

Name: Kainat Fatima

Class: 316

Question For many observes the OIC has not lived upto its expectations, especially to help resolve the Palestine & Kashmir issue. Suggest measures of the OIC members and Pakistan for the proper functioning of this global body to achieve cooperation and resolve the disputes.

Ans

Background:

On August 21, 1969 a fire was started in the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem by a demented Australian Christian fundamentalist Denis Michael Rohan. The former Mufti of Jerusalem called the arson a "Jewish Crime" and called for all Muslim heads of state to convene a summit. Accordingly, on September 25, 1969 an Islamic Conference - a summit of representatives of 24 Muslim Majority countries - was held in Rabat, Morocco. A resolution was passed stating that "Muslim governments would consult with a view to promoting among themselves close cooperation and mutual assistance

in the economic, scientific, cultural and spiritual fields, inspired by the immortal teachings of Islam. In March, 1970, the first Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Jeddah. This led to the founding of the organization of the Islamic Conference in 1972. With a membership of 57 states from four continents, the OIC is - currently the second largest organization right after UN. It is recognized as the collective voice of the Muslim world to ensure and safeguard their interest in socio-economic and political areas. The OIC aims at promoting Islamic solidarity by coordinating social, economic, scientific and cultural activities. Under the banner of strengthening the struggle of Muslims, OIC pledges to eliminate racial segregation and discrimination, especially in regard to the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation).

Goals of OIC:

Some of the major aims of the establishment of OIC are as:

⇒ Enhance and consolidate the bonds of ~~frat~~fraternity and solidarity among muslim states

⇒ Ensure active participation of the member state in the global political, economic and social decision making processes to secure their common interest

⇒ Protect and defend the true image of islam, and encourage dialogue among civilization and religions

⇒ Enhance and develop science and technology and encourage research and cooperation among member state in these fields

⇒ Exert efforts to achieve sustainable and comprehensive human development and economic well being in member state

⇒ Safeguard the Holy places, like Aqsa Mosque and support the struggle of Palestinian people.

Pakistan Involvement:

Pakistan's involvement in OIC is very prominent from the very first day. Pakistan is one of the founding members of the organization. Since its inception, Pakistan became a very proactive member of OIC. Pakistan gives a lot of importance to its relations with the Muslim countries. It has an abiding commitment to the purposes, principles and objectives of the charter of the OIC. During OIC's 1994 conference in Tehran, Pakistan succeeded in persuading the member countries to create the 'OIC Contact group on Kashmir'. Pakistan was determined to cut ties with any state that recognized Jammu and Kashmir as "an integral part of India". Pakistan became chairman of the OIC, as no Islamic summit in OIC history, save for the Lahore summit, 37 member countries joined the summit. Pakistan recognized the Bangladesh and invited Mujibur Rahman to join the summit due to request of several Arab leaders of the Arab states.

and Sheikh Mujeeb travelled from Dhaka to Lahore to attend the summit. Pakistan played vital role during the ^{3rd} ICFM held in Jeddah in March 1972 that discussed and adopted the OIC charter. Pakistan also plays important role in some of most prominent and important Organs of the OIC such as Islamic International Justice Court (IICT), the Islamic Chamber of Commerce (ICC), and the COMSTEGECH etc. Pakistan has supported the Palestine and the holy Jerusalem cause much more than many Arab States could ever do. Right from 1947 as soon as Pakistan was admitted to the UN, it spoke for Palestine and boycotted the Israel.

OIC - Organization of the Islamic Cooperation

It was founded in 1969

First OIC Charter Adopted in 1972

→ Founding member

"38"

key bodies of OIC

→ Council of Foreign Ministers

→ General Secretariat

→ Number of members

"57"

→ Islamic Summit

→ AI Study Committee.

OIC and Kashmir Issue:

Kashmir dispute has maintained a life and death issue for Pakistan and Pakistan always raise its voice on every important platform for to sought out the issue as it has been on the UN agendas for the last 70 odd years. In

Contact Group on Kashmir:

In 1994 during the OIC conference in Tehran, Pakistan succeeded in persuading the member countries to create the "OIC contact Group on Kashmir". Pakistan was determined to cut the ties with any state that recognized Kashmir as "an integral part of India". Countries like Israel, Armenia, Costa Rica, Liberia and Zambia are not recognized by ~~the~~ Pakistan as they support India on the issue of Kashmir.

