

## KASHMIR IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE



**Tall Khan (KHAN GAFFAR KHAN)**

Suitably known as "Frontier Gandhi" of NWFP now Pakhtoonkhuwh and another tall man Sheikh Abdullah, "Lion of Kashmir" dwarfed with political Indoctrination facilitated Gandhi and Nehru to use these inept in political jugglery to fulfil the agenda. Both died a political death and their history archived never to see the light. Identical festering wounds being nursed by Kashmir and Pakistan since 1947.

Prime Minister Clement Attlee assigned Louise Mountbatten the job to quit India as quickly as possible, as it became impossible for United Kingdom to carry on its rule over the 'jewel' in the Crown. The cries of subjugated people were, perhaps, heard by divinity to force lunacy on Hitler culminating into super power UK's economic disaster. It was more of a circumstantial political compulsion than any 'freedom struggle' responsible for independence of the sub-continent.

The powers and the political Hindu religious zealots of India now curse Nehru for approaching UN Security Council and allowing Sheikh Abdullah to deliver a speech at the UN on February 5, 1948. Pandit Nehru succeeded with verbal promises and a few gestures of political statements to hoodwink Sheikh as the latter used his leadership to control the malleable Kashmiris to gain time for a military stronghold on Kashmir. A firm military grip on his ancestral home was enough for Nehru and accomplice Kashmiri Pandits to dispense with his expendable friend accusing him of treason. *GHAFFAR KHAN ACCOMPANING NEHRU TO VISIT KASHMIR IN 1945 WAS A GREAT HELP TO BRAINWASH ABDULLAH TO FULLFIL NEHRU AGENDA*



**GANDHI**

"Shortly after his arrival in Delhi, Mountbatten asked one of Gandhi's closest associates, the poetess **Sarojini Naidu**, whether, in view of the determined poverty in which Gandhi chose to live, the Congress party could really protect him. 'Ah', she laughed, 'you and Gandhi may imagine that when he walks down that Calcutta station platform looking for a suitably crowded third-class carriage that he's alone. Or, when he's in his hut in the Untouchables' Colony, he's unprotected. What he doesn't know that there are dozens of our people dressed as Untouchables walking behind him, crowding into that carriage.' When he moved into the Bhangi Colony in Delhi, she exclaimed, a score of Congress workers, again scrupulously clothed as harijans were sent in to live in the hovels around his. 'My dear Lord Louis, 'she concluded, 'you will never know how much it has cost the Congress Party to keep that old man in poverty."



'Mahatma' Gandhi was in Kashmir for a few days arriving there on the 1st of August 1947. "So important had Mountbatten considered first meeting with Gandhi that he had written to the 'Mahatma' inviting him to Delhi even before the ceremony enthroneing him as Viceroy. Gandhi had drafted

his reply immediately, and then with a chuckle, told an aide, 'wait a couple of days before putting it in the mail. I don't want that young man (Mountbatten) to think I'm dying for his invitation.'



### MOUNTBATTEN

"MOUNTBATTEN WOULD BECOME SO ATTACHED TO GANDHI THAT ON HIS DEATH HE WOULD PREDICT THAT 'MAHATMA' GANDHI WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY ON AT PAR WITH CHRIST AND BUDDHA"

"When he (Mountbatten) arrived at Nehru's residence, at 17 York Road, New Delhi he found not only Nehru but also Sardar Baldev Singh, the Minister of Defence, and Sheikh Abdullah (who made his appearance late in the talks, but was from the outset secretly listening in an adjoining room). Sheikh's orchestrated presence was enough indication for The Governor General that he (Sheikh) was on Nehru's side." **Freedom at Midnight** [Pp. 148-152]

"Mountbatten, accompanied by Lady Mountbatten and his Chief of Staff Lord Ismay, was about to set out from New Delhi for Srinagar received a long note on Kashmir, dated 17 June 1947, which he had earlier requested Nehru to prepare for him. After pointing out that in the State of Kashmir the Muslims made up 77% of total population, Nehru argued that the people of the State would approve of its accession to India because of their devotion to Sheikh Abdullah and his National Conference"



M C Mahajan who replaced Raja Janak Singh, a cousin of Maharaja, as Prime Minister of Kashmir showed his loyalty to none else but Vallabhbhai Patel who took charge of India's military operations; arranging troops deployment from different parts of India, to secure Srinagar and using the services of India's Defence Minister **Sardar Baldev Singh** to influence Maharaja Patiala to make his troops available to safeguard Srinagar airport; much before tribal invasion from NWFP. Sardar Baldev Singh visited Kashmir towards the end of September 1947.

The Cabinet in London, under increasing financial pressure, on several occasion urged Mountbatten to hurry things along. In desperation, the mounting pressure on Mountbatten took the toll and messed up people of the sub-continent especially Kashmir which paid a huge price.

"Sheikh Abdullah's dismissal on 9 August 1953 had transformed the moral position, and possibly, the sustainable legal position as well, of India in the State of Kashmir. Jawaharlal Nehru had always maintained that Sheikh Abdullah was the voice of the Kashmiri people, a one man substitute for plebiscite. This claim, which had so influenced Mountbatten in 1947, now looked rather hollow."

