

I. Foundation of Jammu and Kashmir State

The State of Jammu and Kashmir known for its extravagant natural beauty is the northernmost State of the Indian Union. It can be aptly described by famous farsi; couplet of Hazrat Amir Khusrau which states: Agar firdaus bar roo-e zameen ast, Hameen ast – o hameen ast – o hameen ast. It means if there is a paradise on earth it is this, it is this, it is this. Jammu and Kashmir which occupies an extremely strategic position on the Indian frontiers, is the only State in the Indian Union with a Muslim majority. It shares international with Russia, Afghanistan, Pakistan and China. It is bounded on the south by Himachal Pradesh and the Punjab, on the north by Chinese Turkistan and a little of Russian Turkistan, and on the east by Chinese Tibet. On the west lies Pakistan and to the northwest, Afghanistan.

Causes for the foundation -In 1846 Kashmir experienced a unique development with enduring consequences. The development was that three distinctive political, geographical and cultural entities i.e. Kashmir valley, Jammu and Ladakh were merged into one political entity. At no stage in the history of the state, the three regions formed a single political entity. It was only Kashmir which claim the position of an empire and on the contrary Jammu & Ladakh were small states each under a local ruler or tributaries of powerful rulers emerged either in Kashmir or elsewhere in neighborhood.

On the eve of 1846, Kashmir, Jammu as well as Ladakh were under the control of Lahore Darbar. while Kashmir was ruled by a subedar deputed by the Lahore Darbar, Jammu and Ladakh were under a Jammu Dogra ruler Gulab Singh who too was a subordinate of Lahore Darbar. At

the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1839, the three brothers from Jammu were at the height of their power. Dhian Singh was the Diwan at Lahore, Gulab Singh controlled all the hilly country inhabited by Dogras and Suchet Singh was the commander of the large Sikh forces.

The colonial policy of colonial expansion had a direct bearing on the political fate of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. The Britishers had covetous eye on Panjab which led to what is known as Anglo- Sikh wars. The Britishers in a bid create defection among the sikh generals to ensure their success, succeeded in wooing Gulab Singh of Jammu to their side, who was also a very influential member of Lahore Darbar. This proved fatal for the Sikhs and the Punjab fell in the hand of British. At the end of the war a treaty known as the "Treaty of Lahore" was concluded On 9 March 1846, by virtue of which Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh were snatched away from the Sikhs. Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh were also already under the dominations of Gulab Singh & Kashmir was also transferred to Gulab Singh for his help to the British, under the Treaty of Amritsar, on 16 March 1846.

According to P.N.K Bamzai, "with the conquest of Ladakh and Baltistan Gulab Singh dominations enveloped the Kashmir valley from south and east and thus he became the sole controller of trade in shawl-wool on which the economy of Kashmir depended. In 1841 he was deputed to restore peace and order after the assassination of governor Main Singh, he by installing Gulam Mohi-ud-di as governor made him a creature of his own "from then on words his sole aim was to acquire its possession in fact and in law, and Anglo Sikh war fulfilled his aim.

Treaty of Amritsar

The Jammu Dogra Gulab Singh realized the dark consequences the Anglo Sikh war for the Sikhs and immediately entered into negotiations with the British honorable Government with a view to secure a honorable place and peace as possible before he became too late. At the same time British realizes the necessity of conciliating Gulab Singh who had a fresh and disciplined force of Dogras under his command, which if brought into action against them British would have proved disastrous to their interests. So Henry Lawrence told Gulab Singh, "That the governor general had promised to grant him the hilly district together with the country of Kashmir and Gulab Singh would be recognized as an independent ruler. Gulab Singh on this account did not help the Sikhs in the war and he had covetous eyes on Kashmir also. So the fruit of negotiations came the shape of Treaty of Amritsar on 16 march 1846. This treaty was signed between Britishers and Gulab Singh by virtue of which Jammu ,Kashmir and Ladakh were transferred to Gulab Singh in lieu of 75 lakh of rupees (Namakshahis).

