EMERGENCE OF NON-ALIGNMENT

CHAPTER I
EMERGENCE OF NON-ALIGNMENT

The founding of the Non-aligned Movement constituted one of the great acts of creative statesmanship of 20th century. Among the main aims which motivated it was that of making the United Nations a more powerful instrument for the maintenance of international peace and security and the promotion of justice in international relations. The Non-aligned movement is the voice of the people of the globe who aspire for world peace. The world witnessed the emergence of Non-aligned movement when many countries of Asia and Africa became independent. As rightly pointed out it is "the product of world anti colonial revolution and emergence of larger number of newly liberated countries".1

Of the many momentous changes brought about by the Second World War, the emergence of United States of America and the Soviet Union as the major contending power, each convinced of their supremacy of their respective ideologies and social systems, was perhaps the most important in shaping the post war world. The second most important development was the dissolution of European and Japanese empires and the birth of colonial territories as independent nations. Both these developments in their own way paved the way to the emergence of Non-

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alignment as an instrument of foreign policy.¹ The First gave rise to "Cold war" and it was the desire of newly independent countries not to become involved with the cold war which gave birth to the idea of Non-alignment to the newly independent nations in Asia and Africa, when large number of countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America refused to join any of the blocs.² It is pointed out that in the period of the cold war, the influence that Non-alignment was able to exert was positive and explicit.³ Non-aligned Movement was born in bi-polar world, a world which was presided over by the two and only two super powers, each hostile to the other.⁴

After the second World War and the partition of Germany into two West and east – the world was divided into two blocks. France, Italy, Britain, West Germany, Portugal, Spain, Belgium etc. under American influence came to be known as Western bloc, while East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Poland, Hungary etc, were known as Eastern bloc and satellites of Soviet Union. Subsequently Asian countries were also drawn to the membership of rival blocks. The rivalry between these two blocs was responsible for various kinds of tensions which resulted into cold War. The anti-alliance attitude is the key stone of the

² K.P. Karunakaran, Modernisation, Capitalism, Communism and World Politics, Meerut, 1974, p.137.
³ A.P. Rana, Détente: Perspective and Repercussions, Delhi, 1975, p.198.
⁴ Pranchopra, the Crisis of Foreign Policy: Perspectives and Issues, Delhi, 1983, p.149.
policy of the Non-aligned countries. The Non-aligned states are "Conscientious objectors to ideological war. The Non-aligned states had served as 'Prophylactic' to cold war. By withholding support to the west to certain issues it has indicated areas of western vulnerability and when supporting west, it has drawn attention to "communist excesses". Without Non-aligned states U.N.O. would have become a forum for confrontation between great powers and cold war blocs, which might end up in disaster to the organization and (eventually) even to the world. Non alignment has defused in the United Nations the bomb of division of the world for the existence and successful functioning of the United nations. The two cold war blocs can cause trouble to the U.N. by extremist demands. For the system to be stable, there should be a body of neutrals who are relatively intense about their nationalism, that is who maintain middle position and who do so with some degree of involvement with an active effort to uncover ground of agreement between the extremes and to produce solutions.

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Majority of the newly independent countries under colonial rule had the experience of being dragged into big power rivalries and wars. The newly independent countries had won their freedom after long struggles and they wanted to safeguard that. So they decided to keep a distance from the super powers. The big changes that happened after the Second World War resulted in among other things, in the emergence of Non-aligned Movement which was a logical out come of the national liberation revolutions at the new stage or as the Third Conference of Heads of state or Government of Non-aligned countries formulated it "the product of the world anti-colonial revolution and of the emergence of a large number of newly liberated countries." The policy of Non-alignment has emerged as a result of a determination of the independent countries to safeguard the national independence and legitimate rights of their people. Non-alignment is an active creed to promote a world where weaker nations can live unmolested by powerful nations, choosing their own ideologies and developing political and economic systems in accordance with their own traditions, needs and potentialities. Non-alignment emerged largely as a major non-military initiative of the independent countries of the Third World to ensue peace, security and development in the

3 The main documents relating to the conference of Non-aligned countries from Belgrade 1961 to Georgetown 1972, Georgetown, 1972, p.66.
period following the Second World War. Non-alignment means keeping away from cold war. Since military pacts have been an important feature of cold war, non-participation in cold war naturally required dissociation from military pacts. The United states has been party to a number of bilateral and multilateral military pact which keep her association with more than forty countries and the Soviet Union has military pacts in which about a dozen countries participate. These military pacts have been considered by Non-aligned states as stumbling block to world peace.

Historically Non-alignment arose from the struggle of nations for freedom and independence against colonialism and imperialism. In fact, India arrived at Non-alignment through this path. Asian countries like Burma and Indonesia followed suit. Yugoslavia also evolved its policy of Non-alignment in the fight against aggression and struggle against foreign domination. Non-Alignment as a principle of foreign policy is deeply rooted in the belief that poverty, colonization, racism, the domination of the world by major world powers, and the arms race are not isolated events but interrelated phenomena aimed at the perpetuation, in one

form or another, of control and influence by economically and militarily powerful countries. As the situations currently stands, the majority of the developing countries have to depend on the richer countries for their economic survival. Export of arms to strengthen certain Government and to pull down certain Government has become highly lucrative both to west and East. The two super powers are the largest exporters accounting for nearly seventy per cent of all arms exports to developing countries. Super powers have not hesitated in subverting and destabilizing inconvenient regions. In a clandestine way the super powers give training to anti-governmental forces and also provide them with weapons and finance. There are other forms of interference with the freedom of poorer nations to determine their own economic destiny. One of the most blatant forms of ideological subversion of developing economics comes through the international agencies such as the World Bank and the International Monetary fund. From their very inception, these agencies have been used by the United states as a tool of its foreign policy and a measure of economic penetration of developing countries by its multinationals. The towering position of citizens of the united states and other developed nations in the agencies has also ensured the imposition market oriented development strategy on developing countries. The IMF has undermined

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programmes involving subsidised distribution of food to the poor, implementation of minimum wages and subsidies to the nationalised industries. The examples of these are contractionist policies imposed on Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico as a part of rescheduling of their debt. Srilanka's food distribution programme was streamlined which resulted in the nutritional inadequacies among the underprivileged.

