PREFACE

The subject of my M.Phil dissertation was "Bilateralism in South-Asia: A Case Study of India-Bangladesh Relations". The main emphasis of the dissertation was on Farraka dispute. That was in the year 1979, and since then grave developments have taken place in South-Asia which have made this region highly volatile and conflict prone. As a Serving Officer in the Indian Armed Forces, I have had occasion to watch closely the kind of role India and its Army played in Sri Lanka. The army in India is not involved in political decisions. But by virtue of being the core instrument of the state's main force, it is inescapably involved in all conflict situations which touch the country. This was the genesis of my interest in India's peacekeeping operations in Sri Lanka which brought me to a closer look at both conflict theories and conflict management. I discussed the subject a number of times with my teacher and research supervisor Professor S.C.Gangal at Jawaharlal Nehru University. These discussions eventually led me to register for the Ph.D degree with my alma-mater, in July 1992.

The registration for the research was made possible by the study leave that was generously granted to me by the Director General Military Training (MT-9), Army
Headquarters, New Delhi. Thus, after a lapse of fourteen years, I returned to the School of International Studies, JNU as a research student. The work of research has been exciting and fulfilling but also very demanding both because of the quality of research maintained at the University and the limited time span of two years that I had at my disposal to complete the research and submit the thesis. This would not have been possible but for the moral support and intellectual guidance that I received from Professor Gangal. I was also lucky to have had the guidance of Professor Stephen P. Cohen, University of Illinois. I had discussions with him while I was formulating the research proposal.

The thesis begins with an analytical overview of the principal theories of conflict and delineates the role of conflict management against the backdrop of conflict theories. This serves as the foundation of the dissertation and leads on to the problem of conflict management in the Third World which has been the main arena of conflict since the end of the Second World War. The sources of conflict in the Third World are analytically treated and, in the central part of Chapter II, two case studies of selected conflict - Chad and Cyprus - have been presented as an illustrative argument to support the overview of conflict management.

(ii)
Chapter III is devoted to peacekeeping as a component of conflict management. The various aspects of peacekeeping its agencies, problems and other related matters have been taken up.

Chapter IV and V present a detailed study of conflict management (with peacekeeping as its principal instrument) undertaken by India in Sri Lanka. This chapter (besides written source material), is to a large extent based on insight and understanding obtained from interviews and discussions held with a number of persons who were directly involved in the peacekeeping operations in Sri Lanka - who were able to provide first hand information and inputs for my treatment of India's peacekeeping operations there.

The final chapter is devoted to conclusions of the thesis. This highlights the correlation between theoretical and pragmatic aspects of conflict management. The central conclusion of the thesis is about the focal position that the task of conflict management occupies in today's world. An important finding of the present study is the much greater importance that an understanding of conflict management has for the Third World countries vis-a-vis that which it has for the developed Western countries.

I would like to acknowledge the facilities that are
available in the form of library and host of academic activities that go on the campus of the Jawaharlal Nehru University to complete this work. My thanks are due to the library staff of JNU, Indian Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis, the United Service Institution of India Library at Kashmir House and the Indian Council of World Affairs. I am thankful to Mr. D.K. Bose of the UN Documentation Centre, New Delhi, for giving me help and assistance in procuring the UN peacekeeping literature.

A very great advantage that came my way was the fellowship that the Henry L. Stimson Centre, Washington D.C. gave me. I stayed at the Centre for a period of two months during which I got the chance to exchange views with scholars like Michael Krepon, an expert on Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) and William J. Durch, an expert on peacekeeping. During my stay in USA I also made extensive use of the Library of Congress. My interaction with scholars on conflict management, like Professor Ted Robert Gurr, Professor John L. Davies of Center for International Development and Conflict Management, University of Maryland and with Professor Dennis J. D. Sandole and Christopher Mitchell at the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution, at George Mason University, Virginia were
greatly helpful in the research. A visit to United Nations Headquarters at New York and interaction with Mr. Cedric Thornberry and Lt Col Gerry McGregor was productive and I could get a lot of insight with respect to UN peacekeeping operations. Besides this, I could lay my hands on primary source material as well related to UN peacekeeping which helped me in the study of Chad and Cyprus which I have dealt within the present work. A visiting fellowship at the Centre for Defence Studies, King's College, University of London enabled me to work at the Liddel Hart Centre for Military Archives, London, and to interact with Dr. Charles Dick and Major Malcolm Flowers-Smth at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, UK, also proved very useful for the present research work. I would like to extend my thanks to Dr. Christopher Smith and Mrs. Frances Evans of King's College for a meaningful dialogue I had with them.

Among those who rendered invaluable help in the research are number of friends - they not only provided academic support but also helped in maintaining the momentum of research. They are Mr. B.P.N. Sinha, Mr. Mohun Kudaisya, Dr. Regina Mulay, Ms. Kamlesh Jain, Dr. Ronki Ram, Ms. Tanuja Sachdev, Ms. Madhavee Inamdar and Dr. Gyanesh Kudaisya. My
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Last but not least, I must tell that but for the constant moral and emotional support from my father and my wife Sadhana this work would not have been completed within limited time span available. My daughter Suvrita and son Sauraj often helped to cheer me up whenever I felt somewhat tired in spirit and body.

(SUNIL CHANDRA)