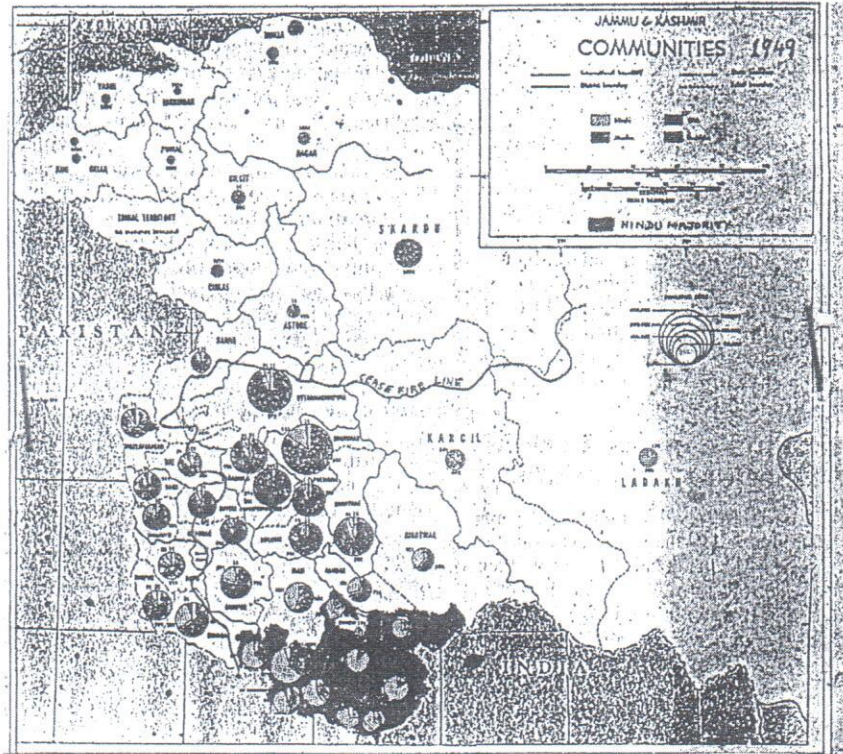


The Incomplete partition process*
by Masood Hasan



Alastair Lamb in his book "Kashmir" has established beyond doubt that when Indian troops landed at Badgam Airport, Srinagar on October 27, 1947 at 9 am they were landing not on Indian territory but on independent Jammu & Kashmir State (J&K). Both VP Menon and Mahajan (J&K Prime Minister) traveled by air from New Delhi to Jammu at 10 am on October 27, 1947. Maharaja Hari Singh was *en route* at that time in a car between Srinagar and Jammu. The Instrument of Accession was signed in the afternoon of October 27, 1947 and the Maharajah's letter to Mountbatten asking for military aid came thereafter - which was obviously signed under duress. The Indian troops landing at Badgam found the Patiala forces were already there since October 17, 1947. The crossing at Domel by the tribals was on October 22, 1947. Without going into details of Mountbatten's perfidious role and his message to the Punjab Governor to "eliminate salient" and the August 8-12, 1947 finagling of the Radcliffe Award it is clear that over the years India merciless oppression in J&K has in the words of former Indian Foreign Secretaries Ram Das Sathe that he did not know of any Kashmir who wanted India in and Dixit who said: "India has lost its grip over J&K". Add to this what Justice Tarkunde, Lord Avebury, Kuldip Nayar, Economist of London or Statesman of India have to say. It all adds up to the need for vacation of Indian occupation to be followed by a plebiscite under UN supervision. This is no way goes against the Simla Agreement.

* The Nation, Nov 03, 1993p

Comparisons with Camp David (Egypt, Israel, PLO) is hardly relevant when there are over half a million Indian troops - about one for each ten of population! The Kashmiris have not been displaced. They yet are in occupation of their land and are being butchered through force of arms apart from other unspeakable crimes. India has been killing their own people in their Punjab and Assam.

We need to look at the demographic record. The Table below indicates the population by J&K Tehsils at partition.