Main Provisions of the treaty: -The main provisions of the treaty of Amritsar are as under:

- 1) The British government transfer Kashmir and makes it forever and independent possession to Maharaja Gulab Singh before the presence of Dhyani Singh, Hari Singh and Suchet Singh.
- 2) The treaty gives the charge of territory between river Ravi and Indus along with hilly tracks to Maharaja Gulab Singh.
- 3) The Maharaja has Sovereign possession on Kashmir and all his successors will have complete right over the land.

- 4) The Kashmir have transferred to Raja Gulab Singh in lieu of 75 lakh rupees from which 50 lakhs will be paid on the day of treaty and remaining 25 lakhs after 6 months.
- 5) Maharaja will not pass any act which would be against the interests of British.
- 6) It British fought any war with any ruler. Maharaja would provide economic and military help to British. It is because of this provision Maharaja helped the British in crushing the Revolt of 1857.
- 7) The Maharaja could not employ any European, without the permission of British.
- 8) The British government will not interfere in the internal affairs of Raja Gulab sighs govt.
- 9) British government protected Maharaja's government & territory from external dangers.
- 10) One provision of the treaty was that maharaja would sent one horse, 6 pairs of goats and 3 pairs of shawls to the British. It was to indicate that Maharaja pays taken tribute to the British.

Position of Jammu and Kashmir State vis-à-vis British Paramountcy

The factors which accounted for the transfer of Jammu & Kashmir to Maharaja Gulab Singh were:

The basic reason was to serve the colonial interests of the British. There is no doubt; the Jammu and Kashmir State was strategically important for British because of threat of Russia and China. So they created a 'Buffer state' which serve British interests and save British India from the Russian and Chinese advancements and they would not have to make any investments into it and at that time British government of India had not

available much resources on absent its disposal. So they thought it better to handover, it to the loyalist who would rule over it on their behalf. That is why the British transferred Kashmir to Maharaja Gulab Singh.

As we know Kashmir is a mountainous and hilly area. It was very expensive to keep hold over the state, were transport facilities, roads which would help British to run the affairs of the state. This problem also forced British to transfer the state to Gulab Singh.

It may be mentioned that British did not realize the importance of Kashmir at the time of treaty of Amritsar. They realized it later when they appointed an officer, on special duty British Resident in 1885.

British Policy towards Kashmir:

The Treaty of Amritsar was considered as a gross blunder by a large number of people in England Gulab Singh and his successors showed most hospitable treatment to the Britishers, friend but British made every effort to reduce their authority in the state, because they had cost their covetous eyes on Kashmir.

- 1) British and Maharaja Gulab Singh (1846 1857):-** In spring 1846 Lord Harding visited Kashmir & after his return he sent a note to Maharaja that the internal govt. of valley aroused misgivings. In June 1847 Lawrence and R.Tyler complained against high prices, Sati, etc.

The real aim of the British pressure on the Maharaja was to make him agree in the positing a Resident in his court and to give them the right to control his court and to give them the right to control his frontier policy. But due to 2nd Anglo Sikh war of 1848 their pressure removed for some

time. In 1854 pressure was brought again and this time Maharaja agreed positing a special officer in Srinagar called "officer on special duty"

2) British policy during Maharaja Ranbir Singhs rule: -The Revolt of 1857 mounted the British pressure on Maharaja. From 1857-72 British did not take any major action against the Dogras in Kashmir because Gulab Singh advised his son Ranbir Singh to help the British in this need of hour & Ranbir Singh sent his trooper in crushing the revolt.

In 1873 the British received the proposal to appoint a Resident in Kashmir which Gulab Singh had refused to accept. Maharaja Ranbir Singh was forced to sign a commercial treaty with British in 1873, according to which a British joint commissioner was appointed at Leh. There-after Maharaja could not impose any tax on goods send from British India to abroad.

