

Post Independence India Class 07

2nd February, 2024 at 1:00 PM

THE CLASS STARTED WITH A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS TOPICS (01:09 PM)

BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR (1971) (01:18 PM)

- *Bangladesh Liberation War*, was a significant conflict that led to the creation of the independent nation of Bangladesh.
- The Mukti Bahini (Liberation Army), consisting of Bengali military personnel and civilians, played a crucial role in resisting the Pakistani military.
- **Reasons for Indian Involvement in Bangladesh Liberation War:**
- **Refugee Influx:** The widespread atrocities led to a massive influx of Bengali refugees into India, especially in the bordering states of West Bengal, Assam, and Tripura.
- **Humanitarian Crisis:** The refugee crisis created a humanitarian emergency, putting immense pressure on India to intervene.
- **Indian Support for Mukti Bahini:** India extended support to the Mukti Bahini, providing training and a safe haven for their operations.
- **However India decided not to act directly immediately in War because:**
- a) Rain soon to follow therefore rivers would swell+Swampy roads would make the movement of the Army tough.
- b) In summer China could militarily act against India, therefore India may have to fight the war on multiple fronts.
- c) the US was not that heavily involved in the Vietnam War like in 1965, therefore, it may act in favour of Pakistan.
- d) India didn't have the assurance of military help from the USSR due to the NAM Policy. India should not be seen as an aggressor, else under international sanctions.
- e) Therefore India decided to wait till winter, IG tried to raise awareness about the genocide in East Pakistan and the refugee crisis faced by India.
- f) India supported Mukti Bahini- An organization of people of East Pakistan, with arms, training and money, so East Pakistan fight its own war.
- Further in August 1971, the Treaty of Friendship, peace and cooperation was offered by the USSR and accepted by India, when the US told India that the US wouldn't act if China helped Pakistan's military.
- Treaty has been discussed since 1969 but India was hesitant due to the NAM Policy. USSR was anxious about South Asia being dominated by the US and its allies.
- In 1971, the US allowed communist China to take the UNSC seat. tensions so high that the USSR asked the US opinion if the USSR nuked China.
- The treaty established a special relationship-diplomatic, strategic, economic and cultural.
- It allowed the transfer of technology and arms and ensured economic and geopolitical support to India but it was not a military alliance and only ensured that India could act independently without fear of other foreign powers supporting India's adversary.
- In practice, It might be that the USSR won't help India directly in war but may if forced to.
- Finally, Pakistan attacked on 3rd December 1971 and India was well prepared.

- **Bangladesh Liberation War:**
- India immediately recognized Bangladesh as a separate state and applied an air blockade.
- The US brought two UNSC resolutions for a ceasefire, but the USSR vetoed them.
- Then the US wanted China to intervene but China did not respond as it didn't want war with the USSR.
- The US began **Gun-boat diplomacy**. i.e. Use of Naval power to threaten others.
- The US sent a Naval fleet to the Bay of Bengal and in response, the USSR did the same, therefore now, threat of nuclear war.
- Therefore USSR bought time for India to crush the Pakistan army in East Pakistan.
- **Result of Bangladesh Liberation War:**
- Pakistan was defeated in 13 days.
- Big humiliation as 93,000 soldiers made to surrender in public at Dhaka racecourse on 16 December 1971.
- India regained military pride + big strategic victory as two fronts- both territorial and ocean + Benefits for internal security as East Pakistan supported insurgency in North East + Could have threatened the Chicken-neck corridor + Neutralized the threat of China and East Pakistan sandwiching North East Military.
- It Increased the secular credentials of India as we helped a Muslim-majority East Pakistan.
- It's a big blow to the Two-Nation theory as religion was negated as a foundational principle of the creation of Pakistan.
- Therefore, Language, Culture and Economy defeated the idea of Pakistan.
- Mujibur Rahman after release declared 4 principles to guide Bangladesh (NDSS-Nationalism, Democracy, Socialism, Secularism)
- (***Nationalism**: Linguistic nationalism was repressed.
- **Democracy**: Election results were not respected in Pakistan.
- **Socialist**: Pakistan was capitalist and East Pakistan was poor and neglected, This was also a victory for the USSR in the Cold War.
- **Secularism**: As Hindu and Muslim Bengalis fought and died together + This principle negated the two-nation theory.)
- It created huge political gains for IG.
- (* '**India is Indira-Indira is India**' slogan was raised)
- @ J&K- **Sheikh Abdulla** realized that no use for confrontation therefore 1974, the **Indira-Sheikh Agreement** took place where he gave up plebiscite demand and agreed to autonomy as provided by **Article 370**.
- Accession of J&K to India is irrevocable + He was released from imprisonment.