The other forms of cultural and ideological subversion came directly or indirectly through educational, material and news media. The media of powerful countries wanted to paint their former colonies incompetent and corrupt. United states central intelligence agency (CIA) funded a wide range of propaganda activities.

Non-alignment originated from the common desire of the newly independent countries to develop their own forms of Government and methods of economic, social and cultural development unhindered by the richer and military more powerful nations. From the very beginning of the post war period was characterized everywhere by an intense urge towards accelerated economic development. This carving was particularly strong in countries which, when they re-emerged on the world scene as independent nations, have found themselves far

\[\text{Ibid., p.62.}\]
behind those which were more industrially developed. Non-alignment symbolized the inability and unwillingness of the most of the states to accept or reject the ideology of either bloc in its totality. It therefore implied a policy of peaceful and friendly relations with both the blocs without any kind of commitment-military, material or political, that would restrain their freedom of choice. It responded to the aspirations of vast member of people who emerged into freedom from foreign domination and were eager to attain the status of respect and equality with other nations of the world. Indeed the world that emerged after World War II, the soil was fertile for the growth of Non-alignment. Non-alignment was born in defiance of global bipolarity, which started with the policies of containment. The cold war beleaguered the new countries in the wake of their independence. Their nationalism irked at the demand for conformity. They refused to accept an "either" 'or' choice of socio-economic systems. Nor was they prepared to accept that a military alliance with one or the other contending blocs was the only guarantee for preserving national independence. Non-alignment does not mean keeping aloof from burning international issues. On the other hand it means a positive stand

2 Urmila Phadne's *Non-Alignment as a Factor in Ceylon's Foreign Policy*, International studies April, 1962, p.425.
based on the conviction of the Non-aligned nations and completely uninfluenced by any one of the power blocs.¹

Maintenance of International peace and security, peaceful settlement of disputes, promotion of the right to self determination, co-operation in slowing international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedom for all without distinction are the basic aims of Non-alignment Movement and United Nations organisation.² While NAM is clearly based on the principle of "sovereign equality" there is no gradation of membership between the privileged permanent members and the under privileged non-permanent ones of the security council, quite unlike the United Nations.³ NAM is strongly committed to strengthen the United Nations. They both supplement and complement each other in many ways. In fact the following is mistaken view. "The Non-alignment takes precedence over United Nations and that the principle of impartiality is like to be held to override any obligations occurring merely as a result of the procedures of the international obligations."⁴ It is pointed out that a Non-aligned commitment to


³ Ibid., p.301.

the United States is stronger than that of most other members and an almost proprietary view of the institutions.\(^1\) The United Nations was never intended as an organisation of like-mined states, rather an area to accommodation and respect different policies and different interests.\(^2\) This was the stance of Non-aligned nations in 1950's which were not listened to by the Non-aligned nations then. Even Henry Kissinger gave expression to it in 1975. According to him "ways must be found for power and responsibility in the Assembly and in specialized agencies to be more accurately reflective of the realities of the world.\(^3\)

The Non-aligned countries have changed both the composition of the United Nations and its role in the world. When the U.N. was formed in 1945 it was a white man's club representing the interests of the victors of the second world war. The entry of the newly independent states, most of them were former colonies in the third world has transformed the U.N.\(^4\) The newly independent states soon after gaining independence sought membership of United States. This set a seal on its independence by according to international recognition and formal equality: one


\(^{2}\) Portfolio for Peace, New York, UN n.d p. 22.


state, one vote". In order to influence the existing international system, active participation of the newly independent states after becoming a member of the U.N.O. is a must, because each state have voting right. But they lacked resource for that. But the U.N.O. gave them a helping hand. By establishing just one embassy (named as Permanent Mission to the United Nations in 1948) they could maintain diplomatic contact of the international level. It was to the U.N. the Non-aligned countries bring their final declaration of action. It would be wrong to assume that the Non-aligned countries act as a unified bloc in the U.N. system. The movement is not a political party, rather members act as a coalition group within the U.N. supporting issues with which they find themselves in agreement, particularly those confirming to the principles of NAM. Non-aligned Movement has no permanent office, secretariat or constitution like the U.N. or OAU or GATT. The success of NAM depends upon the nature of co-operation and eagerness to follow the principles of the movement among its members. Non-alignment in indissolubly linked with that it does or what it is trying to accomplish. Active, peaceful co-existence remains the sole option of mankind faced with the danger of

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2 Ramamurthy, K. Member of Parliament and President of the Indian Institute of Non-aligned studies. See summary of the Proceedings and Presentations of the International seminar held on 1 to 3rd August, 1986, New Delhi.

general military confrontation and the policy of force. NAM is the voice of the people of the world who aspire for world peace. It is a major democratic alliance of the newly independent states. It is the anxious desire for peace and development that the countries have come together.

