Twentieth century witnessed diverse experience of displacement both in developed and developing countries in the shape of refugees, migrants, internally displaced etc. Millions of people around the world had undergone displacement and faced great hardship as whether they have been forced to flee their homes and migrate owing to political conflict such as civil war and persecution of minorities, armed conflict, imperial collapse, situations of generalised violence, violation of human rights, situations that emerged with the end of British paramountcy or some other factors. The emergence of successor nation-states and new forms of national ideologies in the aftermaths of imperial collapse led to mass population displacements and expulsions.\(^1\) The plight of displaced persons over recent years has become a formidable problem of global significance. The total number of displaced persons is currently estimated around fifty million worldwide, with the majority of these people in Africa and Asia\(^2\). The US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants estimates a total of 12 million refugees and an additional 21 million internally displaced people in the world.\(^3\) Their ever increasing numbers pose enormous challenge to the international community and have even proved capable of sparking tensions in areas and regions that were previously untroubled. States through their initiatives has tried to tackle the problem of displacement but could not able to solve it permanently. Because it is generally the nation-state which not only causes displacement, but also assumes responsibility for attempting to reduce the undesirable effects of its consequences.

There are a variety of ways to distinguish among the causal conditions that generate refugee flows. Some governments are unwilling or unable to protect their minorities from attacks by the general population. Some governments are engaged in the persecution of their own citizens, either ethnic minorities or dissident individuals and social classes. Some governments are themselves under violent attack, perhaps by secessionist groups or by armed groups seeking national political power. Refugee flows

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can be the result of conflicts between states or by populations in war against their colonial rulers. Displacement of population may be the consequences of drought, flood, famine, and environmental disasters.\(^4\) The refugee movements have not only continued worldwide but they have grown significantly since the mid-twentieth century. It has become common to observe that the spatial and social displacement of people has been accelerating around the world at a fast pace and that these movements include enormous numbers of people who are legally classifiable as refugees.\(^5\) The lack of democracy, the prevalence of war, ethnic and religious conflicts, persecution, famine and hunger, environmental degradation, forced displacement of peoples and extreme poverty under its many guises are some of the causes that displace persons and generate refugees.

The globalization of the world economy has been accompanied by growing polarisation between the richest and poorest peoples and the past decade has seen this increase in polarisation with a rise in poverty in absolute as well as in relative terms. While it might seem that it is primarily the breach of civil and political rights that causes people to flee their country of origin, in fact it is often the absence of economic and social rights which is responsible for the lack of opportunity, the insecurities and conflicts which generate and perpetuate refugee flows. It is not by mere chance that many of the world’s poorest countries are home to the most horrendous conflicts and that in many cases it is in these same countries that huge segments of the population are decimated by disease in general and by HIV/AIDS in particular. Majority of them are hosted in developing countries rather than developed world countries.\(^6\) Involuntary or forced movements of people are always only one aspect of much larger constellations of socio-political and cultural processes and practices. Nationalism, racism and immigration policies, state practices of violence and war, censorship and silencing, human rights and challenges to state sovereignty, development discourse and humanitarian interventions, citizenship and cultural or religious identities, travel and diaspora and memory and historicity are just some of the issues and practices that

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generate the inescapably relevant context of human displacement today. East and West, in Asia no less than Europe, wars, revolutions and conflicts among nation-states have produced innumerable forced migrations. We have an indelible impression of these populations in flight, whatever the label selected to describe them - refugees, displaced persons, expellees, deportees, escapees.

Inter-state conflict is less prevalent today than internal strife and civil war, resulting in fewer flows of displaced persons but more internal displacement. Thus increase in internal displacement is the result of changing nature of conflict, the rise in communal violence, declining willingness on the part of the states to accept large refugee inflows. People who would otherwise seek safety in neighbouring states are more frequently compelled to remain within the borders of their own country, most often in similar conditions as refugees. The situations of internally displaced is far worse than that of refugees since they are not eligible for receipt of international aid and may not be recognised by national governments as qualifying for any assistance either. Therefore, internally displaced are the worst sufferers than the refugees. Unlike refugees, they are not enjoying the protection and rights which they might had enjoyed. The start of the new century has seen a decline in armed conflict when compared with the 1990s. Consequently, there have been fewer and smaller outflows of refugees.

