



SPECPOL STUDY GUIDE



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1- Letter

a) Letter from Secretary General

Esteemed Delegates,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the first-ever CFLMUN conference. We are delighted to have each of you join us for an event that seeks not only to simulate the work of the United Nations but to cultivate leadership, dialogue, and meaningful engagement with the global challenges of our time.

Initially, I want to thank each participant for showing a huge interest in participating and making our prestigious conference come to life. I am thrilled to witness your debates, resolutions, and the most significant memories. As you delegates prepare for debate, I encourage you to approach every issue with open-mindedness, respect, and intellectual curiosity. Model United Nations is not simply a competition of ideas, but an opportunity to challenge assumptions, explore solutions, and practice diplomacy grounded in empathy and understanding.

The study guides you hold are designed to provide a deep foundation for your research. They outline the key issues, relevant actors, and existing international frameworks, but they are by no means exhaustive. I expect you to go further: investigate national policies, examine emerging developments, and bring forward well-informed proposals that reflect your country's interests while addressing the needs of the global community.

Throughout the conference, I hope you will not only contribute to rigorous debate but also build lasting connections with your fellow delegates. The friendships formed and lessons learned here often extend far beyond committee rooms, shaping future academics, professionals, and advocates.

On behalf of the Secretariat, I would like to extend my appreciation to our chairs, organizing team, and advisor, whose dedication has made this conference possible. I am extremely confident that your passion and professionalism will transform CFLMUN'25 into a memorable and enriching experience for all participants.

I wish you the best of luck in your preparation and look forward to witnessing the diplomacy, creativity, and leadership you will bring to this year's discussions.

Sincerely,

Nazlı Atalay

Secretary General

rainbowcucumber3@gmail.com

b) Letter from Under Secretary General

Dear Delegates,

We are pleased to welcome you to CFLMUN25'

I am Ali Efe, Ali Efe Yılmaz.I am the Under Secretary General and The Deputy Director General of this conference.

As you will read human rights violations and disagreements is a very big issue in Kashmir.In this committee we will aim permanent peace and equal human rights in Kashmir and we'll discuss the role of UN in this.I'm sure that we will have a great time both academically and entertainingly. Our crisis team prepared a marvelous crisis for you.

And I want to touch upon the entertainment team. They prepared lots of stuff but I don't want to spoil the surprise so you'll have to wait. I don't want to bore you with a very long letter so I wish you all a great conference. If you have any further questions you can contact me with peace of mind. I am very excited to see you at the conference. Thank you.

Ali Efe Yılmaz

Under Secretary General

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1- Introduction to The Committee

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee(SPECPOL). SPECPOL is the fourth committee of the United Nations General Assembly. It's one of the six main General Assembly committees of the United Nations. SPECPOL's main purpose is decolonization in the world and in outer space. When it was first established it was only responsible for trusteeship and decolonization but when the committee's workload was reduced it combined with the seventh committee, Special Political Committee, to take care of political matters.

The committee assembles in September to mid November every year but it assembles in spring for a short time to adopt decisions of the Special Committee of Peacekeeping Operations too. All of the 193 members of the United Nations can attend the meetings. Unlike the other General Assembly committees, SPECPOL doesn't have a general debate at the start of the committee. The committee lets the civil society representatives discuss decolonization topics, and the petition owners as well. Committee takes 30-35 proposals and agree on several decision

2- Introduction to the Agenda Item:Conflicts and Human Rights Violations in Kashmir

a) The Kashmir Region

The Kashmir region is a highland that takes place between the borders of China, India and Pakistan. This area Includes Kashmir Valley between The Great Himalayas and Pir Panjal Range, Indian administered territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, the Pakistani administered territories of Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan and the Chinese administered territories Aksai Chin and Trans-Karakoram Tract.

b) Regions History

In the first half of millennium the region was an important area for Hinduism and later Buddhism. In the 7.-14. centuries the region ruled by the Hindu dynasties and later Kashmir Shaivism arose. In 1320 Rinchan Shah became the ruler of the area and this was the first time that the area was ruled by a Muslim and Rinchan Shah formed the Kashmir Sultanate. The region was a part of Mughal Empire from 1586 to 1751 and after ruled by Afghan Durrani Empire until 1820. In 1820 the Sikh Empire, under the control of Ranjit Singh, annexed Kashmir. In 1846, defeat of Sikh in the First Anglo-Sikh War, and by the Treaty of Amritsar, a region purchased from the British; the

Raja of Jammu, Gulab Singh, became the new ruler. The rule of his bloodline, under the control of Britain, lasted until the Partition of India in 1947. After that the former Princely State of the British Indian Empire became a problematic area between the three powerful countries; China, India and Pakistan.

