

## THE UNITED NATION

The United Nations Organization is a world body which was formed on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 1945 A.D soon after the Second World War was over. It was the result of the desire of the right-thinking people to save the world from the catastrophe of another World War. It tries to avoid the mutual rivalries of the so-called world powers in order to save this world from the destructive wars of the modern scientific age.

It helps different countries of the world in their economic development; it renders help in their educational and cultural programmes; it improves international understanding and settles disputes. In short, we can say that the U.N.O performs various useful duties which range from prevention of wars to prevention of diseases. It does all the jobs through its various organs and special agencies.

## MAIN AIMS OF THE U.N.O ARE GIVEN BELOW

- (i) **To maintain Internal Peace and Security:** The chief aim of the U.N.O is to maintain peace all over the world. Whenever a war breaks out between two or more countries it tries to stop it by means of collective security. The U.N.O tries to mediate between the warring states. Sometimes peace keeping force is sent to observe ceasefire in the distributed areas so that peace is not disturbed.
- (ii) **To develop Friendly Relations among Nations:** The U.N.O also tries to develop friendly relations among different countries so that peace is not disturbed. It sometimes acts as a mediator and tries to remove any misgivings between the hostile nations.
- (iii) **To help the Different Countries in the Development Work :** Through its specialized Agencies like W.H.O, U.N.E.S.C.O., U.N.I.C.E.F., etc. the United Nations tries to reduce human suffering by endeavoring to solve different economic , social and humanitarian problems throughout the world.
- (iv) **To bring Different Nations on one Platform:** The U.N.O tries to bring all the nations on one platform to achieve the above mentioned ends and to bring co-ordination among their efforts.

## THE CHIEF ORGAN OF THE U.N.O AND THEIR WORK

- (i) **The General Assembly:** It is formed by the delegates of all the members of the world, 193 countries of the world are its members. The General Assembly is sort of a World Parliament. It appoints the General Secretary of the U.N.O, admits new members, passes the budget of the U.N.O and elects 10 temporary members of the U.N.O etc. All matters are decided and resolutions passed by a simple majority vote, though a two-thirds majority is required in some important cases.
- (ii) **The Security Council:** There are fifteen members of the Security Council. Five of them are permanent and ten other are temporary members who are elected after every two years. The five permanent members are – U.S.A., U.K., Russia, France and China. These permanent members

enjoy the Veto-power, in other words, any one country out of the five can stop the council from taking any action. The Security Council is primarily entrusted with the duty of maintaining the world peace.




**Major Functions of the Security Council:** The five permanent members have the right to veto, which means that they can say no to any resolution of the U.N.O. It is the responsibility of the Security Council to maintain international peace and security. It is the function of the Council to investigate different disputes and situations likely to endanger the world peace and to take necessary measure in order to meet different situations. The parties in dispute are called upon to settle their differences peacefully; if this fails the Council can recommend the use of strict measures to resolve the tangle and can take even military action against the state which refuses to abide by its decision. It also formulates plans for the regulation of armaments. It takes part in the election of judges of international Court of Justice and also in selecting countries for admission to U.N.O. It also recommends the name of a person for the post of the Secretary General of the General Assembly.

**(iii)The Trusteeship Council:** It looks after the former colonies which have been given over to the U.N. for supervision. The trusteeship Council was formed with a special aim to help countries that were under foreign rule, to gain independence. Eleven Original Trust Territories were brought under this system at the end of the Second World War.

**(iv)The Economic and Social Council:** Its main function is to promote economic and social co-operation among the various member – states of the U.N.O. It works for the economic and social welfare of the people throughout the world and is especially concerned with women and children's rights. It tries to improve living conditions and promote human rights of people belonging to all races and religions. The specialized agencies of the UN like WHO and UNICEF, work under its supervision. The Council itself is supervised by the General Assembly. ECOSOC has fifty-four members. The General Assembly elects eighteen members every year for a term of three years.

**(v) The International Court Of Justice:** This court consisting of 15 judges from prominent legal experts of the world decides and arbitrates in cases of disputes between different countries of the world. This is the main judicial organ of the UN and is situated at The Hague in Holland. Its state is an integral part of the United Nation's Charter. The court is open to all members of the UN. But at the same time, a State can become a party to the court's statute on conditions determined in each case by the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Security Council.

