

CHAPTER – II

THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF JAMMU KASHMIR

History is a survey of man's existence and occupation on earth, the ideas, events and meaning of man's long journey through his birth and development, leading to the progress of civilization, which are basic to any elicitation, indicative of how the past is interpreted and what lessons might be learnt for a clearer comprehension of the thoughts, motivations and actions, the philosophy and forces that operated and influenced him.

Origin of Jammu can be traced back to the age of Raja Jamboolochan in the 14th century BC. It is believed that during one of his hunting campaigns he reached the Tawi River where he saw a goat and a lion drinking water at the same place. The king was impressed and decided to set up a town after his name, Jamboo. With the passage of time, the name was shaped to become "Jammu" (Brecher Michael, 1953:14).

According to folk etymology, the name "Kashmir" means "desiccated land" (In Sanskrit: Ka = water and shimeera = desiccate). In Rajatarangini, (history of Kashmir written by Kalhana in mid-12th century), it is stated that the valley of Kashmir was formerly a lake (Das Gupta,

1958:38). According to Hindu mythology, the lake was drained by the great rishi Kashyapa, son of Marichi, son of Brahma, by cutting the gap in the hills at Baramulla (Varaha-mula). When the lake had been drained, Kashyapa asked Brahmans to settle there. The name of Kashyapa was connected with the draining of the lake and the chief town or collection of dwellings in the valley was called Kashyapa-pura (Anderson, 1979:12).

Kashmir came to be known as the abode of rishis because it has provided a calm and serene shelter to sages and savants. The ancient Greeks called it "Kasperia" and the Chinese pilgrim Hiuen-Tsang who visited the valley around 631 A.D called it Kahi-Milo. Rishis finding the place secure for their Tapas made it their home and gave it the name Kashyapa mar after the rishi who found it. In the modern time it had been changed to Kashmir (Chandra Bipan, 1954:29).

In pre-historical times the valley of Kashmir was believed to be the abode of Shiva manifest itself as the great lake of Sati, the other form of Shakti. Brahmans who engaged in contemplation to study the Vedas continued to come and settle here. A time came when the whole of the valley was populated by Brahmanas with a rich Vedic scholarship and lore. Medieval historian Alberuni says Varanasi and Kashmir are the High schools of Hindu science (Thorpe Robert, 1970:52).

Physiography

Jammu Kashmir, located in the extreme north of the country is situated between 32⁰ 17' and 37'5 N latitude and 72⁰ 40 and 80⁰ 30 E longitudes. It is bounded on north by China, east by Tibet, south by Pakistan. Geographically this state was divided into four zones – the mountains and semi Mountains plain known as Kandit belt, Siwalik ranges, mountains of Kashmir valley and Pir Panjal ranges and Tibetan tract of Ladakh and Kargil. A peculiar feature of the state was the existence of two capitals (Brines Russel, 1968:11).

In summer the capital is Srinagar and in winter the capital is Jammu. The climate of the state varies from tropical in Jammu plains to semi arctic cold in Ladakh with Kashmir and Jammu mountain tracts having temperate climatic conditions. Leh is coldest and Jammu is the hottest region in the state. In the winter nights temperature goes down below zero and heavy snow fall occurs during November to February. The annual rainfall varies from region to region with 92.6mm in Leh, 650.5mm Srinagar and 1,115.9m in Jammu (Gundevia Y.D, 1984:32)

Our immortal Sanskrit poet Kalidasa writes about the valley: “The place is more beautiful than heaven and is the benefactor of supreme bliss and happiness. It seems to me that I am taking a bath in the lake of nectar

here. The valley is an emerald set in pearls; lands of lakes, clear streams, green truf, magnificent trees and mighty mountains where the air is cool, and the water sweet, where men are strong, and women are beautiful like fruits” (Kaul R.U, 1999; 62). Table 2.1 gives profile of the Jammu Kashmir

TABLE 2:1

Profile of J&K

Geographical Area	2,22,236*
Number of Districts	22
Population(2001)	10,069,917
Major Languages	Kashmiri, Dogri, Urudu, Hindi
Forest cover (2001)	9.56% of total Geographical area
Rural Population (2001)	75.12% Total Population
Number of towns and Villages	75 and 6652
Agricultural Land	4.7% total
Per Capita Income (NSDP 1999-2000)	Rs.7435/-
Population Density (2001)	99/Km ²
Literacy rates (2001)	54.46%
Sex Ratio (2001)	900 females per thousand males
Major Source of occupation	Agriculture (80%)
Major Tribal communities	Balti, Beda, Boto, Brokpa, Drokpa, Garra, Chnagpa, mon, Purigpa, Gujjar, Gaddi, Bakarwal and Sippi
Major Industries	Handicrafts and Handlooms

Source: Office of the Registrar General of India, Ministry of Home Affairs

* Included 78,114 and 37555Km² occupied by Pakistan and China respectively and 5,180km² handed over by Pakistan to China.

Nature has bestowed unlimited grace and grandeur to the valley. Its scenic beauty is unparallel. The chinar is a royal tree and the walnut belongs to Kashmir. Its green leaves become red in autumn and later fall

down on the ground where these are meticulously collected by the housewives in villages for use as fuel etc, during hard winter months. That is why this valley is compared with Paradise. The amazing climate of Kashmir valley had attracted lakh of tourists every year.

Geography and climate

Jammu and Kashmir is a home of several valleys such as the Kashmir Valley, Tawi , Chenab , Poonch , Sind and Lidder . Among these the major one is Kashmir valley which is 100 km (62 mi) wide and 15,520.3 km² (5,992.4 sq mi) in total area. The Himalayas divide the Kashmir valley from Ladakh while the Pir Panjal range, which encloses the valley from the west and the south, separates it from the great plains of northern India. This densely settled and beautiful valley has an average height of 1,850 metres (6,100 ft) above sea-level but the surrounding Pir Panjal range has an average elevation of 5,000 metres (16,000 ft) (Menon V P, 1957: 14).

The Jhelum River is the only major Himalayan River which flows through the Kashmir valley. The Indus, Tawi, Ravi and Chenab are the major rivers flowing through the state. Jammu and Kashmir is home to several Himalayan glaciers. With an average altitude of 5,753 metres (18,870 ft) above sea-level, the Siachen Glacier is 70 km (43 mi) long

making it the longest Himalayan glacier (Lawrence W.R, 1967:38). Table 2: 2 shows important rivers in Jammu and Kashmir.

TABLE 2: 2
Rivers in J&K

Name	Origin
Jhelum	Verinag
Ravi	Basoli
Tawi	North East Jammu Mountains
Chenab	Lahul and Spiti
Indus	Tibet

Source: J&K State Irrigation Department

Important rivers are Jhelum and Chenab. Both are originating from J&K and flowing to Pakistan. There are so many small rivers also originating from Pir Panjal Mountains and flowing to Jammu areas. Important thing is winter season also filled with water because of the melting snow.

The climate of Jammu and Kashmir varies greatly owing to its rugged topography. In the south around Jammu, the climate is typically monsoon, though the region is sufficiently far west it receives an average 40 to 50 mm (1.6 to 2 inches) of rain per month between January and March. In the hot season, Jammu city is very hot and can scale up to 40

°C (104 °F) whilst in July and August, very heavy though erratic rainfall occurs with monthly extremes of up to 650 millimeters (25.5 inches). In September, rainfall declines, and by October conditions are hot but extremely dry, with minimal rainfall and temperatures of around 29 °C (84 °F) (Ishaq Khan, 1985:79).

