

Media and Foreign Policy Relationships: The Case Study of Pakistan - India Relations in The Nation and The Hindu

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Abstract:

This research study dealt with the foreign policy of the Pakistan and India's relations and their foreign policies. The study analyzes the issue both qualitative and quantitatively by examining the editorials of Pakistani and Indian print media. Daily The Nation was selected from Pakistan and the Hindu was selected from India to explore the treatment of the coverage based on six months starting from January-2015 to June-2015. The rationale behind selection of above mentioned newspapers was their conservative policies as both newspapers presents the ideological views with regard to their respective foreign policy as indicated by their governments. The unit of analysis is this research was entire editorial. The results indicated that daily The Nation published 96 editorials while the Hindu published 79 editorials on the issue of Kashmir, tension on borders, terrorism and water issue. The Nation gave more coverage to the issues as compared to the Hindu with regard to Pak-India relations. Similarly, the water issue and Kashmir issue was significantly raised by the Nation with negative treatment towards India. On the contrary, the Hindu gave more unfavorable coverage towards tension on borders and terrorism. It can be concluded that the proportion of unfavorable coverage in both newspapers was greater than its favorable coverage.

Keywords: Media; Foreign Policy; Pak India Relations; Indian Print Media; Pakistani Print Media

I. Introduction

Mass media is not only a source of public opinion but has gained a lot of strength due to its public discourse towards changing the perceptions. Media only orientate the minds of the public towards particular issue as well as through effective visualization of the issues make it more prominent especially with regard to foreign policy. In today's world, media has gained so much importance of becoming fourth pillar of the state in the existing

political system. It also has a great influence of decision making with regard to form public opinion. Moreover, it prioritizes the issues of great importance by reflecting the leading opinions of the public. Through media discourse, it allows the readers to indicate national sentiments with reference to decision making.

Pakistan is located in the South Asia being closed with India by sharing the long border. Apart from sharing the boundaries, both countries have much in common with regard to its geography, political and economic system, culture and society. The diplomatic relations between both countries also vary in nature based on several military conflicts and territorial hitches. According to history of subcontinent both nations have been part of British colonialism they were under the absolute control of British Empire during the late 18th century. The most of the population of this region (sub-continent) were Hindus and Muslims in majority.

Since the partition of subcontinent when both countries on the basis of strength of their population of being Hindus and Muslim, got independence there were a lot of conflicts between both countries. Even after their birth on the map of the world both nations have fought several wars. Both have been involved in spying, violating their boundaries and Line of Control and other confrontation of allegations with reference to their respective foreign policies towards each other (Lyon, 2008). Even throughout the history, a series of conflicts can be observed in the shape of bilateral relations, diplomatic ties, trade and business, political affairs and military insurgencies. The track record of the both nations is not good enough to indicate mutual peace process even having the peace talks and dialogues as after the partition the economy that was unified before partition had been divided. When the British left the subcontinent, the currency was devalued but both countries took opposite stance that resulted in end trade between the two and even had been suspended one complete year until India's acceptance of Pak currency (Bhutto 1972).

Being colonized with British before the independence, subcontinent was a mixture of richest culture and civilization that both countries inherited after getting independence. The British occupation ended in 1947 and on the political map both countries emerged as independent states. Instead of seeking peace and harmony, both nations undergone through wars, conflicts and rivalry and due to frustration both countries people still expect fear and insecurity as it was not expected after getting separate homeland for both countries' people. Due to common geographic locations, India still have 13% Muslims with Hindu majority as a secular state but on the contrary, Pakistan being an Islamic democratic state with a 97% Muslims in majority with 2% Hindu minority. Both nations diplomatic relations are based on violent partition following by wars and other political and social clashes.