**(vi)The Secretariat :** To look after the different aspects of the U.N.O., it has a Secretariat, headed by a General Secretary. The Present General Secretary of the U.N.O. Ban –Ki Moon. The duties carried out by the Secretariat are as varied as the problems dealt with by the United Nations like :

-  Administering peace-keeping operations.
-  Mediating international disputes.
-  Surveying economic, social trends and problems,

- ✚ Prepare studies on subjects such as human rights and sustainable development.
- ✚ Organize international conferences on issues of world wide concern.
- ✚ Monitor the extent to which the decisions of United Nations bodies are being carried out.
- ✚ Interpret speeches and translate documents in to the organization's official language.
- ✚ Conduct information programmes to inform the world communications media with the work of the United Nations.

### SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OF THE U.N.O

The U.N.O. has several specialized agencies which do the following major functions.

(i) **U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. (U.N.E.S.C.O.)** : Its main purpose is to promote peace and security through education, science and culture. It opens schools and arranges for training of teachers to spread education. It promotes the work of international scientific institutions and arranges meetings of international scientists. In the cultural side, it tries to improve the quality of the press, the film and radio services through out the world. It opens libraries and makes arrangements for exhibitions. It also sends cultural and scientific missions to different countries of the world.

(ii) **International Labour Organizations (I.L.O.)** : The aims of this organizations are to improve the conditions of the labourers in the world, to raise their standard of living and to improve their economic and social status. It takes steps to check unemployment among the labourers, to fix their wages and the hours of their work and to make arrangements for their safety and the education of their children.

(iii) **Food and Agriculture Organization (F.A.O.)** : It aims at increasing the agricultural produce of all the countries, at raising the standard of food and the standard of living of the people of the world. It also helps to increase the agricultural produce by giving financial aid, by providing the latest machines and better seeds and by lending the services of the specialists etc.

(iv) **World Health Organization (W.H.O.)** : It aims at improving the health of the people of all the countries of the world. It controls the dangerous diseases and supplies medical aid and medicines where required. It arranges the supply of milk for the children.

### NON-ALIGNMENT

Non- alignment means a policy of not belonging to any power bloc. After the Second World War, the world was divided mainly between two powerful military blocs, the Western bloc led by the U.S.A and the Communist bloc led by Russia. India's foreign policy is based on the principle of non-alignment which simply means an independent policy involving no military or political commitment to any bloc or group of states. It means the taking of its own decisions on international problems, as and when they came up, states. It means the taking of its own decisions on international problems, as and

when they came up, according to the merits of the each case. It, however, does not mean isolation from work affairs. It simply means that it is not obliged to take a decision under any other country's pressure.

### INDIA FOLLOWED THE POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT DUE TO THE FOLLOWING REASONS

- (a) India wanted to maintain friendly and cordial relations with all the countries of the world.
- (b) India wanted to remain out of powerful military blocs and pursue an independent foreign policy.
- (c) After a period of long subjugation and poverty, India wanted economic help from all the countries for its development and for raising the standard of living of its people. This was possible only if she followed an independent foreign policy. The founder-members of the policy of non-alignment were India (Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru), Yugoslavia (President Tito) and Egypt (President Nasser).

The Non-alignment Movement (NAM), now has a large number of members. The NAM conferences are held from time to time. The first conference of the non-alignment nations was held at Belgrade in Yugoslavia. Later conferences were held in Cairo, Lusaka, Algeria, Colombo, Havana, New Delhi, Harare and Belgrade.

### THE MAIN PRINCIPLES OF THE NON-ALIGNMENT MOVEMENT ARE THE FOLLOWING

- (i) **To maintain world peace:** The non-aligned countries always keep themselves away from the power blocs so that they may do something to defuse the tense atmosphere and if there is any war, they may act as mediators and bring peace among the warring states.
- (ii) **Liquidation of Colonialism and Imperialism in all forms:** Colonialism and imperialism have encouraged the spirit of exploitation. Therefore every attempt is being made by the non-aligned countries to end colonialism and imperialism.
- (iii) **Peaceful co-existence among nations :** The Non-aligned movement is against the spirit of fighting. It has full faith in co-operation and peaceful co-existence.
- (iv) **Condemnation of racial discrimination :** The Non-aligned countries have firm faith in the principle of equality. They discard racial discrimination as negation of humanity. These countries time and again condemned South Africa for following the policy of racial discrimination. It was much because of their pressure that the South African Government desisted from this path and followed the policy of reforms. It had not only released Nelson Mandela, the leader of the African National Congress in 1990 but had repealed several of the segregation laws. These were good signs in the eventual emergence of a Non-racist and democratic South Africa.
- (v) **Opposition to military alliances :** The different military alliances in the past brought about two World Wars. Therefore, the non-aligned countries had decided to keep themselves out of the power blocs. However, with the dismemberment of U.S.S.R. in December, 1991, the Soviet bloc has ceased to

exist. All this has greatly facilitated the spirit of disarmament and peace which is one of the main principles of the Non-aligned Movement.