While progress has been made towards solving a number of major conflicts around the world, many protracted conflicts continue to prevent millions of displaced persons and refugees from returning home. Peace, where achieved, is almost always uncertain. Violence and abuse continue to cause displacement and suffering with many of those affected unable to seek or find effective protection. Most forced displacement - whether caused by human rights abuses, armed conflicts, natural disasters or development projects or in the form of trafficking or abduction - takes place in poor countries and has the greatest impact on the poorest and most vulnerable people.
some countries, entire populations are caught up in a pernicious cycle of extreme poverty and violence in which displacement and mobility have become part of complex coping and survival mechanisms. The efforts of humanitarian actors and the wider international community to mitigate such conditions have proved entirely inadequate.\(^\text{12}\)

The people do not abandon their homes and flee from their own country or community unless they are confronted with serious threats to their life or liberty. Flight is the ultimate survival strategy, the one employed when all other coping mechanisms have been exhausted.

At the close of World War II there were an estimated 30 million refugees and displaced persons on the European continent, some dislodged by the war and others by the redrawing of Europe’s boundaries. The redrawing of Europe’s borders after 1945 and the subsequent movement of millions of people created ethnically more homogeneous countries than had ever existed in Central and Eastern Europe. But even now, the countries of Europe are still littered with minorities seeking self-determination, reunification with ethnic cousins across borders or the protection and expansion of their rights. The emergence of newly independent states in Africa and Asia after the Second World War generated a new global phenomenon of displacement of population. The breakup of the colonial empires and the creation of multiethnic states were accompanied by population exchanges, most severely in India and Pakistan, and by a succession of internal wars and violent conflicts.\(^\text{13}\)

The conflicts over state formation and social order produced displaced persons in the third world after 1945. The states of Africa, Asia and Latin America were formed or laboured under conditions of extreme international inequality and intense pressure on national and environmental resources from rapidly growing populations.\(^\text{14}\) Since the 1960s, the bulk of the world’s refugees has been from developing countries and given refuge by their neighbours in developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.\(^\text{15}\) Therefore, it is the developing world that hosts the majority of the world’s displaced

\(^{12}\) Ibid., p. 29.
\(^{13}\) Myron Weiner, n. 4, p. 7.
population. The period of rapid decolonisation in the 1960s saw a watershed period in the modern phenomena of refugees and refugee settlement practices. The establishment and, in some cases, movement of nation-state boundaries and the global consolidation of processes of extraction and impoverishment were just two factors in the emergence of the Third world as a vast source of refugees and migrants and as a vast asylum zone. The Cold War made the situation worse because it tended to inter-nationalise and exacerbate internal struggles, which were often carried on with high-technology weapons provided by the opposing great power alliances. The result was frequent and intense conflict, and it was no coincidence that the massive refugee flows peaked in the early 1980s - the last but very intense phase of the Cold War. From World War II to the end of the Cold War, decolonisation and superpower conflict produced the largest number of displaced persons and refugees. Internal displacement has also continued in many countries resulting from failures by parties to armed conflicts to respect the rights of civilian populations.

