



About Us: <http://www.the-criterion.com/about/>

Archive: <http://www.the-criterion.com/archive/>

Contact Us: <http://www.the-criterion.com/contact/>

Editorial Board: <http://www.the-criterion.com/editorial-board/>

Submission: <http://www.the-criterion.com/submission/>

FAQ: <http://www.the-criterion.com/fa/>



---

ISSN 2278-9529  
Galaxy: International Multidisciplinary Research Journal  
[www.galaxyimrj.com](http://www.galaxyimrj.com)

**Title of the Book:** *Kashmir: A Valley of Endless Sorrow*

**Author:** Syed Tassadque Hussain

**Publisher:** Srinagar: Gulshan Books Kashmir

**ISBN** 978-81-8339-328-7

**Pages:** 194, **Price:** 795. \$20

**Reviewed By:**

**Waseem Majazi**

### **Judicial DNA of Kashmir Conflict**

Much ink has been splashed on the chronic imbroglio, Kashmir conflict which is actually an unfinished agenda of the partition of India in 1947. Since then an ocean of literature has been written on this issue. Endless debates and discussions occupy the hot seats of many famous news channels. Experts and specialists are busy in giving advices and solutions of this half century old disease. From United Nations Resolution and Owen Dixon's Proposal to present, the bone of contention is still petrous. The Kashmir conflict is heading towards the France-Spain conflict over Andorra. The dispute between France and Spain over the region started in 803 AD and the solution was arrived in 1993. Hope and Pray for the very soon solution!

The book, *A Valley of Endless Sorrow* is an honest-to-goodness account of the tattereddemalion paradise, Kashmir. The writer, Syed Tassadque Hussain, of the book, out rightly rejects the myths and political theories given by right wing Indian political historians and scientists. It is a successfully provoking effort of the genesis of Kashmir dispute which compels a reader to ponder upon the political and judicial system of India. The book is divided into four chapters and two informative appendixes where the author augurs a gigantic change in the world politics that will terrifyingly blaze the Kashmir dispute.

Being a lawyer, Syed Tassadque Hussain, author of the book has pleads the case of Kashmir conflict and its future quite mindfully. The first chapter, "Historical Perspective" a genesis of Kashmir conflict, of the book *Kashmir: A Valley of Endless Sorrow*, is a deep marvelous attempt at the Indian history and the author comes up with some thought provoking realities of India. The chapter unearths the core existence of India from Vedic period to the nuclear India even the author challenges the Indian freedom struggle and says the history of Indian freedom struggle is a myth. He not only proves the freedom struggle a fake history but he also tries to prove the chronological authenticity of Vedas as dubious. Being a lawyer, the writer

of the book, *Kashmir: A Valley of Endless Sorrow*, he qualifies his every statement and proof interestingly. He clearly shows that the Upanishads which gives a clear explanation of Hindu religion are chronologically not related to any particular era. While proving wrong the authenticity of the Vedas, he says, “Now it is an accepted historical fact that the Rig Vedic People were analphabetic and in fact, till 4<sup>th</sup> century BC in India no alphabet was even coined. The language was not even syllabic. So the entire reality of the Rig Veda as the earliest account of the People, Geography, Economy, Society and Indian Polity is a historical dubiety. Even the historical geography of India based on the places and rivers mentioned in the Rig Veda is sheer speculation”. The writer punches Indianised history of historians and compels a reader to think beyond the history which has been written by pseudo historians. The writer, Syed Tassadque Hussain, deals, every point and line, with a wise consciousness and crashes the sole existence of India. He disqualifies the slogans, women empowerment, of India by showing them the existence of women in their blindly accepted religious text, Rig Veda, which are anti-women. To qualify his view point he appropriately quotes some lines from the book, *Vedic Age* by a great historian Irfan Habib and Vijay Kumar Thakur. The first chapter of the book shows the foundation of India is laid on wrong beliefs and intuitions and how can such people make right castles. The writer out rightly rejects, that the two nation theory was propounded by Ali Mohammad Jinnah rather it was the brain child of Hindu leaders who regarded India as a deity and they thought that it was polluted by Muslim invaders. From Kanyakumari to Kashmir, the writer of the book has scanned Hinduism and their politically motivated beliefs as Amar Nath Cave in Kashmir region and Vishnu Devi in Jammu region is nothing more than a political strategy to stitch the state with the hearts of India. He says, “Even the Vedic geography showing the lands of the Rig Veda do not mention the name of Kashmir” and further says, “Any attempt by Indian historians now to standardize or homogenize Kashmir geography with Indian national identity is largely conjectural in character and a sheer speculation”. The writer, Syed Tassadque Hussain, provokingly unearths the cast oriented system of India and discusses the bruised democracy of the country. He tries to give a vivid image of India which was dominated by high caste Hindus which laid the foundation pathetic partition. From All India Congress to entire financial world everything was dominated by high caste Hindus. The role of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan and Dr Sir Mohammad Iqbal for uplifting the Muslim community of India, share a well corner of the first chapter. The writer gradually takes us to the core issue, Kashmir and the final pages of the first

