Chapter II

History of Jammu and Kashmir

1. Introduction

Leaving Afghanistan and Pakistan where the Pathans live, when one goes east, it is the State of Kashmir in northern piece of India which is west of Nepal. Kashmir comprises of a wide and wonderful valley, encompassed by tall mountains and it is a standout amongst the loveliest places in the world. There are 5 to 7 million individuals there. As a rule, they have clearer compositions and are not quite the same as alternate residents of India. This convention is underpinned by broad writing composed by both population of Jammu and Kashmir and different researchers.

In J&K different spots are called with Israeli names, in the same way as Har Nevo, Beit Peor, Pisga, and Heshubon. These are all the names in the place that is known for the Ten Tribes of Israel.¹ The same thing is accurate in the names of individuals, male names, female names, and names of town.

The Urdu dialect which is utilized as a part of Kashmir incorporates numerous expressions of Hebrew. The greater part of the population of J&K is Muslims.

The historical backdrop of the Kashmiri’s is covered in secret as is the historical backdrop of other individuals in that locale. Most Kashmir specialists are of the feeling that numerous tenants of Kashmir are relatives of the Lost Tribes who were ousted in 722 BCE. They meandered along the Silk Road into the nations of the East, Persia and Afghanistan until they arrived at the Kashmir valley and settled there.

Others say the wanderings started roughly 300 years after the fact. The wanderers settled in Kashmir, kept their customs until they were compelled to change over to Islam when the spread of Islam arrived at the valley. The minister Kitro in his book, the *General History of the Mughal Empire*, said that the Kashmir individuals are the relatives of the Israelites. The voyaging Arab history specialist El Bironi in the twelfth century composed, "previously, authorization to enter Kashmir was offered just to Jews".

The cleric Monstrat said that in the time of Vasco da Gama in the fifteenth century, "All the occupants of this territory who have existing-here since old times can follow their heritage, as stated by their race and traditions, to the antiquated Israelites. Their characteristics, their general physical appearance, their dress, their methods for leading business, all show that they are like the aged Israelites." As of late Mr. Ikbal Chapri, the manager of a
houseboat called Haifa (the same name as an enormous city in Israel) in Srinagar, Kashmir, has expounded on this subject in the nearby daily papers.

His article was about the names of the tribes and spots of Kashmir which are precisely Hebrew. For instance, one of the tribes of Kashmir is called Asheriya which is Asher, the tribe of Dand is Dan, Gadha is Gad, Lavi is Levi. The Tribe of Shaul is the Hebrew name of King Saul. Musa is Moses, Suliamanish is Solomon.

There are additionally 50-75 names of spots in Kashmir which are actually the Hebrew names that aged Israelites were exceptionally acquainted with. There is a spot called Samaryah which is Samaria. Mamre will be Mamre, Pishgah is Pisgah, which is a spot’ name in Assyria and the exact spot where the Ten Tribes of Israel were extradited.

The name Israel is exceptionally regular around them as it is around the Pathans, and this name is never utilized around the Muslims. They likewise light a candle for the Sabbath, have side locks, facial hair, In a zone which is on the outskirt of Kashmir called Yusmarg (Handwara), there lives a gathering which right up till today calls itself B'nei Israel, significance kids of Israel. Large portions of the occupants of Kashmir say that this is the old name of all the population of Kashmir.

There is yet an alternate convention in association with King Solomon as stated that actually King Solomon arrived at the
Kashmir Valley and through his insight supported the population of Kashmir by effectively managing the Jhelum stream. This custom is likewise associated with a spot called Solomon’s throne which is arranged over the capital of Kashmir, Srinagar. Isn't it abnormal and intriguing that there are chronicled and even folkloristic stories of old Israeli legends in these unusual and colorful spots?

The two essential students of history of Kashmir, Mullah Nadiri, who composed *The History of Kashmir* and Mullah Ahmad who composed *Events of Kashmir* have secured without a hint of uncertainty that the causes of the Kashmiri individuals are to be found in the populace of Israel.

