected and reduced to minimum level due to shortage of rainfall and fewer construction of dams (Poomeranz, 2013).

### **Rationale of the study**

The reason for undertaking this topic is that water is one of the major provisions of the current time frame. Future wars will take place on water due to the fact that this important source is depleting when as the world population is growing, consequently energy needs are escalating. For this very reason, several countries are in a state of maintaining their hegemony over different water reservoirs to

## ***Water Dispute between India and Pakistan and Its Implications***

secure it for their future needs. India won an upper and Pakistan on lower riparian state therefore, both is on the constant turf over Indus basin and water distribution. India is violating the treaty by building dams on Pakistan's due water share because of this Pakistan is facing extreme problems like power shortage being the pivotal one. Pakistan has to ease down its political tensions and start up with their hydroelectric power projects to meet their energy needs. Both the states should reach up to amicable solution in relation to water especially because peace between India and Pakistan means tranquility and peace in South Asia.

### **Research Questions**

- a) Would there be a water war in South Asia's future?
- b) Are India and Pakistan following Indus Basin water treaty in full letter and spirit?
- c) Is turmoil in political relations between India and Pakistan affecting water sharing treaty?
- d) Is Indus water treaty a tool of peace and conflict transformation amid hostile neighbours?
- e) Does Indus basin water treaty drawn up fair on Pakistan's part?

### **Research Objectives**

- To evaluate the political tensions between both the neighbours which is lingering water dispute.
- To understand the negative impact of political relations and tensions amid both neighbours affecting South Asia stability.
- To analyse the role of international arbitration in resolving water issue between India and Pakistan.
- To study the consequences of construction of dams, barrages by the Indian administration on Pakistan's share of water.

### **Research Methodology**

#### **Research methods**

The researcher had made use of Historical and Descriptive as methods of research.

#### **Data Collection**

The researcher had taken help from Secondary Sources like books, journal articles, magazines, newspapers, articles and reports etc.

## **Research design**

The researcher had employed Qualitative as her research design.

## **Significance of the study**

The following study will help to explore and understand water crisis in Pakistan and India. Moreover the political tension between both the states on certain major issues is neglecting this foremost matter because water in the world of today is the primary necessity.

## **Literature Review**

Mukhtar (2010) is of the assessment that with the inception of global warming the water of Indus River is facing reduction. In summers the water of Indus River carries heavy sediments along with it which consequently leads to silting of canals. Tarbela, Mangalla and Chashma are the major dams carrying significant amount of sediments with it thus damaging the dams. It has been estimated that the following 3 dams have lost 25% of their capacity. 40% of all the water seemed to be mislaid due to porous sea bed. On the other hand the controversial construction of Kalabagh dam is still in the pipeline. The objection by provinces of Sindh, Baluchistan and KPK is further exacerbating the situation because the already constructed dams do not possess that capacity and initiative of other dams is not permitted by other provinces. Difference of opinion should be resolved and one thing should be clear that floods will come every year in Pakistan so it's better to cooperate instead of raising intra-provincial disputes.

Sinha, Kumar and Behuria (2010) are of the interpretation that numerous think tanks and international authors have questioned on and off regarding the sustainability of IWT for so many years. Negotiations, arbitration, mediation, and deliberation every tool, mean and method has applied so far. At one time success has been gained but on the other hand still some projects are in the pipeline. Despite surviving after 3 wars, the treaty of Indus is a good answer for those who question its sustainability. But on the other hand some are skeptic that the water dependence could turn into water war.

Wirsing (2008) is of the assessment that there is one question always arising in the minds of international authors that can resource or water war occur in South Asian region? Some authors say Aye because certain South Asian states due to their swelling population are unable to look forward and provide their population with certain necessities. Subsequently these states are in a surge for food, water and are in a struggle to gain first and this strangling could lead to a war over resources or water. Some authors hold an opposite perspective and are of the view that war could have occurred several years ago primarily on water but all the states are maintaining their best not to engross in a war as in the current time frame war is of no use and could lead to severe repercussion. According to a report by WWF,

## ***Water Dispute between India and Pakistan and Its Implications***

Pakistan is passing through acute water crisis and depletion moreover water would lessen to 1000cubic meters by 2050. Ultimately Pakistan needs to work on its crisis. Although it's a positive approach that both the states of India and Pakistan are trying to follow Indus water treaty in full letter and spirit.