3) British policy during Partap Singh Rule: - Maharaja Partap Singh ascended the throne in 1885. Immediately after accession, the viceroy's dispatch emphasized that it is essential for good administration that Maharaja must accept a British Resident in Srinagar. Maharaja Partap Singh protested but all in vain and in the same year in 1885 Sir Oliver St.John was appointed a the first Resident of British in Kashmir.

The British govt. tried to dispose Maharaja Partap Singh from his throne. For this purpose they took help of Maharaja's younger brother Raja Amar Singh. They prepared some letters which could prove that the letters were written by Maharaja to his trusted servants to kill the Resident by posson. But there was a strong resentment against the issue all over Idea and the idea of deposition of maharaja and annexation of Kashmir was

given up. The British snatched the powers of Maharaja Pratap Singh in 1889, and in 1905 his state council was advised. Now no restriction of the state council could be modified without consulting the Residency. The budget could not be passed without the approval of Resident.

During the First World War the Maharaja placed all the resources of his state at the disposal of the British govt. In 1920 he appealed to the viceroy to restore him the powers which had been snatched away in 1889 and partially restored in 1905. So, during Pratap Singh's reign British reduced the maharaja as a puppet and the main objective was to control Ladakh & Gilgit borders.

4) British policy during Maharaja Hari Singh's rule:- There was political unrest throughout the reign of Maharaja Hari Singh. The 13 July 1931 incident forced the British to interfere in the internal administration. In 1932 Galancy commission was appointed and in 1935 British govt. got Gilgit from Maharaja for 60 years. During 2nd world war Maharaja supported the British in every possible way:

At last we reach to the conclusion that British realized the mistake of transferring the powers from rules and try to Kashmir.

Kashmir under Dogra's

Dogra State?

The Dogra rule which lasted for exactly one hundred and one years from November 1846 to October 1947, was one of the most peaceful and progressive periods in the long history of the Kashmir valley and other constituent parts of the Jammu and Kashmir State. The credit for opening much of this far flung mountainous territory of snow covered peaks, deep ravines, extensive valleys and arid Himalayan plateaus to modern

civilization and social and political influence, of which the present Kashmir problem is a direct result, goes to its Dogra rulers. The Kashmir valley which is the most celebrated and coveted part of the State is particularly indebted to them. They lavished their attention and resources on it even at the cost of their homeland - Jammu, in order to make it an attractive tourist resort.

Polity of the Dogra's in J&K? (An Assessment of Polity).

The Treaty of Amritsar by virtue of which Jammu & Kashmir state was handed over to Maharaja Gulab Singh and his successors with an independent authority, maintained dynastic feudal and religious centered rule of the medieval ages. "The Dogra rules considered Kashmir as their purchased property and ruled their subjects as a master rules over the slave "The Dogra rulers openly demonstrated their communal stance and the transfer of Jagirs from Muslims to non- Muslims remained a dominant feature of the Dogra rule. During initial phase Maharaja handed over all key position to the Hindus. The Muslims constituted 80% of the total population of the state but their share in government services was not more than 15% in late 1931. According to "Gazetteer of Kashmir" by Dr.Elmsile "that in 1872 one does not find even a single, Muslim out of population of 32,7700 in government services and on the other hand out of 7,500 Hindu population, 5,572 were working as clerks "It can also be seen by the fact that from 1846-1947 about 28 persons were appointed as Prime Ministers but none of them was a muslim. From top to bottom all administrative machinery was comprised of Hindus e.g Rajkak Dhar,Raja suraj koul,Pandit Zain kak Dhar were in charge of Daghshali, Revenue and deputy governor respectively.

The taxation policy of the state was discriminatory which hit hard the muslims subjects particularly. They had not only to pay Mujwaza Mandri, Ashgal but also marriage tax known as Sathrashahi and grazing tax.

The government confiscated many religious places of Muslims like pather Masjid, Eidgah, Khankhahi, Mosque, Babul shah etc. and on the other hand there were many state prostitution centers ,e.g in Toshwan,Maisuma etc.In 1880 there were 18,715 state prostitutes. The religious fanaticism of the dogra rule can be seen by the fact that Maharaja Rambhir Singh replace names of different areas e,g. he changed the name of Islamabad into Anatnag,Takhat-l-sulamani into Shankeracharya etc.

