

# **India-Japan Relation**

Surya Bhan Prasad

Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, M. G. K. Vidyapith, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.

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## Article History

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Abstract - It is located from the continent of Asia to India-South Asia and Japan-East Asia. Both the countries were endowed with their ancient civilization and culture. But in ancient times there was no special relation between both the civilization and culture. When Buddhism was spread in India during the time of Lord Buddha, which gradually spread to other countries of the world, Japan could not remain untouched by its influence. Buddhism in Japan reached Japan indirectly through the left Chinese territory. This event dates back to the sixth century, when Japan was introduced to Buddhism. When the Indian Buddhist monk Bodhisen reached Japan in 736 AD, he continued to spread Buddhism in Japan till his nirvana i.e. 760 AD and built a huge Buddhist pagoda named Todai Ji (Jwakap Shrap) there, which led to the middle of Indo-Japan. Cultural ties were strengthened and in the 8th century many Buddhist monks migrated from India to Japan. Many students from Japan came to study at Nalanda University, although the evidence of the destruction of Nalanda University was erased, but in Japan such evidence is found that many Japanese scholars and students used to come to study in Nalanda University, which has strengthened the close relations between the two countries in the future. Relations between India and Japan have been very strong since the beginning. The influence of Buddhism born in India on the culture of Japan is clearly visible. In the fight for India's independence, the Imperial Army of Japan assisted the Azad Hind Fauj of Subhas Chandra Bose. Relations between the two countries have further intensified since India's independence. Regarding India's relations, according to Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, it is in Japan's interest to maintain cordial relations with India as it is also necessary due to Japan's strained relations with China. It is said that the enemy of the enemy is the friend, similarly the strained relations of both India and Japan with China make the friendship of India and Japan even stronger. Japan has established many of its companies like Sony, Toyota, Honda in half of India and has contributed to the economic development of India. Along with this, the Japanese automotive manufacturer Suzuki produces together with the Indian company Maruti Suzuki. Japan has provided many technical assistance for development in India, the important of which is the Delhi Metro Rail Project. Keywords : Japan & India's Army, IT industries, Prime Minister visit to Japan etc.

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Introduction- Relations between India and Japan have been very strong since the beginning. The influence of Buddhism born in India on the culture of Japan is clearly visible. In the 15th century, Japan established relations with the Portuguese traders of Goa located in India, after this relationship again there was continuity in the relations between India and Japan. But direct political exchanges began during the Meiji Regime (1868–1912 AD), while Japan began its modernisation. In this modernization period, Japan-India Federation was established in 1903 AD, this rise of 20th century of Japan was seen positively in India. Japan's rapid economic growth and reconstruction after world war I influenced Indian thinkers and revolutionaries and 'Suresh Chandra Bandyopadhyay, Manmathnath Ghosh and Hariprova Takeda were the early Indians who went to Japan and wrote about the experiences there, Rabindranath Tagore's activities in this direction are also noteworthy. The national movement that started in India at this time gradually reached its climax and on the other hand, the treaty that was signed between the british empire and the Japanese empire after the First World War, this Anglo-Japanese treaty ended in 1923 AD. Due to which now many Indian revolutionaries who escaped from prison took refuge in Japan, among such revolutionaries was Rash Behari Bose, who formed the Azad Hind Fauj with the help of Japan, and started new relations between India and Japan. This Azad Hind Fauj helped imperialist Japan and its alliance. Originally, the Azad Hind Fauj was formed by the Indian soldiers who had abandoned the british army and the Indian soldiers who were captured by Japan after defeating the soldiers of the combined Indian British Army. He was handed over to the Azad Hind Fauj. In this sequence, Rash Behari Bose handed over the command of the Azad Hind Fauj in Singapore to Subhash Chandra Bose and called him 'Netaji'. This India and the Japanese army started the war with the British army during World War II. Thus military relations between India and Japan started before independence. Both these combined armies won Manipur, Andaman and Nicovar Islands, but in Imphal and Kohima, the British forces defeated I.N.A. Forced to retreat and Japan and its alliance in World War II, along with the defeat, Japan also had to bear the brunt of the atomic bomb destruction. After this Japan returned the Andaman and Nicovar Islands to India and Netaji also mysteriously disappeared. After the Second World War, an International Military Judicial Authority was formed for the Far East, in which the appointed Indian Judge Radha Vinod Pal became famous there for ruling in favor of Japan which became a symbol of the close relations between the two countries. After World War II, Japanese sovereignty fell under the Allies, the MacIver Constitution was forcibly imposed on Japan, and the US demilitarized Japan, taking the responsibility of defense. After independence, India sent two elephants to Tokyo Zoo in 1949 AD and refused to participate in the 1951 San Francisco Conference because, as is known earlier, this convention imposed restrictions on Japanese sovereignty and independence. After Japan gained its sovereignty, India Japan reestablished full diplomatic relations on 28 April 1952 by signing a peace treaty. After the establishment of this diplomatic relationship, relations in the business, diplomatic, economic and technical fields were reestablished between India and Japan. India started exporting cast iron to Japan and Japanese Prime Minister Nobush Kishi visited India in 1957, after which Japan started giving yen loans to India at cheap rates.