The twentieth century has witnessed massive dislocation of people in almost all parts of the world and it have been described as the “Century of homeless man” or “Century of uprooted” because of tremendous increase in the number of refugees and internally displaced persons. It is true that owing to the involved numbers, the economic and social misery and the human tragedy, the displacement problem in India was one of the most acute problems in the Asian continent especially when the state has not signed any international treaty. The emergence of displacement problem in India is directly connected with the political revolution which resulted in the partition of British India and creation of two nation-states. Other displacement problems resulted from explosive internal, social and political situations, which existed long before the colonial period but which came to a climax only after independence was reached when the internal forces were no longer controlled by the straight-jacket of colonial domination. India has provided refuge to displaced persons and refugees of many states. The influx of refugees is still continuing from the neighbouring countries. Being a large country

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16 Liisa H. Malkki, n. 5, p. 503.
17 Astrid Suhrke, n. 14, pp. 221-222.
18 Liisa H. Malkki, n. 5, p. 503.
with pluralistic society and multiethnic, multicultural and multilingual population, it
attracts displaced persons from different regions, religions and cultures as well. Thus the
displaced persons find it easy to get them identified with a section of the local
population.

Displacement is a process of people being involuntarily moved from their homes
because of war, governmental policies or certain other factors, requiring groups of
people to find new places to live. It is acknowledged that displacement causes severe
social, economic and environmental stresses that translate themselves into physiological,
psychological, socio-cultural, economic and ecological damage. Displacement involves
the loss of people’s rights to land and resources. Displacement is largely viewed from
the perspective of resettlement and rehabilitation and its attendant complexities. The
question of displacement is very often reduced to one of effective relocation. It is very
important to understand that displacement is a multidimensional phenomenon of which
physical relocation is only one of the most significant outcomes. At best, the displaced
are viewed as a group of people who are in need of rehabilitation, not empowerment, for
there is no recognition of their disenfranchisement. The displaced people’s movements
have challenged this view of displacement with physical relocation at its centre. It is
commonly experienced through the loss of land and the disruption of social and
economic relationships. Resettlement programmes have predominantly focused on the
process of physical relocation rather than on the economic and social development of
the displaced people. Rehabilitation can be envisioned as a process that would reverse
the risk of resettlement as it is seen as a process of reconstruction of the livelihood of
displaced persons.

The analysis of displacement as a process means that dislocation and
resettlement must be seen as twin facets, rather than as distinct successive phases of the
process. The displacement and resettlement needs to be seen as a process, conditioned
by historically shaped social, economic and political forces and not as a single event
taking place at a moment in time. The consequences are multiple not only for the
displaced group, but also for the communities left behind, the receiving communities

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with a Focus on the Arab Middle East’, International Migration Review, Vol. 27, No. 1, Spring, 1993,
and indeed, for society as a whole. Displacement, resettlement and rehabilitation have been serious concerns for all developing countries including India.

Indian Independence Act, 1947 provided for creation of two independent dominions of India and Pakistan. The situation worsened after August 14, 1947 when violent communal disturbances began in areas of Pakistan and local Muslims started looting and burning the properties of their Hindu and Sikh neighbours in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK). Therefore, the non-Muslim population were forced to leave their homes and hearths to seek shelter in safe areas with a sizable amount of individuals choosing to settle in the Poonch, Rajouri and Jammu districts. Many of the Hindus and Sikhs currently residing in Rajouri district trace their origin to PoK, especially areas of Plandari, Sadhnoti, Mirpur, Bagh and Rawalkot. They were resettled and rehabilitated in the parts of Jammu province and provided lands through various enactments.

The influx of displaced persons from PoK into Indian administered areas resulted into a severe crisis of their rehabilitation. Since, the task of protecting displaced people is ultimately the responsibility of government; the government, therefore, undertook measures such as payment of compensation for property lost during displacement, done their registration, provided food, shelter, medical facilities and their resettlement and rehabilitation. The refugee relief camps were established at Palanwala, Jourian, Nagrota, Chatha, Poonch, company Bagh, Frashkhana at Jammu city to accommodate them in government and private buildings. The government constituted Central Refugee Committee, established Relief and Rehabilitation Department under the Ministry of Health and Rehabilitation and constituted Indo-Kashmir Joint Rehabilitation Board. The government also appointed Land Allotment Committee, issued Cabinet Order No-1476-C in 1950, Cabinet Order No.- 913-C of 1951 and Cabinet Order No.-578-C of 1954, enacted Rules for allotment of agricultural land and Evacuee Property Act, Displaced Persons Permanent Settlement Act of 1971 etc. Those PoK displaced persons, who chose to settle in rural areas, were rehabilitated by the way of allotment of state land and those who chose to settle in urban areas were allotted quarters and plots. They were subsequently conferred the land in respect to state lands and occupancy rights under section 3 A of Agrarian Reforms Act, 1976. Various committees, mainly Wazir Committee and Wadhawa Committee, were also appointed to recommend
measures concerning the 1947 displacement but their miserable condition continues even today.