South Asia has gained a leading status in the region due to its geostrategic location with regard to international political scenario. Pakistan and India relations with regard to political and economic blocking are declared as the chief hurdle in the region. The present study aiming to measure the situation of Pak-India mutual relations with regard to their foreign policies in terms of print media of Pakistan and India. Print media has been deep rooted its culture and it is the earliest form of the media in its originality with regard to human communications. Press role and importance could be found in the history of subcontinent and since the independence both countries print media is of vital importance. It not only gained credibility but as well as played a responsible and crucial role in expressing the point of view of the both nations. Secondly, print media reflects the real

picture of the society as a spokesperson of the public with reference to national and international issues. The foremost reason of selection of print media for the analysis of India Pakistan relations was its importance and credibility among both nations even with the advent of television and other electronic media sources the importance of print media still exists in social, economic and political affairs. Besides, the newspaper are cheap, easy to carry and could be accessed any time even getting older which could not be easily consulted again as well as helps in recalling and refreshing the memory. The facts of the past and incidents reports in the form of news stories and editorials are easily storable and accessible at any time for evidences. Due to its catchable and long lasting life people can get information whenever, they feel free. Apart from all this, international news, current affairs with criticism educated the masses about different times and climes of the world.

A. Pak-India Bilateral Relations

Pakistan and India both are the largest independent states in South Asia with a variety of links but the diplomatic relations between the two are deeply rooted in the history since their birth. Both nations have been the part of British colony almost 150 years. Gandhi from India and Quaid-i-Azam from Pakistan were the chief leaders during the independence movements. Muhammad Ali Jinnah, in the early twentieth century suggested Two Nation Theory of being different as nations as Hindus and Muslims. Furthermore, he also argued that they have little commonness with regard to their beliefs and religions. Therefore, he proposed separation and division in the subcontinent territory so that both can live according to their faiths and could be able to perform their religious rituals with freedom. Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah suggested that regions where there is Hindus and Muslims are in majority should be partitioned and this occurred in 1947. But soon after independence both nations again confronted into wars in 1965 and the in 1971 which pave the way of another partition of East Pakistan, now called Bangladesh while the western wing is called Pakistan.

B. Media and Foreign Policy

Media is said to be an agent of change in society with its powerful and dominant source of information. It not only shapes the public minds towards particular issues but as well as gives solutions to different issues through its effective presentation and style of presenting facts in the news. This feature of media discourse is named as media agenda while influencing its audience and policy makers. Similarly, framing theory explains the presentation of ideas through media by influencing the people thinking and molding them towards new dimensions as expressed in media frames. As the Cohen (1963), argues that "Press may not be successful in telling us what to think but it is stunningly successful in telling us what to think about".

Information then becomes a commodity of exchange, which drives all actors and their actions. The possessors of this information are the leaders, journalists and elites of the country. State and government institutions tend to manipulate public opinion to set it in-line with its foreign policy objectives and decisions in order to command public support. Hence, the relationship between media, public opinion and foreign policy is of a complex and dynamic nature. In this regard, the following paper will explore different dimensions of narrative presented in India and Pakistani print media on bilateral relations. The intended research will delve into differentiating the frames used for highlighting specific issues and how the information is presented. Furthermore, it will factor out possible policy implications in light of the emerging narrative and also to take into account the trends in

public opinion as a result of these publications in print media. Some additional themes are added keeping in view their significance, and irrespective of media's attention on these issues during the researched period.

This research study aimed to measure the treatment of Pakistani and Indian print media towards the Pakistan and India relations with regard to their foreign policies. The tensions between the both countries can be found since their independence and presence in the British colonialism. The Line of Control on both countries border is absolutely in supervision of the army at both sides. The conflict of Kashmir and then later on issue of Kargil are the key conflicts which may not allow both to sit together for peace talks. Apart from the above said some other issues, like water disputes, Siachen and Samjhota Express issues are also become on fire whenever there is a media debate on Pakistan and India relations. Similarly, Indian involvement in terrorist activities in Baluchistan and Mumbai attacks in India are the leading causes of confrontation among both nations.