Across from the Pir Panjal range, the South Asian monsoon is no longer a factor and most precipitation falls in the spring from southwest cloud bands. Because of its closeness to the Arabian Sea, Srinagar receives as much as 25 inches (635 millimeters) of rain from this source, with the wettest months being March to May with around 85 millimeters (3.3 inches) per month (Ishaq Khan:80).

Across from the main Himalaya Range, even the southwest cloud bands break up and the climate of Ladakh and Zaskar is extremely dry and cold. Annual precipitation is only around 100 mm (4 inches) per year and humidity is very low.

The region, almost all above 3,000 metres (9,750 ft) above sea level and winters are extremely cold. In Zaskar, the average January temperature is 20°C (-4 °F) with extremes as low as -40 °C (-40 °F). All the rivers freeze and locals actually do river crossings during this period because the high levels from glacier melt in summer inhibits crossing.

During summer in Ladakh and Zanskar, days are typically warm about 20 °C (68 °F) but with the low humidity and thin air nights are cold (Schelling T.C, 1968:78). Table 2:3 shows seasons of Kashmir valley.

TABLE 2: 3
Seasons of Kashmir Valley

Season	Period	Local Terms
Spring	16 March to 15 May	Sout
Summer	16 May to 15 July	Retkol (Grishmam)
Rainy Season	16 July to 15 September	Waharat
Autumn	16 September to 15 November.	Harud
Winter	16 November to 15 January	Wandah
Ice cold	16 January to 15 March	Shishur

Source: From J&K Tourism department.

The main season of Kashmir valley is ice cold from January to March. Winter also attracted tourists to J&K. Snow season attracted many people from other parts of country. In rainy season road journey is little difficult, because of sliding.

Lakes in J&K

There are eleven lakes situated in J&K. Mansbol Lake is the longest in the valley. It originates from Sopore. Seshnag Lake is the shortest in the valley (Pandit R S, 1993: 41). Table 2.4 gives detailed picture of lakes in J&K.

TABLE 2: 4

Lakes in J&K

Name	Distance in Sq Km	Place
Wular Lake	16 KM	Bandipore and Sopore
Dal Lake	8 KM	Srinagar
Anchar Lake	8KM	Gandarbal
Mansbal	29KM	Sopore
Harwan	21KM	Srinagar city
Hokarsar	13KM	Baramulla
Konsarnag & Vishnopad	5KM	Shopian
Gangabal	6KM	Harmukh Mountain
Sheshnag	4KM	Pahalgam
Neelang	5KM	Budgam
Pangong	6.4KM	Ladakh

Source: Archeological Department J & K.Report 1989.

Road and Communications

There was one all weather road from Rawalpindi to Srinagar through the gorge of the river Jhelum. This road entered the state boundary at Kohla Bridge over the Jhelum. At Domel another road from

Abbotbad to Muzaffarabad joined it. The main road from Srinagar to Jammu is 320kms. From Banihal the road descends to Ramban. After running over a bridge over Chenab, it climbs to Batote and Patnitope another cold valley of the state. A new road link was started between Anantnag and Kishtwar over Simthan pass but can be used in summer only. Jammu is linked to Akhnoor-Naushahara and Poonch. From Poonch a link road goes over Haji pir pass and joins Uri-Srinagar road near Uri from Rajouri a rough track goes to Shopian-gateway of Kashmir valley (Raina Nath Dina, 1990: 19).

Divisions

Jammu and Kashmir consists of three divisions: Jammu, Kashmir Valley and Ladakh, and is further divided into 22 districts The Siachen Glacier, although under Indian military control, does not lie under the administration of the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Kishtwar, Ramban, Reasi, Samba, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Kulgam and Shopian are newly formed districts .

Jammu Region

The Jammu region consists of territory south of the Pir panjal range. Its West and North West borders touch Pakistan. This region is a medley of hills and narrow valleys and plains. Before independence Jammu region

had six districts. Now it has ten districts. This region has a great historic and cultural heritage. The region is largely inhabited by Hindus called Kashmiri Pandits.

The region is also rich in minerals, such as Coal, Copper, Bauxite, Zinc and Lead. Sapphire mines are located at higher elevations in the Paddar valley. Semi precious stones like Beryl, Aquamarine, Crystals, Quarts and Feldspar are also found in the region. The region is rich in Pine, Fir and Deodar trees. Jammu city is well connected with Air and rail. The railway track extends up to Udhampur, which also has the headquarters of Northern Command of the Indian army (Bhagawan Singh, 1983:32).

Kashmir Region

The region consists of Kashmir valley and northern and north eastern mountainous areas. The river Jhelum passes through the valley from the beginning to the end. The total districts are ten. Kashmir region is overwhelmingly occupied by Muslims. The rest of the population includes the Hindus known as Kashmir Pandits, who are the original inhabitants belonging to Indo-Aryan ethnic type ancient Aryans.

A small number of Sikhs also live in some pockets here. Muslims by and large are Sunnis but Shias also dominate in the districts of Badgam and Kargil and also some pockets in Baramulla and Srinagar.

Kashmir is noted for Shawl, Shali, Shalgam and shikara. Shal is a blanket of fine pashmina wool, Shali or paddy is the staple food of Kashmir's, Shalgam is a popular vegetable and Shikara is a small boat convenient for water transportation. This valley is dotted with innumerable snow fed streams and springs. Apples, Apricots and Peaches are common (Baruds William, 1972:58).

Ladakh Region

The area of Ladakh is very vast but population is extremely thin. Majority of the people follow Buddhism, the Kargil district is inhabited by Shia Muslims. River Indus cuts through the mountains and valley of Ladakh. The chief crops are wheat, gram, buck wheat and Barley. Leh is headquartering of Ladakh and Kargil is that of Kargil district (Azad Moulana, 1959:43). Table 2: 5 provide detailed information about Regions and Districts of the J&K.

TABLE 2: 5

Districts of J&K

Districts in Jammu Region	Districts in Kashmir valley region	Districts in Ladakh region
Kathua	Anantnag	Kargil
Jammu	Kulgam	Leh
Samba	Pulwama	
Udhampur	Shopian	
Reasi	Budgam	
Poonch	Srinagar	
Rajouri	Ganderbal	
Doda	Bandipora	
Ramban	Baramulla	
Kishtwar	Kupwara	

Source: Ministry of Home Affairs, J&K

The state was divided in to Three Regions like Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Most of the districts lie near to Pakistan and China

Culture

Jammu's Dogra culture and tradition is much similar to that of neighboring Punjab and Himachal Pradesh. Traditional Punjabi festivals such as Lohri and Vaisakhi are celebrated with great zeal and enthusiasm throughout the region.

After Dogras, Gujjars form the second-largest ethnic group in Jammu. Known for their semi-nomadic lifestyle, Gujjars are also found in large numbers in the Kashmir valley. Similar to Gujjars, Gaddis are primarily herdsmen who hail from the Chamba region in Himachal

Pradesh. Gaddis are generally associated with emotive music played on the flute. The Bakkarwalas found both in Jammu and the Kashmir valley are wholly nomadic pastoral people who move along the Himalayan slopes in search of pastures for their huge flocks of goats and sheep (Manchanda, 1991: 62-63).

