

## EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INDIAN LOBBY IN THE UNITED STATES: IMPLICATIONS FOR PAKISTAN

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### Abstract

*In modern times, Lobbying has become an important tool of statecraft. It is carried out mostly by professionals in order to influence political decisions made both within and outside of the country. Lobbyists primarily represent governments, people, and organizations. The efforts frequently result in policy changes, new laws, and, at times, incentives and fines. Lobbying has become legal, whether it is done to target an opponent or to gain favour from other countries. In the United States, it is one of the most extensively utilized strategies by many governments across the globe to seek US favours both economically and militarily, as well as politically, but it is occasionally used to persuade Congress to target a certain country in order to gain political advantage. It is not restricted to nations with national interests but at the same time is utilized by foreign governments as a type of strategy to achieve certain strategic objectives. Although diplomatic lobbying is a very commonly studied phenomenon, its effects on U.S. external relations are rarely considered. In stark contrast to the Westminster democracies established worldwide, the United States has an executive or presidential form of government in which two major institutions are directly involved in the execution of foreign relations, namely the congress and the executive. In the past, Israeli lobbies have been involved in lobbying in the United States to take account of U.S. policies in favor of Israel. In more recent times, India has found lobbying in the US a powerful tool for diplomatic engagement and using it against Pakistan. Indian lobbyists have falsely portrayed Pakistan as a bankrupt, terrorist and troublemaker in the region. Keeping this background in mind, this investigation attempts to examine the role of the Indian lobbyist in creating false and distorted narratives against Pakistan in the US through the lobbyists. The main questions are: What is the role of the Indian lobby in US foreign relations regarding Pakistan? What strategy does the Indian lobby adopt against Pakistan in Washington and ultimately what effect does it have on Pakistan-US relations?*

Key words: **Lobbying, US administration, Baluchistan, Kashmir, terrorism, India Pakistan**

### Introduction

The daily Dawn in its article reported that, "India's lobby in America right now is far more powerful than Pakistan's. India's point of view always overshadows that of Pakistan and American policies for Pakistan are affected by that viewpoint". (Dawn, 2019) The above quote words of Imran Khan illustrate the dangers of the Indian lobby for Pakistan-US relations. Realizing the significance of lobbying in the United States foreign relations, India has been extremely active mainly during the Obama and Trump administration to impact US foreign policy towards Pakistan. Especially since the inauguration of Narendra Modi's government who which has a known policy of isolating Pakistan, has been seriously active to change US policies towards Pakistan. Though at some points' Indian has been caught red handed flourishing misguided information regarding Pakistan, but it has been successful in many ways. (Hussain, 2019) It has spread false information about Pakistan role in war against terrorism mainly to reduce or stop the flow of foreign aid towards Pakistan and making Pakistan scapegoat for US failure in Afghanistan and putting all blame for ills and problems of India in occupied Kashmir.

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India believes that foreign powers have a straightforward way to ensure that their voices are heard in Washington: the speeches of various members of Congress have been scripted by their lobbies. It may sound wild, but it's really normal. Foreign lobbies and representatives working on behalf of foreign interests have testified millions of dollars in outflows. Foreign lobbies and other activists, working on behalf of foreign interests, influence economic and diplomatic policies along with considerable power over public opinion.

### **Research Inquiry and Argument**

The central aim of this examination is to scrutinize the role of the Indian lobbyist in the United States' foreign relations with Pakistan. India-specific lobbying efforts and their effects on Pakistan during the Obama and Trump administration are examined using mainly secondary literature. In addition, the role of the Indian lobby in the foreign relations of the United States concerning Pakistan, the strategies adopted by the Indian lobby against Pakistan in Washington and, finally, their effect on the American-Pakistani relations are measured. In supplementary objectives, we chiefly strive to examine the history of the Indian lobby in America, largely those lobbies which work in the United States. The following questions are being focused to achieve research objectives. What is the role of the Indian lobby in US foreign relations with regard to Pakistan? What strategy does the Indian lobby adopt against Pakistan in Washington and in the end what effect does it have on American policy towards Pakistan?

We shall argue that Indian lobbying has evolved gradually while overcoming Pakistani lobbying in Washington. The foundations were laid mainly after the Cold War, but especially during the Obama administration and since the inauguration of the ultranationalists Narendra Modi, and his policy of isolating Pakistan, lobbying has been widely used in Washington to affect American policy towards Pakistan. The areas of concerns which have been widely targeted are terrorism, Baluchistan, and American policies concerning Kashmir issue.