Sinha (2010) is of the vision that according to Samuel T. Coleridge water is an element of peace and tranquility. It is a component that is life giver carrying mystic and magic within it. These all components make all the rivers mighty and huge which are feeding generations of generations and many civilizations for ages. The contested issue in relation to water is that riparian states are in a condition of tug of war amid each other. There is a blame game going on amid the riparian states. The lower riparian neighbors or states blame the upper riparian for not granting them their excess share. The lower riparian are usually the grieved party due to their geographical location because the fate of water frequently depends on the allowance of how much cubic meters of water is permitted from the upper riparian. The real problem is the proper and accurate allocation of water in an equitable manner. If these issues will be resolved peaceful environment can be created.

Gul (2012) is of the view that India being a hegemonic power in South Asia is deeming other lower riparian states to follow and run on its conditions whether construction of certain dams. Consequently all of this is creating a fragmented environment alarming Pakistan. The state of Pakistan is fighting for Kashmir as it is the edifice of water source. India although claims that Pakistan has nothing to fear it won't halt the water supply but on the contrary it isn't true as the blockade of Chenab river water in 2011 should not be forgotten. Moreover edifice of Baglihar, Kishenganga and numerous small dams reveal that Pakistan ought to do something as well for water store age. After US and China, it's India which is 3<sup>rd</sup> in building of various dams. Pakistan has to resolve its inter-provincial water conflicts and work on its projects more accurately because the sword of eater blockade by India could occur anytime.

### **Theoretical Framework**

Water disputes between certain states are on-going and everlasting because they do not go for some mechanism or consult any institution who could handle the water clash. Tug of war for this priceless source is becoming a source of tension for certain states. One can take lessons or learn from history that different states if they need freshwater they cooperate with each other rather than going for wars that could probably jeopardize their water supplies. There occurs a competition at district, local, cities, and provincial level and in the world as a whole to maintain immaculate water resources. One of the most sustainable way to protect water resources is to pool down all the resources in a jointly way and the stakeholders should cooperate with each other to avoid any tussle. Another and most important way for the states to refrain from potential conflict is to apply various approaches for solving disputes in a non- quarrelsome way which ranges from negotiations

among the two parties, mediation, consensus building, arbitration and adjudication. Water conflicts could be determined in many ways (Wolf, 1995) as:

- **Force:** a choice or decision enforced by force on one or more of the parties.
- **Adjudication:** a decision imposed by any authority, state, institution, Court of Law or any special person who could act as a judge or conciliator in water disputes.
- **Negotiation:** Negotiations have become one of the best sources to resolve conflicts that create mostly potential cooperation.

There are many neighboring countries facing water crisis and ultimately water crisis could beget conditions of war and animosity among the neighboring countries. India and Pakistan are no exception to water crisis which they face. Although many years back in 1960 together the two states followed dispute resolution in the shape of signing a treaty between each other. Nevertheless problems aroused time and again so the difficulties could be resolved if the policy makers of both the states adhere to following alternative dispute resolution approaches (Wolf, 1995).

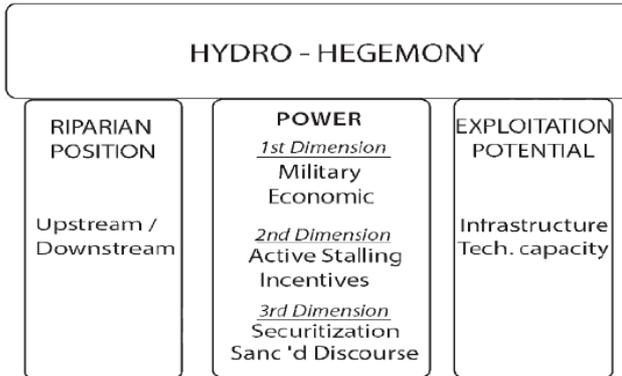
India is trying to maintain its supremacy at the river basin level of the Indus and dominating Pakistan consequently this makes India the hydro hegemon. The concept and theory of hydro hegemony could be applied in relation to Indus River. The hydro hegemony framework was established in order to assess the existence of a hydro hegemon moreover its role in a basin development along with its co-riparian states. The theory of hydro hegemony has up til now not hypothesized or theorized. The concept itself distinguishes itself from earlier work in 3 ways. There are two approaches to water conflict prediction; one is the scale of water conflict event intensifies power analytic framework into a single thing. Secondly hydro hegemon theory can be analysed also through the dynamics of water conflict exploration, strategies, tactics of hegemonic and counter- hegemonic behavior and thirdly through an alternative explanation for the absence of water wars. Following theory could be applied to Tran's boundary water conflicts if there is a substantial power asymmetry, control over the flow and water head works and struggle over water is muffled. Power asymmetry could be gauged by supremacy of riparian over the others in a river basin regarding three pillars of hydro hegemony which are exploitation potential which is a capacity to build hydraulic infrastructure, second is the riparian position which includes the riparian upstream, downstream that is geographical position and also the three dimensions of powers those are the structural, bargaining and ideological (Padder, 2012).