Ladakh is famous for its unique Indo-Tibetan culture. Chanting in Sanskrit and Tibetan language forms an integral part of Ladakh's Buddhist lifestyle. Annual masked dance festivals, weaving and archery are an important part of traditional life in Ladakh. Ladakhi food has much in common with Tibetan food, the most prominent foods being thukpa, noodle soup; and tsampa, known in Ladakhi as Ngampe, roasted barley flour. Typical garb includes gonchas of velvet, elaborately embroidered waistcoats and boots, and gonads or hats. People, adorned with gold and silver ornaments and turquoise headgears throng the streets during various Ladakhi festivals (Sheik Abdullah, 1999: 69).

The Dumhal is a famous dance in the Kashmir valley, performed by men of the Wattal region. The women perform the Rouff, another traditional folk dance. Kashmir has been noted for its fine arts for centuries, including poetry and handicrafts. Shikaras, traditional small wooden boats, and houseboats are a common feature in various lakes and rivers across the Valley.

As a consequence, houseboats became popular among those who were unable to purchase land in the Valley and has now become an integral part of the Kashmiri lifestyle (Sheikh Abdullah: 71). Kawa, traditional green tea with spices and almond, is consumed all through the day in the chilled winter climate of Kashmir. Most of the buildings in the Valley and Ladakh are made from softwood and is influenced by Indian, Tibetan, and Islamic architecture. (Akbar MJ1985: 68).

Rulers in Kashmir-An overview

Hindu Period

Kalhana in his book Rajatarangini stated that the history of Kashmir started just before the great Mahabharat war. According to him the first king who ruled over Kashmir is Gonanda, his reign is placed as 653 Kali- era, the traditional date of coronation of King Yudhistira, the eldest brother of the Pandvas, Gonanda was killed in a battle along with his son and at the time of the commencement of the Mahabharat war, Gonanda II was ruling over Kashmir (Jaina Pandit, 1935: 12).

Ashoka founded the old city of Srinagar known now as "Pandrethan". At Vijeshwari (modern Bijbehra), he built a Shiva Temple, thus winning the heart of the local population, who were mostly worshippers of Lord Shiva making a gift of the valley to Sangha (Moon Penderal, 1978: 126).

According to local tradition, like Lord Shri Krishna, Lord Buddha is also supposed to have visited Kashmir. After the death of Ashoka, his son Jaluka ascended the throne of Kashmir, and the latter was succeeded by his son King Damodar II, Jaluka was a great king who cleared the valley of oppressing 'Malechas' (Foreign unclean tribes) (Jaina Pandit: 29).

The scholars also, accept the theory that the valley for over two hundred years was ruled by Indo-Greek Kings before the start of "Turushka" (Kushan) rule in the state. Cunningham records a large fund of silver coins of Azes (and Azilies) (coins of Indo-Scythians) on the banks of Vitasta (river Jhelum) in the hills between Varahmulla and Jhelum (Panikar K.M, 1948: 46).

The contact with the Greeks is responsible for the beautiful architectural and sculptural style of old Kashmir temples, and the coinage of later Kashmir Kings has also been influenced by this contact. The three kings mentioned by Kalhan are Huska, Juska, and Kanishka, each of them is credited with the foundation of a town, christened after their respective names: Hushkapura, Jushkapura and Kanishkapura (Tanver Singh, 1968: 48). The Kushan Kings also built many temples and Vihars. Kanishka held the third great council of the Buddhist church at "Kundalvan".

Hien Tsang has given the proceedings of this Council. Nearly 500 Buddhist and Hindu scholars attended this conference, and a learned Kashmir Brahmin Vasumitra presided over its session. Some of the great

Buddhist Scholars, who took active part in this council, were Ashvagosha, Nagarjuna, Vasubandu Sangamitra and Jinamitra (Panikar K.M: 52).

Hiuen-Tsang praises the intellectual caliber of the Kashmir scholars, and considered them as incomparable. The entire proceedings of the conference were inscribed on copper plates in Sanskrit, enclosed in stone boxes, deposited in a Vihar. Like famous Gilgit manuscripts, it is possible that these copper plates may be unearthed in near future, and we would learn much about the rich cultural history of the valley (Jia Lal Kilam Pandit, 1969: 112).

In 950, Khemgupta ascended the throne of Kashmir, a man of mediocre ability who married princess Didda, daughter of the ruler of Lohara (Poonch) and granddaughter of the Sahi King of Kabul. In 980 A.D. Didda ascended the throne after the death of her husband. Before her, two other queens had ruled Kashmir namely Yashovati and Sugandha. Didda was a very unscrupulous and willful lady and led a very immoral life (Kaul and Anand Pandit, 1924: 56). But inspite of these drawbacks, she was an able ruler, who firmly ruled the valley. She died in 1003 A.D. and left the throne of Kashmir to her family in undisputed succession, as her children had died young, she transmitted the crown to Sangramraj, son of her brother Udairaj, the ruler of Lohara (Poonch). It was during her time that Mahmud Gaznavi twice tried to capture the valley but the fort at

Lohara, remarkable for its height and strength proved impregnable. The Sultan was obliged to abandon the conquest (Gupta Sisir, 1966: 85-86).

From 1089 - 1101 AD, King Harsha and from 1155-1339, the Kashmir rulers remained busy with intrigues, debauchery, and mutual quarrels. The last Hindu ruler of Kashmir was Udayan Dev. Before his death, he embraced Islam. His death in 1339 paved the way for the establishment of Muslim rule in Kashmir.

Muslim Period

Shah Mir ascended the throne under the name of Sultan Shamasud-din, and his dynasty ruled the state for 222 years. Sultan Sikander Butshika of Kashmir considered worst in Muslim Period. Firishta records that he persecuted the Hindus and issued orders prohibiting the residence of any other than Muslims in Kashmir. He also ordered the breaking of all golden and silver images (Hassan Mohibbul, 1959: 79).

Mughal Period

During the period of Mughal rule from 1587 to 1752, the people enjoyed peace and order. Akbar built a new town near Hariparbat and called it Nagar-Magar and built the massive wall around the hill. The Mughal rulers never came alone, but were always accompanied by hundreds of Nobles, Amirs and Umras, Princes and Army Generals. Jahangir came virtually, under the spell of the scenic beauty of the place, and wherever he found a hill coming down gently to a spring or a grove of

majestic Chinar trees or a beautiful lake, he utilized the place for planting a pleasure garden (Wani Gul Mohammed, 1996: 48).

Shalimar and Nishat gardens on the banks of Dal Lake, would keep Jahangir's love for natural beauty ever fresh in our memory. Table 2:6 shows important Mughal gardens from J&K.

TABLE 2: 6

Mughal Gardens in J&K

Name of Gardens	Name of the ruler who built it
Shalimar	Jehangir for his beloved wife Noorjahan
Chashmashahi	Shahjahan
Nishat	Jehangir
Harwan	Asif Khan
Pari Mahar	Shahjehan

Source: State Tourism department

Important gardens are Shalimar, Harwan and Nishat. All gardens are facing Dal Lake. Aurangzeb visited Kashmir only once in 1665. Because of instability, lack of unity and discriminations of Mughul kings lead to Afghan invasion in 1752 (Wani Gul Mohd, 1996:87). In Kashmir most of the gardens are built by Mughal rulers.

Afghan Rule: 1752 – 1819

The rulers of Kabul were great despots, and they ruled all the parts of their kingdom ruthlessly with an iron hand. The cornerstone of their

policy was terror. As many as twenty eight Durrani Subedars governed Kashmir during these sixty seven years. Most of the well to do people of the valley were summoned by the Abid Ali Governor Abdullah Khan to his palace, and ordered to surrender all their wealth on pain of death. Their houses were completely sacked, and many people were put to sword. There was complete gloom and despair on every side.

