A LOOK AT KASHMIR:

The Past, Present and Future

August 14, 2021





WHAT TO EXPECT

CONVERSATION FLOW



The SWK Story
Kashmir: Historical Refresher
Kashmir right now
Kashmir since Annexation
Get Involved & Show Support
Discussion & Resources



ABOUT STANDWITHKASHMIR (SWK)

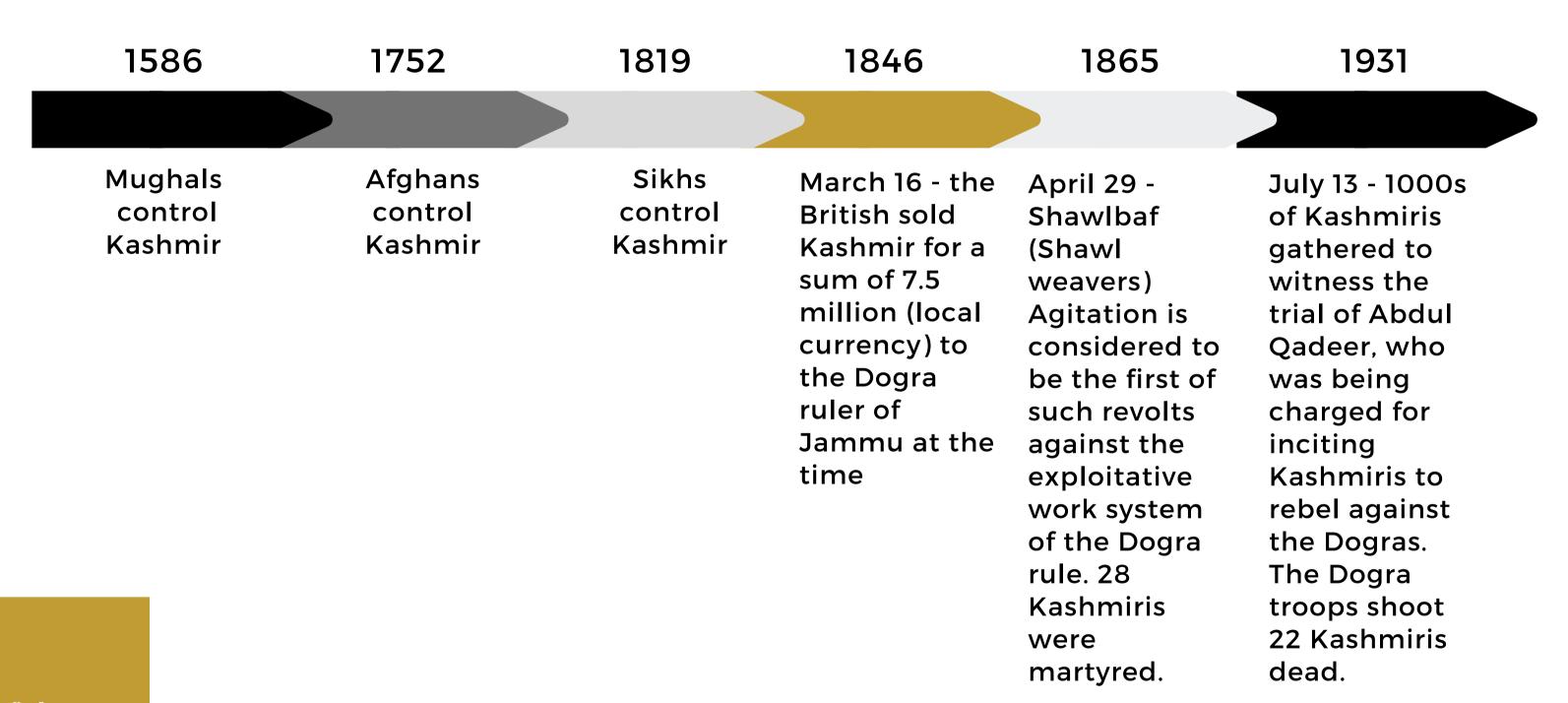
SWK serves as a centralized **hub for educational resources** and multimedia, action toolkits, and event & campaign organizing. Our mission is to **advocate for an end to the Indian occupation**, and the right to Kashmiri self-determination.