The non-aligned policy was founded upon Indian tradition, which led Jawaharlal Nehru to say that it was "inherent in the past thinking of India, inherent in the conditioning of Indian mind during our struggle for freedom." India was the first Non-aligned country and the main principles of Non-alignment were first formulated by her outstanding leader, Jawaharlal Nehru. A phrase first suggested by Jawaharlal Nehru in his radio speech of 7th September, 1946 in which he listed all the constituent elements of the concept of Non-alignment. The term 'Non-alignment' appears to have been coined by Nehru in a speech of April 28, 1954 in Colombo. To western ears the word implies a sense of balance or equidistance between the 'aligned' nations or super powers. The pivot of the concept of Non-alignment was laid by Jawaharlal Nehru in a radio broadcast soon after assuming

office in the interim Government of India as Vice President.\(^1\) In 1946 Nehru said "we propose as far as possible to keep away from politics and group, aligned against one another, which have led in the past two world wars and which may again lead to disaster on an even vaster scale."\(^2\) It is pointed out that the Non-aligned movement did not began simply because there were blocs. It opposed bloc power configurations, because they involved limitations imposed by the world political environment upon freedom.\(^3\)

Kauddilya in his famous work 'Arthasastra' tells us that neutrality in war was considered as one of the many possibilities open to Indian kings. Some Indian writers trace the origin of the concept of Non-alignment to Buddhist roots and pointed out that the teaching of Buddha was against war and violence. Nehru said "I have not originated Non-alignment, it is the policy inherent in the very circumstances of the world today".\(^4\) Nehru understood that in the prevailing international situation, the only hope for India lay in keeping itself away from

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\(^2\) Jawaharlal Nehru, India's Foreign Policy (*Selected Speeches* Sept. 1946, April, 1961) New Delhi, 1961, pp. 2-3.


military pacts and grouping and in remaining non-aligned.\textsuperscript{1} Nehru advocated peaceful co-existence, energetically urging the easing of international tension and the containment of arms race and propounding general disarmament.\textsuperscript{2} Nehru's commitment of Non-alignment was not the product of his personal whims. It was the national outcome of the past of Asia, fitted into the mood of the Indian people and gradually took shape as events conditioned it. It was the natural expression of the millions of men and women who were again raising their voice after many years of suppression.\textsuperscript{3}

During India's freedom struggle, Mahatma Gandhi had a clear vision of the future of India as a free country and saw connection between his fellow countrymen's struggle against the whole imperialistic system of oppressing the people of Asia and Africa and this idea was reflected in the declaration of the young Indian National Congress, which became the first political organization in the world to declare and translate into reality the idea of Non-alignment.\textsuperscript{4} Gandhiji believed that peace in the world could be achieved only through non-violence.

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\textsuperscript{1} Shashi Bhushan, \textit{Non-Alignment Legacy of Nehru}, New Delhi, 1976, p.28.


\textsuperscript{4} G.N. Srinivastva, \textit{India, Non-Alignment and World Peace}, New Delhi, 1984, p.2.
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A study of the resolution passed by the Indian National Congress took a deep interest in certain external question from its inception and that it based its position on certain fundamental principles which still shape the foreign policy of India today. A resolution was passed at the first session of the Congress in 1885, criticizing the annexation of upper Burma by the British. In 1892 the Congress objected to the military activity going to beyond the national lines of defences of this country, in pursuance of the imperial policy of Great Britain in its relation with some of the Great Powers of Europe.

After 1921 the All India Congress Committee began to take active interest in India's relations with its neighbouring countries and to make declaration on the elements of the foreign policy of India after attaining freedom. Jawaharlal Nehru became the chief of the foreign department of this committee in 1925. In 1927 the Indian National Congress criticized the use of Indian troops in China, Mesopotamia and Persia. One of Nehru's greatest services to history was his constant striving for unity and alliance with all progressive forces of the world. In 1927 this striving led him to take active part in anti-imperialist congress of oppressed nationalities in Brussels. He told the Brussels congress that the emancipation of India would play an important role in abolishing the colonial rule all over Asia. It was in 1928 the

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1 Norman D. Palmer, The Indian Political System, London, 1961, p.239.

2 All Congress Resolution cited above are given in full in N.V. Rajkumar Ed. The background of India's Foreign Policy, New Delhi, 1952.
congress passed a resolution declaring that the struggle of Indian people for freedom was part of the world-wide struggle against imperialism. Ideas of some common action between oppressed nations interests as well as between them and the labour left wing were very much in the air. That is why Nehru wrote it was felt more and more that the struggle for freedom was common one against the thing that was imperialism and joint deliberation and possible, joint action were desirable. This was a major step towards recognizing the unity of National liberation movement with revolutionary including the working class movement throughout the world. In the person of Nehru revolutionary nationalism responded to the call for broad co-operation for unity in the struggle against imperialism made by Lenin the leader of the proletarian revolution. The Indian he said inevitably adopted a stand side by side with progressive forces of the whole world against Fascism and Imperialism, Socialism in the west and the awakening nationalism in the Eastern and other dependent countries were opposed to this alliance of Fascism and Imperialism. Inspired by Gandhi, and supported by great intellectuals like Einstein and Bertrand Russell, Nehru made it India's role to place the goal of peace, nuclear and general disarmament beyond the world.

4 Bipan Chandra and et. al., India After Independence, New Delhi, 1999, P.150.
Mahatma Gandhi's concept of foreign policy was that of "isolation but of international co-operation". The congress has extended its support to Abyssinia, Spain, China, Palestine, Arabs and Czechoslovakia when they were badly in need of it during the times of difficulty. The independence of Iraq, Jordan and Arab states were hailed. To China was extended support in her war with Japan. In 1938 the Indian National Congress declared the desire of Indian people to live in peace and friendship with all nations, particularly with their neighbours and their allegiance to the world order based on international co-operation, good will and peace.\(^1\) Jawaharlala Nehru openly stated his opposition to Fascism and Imperialism and expressed his willingness to throw in the resources of India for backing up democracy during the Second World War.

In 1939 the Indian National Congress declared that the Indians had nothing to do with war between imperialism and fascism to both which they were opposed and thus to preserve peace and freedom for India.

