



## **FACULTY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES**

**COURSE: B.A.LL.B. 1II Semester**

**SUBJECT: Political science-III**

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# Lecture-27



## India's contribution to UN

- India was one of the original members of the League of Nations. As a signatory of **the Treaty of Versailles-1919**, India was granted automatic entry to the League of Nations.
  - India was represented by her Secretary of State, Edwin Samuel Montagu; the Maharaja of Bikaner Sir Ganga Singh; Satyendra Prasanno Sinha, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for India.
- India was among the original members of the United Nations that signed the **Declaration by United Nations** at Washington, D.C. in 1944. This declaration became the basis of the United Nations (UN), which was formalized in the **United Nations Charter** signed by 50 countries in 1945.
- By 1946, India had started raising concerns regarding **colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination**.
- India was among the most outspoken critics of apartheid and racial discrimination (discriminatory treatment of Indians in the Union of South Africa) in South Africa, being the first country to have raised the issue in the UN in 1946.
- India took an active part in Drafting of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights-1948**.
- Its experience with the UN had not always been positive. On **Kashmir issue**, Nehru's faith in the UN and adherence to its principles proved costly as UN that was packed with **pro-Pakistani partisan powers**.
- **Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit** was elected the **first woman President of the UN General Assembly** in 1953.
- India's status as a **founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)** and the **Group of 77 (G-77)** cemented its position within the UN system as a leading advocate of the concerns and aspirations of developing countries and the creation of a **more equitable international** economic and political order.
- It involved in conflict with China (1962), two wars (1965, 1971) with Pakistan and entered a period of **political instability**, economic stagnation, **food shortages** and near-**famine** conditions.
  - India's role diminished in the UN which came both as a result of its image and a deliberate decision by the post-Nehru political leadership **to adopt a low profile** at the UN and **speak only on vital Indian interests**.
- India has been a member of the UN Security Council for seven terms (a total of 14 years), with the most recent being the 2011–12 term.
- India is a member of **G4 (Brazil, Germany, India and Japan)**, a group of nations who back each other in seeking a permanent seat on the Security Council and advocate in favour of the reformation of the UNSC.
  - The Russian Federation, United States, United Kingdom and France support India and the other G4 countries gaining permanent seats.
- India is also part of the G-77.
  - The Group of 77 (G-77) was established on 15 June 1964 by seventy-seven developing countries signatories of the **“Joint Declaration of the Seventy-Seven Developing Countries”**.

- It is designed to promote its members' collective economic interests and create an enhanced joint negotiating capacity in the United Nations.
- Because of the historical significance, the name G-77 has been kept despite the group's growth to include more than 130 countries.
- **UN peacekeeping missions:** From protecting civilians, disarming ex-combatants and helping countries transition from conflict to peace, India has served the cause of peace.
  - At present (2019), India is the third largest troop contributor with 6593 personnel deployed with UN Peacekeeping Missions (Lebanon, Congo, Sudan and South Sudan, Golan Heights, Ivory Coast, Haiti, Liberia).
  - India has suffered the highest number of fatalities (164 out of close to 3,800 personnel) among countries that have sent forces to the United Nations peacekeeping mission since 1948.
- **Mahatma Gandhi** has had a lasting influence on the United Nations. His ideals of non-violence deeply influenced the United Nations at the time of its inception.
  - In 2007, the United Nations declared 2<sup>nd</sup> October, Mahatma's Gandhi's birthday, as the **International day of non-violence**.
- In 2014, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution commemorating **21 June** as the **International Yoga Day**.
  - It recognises the holistic benefits of this timeless practice and its inherent compatibility with the principles and values of the United Nations.
- **Plea for International Equality Day:** In 2016, with focus on **combating inequalities to achieve Sustainable Development Goals, B. R. Ambedkar's birth anniversary** was observed at the United Nations for the first time. India has made a plea to declare **April 14** as International Equality Day.

## MCQ

1. Which organ of the United Nations has suspended its operations since 1994?

1. Trusteeship Council
2. Economic and Social Council
3. Secretariat
4. International Court of Justice

2. How many official languages does the United Nations have?

1. 5

2. 6
3. 7
4. 4

3. What is the term of the President of the UN General Assembly?

1. 4 years
2. 2 years
3. 1 year
4. 5 years

4. UN Secretary General heads which principal organ of the United Nations Organisation?

1. General Assembly
2. Security Council
3. Economic and Social Council
4. The Secretariat

5. Which organ of the UNO functions from **Peace Palace** in The Hague, The Netherlands?

1. Security Council
2. General Assembly
3. Economic and Social Council
4. International Court of Justice