In the following paragraphs, we have the following modus operandi to achieve the research objectives. Mainly this article has four sections, while paper is organized as follows. The section one aims to briefly highlight the historical context of relations between Pakistan, the United States and India. In Section two, the aim is to discuss briefly previous effort of lobbying in America. In Sections three3, we discuss how India has lobbied the United States against Pakistan and the reaction of the US towards Pakistan. And finally, in section four, we conclude the subject with an examination of the research results and objectives.

### **What we already know about lobbying in the US**

There is not much literature on specifically Indian efforts to change American policy towards Pakistan, not a single study has been done in Pakistan. In general, however, one can find a lot of literature on lobbying. The work of John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt on the influence of the Israeli lobby in the US remains classic and novel work. Ashok Kumar has also written a book on the influence of the Indian lobby in the US, but Kumar's work is general and only treats Pakistan briefly. Overall, there is a shortage of literature on lobbying. The use of lobbying has received little attention in the literature. It has received some consideration in the formal theoretical literature, but far more empirical research is needed to explore how it works, and what strategies are used or needed to promote the alliance. There are some examples which are narrow in scope, mainly dealing with lobbying aimed at the foreign nations. Lobbying can successfully enhance



the viability of a state and its importance cannot be denied. The states have conducted either domestic or transnational lobbying in an effort to secure benefits. The Israeli lobby, Stephen Walt and John Mearsheimer's work *The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy*, explains aptly how lobbies penetrate American political system in order to influence US policies and make them more favorable to Israel. (Mearsheimer, 2008)

It is vital to recognize the part of lobbies in turning public opinion in favor of certain countries, but in Walt's examples the lobbying is led by certain organizations, like American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations), not state leaders, and it is foreign governments who are targeted due to the "shared strategic interests or compelling moral imperatives". It is not by a government on its own people as is the case in this research. Israel and America may be very different nations, they belong to very different regions, but they don't have a history of antagonism.

Mearsheimer and Walt, in their controversial but classic work on the efforts of Israeli pressure groups in the US to direct the policies of the United States towards Israel, argue that the Israel Lobby advocates and defends Israeli nations in the US. It shapes not only the United States' warm association with the Jewish nation, but also overall US foreign relations in the entire Middle East region. They further describe that the Israel lobby makes the greatest efforts using various tactics to manipulate the congressmen, individuals, and entities who are deeply involved in shaping the policymaking procedure in Washington on all the problems facing the US in the Middle East region.

In presenting some of the ways to manipulate the congress, both academics make a certain revelation. For example, lobbies Control Congress; play a behind-the-scenes role in running elections through voting behavior and participating in the campaign. The influence of lobbyists is so deep that those who have a compassionate view of Israel get good jobs in the administration and those who oppose, or suspected Israel critics, do not get excellent careers in foreign policy. The same fate is awarded to think tanks and academics who criticize Israeli policies in the Middle East. According to the authors, some of the critics are unfortunately damaged by the whole life that ends their career too soon.

Concerning the 2003 US invasion of Iraq, Mearsheimer and Walt argue that the origins of the Iraq War will certainly be disputed by historians for generations to come, but it is obvious that the powerful strength behind the Iraq war was a small group of neoconservatives. The Israeli lobbies made them build and sell the invasion of Iraq to the public in the United States. Eventually it worked for them and the public backed the invasion of Iraq, a victory for the Israeli lobby. Both claim that without the efforts of the Jewish lobby, US soldiers may not have been to Iraq and harm the United States interest and economy. They believe that it is simply an influential interest group, made up of Jews whose recognized resolution is to present Israel's interest within the United States and impact United States foreign policy in a way that benefits the Jewish nation. (Mearsheimer, 2008)

Indian writer Ashok Kumar gives Indian efforts in Washington. He believes that Indian lobbying went down in the post-nuclear phase. Since the inaugural of the ultra-nationalists Baharta Junta Party (BJP) and specifically arrival of Hindu nationalist Narendra Modi, and the revival of the Indian lobbying in the post-nuclear deal phase, the Indian lobbying has swiftly become energetic. He argues that the transformation in relations between the United States and India is not only due

to ideological reasons, but to the intense and long-lasting work of pressure groups. Indian lobbyists perform as a catalyst in affecting the Indo-American strategic partnership to their mutual benefits. (Ashok Sharma, 2016)