This Indian trend to keep aloof from the power games of European states was a natural by-product of the main struggle for independence from the imperial rule of Great Britain. India refused to alien itself with Britain's enemies in the hope of furthering its own nationalist aims because it had always been its policy to stand

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on its own feet and to do its; fighting.\textsuperscript{1} The roots of India's Non-alignment, as has been noted, go deep into the Indian National Movement to Gandhi's unique method of struggle cum negotiation with the occupying power.\textsuperscript{2} When Nehru participated in the freedom struggle of India he brought to Indian nationalism wide outlook and gave it recognition with longer world forces of anti colonialism, anti-imperialism and liberation of oppressed peoples of the globe. While fighting for India's independence Nehru always felt that the Indians were not fighting alone and he always asserted that when India wins freedom so many other countries who were fighting for their freedom will also attain independence.

The Quit India resolution of the Indian National Congress of the 8\textsuperscript{th} August 1942 includes a paragraph which says "the freedom of India must be the symbol of and prelude to the freedom of all other Asiatic nations under foreign domination. Burma, Malaya, India, China, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq must also attain their complete freedom. It must be understood that such countries as are under Japanese control, now must not subsequently be placed under control of any colonial power."\textsuperscript{3}

Inspired by the non-violent struggle from the freedom of India, Nehru advocated peaceful co-existence and tried to ease international tension. Nehru, a firm believer in the policy of Non-alignment was of the opinion that Non-alignment

\textsuperscript{1} Rikhi Jaipal, \textit{Op. cit.}, p.11.
\textsuperscript{3} P.H. Patwardhan, \textit{Jawahalala Nehru, Escasty and Agnony}, Poona, 1966, p.46.
by means signified passive neutrality. He said "when freedom and justice are in jeopardy, when aggression is committed we cannot and will not be Neutral". The Policy of Non-alignment should mean non participation in cold war and also the struggle for peace, disarmament and for equality and co-operation among all countries. However he did not view this goal in a pacifist way. Nehru said the prevention war may include providing for our own defence. If other countries are aggressive he said "We have to protect ourselves against their aggression".

The national leaders of India repeatedly stressed on the eve of independence, respect for world organization, world peace and equality and freedom of all people, adherence to the principles of solidarity of Asian and African people then submerged under the crushing weight of imperialism, support for the freedom of Burma, Indonesia, Indo-China and the Arab states and non involvement in the conflicts of two blocs of power. They had sympathy for the Soviet Union, which had emerged in eliminating imperialism.

Non-alignment is more a movement than an organization and while organized action is essential, it is a movement that can withstand the domineering

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1 Jawaharlal Nehru: His Life and Work, Moscow, 1965.
2 Jawaharlal Nehru, India; Foreign Policy, Ministry of information and broadcasting, Government of India, Delhi, 1961, p.46.
3 Ibid.
force of blocs and super power and exercise influence on the minds of the people everywhere, including the camps of the aligned. Nehru considered the policy of Non-alignment as a tool to pursue the self determined foreign policy by the newly independent countries. The new states of Asia and Africa which had become Non-aligned believed that the United Nations "not only provides the means of easy contact between representations of the Great powers, but also brings these relations under the moderating and harmonizing influence of the agreed purposes and principles of the United Nations and of the mediatory action of other states not directly involved in the Great power conflict, but deeply committed to the avoidance of war and the advancement of general peace and welfare.

Authors like Michael Breacher and Vincent Sheen have all agreed that Nehru was the fulcrum round which the policy of Non-alignment revolved. Nehru established this policy for India and was the pioneer of the emergence of the policy in global contents as well as its development encompassing adherents from the countries of Africa, Asia, Latin American and Europe. With President Tito of Yugoslavia, Nassar of Egypt and Nkrumah of Ghana, Nehru shares the honour of being the father of Non-alignment. Among the three eminent statesmen who

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3 Salim Ahmed Salim (Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Tanzania) "Jawaharlal Nehru Centenary volume:*, Sheila Dikshit, Natwar Sing, Parthasarathi, Sharada Prasad, S. Gopal and Ravi Kumar Eds., New Delhi, 1989, p.559.
formulated (Tito, Jawaharlal Nehru and Nassar) the principles of Non-alignment.\(^1\) Nehru should be regarded as the father of the Non-alignment not only because he gave birth to this idea but also because by pointing out the hidden potentialities of non-alignment as an instrument of peace be raised it to the level of world force.\(^2\)

The Delhi conference of 1947 was the first Asian meeting which signaled the real awakening of Asia and its emergence in the world arena. Nehru said "for too long have we of Asia been petitioners in western courts and chancelleries. That story must now belong to the past. He further stated that "we propose to stand on our own legs and co-operate with all others who are prepared to co-operative with us".\(^3\)

The agenda of Asian relations conference among other things included (1) national freedom movement in Asia (2) racial problems and racial migrations. The conference resolved to recommend exchange of mutual experience, experts in technology and also peaceful settlement of bilateral and international disputes. It also resolved to help African countries to get their legitimate status in human family. The Asian relations conference was the first international forum where so many countries of Asia assembled. In 1976 in the summit conference in Colombo,

the Non-aligned countries came to the following conclusion that Asian commitment
to Non-alignment first found expression in the Asian relations conference held in
New Delhi, 1947.¹ The Asian relations conference was the first international forum
where so many countries of Asia gathered with the aim to unite. One of the
important decisions taken by the conference was to strive for upliftment of the
status of women and the need for inter-Asian communication.

The Second Asian relations conference was held in Delhi in 1949, mainly to
consider the negotiated settlement of Indonesian question in the context of Dutch
action in Indonesia. A resolution was passed by the conference suggesting the
establishment of proper machinery for improving co-operation among them selves
within the framework of United Nations. The soviets praised the resolution and
stated that it laid the foundation for organizing Anti-imperialist and anti-colonial
unity of the young states at the U.N. It led to the formation of Afro-Asian groups
there.² Thus two Asian conferences developed unity and friendship among the
Asian countries.