a) Sikh Rulement

The region passed from the control of Durrani Empire to Sikh Empire. The Kashmir people was suffering under the control Afghanians so they welcomed their new rulers in a happy way but this happiness didn't last long Sikh's were too oppressive they gave death sentences for cow murders, banned the adhan, banned the right of the Muslims to pray in public locations, they closed the Jamia Masjid and a few other bans for Muslims. They took high taxes and they let the people farm in 1/10 of their land. But after the shortage in 1832 they lowered the taxes and gave interest-free loans to farmers. Kashmir became the second highest income taker place in the Sikh Empire. At this time Kashmir Shawls became known worldwide. In 1845 the First Anglo-Sikh War came out in 1849 Sikh Empire separated to two parts the Princely States and the British Province of Punjab.

b) Princely State

After the Battle of Sobraon two agreements were signed by the first one State of Lahore was given to the British for 100 Lakh's and with the second one Gulab Singh took all the hilly and mountainous area in the Kashmir Valley from the British for 75 Lakhs.

Between 1820 and 1858 the Princely State of Kashmir and Jammu combined different regions, religions and ethnicities. In east Ladakh was ethnically and culturally Tibetan and the people were practicing Buddhism. In the south, they had a mixed population of Hindus,

Muslims and Sikhs. In the Kashmir valley the population was mostly Muslim, there was a Hindu population called the brahmin Kashmiri Pandits they were small but influential. The less populated Baltistan had a population related to Ladakh's but they practiced Shia. In the north, also less populated, Gilgit Agency had a diverse but mostly Shia population and in the west Punch had a Muslim population but in a different ethnicity than Kashmir Valley.

Kashmir was sided by the British because of that after the Indian Rebellion of 1857 the Great Britain took the all control and the Princely State of Kashmir came under the control of Britain.

In the British census of India at the year of 1941, Kashmir had a population of %77 Muslims, %20 of Hindus and the remaining %3 is a mixed population of Buddhists and Sikhs. According to some resources Muslims were suffering from poverty and most workers were slaves for Hindus. Under the Hindu governance Muslims paid high taxes and were forced to work for low prices. This situation caused migrations. Muslim villagers had no political rights until the 1930s.

c) Background of The Issue

The Kingdom of Himalaya was connected to India through Punjab but their population was %77 and connected to Pakistan by border. In 1947, when the British control in the area was over, Kashmir was expected to join Pakistan but the Maharaja started a guerrilla attack on Pakistan to force them to give up from Kashmir and Maharaja made a deal with Indians the deal was Kashmir will join India and India will help against Pakistan. Later the UN was called to solve the fight. The UN insisted on a referendum but India rejected it until Pakistan forces left the area. In the last days of 1948 a truce was signed but the referendum UN wanted was never done. This situation led to two other wars between India and Pakistan.

d) Current Situation

India controls the area that includes Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, nearly half of the old Princely State, Pakistan controls 1/3 of a region divided to two parts; Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. Great Britain, Afghanistan and Russia signed some deals about the north borders of the area but China never agreed on these agreements. In the middle of 50s China entered the northeast of Ladakh.









In 1956-1957 China completed a military road between Aksai Chin, Xinjiang and West Tibet for better communication. India's discovery of the road led to the Indo-China War in 1962.

India controls 101,338 km², Pakistan controls 85,846 km² and China controls 37,555 km² of the discussed area. These areas are controlled by their own claimants in practice but neither India nor Pakistan recognises each other's areas claims. India claims that all the areas belong to them and Pakistan claims all the area except China's lands. Two countries made a couple of wars over this situation. The Indo-Pakistani War of 1947 led to Pakistan's control on 1/3 of the Kashmir and India's 1/2 control and the rough borders of today have been established. The Indo-Pakistani War of 65' led to a dead end and a truce that was led by the UN.

e) Demographics

According to the 1901 British Indian Empire census, Population of Jammu and Kashmir Princely State 2,905,578 74 percent of it was Muslims, 24 percent Hindus and the other 2 percent was Buddhists, Sikhs and other religions. In the census of 1911 the total population rose to 3,158,126 with the Muslim population ratio raised by 1 percent and Hindus reduced by 1 percent. In the last census in 1941 total population raised to 3,945,000 Muslims ratio stayed the same but Hindus ratio reduced by 2 percent.