In accordance with the current political situation in the world South Asia region is become important due to its geographical location and presence of Pakistan and India in the region is of great significance. Therefore, this research is aimed to measure the role of Indian and Pakistani print media towards Pakistan and Indian relations with regard to foreign policy of both countries during 2015.

C. Significance of Print Media

Press is the most important and early form of media and even after the advent of electronic media its importance and significance cannot be denied. In India and Pakistan still print media is considered credible and reliable source of information among other channels of communication. Due to its deep analysis and worldwide reporting its presence in society reflects the true analysis of the issues relating to national and international context. On the issues relating to national interests freedom of media is considered essential to play a watchdog role over the public issues of grave concerns. Secondly, our constitution provides freedom of expression as a democratic and Islamic republic to ensure the human rights. Since a long struggle now press in Pakistan has gained a considerable freedom to give its factual analysis over the national issues. During the dictatorship regimes it continued to play its role towards factual and true reporting.

D. Rationale for Selecting Newspaper Editorial

The editorials of the print media provide in-depth analysis on the current and latest challenges faced by the country. Secondly, editorials are the reflection of newspaper policy towards national interests and political gains of the country. This study also focused on the editorial coverage of Pakistan and Indian English press towards the Pakistan and India relations with reference to their foreign policies categorically and comparatively. The Nation from Pakistan represent the ideology of the country since its birth and supports the Two Nation Theory presented by Quid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah during the Pakistan movement. Editorials play a very significant role in public opinion as they present deep analysis of the issues under discussion. It is considered the policy reflection of the newspaper and widely read by scholars, students and general public across the country. Due to the editorials' subjective point of view the importance of newspaper editorial have gained a lot of attention of not only the government officials as well as other stakeholders and segments of societies.

E. Rationale of the Selection of Newspapers

In accordance with the need and nature of the research, the researcher has chosen one Indian and one Pakistani English newspaper for the purpose of analysis. The Nation from Pakistan and the Hindu from India. The rationale behind selection of these newspaper was their policy as the Nation is a conservative newspaper and has always supported the ideology of Pakistan and the Hindu is the spokesperson of the Hindu. Both newspapers have wide readerships and largest circulation in the respective countries on the basis of their point of view on national and international disputes especially with the regional and neighboring countries. Now in the recent status of the world's political discourse it has become difficult for both countries to enhance conflicts but they could be minimized on the basis of mutual interests and relations. Pakistan and India are the key players in the region with regard to bring peace and harmony in the region.

II. Literature Review

The foreign relations of the India and Pakistan have been explored several times by the national and international scholars relating to different fields of life including academicians. The literature review presents the crux of those studies relevant to the Pakistan and India relations with regard to their foreign policies. According to Sabir&Rasul (2011) Pakistani print media is responsible and contributing towards expressing the country's views towards Kashmir conflict between India and Pakistan to seek peaceful settlement of the issue. Furthermore, it was also argued that Kashmir is the only chief conflict between the two nations which is the key player of bilateral relations in terms of trade and business. It was suggested that its solution should be according to the resolution of United Nations and as per demands of the Kashmiri people.

Khan (2000) discovers that how Indian and Pakistani newspapers present images of each other. Time period selected by the researcher was year 1999 which was crucial for Indo-Pak relations because along with many other important developments Kargil confrontation took place during this time span. Comparative study of the editorial coverage of Dawn and Hindustan Times reveals that Hindustan Times wrote more articles on Kargil than Dawn, so on the basis of this observed fact researcher proves his hypothesis that greater the importance of an issue at state level wider is its coverage in press. Using content analysis as the research methodology, researcher has concluded that Hindustan Times blamed Pakistan for the Kargil confrontation and on the other hand Dawn continuously emphasized that it should not lead to another war. Both newspapers supported the foreign policies of their respective countries; however Hindustan Times also criticized Indian government for some of her actions. On the nuclear-issue Hindustan Times accused Pakistan of taking assistance from China and North Korea while Dawn focused on the nuclear race in the region. Based on the analysis researcher adopted the view that press of both countries highlighted the hostilities rather than suggesting measures for the normalization of relations.

