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CULTURE OF VIOLENCE AND THE INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT: A STUDY OF KASHMIR CONFLICT

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Abstract

The conflict of Jammu and Kashmir is one of the skirmishes that traces its roots in the British rule. After Partition of the sub-continent in 1947, the Kashmir conflict became visible in the south Asia. In this conflict, state repression, internal displacement, discrimination against minorities, religious and ethnic hatred, demands of freedom, rage of stone pelting have contributed to massive internal displacement of Hindus and Muslims. The Kashmir Valley since the 1990's has experienced militarization, repression, economic deprivation and indiscriminate violence. The valley is in a state of siege, where authority is vested in the military power and suspends fundamental rights for the maintenance of law and order. However, displacement and state repression remain the stark realities of the enduring conflict of Jammu and Kashmir. It is noteworthy that though the displacement is a black spot in the history of Kashmir, the international community is largely unaware about it. Without proper knowledge, a great deal of assumptions and accusations are made revolving Kashmiri Muslims as creating terror, exodus and hating the minorities in the Valley. There were a lot of identifiable group of people, who were forced to leave their native places due to internal or external dimensions of the conflict. The main objective /aim of this paper is to provide an insight on the nature of the Kashmir conflict, its discourse as well as to highlight the role of state towards the people of Kashmir. Additionally, the paper would highlight the reasons of internal displacement in the state of Jammu and Kashmir with reference to the strategies of state government.

Keywords: Kashmir Conflict, State Repression, Kashmiri Pundits, Internal Displacement and State of Liminality.