When hydro hegemony framework is applied on Indus basin it necessitates an examination of the intensity of conflicts over Indus waters. It is compulsory to examine conflict intensity and power asymmetry amid the two riparian applying hydro hegemony frame work (Armytage, 2001).

## **Power asymmetry in the Indus basin**

Hydro hegemon provides a framework to find impact of power asymmetries amid the riparian and get in a competition for control over water resources which consequently determines whose the hydro hegemon. When HHF is applied on River Indus it shows India's power asymmetry in the Indus basin. The power asymmetry could be gauged by viewing three pillars of hydro hegemony (William, 2013).

**Figure 2.8: Showing three pillars of hydro hegemony**



### **Retrieved:**

[http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/research/case\\_studies/Indus\\_New.html](http://www.transboundarywaters.orst.edu/research/case_studies/Indus_New.html)

The three pillars of hydro hegemony depend on firstly the riparian position whether upstream or downstream secondly on the power and it runs on three dimensions first dimension is the military and economic, second is active stalling incentives and last is securitization and last is the exploitation potential which runs on infrastructure and technology capacity.

## **First let's discuss about the points of hydro hegemony**

### **Geographical location**

India is regarded as the upper riparian state of Indus basin and possesses the power to turn West Punjab into a desert which is regarded as the backbone of Pakistan's agriculture. Water availability in Pakistan had diminished around 70% since the inception of early 1950s to 1, 500 per capita according to a report published by Woodrow Wilson International Centre for scholars. Moreover 1, 000 cubic meter level is regarded as officially "scarce" by international standards in 25 years. IWT guaranteed Pakistan 55, 000 cusecs of water nonetheless Pakistan received up til 13,000 cusecs during winter and around 29, 000 cusecs during summers (Sarfaraz, 2013).

## **Technical capacity**

India possesses technical capacity of making dams which consequently marks it as number 3 in the world with 4079 dam after US and China. Many projects initiated by India are completed or in the process of their completion. Pakistan raised huge objections on Baglihar Hydro Power Project and Kishenganga on River Chenab and Tulbul Navigation Project on Wullar Lake in Kashmir these all can disturb the water flow in River Jhelum which flows in Pakistan (Sarfaraz, 2013).

## **Three dimensions of power**

Following are the three dimensions of power

The three dimensions of Power: (Structural, Bargaining and Ideational Power)

### **Structural Power: (Economic, Military Power and Political support)**

Power is defined as the “extent that one affects others more than they affect oneself.” Subsequently the power of a state can be the amalgamation of its capacity regarding its military, economic and technological strength. India possesses the capacity to affect others through its structural power dimension (Wirsing & Jasparo, 2009).

### **Economic Strength**

A state is defined well by its GDP and it is regarded as a useful indicator of economic strength. India’s GDP in the year 2009 to 2010 was 7.2 % while Pakistan overall growth rate was 3.3 % with decline in agriculture sector. India could become a developed nation by year 2020. India has been successful in gaining world’s attention and coined a new term “Incredible India” for itself whereas Pakistan is considered as most dangerous place in world which ultimately had turned world’s attention from itself (Sarfaraz, 2013).

### **Military Power**

With every year India is raising its defense budget consequently creating tensions for Pakistan. It is regarded as number 1 in pursuing military power. Ultimately it is regarded the military giant of South Asia (Beeson, 2015).