All the prosperity of the valley was gone, and the people could not even move on the streets, for fear of being robbed of even their scanty clothing. Each and everyday for a Kashmiri was a day of struggle and uncertainty (Sheikh Mohd Abdullah, 1969: 15). In 1819 the State was added to the Sikh Kingdom of Punjab. The Sikh rule over Kashmir lasted only for a brief span of time, during which the rulers at Lahore were far too pre-occupied at home to pay any attention to the affairs of this outlying province of theirs.

The misery of the people increased due to natural calamities as well, such as premature snow falls, which would destroy a ripe rice crop leading to famines. These famines were followed by diseases like cholera and plague resulting in a heavy loss of life. Thousands of people migrated to India during these hard days, and no wonder the population of the valley came down to two lakhs from nine lakhs (Hargopal Kaul, 1933: 68).

Dogra Period: 1846 -1957

Dogras are from Indo-Aryan ethnic group in south Asia. Dogras believed to be suryavanshi Rajputs of chattri origin. They are migrated from Rajputana many centuries ago. They live predominantly in the J&K, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and North East Pakistan. They speak their own language called Dogri. Most of the Dogras are Hindus, some are Muslims and some are Sikhs (Musa Mohamed, 1983: 59). From 1846 to 1949, four Dogra kingdoms are ruled in J&K. The Kashmir accession was started at the time of Maharaja Harising. Table 2:7 gives names of Dogra rulers of J&K.

TABLE 2:7

List of Dogra Rulers

Gulab Singh	1846 - 1857
Ranbir Singh	1857 - 1885
Partab Singh	1885 - 1925
Hari Singh	1925 - 1949

Source: Archeological Department J & K

The two Anglo-Sikh Wars led to the final extinction of Sikh sovereignty in the Punjab and by virtue of the treaties of Lahore and Amritsar the British who had by now become undisputed master of India. The greatest service of the first Dogra ruler is the foundation that he laid

for the modern Jammu and Kashmir State. The Maharaja died in 1857 after a rule of 11 years, during which period he laid the foundation of a sound system of administration. He was succeeded by Maharaja Ranbir Singh who ruled from 1857 to 1885 (Veena kukreja, 2003: 69).

In 1885 Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh ascended the throne and he ruled for a period of 40 years. The real modernization of the state and several progressive reforms were carried out by him. Sir Walter Lawrence brought the first assessment of land revenue system in the state on scientific lines. The two mountain roads, Jhelum valley road and Banihal Cart were built by linking the state with the rest of India.

A scheme for drainage of the valley reclaiming waste-land and preventing floods by digging flood channels was put into operation. Construction of water reservoir at Harwan and establishment of electric generating plant at Mohra was also undertaken during this period. Two colleges in the state besides large number of education institutions were also established by the order of the Maharaja. **Map 1** gives details of princely state of J&K and main administrative divisions.

The administrative machinery was completely overhauled. There was development in the means of communication and telegraphs. Telephones and post offices were opened in many places. After the death of Maharaja Pratap Singh his nephew Maharaja Sir Hari Singh ascended

the throne in 1925. He continued to govern the state till 1949. Hari Singh was the last ruler of Kashmir. When India got freedom in 1947 the land was divided into two parts- India and Pakistan (Veena Kukreja: 70-71).

By this time most of the princely states of India were united to form the Indian Union. Kashmir, an independent state under Raja Hari Singh, decided to join India due to great similarity in culture and social aspects. The instrument of accession was signed between Lord Mountbatten and Raja Harisingh in terms of defense, external affairs and rehabilitation of refugees.

The most important thing that had far reaching consequences in the future of the state was the birth of political parties and the growth of political consciousness in the state during this period. But more important was the liberation of the country from the British Yoke in 1947 that ended all the traces of foreign domination, absolutism and autocracy in our country (Philips C.H, 1970: 88).

Population

According to the 1901 Census of the British Indian Empire, the population of the princely state of Kashmir was 2,905,578. Of these 2,154,695 were Muslims 689,073, Pandits, 25,828, and 35,047 Buddhists. The Pandits were found mainly in Jammu, where they constituted a little less than 50% of the population. In the Kashmir Valley, the Pandits represented only 524 in every 10,000 of the population (*i.e.* 5.24%), and in

the frontier wazarats of Ladakh and Gilgit only 94 out of every 10,000 persons (0.94%). In the same Census of 1901, in the Kashmir Valley, the total population was recorded to be 1,157,394, of which the Muslim population was 1,083,766, or 93.6% of the population. These percentages have remained fairly stable for the last 100 years (Hargopal, 1933: 49).

According to the Census of British India; Muslims accounted for 93.6% of the population of the Kashmir Valley and the Hindus constituted 4%. In 2003, the percentage of Muslims in the Kashmir Valley was 95% and those of Hindus 4%; the same year, in Jammu, the percentage of Hindus was 67% and those of Muslims 27% (British India Census 1941).

Jammu and Kashmir is the only state in India that has a Muslim majority population. Though Islam is practiced by about 67% of the population of the state and by 97% of the population of the Kashmir valley, the state has large and vibrant communities of Buddhists, Hindus (inclusive of Megh bhagat) and Sikhs. In Jammu, Hindus constitute 65% of the population and Muslims 31% and Sikhs, 4%; In Ladakh, Buddhists constitute about 46% of the population, the remaining being Muslims.

The people of Ladakh are of Indo-Tibetan origin, while the southern area of Jammu includes many communities tracing their ancestry to the nearby Indian states of Haryana and Punjab, as well as the city of Delhi. In totality, the Muslims constitute 67% of the population, the Hindus about

30%, the Buddhists 1%, and the Sikhs 2% of the population (Census Report of 1981). Table 2: 8 gives detailed information about Population of J&K.

TABLE 2: 8
Total Population in J&K
Between 1941 – 1981

Year	1941	1961	1971	1981
Total	2946728	3560976	4616632	5987389
Muslims	2133611	2432067	3040129	3843451
Pandits	736865	1013193	1404292	1930448
Muslims %	72.41	68.30	65.85	64.19
Pandits %	25.01	28.45	30.42	32.24

Source: Commissioner of Census Operation, J & K, 1982 report

Map 2 gives a vivid picture about early Srinagar city.

Before the partition of the J&K, 1941 census shows Muslims are 72.41%. But 1961 census showing Muslim population is reduced and Hindu population increased slowly. In 1971 and 1981 census providing, numbers of the growth of Hindu population.

In 1941 Muslim communities are 72.41% and 1981 census their population is 64.19% in the valley. In 1941 Hindu community were

25.01% and 1981 census shows total population is increased 32.24%.It means 7.23% growth in Hindu population. The table 2:9 shows population details from 2001.

TABLE 2:9
Population Details in 2001

Division	Population	% Muslim	% Pandit	% Sikh	% Buddhist/Other
Kashmir (53.9%)	5,476,970	97.16%	1.84%	0.88%	0.11%
Jammu (43.7%)	4,430,191	30.69%	65.23%	3.57%	0.51%
Ladakh (2.3%)	236,539	47.40%	6.22%	–	45.87%
Jammu Kashmir	10,143,700	66.97%	29.63%	2.03%	1.36%

Source: Census of India, Religion and Communities 2001.