The second World War left Europe weak and USSR became powerful. Thus
there was a plan to form an alliance. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization
(NATO) was found in April 1949 under the leadership of United States.

¹ Two decades of Non-alignment, Document and Gathering of non-aligned countries,
² G.N. Srivastva Nam and Soviet Foreign Policy, New Delhi, 1989, p.20.
Invitations was extended to newly independent countries to join military blocs. Rejecting American invitation for military agreement, the Government of India declared that she under no condition and under no pretext would allow the presence of foreign army in her territory. If any country would ever attack India, she would put up the needed resistance. Like NATO, the Warsaw Pact is provocative. The United states has military pacts with more than forty countries and the Soviets has military pacts in which about a dozen countries participate. The Non-aligned countries are not linked with any of these military blocs.

The Korean crisis was started between a communist North and the Pro-western south Korea in 1950. North and South were not satisfied with a divided country. But their terms were different. It was the first test for India's Non-alignment. That is why it was pointed out that the role of the Korean crisis emerged the whole range of India's foreign policy objectives. On June 25, 1950 North Korean soldiers "suddenly invaded" South Korea. When trouble started India supported the U.S. in the UN security council, condemning North Korea as an aggressor and calling for cease fire. But India's stand of abstaining from voting on another resolution, calling for assistance to south Korea was not liked by U.S. Nehru stated that "The incursion from North Korea into South Korea was brought to the notice of United Nations and was described by the security council as an act

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1 Birdwood, "Two nations in Kashmir" Suffolk, 1956, p.158.
2 M.M. Rahiman, "The politics of Non-alignment' New Delhi, 1969, p.92.
of aggression. We supported the decision and gave our vote accordingly. Subsequently other developments took place.¹

The swift events that followed the out break of the Korean war brought out for first time a dynamism in the conduct of India's foreign Policy. For the first time they refused to yield to America's pressure.² For the first time in September 1950, India's permanent representative to UN, Initiated an informal caucusing with Afro-Asian member states to plan a common strategy and to co-sponsor draft resolutions in regard to Korean question. From then onwards India developed the practice in initiating proposals in co-sponsorship with Afro-Asian members.³

India's main aim was to prevent the entry of outside powers into Korean conflict. Nehru appealed to Truman and Stalin and received a warm response. But in the mean while the head of U.S. forces under the U.N command without the consent of U.N. pushed North Korean forces out of South Korea and crossed the 38th parallel into North Korea and marched towards the river that separated Korea from China. Chou En-Lai, the Chinese Prime Minister issued a warning. After that he sent army to push back American Troops to South of 38 a parallel and succeeded in that attempt though there were heavy casualities on both sides. Nehru


made an attempt to end the war by summoning a conference. But U.S. queered the pitch with an U.N. resolution declaring China as an aggressor, but India voted against it because China was not an aggressor in North Korea. A military stalemate followed. Despite India's sincere efforts it took till June 1953 to get both sides to agree to a cease-fire and evolve an accepted formula. It was Krishan Menon who finally succeeded in framing a formula, that the General Assembly of the U.N. and after Stalin's death the Soviet block accepted.

Defending Indian stand, Nehru said "ever since the Korean war was started we have been very much concerned with it not because we wanted to interfere or bully others but because we were perhaps in a position to help more than any other country could. Our relations with countries, in conflict were cordial. This was not true of other countries. This was not true of other countries and therefore it is difficult for them to do anything. We realized our peculiar responsibility to the poor people of Korea and strongly felt that the utter ruin and destruction of Korea should be stopped at any cost."¹

In 1953 cease-fire was proclaimed in Korea. The Non-aligned countries played an important role in the UN to find an amicable settlement to these

problems. NAM does not merely pay 'lip services' to the doctrine of 'sovereign equality' but practice it in its formulation of policies.\(^1\)

Korean war had tested India's devotion to Non-alignment. She first faced Chinese and Soviet displeasure because she considered North Korea as an aggressor. She then faced America's anger for refusing to go along with western intervention in the war and for not declaring China as an aggressor. In the meanwhile in 1950 China invaded Tibet and annexed it. But even after this, Nehru never changed his stand on Korean war. India pleaded for a seat to Communist China in the Security Council. India depended on US for food. Yet in the Korean crisis India never danced to the tunes of U.S. In the end India's stand was vindicated: both sides had to recognize the same boundary they had tried to change. The world now recognized the worth of Non-alignment.\(^2\)

No-aligned nations desire that it is their essential policy to enable the United Nations to function properly and successfully.\(^3\) Even the United States accepted Jawaharlal Nehru's five principles of peaceful co-existence and U.S. President Nixon signed a formal communiqué with Peking during his visit in 1972 stating that the five principles were the basis of the relation between the two

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\(^2\) Bipan Chandra, Aditya Muckerjee and Mridula Muckerjee "India after independence" New Delhi, 199, pp. 153-54.