### **Political strength**

The political and structural power of India is getting durable by its central economic role and investment from the developed world. Moreover it has one of the largest democracies in the world (Beeson, 2015).

## **Bargaining Power**

Bargaining power of India could be expressed in two ways. Firstly India's position as an upper riparian in Indus River where it could apply different means of hegemonic actions to divert, stop and reduce the water flow to lower riparian. Secondly India's strategic relations with powerful states reinstated bargaining power like Jammu and Kashmir issue amid India and Pakistan. Great susceptibility and real concern of Pakistan over water scarcity made India bargaining power crucial for water experts. John Briscoe who's a water expert and worked in subcontinent for 35 years is of the view that India needs to be more substantial on water issues with Pakistan (Beeson, 2015).

## **Application of HHF on Indus basin**

It has become crystal clear that power asymmetry exists in Indus Water treaty articles. India is employing its three forms of power to maintain its hydro hegemony. India not only is an emerging economy moreover is trying to invest and capture resources to handle all the energy vows of the future years. From the following statement it has been observed that India is employing resource capture strategy through its structural power by stationing of huge army in Kashmir region. India's on-going projects over disputed water are mostly funded by World Bank makes India economic power in the region. India has a stronger political power to make water related conflicts in its favor due to its main role in international world with weak designed International Water Laws. The power strategies and schemes show that India is fully capable of its negative hydro hegemon position. Cooperation also exists amid the riparian in the form of treaty but the treaty tilts towards India because of unresolved Kashmir issues and Government of Pakistan hue and cry regarding water shortage (Akhtar, 2012).

## **Limitation of HHF**

HHF present the role of state as pivotal and important in Trans boundary water conflicts in the global world where other powerful players both at national and within international level play an imperative role. The players might affect the stronger and powerful decision makers concerning Trans boundary water conflicts. In water conflicts not only decision makers within the state are included but at international level are also included in it. HHF is much more suitable to either situations amid two states where balance of power is tilted or either applicable to balanced powers concerning water hegemony. HHF as the name goes suggests that "there has to be hegemony as precondition for the following theory to be applied in situations where hegemony does not exist moreover the theory might have limitation and its applicability" (Pappas, 2012).

## **Historical Background**

The water dispute started among the neighbors even before the partition primarily between the states of Punjab and Sindh. The dispute was settled by Britishers through establishment of Rao Commission which made the provinces sign “Sindh-Punjab Agreement” in 1945. Eventually with the partition of subcontinent, Punjab was divided half between India and Pakistan. The partition posed a threat especially for Pakistan because India being the upper riparian could block Pakistan’s water. Moreover due to imperfect demarcation of boundaries done by Sir Cyril Radcliffe Pakistan was “awarded” with fewer shares of water and land. With partition, the water woes increased and both the states consequently decided to continue with Sindh-Punjab agreement allocation of water which chief engineers of East Punjab (India) and West Punjab (Pakistan) is called by as Standstill Agreement. Consequently with the end of agreement India did not provide water to Pakistan which posed a serious threat not only to its people but to agriculture as well (Kamal, 1998). After immense negotiations, deliberations and arbitration regarding water distribution; the Indus water treaty was signed between India and Pakistan in 1962 in which World Bank was the arbitrator. The water of the Eastern rivers i.e. Ravi, Sutlej, Beas were handed over to India while Western rivers water of Indus, Jhelum and Chenab belonged to Pakistan (Kamal, 1998). Nonetheless it has been observed that India is continuously violating the treaty by building dams on Indus consequently blocking the water supply and hampering water allocation to Pakistan. Dams like Baglihar, Kishanganga, Salal, Bursar, Uri 2, Nimbo-Bazgo and Wullar etc. are hampering water in Pakistan. India holds the stance that it is not violating the treaty but building dams for its energy needs, for its population and for its agriculture. While Pakistan holds its stance that water resources are affecting in it due to India’s building of dams. Moreover sword of danger is always in the minds of Pakistan that it can block water supply due to its status of upper riparian. Furthermore water released by India can creates in Pakistan causing damage to agriculture and livestock of Pakistan (Poomeranz, 2013).