2. Etymology

Moving ahead to the established written historical record of Kashmir and its events.

Nilmata Purana (went along c. 500-600) holds records of Kashmir's initial history. On the other hand, being a Purana source, it experiences a level of conflict and unreliability. Kalhana’s² Rajatarangini (River of Kings), all the 8000 Sanskrit verses of which were finished by 1150 CE, annals the historical backdrop of Kashmir's lines from legendary times to twelfth century. It depends upon conventional sources like Nilmata Purana, engravings, coins, landmarks, and Kalhana's close to

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home perceptions borne out of political encounters of his family. Rajatarangini were composed by Jon raja\(^3\) (1411-1463 CE), which end with Akbar's triumph of Kashmir in 1586. The content was interpreted into Persian by Muslim researchers, for example, NizamUddin, Farishta, and Abul Fazl. Baharistan-i-Shahi and Haidar Mailk's Tarikh-I-Kashmir (finished in 1621 CE) are the most significant messages on the historical backdrop of Kashmir\(^4\) throughout the Sultanate period. Both the writings were composed in Persian and utilized Rajatarangini and Persian histories as their sources.

The population of Jammu and Kashmir India's northernmost state, Jammu and Kashmir, lies in the Himalayas and outskirts Pakistan, Tibet, and China. The state involves the regulatory districts of Jammu, which lies in the fields underneath the Pir Panjal reach, and has a populace of roughly 4.39 million; Ladakh\(^5\), bordering Tibet, with a population of 0.23 million; and the Kashmir valley between the Pir Panjal and Panjri ranges, with a population of 5.44 million. Jammu and Kashmir is the main Muslim lion's share state in India.

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\(^3\) Wikipedia. (9th April 2014). *Jon raja.*
Last accessed 14th August 2014.


Then again, the state is separated harshly along religious lines. Ninety-five percent of the occupants of the Kashmir valley are Muslim, the mind-dominant part of whom are Sunni, while 50 percent of the number of inhabitants in Ladakh is Buddhist and 46 percent is Muslim (a large portion of the Muslims of Ladakh are Shia). Jammu has an altogether different religious make-up, with 66 percent of the populace Hindu and a large portion of the rest Muslim. The state's powerlessness to produce sufficient assets has prompted an expanded reliance on focal help and borrowings. In an exertion to produce vocation of open doors and keep the young from joining the militancy, the state government has affirmed a few support bundles through the years. The focal government uses eight to ten times all the more on every resident in Jammu and Kashmir than whatever available Indian state.

*Baharistan-i-Shahi*, a Persian Manuscript history of Kashmir and cut down to A.D. 1614, has served as a critical reference work for students of history from the seventeenth century to the present day. Yet it has been difficult to reach to the non-Persian knowing researchers and history specialists. Its first English interpretation is produced out of an examined content of the two surviving original copies safeguarded in the India Office Library and the British Museum. Exhaustive commentaries have been added to it to make it intelligible and valuable.

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The narrative starts with an incredible record of the production of Kashmir and an outline medicine of the Hindu period. It is trailed by a nitty gritty record of the Shahmiri and Chak Sultans of Kashmir taking the story to the year A.D 1614. The recorded work gives extensive thoughtfulness regarding Baihaqi Sayyids, a gathering of Sayyids of Iranian starting point who assumed a huge part in the undertakings of the kingdom. Baharistan-i-Shahi is basically a political history of medieval Kashmir, however a couple of parts of Kashmiri public opinion, for example, its feudalistic character, bunch and factional arrangements, common strains and repetitive interior force battles can additionally be gathered from it. The finishing up segment of the book tosses extensive light on relations between the decision Chak Sultans of Kashmir and the Mughals, and the last extension of Kashmir by Akbar in AD 1587 in to some degree befuddling circumstances. The account is likewise rich in land point of interest.

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7 The lineage of the tribes in Kashmir.