

## **THE CAUSES WHICH LEAD TO THE FORMATION OF NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT**

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### **REASONS FOR EMERGENCE OF NON-ALIGNMENT AS A POLICY**

The Post-Second World War years have been broadly shaped by three main forces: Western, Communist, and Non-aligned. It is true that the major actor of world drama during these years have been first two but have not played considerable role non-aligned nations. The post-war years have witnessed the growing importance of non-alignment as a force or at least as a trend, to be reckoned with international politics. This growth of non-alignment has been therefore, one of the most significant aspects of politics of the post war period. (1)

It was in the background of a rapidly deteriorating international situation, engendered by cold war rivalries, which often brought the world on the verge of the third world war, that a number of nations of Asia, and later of Africa, achieved national independence, which ultimately resulted into the upsurge of nationalism. The colonial and underdeveloped countries of continent like, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Siam etc. witnessed the emergence of strong anti-colonial movements for national independence. (2)

Soon after radical revolutionary upheavals started taking place in West Asia too. The West Asian countries could no longer digest their economic and political domination by the the Anglo French forces. They expressed their strongest displeasure and discontent against Israel.

Israel, an illegitimate offspring of the United Kingdom. The creation of Israel took place in the heart of the Palestine land, uprooting the legitmate and original inhabitants of the land creating a socio-economic and political turmoil, a permanent nuisance for the Gulf states in particular and the peace loving nations in general. That actually has compelled the Arabs to throw their lot in favour of non-aligned.

The consistent anti imperialist attitude of the Soviet Union, the general egalitarian implications of these social order, the heroism and courage shown by Soviet people in the Second World War, the absence of any racial discrimination within communist states, etc. helped to develop certain favourable image about the Soviet Union, even though the rigidity of their social and system had



created a certain amount of uneasiness. Thus, while the general social character of the nationalist movements was against any identification with the Soviet Camp, a number of other influences operated to probrote a less antagonistic feeling towards it than was present in the western countries.

These factor of non-alignment with either of the blocs were fortified by a general fear of all the big powers, particularly of west. The fear that the Western powers might seek to re-establish the rule through the back door was shared by most of newly independent countries. This tended to keep them.

### ***FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADOPTION OF NON-ALIGNMENT:***

The factors responsible for the adoption and development of non alignment are given here as under:

1 Nationalism: The most important feature of the freedom movement in Asian and African countries was nationalism. It was not the nationalism of the west, a mounting devotion to one's own country or race but a movement to obtain freedom after a long and persistent, struggle and the people were conscious to preserve it at all costs. To preserve the freedom the nations were determined to fallow a course whereby they did not become tools in the hands of big powers. Hence they preferred to follow the policy of non-alignment.(3)

2. Anti-Colonialism: The anti colonial feeling which persisted in the countries of Asia and Africa even after the attainment of freedom also largely contributed to the growth of policy of non-alignment. These powers were afraid that they may be again subjugated by the colonial powers and were therefore, determined to keep off from these colonial powers. This could be possible by avoiding membership of both the blocs and adopting an independent course of action by keeping out of all sort of alliances. Their position was identical to the position of a child who 'dreads fire'.(4)

3. Underdevelopment and Economic Aid: Most of the countries of Asia and Africa who gained independence were poor and underdeveloped. They were very keen to improve the standard of living of their people and promote systematic development of their country. As they needed capital and financial assistance from the powers of both the blocs to achieve their objectives at a fast rate. They thought it proper to keep them away from political alignment and pursue a policy of non-alignment, (5)

4. Racial and Cultural Aspects: For a long time the colonial powers had fed the Afro-Asian nations with the idea that they were racially as well as culturally back-ward. This feeling proved to be boon in disguise and evoked mutual sympathy among the people of the newly emerged states of Asia and

Africa. Being victims of common economic exploitation and political domination by the European nations they felt a sense of affinity and decided to co-operate with each other, (6)

5. Need of Peace for Development: Finally, the newly independent states wanted peace in the world so that they could concentrate on their development. Consequently, they decided to keep off from the military alliance and the two power blocs. (7)

### **MOTIVES OF NON-ALIGNMENT:**

Every foreign policy has some definite motives, even though the basic motives of all foreign policies is to promote the national interest. The chief motives of non-alignment are as follows:

1. Urge for Independence in Formulation of Policy: All the erstwhile colonies after throwing of the bondage were keen to secure their hard won independence. As they were economically, politically and militarily quite weak and could not compete favourably with the older and stronger nations. They felt it desirable to keep out of power blocs so that they may be able to pursue an independent foreign policy. (8)

2. Desire to Avoid Involvement in General War: The non-aligned nations want to avoid entangling themselves in the various political feuds so that they may be able to concentrate fully on the economic and material development of their people. With this objective in mind they generally avoid alliance with the two power blocks so that they may not be unwittingly dragged into the war. The non-aligned nations are quite aware that in case of a general war they will not be able to escape its impact. Yet they are determined to avoid direct involvement in such wars as far as possible. (9)

3. Preservation of World Peace: Another motive of non-aligned policy is to preserve the world peace. Non-aligned states feel that the course adopted by them is the best designed to prevent war. They content that throughout history alliances and arms race have eventually resulted in war. Non-aligned nations are able to mediate between the power blocs, as they did in Korea, Indo-China and Congo (Zaire). They may also supply impartial policemen and observers. They can provide manpower for U.N. Emergency Force. Therefore the 'neutralists' who constitute a larger group, can play an important role in avoiding war and preserving world peace. (10)

4 Economic Development The non-aligned countries are underdeveloped. They must get with the work of social and economic development. They cannot afford to divert their limited resources to armaments and defence at the cost of neglect of the economic development of the country. (11)



5. Moral Argument: Non-alignment is considered to be a moral doctrine while the system of alliances and counter-alliances is the clear manifestation of 'power politics'. The un-aligned nations regard themselves as moral superior with aligned states consider it their proud duty to influence the international scene with moral force rather by taking recourse to power. (12)

6. To help U.N. to Function Successfully: Another motive of the non aligned nations is to ensure that U.N. functions successfully in fulfilling its objectives especially of preservation of world peace and economic development. This is possible only if this forum is freed from the game of power politics. The non-aligned states who constitute the third forces, can play a useful role in international politics by Judging each issue on its merits and finding a viable solution.(13)

7. Economic and Technical Assistance: Non-aligned nations receive concrete advantages by remaining friendly with all the big powers. They are able to secure economic and technical assistance from both blocs. They can also receive help from one bloc when threatened or actually attacked by the other power. Sometimes, this attitude is considered immoral as it amounts playing of one side against the other. But it is the classical tradition of politics generally and international politics in particular, that the state must protect its interest by all sorts of methods. (14)

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