## **Indian Perspective regarding IWT**

The official actors and scholars from India hold different view in relation to the treaty. Suba Chandran who is the Deputy Director of Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies New Delhi is of the view that Pakistan is fully employing blocking power to deteriorate IWT in letter and spirit moreover exploiting the treaty not only nationally but bilaterally and internationally. Moreover the writer holds that Pakistan water crisis is due to its own negligence because according to the writer Punjab is stealing water from rest of the provinces moreover this is the very reason why smaller provinces objected against Kalabagh dam construction. Other provinces are of the view that if Kalabagh dam would be constructed their towns and cities would be swamped especially Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has its

## ***Water Dispute between India and Pakistan and Its Implications***

reservations. Subsequently the dam is considered advantageous only for province of Punjab. Moreover he comments that Pakistan is giving undue importance to Kashmir issue although the international world pays very less attention to Kashmir issue and regards it as an old and obsolete issue. Pakistan could employ water war as strategy to bring back the consideration of international communal concerning Kashmir. Moreover Indian authorities had made clear time and again that it had no intention of blocking Pakistan's water supply. Even the dams that are constructed by India are to fulfill their water demands regarding their bulging population. Subsequently the construction of dams is speeded by Indian authorities so Pakistan should not take the dam construction negatively (Adhikari, 2014).

On the other hand Pakistan had constructed dams lesser in number than India but they are important and mandatory for Pakistan survival. One of the important and largest earth filled dam in the world which Pakistan engineers along with foreign engineers had constructed is the Tarbela dam. It is the largest hydroelectric power project being established in Pakistan. The dam was constructed around 1968 and completed in 1972. The dam location is in Rawalpindi. Another mandatory dam is Mangla dam which is the twelfth largest dam. It was constructed on Jhelum River across the federal capital of Pakistan, Islamabad. Mangla dam is regarded as one of the first development project to strengthen irrigation system. Other important dams are Kanpur dam, Mirani dam, Shaikidor dam, Dasu dam, Gomal dam, Hub dam, Warsak dam, Guddu barrage, Taunsa barrage, etc. There are certain projects which are under construction those are Neelum- Jhelum hydroelectric power project, and Diamer Bhasha dam etc. Such projects and dams are the main source and backbone for Pakistan. Pakistan official actors along with engineers should build up these dams as soon as possible because Pakistan general public of Pakistan and their livelihood depend on these dams so it's better to maintain their focus on the construction rather hindered in conspiracies (Akhtar, 2011).

### **Pakistan Perspective regarding IWT**

When the sub-continent was partitioned India was geographically lucky to get hold of Indus with its tributaries. The treaty is exploited fully by India. Once the treaty was signed India had been trying hard and forth to harness control of western rivers that lies under Pakistan's jurisdiction consequently depriving the state of Pakistan of its share and might turn the country into desert. India's construction of different dams like Uri, Todiam, Kishanganga, Baglihar, Salal, Wullar barrage and Tulbul Navigational barrage with some other dams and rivers on Pakistan rivers reveal that the dams could make the canal system weak in Pakistan (Khanzada, 2011).

India had constructed around 4365 dams and is pondering of making 62 of its hydroelectric dams on Pakistan's Rivers of Jhelum and Chenab. The rapid construction of dams by India makes it number three after US and China. Furthermore it had been seen that India tried hard and forth to steal and use

Pakistan's share of water through tunnels also is planning a dam on River Kabul with Afghanistan and the project is named as Kama hydro- electric project which would consequently utilize 0.5 MAF of Pakistan's water. Pakistan is rather tense regarding India's strategy that it is trying hard and forth to withhold Pakistan's share of water and subsequently India's negative act comes completely under violation of IWT. On the other hand Indian authorities are of the view that due to global warming water flow is decreasing causing lesser flow of water in Pakistan's river which Pakistan blamed as water holdup by India (Mustafa, 2014).