Since there is no permanent institutional structures to oversee displacement related issues and the granting of refugee status has been at the discretion of the political authorities as well as there is no clear cut policy of resettlement and rehabilitation of displaced persons. There have been only piecemeal and adhoc initiatives at the state level except land distribution. Consequently, the displaced population faced various kinds of impoverishment risks like landlessness, joblessness, homelessness, marginalisation, food insecurity, loss of common resources, among others. The displaced were given meager compensation (Rupees 500 – 1000) for the loss of their homes and agricultural land. In these circumstances, the displaced families had to move to other areas on their own. There is widespread dissatisfaction over the compensation, registration of claims and resettlement. In the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, twenty-four seats are reserved for the PoK area till date. Though these displaced persons belong to PoK area, they are not provided the requisite number of seats in the state assembly in proportion to their population. They are, therefore, economically as well as politically discriminated.

The status of 1947 war displaced people of PoK is such that they neither come under the category of refugees nor they have been identified as internally displaced persons. While those who migrated from the West Pakistan were given refugee status and settled by the Indian government elsewhere in the country, those who migrated from PoK are yet to be settled and live even today without refugee status. The displaced persons allegation is that internally displaced person status is given to the persons affected by terrorism, then why not the same to them if not the refugee status. The government’s position has been that, since they have migrated from PoK, which is legally a part of India and erstwhile part of Jammu and Kashmir, they are technically not qualified to be categorised under the refugee status; PoK territory will be retrieved and PoK displaced persons will be sent back to their places to live in their own homes. Hence, they cannot claim the benefits of refugees and the refugee status cannot be granted. However, as per the international politics, no state is ready to lose its territory to another country or give control of its territory and till date no such steps are taken by the Government of India to retrieve the PoK territory. For the same legal reasons, the
Indian government has refused to pursue the compensation that is supposed to be given to those people of Mirpur, whose properties have been submerged due to the construction of the Mangla dam, funded by the World Bank. The payment of compensation at this junction would jeopardise India’s case at the United Nations as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) document exclude internally displaced persons and extend international protection only to those who have crossed an international boundary.

The research work, therefore, has analysed the role played by the state in development strategies and postwar reconstruction and the responses of the displaced persons towards them. The relationship between state forces and the strategies of adaptation pursued by displaced persons have also been analysed as an interactive process that continuously informs decision-making on the national and local levels. The focus of research is on the impact of displacement on the lives of displaced persons; how their lives are being pulled on after the settlement and rehabilitation; what is the government response in relation to the land laws, reservation of seats, social welfare measures and packages given to them during the last six and half decades; what more they expect from the government and how that can be achieved when they are not getting benefits given to other displaced people e.g. the 1965, 1971 and 1989 displaced people; what is their socio, economic and political condition in the last sixty five years after their rehabilitation, how better they are and what benefits they got in comparison to the displaced persons in other areas.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:

The research work is done to study the diverse perspectives on displaced persons who were rehabilitated mainly in the Nowshera constituency of district Rajouri. The government in conflict situation is talking of one group of displaced people only. This is adversely affecting the other groups. The gross irresponsiveness in almost every aspect related to the displaced persons is there not only in the state machinery, but also among the political leaders in the corridors of power. All these are matters of great significance affecting the welfare and standard of living of people in the Jammu and Kashmir state. The problem of displaced persons in the state is social, economic and political. Therefore the relevance of the work lay in exploring this tragic state of affairs and
response from the state is dealt in more detail while suggesting some measures, the state should adopt, to address the grievances of displaced persons.

