

Document #1: **Conflict Between India, Pakistan Runs Deep**

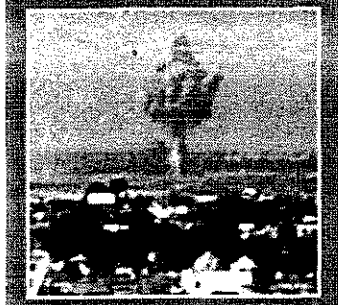
For two nations united by history but divided by destiny, India and Pakistan are almost like two estranged siblings. As India prepared for Independence, riots between Hindus and Muslims convinced the British to *partition* the Indian subcontinent into two states (1947), Pakistan and East Pakistan for the Muslim minorities, and India for the Hindu majority. Their rivalries over five decades have prevented both countries from realizing their full economic and geopolitical potential.

The two countries have fought three wars, two of them over the disputed region of **Kashmir**. The region is small, nestled in the foothills of the Himalayas its strategic importance and beauty makes it a prized possession.

The friction between India and Pakistan is relevant to the rest of the world not only because both are the newest members of the nuclear club; it also affects the stability and economic potential of region that includes more than a billion people, some 950 million in India alone.



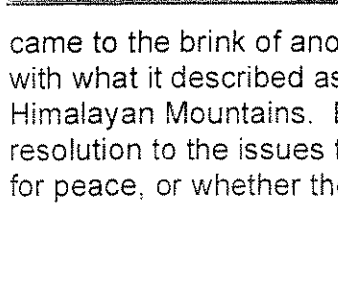
**The conflict runs deep**



**The 1965 war over the Himalayan territory**



**The civil war of 1971 led to an independent Bangladesh**



**The India-Pakistani cease-fire line**

**Partition, Bloody Partition**

But the countries' historic disputes over Kashmir will not be resolved easily. The seeds for division were sown in their partition. Britain, bowing to religious schisms at the time, carved the Muslim state of Pakistan out of Indian territory. The Hindu ruler of the predominantly Muslim area of Kashmir acceded later to India - an action that Pakistan never recognized. The two countries went to war after which India retained two thirds in an uneasy truce.

Pakistan and India fought a second inconclusive war over the Himalayan territory in 1965. The countries have pledged to resolve their dispute peacefully, but have made little tangible progress. Pakistan wants a referendum to allow Kashmiris to decide who is to rule them. India, which initially agreed to the idea, now opposes it.

Kashmir's own separatist movement has claimed thousands of lives in the Indian-ruled areas since 1990. India accuses Pakistan of supporting the separatists militarily, but Islamabad (Capital of Pakistan) says it only provides political support.

**The 1971 war**

Indo-Pakistani relations deteriorated again when civil war erupted in Pakistan, pitting the West Pakistan army against East Pakistanis demanding autonomy and later independence. The fighting forced an estimated 10 million East Pakistani civilians to flee to India. In December India invaded East Pakistan in support of the East Pakistani people. The Pakistani army surrendered at Dhaka and its army of more than 90,000 became Indian prisoners of war. East Pakistan became the independent country of Bangladesh on 6 December 1971.

**Young Governments, Old Wounds**

India and Pakistan exchange artillery fire almost daily across the cease-fire line that divides Kashmir. In July 1999, India and Pakistan came to the brink of another war in disputed Kashmir. India fought an 11-week undeclared battle with what it described as Pakistani army troops who infiltrated the region across snow-bound Himalayan Mountains. But the two governments have also made clear that they want a peaceful resolution to the issues that divide them. Whether India and Pakistan can capitalize on that desire for peace, or whether the long hostilities will destroy any such initiative remains to be seen.

## India Nuclear Tests Condemned by Pakistan, U.S.: Clinton administration considers sanctions

May 11, 1998 CNN.com

**NEW DELHI, India (CNN)** -- The government of India conducted three underground nuclear tests on Monday and claimed it is capable of having a nuclear weapons program. Neighboring Pakistan condemned the action and said it reserves the right to take appropriate measures for its own security.