- **Shimla Agreement (2nd July 1972):**
- (***For China:** 1954 Panchsheel for all aspects, #2003:Agreement for border)
- (***For Pakistan:** 1972 and 1999 (Lahore): for all aspects)
- Signed between IG and Bhutto.
- It was much more than a peace treaty, as not just an exchange of PoWs and occupied territory, Pakistan recognized Bangladesh but also gave a blueprint for peaceful coexistence by providing guiding principles like #Panchsheel (1954) with China.
- Respect territorial integrity, unity and political independence.
- (*Link Country, Nation, State concept) (*Therefore in diplomacy 'No leke rahenge Pakistan')
- Non-interference in internal affairs.
- Prevent hostile propoganda.
- For public support to leaders who want resolution. (*Not followed in Pakistan as otherwise 70% of Pakistan won't go to the military)
- Peaceful resolution of all issues by direct bilateral talks or by other peaceful means mutually agreed to. (*Third-party intervention possible, If India wants)
- Ceasefire line 1949, created by UNSC Resolution replaced by LoC 1972 based on troops position on 17th December 1971 and created by India and Pakistan.
- Therefore, Now UNSC resolutions related to the 1949 line are null and void.
- Now, the UN is a third party, not part of the equation.
- The 740km LoC is accepted as a de-facto border, not to be altered unilaterally or by force and to be inviolate.
- **Confidence-building measures:**
- Promote people-to-people contact.
- Have open communications via post and telegraph, land, sea, air and also cross-border movements.
- Improved trade and economic relations, cultural contacts, science and technology cooperation (*Greater the economic interdependence, greater the cost of conflict, therefore trade = biggest confidence-building mechanism + Link Samjhota Express, Kartarpur corridor, Cricket matches, etc.)
- **Lahore Agreement 1999:**
- Signed by Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Nawaz Sharif.
- Implement the Shimla Agreement 1972 in letter and Spirit.
- Commitment to the goals and objectives of SAARC-1985.
- Prevent nuclear war and nuclear proliferation as both nuclear weapon states since 1998 + Agreed to focus on universal nuclear disarmament.
- Terrorism in all forms was condemned.(*context of 90s J&K)
- Commitment to human rights and freedom.

JP MOVEMENT (03:58 PM)

- Indira Gandhi wanted to eliminate poverty but the challenge was big due to further high war expenditure in the 1971 war + 1972,73 were drought years.
- These factors contributed to agrarian poverty, slowdown, unemployment, and inflation.
- **Global Oil Crisis 1973:** To indirectly hurt allies of Israel, in the context of the **Yom Kippur War 1973** fought between Israel vs. Egypt & Syria, the oil-producing Middle Eastern countries reduced the Oil supply which led to imported fuel inflation that hurt the middle class.
- Further corruption cases in media and unemployment increased public anger, especially in urban areas.
- **May 1974-** The biggest strike in the history of India took place i.e. All India Railway Strike because of inflation of 22%. Thus corruption, inflation, unemployment, and authoritarian leadership of IG contributed to the JP movement.
- **Ideology of JP Movement:**
- A) A fight for the revival of values in society and to end the system that compelled everyone to be corrupt. This was called **Total Revolution in 1974 by JP** (*link Anna Hazare Movt)
- B) JP also advocated the idea of party-less direct democracy instead of Multi-Party Democracy (*link Stateless society idea of Gandhiji)
- **1973- Patna** – JP came out of political retirement and gave a call to the youth to fight against dishonesty in society.
- **1974- Gujarat-** Students began protests in January 1974.
- JP went there to give leadership.
- Later political parties also joined.
- Demand was the dissolution of the assembly and fresh polls.
- The Centre dissolved Gujarat LA but instead of elections applied presidential rule.
- Now an aged Morarji Desai started fast unto death therefore IG declared elections which were won by parties supported by JP.
- **1974- Bihar-**
- Like Gujarat, JP took leadership of students who were protesting inspired by Gujarat's success.
- Demanded dissolution of LA & fresh elections.
- JP planned to win state after state. However, IG did not accept demands. Then JP gave a call for a **Total Revolution (1974)** against corruption and authoritarian rule of IG.
- JP demanded people start a No Tax Campaign, and that people set up parallel governments. In Bihar, people did stop paying taxes and set up parallel governments.
- However by the end of 1974, the JP movement declined and students joined back classes because of the poor organizational structure in the movement + The movement did not attract the poor masses in both Gujarat and Bihar and the main participation was of students, middle class & intelligentsia. IG not accepting demands acted as a demotivator.

- **June 1975-**
 - Allahabad HC judgement reignited JP movt.
 - HC invalidated the election of IG on grounds of misuse of official machinery (a case was filed by Raj Narayan who lost elections to IG by 1 lakh votes).
 - SC gave partial relief as IG was allowed to continue as PM but disallowed her from voting as MP till the final decision.
 - On the day of the Allahabad HC judgment, JP gave a call for daily protests.
 - On 25 June 1975, in a rally in Delhi, JP asked, the military, police, bureaucracy, and people to stop following directions of the IG govt and to follow Constitution.
 - He also declared that on 29 June he will start a CDM.
 - Thus, on midnight of 26th June 1975 (technical date else midnight of 25 June), Emergency applied under **Article 352** on grounds of Internal Disturbances.
 - This further ignited JP's movement.
 - Oppression during the **National Emergency (1975-77)** led to public anger against IG and she lost the 1977 elections.
 - Janta Party was created by merging many opposition parties, won and Morarji Desai became PM.
 - This govt was unstable due to different political ideologies and finally in 1980, the government fell before 5 years (the Janta Party split in 1980 led to the BJP creation)
- Thus, JP movt ended with victory for IG in the 1980 elections. Janta Party govt failed to meet the objectives of the JP movt and failed to resolve public grievances.

TOPIC FOR THE NEXT CLASS: JP MOVEMENT (To be Continued...)