chapter throws light on the Kashmir occupation. The writer beautifully decodes the history of Kashmir.

The second chapter, “A Legally Vexed Question” is related to the genesis of Kashmir conflict where the author of the book, *Kashmir: A Valley of Endless Sorrow* exposes the reality of Kashmir conflict when Kashmir was under the brutal rule of Hari Singh. The writer tells a woeful history of Kashmir conflict how it was pushed into a dark whirlpool of uncertainty. The pogrom of Jammu Muslims, planned by Rani Tara Devi was a politically motivated move of extremists, whose only aim behind this brutal killing was the accession of Kashmir with India and the writer painfully exposes the face of axed India, “Wild, frenzied, frantic, blood thirsty workers of RSS and the mesmerized wild Sikhs from Ferozepur and Patiala descended upon Jammu city to massacre, in cold blood, Muslim populace. They believed that ethnic cleansing and elimination of Jammu Muslims would lend an aura of legitimacy to Kashmir accession to India’. The attack was badly brutal and it finds exact expression in the book as, “Women were striped, raped, their genitals mutilated and men were sawed, sliced and mangled and allowed to rot under open sky with eagles, vultures and wild dogs feasting on the carrion”. Jammu massacre of 5/6 September was the offspring of self determination demanded by Poonch insurgents. Being a lawyer, the author has also written on the right of self determination, which is dead in Kashmir valley, in view of International Law. The author gives a whole back ground of Poonch insurgents and puts down the Indian claim that the raid was organized by Pak army headquarters. He says, “If Pakistan military had to plan this operation the easiest course was to enter via Sialkot and capture the Jammu town, Kashmir province would have fallen into the lap of Pakistan even without a thud”. He clearly exposes the inanity of Indian journalism how they published this canard first time in Biltz Weekly of Bombay on 9 June, 1948. The author also quotes Maharaja’s letter to Lord Mountbatten on 26 October 1947 which also opens a door to discussion and debate. In the light of the letter, the writer says. “Maharaja’s letter is of great historical value. It is an informative missive. It contains the allegation that around desperadoes were thronging, Sialkot, (a town connected with railway to Jammu and only fifteen miles away from Jammu), yet no infiltration took place from that side in Jammu? ...No Indian historian has even alluded to this ground reality”. In the backdrop of solid facts the writer invites a big debate on some unanswered questions. Indeed, the book touches the every folded fact of Kashmir conflict which makes the book interesting.

In third chapter, “Kashmir 2014: The Ground Reality”, the author puts down the notion of Indian politicians that Valley is on the track of stability and development. The reality is, as nicely penned down by the author of the book, *Kashmir: A Valley of Endless Sorrow*, “...At present hopes of ordinary people lie shattered.....No one in the valley has any time to contemplate the future”. The opening pages of the said chapter unlock the two causes of armed struggle of 1990 in Kashmir. First, the rise of Hindutva in Indian politics that ushered in feelings of insecurity amongst Kashmiri Muslims and the second, that Kashmiri National identity is linked to Kashmir valley, the Kashmiri race and ethnicity has nothing common with India. The chapter beautifully demonstrates that militancy in Kashmir was essentially a process of re-creation of Kashmir identity. The author out rightly rejects the notion that Pakistan instigate militancy in Kashmir. The core cause of the armed struggle in Kashmir was in self defense and to save the Kashmiri identity and it was so courageous revolt that it shooked the foundation of Indian democracy. The writer of the book beautifully termed it as, “Kashmir became the kingdom of God, a bastion of religion and a pillar of strength for anti-Indian elements. People thronging on the streets were wildly screaming: “Go India Go”. Indians disregarded and overlooked the national history of Kashmir and was the sole responsible for creating a new Kashmir identity. As noted by Sumantra Bose, “The popular uprising for self-determination in Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir has been caused by...the denial of democracy by the Indian state to its Kashmir citizens in the post-colonial period. Kashmiris rose in rebellion not because Muslims are constitutionally incapable of loyalty to a secular state, but because they saw no hope of redressal within the Indian state’s institutional framework to the gross, consistent and systematic pattern of abuse of their rights as citizens and as human beings...For Kashmiris, Indian democracy and its institution is truly the God that failed and failed disastrously...the reason why they (Kashmiri Muslims) seem so insistent on freedom—which means, above all, freedom from Indian rule—is the conviction born of their experiences that their collective will for democratic, responsible and accountable government is incompatible with their presently coerced—as opposed to voluntary and freely consenting—status as integral part of India”. The writer also talks about the migrant Diaspora of 1819 and the victim Diaspora of 1947 and says that these Diasporas “became the new bridges of understanding with Pakistan Government. Now the Kashmiri nationalism and Pakistan were rapidly progressing along the same trajectory”. The Kashmir accession and Abdullah made Kashmiris realize that now their identity is captive to Indian nationalism and it