"INDIA'S VIOLENT REACTION, MOREOVER, INEVITABLY TARNISHES ITS INTERNATIONAL IMAGE AS A STATE CLAIMING TO BE DEDICATED TO THE MORAL PRECEPTS OF 'MAHATMA' GANDHI. INDIAN REPRESSIVE MEASURES IN THE VALE OF KASHMIR, INCLUDING CURFEWS, PILLAGE, RANDOM KILLINGS,

RAPES AND THE DESTRUCTION ON A LARGE SCALE OF CIVILIAN HABITATION, HAVE NOT RECEIVED A GOOD PRESS (EVEN IN INDIA)" **Kashmir-A disputed Legacy** [P-342]



### NEHRU'S PLAN WOULD DEFINITELY FAIL

Daughter **Pamela Hicks** referred to Nehru as '**MAMU**'. A sacred sister-brother relation in Indian cultural standards cast aspersion on the character of Nehru. Certain quarters in India gloat and boast about purported 'sexual relationship between Edwina and Nehru, a vulgar display of mean mentality and in utter disregard for a 'gentleman' Mountbatten's favours made to India from time to time. All sycophancy limits were crossed to win over Mountbatten and indulge in servile flattery to influence Lady Edwina to put in a word for preparing ground for the

Kashmir conspiracy.

To Maharaja Hari Singh's wish not to join India, Mountbatten replied,

"You just can't be independent. You are a land-locked country. You are over-sized and under-populated. What I mind most though is that your attitude is bound to lead to strife between India and Pakistan. You are going to have two rival countries at daggers drawn for your neighbours. You will be the cause of a tug-of-war between them. You will end up being a battlefield. That s what will happen; you will lose your throne and your life, too, if you are not careful".

The advice, if rejected by Maharaja, could have saved thousands of lives and would spare his subjects from perpetual subjugation, humiliation, indiscriminate killings, rapes, disappearances, razing of property worth billions, loot and arson, misery and hardship. India and Pakistan would definitely not be at daggers drawn and a fear of a nuclear confrontation.



Louis and Lady Mountbatten enjoying a ride in Maharaja's boat but on the pretext of a stomach bug, Maharaja avoided to see him, Pamela Hicks termed it as diplomatic illness. The Maharaja was so adamant that he even refused to entertain Mountbatten of Burma and managed to send him back to India empty-handed. Pamela makes a mention; "and of course, her

(mother Edwina) special relationship with Pandit Nehru was very useful for him ever the pragmatist because there were moments towards the end of our time in India when the Kashmir problem was extremely difficult.

Pandit Nehru was a Kashmiri himself, so he was emotional about the problem. If things were particularly tricky my father would say to my mother, Do try to get Jawaharlal to see that this is terribly important."

"Once they had landed in Delhi, at about 8.00 am; V.P.Menon and M.C.Mahajan went their separate ways in the capital, Menon as quickly as possible to the Defence Committee and Mahajan immediately to call on Nehru." ***Incomplete partition***



### RAM CHAND KAK MAHARAJA'S PRIME MINISTER

Maharaja and his Prime Minister Ram Chand Kak did not see eye to eye with Nehru; as in 1940 Nehru was stopped and detained for two weeks and his lieutenant Dwarka Nath Kachru for six months by Maharajas forces at Kohala to bar him from entering Kashmir. Maharaja an impediment, Nehru laid a trap to entice Sheikh and leave the job of tackling the Maharaja to V P Menon supported by Mehr Chand Mahajan, Dwarkanath Kachru with the blessings of Lord Mountbatten and Mahatma Gandhi. Banished Maharaja used internationally, his Prime Minister R C Kak conveniently removed and dispensed with ease.

Hari Singh wanted Jammu and Kashmir to remain independent. The growing Indian clandestine political activity sent alarming bells to the newly created independent nation of Pakistan and very little could be done by Pakistan's shocked Governor-General M A Jinnah whose army Chief General Douglas Gracy preferred to act on the orders received from Governor General of India Lord Mountbatten. The invasion from North-West Frontier Province in October 1947 masterminded by Major Khurshid Anwar, a Kashmiri, to stop India to occupy and annex Kashmir lacked planning having no initial support from Pakistan army.

As there already was an uprising against the Maharaja it was wrongly presumed that the going would be easy and smooth. Little did the invading planners know that Sheikh Abdullah was in command of the ground situation and the fact that beguiled Sheikh had managed to sedate the local population who in turn offered no resistance and stayed indifferent to the landing of Indian forces In Kashmir? That was most important part of the plan and without Sheikh roped in;

"A great deal of political intrigue was occurring as Pandit Nehru wrote numerous letters to Mountbatten stating he should support accession to India because of their "devotion" to his (Nehru's) close friend, Sheikh Abdullah. Nehru's decision proved to be totally wrong, as he ignored the power and influence of Islam among the people of Kashmir. Nehru and others constantly told the Maharaja that his power would be in doubt in Kashmir if he became aligned with Pakistan. But even Mountbatten wrote to Singh telling him he "should consult the will of the people and do what the majority thought best". The Maharaja proposed holding a referendum to decide whether to join Pakistan or India. Pressure was mounting for the Maharaja to simply accede Kashmir to India before the actual transfer of power. ***Kashmir happy valley, valley of death***



Use your freedom to promote ours - Aung San Su Kyi