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| sismun2019 | india-pakistan nuclear crisis  |

**Brief Description of the Committee:**

This is a crisis committee organized in order to respond to the nuclear explosion in Mumbai. The goal of this committee is to strategically handle this massive explosion and prevent an all-out nuclear war. This committee will also operate under crisis updates, which will be provided accordingly.

This is a crisis committee! There are crisis mechanics built into the flow of debate. The

chairs and secretariat recommend that you check out the SISMUN crisis guide. It will be

emailed to your sponsors and will also be on the SISMUN website.

**History of the Problem:**

Ever since India and Pakistan split in 1947, the two countries have been in constant wars and conflicts against each other. It’s important to note India is a predominantly Hindu country compared to Pakistan who is mainly Muslim. Kashmir has been the main focal point of most of the issues between the countries' problems. The only war that wasn't directly a result of the Kashmir conflicts was the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971. This conflict rose due to turmoil in East Pakistan -now Bangladesh. One of the first wars was in 1947 was about whether Kashmir or Jammu should be part of India or Pakistan. After a year of fighting, the UN intervened and India took control of two-thirds of the state (Kashmir valley, Jammu and Ladakh), whereas Pakistan only gained about a third of Kashmir (Azad Kashmir, and Gilgit–Baltistan). This border would only be temporary because Pakistan still laid claims on parts of Kashmir that were predominantly Muslim. However, this would not be the end and both countries would continue to fight each other. In recent years, these have escalated to the point where Prime Minister Modi has arrested the Kashmir leader, Farooq Abdullah, along with 20,000 other Kashmiris because of India’s Public Safety Act (PSA of 1978). The Kashmiri leader’s fate has yet to be determined, while tensions between India and Pakistan are still on the rise. Currently, both India and Pakistan have acquired nuclear weapons and as their feud strength, the thought of nuclear war is on every countries mind.

**Statement of the Problem:**

There has been an anonymous threat to India’s government of a potential nuclear strike on Mumbai, India’s wealthiest city, populated with about 22 million people. They have sent a video message to Narendra Modi, current prime minister of India, detailing the plan of attack. Due to the nature of the threat, India has decided not to disclose this information to the general public, afraid to send them into a panic, especially because the severity of the threat is unknown. Depending on the location of the attack as well as the power of the weapon(s), the initial fatalities can be anywhere between 500,000 to 10,000,000, with possibly millions more due to radiation poisoning. In the video, the weaponry showed could possibly be nuclear material from past experiments in the former Soviet Union. The fact that the weapons come from Russia seems highly unlikely, but it is best to treat the threat with the mindset that it is a certainty.

The Indian government is frantic as they have not yet decided what to do with their public and whether or not to evacuate any areas. Right now, some members of Modi’s administration believe an extremist group in Pakistan is to blame for the act of aggression. However, other government officials believe the Pakistani government fueled the terrorists with weapons as well. Of course, it is also possible that the threat is not real at all, and is instead a hoax designed to provoke fear in India. Leading scientists and computer analysts are trying to find the location where this video was taken, but have so far had no luck. As tensions rise between these two nuclear powers, the rest of the world looks on ready to defend their allies and accords, but also hoping to stop a nuclear disaster before it starts.

**Past UN Actions**

The UN has done their best to try to de-escalate the constant rivalry. On 4 September 1965, the Security Council, by resolution 209 (1965), called for a ceasefire and asked the two Governments to cooperate fully with UNMOGIP in its task of supervising the observance of the ceasefire. This would only be a temporary fix and fighting still has continued despite the UN efforts to please both sides of the spectrum. The UN has also tried establishing the United Nations India-Pakistan Observation Mission (UNIPOM) in order to moderate the previous ceasefire, but after a few years that was project was disbanded. India and Pakistan have since then continued their disputes regardless of past UN settlements.

**Questions to Consider:**

* What political allegiances and economic ties does your country have with India and Pakistan?
* What diplomatic measures could be taken now to ease tensions between these two states?
* If a nuclear blast were to take place, what steps could be taken to prevent further warfare?
* If war were to break out, what role do you believe your country would take in the conflict?

**Possible Solutions:**

* Push one, or both, countries, to rapidly pursue denuclearization
* Share intelligence across countries to find the group or individual responsible for the threatening video
* Beginning an evacuation of Mumbai

**Possible Blocks:**

PRO INDIA BLOCKS, NATO BLOCKS, PRO PAKISTAN BLOCKS, FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS, ANTI-NUCLEAR WEAPONS, HUMANITARIAN BLOCKS, or REGIONAL BLOCKS

**Countries:**

1. United States
2. United Kingdom
3. China
4. France
5. Russia
6. India
7. Pakistan
8. Bangladesh
9. Afghanistan
10. Sri Lanka
11. Turkey
12. Nepal
13. Iran
14. Myanmar
15. Germany
16. Canada
17. Sweden
18. Saudi Arabia
19. North Korea
20. Japan
21. Kuwait
22. Singapore
23. Egypt
24. Australia
25. South Korea

**Useful Links:**

PAST UN RESOLUTIONS:<https://peacekeeping.un.org/mission/past/unipombackgr.html#six>

Brief Timeline of problem: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/1399992/A-brief-history-of-the-Kashmir-conflict.html>

Explosion Map Simulation: <https://nuclearsecrecy.com/nukemap/>

India Revenge Attacks for Kashmir: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/25/world/asia/india-pakistan-kashmir-jets.html>

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“A Brief History of the Kashmir Conflict.” *The Telegraph*, Telegraph Media Group, 24 Sept. 2001, [www.telegraph.co.uk/news/1399992/A-brief-history-of-the-Kashmir-conflict.html](http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/1399992/A-brief-history-of-the-Kashmir-conflict.html).

Press Trust of India. “UN Opposes Pakistan's Mediation Demand, Says India, Pak Must Resolve Kashmir through Talks.” *India Today*, 11 Sept. 2019, [www.indiatoday.in/india/story/india-pakistan-united-nations-resolve-kashmir-issue-chief-antonio-guterres-1597978-2019-09-11](http://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/india-pakistan-united-nations-resolve-kashmir-issue-chief-antonio-guterres-1597978-2019-09-11).

**For any question about the background guide please don’t hesitate to email** **echolsiyen@gmail.com** **on any thoughts or concerns. We will try to get back to you no later than 24 hours.**