In Alan Tidwell's work Australia's specific lobbying efforts and their effects on the relationship between the United States and Australia are examined. Tidwell argues that lobbying as a system of compromise with the United States legislature has been studied from a national outlook. However, lobbying is not an exercise limited to actors with internal interests but is also employed as a method of diplomacy by numerous foreign states together with Australia. Australia has instituted that lobbying before the United States Congress is a prevailing means for tactful engagement. (Alan Tidwell, 2018)

Similarly, Kate Ackley, who writes about Japan's lobbies, argues that the Tokyo administration recognizes the technique to cultivating favorable policies in the United States. Ackley argues that in the months leading up to Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's visit to Washington, Tokyo spent more than \$ 1.2 million lobbying by hiring law firms and advertising agencies to create a favorable environment in the US mainly to obtain trade deals and a vital economic agreement with the United States. (Ackley, 2020)

Frank Baumgartner and others based on a far-reaching assessment of ninety-eight issues, exhibits that 60% of ongoing campaigning efforts failed to alter strategy regardless of a great many dollars spent difficult. They believe it happened due to the strong impact of status quo lobbying firm and parties involved in the process. The new entrants find it hard to make room or space and change US policy. (Frank R. Baumgartner, Jeffrey M. Berry, Marie Hojnacki, 2009) Ronald John Hrebenar et al discuss the numerous categories of pressure groups in the American capital. They argue that given the lobbying trend and strong influence on US policies, nations will need a lobbying organization in the future to gain political, economic and security benefits in Washington. They believe that three major pressure groups, namely the New China Lobby, the Indian Lobby, and the Korean Lobbies, are relatively active in Washington to secure their interest. (Hrebenar, Ronald John and Thomas, Clive 2011) From the above discussion we concluded that lobbying was used to achieve strategic goals or limit other nation benefits by influencing the nation's foreign policy, in this Indian context he was involved in presenting Pakistan as a weak and failed nation in the United States, but this extraordinary phenomena did not receive much attention in the previous literature, so this study satisfies this lacuna and shortcoming in the earlier literature.

### **A note on Methodology**

Primarily, this is a qualitative research that attempts to find answers to the raised research questions. While this descriptive and analytical empirical study uses publicly available data in the form of discussions, newspapers articles, online sources, books, media reports/articles, and reports of think tank in order to find the broader understanding regarding the Indian lobbying. This is, of course, a start towards further studies to broaden this ignored area of research in the disciplines of international relations. Therefore, we will present the textual analysis of the said literature as well as a holistic picture and summary of the said reports. We selected this methodology mainly because this will offer us insight of the educated class and those involved directly in these lobbying. One possible weakness of this methodology is the reliability of the results. In order to ensure the findings should be reliable, we will only present the results and

outcomes which were found common among all the secondary data and also results which are confirmed from other secondary sources as well.

## **Pakistan-India and United States**

The US has always been a significant factor in south Asia. During the cold war, Pakistan was considered a strategic asset in Washington due to its strategic location. The US signed multilateral and bilateral agreements with Pakistan, but also transformed it into an ally against Soviet expansionism during the 1980s. (HamzaAlvi, 1988) Neutral India was neither with the US nor against the US during the cold war. India's nonalignment was seen as a "immoral" strategy by the US authorities, who trusted India's ensuing political and key tilt towards Moscow to be India's plot with America's key foe. (Sanjeev Kumar, 2008)

In the post-Cold War era and especially after September 11, 2001 India's relations with the United States have transformed into a strategic partnership mainly to contain emerging China. India and the United States signed several agreements, including an Indo-American nuclear agreement in 2005 under the Obama administration. (Paul, 2005)(Paul, 2007) Therefore, there is a commonality of interest between the two nations, which is lacking in Pakistan-US relations. Pakistan-China enjoys very close and multifaceted relations.

## **Perception of Pakistan and India in the US**

For Americans, Pakistan is an important political-military organization. Democracy is fragile and the army influences the decision-making process. The American also believes that it is the only Muslims nations which possess nuclear arsenal and missiles, where the protection of atomic weapons is threatened. (Jacob N. Shapiro, 2009) America believes Islamabad is a source of transnational terrorism and Islamist radicalism and is responsible for regional instability. (Fair, 2004) furthermore, they argue that Pakistan is strategically important country which must commit itself to fighting terrorism and stop nuclear proliferation. (Fair, 2009) Unfortunately, India has used these ideas and launched huge propaganda machines against Pakistan around the world, including the United State. Pakistan was not the United States' first choice. India is a large market for the consumption of goods, therefore, even if there was no convergence of strategies between Washington and New Delhi, India will still be the preference for the nations globally.