A "deeply disappointed" United States said it was considering sanctions against India, although it was not immediately clear what action Washington had in mind. Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee announced the three tests by India, which first demonstrated its nuclear capability in 1974. Monday's tests were the first since then.

### Arms race?

India's action "has sucked Pakistan into an arms race," said Pakistani Foreign Minister Gohar Ayub Khan. "The entire world should condemn it." The two Asian neighbors have fought three wars in the last 50 years.

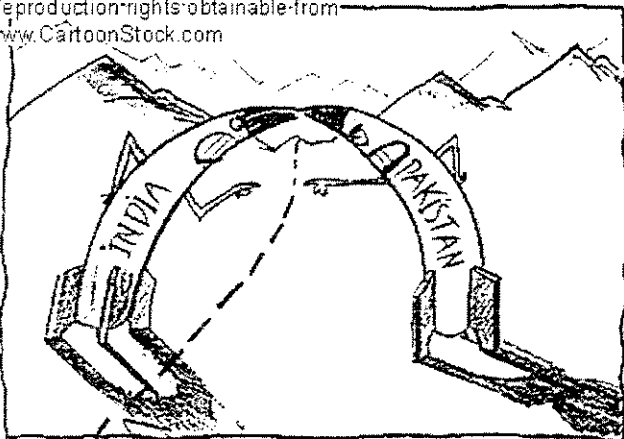
Vajpayee's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) took control of a Hindu nationalist-led government in March, saying that India will take all steps to protect its territory, including building nuclear weapons to counter what it called military adventurism by Pakistan. "These tests have established that India has a proven capability for a weaponized nuclear program," said Brijesh Mishra, a top aide to the prime minister. He said the tests would help scientists design "nuclear weapons of different yields for different applications and for different delivery systems."

Past governments have said India's nuclear program is only for peaceful purposes such as generating electricity. Last week, Pakistan's top nuclear scientist, Abdul Qadeer Khan, said if India exploded a nuclear device Pakistan would respond in kind within weeks. "We don't make nuclear weapons, but the capability is there," he said.

Last month, Pakistan test fired a surface-to-surface missile with a range of 1,500 kilometers (932 miles). India, Pakistan and Israel are the three nations widely suspected of nuclear capability that have not joined the 1970 nuclear non-proliferation treaty, which is now observed by 185 countries. Since India is not a member of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, it is not obliged to submit its nuclear facilities to IAEA inspection.



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## Document #3 India's Losing Population Battle

In the early 1950s in India, women gave birth to an average of six children. The country faced a demographic time bomb and India was the first country to attempt to control population growth. Half a century later, the birth rate has been halved, but the massive population is still the number one problem facing India. With the population still increasing by a figure equal to the entire population of Australia every year, it is accepted India's attempts to stabilize it have already failed.

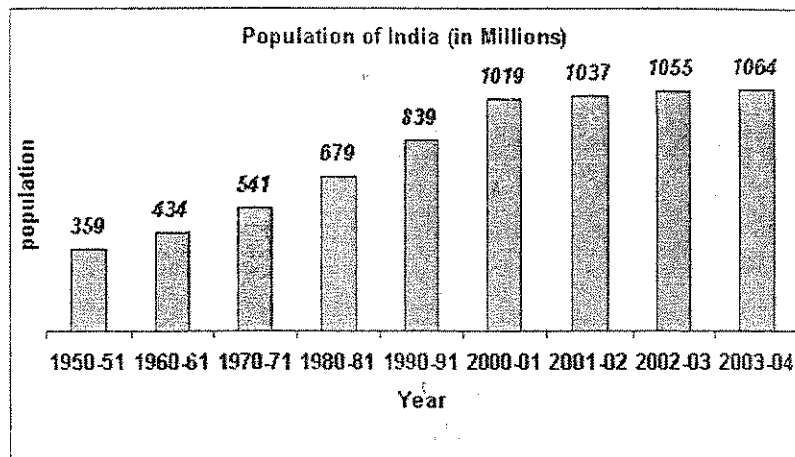
### One billion

Aasthah is nearly two and a half. She lives in the suburbs of Delhi with her parents and grandparents and she is very famous.