OIC member states and India:

Although OIC is highly influenced by ~~the~~ Pakistan and also Kashmir ^{issue} have important for Pakistan,

the issue of Kashmir have been not raised on many OIC forum for many years as many of the leading and influential members of the OIC have friendly terms with India. On Feb 14, 2019 a terrorist attack in Pulwama in Indian occupied Kashmir was ~~can~~ planted, followed up by the violence of Pakistan airspace, in which an Indian air force jet - dropped payloads inside Azad Kashmir. As tension mounted between the two hostile and belligerent neighbours. The countries like UAE & KSA are trying their best to support India on OIC platform, there are also ^{some} members of OIC like Syria, Algeria, Egypt and some CARs that ~~resist~~ strongly condemn the Indian violence in Kashmir from the platform of the OIC.

'Annex and Absorb':

India has been brutalizing the helpless Kashmiris in the Indian occupied Jammu & Kashmir since its occupation. On August 5, 2019 India

abrogated ~~its~~ ~~and~~ ~~repealed~~ ~~the~~
Article 370 of its Constitution and made
a pathetic attempt to "annex and
absorb" it into the Indian Union.
Human rights for the last several
months and ~~the~~ genocide is on in
Kashmir. The OIC's deafening silence
and ~~incomplete~~ in comprehensible inaction
over the abhorrent treatment of
Kashmiris by ~~by~~ the Indian forces
is unfathomable.

OIC Role on Palestine Issue:

The OIC was formed in 1969 in
response to Israeli arson attack on
the Al-Aqsa mosque in ~~Jeruse~~ Jerusalem.
It was founded with the aim to
protect the Jerusalem. But the
issue is not resolved yet. Even the
conditions of the Muslim states and
OIC have got so questionable that
~~in~~ today if the Israel settlers ~~El~~ govt
take over Al-Aqsa, there is no reaction
or response from OIC.

The Gulf nations of yesterday ~~are~~
are very different from what they
are today. Many of the Gulf states have

many of the changed their policies
to-ward Israel also many of
them have started trade with
them. As the close Ally of ^{the} KSA ~~KSA~~
UAE have normalized relations with
Israel and there way not even a single
statement ^{from ~~KSA~~ Riyadh} to counter the UAE's move.
Muslim Ummah is getting Fed up of these
warned the OIC that if it continued
to remain silent on issues surrounding
Palestine and Kashmir will result
in *

Failure of OIC on Kashmir & Palestine Issues:

OIC seem to be failed the major
issue of Muslim states like Kashmir
Palestine etc. Because of the interests
of some of the influential states
of the organization. As they have
traded or friendly relation with
the violent states. If the OIC starts
belittling all the issues that best it
including Kashmir, then it stands
to lose its raison d'être. If it will not

the muslim states like Kashmir and Palestine it will affect the efficiency of the organization. ~~that~~ since ~~the~~ the organization is founded its unable to resolve the issue of Palestine which was the main aim of its foundation. Thus, whenever a need will ~~raise~~ arise for the OIC to act collectively, the majority might stay away claiming it to be only a bilateral issue between the involved states. This will further weaken the emancipated organization. As Pakistan has felt that the Islamic world, particularly OIC didn't supported it enough on Indian decision of August 5, on changing the status of Jammu and Kashmir. Also OIC is neglecting the violence of Israeli settlers in the Palestine and Attacks on Aqsa Mosque.

The Ex PM, Imran Khan of Pakistan on 48th session of the OIC, said that OIC had failed in making an impact on burning issues of Palestine and in Kashmir despite representation 1.5b muslims.

Way Forward:

The OIC has been criticized by many Muslims for its lack of real engagement and performance such as solution for Muslim countries in crises like Palestine, Kashmir, Yemen etc.

The organization has not lived up to the expectations of the Muslims so far.

It's compromising on the things that were included in its aims at the time of its founding. Organization

should focus on the Muslim Ummah as a whole and their interest ~~and~~

~~interest~~ instead of few influential states and their interest. It should

find the solution of the issues like Palestine and Kashmir. More than

4 decades of violence and cruelty faced by the Muslims of Palestine

Moreover, ~~It~~ An organization whose role in the past has been almost

for four decades no more than their

a forum of discussion cannot be expected

to overnight turn into a proactive

international body. The OIC has a

had a disappointing record but it can also be converted into a proactive international body that stands for Muslim Ummah. Steps can be taken to improve the soft image of Islam and to overcome the Islamophobia. Also some step should be taken to deal with the Israeli settlers and Indian occupied forces. OIC should focus on the remedies to unite the Muslim Ummah. As division is one of the major issue of the Ummah that led to severe war like that in Yemen. OIC can play an effective role of mediator between 2 states in the cause of sensitive issues like Kashmir and Palestine, and also to the war of Yemen as ~~there were~~ ^{was} ^{is} no solution to nothing but the table talk and dialogues are.

OIC can build its image in Muslim world by proving its ~~product~~ ^{product} credibility but it's only possible if they get serious to the aims and objectives of the OIC on which this organization was founded.

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