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INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY AN OVERVIEW

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ABSTRACT

     Every Sovereign Country like India has its foreign policy. While keeping in view the fundamental objectives of India's foreign policy, India has adopted and pursued certain principles to realize these objectives. The principles of India's foreign policy and its objectives are closely interlinked with each other. Foreign Policies are a set of plans of action for diplomatic dealings with International national and bodies and regional grouping. The Indian foreign policies have been originated with two ideological thoughts of ancient Indian ideologies of foreign policies and ideologies have been considered and based on tradition based on friendship, cooperation, peace and non-violence development by the great thinkers of land of India, i.e., Great philosopher and humanitarian Gautama Buddha and yet the same time modern social philosopher Mahatama Gandhi.

KEYWORDS: *foreign policy , International national and bodies , diplomatic dealings.*

INTRODUCTION

     Every Sovereign Country like India has its foreign policy. While keeping in view the fundamental objectives of India's foreign policy, India has adopted and pursued certain principles to realize these objectives. The principles of India's foreign policy and its objectives are closely interlinked with each other. Foreign Policies are a set of plans of action for diplomatic dealings with International national and bodies and regional grouping. Nehru was right when he observed that it should not be inferred that India has started working as a state all of a sudden, rather its long past, contemporary history and freedom movement have formed its ideals. Looking ahead, India's foreign policy is expected to focus on strengthening its role in the Indo-Pacific region, deepening ties with major powers, and actively participating in addressing global challenges like climate change and promoting sustainable development. Indian foreign policy is like a set of rules that guide how country interacts with other nations. Just like we make friends in school & follow certain rules to maintain good relationships India also follows certain principles to maintain peaceful & beneficial relationships with other countries.

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OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY;
The present study analysis the foreign policies of India in modern time. On which principle does the Indian foreign policies have been constructed and how these policies are helping india to achieve the success in the progress and maintain the peace and solidarity among the nations of the world.

IDEOLOGIES OF INDIAN FOREIGN POLICIES;
The Indian foreign policies have been originated with two ideological thoughts of ancient Indian ideologies of foreign policies and ideologies have been considered and based on tradition based on friendship, cooperation, peace and non-violence development by the great thinkers of land of India, i.e., Great philosopher and humanitarian Gautama Buddha and yet the same time modern social philosopher Mahatama Gandhi. Their ideology and philosophy are the part of Indian foreign policy and other is traditional values. Considering the Indian foreign policy of modern India has been formulated by our great leaders of the modern times.

The main objectives of the foreign policies have been formulated keeping these ideologies into account. Considering of the modern world affairs, foreign policies have been constructed. Keeping these objectives in mind.

Strengthening Regional Influence: India is actively pursuing closer ties with countries in the Indo-Pacific region, aiming to enhance its strategic presence and promote regional stability.

Great Power Relations: India seeks to maintain strong relationships with major global powers like the US and Russia, balancing its engagements to safeguard its interests.

Global Leadership: India is increasingly taking on a more prominent role in addressing global challenges, particularly in areas like climate change, sustainable development, and global health.

Economic Diplomacy: India is leveraging its economic growth and development to enhance its influence on the global stage, promoting trade, investment, and technology transfer.

Multilateralism: India is a strong advocate for multilateralism and a reformed global order, working through international organizations like the UN to shape a more equitable and just world.

The foreign policies of India;
The foreign policies of India have been made with keeping above objectives as legal and essential for any nations of the world to keep cordial relationship with other nations of the world to protect the peace and security of the nation as well as the world too. So India always respects values and morals of the all nation while making the foreign ideology. The following are the principles of the Indian foreign policies.
1. Panchsheel
2. The policy of Non-Alignment
3. The policy of Anti- Colonialism and Anti Racism
4. Peaceful settlement of International Disputes
5. Foreign Economic Aid – Support to UN, International Law and a Just and Equal World Order

Panchsheel
The policy makers of India has always respected the global peace and sovereignty, why because of survival and development of mankind is essential for the world to progress towards the enhancement and growth of humanity for the next generations of the world. They have saw the destruction done by the to world wars, how they have been created hazardous in the human values and yet the same time loss of values in the course of wars. they realized that for the progress of a nation a durable world peace was needed. Thus, the founder of India's foreign policy, Nehru gave utmost importance to world peace in his policy planning.