\(^3\) Narendra Mehra, *Foreign Policy of Great Powers*, Jallander, 1979, p.17.
countries.\textsuperscript{1} It is said that the Non-aligned movement strove for the democratization of international relations and for the establishment of a more just and equal world order.\textsuperscript{2} An eminent authority on Non-alignment has pointed out that most of the leaders of the Non-aligned states in the immediate post war years saw themselves engaged in a historical process of Liberation struggle of disfranchised people in which they had been given a pioneering role by history.\textsuperscript{3}

The Non-alignment movement takes its roots from Bandung conference (in the city of Indonesia) of Afro-Asian countries held from April 18 to 24, 1955 in which twenty nine Afro-Asian countries took part. It was the first collective act on world scene of the countries now free from colonial and semi colonial dependency.\textsuperscript{4} Bandung was attended by 23 Asian and 6 African countries. The conference adopted a declaration of World peace and co-operation conforming its faith in the aims and principles of U.N. charter and the right of sovereign nations to live without foreign interference and advocated the settlement of all international disputes by peaceful means. Those who attended the Bandung conference were trying to present a combined moral and political presence in the world which might make it difficult for the super powers to indulge in indiscriminate action against

\textsuperscript{2} V.P. Dutt, 'India is Foreign Policy', New Delhi, 1984, p.6.
\textsuperscript{4} \textit{Ibid.}, p.18.
weak countries. Beyond applying moral pressure, there was nothing much they could do.\(^1\) The Bandung conference came out in defence of basic human rights and the rights of the oppressed nations, against racial discrimination and segregation and demanded that the right to self determination be conditionally observed. It resolutely denounced the practice of submitting nations to foreign domination and exploitation.\(^2\)

The Key document of the Bandung conference was the Declaration on the promotion of World Peace and Co-operation. They worked out the principles of inter state relations. At Bandung conference India became the acknowledged leader of the Non-aligned countries.\(^3\) Atal Bihari Vajpayee complimented the role of Nehru in the formulation and implementation of the policy of Non-alignment.\(^4\) It was Nehru who carried the philosophy of Non-alignment to the world at large. The Bandung conference devoted great attention to another universal issue that of peace and security of nations. They expressed the utmost anxiety at the international tension which existed at that time of cold war, at the atomic war menace and called for arms reduction, universal disarmament, and destruction of nuclear weapons.

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\(^2\) Non-aligned movement in Document and Materials, Moscow, 1979, p.423.
\(^3\) Kamala Kanta Pande and Pramod Kumar Mishra, New Perspectives in India's Foreign Policy: The Janatha Phase, New Delhi, 1980, p.6.
Soon after Bandung, the policy of blocs and the policy of Non-alignment with blocks became so clearly incompatible that the countries that had taken part in the conference was again divided. Turkey remained in NATO, the Philippines, Thailand and Pakistan remained in SEATO (this organization ceased to exist in June 1977) and Iraq in Baghdad pact, though all these blocs were openly used in the private interests of the imperialist powers. Japan and some other countries followed in the wake of U.S. Policy. In July 1958 the People's revolution in Iraq pulled down pro-western monarchic rule. The republic took the path of Non-alignment and left the Baghdad pact. That was a shock to the policy of blocks followed by western powers in Asia. To save whatever there remained in the pact, it was renamed as Central Treaty Organization (Cento) but the idea of bloc was already undermined.

Almost within a year of Bandung conference came the invasion of Egypt by the combined forces of United Kingdom, France and Israel in retaliation of the Egyptian nationalization of the Suez Canal. The cold war was further intensified at a beginning of 1960s. In 1960 an American reconnaissance plane, which was flying over Soviet territory was short down and this led to the failure of the Paris Great power summit. In 1961 came the Bay of Pigs. This was a blatant attempt by the United States Government to engineer the overthrow of legitimately constituted

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government.\textsuperscript{1} It was in this context of growing world crisis that the first formal conference of the Head of States of Non-aligned countries was convened in Belgrade in 1961.

Such was the situation when the Belgrade conference was assembled on September 1-6, 1961 at which the Non-aligned movement took shape organizationally. The seeds sown in Bandung blossomed in Belgrade, six years later where they provided the conceptual impetus for the birth of the movement of Non-aligned countries. The Belgrade conference added two more principles; one of them gave a name to the whole movement, Non-alignment with the military blocs. The second principle defined aid to the liberation movements as one of the chief targets of Non-alignment movement.\textsuperscript{2}

At the 20\textsuperscript{th} session of U.N. General Assembly in New York in September 1960 the leaders of India, Egypt, Yugoslavia, Indonesia and Ghana – Jawaharlal Nehru, General Abdul Nassar, Josip Broz Tito, Ahmed Sukarno and Kwame Nkrumah agreed to call a conference of all Non-aligned countries of Asia, Africa, Latin America and Europe. At first the presidents of Egypt, Yugoslavia and Indonesia undertook to organise the conference. They addressed the Heads of the States and Government of twenty eight countries in April 1961 asking them to

attend the conference in May 1961. They were requested to send their representatives to Cairo to prepare for the conference. This May invitation however, mentioned that Nehru had also subscribed to it. Later at the meeting in Cairo, a similar statement was made by a delegation of Afghanistan. Thus the organisers of that meeting and of the Belgrade conference which followed it, were Egypt, Yugoslavia, India, Indonesia and Afghanistan.¹

The Cairo meeting of twenty countries of Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America decided to hold an international conference of the Heads of the States or Government of Non-aligned countries in September, 1961. The delegates of the meeting drew upon agenda for the forthcoming conference and for the first time formulated the criteria to be used in sending invitations to the conference. No invitation was sent to countries which were Non-aligned in name only. The criteria were adopted at the preparatory meeting of the Non-aligned countries held at Cairo in 1961. They are the following.

1. A country should follow an independent policy of co-existence and Non-alignment or should be showing a trend in favour of such a policy.