Conversely, for American politicians, India is an example of effective and thriving democracy in developing countries. (Shuja, 2006) It is also perceived in the western nation, including Washington, an economic power and a rapidly growing power in economic and commercial terms. (Srivastava, 2006) It is considered a responsible nuclear weapon with good experience in preventing the spread of weapons. The United States claims that India is moving on a constructive and pleasant path to become an important "strategic partner" for America.(Khan, 2017) In addition, they also claim that India aspires to become an independent nation in the world power structure and is against allied relations with everyone, including the United States. (Feigenbaum, 2010) Indian lobbying in the United States is fairly new political force that has played a critical part in altering Washington foreign policy towards New Delhi. During the Obama administration, Obama visited India but never visited Pakistan. In January 2015, President Barack Hussein Obama participated in the Indian Republic Day Parade as chief guest.

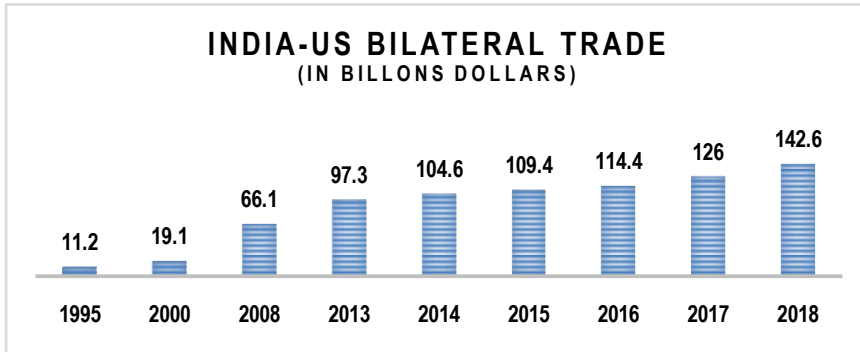


Figure 1: India US bilateral trade between 1995-2018 (Office of the United States Trade Representative, India)

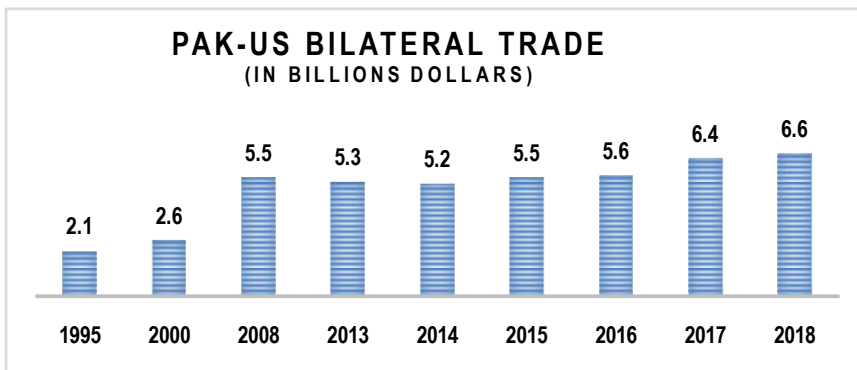


Figure 2: Pakistan US trade between 1995-2018 (Office of the United States Trade Representative, Pakistan).

Historically, India-Pakistan relations have dwindled, and under Modi's government, Indo-Pak relations have also taken a plunge: all negotiation and interactions if any have ended, and Modi government is allegedly busy presenting Pakistan as international pariah. (Surendra Kumar, 2017) While Washington is a growing partnership with Delhi, Moscow has played its part with Beijing and is building relations with Islamabad. India hopes that by partnering with Washington, it will be able to maintain balance with China and Pakistan. (Mohan, 2006) However, Delhi will need to know that under president Trump, the United States can be a smooth companion. India must discover a way to connect with China if it desires to balance the triangle without losing face.