There was no freedom of expression & state did not even tolerate the submission of memorandums. It is due to the misgovernment as autocracy. Sir Albon Bannerge resigned, from his post in 1929.During Pratap Singh's time administration was reorganized and rulers importing officials from outside Kashmir, that is why in 1927 state subject law was passed and in 1930 civil service recruitment Board was established.

So, the nature of dogra rule was feudal religious centered and dynastic.

Economy under Dogra Rule in Kashmir? (Economy and Society).

Agriculture was the basic source of income of the state. Land grants were offered to the officers and other influential people of the state. The productivity was low because modern facilities were not available. The taxation policy of the state was exorbitant because state tries always to extract as much as possible from the peasants. The Dogra rulers declared the whole land of Kashmir as the Purchased property. The conditions of peasantry was miserable, People left their land uncultivated and migrated

towards India, especially Punjab. The land revenue was 1/3 of total produce paid in cash as well as Mujwaza. As far as change in agricultural economy are concerned the Dogra rulers took some measures for the improvement of economy:

Economic reforms under Ranbir Singh:-The shawl industry received Maharajas special attention; he reduced tax on weavers and price of paddy. After the Franco-Prussian war of 1871 he abolished the tax altogether. Agriculture was also encouraged, silk worm seeds were imported from China, and experimental tea gardens were laid out. Coal and iron mines were worked in some areas in Jammu.

Economic reforms under Pratap Singh:-When Pratap Singh ascended the throne the whole administrative system was corrupt and faulty. In 1890 Walter Lawrence was appointed as settlement commissioner who made various recommendations towards the welfare of the agricultural community. It was because of his recommendations that occupancy rights were conferred to Kashmir peasantry. Maharaja Pratap Singh constructed a number of canals which boosted the economy of the state e.g. Ranbir canal, upper Jhelum canal etc.

Economic reforms under Hari Singh: -Maharaja Hari passed Agriculturist relief act. In 1938 J&K bank was established with its head office at Srinagar. The Galancy commission was another significant development which benefited the people.

Another significant branch of Kashmir economy was the small-scale industry especially the shawl industry. No doubt the Franco-German war of 1871 gave a death blow to shawl business in Kashmir, but the exorbitant taxation of Dogra regime did not less toward this direction. The govt. levied heavy taxes on the shawl weavers. It is because of heavy taxes, they

rose in revolt in 1865 known as shawlbaaf of revolt. The shawl weavers were the worst hit of state exploitation. The Dogra rulers did nothing for the revival of this world-famous industry.

Besides agriculture saffron cultivation also boosted the economy of Kashmir which had wide market .so all these steps facilitated the economy of people.

British Policy towards Kashmir and the Changes

Concept of Bureaucracy.

The term Bureaucracy is derived from the latin word 'bureau' which means 'desk' and the Greek word 'cracy' or "kratia" which means 'rule'. Thus, it refers to the desk rule or the desk government. The term 'bureaucracy' was coined by a Frenchman, Vincent de Gournay, who first coined bureaucracy in 1965. At the same time, there are evidences that the word was used in its French form by a French Minister of commerce, in the eighteenth century to refer to the government in operation. The term came into use shortly before the French Revolution of 1789 and from there spread rapidly to other countries. Bureaucracy did not exist in its basic practical form in the earlier periods but gained prominence in the nineteenth century as a concept and an institutional format, for the accomplishment of large-scale multiple and complex tasks. The emergence of the concept of efficiency in relation to time, resources and productivity demanding efficient machinery for their effective coordination. Today, the bureaucracy is the major institution and social technique for handling and controlling the affairs of modern nations.