According to Kumar (2012) the conflicts between Pakistan and India could be resolved until settling the issue of Kashmir. Kashmir is the bridge of relations between the two countries to bring peace and harmony in the region. Moreover, resolving this issue can definitely lead towards the betterment of not only Kashmiri people as well as it would reduce the tensions on borders and can save billions being consumed for weapons trade. After the ended disputes, it will pave the way for the counties to come closer and start trade on both sides. Manzoor (2002) examined the attitude of press towards government's stand

point during Indo-Pak war tension aroused in year 2002. Methodology of content analysis has been used to analyze the editorial coverage of Dawn and Nawa-i-Waqt. Study reveals that Nawa-i-Waqt gave more coverage to the issue and remained more critical towards government's comprising attitude as compare to Dawn. Both newspapers showed patriotism and favoured the government against Indian allegations.

Siddique (2004) conducted the content analysis of Pak India relations with regard to government developments towards foreign policy issues. The study was conducted during the 2003-2004. The four Pakistani dailies, two Urdu and two English newspapers were analyzed and examined with regard to their editorial coverage to Pakistan and India relations. It was found that the News and Jang gave more coverage to Pakistan India relations as compared to The Nation and Nawa-e-Waqt where foreign policy of Pakistan towards India was opposed. The Nation took soft slant but the Nawa-e-Waqt strongly opposed. Hamid (2004), in his study explored the role of Elite English press towards developments in Indo-Pak relations in the time span of March 2003 to April 2004. Researcher has used both quantitative and qualitative content analysis as research methodology. Selecting both news and editorials as units of analysis, researcher has concluded that as compared to The Nation, The News and Dawn appeared to be more supportive of the government's policy regarding the said issue. A relationship was observed between the newspaper agenda and government's policy. Researcher also detected the reflection of editorial policy in the news content.

Burki (2004) wrote in his research article that one way of promoting trade relations with India is to do it within the context information a regional arrangement. That could be one way of overcoming the enormous suspicion that exists on both sides of the border. This suspicion cannot be suddenly willed away in a season. Working with India within the regional context may be a good way to start. Cheema (2004) wrote about the Pakistan India Peace Process that while both India and Pakistan have expressed in no uncertain terms their desire to live in peace. He found that not only one fifth of the humanity live in the region but also a vast majority of people live on very appalling conditions. He added that having wasted so many initiatives and opportunities in the past earnest efforts should be accelerated to make this one a success. Kumar (2000) comparative study between the Indian and Pakistani positions on history titled Prejudice and Pride told the fact that in the school textbooks of India and Pakistan, we have two prototypes of the story of freedom colonial rule. And what makes them sharply distinct rather than merely different is the peculiar relationship of the two nations, which use the dual versions of history as a means of socializing the young into a national identity. Pakistani texts view Gandhi as a Hindu leader, while Indian textbooks elevate him to a mythical status. Again, even as the Pakistani books profess Jinnah as a semi-divine visionary, their Indian counterparts refer to him with resentment. So to remove misleading concepts from the minds of both the nations our basic medium of learning should be objective regarding different issues.

A. Hypotheses

- H1:** The coverage given to foreign policy with regard to Indo- Pak relations would be significantly greater in The Nation as compared to the Hindu.
- H2:** The Kashmir issue will be significantly presented by The Nation more positively as compared to The Hindu with regard to Indo-Pak relations.
- H3:** The degree of negative coverage given to the selected issues will be significantly greater to its positive coverage in both Indian and Pakistani print media.