Religious groups in Jammu & Kashmir Princely State (British India era)

Religious group	1901		1911		1921		1931		1941	
	Pop.	%	Pop.	%	Pop.	%	Pop.	%	Pop.	%
Islam 	2,154,695	74.16%	2,398,320	75.94%	2,548,514	76.75%	2,817,636	77.28%	3,101,247	77.11%
Hinduism 	689,073	23.72%	690,390	21.86%	692,641	20.86%	736,222	20.19%	809,165	20.12%
Buddhism 	35,047	1.21%	36,512	1.16%	37,685	1.13%	38,724	1.06%	40,696	1.01%
Sikhism 	25,828	0.89%	31,553	1.01%	39,507	1.19%	50,662	1.39%	65,903	1.64%
Jainism 	442	0.02%	345	0.01%	529	0.02%	597	0.02%	910	0.02%
Christianity 	422	0.01%	975	0.03%	1,634	0.05%	2,263	0.06%	3,509	0.09%
Zoroastrianism 	11	0%	31	0%	7	0%	5	0%	29	0%
Tribal	—	—	—	—	—	—	134	0%	51	0%
Judaism 	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	0%
Others	60	0%	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%	95	0%
Total population	2,905,578	100%	3,158,126	100%	3,320,518	100%	3,646,243	100%	4,021,616	100%

Population of Jammu & Kashmir Princely State by Province (1901–1941)

Census Year	Jammu Province		Kashmir Province		Frontier Regions		Jammu & Kashmir Princely State	
	Pop. %	—	Pop. %	—	Pop. %	—	Pop.	%
1901	1,521,307	52.36%	1,157,394	39.83%	226,877	7.81%	2,905,578	100%
1911	1,597,865	50.6%	1,295,201	41.01%	265,060	8.39%	3,158,126	100%
1921	1,640,259	49.4%	1,407,086	42.38%	273,173	8.23%	3,320,518	100%
1931	1,788,441	49.05%	1,569,218	43.04%	288,584	7.91%	3,646,243	100%
1941	1,981,433	49.27%	1,728,705	42.99%	311,478	7.75%	4,021,616	100%

Today's Population Distribution

Administered by	Area	Population	% Muslim	% Hindu	%Buddhist	% other
 India	Kashmir Valley	~4 million (4 million)	95%	4%	—	—
	Jammu	~3 million (3 million)	30%	66%	40%	4%
	Ladakh	~0.25 million (250,000)	46%	12%	—	2%
	Azad Kashmir	~4 million (4 million)	100%	—	—	—
 Pakistan	Gilgit-Baltistan	~2 million (2 million)	99%	—	—	—
	Aksai Chin	—	—	—	—	—
 China	Trans	—	—	—	—	—
	Karakoram	—	—	—	—	—

f) Human Right Violations Violations Near The Line of Control

The Line of Control(LOC) is a military line between Pakistan administered zone and India administered zone. It's not an international border but it is an imaginary border between two sides, in 1948 it was determined as the truce line, it divided Kashmir by two and closed the only entrance to the Kashmir Valley. This division separated villages and families. The landmines that soldiers laid killed lots of innocent people and crippled thousands. This crippled people are fighting to survive without any compensation.

During the 2008 Kashmir Unrest, Hindu extremist groups Bharatiya Janita Party blocked the Jammu National Highway. The road that connects Kashmir Valley to the India remained closed for a few days and the supply of basic needs have been stopped. As a answer to this in 11 August 2008 with the lead of Sheikh Abdul Aziz 50,000-250,000 protesters tried to pass the line and get into Muzaffarabad. Protesters stopped in Uri and with the fire of the police and Indian paramilitary forces 15 person died and hundreds get harmed. A slogan raised by the protesters was "Destroy the bloody line and let Kashmir unite again."

Jammu and Kashmir *Jammu* and Kashmir is administered by India and has a very big human right violation issue. The allegations range from mass murders, forced disappearances, torture, rape and sexual harassment, suppression of freedom of speech and bans to religious gatherings. From 1990 lots of mass murders have been in the area. Army of India, Central Reserve Police Forces, Border Security Personnel and various militant groups have been accused of strong human right abuses. According to the official numbers that were released in the Jammu and Kashmir Parliament; 47,000 people, 7,000 of it was police and 20,000 of its militants died because of the insurgency as of July 2009, and 3,400 people have disappeared. Some of the sources tell that India tortures people and US diplomats have evidence of it. India rejected the UN panel that asks questions about steps that were taken in Delhi to address accused abuses in April 2019. Amnesty International froze operations in India in September 2020 after the accused government froze their bank accounts. India's National Investigation Agency raided several Non Governmental Organizations in October 2020 for alleged funding to terror activities in Jammu and Kashmir.

Those actions criticized by activist as "Crackdown on the human right defenders in Kashmir."

Indian Security Forces

In September 1990 Armed Forces Act was enacted in Jammu and Kashmir after passing the Parliament of India to handle the rise in Kashmir Insurgency. The human rights group Amnesty claims that the special powers give security forces immunity from alleged violations committed and condemn it. United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navanethem Pillay urged India to repeal the forces and investigate disappearances in Kashmir.