2. It should consistently have supported movements for national independence.

3. It should not be a member of multilateral military alliance concluded in the context of great power conflicts.

4. If it has conceded military bases these should not have been made in the context of great power conflicts.

5. If it was a member of bilateral or regional defence arrangement, this should not be in the context of great power conflicts.¹

The above mentioned criteria can be regarded as the principles of the policy of Non-alignment countries. The first summit conference of NAM of Belgrade in September, 1961 regarded these rules are essential for the membership of Non-aligned movement. Its application of finalising the list of invitees to the conference was quite liberal. Saudi Arabia and Morocco with permitted military bases to United States were among the participants. When these criteria was applied only 15 out of 29 countries that had participated in the Bandering conference was invited to the first conference of the Non-aligned Movement. They are Afganisthan, Burma, India, Indonesia, Cambodia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Iraq, Lebanon, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria and Ceylon. (By that time Egypt and Syria had united and were represented in Belgrade as one state, the United Arab Republic (UAR)). The Belgrade conference were also attended by representatives

of Algeria, Guinea, Cyprus, Congo, Cuba, Mali, Morocco, Somalia, Tunisia and Yugoslavia. Algeria was represented by a provisional government, as an armed struggle for independence was under way there. Besides the delegates, the three Latin American countries – Bolivia, Brazil, and Ecuador, were present as observers.¹

The Belgrade conference of the Head of the state of Non-aligned countries was held on September 1-6-1961. Though the delegates represented diverse trends, their adherence to Non-alignment proved to be a uniting factor. In their diversity, the Non-aligned countries have raised number of common issues – cultural identity, interdependence of cultures, cultural co-operation.² Besides affirming independence, the NAM endorsed cultural and racial equality. The Belgrade, conference was largely conceived with political issues – issues of decolonisation, particularly, granting of independence to Algeria and Angola, the withdrawal of French troops from Tunisia, cessation of foreign military intervention in Congo, ending of apartheid in South Africa and granting of legitimate rights of Arabs in Palestine.³ It declared unambiguously that lasting peace could be achieved only in a world where domination of colonialism,

imperialism and neocolonialism in all their manifestation is radically eliminated.¹ In its search for peace the conference appealed both to President Kennedy and Premier Khrushchev to renew their negotiations, so as to remove the danger of war in a world and enable mankind of embark upon the road of peace.² The conference demanded that efforts should be made to remove economic in balance initiated by colonialism and imperialism.

Addressing the Belgrade conference Nehru said Non-alignment means nations which object to this lining up for war purposes military blocs, military alliances and the like . . . We want to throw our weight, such as it is in favour of peace.³ The Belgrade conference was attended by 25 member and three observers (Bolivia, Brazil and Ecuador). Its participants included Nehru, Tito, Nassar, Sirimavo Bandaranaike, Sukarno, Nkrumah UNu, Dorticos, Makarious and Keita.⁴ The conference adopted the declarations of the Heads of state on Government of Non-aligned countries. A statement on the Dangers of war and appeal to peace. The declaration said, "the Non-aligned countries represented at the conference do not wish to form a new block and cannot be a bloc. They sincerely

¹ Two Decades of Non-Alignment, Documents, pp. 5-6.
³ H.D. Malaviya, Non-alignment, Onward March, Delhi, 1981.
⁴ V, Benevolensky, the Non-alignment Movement from Belgrade to Delhi, USSR, 1985, p.27.
desire to co-operate with any government, which seeks to contribute to the strengthening of confidence and peace in the world. The Non-aligned leaders appeared convinced at the Belgrade summit that the imminent and ominous prospect of conflict would almost certainly later develop into a world war. The main trust of the Non-aligned strategy during this initial phase was therefore, the elimination of the possibilities of conflict between super powers. In this way peace and security was assurer for the Non-aligned world. In 1961 the Non-aligned countries met to create an independent path in world politics.

The term Non-alignment denotes different meanings to different people at different times. The westerners often use the expression neutrality or neutralism and try to understand the movement. The west views Non-alignment merely as a variety of neutrality. Quite a lot of western scholars have almost consistently preferred the terms neutrality and neutralism to Non-alignment. Perhaps George Liska was the first to come close to accepting the term Non-alignment in really

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1 Two Decades of Non-alignment, p.6.


scientific sense.\(^1\) In fact Non-alignment does not imply neutrality nor does it prohibit taking positions on international issues.\(^2\) The distinction between Non-alignment and Neutralism may be summed up as the difference between an activist and an isolationist approach.\(^3\) Later some scholars gave up their bias for neutralism and gradually accepted Non-alignment.\(^4\) Non-involvement is common to both neutrality on one hand and to neutralism or Non-alignment on the other. Jawaharlal Nehru held the view that the neutrality is a concept which can have relevance only in war. The political neutrality is a concept which can have relevance only in a war. The political neutrality is an attribute of diplomacy rather than of foreign policy. When a state abstains from voting in U.N.O. when it refuses to take sides on an international issue, it presents a case of diplomatic on political neutrality. Non-alignment or neutralism also aims of keeping away not from a particular issue or conflict but from a continuing international situation. This continuing international situation is cold war. Since military alliances constitute an important

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feature of cold war, Non-alignment naturally insists on keeping away from those alliances.¹

There are authorities like Hans Morgenthau² and Robert Scalapino³ in the western countries and A. Appadorai⁴ and M.S. Rajan⁵ in India who regard Non-alignment as the only means and are not prepared to grant it even the status of a policy. Nehru pointed to the hidden potentialities of Non-alignment as an instrument of peace and raised it to the global force. The western writers failed to understand the significance of Non-alignment as a technique of peaceful settlement of international disputes. That is why George Schwarzenberger regarded Non-alignment as a self-centered policy, and writers⁶ like Hans Morgenthau⁷ and Reinhold Neibuhr⁸ viewed it as only and ideology.

Among the big powers, Britian was the first to recognize the importance of Non-alignment in international relations. It therefore encouraged the newly independent countries to follow their own policies. It did so when the big powers like the Soviet Union and the United States were critical of Non-alignment and viewed it with suspicion. Western scholars and statesmen during the early post-war years refused to accept the term Non-alignment. For when it was neutrality the term Neutralism was also used. Even now these terms have not vanished.

According to Unu of Burma, "This policy (Non-alignment) has been called Neutralism in the cold war. Perhaps it is the right name for it." General De Gaulle did evolve a policy akin to some kind of Non-alignment in opposition to military blocs, judging each international issue on its merits and economic aid without political strings. This of course, is not comparable with Non-alignment for his formulations were meant strictly for a France which according to him was superior to other nations in the world.

