

India - Pakistan Water Dispute - An Alarming Issue.

Brainstorming

- (1) - Introduction
- (2) - Historical Background
- (3) - Silent features of the Indus Water Treaty.
- (4) - Current Situation.
- (5) - The Indus water Treaty Prospects for India-Pak Peace.
- (6) - Consequences
 - (a) - Water Scarcity: "No water at all" - A case study to show water scarcity level in Pakistan
 - (b) - Food Security
 - (c) - Social Unrest
 - (d) - Regional Instability.
- (7) - Potential Solutions.

Outlines

(1) Introduction

1.1 Hook

1.2 Thesis Statement

(2) Historical Background

(3) Silent features of the Indus Water Treaty

3.1 Provisions regarding Eastern rivers (Article-2)

3.2 Provisions regarding Western rivers (Article-3)

3.3 Exchange of data (Article-6)

3.4 Future Cooperation (Article-7)

3.5 Settlement of differences and disputes (Article-9)

(4) Current Situation

4.1 - Water Flow Reduction: India

Significantly reduced the flow of water from Chenab River into Pakistan, with a reported 90% decrease.

4.2 Treaty Suspensions:

India suspended IWT after a militant attack in Pahalgam, Kashmir, which

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called 26 people.
4.3 Flood Warning Communication

4.4 Agricultural Impact

4.5 Diplomatic tensions.

4.6 Impact of climate change
and population growth on
water resources.

(5) Consequences

5.1 - Water Scarcity and its
impact on agriculture, industry
and human consumption.

5.2 Food Security and economic
stability

5.3 Social unrest and conflict.

5.4 Regional instability.

6 Potential Solutions

6.1 Strengthening the IWT and
ensuring its effective

6.2 Implementation

6.3 Confidence - building measures
and regular meetings.

6.4 Water management practices
and conservation

6.5 Int. cooperation and facilitation.

(7) Conclusion

(7.1) Thesis restated.

The Essay.

"Water, the source of life, has become a source of strife between India and Pakistan, threatening the very foundation of their fragile relationship." The water dispute between India and Pakistan is a decades-old issue that has escalated into a complex geopolitical challenge, threatening regional peace and stability. The Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), signed in 1960, allocated the waters of eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej) to India and the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab) to Pakistan. However, recent developments have raised concerns about the ~~issue~~ Treaty's sustainability, and the dispute has become a pressing issue that requires immediate attention and cooperation.

India - Pakistan water disputes is an alarming situation that requires a comprehensive approach to resolve the issue and promote regional stability.

The Indus Waters Treaty, which was brokered by the World Bank and signed on September 19, 1960, established the rights and responsibilities of India and Pakistan concerning the utilization of the waters of the Indus River system. The Indus ~~waters~~ River flows through the disputed Kashmir region originating in the southwester Tibet Autonomous Region of China, and emptying into the Arabian Sea in Pakistan. After the partition of British India in 1947, the water system was bifurcated, with the head ~~of~~ works in India and the canal

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running through Pakistan, and negotiations on the distribution of water between the two countries became contentious. David Lilienthal, a former head of the Tennessee Valley Authority and the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, visited the region in 1951 and suggested that India and Pakistan should jointly develop and administer the Indus River System with the advice and financing of World Bank, but political considerations prevented technical discussions from leading to a resolution. Finally, after 6 years of talks, the IWT was signed, granting Pakistan the use of the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab) and India the use of eastern rivers (The Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej).

The Indus Water Treaty has

been a crucial instrument for maintaining peace between India and Pakistan and managing their shared water resources. While challenges and disputes have arisen, the treaty has shown resilience and has the potential to continue to be a source of cooperation and stability in the region. The treaty itself has several mechanisms for the settlement of disputes among the countries, the such establishment of the Permanent Indus Commission, which is made up of representatives from both countries and meets regularly to discuss issues related to the treaty. The treaty faced a number of challenges on behalf of both countries, yet it managed to withstand all these tensions. It is wisely said:

"The Indus Waters Treaty has survived three wars between India and Pakistan

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including the Bangladesh Liberation War, and has provided a framework for the two countries to negotiate water-sharing - despite frequent tensions" - Ban Ki-moon.