### Lobbying and the United States

Lobbying in the US is a paid activity and legal too. Many countries regularly recruit competent companies and legal experts to ensure strategic and national goals. In most cases, US legislative bodies such as Congress are influenced to seek out those obvious and clandestine goals. (Logan, E., 1929) It is a profoundly questionable phenomenon, regularly found in a negative light by columnists and the US community. While lobbying is dependent upon broad and frequently complex guidelines which, if not followed, can prompt punishments including prison. (Richard

L. Hasen, 2012) Since the 1970s, lobbying movement has developed massively in the United States.

Lobbying happens at administrative, state, region, and civil level. In Washington, lobbyists target congressmen. (Richard Smith, 1995) The quantity of lobbyists in Washington is assessed to be more than twelve thousand. (Fang, 2014) Analyst James assessed that the real number of working lobbyists was near 100,000 and that the business gets \$9 billion every year. (Financial Times, 2017) Wall Street spent a record \$2 billion attempting to impact the 2016 United States presidential elections. Some of the countries that have lobbied in the United States include South Korea, Japan, the United Arab Emirates, Israel, Saudi Arabia, China, Germany, and India.

### **Indian lobbying strategies against Pakistan**

In the recent past, Islamabad's lobbying was far more powerful than weak Indian lobbying. Former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto used lobbyist on her trip to Washington to seek economic and commercial benefits from the United States in 1989. But since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Pakistan's perception has changed dramatically on Capitol Hill. The consistent fragmentation of Pakistan's domestic security circumstance and the alleged US perception that the Taliban and Al Qaeda- the two dreaded American opponents - are supported by the Pakistani security establishment. Furthermore, since 11 September 2001, Islamophobia has increased, and the western media have constantly bombarded the people of the US against the threat of terrorism. It has become part of American psychology. Although the violation of human rights in India can easily irritate members of the American Congress, but these violations have gone virtually unnoticed. It could have pushed the legislator to give solid verbal condemnations to India, but thanks to the Indian.

Notwithstanding Indian Americans comprise of 1% of American populace, they are a persuasive group. Estimated by per-capita pay, Indian Americans are the wealthiest ethnic group in America. A group named 'Friends of the Indian forum' laid the foundations of Indian lobbying activities in western nations in the 1990s primarily to counter Pakistani perception in the UK. In the case of the United States, Kashmiri Pandits living in the United States set up the forum to launch a lobbying campaign against Pakistan with the support of some US lawmakers. Kashmiri Hindu Pandits primarily aimed to gather support for India's position on Kashmir and to defuse Pakistani efforts in the United States. During the Clinton administration, Kashmiri Pandits made efforts to get declare Pakistan a state sponsor of terrorism. (Sharma, 2017)

Although Pandits have failed, this episode has created a threatening trend for Pakistan. In the subsequent development of event, the US labeled Pakistani radical group HarkatUl-Ansar as a "terrorist organization". (Sharma, 2017) During the atomic tests, Indian Americans assembled themselves in a vastly improved manner than Pakistanis, as the Indians were economically well off and more prominent than Pakistanis. (Sharma, 2017) The Indian lobbyist portrayed Indian democracy, while Pakistan as a place of unrest and fragility. In a notable decision on June 9, 2005, the HIRC passed the State Department Authorization Bill in which an arrangement in the bill included by democrats Congressman Brad Sherman from California recognized the threats of the continuous close military organization among China and Pakistan. (Sharma, 2017)

A subsequent arrangement, included by democratic party Congressman Tom Lantos from same California state and Republican lawmaker Lehtinen from Florida, molded military deals to the

condition that Pakistan would fully commit to war against terrorism and will give access to the nuclear program. In subsequent events, Pakistani lobbyist endeavored to assign a special emissary to Kashmir but was thwarted by Bharat lobbying. Two U.S. lawmakers Benjamin Gilman and Sam Gejdenson have written a letter to Obama urging him to reject the Pakistani request that the United States will not appoint a special envoy to Kashmir. As a result, hard work prevails in Delhi and the United States refrained from intervening directly on the Kashmir issue. Likewise, the two-party Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans was shaped in 1993. The group membership extended from its unique participation of eight to 50 inside a year of its establishing. Its registration topped at around 200 individuals a decade later. (Sharma, 2017) In 2004, a bipartisan India Caucus was framed in the US Senate, which was supervised by Hillary Clinton, and John Cornyn. (Sharma, 2017)