This study is in fact a maiden attempt to examine the circumstances leading to the displacement and its impact on the political, economic and social life of the displaced people and particularly the displaced persons resettled in Nowshera constituency which comprise of the two tehsils of Nowshera and Sunderbani in Rajouri district. The worthiness of the study lies in evaluating and exploring the situations and conditions which displaced families have to undergo since 1947. The importance of the work also lies in assessing the nature of change displacement induces among the affected families. Since displacement means redefinition of people’s entitlement and access to socio-cultural, economic and environmental resources; a clear assessment of what happened to families belonging to various sections of the population and to individuals within families has been explored.

**REVIEW OF LITERATURE:**

Literature review is necessary to know the issues that are highlighted by various scholars on particular issues and which are sidelined or left out in their analysis.


The author of the book is retired Chief Justice of Supreme Court of PoK. The six chapters namely twenty-first, twenty-third to twenty-six and twenty eighth are related to the Dogra plans, the revolt, tribesmen extended support, the fugitive ruler joins India and paradise lost. In the chapters mentioned above, the author has highlighted various measures through which inter-community relations in PoK were poisoned resulting into communal clashes and displacement of large sections of non-muslim population. He has stated that the crisis began in Palandari, one of the trade centres of erstwhile state Poonch and spread over to the adjoining areas of Rawalkot, Sudhnoti, Bagh and other areas. The author has also thrown light on the arms procured by the so called raiders (backed by Pakistani army) from various sources within PoK like Muslim League
leaders and ‘army personnel on leave’. The author has criticized the role of the then ruler of the state, Hari Singh and his indifferent attitude towards the majority population of the state. Besides, he has also thrown light over dissensions in the dogra regiments and its implication on the non-muslim population. The author has failed to fix responsibility of displacement on anyone. However, author has not touched the aftermath of PoK displacement.


The book contains ten chapters. The third, fourth, fifth and sixth chapter underline the episode of displacement. Korbel, the chairman of United Nation Commission on India-Pakistan (UNCIP), has highlighted the genesis, policy and programmes of the raiders apparently supported by Pakistani army to forcibly displace the non-muslims from Bagh, Palandari and Sudhnoti, the three tehsils of erstwhile district Poonch. The author, however, is not castigated then Pakistan government directly responsible for forced eviction of non-muslim population. According to him, it was partly a spontaneous movement and partly led by local muslim population against the so called atrocities and tax system of the then ruler of the state, who was a hindu. So it is essential to explore the real problem and to see what the future of displaced people is. The sixth chapter discusses the first contact with those people who were the sufferer i.e. who were migrated. The author clearly reflects that three Pakistani brigades were involved in the Kashmir territory. Thus, the people were forced to migrate and they became displaced.


Krishna Mehta was the wife of then Wazir-e-Wazarat, Muzaffarabad. She had first-hand account of the conflict in a region which both countries were determined to acquire. The author sets the scene of the problems that her family was faced with and describes, in detail, the events of those fearsome days and nights in a simple and outspoken manner. The author in the book depicts how raiders who were having arms in
their hands raised slogan of Allah-u-Akbar and forced people to evict from the area. She has narrated the whole episode of how displacement took place, how they were taken by the peacekeeping forces and Red Cross society to the relief camps established at Atak, Dutiyal and Rawalpindi. In the camps, girls defaced to save themselves and many women’s killed themselves to protect their honour. Women everywhere were prime targets of looters. This shows that harassment and humiliation of women’s took place. So, the migration and displacement from the whole area to the safer sides of Indian administered Kashmir.