# India-Japan Relations and the Indo-Pacific Region

The Indo-Pacific region has in recent years become a new stage of political and diplomatic conflict between different powers. Because at present about 75% of the world trade goods are imported and exported

from this region. The sector, which accounts for about 60% of the global GDP, is also very sensitive to energy trade. It can be said that the key to the new world order lies in the hands of the Indo-Pacific region, because under this region an important area comes in the South China Sea, which is very important from political and commercial point of view, apart from this the other important area is the Straits of Malacca which is also very important from the political and commercial point of view.

## Important facts of the summit between India and Japan

In the year 2014, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Shinzo Abe started the policy of balancing against China in the field of security. During the reign of Shinzo Abe, India and Japan had a partnership in the field of digital research and innovation, under which work is done on artificial intelligence, 5G Internet, space research and technology etc. Japan supported major manufacturing initiatives like 'Make in India' to strengthen economic ties between the two countries. Over the years, India and Japan have collaborated to build infrastructure in Iran and Africa, provided significant assistance to Myanmar and Sri Lanka, and called on Southeast Asian nations to counter China's growing influence in the Southeast Asian region. In 2012, Shinzo Abe proposed the idea of setting up a Democratic Security Diamond, known as the Quad, involving Australia, India, Japan and the US, to ensure maritime security from the Indian Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. The Quad group was established in November 2017 to formulate a new strategy to keep the Indo-Pacific region free from the influence of any external power, (especially China).

## **Defance Relation**

In the fight for India's independence, the imperial army of Japan assisted the Azad Hind Fauj of Subhas Chandra Bose. Recently, a joint exercise was conducted by the naval armies of India and Japan in the Indian Ocean. The purpose of this exercise by the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force was to increase mutual coordination between the naval armies of the two countries. Two warships from both sides took part in this exercise. Naval exercises between India and Japan have now become regular, but this exercise is being linked to the military standoff between India and China in Ladakh. Significant progress has been made in India-Japan defense relations in the last 22 years. The main reason for the strength of Japan-India relations is the shared vision of the stability of the Pacific and the common security challenges of the region. Both India and Japan are members of the United Nations Organization. Both countries are members of the G4 group. In 2019, India and Japan also participated in joint naval exercises with the US and clipping in the South China Sea. Apart from this, a joint military exercise called Shinyu Maitri by the Air Forces of the two countries and Dharma Guardian by the Army is conducted.

#### Political and diplomatic relations

Subhas Chandra Bose's Azad Hind Fauj was also assisted during India's freedom struggle, since India's independence, relations between the two countries have been cordial. The India-Japan Strategic and Global Partnership Agreement was signed during the December 2006 visit to Japan by former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh during the Look East Policy. In the field of defense, relations between the two countries have been continuously strengthened since 2007.