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U.S.A. from the very beginning opposed Non-alignment. On June 9, 1956, the United States Secretary of states, John Foster Dullas said "Non-alignment has increasingly become an obsolete conception and except under very exceptional circumstances, it is immoral and short sighted conception". The Non-alignment has been welcomed by U.S.S.R. even through it was viewed with disapproval earlier. At first China attacked Non-alignment but later it began to make efforts to penetrate the movement in order to make it serve its interests. It proclaimed the Peoples Republic of China a developing nation, spreading the ideas about its community of interests with the third world countries and declaring itself a genuine defender of the developing countries in their struggle against super powers.

The policy of Non-aligned movement to avoid intimate military relations with super power started getting eroded soon after under the thrust of new developments in the international security situations. India faced this dilemma in the wake of the conflict with China in 1962. The growing military ties with the

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Soviet Union, including controversial friendship treaty of 1971 (9th August 1971).\(^1\) The close military relations established by Afghanistan, Cuba, Egypt, Iraq, Syria and Vietnam with Soviet Union were the results of regional threat to those Non-aligned countries. On the other hand, countries like Cyprus, Malta, Morocco and Saudi Arabia have conceded military bases to western blocs. Countries like Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, and Somalia have even changed military relations from one super power to the other.\(^2\) There are reports that Kenya and Sri Lanka has agreed to provide bases and facilities to United States.\(^3\) A number of Gulf countries like Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates are extending and strengthening their military was with western powers like France and the United States.\(^4\)

When China committed aggression on India in 1962 and Pakistan aggression of 1965 and 1971, the policy of Non-alignment followed by India was criticized by many. It was argued that, since Non-alignment could not prevent Chinese

\(^1\) It is argued how can India style herself Non-Aligned after signing the treaty. But the Government of India has stated that Indo-Soviet treaty does not mean any deviation from the policy of Non-alignment because under article IV of the treaty, the Soviet Union has guaranteed to respect India's policy of Non-alignment.


\(^4\) *Times of India*, New Delhi, 3 March, 1981, and *Hindustan times*, New Delhi, 5 March, 1981.
aggression, India should give it up. With this Nehru responded that even if India is reduced to dust, he is not prepared to give it up. Nehru looked at the ultimate and not at the immediate. It is often forgotten that Colombo proposals on which India insisted on the basis of the solution of her border issue with China were put forth by Non-aligned countries and that insistence is an indication of her belief in the efficacy of Non-alignment as a technique of resolving conflicts.¹

India was able to get military aid from both the blocs without compromising the essentials of Non-alignment even during Chinese aggression. But some were of the opinion that it would eventually lead to abandonment of Non-alignment. Countries like China and Pakistan even said that India has surrendered Non-alignment. In fact while receiving military aid India proved the dynamic nature of Non-alignment by stating that it would not permit any foreign bases in her soil. Yugoslavia got military aid from the United States in 1961. Tito needed economic aid to counter act the blockade imposed by the Cominform and to forward his economic plans, he needed military help to deter Soviet attack and he got both. Ethiopia got military aid in 1961 from United States under mutual security programme. Some countries among Non-aligned nations, permitted foreign

¹ Mahendra Kumar, *Theoretical Aspects of International Politics*, Delhi, 1980, p.379.
military bases and yet remained Non-aligned. According to some scholars accepting military aid India has not violated Non-alignment. ¹

The policy of getting aid from both the blocs is criticized by many as "double alignment". But the leaders of the Non-aligned nations believe that friendship with both the blocs can be retained by receiving aid and at the same time they can improve their commercial activity with friendly countries.

Speaking about western appraisals of Non-alignment it is pointed out that their evolution of the concept has endeavoured to dispel them and to emphasise that in the last analysis, nations embrace Non-alignment for essentially the same reason that United States remains dedicated to "containment" of the Soviet Union advocates, peaceful co-existence.²

Non-alignment came to be not just an "unprincipled neutral confrontation" with blocs but opposition and resistance to those who wanted perpetuate domination.³ The greatest significance of Non-alignment perhaps lies in the fact

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³ Kdvard Kardelj cited in his paper " Forces and Paths of War and Peace", Zagreb, 1975, presented for Scientific conference on Path ways of War and Peace.
that it announced the desire of the Asian and African states to enter the balance of power struggle in their own right. According to an American writer the most important difference of the Non-aligned countries cited to have more influence in the international affairs, whereas classical neutrals did all possible so as to stay away from the policy of power. "

Non-alignment contributed to the political stability of post colonial societies as the key input in the process of national building, economic, development and building of liberal democratic institutions. International tension was reduced due to the work of Non-aligned nations. Arms control and disarmament is widely regarded as the cure to the problem posed by war and weapons, despite the fact that its practical impact has been marginal.

Nehru's policy of Non-alignment in the words of Khrushchev is the "highest watermarks" of modern statesmanship in its ideal sense. The avoidance if excessive intimacy with either cold war bloc thus become the essential feature of Nehru's foreign policy and the principle of Non-alignment was evolved to achieve

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1 Business week, 21 October, 1961.
2 Ashwini K. Ray, Non-Alignment and Neutrality, Delhi, 1982, P.83.
3 Barry Buzan, People, States and Fear, Britain, 1983, p.201.
this objective.\textsuperscript{1} Non-alignment influenced as strongly as it was by the desire to bring about a climate of peace, played a predictable part in disarmament and arms control negotiations, but as strategy was unable to influence the course of these negotiations.\textsuperscript{2}


\textsuperscript{2} A.P. Rana, \textit{The Imperative of Non-alignment}, Delhi, 1976, p.257.