III. Methodology

The aim of this research study is to measure the editorial treatment of Pakistani and Indian print media towards the Pakistan and India relations with regard to their foreign policies. For this purpose, The Nation from Pakistan and the Hindu from Indian English daily were selected to measure the stance of the editorial coverage towards the issue of Pakistan and India relations. Four categories of the issues were constructed including Kashmir conflict, terrorism, water dispute and tension on borders. Editorials from January-2015 to June-2015 were collected to examine the bilateral relations of the India and Pakistan. 96 editorials from The Nation and 79 from the Hindu were selected for the analysis as a sample of the study. The entire news editorial was considered as unit of the analysis on the basis of number of sentences comprising degree of slant with regard to favorable, unfavorable and neutral towards the selected issues with reference to Pakistan and India relations. The study deals with the quantitative approach in major while to some extent qualitative analysis was performed with regard to language and phrases used in the editorials.

IV. Findings

The table 1 represents the coverage given to selected issues with regard to Pakistan and India foreign policy. The data shows that The Nation published 96 editorials out of which 31(33%) were based on Kashmir issue, 24 on tension on borders, 25 on water issues while only 17 editorials were published on terrorism. Similarly, in the Hindu total editorials were 79 out of which 16 on Kashmir, 32 on tension on borders, 7 on water issues and 24 on the issue of terrorism. It can be safely said that The Nation gave more coverage to Paki-India foreign policy with regard to selected issues as compared to the Hindu newspaper.

Table 1: Comparative Topical coverage of the Selected Newspapers on the issues

Newspapers	N	A	B	C	D
The Nation	96	31 (33%)	24 (25%)	25 (25%)	16 (17%)
The Hindu	79	16 (20%)	32 (40%)	7 (9%)	24 (30%)
Total	175	47 (27%)	56 (32%)	32 (18%)	40 (23%)

N = No of Editorials, A = Kashmir Issue, B = Tension on borders, C = Water issue, D = Terrorism

A. Statistical Analysis

It was hypothesized that The Nation would give more coverage to Indo-Pak foreign policy with regard to mutual relations as compared to the Hindu. It was found that the coverage difference was significant as the p-value was less than 0.05.

Difference = p (1) - p (2)

Estimate for difference: 0.0971429

95% CI for difference: (-0.00712614, 0.201412)

Test for difference = 0 (vs ≠ 0): Z = 1.83 P-Value = 0.048

Fisher's exact test: P-Value = 0.047

Table 2: Comparative Topical direction of editorials of “The Nation” and “The Hindu” with reference to Kashmir Issue

Newspapers	No. of Editorials	Favorable	Unfavorable	Neutral
The Nation	31	23 (74%)	5 (16%)	3 (10%)
The Hindu	16	3 (19%)	11 (68%)	2 (13%)
Total	47	26 (55%)	16 (34%)	5 (11%)

The above table indicates the results towards the treatment of Kashmir issue with regard to Pakistan and India foreign policy. The data shows that out of 31 editorials published in daily The Nation 74% coverage on the issue was based on favorable stance with 16% negative while only 10% neutral. Similarly, in the Hindu out of 16 editorials 68% coverage was framed negatively towards Kashmir with 19% positive and 13% neutral stance.

B. Statistical Analysis

The statistical analysis shows that the Hindu gave unfavorable and negative coverage towards Kashmir issue with regard to Pak-India relations as compared to The Nation. The coverage was found significantly negative.

Difference = p (1) - p (2)

Estimate for difference: 0.526210

95% CI for difference: (0.264781, 0.787639)

Test for difference = 0 (vs \neq 0): $Z = 3.95$ P-Value = 0.000

Fisher's exact test: P-Value = 0.001

Table 3: Comparative Topical direction of editorials of “The Nation” and “The Hindu” with reference to Tension on Border

Newspapers	No. of Editorials	Favorable	Unfavorable	Neutral
The Nation	24	0	21 (87%)	3 (12%)
The Hindu	32	25 (78%)	2 (6%)	5 (16%)
Total	56	25 (44%)	23 (41%)	8 (14%)

The above table presents the findings with regard to tension on borders between Pakistan and India. It can be shown that The Nation out of its 24 editorials portrayed it negatively with 12% neutral coverage while in the Hindu 78% favorable coverage was measured. The proportion of negative/unfavorable coverage was only 6% while 16% coverage was based on neutral coverage. It can be safely concluded that the Hindu gave more favorable coverage towards tension on border with regard to Pak-India relations while on the contrary The Nation framed it negatively.