"The wars of the twenty-first century will be fought over water" - Ismail Serageldin

The construction of dams has sparked concerns about future water shortages and led to diplomatic tensions between India and Pakistan, with both countries engaging in divisive political narratives that could increase the likelihood of conflict. Pakistanis are particularly concerned that India's upstream dams could allow it to control the ~~thrust~~ amount of water that flows down into Pak. through the Indus. Pakistan has made multiple attempts over the past two decades to prevent India from building dams on the

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Chenab and Beelum Rivers. ~~with~~
The issue of water between India and Pakistan has become increasingly important in recent years, as India has violated the Indus Water Treaty by constructing dams on rivers given to Pakistan under the treaty. Pakistani leaders accuse ~~of~~ India of ~~being~~ ~~their~~ ~~economy~~ ~~as well as~~ being their external enemy and attempting to suppress their economy as well as acting under an international conspiracy led by America, Israel and India against Pakistan. India has planned to construct around 100 hydroelectric projects and reservoirs on the Indus, Chenab, and Beelum rivers, causing concerns in Pakistan about India's plan to strangle their economy through a "water bomb" strategy. This has led to fears of a potential nuclear war between the two.

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the two countries. Pakistan also fears the adverse impact of the Indian projects, as they may cause floods and run the Chenab and Shelum rivers dry, impacting Pakistan's water supply. The number of dams / schemes that India is building on the Western rivers is massive, generating fears in Pakistan about their implications for the flow of water to Pakistan. The situation is critical and the issue needs to be resolved to avoid a potential nuclear clash and ensure peace in the region.

Pakistan is facing a dire and alarming situation with regards to water scarcity. The country is ranked 14th among the 17th countries in the world with "extremely high water Risk", including countries like

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Saudi Arabia. According to a recent report by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economic (PIDE), more than 80% of Pakistanis face severe water scarcity for at least one month each year. What makes this situation even more complex is that Pakistan is a downstream country to India, with 78% of its water inflow coming from there. The crisis has affected everyone in the country, from low-income groups to the affluent. The lack of access to safe drinking water compounds the issues, with 22 million people lacking access to clean drinking water and 79 million people without access to improved sanitation facilities, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The Punjab province of Pakistan is a vital region for

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For the country's agricultural production and food security, the province is famous for its cultivation of wheat, a staple food for the people of Pakistan. Punjab has over 51 million acres of cultivated land and an additional 9.05 million acres of cultivable waste. The availability of water is crucial for agriculture, hydroelectric power generation, and other economic activities in Punjab. Under the treaty, Pakistan has been granted exclusive use of the waters of the three western rivers, namely the Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab. These rivers are the lifeline of agriculture in Pakistan, particularly in Punjab, which receives the majority of its water from the Indus River System.

The Indus Water Treaty, which has been successful in the past, is facing strain

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due to growing water scarcity and ecological stress in the Indus Basin.

"But the water problems of our world need not only a cause of tension; they can also be a catalyst for cooperation - if we work together, a secure and sustainable water future can be ours" - Kofi Annan

The issue can be resolved by a number of available options such as there is a need to expand the scope ~~of~~ and mandate of the Commission. This can be done by forming an ~~India~~ Indus Water Consultative Group comprising India, Pakistan and international water experts that would provide input on supply capacity, climate change, environmental degradation, and joint watershed management. Additionally, both ~~the~~ India and Pakistan need to to ensure internal

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water resources management by following the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and sharing best practices in water conservation techniques for agricultural, industrial, and domestic uses. This will help in reducing stress on the Indus River ~~the~~ system. There is a need for a Paradigm shift in water management from a technocratic approach towards a socio-centric approach that lays emphasis on indigenous physical and human resource management and is more resource-efficient and ecology-friendly.

To conclude, we can say that India - Pakistan water dispute is a complex and alarming situation that requires immediate attention and cooperation from both countries. The dispute's far-reaching consequences, including

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water scarcity, impact on food security and economic stability, social unrest, and regional instability, necessitates a comprehensive approach to resolve the issue.

Strengthening the Indus Waters Treaty, confidence-building measures, water management practices, and international cooperation are essential to promote regional stability and ensure water security for future generations. To move forward, both countries must prioritize dialogue and cooperation, recognizing the dispute's significance for regional peace and stability.

A comprehensive approach can help mitigate tensions, promote mutual understanding, and ensure the effective implementation of the treaty. Ultimately, resolving India-Pakistan water dispute requires a commitment to cooperation, diplomacy, and sustainable water management.

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By working together, India-Pak
can reduce the risk of
conflict, promote regional
stability, and ensure
water security for future
generations. The international
community can also play
a supportive role by facilitating
dialogue and cooperation
between the two countries.