Bureaucracy is the administrative structure of any large organization, public or private. It is the government by permanent office-

holders. Bureaucracy is a system of administration wherein there is a specialization of functions, objective qualifications for office, action according to the adherence to fixed rules, and a hierarchy of authority and delegated power. Organizations such as the armed forces or administrative agencies are common examples of bureaucracies. Bureaucracy is a formal, hierarchical organization with many levels in which tasks, responsibilities and authority are delegated among individuals, offices, or departments, held together by a central administration. According to many sociologists and anthropologists, the development of bureaucratic organizations is necessary for the emergence of any modern civilization.

Emergence of Political Consciousness Causes?

Ans:-It was very late in twenties of 20th century that the signs of consciousness against the dictatorial and oppressive Dogra Raj germinated in Kashmir. There were many factors which led to political consciousness of the people of the state. Some of the main causes are described briefly under the following heads.

- 1) **Nature of Dogra rule:** - The nature of Dogra rule was despotistic, religious centered, feudal like and dynastic. The Dogra rulers considered Kashmir as their purchased property. Maharaja Gulab Singh transferred jagirs from Muslims to non-Muslim & his successors followed the same policy. Maharaja Ranbir Singh changed the names of Anantnag and Shankaracharya respectively. The dogra rulers confiscated several religious places and mosques of the Muslims and converted them into store houses, and arms and ammunition centers. They openly awarded death sentence and life imprisonment against the cow slaughter. So the

people became conscious about the despotic rule and left no stone unturned to put an end to the Dogra rule.

- 2) Composition and attitude of Bureaucracy:** -Muslims constituted 80% of the total population of the state but their share in govt.services was not more than 15%.During initial phase Maharaja handed over all the key position to the Hindus. In 1872 one does not find any Muslim in govt.services while 5572 Hindus were clerks. It can also be seen by the fact that from 1846-1947 28 prime Minister were appointed but among them none was a Muslim.

The bureaucracy oppressed the people through different ways. All this was not acceptable to the people so they went against the govt.

- 3) Education:** - An interesting feature of the education of the Muslim community was that many of the Muslim students went outside to get higher education. During their stay in India, they were influenced by the Indian National Movement, who on their return blazed the trail for freedom in Kashmir.
- 4) Role of Socio-religious movement:-**The leaders of socio- religious movements stressed on equality where there was no room for intermediaries. They made a spirit of confidence among the people about their rights through education which played a significant role in the rise of political consciousness in Kashmir.
- 5) Agrarian crises and Labour Unrest:** - The Dogra rulers declared the whole land as the state property and left the Muslim community at the mercy of corrupt officials and landlords. Every thing except air and water was taxed. This policy had broken the back of people. Shawl weavers in 1865 revolted but due to lack of organized

character they failed but now people adopted the methods of Indian national movement in order to redress their grievances.

- 6) **External Support:-**The people of India, especially Punjabi Muslims made a remarkable contribution towards the political consciousness and the struggle for freedom in Kashmir. They not only extended moral and material support to the Kashmiri Muslims but also kept their press at the disposal of Kashmiri people.
- 7) **Civil and political Rights denied:-**There were no civil and political rights to the people. The dogra rulers followed a policy of suppression on public opinion .There was not freedom of press. It is surprising to know that in 1875 there were 478 newspapers published in British India where as in Kashmir Pram nath bazaz published the first paper called vitasta in 1932. So all this created ill will against the government.

So, all these factors culminated in the political consciousness of the people of Kashmir & on 13 July 1931 open demonstrations against the despotic rule of the Maharaja took place.

IV. Agrarian Changes; Means of Communication; Education and Health Land Reforms:

The Dogra rulers considered Kashmir as their purchased property and declared the whole land of Kashmir as the state property. Peasantry was the worst hit of Jagirdars, Chakdars, and waddars etc.The transfer of jagirs from Muslim to non-Muslims remained a dominant feature of Dogra rule. The Kashmir peasants lost their proprietary rights and this law did not apply to Jammu, because the dogra rulers always considered Jammu as

their home and Kashmir as their conquered territory. The method of revenue collection and mode of payment was also oppressive 1/3 revenue paid in kind known as mujawaza.

