

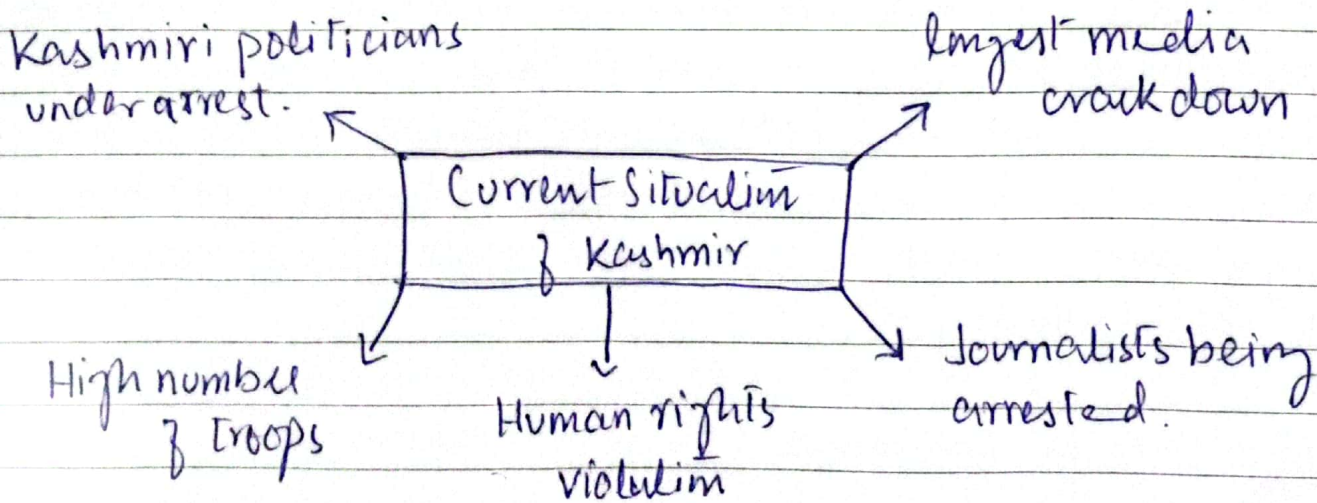
Q) How do you see G20 conference in Indian held Kashmir? what objectives India tried to achieve? What options are available for Pakistan.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 20  
M T W T F S S

"India is misusing it's position as chair of G20, a forum created to address financial and economical issues with utter disregard to UNSC resolution"

Foreign Minister, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari

The revocation of article 370 and 35A on 5<sup>th</sup> August-2019 by the hindu nationalist BJP meant that Kashmir lost it's special status. Simply put, Modi took away the autonomy from Kashmir. In this chaotic situation India decided to host the G20 summit in Kashmir. It's prime objective was to promote normalcy, peace and showcase their regional power on an international platform. However, the reality is completely opposite which Pakistan can use to expose the worrying situation of Kashmir to international audience.



## Indian Objectives:-

### To promote tourism:-

The surface level objective of India was to promote tourism in Kashmir. India aimed to exploit the beautiful Kashmir for its own strategic goals. The slogan "Naya Kashmir" was used to talk about the potential change the foreign investors can bring in by promoting the tourism potential of the area.

### To promote normalcy:-

India also aimed to fake the narrative that everything is under control and normal in Kashmir. India's objective was to deny the UN and Amnesty International reports that discussed human rights violation in Kashmir.

### To stamp their authority:-

The prime idea was to showcase their authority and will over the disputed region of Kashmir. After the revocation of article 370 and 35A, Pakistan and some other countries like China raised their voice against it. This might have led to some confusion to the international audience, however, India with this G20 summit aimed to cement the events of 5th August 2019. India hosted G20 summit summits in their major states including Kashmir to show their authority.

### To show its care for Kashmir:-

G20 is a strong group that has 19 world's wealthiest countries and EU. These members account to ~~over~~ around 85% of the world GDP according to the G20. During the G20 summit in Kashmir, representatives of each country

where <sup>was</sup> ~~else~~ given a tour of the tourist spots of Kashmir. India's aims <sup>to</sup> promote tourism and get investments from these wealthiest countries. India claims that the investment will help build the tourism industry in Kashmir and it will further bring jobs and sources of revenue for Kashmiri people.