As per 2001 census Muslim population growth recorded as 2.78%.1981 census they are 64.19% and 2001 they are 66.97%.Pandit population as per 1981 census 32.24% and 2001 census 33.02%,it include Sikhs, Buddhist and others. It means 0.78% growth of Pandit population. So it revealed Muslims are a majority and Pandits are a minority in the valley. Some areas of Kashmir Christians and Sikhs are dominating. In Table 2: 10 provide detailed population information's about J&K districts.

TABLE 2: 10
Population Details in J&K Districts

Jammu region	Kashmir region	Ladakh region
Districts/Population	Districts/population	Districts/population
Kathua- 5,44206	Anantnag- 1,170013	Kargil- 1,15227
Jammu- 1,571911	Kulgam- 1,3523	Leh- 1,17637
Samba- 2,86000	Pulwama- 6,32295	
Udhampur- 7,38965	Shopian- 1,2396	
Reasi- 7,97315	Budgam- 5,93768	
Rajouri- 4,78595	Srinagar- 1,238530	
Poonch- 3,71561	Ganderbal- 1,3944	
Doda- 6,90474	Bandipora- 2,5714	
Ramban- 2,15000	Baramullah- 1,166722	
Kishtwar- 1,5806	Kupwara- 6,40013	

Source: J&K Ministry of Home Affairs Report about District and Division base

As per the table in Jammu region Jammu district are highest population in J&K, In Kashmir area Srinagar district is the highest and Ladakh region Leh is the highest. In Jammu and Kashmir, the principal spoken languages are Kashmiri, Urdu, Dogri, Pahari, Balti, Ladakhi, Punjabi, Gojri and Dadri, Kishtwari. However, Urdu written in the Persian

script is the official language of the state. Many people prefer to use Hindi or English as a second language.

Economy

Jammu and Kashmir's economy is predominantly dependent on agriculture and allied activities. The Kashmir valley is also known for its sericulture and cold water fisheries. Wood from Kashmir is used to make high-quality cricket bats, popularly known as Kashmir Willow. Kashmiri saffron is also very famous and brings the state a handsome amount of foreign exchange. Agricultural exports from Jammu and Kashmir include apples, barley, cherries, corn, millet, oranges, rice, peaches, pears, saffron, sorghum, vegetables, and wheat, while manufactured exports include handicrafts, rugs, and shawls (J&K Economy Performance Analysis, Directorate of Economic and Statistic 2007-08).

Agriculture

The agriculture and Horticulture are the important pillars of Kashmir economy. Eighty percent of Kashmiris depend on agriculture for their livelihood. The state is basically Mono-cropped and rainy season economy. The major crops include rice, maize and wheat. The productivity level of paddy is about 40quintals per hectare in Kashmir valley which is the highest in the country.

Rice It is a kharif crop grown in the state of J&K between March-April and harvested in autumn. Total area under rice cultivation in the valley of Kashmir is 37400acres having a yield of 25.5 quintal per acre.

Wheat It is a Rabi crop sown in August and harvested in March or April. It requires a cool and moist climate in the beginning and dry at the time of harvesting. Important wheat producing areas are Kathuva, Ranbirsinghpura, Samba and Reasi. In Jammu wheat is cultivated in 31000 acres and, in Kashmir 78000 acres and Ladakh 7000acres (Jasbir Singh, 2004: 128-129).

Maize It is sown in the month of May/July and harvested in August/September. The crop requires hot dry climate with rainfall varying from 75cm to 125cm.It is cultivated on karewa lands in the valley of Kashmir on about 30300 acres of land.

Horticulture plays a vital role in the economic development of the state. With an annual turnover of over Rs. 300 crores, apart from foreign exchange of over Rs. 80 crores, this sector is the next biggest source of income in the state's economy the region of Kashmir is known for its horticulture industry and is the wealthiest region in the state. Horticultural products from the state include apple, apricot, Cherrie, pear, plum, almond

and walnut (Brigd Keenan, 1983: 68-70). Table 2:11 shows the production of fruits during 2004-07.

TABLE 2: 11

Production of fruits during 2004-07

Year	Fresh Fruits			Dry Fruits			Total		Total In Lakh
	Apple	Pear	Others	Total	Walnuts	Almonds	Others	Total	Fruits
2004-05	1093.33	40.25	84.02	1217.60	100.60	13.47	0.19	114.26	1331.86
2005-06	1151.34	42.36	102.66	1296.36	108.27	14.33	0.20	122.80	1419.16
2006-07	1222.18	43.09	108.41	1373.68	114.93	15.18	0.22	130.33	1504.01

Source: Economy performance analysis, Directorate of Economics statistics, 2007-08, P.38.

The important fruits are Apple and Walnuts. Along with Pear, Almonds are also produced.

The Doda district has deposits of high-grade sapphire. Though small, the manufacturing and services sector is growing rapidly, especially in the Jammu division. In recent years, several consumer goods companies have opened manufacturing units in the region. The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) have identified several industrial sectors which can attract investment in the state, and accordingly, it is working with the union and the state

government to set up industrial parks and special economic zones (The Hindu dated 7 April, 2008).

In the fiscal year 2005–06, exports from the state amounted to Rs. 1,150 crore. However, industrial development in the state faces several major constraints including extreme mountainous landscape and power shortage. Tourism forms an integral part of the state's economy (The Economic Times dated 18 June 2007). Table 2: 12 show the Economic profile of the state.

TABLE 2: 12
Economic Profile in J&K

Per capita income (Rs.)	12,399 Cores	National Average, 16,707
10 th plan per capita allocation (Rs)	14399.21	5667.57
Grants from Centre 2000-03 (Rs.crs.)	13,187.7	4916.1
Net Resource Transfer from the centre 2000-03 (Rs.Crs.)	14,085.3	-
Credit Deposit Ratio in 2002 (%)	35.9	62.03
Population below poverty line %	3.48	26.1

Source: Planning commission on GOI, RBI, State Finances, 2002-03
Statistical Outline of India

The Government of India has been so keen to economically integrate Jammu and Kashmir with the rest of India. The state is one of the largest recipients of grants from New Delhi, totaling \$ 812 million per year (Amy Waldman, 2002: 163). It also has a mere 4% incidence of poverty, one of the lowest in the country. In an attempt to improve the infrastructure in the state, the Indian government has commenced work on the ambitious

Kashmir railway project which is being constructed by Konkan Railway Corporation and IRCON at a cost of more than \$2.5 billion(Tikko Ramesh, 2006: 176). The Jammu & Kashmir Bank, which is listed as an S&P CNX 500 conglomerate, has its base in the state. It reported a net profit of Rs. 598 million in 2008 (J&K Bank Report 2008).

LOC Trade

Trans LOC trade between India and Pakistan via Kashmir has assumed special significance in the context of normalization of relations of the two countries followed by a better understanding of the issue of J&K. Line of control trade areas are Pak-occupied Kashmir, Uri, Kargil, and Poonch. This development will have a healthy impact on the J&K particularly Kashmir, which specialize in the manufacture of handicrafts, including carpets, Peppier machine, wood carving and embroidery items and also gifted with the production of world famous exotic apples and dry fruit like nuts apricots and almonds.

The Trans LOC trade will greatly help find an attractive market for Rs.1600.00 crore worth of handicraft products and Rs.1200.00 crore worth of fresh and dry fruit business being produced by both small and big artisans as well as orchardists (J&K economy performance analysis, 2007-2008).

Poonch-Rawalkot economic zone last year noted more than 27 crores trade was done between India and Pakistan. The Trans LOC trade is likely to give a major fillip to the tourism industry in the state because the people across the Loc will be curious to see the places and the people in Kashmir which is world famous for its enchanting ecology and environment. Most of the Kashmiri Products are going to Namakmandi, a famous market in Peshawar which centers to the Central Asia such as Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Iran, China, Azad Kashmir and Pakistan (The Hindu dated 18 November 2008).