### **Impact on Political Relations between Both the States**

The political leaders of both the states are to be blamed as well and with it certain focusing events sparked the relations. The armies of the two states should also be blamed equally who indulged in war and imprecisely intervened in political matters of each other thus affecting political set-up. The dictatorial regimes in Pakistan affected the relations. Nevertheless military in Pakistan is stepping back and refraining to repeat its history of indulging in political matters whereas India military is seen fully intervening, criticizing, advising its government and the government is following their decisions be it in Sir Creek or Siachen. Every political leader from Pakistan and India experienced some hard time among each other. One step they move forward and something happens which forces the two neighbors to take two steps backward (Rizvi, 2015). India is trying to maintain its supremacy at the river basin level of the Indus and dominating Pakistan. Consequently this makes India the hydro hegemon. The concept and theory of hydro hegemony could be applied in relation to Indus River. It has become crystal clear that power asymmetry exists in Indus Water treaty articles. India is employing its three forms of power to maintain its hydro hegemony. India not only is an emerging economy moreover is trying to invest and capture resources to handle all the energy vows of the future years. From the following statement it has been observed that India is employing resource capture strategy through its structural power by stationing of huge army in Kashmir region. India's on-going projects over disputed water are mostly funded by World Bank reveals India economic power in the region. India has a stronger political power to make water related conflicts in its favour due to its main role in international world with weak by designed International Water Laws. The power strategies and schemes show that India is fully capable of its negative hydro hegemon position. Cooperation also exist amid the riparian in the form of treaty but the treaty tilts towards India because of unresolved Kashmir issues and Government of Pakistan's hue and cry regarding water shortage (Akhtar, 2012).

### **Results and Discussions**

South Asia is regarded as one of the vulnerable region in the world where the states are engrossed in combats and fights. Pakistan and India especially could be

## *Water Dispute between India and Pakistan and Its Implications*

quoted as good examples that both being neighbors sharing a common border-line but animosity against each other is at a very high level. India and Pakistan should stop indulging in the arm race especially against each other because in the world of today armament is of no use. It is not even said to go for disarmament because weapons should be kept for protection but to go for unlimited weapons is of no use. That thing was realized even by Soviet Union and USA during the period of cold war when they were warned by the international world to limit the use of arms and weapons and both the states pondered and for their general public restrained their arms usage. Pakistan and India are on the verge of poverty. Majority of their population is living below the poverty line subsequently instead of dealing with each other in war both should mutually join hands with each other and set proper mechanism and work together on issues like terrorism, health and education. Working in cooperation in the manner would definitely bear positive result and this could prove fruitful for political and security stability of South Asia. The only thing that could harness Indo- Pak relations is the political will of the leaders (Mustafa, 2012).

### **Conclusion**

Water is regarded as an element of peace, tranquility, solace, coolness and calmness but unfortunately the following non- renewable resource is becoming scarce because of bulging world's population and their daily usage of water. The world's super powers along with developing states decided to secure their such resource. Consequently there's a competition of which ever state or region secures immense water. Some states found out a solution to share water and its resources with each other like Israel and Jordan sharing of Jordan River basin. Similarly other states or regions designed treaties for water allocation like South Asia is one of the regions in which different states designed and signed certain agreements and treaties but nevertheless this region comes in one of the region possessing infrequent water supply. Although treaties had been signed between different states of South Asia but sometimes no proper amicable solution had been found out. India and Pakistan are two mandatory states of South Asia because of their geographical location, economy and population etc. Both states have certain disputes among each other out of which one of the vital issues is of water and its proper allocation. The water dispute started off amid India and Pakistan when the two states were segregated into separate sovereign states moreover when India illegitimately occupied Jammu and Kashmir region. The problem is that the river sources before entering Pakistan pass in Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir region. India is at an advantage because it is an upper riparian state in comparison to Pakistan which is a lower riparian state. The Indus River is the main bone of contention between the two neighbors. Although Indus River emanates from Tibet but the problem starts off when it enters Jammu region because the sword always remains on Pakistan's head that India whenever it desires could halt water supply to Pakistan. The treaty was put forward by World Bank. Nevertheless certain rules