JAMMU AND KASHIR
DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY DISTRICT* & TEHSILS
 {Population Data From: Census of India 1941, Vol XXII,
 State Table 1, Jammu 1943}

* District/Tehsils	Population	Communities			
		Muslim %	Hindu %	Sikh %	Buddhist %
1. Gilgit Agency*					
a. Gilgit	22,945	99	1	-	-
b. Kuh Gizar	8,512	100	-	-	-
c. Yasin	989	100	-	-	-
d. Ishkuman	4,282	100	-	-	-
e. Punjal	8,164	100	-	-	-
f. Chilas	15,364	100	-	-	-
g. Hunza	15,341	100	-	-	-
h. Nagar	14,874	100	-	-	-
i. Tribal Territory (Tangir & Darel)	(No data)				
2. Astor*					
a. Astor	17,026	100	-	-	-
3. Ladakh*					
a. Ladakh Tehsil	36,307	12	-	-	88 %
b. Skardu Tehsil	1,06,271	10 0	-	-	-
c. Kargil Tehsil	52,853	84	16	-	-
4. Baramula*					
a. Baramula	1,01,704	95	3	2	-
b. Uttar Machhipura	2,74,942	97	2	1	-
c. Sri Partapsinghpura	1,74,583	97	2	1	-
5. Anantnag*					
a. Anantnag	2,03,827	95	4	1	-
b. Kulgam	1,57,372	95	4	1	-
c. Pulwama	1,56,526	96	3	1	-
d. Sharkhas	33,881	85	14	1	-

* District/Tehsils	Population	Communities			
		Muslim %	Hindu %	Sikh %	Buddhist %
6. Doda*					
a. Ramban	75,793	71	29	-	-
b. Kishwar	60,893	59	41	-	-
c. Bhadarwah	44,518	46	54	-	-
7. Muzzaffarabad*					
a. Muzzaffarabad	1,25,585	90	3	7	-
b. Uri	80,223	88	2	10	-
c. Karna	58,863	98	1	1	-
8. Punch					
a. Bagh	1,01,091	91	1	8	-
b. Sudhnutti	1,08,300	83	13	4	-
c. Haveli	1,10,733	93	5	2	-
d. Mendhar	1,62,903	96	4	-	-
9. Mirpur*					
a. Mirpur	1,13,115	92	6	2	-
b. Kotli	1,11,037	91	8	1	-
c. Bhimber	1,62,503	65	30	5	-
10. Riasi*					
a. Riasi	1,17,059	55	45	-	-
b. Rampur	1,40,844	79	20	1	-
11. Jammu*					
a. Jammu	1,56,556	36	60	2	2{others}
b. Akhnur	88,821	37	62	1	-
c. Sri Ranbir- singhpura	96,521	48	48	4	-
d. Samba	89,464	40	58	2	-
12. Udhampur*					
a. Udhampur	52,937	21	79	-	-
b. Chineni	11,796	81	19	-	-
c. Ramnagar	60,076	13	87	-	-
13. Kathua*					
a. Kathua	47,378	36	64	-	-
b. Besoli	70,624	17	83	-	-
c. Jasmergarh	59,670	27	72	1	-

There are 45 tehsils of which 35 are Muslim, 9 Hindu and 1 Buddhist. Hindus are in a majority in the tehsils of Bhadarwah, Jammu, Akhnur, Samba, Udhampur, Ramnagar, Kathua, Basoli and Jasmergarh. The Buddhists are 88 per cent of Ladakh Tehsil (Muslims 12 per cent). The Muslims are in a majority of the rest (35) of the Tehsils this includes Skardu Tehsil (100 per cent) and Kargil Tehsil (84 per cent).

Over the years it appears India has enforced demographic changes. While at partition 80 per cent of the entire population in the Indian-held J&K were Muslim in 1957 it appears to be 67 per cent and in 1981 63 per cent.

The line of division must follow the 1947 population pattern. Reference to the Map shows that it is the southern part of J&K only that should go to India. Ladakh Tehsil must be given the option to do what it wants. Any other division would be totally unacceptable. It does not take much to see India's strategy and that is to firstly and lastly keep on shouting about *ATOOT-ANG* and if worst comes to the worst to an *AS IS WHERE IS* position and to work out something else for the valley in J&K. Pakistan must realise that control of the waters of the Jhelum and Chenab (ours by right, if only on account of the India Basin Treaty) cannot be protected merely by Indian protestations of good intentions~ Just look at the developments on the Chenab (Salal Dam) and their plans on the Jhelum.

A satisfactory settlement would also make nuclear non-proliferation a much simpler proposition, something that Pakistan is committed to on a parity basis with India.

Failure of the new government to push ahead in this direction will mean ditching almost the last chance that exists for anything near a satisfactory compromise. The happenings at Hazratbal indicate clearly Indian designs and if allowed to proceed what the shape of things to come will be. We need to understand that despite what the West have to say, their actions are usually directed against the Muslim world. This should help increase our resolve to do what is morally right. To expect a handful of Mujahideen to face the might of the Indian military for so long can only mean all Kashmiris are Mujahideen themselves. Let us not fail them.

/Partition