PREFACE
In the realm of international relations, intervention has been the most controversial form of state behaviour and has in recent times become a serious issue to contend with. The act of intervention in international relations occurs when a state interferes in the relations of other states. It takes place, when it interferes in the domestic affairs of another state, purely with the intention of either maintaining or altering the actual conditions within it.

In this dissertation, I have attempted to analyse the Theory and Practice of Intervention with particular reference to the Soviet Union's Intervention in Afghanistan. It is essentially a political study of the problem. The methodology followed is historical, empirical and analytical. Chapter One deals with the Theory of Intervention in detail. Chapter Two deals with the Soviet Union's interest and stakes in Afghanistan, since the Tsarist times. In this chapter, the historical links between the two countries has been dealt with upto the recent times. A detailed analysis of the causes and factors which ultimately led Afghanistan into the Soviet vortex has also been made. Chapter Three deals exclusively with the events and causes ultimately leading upto the December 1979 Soviet move into Afghanistan, and the manner in which it was executed. Chapter Four concerns itself with the internal consequences of the intervention. It analyses
in detail the Resistance to the Soviet installed regime, which grew in intensity since December 1979. It also refers to the Soviet and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan regime’s strategy and tactics to counter it. Chapter Five deals with the external consequences of the intervention. These consequences have been analysed regionally, on the international scale, its impact on East-West ties, detente, etc. It also deals with the exodus of millions of Afghans to Pakistan and Iran. Chapter Six reviews the international reaction to the intervention. A comprehensive study has been made of the reaction of all the members of the United Nations, including the Soviet Union and its allies. The reaction of certain regional and international organizations has also been analysed. Chapter Seven, which is the summation, summarizes the problems dealt with in the earlier chapters, it also deals with all the efforts which have been undertaken so far by various countries to bring about a political settlement. The on-going role of the UN in this regard is also dealt with in detail.

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