We **empower and inspire** regional groups, allied organizations, journalists, and activists to take action by providing updated information, content, access to experts and scholars, and volunteer support to **drive strategic mobilization efforts**.



THE SWK STORY

A Timeline of Key Political Events



A Timeline of Key Political Events

1948 1949 1947 1954

The British decided to grant independence to their former colonies in South Asia, creating Hindu majority India and Muslim majority Pakistan. The Hindu Dogra king was given the choice of which country he wanted to join.

October 22

- Before he could decide. a rebellion against his rule took place, with tribal groups from Pakistan coming to support Kashmir's Muslims. Over the next few months it was brutally quashed in what is called the Jammu massacre
- The king appealed to India for military assistance, and its leadership agreed upon the condition that the king would accede to India.

October 26

- Indian troops arrive in Srinagar out
- Kashmir is War breaks between India and Pakistan.
 - The United **Nations** Security Council passes a resolution (UNSC Resolution 47) which calls for a plebiscite

India takes the

Kashmir to the

recognized as

case of

United

Nations.

officially

territory.

a disputed

January 1

- War ends when a UN ceasefire is arranged. • India is in
- control of twothirds of the historic Kashmir state while Pakistan has control over one-third. including the AJK.

India passes more agreements using Article 370 which effectively gives the Indian parliament many more powers than the previous agreements.



A Timeline of Key Political Events

1957 1962 1965 1972 1970s-80s 1989-90s

UN passes another resolution (UNSC Resolution 122) affirming that only the will of the people expressed through the democratic method of a free & impartial plebiscite conducted under the auspices of the UN will determine Kashmir's final status

India and China fight a war. India loses control over large tracts of land in Ladakh

India and Pakistan fight another war



Protest demonstration in Kashmir demanding a plebiscite as ruled by the United Nations.

Kashmiris feel sidelined as India & Pakistan sign the Shimla Agreement, which recognizes the ceasefire line of 1949 as the **Line of Control** (LoC) and includes a clause stating that the final settlement of Kashmir will be decided bilaterally.

- Elections were rigged multiple times, and there was no room for oppositional parties to contest.
- Rulers that had served their political purpose were removed & new ones were installed at the whim of India.
- The state became increasingly dependent on its fiscal ties with India

Armed and popular uprising in Kashmir

A Timeline of Key Political Events

90s 1999 2008 2010 2015 2016

The Indian state retaliated to the popular uprising with direct force, The 90s were marked by massacres, arrests, extra-judicial killings, disappearances, rampant torture, killings and the departure of a vast majority of the Kashmiri Hindu community from

Another war between India and Pakistan breaks out in Kargil, a border district on the LoC.



Militarization of the 90s

Discussions between India and the then pro-Indian ruling government in Kashmir, on land transfer to a nonnative entity sparks protests. Even though the land deal was cancelled, it gave way to mass mobilizations and civil disobedience by a generation that has come to age under the gun.

A fake encounter and Killing of a 10-year old boy by Indian forces spark monthslong protests. Kashmiri youth have taken on the Indian state, both online, and on the streets. Dubbed by analysts as the "New Intifada"

State-installed pro-India party in Kashmir (PDP) forms alliance with Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist BJP, Hindu nationalists have officially come to power in Kashmir

Indian forces
kill a popular
pro-freedom
rebel, Burhan
Wani in July.
Kashmir erupts
into protests.
Indian forces
kill dozens and
blind hundreds
of young
Kashmiris.





