

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

Historically the term Kashmir is described as a valley in the South of the westernmost range of the Himalayas. Politically, the term Kashmir is described as a larger region which includes territories of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh "Valley of Kashmir" is relatively low key and very fertile. It is surrounded by wonderful mountains and irrigated by many rivers from the valleys. Kashmir is administrated by India and 77, 11% of the population are Muslims (Suwarno, 2012). On the other hand Pakistan wanted to occupy it since the very beginning. Consequently, this area became the first front of confrontation between the two countries. Therefore, three wars happened in 1947-1948, 1965, and 1999 which is also called as Kargil War.

On their way to the independence, Militant Groups occur in Kashmir and Intelligence agencies said there are 3,000-3,200 militants operating in the state. The Hizbul Mujahidin is the biggest group, with 2,100 members (about 60-65% of the total militants). However, the activity of these Kashmir militant groups failed to elicit public support, especially after a 2001 car bomb attack in the Kashmir state legislative assembly which killed more than 35 civilians. Like other militant groups, it treated local people harshly and became unpopular for trying to change their social customs. By 2012, there were only four main militant groups leading the insurgency of Kashmir.

Hizbul Mujahidin is considered to be the first militant group that comprised an essentially Kashmiri rank and file membership. The Hizbul Mujahidin came into being in the Kashmir Valley in September 1989 with Master Ahsan Dar as its chief. It is considered to be pro-Pakistani and was throughout the 1990s the largest of Kashmiri militant groups. Dar was later arrested by security forces in mid-December 1993. Today it is one of a few that still maintain a token presence in Indian Kashmir. It was reportedly formed as the militant wing of the Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI), an Islamic organization. The Jamaat-e-Islami is reported to have set up the Hizb at the behest of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), Pakistan's external intelligence agency, to counter the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), which had advocated complete independence of the State. The Hizbul Mujahidin stands for the integration of J&K with Pakistan. Since its inception, the HM has also campaigned for the Islamization of Kashmir.

Lashkar e-Taiba (LeT) the Pakistan-based militant group was formed by Hafiz Mohammad Saeed in the early 1990s to put the Kashmir insurgency more firmly into the hands of the Pakistan. In the late 1990s, LeT emerged as the most dangerous militant group in Kashmir, taking the fight to Indian cities outside of Kashmir including an assault on the Indian parliament in Delhi in 2001, Pakistan banned it in 2002, after which it renamed itself Jamaat-ud Dawa. Mr Saeed publicly distanced himself from LeT activities, though many believe that he still commands influence over its rank and file. Lashkar e-Taiba is also linked with the Mumbai attacks in 2008 which claimed 165 lives and those of the nine gunmen.

Harkatul Mujahidin is another pan-Islamic group that once fought the Russians under the command of Jalauddin Haqqani, now the leader of the Haqqani Network based in Pakistan which today is fighting against US-led Nato forces in Afghanistan. It joined with the Kashmir insurgency in the early 1990s. Harkatul Mujahidin is accused of conducting what Western powers described as the first act of terrorism in Kashmir in 1995, when the group - then known as Harkatul Ansar - kidnapped five western tourists. Leader Maulana Fazlur Rahman Khalil now has limited influence in Kashmir and Harkatul Mujahidin is unpopular within Kashmir due to harsh tactics.

Another militant group was formed in the early of 1977. It is known as Jammu-Kashmir Liberalization Front (JKLF) with Amanullah Khan as its chief. He and another leader, Yasin Malik, organized resistance to Indian rule by helping from the Pakistani military regime of General Zia-ul Haq. According to Mr. Khan, this regime is believed that since Islamabad had failed to wrest control of Kashmir from India, it might as well back a movement for its independence. However, when the insurgency was successfully launched, Pakistan decided to withdraw support from JKLF and instead back groups that wanted Kashmir's accession to Pakistan. The JKLF as a result found itself sandwiched between Indian security forces and pro-Pakistan militants. By 1990, many of its cadres had been dispersed, destroyed or absorbed into other groups. Its leadership was also split into factions. Some of them renounced militancy. These groups are now coming together in a non-violent political movement for the reunification of Pakistan and Indian Kashmir.

B. Research Question

Why does Jammu and Kashmir Liberalization Front (JKLF) want Kashmir Independence?

C. Theoretical Framework

In analyzing a problem, we need the research foundation of theory as a reference. The foundations of the theory here equal to the logical thinking framework to capture and explain the problems that have been identified. In the Kashmir case, the conflict has been happened since the British colonialism left the region with no obvious declaration whether Kashmir is a part of India or Pakistan. To analyze this case, the writer applies Separatism Theory.

1. Separatism

According to Dewi Fortuna Anwar on her book *Konflik Kekerasan Internal: Tinjauan Sejarah, Ekonomi-Politik dan Kebijakan di Asia Pasifik* that Separatism closely related to the establishment of the state. A number of separatist movement has a long history of the sense of hatred to the central government and the ethnic groups or religion which is dominant (Dewi A. F., 2004).