The Prime Minister announced an economic revival plan of Rs 24000 crores for the state. Speaking at Srinagar the Prime Minister said that the time has come to put forward a new blue print, a fresh vision for Kashmir and for the Kashmiri people, free from war want and exploitation. In the last 10 years poverty level had dropped from 25.17% to 3.48% (Greater Kashmir dated 18 August 2008).

Tourism

Kashmir was a popular tourist destination due to its climate. When the temperature in Srinagar rises at the beginning of June, the residents would migrate to Gulmarg, which was a fashionable hill station during British rule. Dal Lake, Mughal gardens, Patnitop, Pahalgam, Soonamarg,

Vaishnavodevi temple, Amarnath temple etc are the important tourist destinations of J&K.

Table 2: 13 provides the valuable information about tourist visited during 1980- 2006.

TABLE 2: 13

Tourist visits to J&K state the years

S.No	Year	Kashmir valley	Amarnath Cave	Vaishno Devi	Total
1	1980	5.94	0.20	12.13	18.27%
2	1985	5.04	0.42	14.85	20.31%
3	1995	0.08	0.60	40.12	40.80%
4	2002	0.27	1.11	44.32	45.70%
5	2003	1.91	1.53	54.00	57.44%
6	2004	3.77	4.00	61.10	68.87%
7	2005	6.05	3.88	62.52	72.45%
8	2006	4.33	2.65	69.51	76.49%

Source: Directorate of Tourism (J&K) Report on 2007.

As per the table each year tourism industry is growing very fast.

In India ,it contributed 5.90% gross in domestic products during 2003-04.The tourism department has earned Rs.7346.51lakh during the period 2004-05 to 2006-07 of which Rs5204.24lakh has been earned by JKTDC followed by Rs 1621.16lakh(22.07%) by cable car operation. The Vaishno Devi yatra alone contributes Rs. 475 crore to the local economy annually (J&K Economy Report 2007-08).

As per the World travel and Tourism council, this sector contributed 10.4% to gross domestic product during 2007. Tourism in the Kashmir valley has rebounded in recent years and in 2007, the state became one of the top tourist destinations of India (J&K Tourism Department Report 2004-05).

Apple farms and Saffron Paddies also are main attractions for tourists. Gulmarg, one of the most popular ski resort destinations in India, is also home to the world's highest green golf course. However, with the decrease in violence in the state the states economy specifically tourism has received a boost.

Education

In 1970, the state government of Jammu and Kashmir established its own education board and university. Education in the state is divided into primary, middle, higher secondary, college and university level. Jammu and Kashmir follows 10+2 pattern for education of children. This is handled by JKBOSE. Various private and public schools are recognized by the board to impart education to students. Board examinations are conducted for students in class VIII, X and XII. In addition there are various Kendriya Vidyalayas (run by the Government of India) and Indian Army schools that also impart secondary school education. These schools

follow the Central Board of Secondary Education pattern (Data collected from State Higher Education Department).

Education facilities available at village level

Primary school facility is available to 88.1% of villagers, 7.8% of villages availed this facility at a distance of less than two kms. 3.1% of villages were benefited between 2.5 kms and only one percent of villages were availing this facility between 5-10 kms. As far as secondary school facility is concerned, it was available within the village to 35.6% of villages, within 2 kms to 20.7%. Villages between 5-10 kms to 16.3% of villages and between 10-20 kms this facility is available to 3.7% of villages. Only 0.3% of villages have a college within the village. 2.7% of villages had this facility within 2 kms distance, 4.1% of villages between 2-5 kms, 17.6% of villages between 5-10 kms, 47.5% of villages between 10-20 kms and 27.8% of villages had this facility available to more than beyond 20 kms (Hassan Mabashir, 2006: 107).

Notable higher education or research institutes in Jammu and Kashmir include National Institute of Technology Srinagar, Government College of Engineering and Technology of Jammu and the Government Medical College of Jammu. University-level education is provided by University of Jammu, University of Kashmir, Sher-e-Kashmir University of

Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Islamic University of Science & Technology, and Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University(Data collected from State collegiate Department).

Governments in J&K

In 1586 the Mughal Emperor Akbar invaded Kashmir, led by his general Bhagwant Das and his aid Ramachandra. The Mughal army defeated Turk ruler Yusuf Khan of Kashmir. After the battle, Akbar appointed Ramachandra as the governor of the Himalayan Kingdom. Ramachandra founded the city of Jammu named after the Hindu goddess Jamwa Natha, South of the Pirpanjal range. 1780 Kashmir was captured by Sikhsunder Ranjit Singh of Lahore afterwards, until 1814 Sikh rulers ruled the whole valley. In 1820 Gulab Singh becomes governor of Jammu with the help of Zorawarsing. Later he captured Ladakh and Baltistan regions to the east and North-east of Kashmir.

In 1845 the first Anglo-Sikh war broke out and Gulab Sing contrived to hold himself aloof till the battle of Sobraon. Two treaties were concluded, in the first the state of Lahore was handed over to British for an equivalent amount of one crore rupees. The second British made over to

Gulab Singh for 75 lakhs rupees all the hilly areas situated to the east of the Indus River and west of the Ravi River. Soon after Gulab Singh's death in 1857, his son Ranbir Singh added Hunza, Gilgit and Nagar to his Kingdom. Ranbir Singh's grandson Harisingh had ascended the throne of Kashmir. In 1925 he was the reigning monarch at the conclusion of British rule in the sub continent in 1947 (Sajad Gani Lone, 2005: 126-127).

On June 3, 1947 Lord Mountbatten announced the method, agreed to by all the major parties, by which power was to be transferred from the British to the Indian hands by August 1947. When Sheikh Abdullah was struggling for representative government, against the Maharaja, Pakistan's only chance of winning Kashmir depended on its support to the Maharaja and in this Jinnah nearly succeeded when on August 12, 1947 the state of Jammu and Kashmir telegraphically approached Pakistan with a request for the so-called Standstill Agreement which was telegraphically accepted. The Governor General of India, Lord Mountbatten, advised the prince to keep in mind the geographical, economic and other factors before acceding to either India or Pakistan (Owen benet Jones, 2002: 84).

Mahatma Gandhi said that "Muslims who are in a majority in Kashmir would count and not the Maharaja" and after his visit to Kashmir, on 6th August Gandhi said that "the will of the Kashmir's is the supreme

law in Kashmir". The congress leadership presumably was of the opinion that Kashmir would opt for India in case a free vote was taken.

Gandhi wrote to Nehru on his Kashmir visit and brought to his notice what Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed has told him about the prospects of a plebiscite and also informed Nehru what passed between him and the Maharaja. Lord Mountbatten also visited Kashmir towards the end of June 1947.

According to the Indian Independence Act 1947, Kashmir had the right to maintain her status as an independent entity even though Mountbatten had told the Maharaja that the British Government would not recognize Kashmir as a Dominion (Mountbatten paper IOR 15338-15567).

Map 3 shows India and Pakistan after the independence.

Post independent Period

As a part of the partition process both countries had agreed that the rulers of princely states would be given the right to opt either Pakistan or India or to remain independent. In 1947 October 20 Pakistan sent tribesmen to Kashmir, and October 27 Maharaja appealed for assistance to the Governor General Lord Mountbatten who agreed on the condition that the ruler accedes to India (Sisir Gupta, 1998:129).