When she was born in the year 2000, she became the official one billionth Indian.

Mohammed Omar and his wife, Aasiyah Begum, has not taken the population control message to heart. They have 24 children.

Aasiyah Begum has given birth to 29 children she thinks, but five have died.



### The Population Crisis

Few in India can deny that India is facing an intense crisis of resources. The land and water resources are being exploited to the hilt. The exploitation of mineral resources is threatening India's forests, nature reserves, and general ecology. Seventy percent of the energy resources need to be imported putting constant pressure on us to export more or face currency devaluation. Over use of resources is contributing to natural disasters occurring more frequently and with greater devastation.

For many Indians, life is a big struggle just to put together the bare essentials for survival, and shortages of resources works most against the poor and under-privileged. Even as sections of India's middle-class struggle with scarcities - it is the poor and vulnerable sections of society who suffer most. As famine rages in many parts of India, Dalit (Untouchable) villagers are the last to get access to water.

Improved agricultural technology has meant that there has also been little growth in the demand for agricultural labor. Since most of the population growth in India is taking place amongst those who will have the least skills when entering the job market - India is likely to be inundated with either completely illiterate or poorly schooled youth and children in a stagnant or perhaps even shrinking job market. The social consequences could be simply devastating.

Another difficult issue stemming from India's massive population is found in the politics of the nation. India, the world's largest democracy, is faced with the added burden of representing a number of ethnic, religious, and cultural minorities. This, plus the added consideration that the caste system is still undermining social equality, has lead to the rise of many separatist movements and religious fanaticism.

### ***Green Revolution: Did you know?***

***The Green Revolution spanning the period from 1967-68 to 1977-78 changed India from a starving nation to one of the world's leading agricultural nation.***

#### ***What was the Green Revolution in India?***

There were four basic elements in the method of the Green Revolution:

**1) Continued expansion of farming areas:** the Green Revolution continued with this quantitative expansion of farmlands. However, this is NOT the most striking feature of the Revolution.

**2) Double-cropping existing farmland:** Double-cropping was a primary feature of the Green Revolution. Instead of one crop season per year, the decision was made to have two crop seasons per year.

**3) Using seeds with improved genetics:** This was the scientific aspect of the Green Revolution. The Indian Council for Agricultural Research it developed new strains of high yield value (HYV) seeds, mainly wheat and rice but also millet and corn.

**4) The Artificial Monsoon:** Came in the form of huge irrigation facilities. Dams were built to arrest large volumes of natural monsoon water, which were earlier being wasted. Simple irrigation techniques were also adopted. This artificial monsoon was the key to the success of double-cropping.



#### ***Statistical Results of the Green Revolution***

1) The Green Revolution resulted in a record grain output of 131 million tons in 1978-79. This established India as one of the world's biggest agricultural producers. No other country in the world which attempted the Green Revolution recorded such level of success. India also became an exporter of food grains around that time.

2) Yield per unit of farmland improved by more than 30% between 1947 (when India gained political independence) and 1979 .

3) The crop area under HYV varieties grew from seven per cent to 22 per cent of the total cultivated area during the 10 years of the Green Revolution. More than 70 per cent of the wheat crop area, 35 per cent of the rice crop area and 20 per cent of the millet and corn crop area, used the HYV seeds.

#### ***Economic results of the Green Revolution***

1) Crop areas under high-yield varieties needed more water, more fertilizer, more pesticides, fungicides and certain other chemicals. This spurred the growth of the local manufacturing sector. Such industrial growth created new jobs and contributed to the country's GDP.

2) The increase in irrigation created need for new dams to harness monsoon water. The water stored was used to create hydro-electric power. This in turn boosted industrial growth, created jobs and improved the quality of life of the people in villages.

3) India paid back all loans it had taken from the World Bank and its affiliates for the purpose of the Green Revolution

4) Some developed countries, especially Canada, which were facing a shortage in agricultural labour, were so impressed by the results of India's Green Revolution that they asked the Indian government to supply them with farmers experienced in the methods of the Green Revolution.