and procedures of the treaty are not followed in full letter and spirit especially by India because the state of India without taking permission or informing Pakistan had time and again built up certain dams on Jammu region blocking Pakistan's water supply like Uri ii, Kishenganga dam, Baglihar, Nimbo- Bazgo, Salal dam, Bursar dam and many more. Due to its "dam fever" India had constructed around 3200 large and medium dams and barrages according to Government of India in 2014. Whereas Pakistan constructed dams and barrages are much less in number if Indian figures of constructed dams are taken into view. In spite of possessing the largest earth filled dam in the world along with second largest structural volume i.e. Tarbela dam moreover Mirani dam which is the largest dam in relation to flood protection with Sabkzai at 7<sup>th</sup> number in the world for flood stock at 23, 638 cubic meters Pakistan still needs to work at a rapid pace on its dams, barrages and head works because according to Strategic Foresight Group, Pakistan annual rainfall is much less if compared with India and moreover its water storage capacity is around 30 days whereas India has the storage capacity of around 200 days. Moreover water melting from glaciers in summer as well as India leaving water in Pakistan causes floods with huge massacre. Not to be undermined is the 2010 flood in Pakistan that killed not only people in millions but also damaged the livestock. Indian official actors' continuous denial and disagreement of building dams on Pakistan side is affecting the political relations amid the two neighbors. Both the state's political actors most of the time are unable to negotiate a solution hence the matter is referred to international community. Moreover "controversial statements" from both sides of the neighbors also upset the relations like Ex-President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari after 2010 floods stated that Pakistan could wage war against India if it would not imply to its conditions. Indians made huge hue and cry from the following statements thus affecting their political relations. Moreover India's extremist group Shiv Sena threatened Pakistan time and again that Indian engineers had built up water bomb and would destroy Pakistan. Statements of such cadre obviously affect the political relations. The problem is that India needs to get out of its "hydro- hegemonic attitude" because not only it has water issues with Pakistan but with other neighbors like Srilanka and Bangladesh also. It always declares that whatever it is doing is in the national interest of its state but nevertheless hampering the IWT. If things be done according to IWT water issues could be resolved among the two neighbors. On the other hand a state should always hide its weaknesses because once these weaknesses bulge up many issues would be made up by other states like in Pakistan the Punjab- Sindh or Punjab- KPK animosities among each are no hidden secret. The neighboring state tries to take advantage of the said antagonism. The political actors of all the neighbors should put aside their grievances and pool resources so that they could fight and gain their national interest. On the other hand IWT could be regarded as one of the successful treaty with reference to India and Pakistan in the sense that both the states had not waged a war in relation to water furthermore neither replicated the treaty altogether nor changed some points of the treaty. Although certain scholars from both sides are of the view that some

## *Water Dispute between India and Pakistan and Its Implications*

points of the treaty are not in their favor consequently a new treaty should be designed but the political actors from both sides remain stern in changing or having another treaty. Consequently this shows the success of the Indus water treaty in relation to the two hostile neighbors. Much more success could be harnessed if the treaty is followed completely especially by India only due this one thing, political relations could be improved to some extent because sharing a border line amid each other there should be harmonious co- existence rather than hatred and animosity because these “negative factors” are not affordable in the world of today.

### **Recommendations**

- Culture has always remained an important factor in bringing different states at one platform. India and Pakistan should try to have cultural level exchange quite often so the animosities between both of them could be hindered.
- Moreover the premiers of the two states should pay visit once a year or twice a year so that the political turmoil in their relations might be lessen up. Also the frequent visits of foreign ministers of the two states and with that if they design foreign policy accordingly amid each other could definitely improve their relations.
- Education is one of the most important factors in solidifying a state. If both the states amalgamate their ideas and have education or students exchange programs. This could open positive window of opportunity.
- Track 2 diplomacy could prove fruitful in harnessing relations and reducing hostilities between India and Pakistan.
- The World Bank should establish a set- up in which exchange of information and data sharing be done at a greater level among the Indus Water Commissioners of both the two states.
- It is better that IWT should be re- negotiated and re- designed in relation to international legal doctrines and suggestions from all parties of both states should be considered. This is because that mostly the problems regarding the distribution of waters in the two states and especially in Pakistan is because of the treaty. The Sindh province of Pakistan blame quite on and off Punjab province from handing over its due share of water to India. Subsequently if both the states keep aside their trust deficit element and renegotiate the treaty in a proper manner that could be helpful. Although there’s no guarantee that the treaty would be resolved amicably but maybe India and Pakistan keeping in mind the difficulties they faced could re- negotiate the treaty properly.
- Pakistan water crisis could be controlled if the state works and tries to improve its irrigation system. Abundant of water could be drawn if the irrigation system is developed well.

### **Limitations**

The following were the limitations faced during the research study

- The unavailability of certain books in Pakistan and limited access of recent journals created problems for the researcher.
- There would have been a detailed study if little more time was provided to conduct the research.

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