Youth protests

Kashmir

A Timeline of Key Political Events

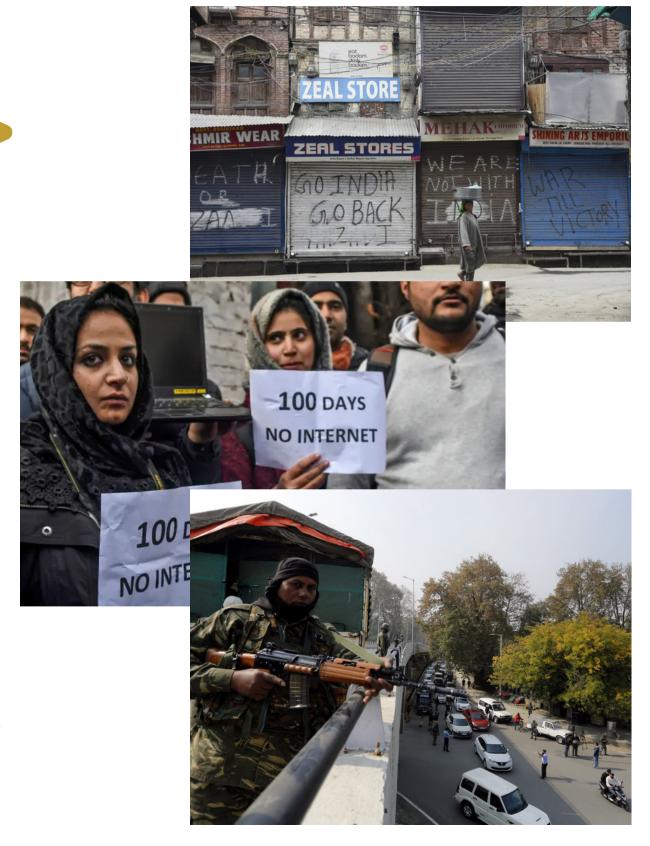
2018 2019

BJP exits the coalition with the PDP and the Indian governor acquires full charge. In November, the governor dissolves the Legislative Assembly.

The Indian government announced on August 5, that it would revoke Article 370, a special clause in the Indian constitution that gave Kashmir the ability to make its own laws and have its own constitution.

Though India has eroded Kashmir's semiautonomy over the years, the removal of Article 370 is a brazen show of force and disregard for the political aspirations of Kashmiris who have been waiting for the right to selfdetermination since it was promised by UN Resolution 47 in 1948.

By opening up land and residency rights to non-Kashmiris, it also paves the way it also paves the way for India to mount a settlercolonial project in Kashmir and would mean an ethnic cleansing of Kashmir's Muslim majority. On August 15, Kashmir was placed on genocide alert by 'Genocide Watch



A LOOK AT KASHMIR

74 YEARS

OF INDIAN OCCUPATION IN THE STATE OF JAMMU & **KASHMIR**

70,000+

CIVILIAN **DEATHS SINCE** THE ARMED REBELLION **BEGAN IN 1989 AGAINST OCCUPATIONAL FORCES**

6000+

UNMARKED **GRAVES**

+0008

DISAPPEARED **CIVILIANS**

+000.08

CHILDREN ORPHANED

7000+

CUSTODIAL KILLINGS

49% ADULTS

SUFFER FROM **POST TRAUMATIC STRESS**





INDIAN ARMED FORCES IN THE STATE. 700,000+ MAKING IT THE MOST MILITARIZED ZONE IN THE WORLD

INDIAN LAWS **GUARANTEE** ARMED FORCES [IN KASHMIR] **IMPUNITY FROM PERSECUTION**

10:1 RATIO

FOR EVERY 10 **KASHMIRI** CIVILIANS, THERE IS ONE INDIAN ARMY **PERSONNEL**

SEXUAL VIOLENCE IS USED AS A WEAPON OF WAR

WHAT'S HAPPENNING IN KASHMIR RIGHT NOW?

Following the revocation, India started to **impose laws in the region that enabled bringing in Indian settlers**,
facilitated a corporate take-over by Indian firms, and further criminalized any dissent against it's rule.