Available options for Pakistan:-

UN Security Council Resolution 1948:-

The issue of Kashmir should be resolved "Through the democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite".  
UNSC Resolution 1948.

It is clearly stated in the International Law that the people of Kashmir should be given the right of self determination. The issue of Kashmir according to UNSC resolution is an International issue and should not be solved bilaterally or unilaterally.

It's been around seven decades now and UN needs to exercise this. Pakistan should continuously bring the resolution into attention at every International <sup>platform</sup> to pressurize UN.

Remarks of UN Rapporteur:-

The UN rapporteur for minority rights quoted "situation in Kashmir should be condemned and not pushed under the rug and ignored". The international eyeballs have started to realize the open human rights violation in Kashmir. Pakistan need to highlight such commentary and use them in international platforms like UN itself.

To expose severe media crackdowns-

Following the events of 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019, Kashmir is under a prolonged media crackdown. India continues to arrest local journalists as reported by Al-Jazeera. According to the report by "Reporters beyond borders", a Paris based organization, ranked India 161 among 180 countries in world's press freedom index. India is ranked below Afghanistan and Myanmar. Pakistan needs to highlight these ranking to show the world the real situation of Kashmir.

Board of

1 Amnesty International India

Another international organization reported the series of human rights violations by India. According to Amnesty International India, there have been 60 instances of human rights violations that have been ~~reported~~ ~~the reported~~ documented. The undocumented ones would be huge in numbers.

"The Indian authorities must end the long drawn repression in Jammu and Kashmir immediately"  
Aakar Patel, Chair of board of  
Amnesty International India.

Even journalist from inside India are exposing the Indian government and their brutalities in Kashmir. Pakistan must present their narratives and reports from within India to the world.

To expose absurd use of UAPA:-

India has been using the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act to arrest the people of Kashmir. This law provides more flexible flexibility to the police in keeping the person in pre-trial pre-trial detention for 180 days even though the charges filed by the police are nothing less than a fiction book or novel. Pakistan should talk about how India is locking Kashmiris behind bars without any solid accusation.

Security bunkers to smart bunkers:-

Since August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019, India has employed a huge number of security personnels in Kashmir. In order to portray peace and normalcy in Kashmir during the G20 summit, India had to reduce the visibility of the heavy security. India covered the security bunkers with posters promoting the G20 sub summit. This was done to falsely facelift the overall physical appearance of damaged Kashmir. Pakistan should expose this tactic of India to the world to show them the reality.

Critical Analysis:-

"China firmly opposes holding any of G20 meeting in the disputed area"

Foreign Minister, China.

China's decision to not attend the G20 summit was a big blow to India. China being the second biggest enemy economy and not attending G20 grabbed the attention of the whole world.

Indian Supreme Court hearing:-

After almost 4 years and submittin<sup>g</sup> of around 20 petitions, Indian supreme court has decided to hear the case regarding the revocation of article 370 and 35A by Modi's government. This is a positive step that would put the Modi's government under scrutiny. Pakistan can use <sup>it</sup> to justify how not only international but also people from India have started to realize the unlawful acts of Modi's government.

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China's decision to not attend the G20 summit was a big blow to India. China been the second biggest economy not attending G20 grabbed the world's attention. ~~Pakistan~~ This weakened the overall G20 summit. Pakistan can use China's support to pressurize India through the SCO platform.

G20 summit in Kashmir took place under extremely tight security. Dal lake, as a tourist attraction in Kashmir was ~~strictly~~ filled with marine security. The extra ordinary security that too at a tourist destination does not align well.

Conclusion:-

India might not have fully benefitted by hosting the G20 summit- Kashmir due to China's absence, tight security, international and local voices raising concerns of human rights violations. However, the participation of other members of G20 shows to some extent

those nations

The idea of ↑ forgetting or maybe ignoring the situation of Kashmir. Pakistan needs to improve its foreign policy regarding the Kashmir issue. They need to use the International and regional platforms to highlight findings of UN, Amnesty International and to expose India.