

**THEME 8**  
**Kargil Conflict 1999**

## Indian Economy & Foreign Policy: 1989-1999

- **ECONOMY**

- Liberalisation of the Economy: Foreign Investment picks up
- “IT Revolution”
- **Dr Manmohan Singh**: RBI Governor, Dy Ch. Planning Commission; Fin Min; Future PM

- **FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

- Reset in Indo-Russia Ties
- India-China Ties revived: **Rajiv Gandhi’s visit, 1988**
- Sri Lanka, Nepal: Moderate Relations
- Bangladesh: Moderate
- **Israel**: Indian Embassy opened in 1992, Tel Aviv

## India: Foreign Relations with US, Pakistan

- **India-Pakistan Relations, 1984-98**
  - Erratic & Unstable
  - **End of Military rule in Pakistan, 1988**
  - **Benazir Bhutto**: PM, 1988-90 ; 1993-96
  - **Nawaz Sharif**: PM, 1990-93; 1997-99; 2013-17
  - **Cricket Diplomacy**: Not effective
  - **1998: Pak Nuclear Tests**
- **India-US Relations: “On the mend”**
  - **Developing Relationship of Ronald Reagan; Bush (senior) with Rajiv Gandhi – Phase I**
- **Pakistan-US Relationship: Stable**
- **1998: Gen Pervez Musharraf appointed Pak Army Chief**

## Lahore Declaration, February 1999: Countdown to Kargil 1999

- **Sharif-Vajpayee Summit in Lahore: Feb 1999**
  - Diffusing tensions
  - Roll back nuclear armament
  - Stabilise relations
  - Resumption of dialogue to settle disputes: “Confidence-building measures”
  - **Bus Service:** Delhi-Lahore-Delhi
- **Phase II of evolving relations: AB Vajpayee & Bill Clinton (1998-2000)**
- **May-June 1999: Pakistani Infiltrators discovered in Kargil Area**
- **June 1999 onwards: Kargil Offensive begins**

## Operation Vijay: Kargil Crisis

- Lasts roughly for 8 weeks
- May 1999: Discovery of Infiltrators
- May 1999: Indian Army Patrol captured by Pakistani intruders ; tortured and killed.
- Indian Air Operations attacked.
- Pakistan starts attacking NH 1A Highway.
- 6<sup>th</sup> June 1999: Indian Army, IAF launch major offensive to take back control of Kargil heights.

## Operation Vijay: June-July 1999

- Early June: Recapture of Indian territory by Indian troops (Batalik)
- **Limited Air offensive:** Permission not given by Indian Cabinet to cross LoC.
- **13-14 June 1999: Battle of Tololing**
  - Pitched battles
  - Hand combat
  - Physical reclamation
- **Late-June-July 1999: Dras positions recovered by the Indian Army**
- **Late June 1999: Pak troops defensive**
- **26 July 1999: Op VIJAY concludes**