Table 4: Comparative Topical direction of editorials of “The Nation” and “The Hindu” with reference to Water issue

Newspapers	No. of Editorials	Favorable	Unfavorable	Neutral
The Nation	25	4 (16%)	14 (56%)	7 (28%)
The Hindu	7	5 (72%)	1 (14%)	1 (14%)
Total	32	9 (28%)	15 (87%)	3 (9%)

The above table indicates the comparative analysis of the editorial treatment towards water issue. The number of editorials published on this issue was 25 in The Nation and only 7 in the Hindu newspaper. The proportion of negative treatment in Nation was 56% while in the Hindu it was found only 14%. On the opposite, the favorable coverage in Hindu was greater than the positive coverage of The Nation. Therefore, it can be conveniently said that The Nation gave unfavorable coverage towards this issue while the Hindu gave favorable treatment in its published editorials. Secondly, the degree of coverage on water issue was greater in the Nation as compared to the Hindu.

Table 5: Comparative Topical direction of editorials of “The Nation” and “The Hindu” with reference to Terrorism

Newspapers	No. of Editorials	Favorable	Unfavorable	Neutral
The Nation	16	2 (13%)	11 (69%)	3 (18%)
The Hindu	24	1 (4%)	22 (92%)	1 (4%)
Total	40	3 (7%)	33 (83%)	4 (10%)

The table above shows the results about the treatment of the Pakistani and Indian print media towards terrorism with regard to Pakistan and Indian foreign policy issue. The findings revealed that on the issue of terrorism both the newspaper gave negative treatment while the coverage rank towards terrorism in the Hindu was greater than the Nation. It can be seen that 16 editorials were published by the Nation and the Hindu published 24 articles out of its total coverage.

Table 6: Editorial coverage given to Pak – India relations by The Nation

Category	No. of Editorials	Favorable	Unfavorable	Neutral
Kashmir Issue	31	23 (74%)	5 (16%)	3 (10%)
Tension on borders	24	0	21 (88%)	3 (12%)
Water issue	25	4 (16%)	14 (56%)	7 (28%)
Terrorism	16	2 (13%)	11 (69%)	3 (18%)
Total	96	29 (30%)	51 (53%)	16 (17%)

The above table shows the overall coverage to the selected categories of the issues relating to Pakistan and Indian foreign policy. The data shows that out of 96 editorials in the Nation 31 were published on Kashmir, 24 on tension on border, 25 on water issue and 16 on terrorism. The most unfavorable issues in the Nation were tension on borders, terrorism while on the other hand Kashmir issue was framed more positively as compared to its negative/unfavorable coverage in the daily The Nation.

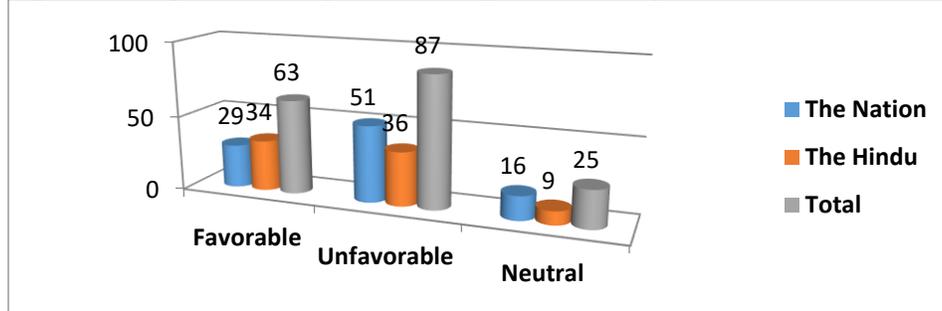
Table 7: Editorial coverage given to Pak – India relations by The Hindu