Under international law, changing the demographics of occupied or disputed territories is illegal.

India's rapidly progressing settler-colonial project in Kashmir poses an **existential threat** to the Kashmiri right **to self-determination**.



On August 5, 2019, India launched the final assault on the homeland of Kashmiris. The plan is, and always has been, to rob Kashmiris of their land, flood it with settlers, and eventually render the natives into a disempowered minority that's not fully human, but human object, a thing.

(Muzamil Jaleel, Inverse Journal)

KASHMIR RIGHT NOW

WHAT HAS CHANGED SINCE AUGUST 2019?

How Has India Advanced Its Settler-Colonial Project in Kashmir?

DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES

India has changed laws to extend residency rights to Indians, who can now reside in Kashmir as colonial settlers and buy land.

LAND GRABS

Kashmir is now advertised as 'investment paradise', India is identifying tracts of land for tourist ventures, Indian corporates, Hindu settlements, & housing for Indian laborers.

EMPLOYMENT

Indian government has used multiple strategies to remove Kashmiri Muslims from government jobs, ensuring that only Indian settlers and Kashmiris who comply with the Indian state's directives will have secure employment.

ECONOMY

Initial lockdown following August 5th, 2019 cost the region's economy at least 18,000 crore (2.4\$ Billion).

HINDU-IZATION

From calling Kashmir "predominantly Hindu," on a government website, when in reality the Kashmir Valley is 97% Muslim to prioritizing temple projects, the government has been busy with it's re-engineering efforts.

WHAT HAS CHANGED SINCE AUGUST 2019?

How Has India Advanced Its Settler-Colonial Project in Kashmir?

CRUSHING RESISTANCE

While the Indian state has left no space for a civil society in Kashmir, it hasn't ceased to target activists and organizations highlighting ground situation outside Kashmir and India.

CENSORSHIP

A fascist unit called the 'cyber police' has been arresting and torturing Kashmiris for being critical of the occupation. The Indian state crushes the very basic fundamental right of Kashmiris to exercise free speech.

NO FREEDOM OF PRESS

Journalists face attacks and beatings daily. They have been subject to draconian anti-terror laws simply for doing their job and have to adhere to the state's language to remain operational.

ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

Kashmir has become a hotspot of illegal riverbed mining of beds auctioned to foreign companies. As a result, many rivers have run dry due to this illegal mining.

WHAT HAS CHANGED SINCE AUGUST 2019?

How Has India Advanced Its Settler-Colonial Project in Kashmir?

This list barely skims the surface of what is going on in Kashmir. All these changes have been happening in midst of an already **brutal military occupation** that continues to carry out **extrajudicial killings**, **home demolitions**, **fake encounters**, **daily harassment** via checkpoints and bunkers and use of preventive detention & anti-terror legislation to **detain**, **torture**, & **kill Kashmiris** without any due process.



Shariq Shah (@shariq_ibn_shafi)



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

AMPLIFY.
BE AN ALLY.
VOLUNTEER.
DONATE.
PARTICIPATE.

Center Kashmiri voices: those closest to the problem know it the best.

Be truthful about your position and privilege.

Engage in nuanced representation.

RESOURCES

StandWithKashmir



standwithkashmir.org

Kashmir Scholars Consultative and Action Network

<u>kashmirscholarsnetwork.org/</u>

Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons



apdpkashmir.com

Jammu Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society





LEARN MORE

STAY UPDATED WITH THE NEWS

Free Press Kashmir

тм

5

freepresskashmir.news

Kashmir Bylines

5

<u>kashmirbylines.com</u>

Mountain Ink

mountain-ink.com

ACCOUNTS TO FOLLOW ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

- @standwkashmir
- @standwkashmir2
- @thekashmirpodcast
- @zanaanwanaan
- @herpixelstory
- @kashhistorypics
- @digitalrightskashmir (TW only)

KEEP TALKING ABOUT KASHMIR