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India desired peaceful and friendly relations with all countries, particularly the big powers and the neighbouring nations. While signing a peace agreement with China; he advocated adherence to five guiding principles known as Panchsheel. The Peaceful Co-existence was signed on 29p April 1954 and since then it has become a guiding principle of India's bilateral relations with other countries.

1. Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty.
2. Non-aggression against each other.
3. Non-interference in each other's internal affairs.
4. Equality and mutual benefit.
5. Peaceful co-existence.

POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT

Non-alignment is the most important feature of India's foreign policy. Its core element is to maintain independence in foreign affairs by not joining any military alliance formed by the USA and the Soviet Union, which emerged as an important aspect of Cold War politics after the Second World War. Furthermore, Non-Alignment gained popularity in developing countries. Thus, keeping away from the military alliances and superpower blocks was important for the independence of Foreign Policy.

- A larger Conference, known as the Bandung Conference of 29 countries of Asia and Africa was convened in Bandung (Indonesia) in 1955 to forge the Afro-Asian unit. The Bandung Conference was a precursor to the NAM, which held its first Summit in 1961 at Belgrade. Since then, the Non-Aligned Movement has not looked back.
- The Seventh NAM Summit was hosted by India in New Delhi in 1983. In this Summit, India took up the cause of development, disarmament, and the Palestine issue.
- The conference laid down ten fundamental principles of international relations. The leaders pledged to work together for colonial liberation, peace, cultural, economic, and political cooperation among developing countries.
- It provides all its members, regardless of their size and development, an opportunity to participate in the global decision-making process.

The policy of Anti – Colonialism, Racism and Imperialism

The foundations of India's foreign policy were laid during independence struggle when our leaders fought the evils of colonialism and racism. India has been a victim of colonialism and imperialism and considers these as a threat to international peace and security. It firmly believes in the equality of all human beings. Its policy is aimed at opposition to all forms of racial discrimination. It is always opposed to it in any form. India was the first to bring the issue of Apartheid in the UN in 1946. India raised her voice for the independence of Indonesia and organized the Asian Relations Conference for this purpose. Due to India's consistent efforts through NAM and other international forums, 14 African countries were liberated from the yoke of colonialism in 1964.

Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes

The unflinching faith in the peaceful settlement of international disputes is one of the core elements of India's foreign policy. This principle has been included in the Constitution of India, under the Directive Principles of State Policy as well as in the Charter of the UN. India has played a leading role in the resolution of the Korean conflict and supported negotiated settlement of Palestine issue, border problems with neighboring countries, and other such disputes and problems. At present, India is in favour of the resolution of peaceful settlement of Iranian nuclear issues, the problem of the democratic upsurge in the Middle East, and so on.

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Foreign Economic Aid – Support to UN, International Law and a Just and Equal World Order

India has a deep respect for the international law and/or the principles of sovereign equality of nations and non-interference in the internal affairs of other nations as espoused by the UN. India has played a key role in preserving world peace by helping in the decolonization process, and through active participation in UN peacekeeping activities. India has supported the cause of disarmament pursued by the UN. In 1988, India proposed a very ambitious program of nuclear disarmament before the UN. Although the proposal was not accepted by the other members of the UN but India stands committed to the cause of universal disarmament even today. India has proposed and supported the reform of the Security Council and other UN agencies. India is one of the claimants of permanent membership of the Security Council.

CONCLUSION

The foreign policy of Indian is based on peace, cooperation and independence. It has helped India build strong relations with other nations while ensuring its own security and development. Even today as world faces new challenges like climate change and economic inequality Indian foreign policy continues to grow as well as change while staying true to its core values. This historical backdrop to a great extent has influenced the growth of various principles of India's foreign policy. That is why in the post-independence era, three basic objectives i.e., national security; economic development and world order proved to be the core issues around which India's foreign policy revolved. Besides it has given birth to certain objectives which provided the goals for its foreign policy. Broadly speaking, these objectives have been in opposition to colonialism and racialism; efforts towards establishment of Afro- Asian unity; develop faith in UN systems; friendship with all nations; protection of overseas Indians etc. today world respect India because its foreign policy and yet the same time India is trying to maintain peace and solidarity and mutual understanding between nations of the world.

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