The book under review contains seventeen chapters covering different aspects related to 1947 war. The author regards that Britain was the great power that influenced the Kashmir war of 1947-48 in which both the opposing armies were led by nationals of a third country. Pakistan initially sought to exploit a local agrarian uprising which had broken out in the jagir of Poonch. Britain was largely responsible for shaping the attitude of western powers and international context of conflict. The book elaborates that Indo-Pak war was unique only in the extent to which the two new states were vulnerable to British influences on account of the presence of British officers at the senior most levels of their armed forces. The book reveals that India’s control of the western border lands of Jammu would pose a grave strategic and economic threat to Pakistan. The book also discusses how the areas of Nowshera, Jhangar, Poonch were evacuated from raiders and the circumstance which forced people to migrate. The central concern of the book is the military and diplomatic history of the conflict.


The book under the review contains eleven chapters. The author sees that India at independence was faced with many troubles like communal disorder, refugees displaced by the partition of the country, food shortages, defence services got divided
and without any warning war burst upon Kashmir. The author in the book narrated the
story of tribal invasion and Indian army efforts to capture from the day of landing till the
ceasefire and the aspects associated with war. The book unfolds the operation carried
out by the Indian Army in Poonch jagir of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir and how the
land link was established from Poonch to Rajouri-Nowshera-Jammu and to India. The
author says Poonch is in the very heart of Kashmir.

S.P. Vaid, How Partition Rocked Jammu and Kashmir, Shyama Publications, Jammu,
2002.

The book contains seven chapters in which author has dealt with the partition,
the settlement of people belonging to Pakistan occupied areas and the role of social
organisation. The book presents an insight of role played by the then state government
in the settlement of refugees. The first two chapters gives details of the socio-economic
conditions of Jammu and Kashmir before 1947 in border areas and the change in
composition of population after the riots and raiders attack in Poonch forced people to
flee the other side of the border. The 1947 turmoil have bitter memories of betrayal and
sufferings in PoK and those who crossed the border into Indian territories were forced to
start new lives in new surroundings.

Yog Raj Sharma, Smouldering and Contentious Issues in Kashmir, Radha Krishan

The book under review contains ten chapters. The author discussed and
deliberated on the issues owing to the dispute between India and Pakistan over the
accession. The book covers the issues of integration, autonomy of Jammu and Kashmir
state, inter-regional grievances, kashmiri secessionism, political discontent, kashmiri
identity, terrorism, displacement etc. The author regards land reform as an important
instrument of bringing about transformation in the agrarian society. Under the Section
3A of agrarian reforms Act, 1976 displaced persons were conferred the land in respect
to state lands and occupancy rights. The Kashmir conflict has become complicated
because neither the Indians nor the Pakistanis have shown all sides of the picture. The author is of the opinion that improved observance of human right standards by government is crucial for the protection and solution of displaced people.

**OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:**

1) To examine and document the factors and conditions responsible for the displacement of people from Pakistan occupied Kashmir towards Indian administered Kashmir and its impact on the people.
2) To highlight the politico-socio-cultural-economic profile of the displaced families living in district Rajouri.
3) To examine the overall response of the state towards the displaced persons, registration of their claims, allotment of land and provision of compensation.
4) To analyse the reports of various committees set up by the government and follow up programme adopted by the government towards displaced persons.
5) To propose various measures to be adopted by the state to meet the demands of the displaced people.

**RESEARCH QUESTIONS:**

1) How the partition of British India had affected the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir?
2) What remedial actions have been taken by the state to rehabilitate displaced persons?
3) How and to what extent the state and legal mechanisms are able to safeguard the rights of displaced persons?
4) How the state responded in the last sixty years towards their demands and to what extent it has accepted and implemented the recommendations of various committee concerning displaced persons?
5) What are the specific grievances of displaced persons rehabilitated in the district Rajouri?
6) What is the present status of those who have migrated from PoK? What are the impacts of displacement on income, standards of living and physical and emotional health of displaced people in district Rajouri?

HYPOTHESES:

1) The issues of displaced persons from Pakistan occupied Kashmir are rendered subservient to the larger national policy on Kashmir. Till the time the question of Kashmir remains unresolved, the concerns of PoK displaced persons cannot be addressed.