The Prime Minister stated that they should repeal but repealing will give motivation to terrorist and affect them badly in 26 February 2009. International NGO's and US State Department have documented excesses such as disappearances, torture and arbitrary executions carried out during India's counter terrorism operations.

Human Rights Watch has also accused the Indian Security Forces for using children as spies and messengers and they been accused of raping more than 200 people for intimidate local population. The International Committee Red Cross reported that of the 1296 detainees that interviewed, 681 of them reported being tortured. Of those, 304 individuals complained of sexual torture. Medecins Sans Frontieres's research says that people in Kashmir witnessed more rape than other conflict zones Chechnya and Sri Lanka. Professor William Baker stated at the 52nd United Nations Commission of Human Rights that rape in Kashmir was an active strategy of Indian forces to humiliate the people in Kashmir.

In April 2002 authorities in Indian administered Kashmir arrested 3 Indian paramilitant after couple of soldiers raping a 17 girl.

On April 9 2017, in the Kashmir human shield incident a 26 year old man was captured by the Indian army and they tied him in front of a jeep. It was reported to deter the other rebels from firing guns at the jeep. The man accused of throwing stones to soldiers. Jammu and Kashmir Human Rights Commission ordered to pay 10 Lakh Rupee to the victim. The Jammu and Kashmir Government refused to pay. General Bipin Rawad rewarded Major Leetul

Gogoi with a Chief of Army Staff Commendation Card for anti-rebel actions including the human shield case.

Other torture and rape incidents reported in Jammu and Kashmir some of this incidents reported to happen to kids.

Skidmore College in New York and Kashmir University made a survey in the region and results showed 91 percent of the students that participated in the survey wanted Indian forces to leave the territory. Associated Press's news, at the date of August 2019, Kashmiris people want freedom from India or uniting with Pakistan.

Muslim Militants

Rapes have been done with Muslim militants reported since 1947 Indo-Pakistani War. On 22 October 1947, Pashtun Militants invaded Baramulla with a Pakistan army truck and raped woman including European nuns. On March 1990 a BSF inspectors' wife has been kidnapped, tortured and gang-raped for days. Later her dead body with broken ribs was abandoned on the road. On 14 April 1990 a nurse from Srinagar was gang-raped and beaten to death. Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front took responsibility for the crime and accused her of giving information about militants to police. On 6 June 1990 a lab assistant of a high school kidnapped raped by many people for days and chopped in a wood factory. After these, these events continued happening. Human Rights Watch and the United States State Department documented massive human rights violations by Pakistan supported militant groups.

Violations to Hindus

During the militancy storm in Kashmir, Hindus suffered from violations too. According to the Indian Government, 219 people died, 140,000 people migrated and more than 3,000 people stayed in the valley. AMNESTY International, Human Rights Watch and International Commission of Jurists confirmed Indian reports.

According to a resolution passed by the United States Congress in 2006, Islamic terrorists infiltrated the region in 1989 and forced Kashmiri Pandits to leave the area. According to a report, the population of Kashmiri Pandits in Kashmir. The

population was 400,000 in 1989 and 4,000 in 2011. These groups targeted Hindus.

From 1994 to 1998 Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front, accused of ethnic cleansing by using murder, arson and rape as a war weapon. Later 23 Kashmiri Pandits including 9 women and 4 little kids were killed by Unknown people that wears Indian uniforms who drank with them and waited for a radio message that tells all the Pandit families have been included.

Muslim civilians who were considered as spies raped and murdered too.

Kashmir Under Administration of Pakistan Azad Jammu and Kashmir

Pakistan, an Islamic Republic, limited peoples' religious freedom. According to Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence shows activity in Kashmir and involved in murders and torture.

Gilgit-Baltistan

The main thing that local people want is rights as the 5th state of Pakistan. But Pakistan claims that they can't do it according to the 1948 UN Resolution.

In 2009, the Pakistan Government applied for an autonomy package for Gilgit-Baltistan. This action of Pakistan was criticized by Indian administered Kashmir and Pakistan administered Kashmir. 300 protesters from Kashmir protested this action and some of them carried banners that say'' Pakistan's expansionist actions on Gilgit-Baltistan are unacceptable'' but most of the local people want to be a part of Pakistan.

4-Questions

- 1) What solutions can be taken to end the conflicts in the region?
- 2) Is population exchange necessary between sides? If so, how?
- 3) Will The Line of Control be demolished or continue to stay?
- 4) Is Kashmir going to unite again? If not, how will borders be shaped?
- 5) Are the sexual assaulters and murderers going to get punished? If yes, how is it going to be?
- 6) How to stop human rights violations against women and children in the Kashmir region?
- 7) Are the militant forces going to be removed or are their presence going to continue?

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