According to Prof Gertrud Neuwirth, separatism means as the governmental policies which are intended to separate the various subordinate groups from the dominant groups or from each other. It is known as the policies of segregation. (Neuwirth, 1972). According to Allan Buchanan, separatism is caused by three factors. Namely Recticatory Justice, Discriminatory distribution, and Cultural Self Preservation (Buchanan, 1992). The first factor explains that the Recticatory justice according to Allan Buchanan is the review towards the event or kind of

treaty that sign by the conflicting party. In the case of Kashmir the Recticatory Justice describes by the Treaty of Accession in 1947 where the Kashmir militant are questioning the Indian government about the Kashmir administrative to India. According to the Treaty of Accession in 26th October 1947, when the Kashmir was led by Maharaja, this treaty mentioned that Kashmir can conduct its referendum on 27th October 1947. However, Maharaja missed and forgot the essence of this treaty and Kashmir did not conduct any kind of referendum.

The second factor describes about the discrimination of policy and contribution, discrimination means the practice of unfairly treating a person or a group of people differently from other people of groups of people (Merriam). Discrimination on Kashmir case are describes by The difficulty of the Kashmiri to enter the military and government agencies as well as growing the number of educated Kashmir society as one example which limited contribution in the Kashmir society. When Rajendra Prasad elected as the first president of India the first action that take by the new president is to fire all of Muslim employee in the government sector and changed by the Hindus people. The discriminative policy done by the central government often benefits and harms one party over the other parties. A discriminating religious policy, e.g. The constitution of India 1950 which provides the freedom of worship often does not run in accordance with the operational guidelines or the fact. For example, the government of India restricts the activities of Dawah, Islamic education and the Cadre because it was frightened to stimulate conflicts with Hindus people. The emergence of the sentiment of Hindus in the end of 1980 who demanded national unity on the basis of culture

and religion expecting to serve Hindu as principal reference in organizing the state.

The last factor explained is the willingness to protect Culture, Religion, Tradition, and Language from the majority domination. Kashmiri believe that they had a different ethnic identity with other ethnic groups. The identity of their famous is Kashmiriyat or Kashmiriness, the identity which gives the exclusivity in religion, language, and territory. While Muslim Kashmir use Kashmiri language, Muslim in India use Urdu and Hindu use Hind. Meanwhile, the use of English is in bureaucracy or office and English as the school compulsory language regarding as a threat to Kashmir language.

Kashmir is categorized as the Separatism cases as what Yasin Malik have done in 2008. After he launched Safar-e-Azadi (March for Freedom) where he was in journey across Jammu and Kashmir collecting 1.5 million signatures supporting the Independence of Kashmir. He later presented these signatures to the President of India (Irtif, 2008). While in 2010, about two-thirds of the population of India-controlled Kashmir demanding independence for their region. Meanwhile, one among ten people wanted to join Pakistan. Moreover, the election which was held, the Sunday Hindustan Times newspaper, shows that 66 percent of respondents in the Kashmir Valley wanted full independence and included Jammu and Kashmir as new State (Beny, 2010).

D. Hypothesis

From the research question and theoretical framework which are adopted, the writer hypothesizes that JKLF (Jammu-Kashmir Liberalizations Front) wants the Independence of Kashmir because:

1. The dissatisfaction towards the Indian government because the referendum after treaty of accession is not done in 1947 and the withdrawn support towards JKLF from Pakistan government.
2. The dissatisfaction towards the Indian government because of limits contribution of Kashmir people to join in the governmental and military agencies. The discrimination policy by the Indian government towards the Kashmir people on Islamic cadre, education and dawah.
3. The protection towards culture, religion, language, and tradition.

E. Purpose of Writing

When this research is accomplished, the writer expects to have both academic and practical contribution.

1. Academically, to help lecture or researcher to find out the alternative resources on Kashmir cases.
2. Practically, to increase student knowledge about Kashmir cases as a model or resource.
3. To qualify for graduation degree in International Relations Department Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

F. Methods of Writing

In writing this research, the writer uses qualitative descriptive method. Qualitative research is research in which the result does not use statistical analysis procedures or other means of Quantification. The data processed is secondary data which source from valid printed literature, and information obtained via the internet. The data collected are in form of words, pictures, and non-numerical data. Those data obtained would be analyzed using the basic framework of theory or concepts.

G. Research Area

In this research, the writer limits the discussion about JKLF for the Independence of Kashmir since the beginning of the Kashmir conflict and the insurgency of the Kashmiri groups from 1947-1990.

H. Organization of Writing

CHAPTER ONE: This chapter describes the introduction of the topic. It contains the Background of the Issues, Research Question, Theoretical Framework, Hypothesis, Methods of Writing, Research Area, and Organization of Writing.

CHAPTER TWO: History of Kashmir and Kashmir militants groups

CHAPTER THREE: Jammu-Kashmir Liberalization Front (JKLF) it's emerging and effort towards Kashmir independent.

CHAPTER FOUR: Analyzes the reason why JKLF wants the Independence
of Kashmir

CHAPTER FIVE: Conclusion