2) The vested interests of displaced persons leadership to plead their cause not at par with recently displaced persons are a reflection of their social marginality and lack of similar connection with bureaucratic and political class.

METHODOLOGY:

The research is based on both primary as well as secondary sources. There is dearth of literature on displaced persons from PoK, about their economy, society and politics. The primary data have been collected through field work with the help of questionnaire and interview schedule having open and close ended questions. The random sampling technique has been adopted. The secondary sources varying from books, articles in journals and edited volumes to newspaper clippings and internet sources have been used. Primarily, the research work relies on field study, governmental documents and official reports of state and Union governments.

The primary sources used for the study are of two kinds. Firstly, the official data of all kinds is used for developing a profile of the area. The data from the Rehabilitation Office, Jammu is also made use of. Besides these, all other valuable reports including district profiles, plan documents etc. are consulted. Another important resource had been the electoral statistics available with the Election Commission of India and Jammu and Kashmir government. The second kind of primary source is the field analysis. As only sixty five years have passed since the displacement occurred, there are persons still alive
who had faced the 1947 turmoil. These people have been interviewed and their opinion ascertained regarding the entire displacement episode. For the field analysis, the population was divided into five groups with distinct parameters or composition. First group for interview schedule comprised of those persons who had witnessed the displacement. The second group included the leaders of different political parties and displaced person’s organisations. Third group comprised of those persons who were involved in land distribution at that time and government’s employees, both serving as well as retired. Fourth group included the persons from different generations of displaced families. Fifth group comprised of the local people who were residing there before rehabilitation took place.

The field analysis itself comprised of two different components. Firstly, detailed interview of one hundred persons of first three groups were undertaken. The second component of field analysis was a survey of the responses of 500 respondents from within the fourth and fifth group, 250 each in the tehsils of Nowshera and Sunderbani. 200 respondents each from Nowshera and Sunderbani were selected among the fourth group and 50 each from Nowshera and Sunderbani for the fifth group. The two different generations selected for the study were provided a basis of comparison as well as given a fair understanding of the changing orientation of people. After drawing the list on the basis of stratification of age, the sample was selected on the basis of simple random method along with non-probability sampling. The people falling in the sample were interviewed on the basis of a questionnaire having open as well as close ended questions. Statistical tools such as percentage, tables, charts etc. are used to impart quantitative precision and clarity to the analysis, interpretation and findings. The scaling techniques and coding methods are also used to record the responses of the respondents.

The study consists of seven sections: an introduction, five chapters and a conclusion.

**Introduction:** It introduces the research topic and focuses on the relevance and central argument of the study. Besides this, the literature relevant on this topic has been reviewed. Further it highlights the objectives, research questions and methodology of the research problem.
Chapter one titled *Displacement: A Theoretical Perspective* elaborates the displacement issues in general i.e. conceptualisation of the displacement both in developed and developing countries. It further analyses the specific reasons of displacement where the displacement in the world has taken place. Moreover, the chapter explores in detail the different nomenclatures which displacement has led to such as refugees, migrants or internally displaced persons and the international refugee regime. The later part of chapter analyses the response of the South Asian states especially Indian response towards the issue of displacement and displaced persons. There are no regional or national legal mechanisms for protecting displaced people as these states have not signed the conventions and regimes dealing with refugees and displaced persons.