In 2013, Japanese Emperor Aki Hito and Empress Michiko concluded their visit to India, which was received by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh himself at the airport. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe along with his wife had attended India's Republic Day celebrations as the chief guest in 2014. After this, in the summit meeting with Manmohan Singh, the two Prime Ministers agreed a loan of 200 billion yen and also offered cooperation in the fields of high speed rail, defence, medical care, pharmaceutical manufacturing and agriculture and thermal energy. In 2014, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi chose Japan as the first to travel abroad from a lamp outside the Indian subcontinent.

## Tokyo declaration letter

In the Political Defense and Security Partnership, 2+2 talks involving the Foreign and Defense Secretaries were decided and an agreement on cooperation and exchanges in the defense sector was signed, both air and water US-2 aircraft and its associated Cooperation for technology was agreed.

The Global Partnership for Peace and Security in the Region and the World, there was an appeal for a comprehensive reform of the United Nations Security Council, especially its expansion into both permanent and non-permanent sections, the suggestion of a 2015 deadline, and the condemnation of terrorism in all its forms.

Significant progress in civil nuclear cooperation between the two countries.

Cooperation for prosperity was signed. Japan's foreign direct investment in India and the number of Japanese companies set to double in 5 years, rejuvenate the Ganges and other rivers, clean energy, skill development, water security, food processing, agriculture, industry, rural development, etc. Invested approx 3.5 trillion yen, It was also agreed on loaning of 5 lakhs yen loan to India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited. they are also agreed to setting up of Japan Industrial Township, Electronic Industrial Park in India, mutual cooperation in the field of energy, supply of chlorides from India to Japan etc.

It was decided to cooperate with each other in the fields of science, mathematics, new technology etc.

# **Economic relations**

Economic relations between India and Japan have increased along with the strengthening of religious ties between the two. It is proved from this sentence that the economic relations between India and Japan were from ancient times. The Silk Road of ancient times is a very appropriate ancient example of the economic relationship between India and Japan. After India's independence, Japan started giving economic assistance to India at cheap rates, which helped India to develop its own infrastructure. After the cold war, a new era of economic relations between India and Japan began. Japanese Prime Minister Mori visited India in August 2000 and JAPAN- INDIA GIOBAL PARTNERSHIP IN THE 21TH CENTRURY Signed the agreement. Japan ranks third in total foreign direct investment in India. Apart from this, Japan has played a very important role in setting up and supporting industries in India, in which Maruti Suzuki cars are very popular in India in the field of car manufacturing. In addition, Japan has helped in the construction of the Delhi Metro project in India. At present, Japan is helping in the development of the Mumbai-Delhi Industrial Corridor as well as helping in the reconstruction of the Delhi-Habra railway line. Apart from this, Japanese cameras, computers etc. are very popular in India. Indian Engineer Japanese I.T. becoming the backbone of

the industry. In the 2010 visit of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to Japan, both the countries liberalized the Bija system. On 25 October 2010, India Japan signed a bilateral 'Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement'. So that the trade relations between India and Japan increase. Japan has also helped India in the field of steel industry. Indo-Japan jointly setting up steel industry in West Bengal. As of March 2005, Japan has invested a total of \$ 2.12 billion in India, thus Japan is the third largest foreign direct investor in India.

## Conclusion

It is clear from the above discussion that India-Japan relations were from very ancient times. Religious relations and economic relations are particularly noteworthy in these relations, which are continuing till date. But after the rise of China, both have given special emphasis on the strategic agreement so that China can be surrounded, because the balance of power in Asia will be determined mainly by the developments in East Asia and the Indian Ocean. In this view, India will be able to control Japan's position. The partnership could become America's 'Asian pivot'. In this direction, the visit of Japanese Emperor Akihit to India in November 2013 will establish new dimensions of relations. As the Japanese Prime Minister Shizoabe has said, 'India-Japan relations are like the meeting of two oceans' in which cultural relations have been working as a bridge since ancient times. Some of the islands are in the Japanese Sea, in which China sometimes sends warships, which escalates the Sino-Japanese dispute and North Korea launches missiles over Japan. In both these disputes and the Doklam dispute, India-Japan supported each other, due to which there is a great intensity in the relationship between the two, due to which China became apprehensive.

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