Franco-German reconciliation: A lesson for India-Pakistan

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Abstract: France and Germany are the most imperative nations of Europe. The Relationship between the two states stayed strained and both were adversaries, most extraordinary enemies, rivals, and foes of each other. This relationship separated and dedicated the lives of the people of France and Germany. They fought three immense fatal and destructive wars on the continent which demolished the lives of the whole landmass. From 1870 to 1945 Europe turned into the combat zone of these two enemies and their partners. Since 1945, France and Germany got the chance to be motor, engine, Linchpin, twin motor, etc. of the European Integration. The post-world war II bargain is a fascinating illustration, additional standard accomplishment, and impeccable occasion of cutting edge history. The Franco-German reconciliation has staggering impact on Europe for the most part and France and Germany particularly. This reconciliation is an amazing and unique lesson for the foe states of the World particularly the traditional rival countries of South Asia that includes India-Pakistan. The reason for writing this paper is to discover fundamental variables that caused such reconciliation and how will India-Pakistan get lesson from this reconciliation and the comparative case analysis of Franco-German relationship before 1945 and after 1945 and how they become friends? This article recommends various pragmatic approaches and will be useful for the arrangement of policies of India-Pakistan, Foreign ministries, researchers, student of history, political science and international relations.

Key words: Reconciliation; Integration; Animosity; Friendship

1. Introduction

The Franco-German relationship is an important part of European history. The disastrous wars battled between the two states and enmity through the hundreds of years pulverized the whole continent. This hostility also caused two great World Wars and loss of millions of humans and infinite wealth. After fighting disastrous wars they compelled to think about preventive measures for wars and peaceful coexistence. (Carine and Henning, 2008) It became possible after the Second World War when both buried the trends of hostile relations and came forward for cooperation. The formation of Franco-German alliance was a remarkable and outstanding achievement. From dangerous enemies to be good friends was a unique example of relationship. The post-War reconciliation between France and Germany became the symbol of peace for the region, particularly in the context of European integration.

Franco-German investment, plot, trade off and neighborly relationship is an astounding case with an exceptional outline and a good lesson for the conditions of different areas of the world. The unprecedented initiative threatening vibe to agreement, broadcasted some other time of coordinated effort and development of their nation and areas as well. The development of their participation hereditary enemies to intimate partners and how their relationship became the principal driving force for European integration. This paper will discuss the factors of reconciliation.

2. History of Franco-German relationship

History of Franco-German relations is too old and started from the time of Charlemagne. His empire covered half of Europe including Germany. France was considered most powerful state during the rule of Charlemagne. France, Germany, Northern Italy, Luxembourg, Austria and some other parts of Europe were the parts of his empire. In this context the relations of the two powers started from the ancient times (Bhote, 2005). The downfall of Charlemagne’s empire separated Germany as a single state in 843 AD. After the 880 treaty with Ribemont France started her relations with England while Germany attached to Italy for a long time. The ups and downs of these relations continued during the Habsburg period and Middle Ages too. In the Habsburg ruling France and Prussia were against each other in Spanish successions war (Bhote, 2005). The thirty years war was on the basis of religion catholic and Protestant but it was less religious and more political and this war mostly destroyed Prussia.

In the eighteenth century Prussia rose as a powerful state and became a challenge for France. France fought many battles and it was the initial
hatred between the two states but Prussia got the position of new diplomatic power in Europe. During the French revolution the perception of the wars was changed and revolutionary movements began and that was the birth of nationalistic ideas in Europe when Napoleon (Albrecht, 1958). Bonapart occupied some areas of Prussia that created animosity in the minds of the Prussian public against Napoleonic France. 

The nineteenth century is regarded as the unification of Germany. From the first half of the nineteenth century the German people understood the reality, that the German unification may change the nucleus of power from France to Germany, (Hazen, 1919) because the population of the German states was triggered than France. Both powers fought a fatal war during 1870-1871 and the final result was the French defeat.

Germany took part of Alsace and Lorraine from France and in the following years France struggled to take back these regions from Germany. This rivalry formed blocs against each other's which caused the World War I. France as an allied power defeated Germany, took back Alsace and Lorain but the war destroyed French Infrastructure. France had strong intentions to crush Germany in every sphere economically, militarily, socially and forced to pay reparation of war but United Kingdom and United States of America refused to do so (Carine and Henning, 2008). The results of the great World War I deepened the animosity between both powers, particularly Germany.

The post-World War I period was the preparation of new fatalistic war on the map of the continent. The spirit of nationalism was the significant phenomena, so the Nazi Party re-militarized Germany. Adolf Hitler, Germany leader empowered Germany once again in terms of military, industry and economy. The agenda of the Nazi party was to take revenge of the World War I; the popular German slogan was Lebensraum (living space) to occupy more land for growing population and the return of Alsace and Loraine of France. This rivalry led towards the most lethal, fatal and destructive war from 1939 to 1945 in the history of mankind (Haward, 2002). Both powers formed blocs once again against each other, used destructive weapons, killed millions of people, millions wounded and displaced, complete destruction of infrastructure, industries, schools, universities, hospitals, houses, roads and infinite wealth. This war was a complete disaster for the whole continent, they got nothing but destruction. From 1870 to 1945 both states were the worst enemies of each other. The 80 years long period of animosity caused two great world wars and destruction of the whole continent.