ignited a spark of revolution in Kashmiri which afterwards torn into shreds the Indian hegemony, to quote some lines from the book, *Kashmir: A Valley of Endless Sorrow*, would be more appropriate to describe the situation: Kashmiris were no longer an impotent irenic ethnic group, who survived by sheer bluff and bluster. India had to take Kashmiris seriously, as the people had disproved the idea that they were incapable of fighting fearful odds. Historical perspective changed. Kashmiris were no longer avoiding a fight. They were eager and itching for a gory and bloody fight. Gun had restored their honour! No longer will Kashmiri population suffers the taunts, the sneers, the jeers and the jibes of the Indians that they are “toothless tigers”. The Kashmiris were taking sweet revenge from India”. The writer dubs Indians “inapt at disaster management” as they had no solutions for the distressing situation. The writer, Syed Tassadque Hussain, does not overlook the human rights violation in Kashmir and takes a reader to the horrible corridors of Kashmir, he courageously pens down , “ Now Indian soldiers were trembling in their like aspen leaves in a whirlwind. A sense of shame was surging through the echelons of the Indian armed forces. They were bunkered. They knew they could win no elegant battles. Their only weapon of defense was crimes against civil population”. Being a conscious lawyer, the writer, gives a detailed report as a proof of human rights violation in Kashmir. He quotes advocate Parvaiz Imroz’s, President of Jammu and Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society and Human Rights and Justice in Indian Administered Kashmir, detailed report on Human rights violation, prepared over two years using information gleaned mostly from official state documents. The report reveals the human rights violation in Kashmir, committed by the security forces. The report makes the case of the write more solid a strong and it also turns the book, *Kashmir: A Valley of Endless Sorrow*, into an authentic and interesting account of Kashmir conflict.

The final chapter, “The Ultimate Solution”, depicts the inane politics on Kashmir issues by “contemporary Kashmiri political actors”. The writer, target politicians that they have made Kashmir conflict a humorous puppet show and aptly says, “The real problem with these imaginary solutions is that in them, the core theme is omitted; the meat of the matter is overly romanticized with a waggish beginning, a lot of facetiae and an abrupt non-rational ending, making a mockery of the Kashmir problem”. The writer mindfully discusses the possibility and impossibility of Kashmir autonomy and gives a series of interesting facts which compels a reader to gulp the book in a single go. The writer also throws light on the changing political scenario of

Asia which is going to affect Kashmir issues. The relationship between India, America and Pak-China and how are they going to affect Kashmir conflict, also finds good space in the last chapter of the book.

The two Appendixes, “Kashmir in the Eye of a New Storm” and “Why Pakistan will Completely Depend on China?” at the end of the book, *Kashmir: A Valley of Endless Sorrow*, are worth reading as they are highly informative and gives a reader clear concept about world politics and its changing trends. The writer of the book *Kashmir: A Valley of Endless Sorrow*, also augurs some dangerous colours of Modi’s political philosophy which is going to affect Kashmir issue directly.

There is no doubt that the whole book is an arresting book on Kashmir issue which gives a reader a comprehensive look on different issues of Kashmir which are directly linked to Kashmir conflicts. Indeed, it unclothes the pain which Kashmir decorates on its chest from the antiquity.