Category	No. of Editorials	Favorable	Unfavorable	Neutral
Kashmir Issue	16	3 (19%)	11 (68%)	2 (13%)
Tension on borders	32	25 (78%)	2 (6%)	5 (16%)
Water issue	7	5 (72%)	1 (14%)	1 (14%)
Terrorism	24	1 (4%)	22 (92%)	1 (4%)
Total	79	34 (43%)	36 (46%)	9 (11%)

The above table indicates the overall treatment on the selected issues relating to Pakistan and India relations with reference to their foreign policies. It can be seen that the Hindu published 79 editorials on the said issues out of which, the most coverage was given to tension on borders and terrorism with favorable treatment. On the contrary, the less covered issues like Kashmir, water issue were framed unfavorable in the Hindu.

The figure 1 indicates the comparative analysis of the coverage and treatment towards Pakistan India relations with special reference to their foreign policies. It can be easily comprehend that the stance of unfavorable coverage collectively was greater in both newspapers as compared to their favorable treatment towards the selected issues.

Figure 1: Comparative Analysis of Coverage Treatment by The Nation and the Hindu



C. Statistical Analysis

It was hypothesized that the unfavorable coverage would be greater in both newspapers as compared to their favorable coverage towards all the selected issues. The statistical analysis also indicates the significant difference in treatment towards the issues as major proportion of the unfavorable coverage was higher in both newspapers as compared to favorable coverage.

Difference = p (1) - p (2)

Estimate for difference: -0.125889

95% CI for difference: (-0.286695, 0.0349160)

Test for difference = 0 (vs ≠ 0): Z = -1.53 P-Value = 0.035

Fisher’s exact test: P-Value = 0.034

V. Discussion and Conclusion

The foreign relations between Pakistan and India are of complex and hostile in nature since the partition of subcontinent during the British rule in 1947. Due to Kashmir conflict a number of times military wars have been fought between both countries. Therefore, their relations are overwhelmingly unfriendly and distrustful. Due to long borders with the India, both have become traditional enemy. After the partition when both nations become separate dominion powers and independent states more than one million people at the time of partition were displaced. Still in both countries Hindus and Muslims are living as a minority. But in the constitution of Pakistan, that guaranty the freedom of religion as an Islamic Republic by providing the minority equal rights.

The Pakistan and India relations can be studied since the birth of both countries on the map of the world. The diplomatic relations between the Pakistan and India have been greatly filled with disputes and rivalry and other territorial claims due to tensions on borders. Three major wars have been fought with other military disputes with regard to Kashmir issue. The issue of the Kashmir is the central and chief conflict involving millions of army personals on the borders and Line of Control. Since, the East Pakistan disintegration a fewer times both countries negotiated on peace in regions except that the history is filled with tears and sorrows.

VI. Conclusion

This research study examined the Pakistan and India relations with regard to the foreign policies of the both countries. The major objective of this study was to analyze the treatment of print media towards the selected issues relating to Pak-India relations. For this purpose two conservative newspapers from both countries, The Nation from Pakistan, and the Hindu from Indian print media, were selected for measuring the treatment. Six months coverage from January, 2015-June, 2015 was examined. The findings revealed that the negative coverage was higher in both newspaper towards the categorized issues relating to foreign policies of the both countries. Water issue and Kashmir issue was highly raised from the Pakistan side while from Indian side tension on borders and terrorism were the leading issues widely covered with favorable treatment from the perspective of Indian foreign policy. Similarly, from the Pakistanside, Kashmir issue and water issues were framed favorable with regard to Pakistani foreign policy. It can be conveniently concluded that both countries framed each other with regard to their government stance against each other.

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