(vi) **Respect for Human Rights** : The Non-aligned countries have full respect for the human rights. If man is denied his rights all his other achievements will be of no

### THE PANCHSHEEL PRINCIPLES :

These were framed by the First Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to define the objectives of the policy of peaceful co-existence. These were stated on April 29, 1954 as part of the India China Agreement they are :

- (i) Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty.
- (ii) Mutual non-aggression;
- (iii) Mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs.
- (iv) Equality and mutual benefit;
- (v) Peaceful co-existence.

### PRINCIPLES OF INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY

(a) **NON-ALIGNMENT:-** Non-alignment is the most important feature of our foreign policy. Non-alignment means not joining any of the power blocs. After the Second World War the world was divided into two powerful blocs, i.e., the American bloc and the Soviet bloc. Both concluded many military pacts. The countries that came under the Anglo-American bloc comprised the Western European countries, i.e., England, France, Spain, Italy, w. Germany, Canada, etc. these entered in to the military alliances like the NATO, SEATO and CENTO. Those that came under the communist influence of the U.S.S.R were Russia, Poland, East Germany, Hungary, Albania, China, etc; these concluded the Warsaw and the Baghdad [acts. The U.S.A and the Soviet Union thus became the World's two superpowers. Both blocs created an atmosphere of suspicion and tension. This led to the Cold War between the two powers. A cold war is a state of affairs where there is a no actual fighting with arms but there is a mutual distrust and non-cooperation.

India had newly acquired her independence and so did not want to enter any of these blocs. She decided to stay away from both the power blocs. She chose to remain non-aligned.

(b) **PANCHSHEEL:** - The basic principles of our foreign policy are peaceful existence and co-operation . Our first Prime Minister, Pt. Nehru declared five principles of peace. These are expressed 'Panchsheel'. The principles of Panchsheel are :

- (1) Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty;
- (2) Non-interference in each other's internal affairs;



(3) To work for equality and mutual benefit; and

(4) Faith in peaceful co-existence.

These principles were adopted by pt. Nehru on September 23, 1954. They form the basis of our foreign policy, according to him these principles are the alternative to war and total destruction.

(c) **PROMOTION OF WORLD PEACE :-** The main problem before India after independence was that of its economic reconstruction. The British had ruined her economically. So India could not afford to divert its attention towards wars because they only disrupt trade and commerce and also mean a loss of resources which could otherwise be used for a more purposeful project. Peace within the country and outside is important for the economic growth of any country. India has always believed in solving disputes through negotiations and peaceful talks.

(d) **OPPOSITIN TO RACIALISM AND COLONIALISM:** India opposes racialism and colonialism. It has fought against the colonial rule and racial discrimination. Racialism is based on injustice. Racialism means discrimination on the basis of race, but India believes in equality of all races. India vehemently opposed the policy of apartheid followed by the white government in South Africa. Nelson Mandela was released from jail and became the first President. India supported Zimbabwe her struggle for freedom against the white domination. She also supported the other South African colonies to attain freedom from the French, the Portuguese and the Dutch.

(e) **FAITH IN THE U.N.O. AND INTERNATINAL CO-OPERATION :-** India has full faith in the ideals of the U.N.O. It firmly believes in the U.N.O. Charter and has always supported the polices of the U.N.O. It has rendered services to the U.N.O. in settling disputes by sending her troops to many places such as Congo, Korea, etc. India has received help from the different agencies of the United Nations.

(f) **DISARMAMENT :-** India strongly supports disarmament or reduction in piling up of armaments because of various reason :

i) Any increase in the production of arms, increase the possibility of war. It creates a class of fighters and creates war psychology in the minds of men.

ii) The arms of modern times are very expensive and sophisticated. The nuclear weapons are capable of wiping out life on the entire planet.

iii) There is a mad race for arms all over the world which threatens peace all over.

iv) The arms race involves millions of dollars. Seeing the developed countries gather sophisticated arms, the developing countries too spend millions on destructive arms. The money spent on this can be used for social and economic development in these countries. The arms race has badly affected the development programmes in these countries.