During the decades of the 90s, the Indian lobbyist tried to thwart the Pakistani lobbyist who was active. The first test of the Indian lobby came during the 1998 nuclear test, which made India a nuclear power and forced Pakistan to do the same in May 1998. (Sharma, 2017) During the Kargil crisis, the Indian lobbyist became extremely active in representing Pakistan as a troublemaker. Nevertheless, it was during the commencement of US-India Civilian Nuclear Agreement Bill in 2008 under the Obama administration that the genuine clout of Indian lobbying was affirmed. The India entryway underscored the positive parts of the regular citizen nuclear understanding, guaranteeing its protected section at each phase in the US Congress. Council individuals were required to rotate on the negative impression of India that overpowered the timeframe of the Cold War. They emphasized India's democracy and its roots in Indian society, its emerging market economy and its vital significance in development. In 2014, 40 U.S. lawmakers attended Narendra Modi's speech in Manhattan.

### **Did Indian lobby effected US foreign policy towards Pakistan**

After rising to power, President Obama in his first week appointed Richard Holbrook as special envoy for South Asia, including the issue of Kashmir, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. (Ashok Sharma, 2016) India did not approve Obama's administrative move and India put pressure on Washington. Indeed, when New Delhi learned that the Obama administration was allocating envoy Holbrook Kashmir in particular and the controversies in India in Pakistan in general, Indian lobbies started fully exerting pressure in Washington to change the decision and take Kashmir out of the Holbrook's agenda. (Sharma, 2017, p.230)

Modi's incessant visits have revived the Indo-American relationship and Indian lobbying yet vigorously. On his visits to Washington in 2014, premier Modi met 50 delegates called overseas friends of BJP by listening their concerns and issues. This is an important factor in terms of Indian lobbying efforts in United States. After that Indian lobby played significant attention to India-US ties vis-à-vis Pakistan. Welcoming Modi's visit to the U.S., White House representative Sean Spicer recorded "fighting terrorism, promoting economic growth and reforms and expanding security cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region" as common priorities for the two countries. The Indian side was looking for "a new direction for deeper bilateral engagement." (Sharma, 2017)

Aside from the uncomfortable relations between Islamabad and Washington, there are deeper issues that are harming Pakistan's interests in the United States. By leveraging this weakness in U.S. relations in Pakistan, New Delhi with the collaboration of US lawmakers is damaging Pakistan's interest in Capitol Hill, which has become increasingly anti-Pakistan. (Times of



Islamabad, 2020) In this regard, New Delhi is struggling to manoeuvre the predominant geopolitical approach in its favour. As stated above, India, being a close partner of the United States, is easily securing the favour of the United States and damaging Pakistani interests. And in this area, India appears to be very successful not only in gaining the support of US lawmakers, but also the Obama and Trump administration to some extent. (Times of Islamabad, 2020)

### **Baluchistan, Indian Lobby and the US senators**

In the initial year of BJP Government under Narendra Modi in 2014, Indian govt had reported its choice to give refugee to the secessionist Baloch rebels. (Hashim, 2016) The real motive behind such a Modi action was to generate misunderstandings in the thoughts of American leaders that the people of Baluchistan wanted to separate from Pakistan. India, through US Congressmen, made propaganda and spoke about the independence of Baluchistan. The result was that many congressmen, dominated by Dana Rohrabacher, testified on Capitol Hill about the independence of Balochistan. Similarly, in 2017, under the Trump administration, lawmaker Brad Sherman wrote to Alice G. Wells, acting undersecretary for South and Central Asian affairs and to David Hale, US Ambassador to Pakistan, that Pakistan was apparently committing serious human rights violations in Sindh province. (Sherman, 2017)

Moreover, Senator Sherman was joined by Representatives Barbara Comstock, Trent Franks, Carolyn Maloney, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Dana Rohrabacher, and Adam Schiff to ratchet up propaganda against Pakistan inspired by Indian lobbyist. The US Congressmen are talking about the secession of Baluchistan and violation of human rights in Sindh and India's involvement in misleading the US government is a dangerous development that must be countered. In this context, Pakistan should focus on friendly diplomacy and intense lobbying with US Congressmen, which is legal in the United States. Nevertheless, it was positive to take note of that both the Obama and Trump organization had not obliged Prime Minister Narendra Modi's propaganda on Baluchistan. State department representative, John Kirby, had said the US upholds Pakistan integrity and don't support Baluchistan freedom.