It was establishment of British Residency in Kashmir in 1885 which provide some relief to the peasants. In 1887 Mr. a. Wingate was entrusted with the settlement of the valley but he gives it up because of opposition of state officials. Walter Lawrence completed the work in four years (1889-93).

Sir Walter Lawrence Settlement: -

The main features of the settlement are as under:

- 1) The state demand was fixed for 14 years.
 - 2) Use of force in the collection of revenue was given up.
 - 3) Begar system in harsh form was abolished.
 - 4) Revenue will be paid in cash only.
 - 5) Rasum and other illegal taxes were abolished.
 - 6) The land was carefully evaluated on the basis of produce.
- 7) Occupying rights were conferred on cultivators.
- 8) Waste lands were considered as Khalsa lands

No doubt govt. did not implement fully the recommendations of Lawrence settlement but it was beneficial and memorable for the cultivators.

The Galancy commission provide some relief to the peasants but it was only in 1951 that the abolition of Big Landed Estates act was passed which gave solace to the peasants of the state.

Technology: -As far as technology during Dogra period is concerned it was the outcome of colonialism and European impact. Maharaja Ranbir Singh opened a number of dispensaries, schools and

prepared a map of the valley with surrounded mountains in 1861. The establishment of a church missionary school by Rev. Dexey in 1881 and a hospital by the same missionary society also brought much needed relief to the people of the state.

Maharaja Pratap Singh's accession to the throne is a landmark in the history of modern Kashmir. During his long reign of 40 years several technological implements were introduced which later on revolutionized the whole economy of the state.

1) Means of Transport and Communication:- (According to "valley of Kashmir" by Walter Lawrence). There was an absence of roads fit for wheeled traffic in the valley in 1890. But in September 1890 Jhelum valley cart Road" was constructed from Kohla to (Barmula and extended to Srinagar in 1897) In 1913 Dr A. Mitra worked out a plan to construct a cart Road from Jammu to Srinagar through Banihal Pass completed in 1915 and opened for Public traffic in 1922. Jammu was connected with British India in 1890 through a rail road.

2) Irrigation and Electricity:- To save the state from the occurrence of famines Maharaja Pratap Singh constructed a number of canals. e.g, Pratap canal, Martand canal, Basantpur canal etc. In order to divert the flood waters of Jhelum he constructed a channel between Ram Munshi Bagh and Pandrethan.

A hydroelectric generating plant was constructed at Mohra in 1907. This electric power was used for lighting and industrial purpose.

3) Agriculture and Horticulture: - In 1875 vine cuttings and fruit trees were planted in Chashma Shah and special attention was provided towards fruit industry. In 1877 Department of Agriculture

& Horticulture was established. Agriculture was developed on scientific lines. Sericulture suffered during Afghans and Sikhs but Dogra rulers imported silk seeds from France & Italy and distributed it among peasants. Because of efforts of the govt. this industry was "the largest of its kind in the world.

- 4) **Mineral Resources:** - Early European companies were encouraged to explore mineral wealth in the state but in 1908 govt. established its own Department of mining. Several coal and mine industries were worked in Jammu.
- 5) **Medical System:** - No doubt some medical institutions were established by missionary societies during Maharaja Ranbir Singh's time but during Partap Singh's rule govt. opened several hospitals for the welfare of the people. In 1894 vaccination against small pox was first introduced roads and streets were widened, sanitary conditions were improved Maharaja Hari Singh established central Medical Hospital at Jammu and another at Srinagar. He also opened about 100 dispensaries at various places in the state.
- 6) **Spread of Education:** - Earlier Maharaja Ranbir Singh had taken some measures for the spread of education in the state. In 1905 A.D, a college was established in Srinagar as a result of the efforts of Mrs. Annie Besant and another at Jammu in 1908 A.D. The change from the old education system to modern one was resented by the Kashmiri Pandits and also the orthodox Muslims.