

India–Pakistan Conflict



History of the Conflict

- The territory of Kashmir
- Pakistan believed it would be ceded to them as population mostly muslim
- Maharaja Hari Singh hesitated
- Pakistani guerillas invaded



The Problem



- The ruler of Kashmir made a deal to place Kashmir under Indian rule if India would protect Kashmir from invasion.
- India pushes out guerillas
- 1948 – UN brokers Cease fire
 - Want plebiscite
 - People to decide which country to join
 - India never get around to it



▶ Four wars between India and Pakistan have been fought over the Kashmir territory

- 1947–1948

- 1965

- Pakistan tries to undermine Indian rule in Kashmir





• 1971

- Bangladesh seeking independence from Pakistan
- Pakistan responds with genocide of Bengali's (mostly Hindu).
- India supports Bengali's
- Pakistan invades India

• 1999

- when Pakistan invaded and attempted to capture Kargil.

The Importance of Kashmir to India and Pakistan

- ▶ The geography is mostly rural, with large mountains, deserts, and valleys.
- ▶ The region could have natural resources such as oil, gold, or silver that has not yet been discovered.



Control of the Indus River

- The Indus begins in Kashmir, flows through Pakistan, then flows into mainland India.
- Since Kashmir is part of India, they could dam the Indus and change the flow of the river.
- Without fertile land to grow crops, Pakistan would become a desert and its people would starve.



Religious Sites

- ▶ Both Pakistan and India have sites in Kashmir that are important to their respective religions.



Strategic Location

- ▶ India–Kashmir acts as a buffer.
- ▶ Pakistan–Kashmir offers fertile land and water security



International Scene

- Pakistan
- Joins SEATO 1954
 - U.S. containment
- First nuclear bomb 1998



- ▶ India
- ▶ No commitments during cold war
- ▶ 1962 war with China
 - U.S. support
- ▶ First nuclear bomb 1974