Chapter two titled *Partition, Accession and Displacement* explains how the partition of India had given rise to the problem of displacement and how partition affected and impacted Jammu and Kashmir. The independence of India in 1947 was marked by the partition of the subcontinent and transfer of populations on the basis of two major religions - Hinduism and Islam. The partition and consequent tribal invasion forced Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir to accede to the Indian Union. Pakistan challenged accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India. Therefore, India’s claim is examined as well. The 1947-48 raids by Pakistan on the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir had created the situation of holocaust and further led to the emigration of population from the parts of Jammu and Kashmir which Pakistan had captured i.e. Pakistan occupied Kashmir. The chapter discusses the events leading to the partition of India in 1947 and the subsequent violence, killing and uprooting of the people and India’s response to the challenge. Also it details about the 1947 tribal invasion supported by the Pakistan’s Army and the division of Jammu and Kashmir into two parts i.e. Indian administered Kashmir and Pakistan occupied Kashmir. The chapter also examines and documents the factors and conditions responsible for the displacement or migration of people from the areas occupied by Pakistan (Pakistan occupied Kashmir) towards Indian administered Kashmir. In the end, the chapter explores the refugee situation in Jammu and Kashmir as well as where PoK displaced persons stand in international refugee regime context.

Chapter three titled *Displaced Persons: Social, Economic and Political Profile* highlights the profile of the district Rajouri and areas of study as well as the
demographic profile of the displaced persons. The chapter also explains the description of occupation of areas one by one by raiders viz Bhimber, Jhangar, Nowshera, Rajouri, Kotli, Devabatala, Mirpur, Poonch and their relieving by Indian army. All other areas were liberated except the areas of Mirpur, Kotli and Muzaffarabad. The political events that had taken place and the fear of persecution led to their departure from their place of original residence. Most of the families became homeless and set out wandering from one place to other until they reached to the safer Indian side. They were frightened, frustrated, dislocated and confused with no idea of the future. They were resettled and rehabilitated by the government in different districts of Jammu province. It further analyses the present status of those who have migrated from PoK and the resultant impact of displacement on income, standards of living and physical and emotional health of people of district Rajouri.

Chapter four titled Displacement: Impact and Grievances draws attention to the problem of protracted displaced situations and tests the argument of the thesis, by examining the importance of leadership role in pleading their cause. The focus of the chapter is on the process of resettlement and rehabilitation. The impact of displacement in psychological, socio-cultural, economic and political aspects on the displaced people is analysed. The displacement has resulted in the breakdown of traditional social relations and community networks, loss of homes, material possessions and economic disruption often resulting in impoverishment, insecurity and psychological stress. Further, the status of the displaced persons from the 1947 till date and how far their resettlement has taken place is detailed. The chapter also highlights the problems faced and specific grievances of displaced persons rehabilitated in the district Rajouri. The demands of 1947 PoK displaced persons resettled in district Rajouri and of those other PoK displaced persons are also discussed that needs to be addressed by the government. The chapter also refers to the impact of the displaced persons on the local population where they were rehabilitated and the reaction of local population towards them. The chapter analyses the recommendations of various committees set up by the government and follow up programme adopted by the government towards displaced persons.

Chapter five titled Response of the State: An Appraisal examines the overall response of the government towards the displaced persons, various measures taken for the resettlement and rehabilitation of the displaced persons and strategies and remedial
actions such as registration of their claims, allotment of land, provision of compensation that have been taken by the state to rehabilitate displaced persons. The role played by the Non Governmental Organisations in providing relief to the displaced in relief camps and afterwards has been also analysed. The chapter highlights the legal mechanisms for the resettlement and rehabilitation of the displaced and how they are able to safeguard the rights of PoK displaced persons. Various initiatives and steps undertaken by the government to deal with the issue of distribution of evacuee property are also covered.

To conclude, it can be stated that the grievances of the displaced persons from PoK have not been properly addressed by the government and they are suffering since the last six and half decades and the successive governments in the state did not deem it necessary to mitigate sufferings and redress their demands. They were provided only with nominal interim relief. The claims that were due to them for their settlement have not yet been given and they have constantly been pleading their case to the governments that were formed at state and central levels. The lop-sided government response has compelled the displaced persons to organise themselves to get their grievances heard and respond affirmatively. The government must settle the issue of displaced persons permanently or allot refugee status to them. It is suggested that the government should act to address the grievances and meet the demands of the displaced people.

Finally, a list of appendices have been attached along with a select bibliography.