### **Indian lobbyist attempt to designate Pakistan a terrorist state**

Another plan that Indian American lobbyist has been hatching is to get declared Pakistan as terrorist state principally under the Obama organization though with less success. Pakistani counter lobbying has so far effectively campaigned for Pakistan not to be proclaimed a militant state by the US. (Times of Islamabad, 2020) Two anti-Pakistan US Congressmen to be specific Dana Rohrabacher and Brad Sherman are working intimately with India. Brad Sherman affirmed about HR infringement in Sindh, while Dana Rohrabacher asserted that like previous East Pakistan, where Pakistan Army had perpetrated abominations and resultantly it had developed as Bangladesh, the equivalent is being rehashed in Karachi with Muhajir's people.

Senator Rohrabacher additionally requested the help of the US to the Balochis and Sindhis who are claimed to be abused essentially by the Pakistan Armed Forces and ISI. He likewise censured that the control of the Government is with the Punjabis and Pashtuns. Dana Rohrabacher had in 21202 infamously introduced act for independence of Baluchistan. The resolution said "the people of Baluchistan that are "currently divided between Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan, have the right to self-determination and to their own sovereign country and they should be afforded the opportunity to choose their own status among the community of nations". (Humalmtiaz,

2012) All these efforts and remarks were encouraging and music to India's ears. These above-mentioned words of the congressmen appear to be Indian fed as these propaganda themes were extensively aired by India in 1971 before attacking East Pakistan. It has been widely argued that the buzz in Washington about extending missile strikes into Baluchistan during Obama tenure was a piece of a plot incubated with India. (M. Reza Pirbhai, 2009)

## **Pakistan, Taliban and Indian lobbyist**

Pakistani observers are not alone in acknowledging that relations with the United States and India play a key role in shaping Pakistani policy towards the Taliban and like-minded groups operating in Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. In a recent table discussion hosted by the Council on Foreign Affairs most participants agreed with Sean Gregory, director of the Pakistan Security Research Unit at the University of Bradford, "Anyone seeking greater stability in the region, or seeking to wean Pakistan off support for extremists and terrorists, has to address Pakistan's legitimate security needs". (M. Reza Pirbhai, 2009)

Opposition voices are also coming, at least in the Indian Government and its lobby in Washington. Even at the above round table, at least one voice of dissent was heard. A close watcher of Indian security studies SumitGanguly stated new Delhi happenings in Afghanistan are "a pincer movement designed to relieve pressure in Kashmir", (M. Reza Pirbhai, 2009) but nonetheless maintained that India does not "constitute a viable threat" (M. Reza Pirbhai, 2009) to Pakistan. Ganguly also claimed that Hindustan was not involved in Baluchistan and there is hardly any evidence to suggest such a trend. Commenting on Pakistan perception of Indian threat, Ganguly dismissed it as "paranoia", "obfuscatory [Pakistani] propaganda" and "India-bashing". (M. Reza Pirbhai, 2009) He ultimately urged the American lawmakers to urge the Pakistani military to emphasis on "legitimate threats", noting that the United States should allow Pakistan to end its ties with jihadist organizations. Further maintaining that it was in the interests of the United States, India and Afghanistan, and ultimately in the interests of Pakistan itself, "the menace that was spawned on and unleashed from Pakistani soil threatens us all, and we need to be forthright about it". (M. Reza Pirbhai, 2009)

## **Conclusion**

In this essay, we have tried to discuss the dynamics of Indian lobbying in the United States and the resulting American policies towards Pakistan. In this essay, we found that at the beginning, the Pakistani lobbying was active, however, after in the post-Cold War era, Indian lobbyists became active and downgraded Pakistani lobbyists. But under the Obama and Trump administration, first Manmohan Singh and later Narendra Modi, Indian lobbying peaked against Pakistan. Indian lobbyists have attempted to declare Pakistan a state sponsor but have failed. They have also tried to ensure that the United States does not sign a similar civil nuclear agreement with Pakistan, which it has already signed with India.

In addition to the main findings, we have learned that Richard Halbrook's mandate has been terminated by the efforts of Indian lobbyists. The United States has been led to believe that Pakistan is a troublemaker. Insofar as Baluchistan is concerned, many American lawmakers have been hired and mandated to conduct virulent and anti-Pakistani lobbying on Capitol Hill, which they have successfully done on behalf of India. We found that the Indian tried to qualify Pakistan

as a sponsor of terrorism through his lobbyists but failed miserably. Overall, the Indians have managed to get the Americans to have a negative opinion of Pakistan thanks to its lobbyist, partly in its own relations with the United States.

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