Indo-Pak war, 1947

On 22 October 1947 Pakistan sent tribal forces to the Kashmir valley to take over the state. This was known as the Indo Kashmir war. The Maharaja wrote a letter to Indian governor general seeking help from the Indian dominion against tribal attack and also attached along with the Instrument of accession to India. The Indian Governor General replied on October 27, 1947 accepting accession in the special circumstances mentioned by Maharaja. In April 21, 1948 the UN passed a Resolution 47 and war ended on 1948 December. More than 37555km was occupied by Pakistan, It is called POK. Line of Control divided Kashmir into territories administered by India and Pakistan (Arif Khalid, 2001: 82).

On November 1, the Governor Generals of both countries met at Lahore to discuss the J&K conflict. In 1947 November 2 Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in a speech aired on the AIR, reaffirmed the Indian Governments commitment to the right of the Kashmiri people to determine their own future through a plebiscite. In January 1, 1948 India lodged a complaint in the UN Security Council against Pakistan accusing it of aiding and abetting tribal forces again (Christophe Jafferlot, 2001: 106).

On the issue of plebiscite many times our nation declared that it will not conduct plebiscite anywhere in India, it may be because of the fact that if the government kept the promise in J&K, some of the other states would ask central government to conduct plebiscite and want to become

independent countries. It is a confused term. Indian union means, it's a group of princely states. If we conduct plebiscite anywhere in India it will destroy the unity and integrity of nation.

The resolution of UNCIP of 5th January, 1949 stated that a plebiscite would be held in Kashmir when it shall be found by the Commission that the ceasefire and truce arrangements like withdrawal of troops as set forth the Commission's resolution of 13th August, 1949 is completed (UN-S/628 September 2, 1948,also S/P. V227,Januvary 15, 1949). The question of holding plebiscite in Kashmir did not arise because Pakistan has not carried out its obligations under Part –II A and B of the U.N. Resolution of August 13, 1948. It is quite clear, therefore, that Pakistan is squarely guilty of not carrying out its obligations under the first and basic resolution of the U.N (UN-S/RE/80(1950) March 14.1950).

The Chairman of the UNCIP in his letter dated 25th August, 1948 to the Prime Minister of India clarified that evacuated territory in Part II A. 3 of the resolution referred to those territories in the State of Jammu and Kashmir which were then under the effective control of the Pakistan High Command (Ordinance No XX1 of C.UN.1974).

On January 1, 1949 UNCIP adopted a resolution which brought ceasefire in to effect between India and Pakistan. July 18, Karachi declaration was signed. This declaration accepted 139000 sq km including Srinagar and the Kashmir valley left to India and 83807 sq km including

Muzaffarabad and Gilgit, Baltistan areas go to Pakistan (White Paper on Kashmir, Government of India, 1947-1956).

On April 12, 1950 Security Council appointed Sir Owen Dixon, eminent jurist from Australia as UN representative. In June and July he meets Sheikh Abdullah at Srinagar and Chaudary Ghulam Abbas in Muzaffarabad. In September he submitted his plan to the Security Council, whereby Ladakh to India, the northern areas and J&K under Pakistani administration, to split Jammu between the two and conduct plebiscite in Kashmir valley (JK-T/13752-GAD).

In 1951 the Security Council represented by Frank Graham presented twelve proposals to India and Pakistan. But both countries rejected his proposal. The first meeting of the Constituent Assembly was held on October 31, 1951. Democracy continued to be a relative term in J & K. The committee headed by Sheikh Mohd Abdullah and Mir Qasim as its Secretary was appointed to decide the form of Government for the people of J & K. On June 10, 1952 committee report was submitted and recommended that the future constitution of the state shall be wholly democratic. The recommendations were accepted by the Constituent Assembly on June 11, 1952. The head of the state would be designated as the Sadder-I-Riyasat. In November 17, 1952 President of India declared that Article 370 shall be operative (JK-T/13759-GAD 1992).

Article 370, Temporary provision with respect to state of J&K

The moment the Instrument of Accession was signed by the Maharaja and was accepted by the Union of India, the whole state of Jammu and Kashmir became an integral part of India like other princely states. It became constitutional and legal duty of the Union of India to get back the whole of the territory which had been illegally occupied by Pakistan. The condition of acceptance of merger of Jammu and Kashmir after its acceptance by the people of J&K made pro-Pakistanis to hold plebiscite under the auspices of UN (ICG Asia Report No.79, Brussels and Islamabad, 2003).

Art.370 gave special status to the state of Jammu and Kashmir. It says that the provisions of act (repealed by the constitution 7th Amendment Act, 1956) shall not apply in relation to the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Sub Cl. (a) is discriminatory and against the constitutionalism. The law made by Parliament is applicable to the whole country, law making powers of parliament are unlimited and even they have extra territorial application. But in case of the state of Jammu and Kashmir law making powers are limited by (a) Sub-Cl. (b) of Art 370.

- (i) Union list and Concurrent list in Constitution with the government of the state matters specified in the instrument of Accession.

Such other matters in the said list with the concurrence of the state.

I. (1) of Act 370 is against sovereign law making authority of parliament

and in violation of principles of constitutionalism. This article gives superior power to the state of Jammu and Kashmir over the parliament of India which is to obtain concurrence of the state before legislating for her (South Asia analysis group, Paper No. 99, May 2005).

On August 8, 1953, Sheik Mohd Abdullah was dismissed and imprisoned by Dr.Karan Singh for functioning in the interests of the people of the state. After this Bakshi Ghulam Mohd was installed as new Prime Minister. In mid 1954, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru declared that India still stand for her international commitments on Kashmir. In 1955 a significant boost come from Premier Khrushchev, who announced on a visit to Srinagar that the people of Kashmir only wished to work for their motherland, the republic of India(Postisalarul Yanovsky, 1981:148).

On January 17, 1956 new constitution was adopted in J&K Assembly. The Constitution of the state was enforced with effect from 26 January 1957. Constitution shaped as a republican democratic state within the Union of India, with its own separate flag, official language and elected head of the state called Sadar-i-Riyasat.

In 1958, constitutional amendment was brought under the purview of Central administrative services. Indus Water treaty and Indus Basin development agreement was signed between India and Pakistan with World Bank mediation and facilitation in September 1960(Hassan Asaf, 1979: 59-60).

Sino-Indo War, 1962

The cause of the war was a dispute over the Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh border regions. India claimed that Aksai Chin belong to Kashmir, China claimed that it was a part of Xinjiang. In 20th October 1962 Chinese troops launched in Ladakh and crossed Mc Mahon line. Chinese troops advantaged over Indian troops and captured Rezongla in Chushal in the western part, as well as eastern part of Tawang (Postisalarul Yanovsky: 149). On November 21, Chinese Prime Minister Zhou En lai declared a unilateral ceasefire. On 18 May 1964 Pakistan again raised the question about J&K in Security Council (Postisalarul Yanovsky: 150).

Indo-Pak War 1965

It is called Second Kashmir War. Pakistan's operation Gibraltar was designed to infiltrate forces into J&K to precipitate an insurgency against India. In May 1965 large scale of fighting erupted in Ranna of Kutch between India and Pakistan. Fighting spread across the ceasefire line in J&K in May 1965. The five week war inflicted thousands of casualties on both sides.

It ended in UN mandated ceasefire and the subsequent signing of the Tashkent declaration (Frontline dated 1-15 February 2000). The Table 2: 14 provide the names of Prime Ministers from 1948 to 1965.

