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INDIA-PAKISTAN: SIMLA AGREEMENT ON BILATERAL RELATIONS AND
STATEMENT ON ITS IMPLEMENTATION*

[Done at Simla, India, July 3, 1972;
entered into force, August 4, 1972]

July 3, 1972

AGREEMENT ON BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT
OF INDIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN SIGNED IN SIMLA
BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA, MRS.INDIRA GANDHI AND
THE PRESIDENT OF PAKISTAN, MR.Z.A.BHUTTO ON JULY 3.

I. The Government of India and the Government of Pakistan are resolved that the two countries put an end to the conflict and confrontation that have hitherto marred the relations and work for the promotion of a friendly and harmonious relationship and the establishment of a durable peace in the sub-continent, so that both countries may henceforth devote their resources and energies to the pressing task of advancing the welfare of their peoples.

In order to achieve this objective, the Government of India and the Government of Pakistan have agreed as follows:

- (1) That the principles and the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations shall govern the relations between the two countries.

*[Reproduced from the text provided by the Embassy of India at Washington, D.C.]

[The Joint Statement on the implementation of the Simla Agreement appears at I.L.M. page 958. The Judgment of the International Court of Justice with regard to India's appeal relating to the jurisdiction of the International Civil Aviation Organization to pass judgment on India's right to suspend over-flight appears at I.L.M. page 1080.]

- (2) That the two countries are resolved to settle their differences by peaceful means through bilateral negotiations or by any other peaceful means mutually agreed upon between them. Pending the final settlement of any of the problems between the two countries, neither side shall unilaterally alter the situation and both shall prevent the organisation, assistance or encouragement of any acts detrimental to the maintenance of peaceful and harmonious relations.
- (3) That the pre-requisite for reconciliation, good neighbourliness and durable peace between them is a commitment by both countries to the peaceful coexistence, respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.
- (4) That the basic issues and causes of conflict which have bedevilled the relations between the two countries for the last 25 years shall be resolved by peaceful means.
- (5) That they shall always respect each other's national unity, territorial integrity, political independence and sovereign equality.
- (6) That in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, they will refrain from the threat or the use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of each other.

II. Both Governments will take all steps within their power to prevent hostile propaganda directed against each other. Both countries will encourage the dissemination of such information as would promote the development of friendly relations between them.

III. In order progressively to restore and normalise relations between the two countries step by step, it is agreed that:

- (1) Steps shall be taken to resume communications - postal, telegraphic, sea, land including border posts and air links including over - flights.
- (2) Appropriate steps shall be taken to promote travel facilities for the nationals of the other country.
- (3) Trade and cooperation in economic and agreed fields will be resumed as far as possible.
- (4) Exchange in the fields of science and culture will be promoted. In this connection, delegations from the two countries will meet from time to time to work out the necessary details.

IV. In order to initiate the process of establishment of a durable peace, both Governments agree that:

- (1) The Indian and Pakistani forces shall be withdrawn to their side of the international border.
- (2) In Jammu and Kashmir the line of control resulting from the cease-fire of December 17, 1971 shall be respected by both sides without prejudice to the recognised position of the either side. Neither

side shall seek to alter it unilaterally irrespective of the mutual difference and legal interpretations. Both sides further undertake to refrain from the threat or the use of force in violation of this line.

- (3) Withdrawals shall commence upon the entry into force of this Agreement and shall be completed within a period of 30 days thereafter.

V. This Agreement will be subject to ratification by both countries in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures and will come into force with effect from the date on which the Instruments of Ratification are exchanged.

VI. Both Governments agree that their respective Heads will meet again at a mutually convenient time in the future and that, in the meanwhile, the representatives of the two sides will meet to discuss further the modalities and arrangements for the establishment of a durable peace and the normalisation of relations, including the questions of repatriation of the prisoners-of-war and the civilian internees, a final settlement of Jammu and Kashmir and the resumption of diplomatic relations.