### WHAT ARE INDIA'S RELATIONS WITH PAKISTAN?

Pakistan was created after India was partitioned in 1947. Historically, culturally, linguistically and traditionally, India and Pakistan have so much in common. Both suffered under the oppressive rule of the foreigners and both fought together against it. But the partition led to so much bitterness that our relations since then have been soured.

In spite of all her efforts, India has not been able to establish cordial relations with Pakistan.

The negative aspects of India-Pakistan relations include the following points of disagreement between the two countries:

i) **The Kashmir Issue:** - Kashmir has been a major bone of contention between India and Pakistan since 1947, Pakistan claimed Kashmir on the grounds of physical security, economic need and ideology. Kashmir was invaded in October, 1947 by the Pathans and irregular soldiers of the Pakistan army. The Maharaja of Kashmir acceded to India. India sent her arm which prevented the advance of the Pakistan forces. India submitted the dispute to the United Nations. The U.N. helped in bringing about the ceasefire, but about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> part of the Kashmir territory is still under Pakistan's occupation. Once again in 1965, Pakistan made another big attempt to seize Kashmir. Pakistan did not succeed.

ii) **The Bangladesh Issue :-** In 1971, there arose differences between the two wings of Pakistan. The rulers of Pakistan denied the people of the Eastern wing, any say in the affairs of the government. They were suppressed from the very beginning of the creation for East Pakistan. East Bengal was reduced to a position of a colony of the West Pakistan. They were exploited by the rulers of Pakistan. Under the leadership of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman and his party, the Awami League, the people of East Bengal demanded the restoration of democracy and end of their exploitation by West Pakistan. Sheikh Mujibur Rehman was arrested and the Pakistan army let loose a reign of terror in East Bengal. About 10 million people of East Bengal fled to India. The influx of refugees created great human problem for India. The leaders of East Bengal organized an army-Mukti Bahini-to free their country from the Pakistan army. Meanwhile, the Pakistan Government began to adopt aggressive postures against India. On December 32, 1971, Pakistan having failed to suppress the Mukti Bahini, declared a war on India. Fighting broke out in the eastern and western sectors. The war came to an end within 14 days with the defeat of Pakistan. On December 17, 1971, the Pakistan army surrendered in Dacca. Fighting was also stopped by India in the western sector.

iii) **Pakistan's Aid to Extremists :-** Having failed to settle her scores by war, Pakistan catches every opportunity to create disturbances in India. Lately, she has begun helping and training the extremists to create disturbances in India and thus endanger her freedom and integrity.

iv) **The Kargil War :-** In 1999, Pakistan occupied certain parts situated in the Indian side of the Line of Actual Control in Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan was given a befitting reply and these parts were got vacated.

## **INDIA AND CHINA**

India and China had trade relations since medieval times. Both had cultural contacts. Buddhism became very popular in China and many Chinese travelers came to India during the ancient times to visit the places associated with Lord Buddha. India supported the Liberation Movement in China and it became free in 1949. India supported the admission of communist China in the U.N. In 1959, the Chinese premier Chou-en-Lai visited India and signed the Panchsheel agreement with Pt. Nehru. This cemented the India-China relationship. China changed her policy and grabbed the hilly regions of the north-east. It occupied Arunachal and Ladakh. She refused to recognize the Indo-Chinese border line known as the McMahon line. This led to conflicts between India and China. The Indo-China War ended in November but normal relations could not be restored.

## **INDIA AND SRI LANKA**

The relations with Sri Lanka are cordial and she follows a policy of mutual help and co-operation. Both countries are members of SAARC and believe in non-alignment and peaceful co-existence. But there have been some problems regarding the settlers of Indian origin in Sri Lanka. In 1959, Sri Lanka had about one million people of citizenship rights to these settlers. India has tried to resolve this issue peacefully. Sri Lanka has agreed to grant citizenship only to certain categories of people. Many people are termed as 'stateless' people. India wants Sri Lanka to solve her problems with the Tamilians who are fighting for an independent state in Lanka. In 1987, India sent the Indian Peace Keeping Force (I.P.K.F) to Sri Lanka at her request. It rendered useful service there and was withdrawn in 1990.

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