TABLE 2: 14

Prime Ministers of J & K

Name	Duration	Political Parties
Mehrchand Maharajan	1947 – 5 March 1948,	INC
Sheikh Abdullah	5 March 1948 – 9 August 1953	NC
Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed	9 August 1953 – 12 October 1963	NC
Kuwaja Shamsuddin	12 October 1963 29 February 1964	NC
Ghulam Mohammed Sadiq	29 February 1964 30 March 1965	INC

Source: J&K State Archive Department.

From 1948 to 1965 in J&K Prime Minister is the head of the state.

Later it changed Chief Minister become the superior of the state.

Indo-Pak War 1971

Indian troops invaded East Pakistan. This led to war and fighting spread to Punjab, Rajasthan and Kashmir. Dhaka fell to Indian forces and Bangladesh came into being. In 1972 Pakistan President Z.A.Bhutto and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi sign the Simla Agreement, which provided for return of territory captured in 1971, return of Pakistani prisoners of war and resolution of mutual differences through all peaceful means. The accord renamed the cease fire line in J&K as the LOC (Stern Jessica, 2004: 179).

In 1975 Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Sheikh Abdullah signed an accord by which Indian Parliament reaffirmed its right to legislate on, any matter concerning the territory of the state. 1975 election National Conference secured clear majority to form the government, Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah became Chief Minister. After two years Central government declared President Rule in J & K.

In 1977 election NC won majority seats and formed a government on July 9, 1977 which lasted till September 8, 1982 under the CM of Farooq Abdullah. In 1982 elections again NC formed a Government under the leadership of Farooq Abdullah. But two years later NC lost the majority and Awami NC leader GN Shaw became the new Chief Minister. On March 06, 1987 President Rule was declared and was withdrawn in 1986 November (Sing Tavleen, 1995: 77-78).

In 1986 General Elections were conducted Farooq Abdullah got a clear majority to form the Government. Because of militant attacks against minorities in J & K, President Rule was imposed in January 19, 1990. It was ended in October 9, 1996. But in 1996 elections NC won a clear majority and Farooq Abdullah became the Chief Minister of the state from October 09, 1996 to October 18, 2002. After his tenure again Presidents rule was imposed and which ended on November 2, 2002(According to State Election Commission Report 2009).

Kargil Conflict

The 1999 Kargil War took place on May 8, when Pakistani forces and Kashmiri militants were detected at the top of the Kargil ridges and July 14 when both sides had essentially ceased their military operations. It is believed that the planning for the operation, by Pakistan, may have occurred about as early as the autumn of 1998. By 30 June 1999 Indian forces were prepared for a major high-altitude offensive against Pakistani posts along the border in the disputed Kashmir region. Over the previous six weeks India had moved five infantry divisions, five independent brigades and 44 battalions of paramilitary troops to Kashmir. The total Indian troop strength in the region had reached 730,000. The build-up included the deployment of around 60 frontline aircraft (Interactions with Army Officers).

The spring and summer incursion of Pakistan-backed armed forces into the territory on the Indian side of the line of control around Kargil in the state of Jammu and Kashmir and the Indian military campaign to repel the intrusion left 524 Indian soldiers dead and 1,363 wounded, according to December 1 statistics by Defense Minister George Fernandez. Earlier Government figures stated that 696 Pakistani soldiers were killed. A senior Pakistani police official estimated that approximately 40 civilians were

killed on the Pakistani side of the line of control (Kargil Review Committee Report, 2000).

The Pakistani effort to take Kargil was occurred after the February 1999 Lahore summit between the then Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and the Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. This conference was believed to have de-escalated the tensions that had existed since May 1998. The major motive behind the operation was to help in internationalizing the Kashmir issue, and for which global attention had been flagging for some time.

The intrusion plan was the brainchild of Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff, Gen Pervez Musharraf and Lt Gen Mohammed Aziz, the Chief of General Staff. They obtained only an 'in principle' concurrence, without any specifics, from Nawaz Sharif (The Dawn dated 14 November 2009).

In 2002 election, for the first time in the History of J & K, single party majority lost and coalition governments formed the legislature with the help of INC; PDP formed a Government for first three year November 2, 2002 to November 2005. PDP Khaddar Mufti Mohammed Sayeed became Chief Minister in J & K and November 2, 2005, July 11, 2008 INC leader Ghulan Nabi Azad became Chief Minister in J & K. Because of some political dramas from July 11, 2008 to June 5 2009 once again

President Rule was imposed. Table 2:15 gives the list of Chief Ministers from 1965 to 2009.

TABLE 2: 15
Chief Ministers of J & K

Name	Duration	Political Party
G.M. Sadiq	30 March 1965 – 12 December 1971	INC
Syed Mir Quasim	12 December 1971 – 25 February 1975	INC
Sheikh Abdullah	25 February 1975 – 26 March 1977	NC
President Rule	26 March 1977 – 9 July 1977	-
Sheik Abdullah	9 July 1977 – 8 September 1982	NC
Farooq Abdullah	8 September 1982 – 2 July 1984	NC
G.M. Shaw	2 July 1984 – 6 March 1986	NC
President Rule	6 March 1986 – 7 November 1986	-
Farooq Abdullah	7 November 1986 – 19 January 1990	NC
President Rule	19 January 1990 – 9 October 1996	-
Farooq Abdullah	9 October 1996 – 18 October 2002	NC
President Rule	18 October 2002 – 2 November 2002	-
Mufti Mohammed Syed	2 nd November 2002 – 2 November 2005	PDP
Ghulam Nabi Azad	2 November 2005 – 11 July 2008	INC
President Rule	11 July 2008 – 5 July 2009	-
Omar Abdullah	5 January 2009	NC

Source: J&K state election commission report, July 2009.

In 2009 election No political party got majority to form a government in J & K. Once again with the help of INC, NC formed a

Government and Omar Abdullah became Chief Minister of J & K. (From State Election Commission Report 2009).

Kashmir is perhaps to possess an authentic account of its history from the very earliest period. Its culture and tradition, rise and fall of various kingdoms victory and defeats of the people have been noted carefully. The History shows the valley originally was a huge lake called Satisar. The lake was drained, the land appeared and the demon was killed. In modern times the people of Kashmir have shortened it into Kasheer in their tongue.

Hinduism predominated in the very early ages of Kashmir. Buddhism began to prevail at the time of Asoka thousand years later; Shaivism became an important cult. The valley came under the influence of Islam only in the 13th century. The Muslim ruler Zain-ul-Abidin should be praised for his exceptional tolerance towards other religions. This early Islamic rule was followed by a rather long Mogul administration with short reigns of Afghanis and Sikhs. Raja Gulab Singh purchased all the lands between the Indus and Ravi from the East India Company. All of this territory remained under his successors until 1947 when Kashmir acceded to India.

Right from 1949 Pakistan has been involved directly in organizing subversive activities in Kashmir. India and Pakistan have fought at least three conventional wars, and all of them for Kashmir. Although Pakistan occupied a part of Kashmir variously called POK or Azad (Free) Kashmir and part of it ceded to the Peoples Republic of China (Aksai chin) there is clearly the much larger original territory of the erstwhile Dogra kingdom. Militancy in the whole Kashmir valley tries to destroy the unity and integrity of the nation. Militancy destroyed the beauty and glory of Kashmir.

The life of Pandits and their Socio- Economic conditions being the focus of this study, their origin, culture, life styles and socio-economic backgrounds are discussed in the next chapter.