The post-World War II period of close relationship started as a new age of cooperation, friendship and reconciliation. This bi-lateral friendship, (Seymour, 1916) cooperation and reconciliation became the engine and motor of European Integration, European peace, European defense, and European prosperity.

3. Introduction India-Pakistan relations

The ancient human civilization has been grown in the lab of sub-continent. The birth place of Hinduism and Buddhism remained a focus of Islam. Rather than such awesome progress the area referred to high risk conflict zone, due to India-Pakistan's enmity for a considerable length of time. Both battled four noteworthy wars. The history of Pak-India relations remained strain since 1947. It has been 68 years and both states must learn lesson from Franco-German reconciliation model to overcome the antagonism.

4. Research method

This study has allowed descriptive, qualitative and analytical approach to investigate main factors, reasons and driving forces for reconciliation and further initiatives and fields to more cordial relations. We have discussed those factors and ways adopted by France and Germany to overcome rivalry through which India and Pakistan can also get a good lesson to overcome their animosity.

5. Ideal and visionary leadership

The World War II began from 1939 and finished in 1945. It was one of the most exceedingly terrible monstrosities in the historical backdrop of humanity being the most unfortunate, fatalistic and intense war. The aggregate causalities of World War II were 60 million. German were passed on and executed 8 million out of 64 million crowded. (Carine and Henning, 2008) While, on the other hand French populace was about 42 million and murdered 0.550 million.

The primary element of compromise is viewed as the visionary initiative between France and Germany. The originator European Coal and Steel Community and Franco-German Engine, the previous foreign minister of France Robert Schuman and the chancellor of Germany, Adenauer’s role were exceptional. Both deserted rivalry of patriotism and doubt and then turned into the originator of European Integration. Pioneers acknowledged the compromise, considering the fact that it was of the crucial importance to keep Europe serene, prosperous and secure. (Europa,2015) Following 70 years the battle region zone turned into the image of peace and other foe countries can get great lessons from this compromise.

It was solid responsibility and determination of Leaders for the well-being of their masses. They grasped the slogan “Never Again” hurled every fatalistic war into dustbin. Then the pioneers took after the way of their ancestors. Chancellor Adenauer and General de Gaulle scorched the noteworthy Elysee Treaty in 22 January 1963. (Carine and Hanning, 2008) That was the foundation to reject hostility and acknowledge harmony in any
case as to mark non war settlement and fellowship Treaty.

In this setting the pioneers and establishing fathers of India and Pakistan appeared to be visionary pioneers.

Regardless of killings of innocent people on both sides, detestation and relocation. Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah demanded that the future relations of India and Pakistan will be America-Canada sort with open borders. Not long after the packaging the organization of Quaid-e-Azam was hopeful and visionary. The Quaid Said in his debate "A couple of nations have executed millions, of each other yet than an enemy of today is friend of tomorrow, that is history". He in addition said you are allowed to go to your temples, (Rumi,2001) mosques, and church, you may fit in with any religion, cast, philosophy or creed. Gandhi was murdered a Hindu radical in light of the fact that he was fasting for the privileges of Pakistanis.

About Indo-Pakistan relations he was of the perspective that the two countries ought to overlook their previous strains and begin another period of peace and cooperation. The Quaid was possessed with building a predominant future for the people of India and Pakistan. The early going of Quaid-e-Azam and demise of Mohtama Gandhi left the new states in the hands of new political actors who had absence of vision and authority in them. (Dar, 2010) They just looked for their own advantages. Absence of visionary initiative exasperates both states. Both the countries need outstandingly visionary pioneers. They need such a pioneers like Robert Schuman and Adenauer. Still there is great trust that one day the leaders of India-Pakistan get lesson from the compromise of France and Germany. India and Pakistan ought to sign the pact of no war. The Pak-Indian national and provincial assemblies should pass resolutions to apologize of executing and plundering during partition. It will bring useful result on the brain of people (The Nation, 2013). The strong political will is fundamental for the technique of trade off. Absence of genuineness in political power brings drawback in the change of

6. Economic cooperation

The World War II finished in 1945, and had brought financial, social and political decimation to whole Continent and the people were exhausted due to wars. They expected to vanquish the financial, political and social obliteration and finding hot-spots for the renaissance and recuperation against the pulverization that they continued confronting. France and Germany indicated the beginning of another period for the relationship. The Project of Schuman had recommended that German and French Coal and steel will be under a high authority (Britannica, 2015). This suggestion was the economic related foundation for the European integration. The European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) were made. That was introductory move towards the end of their antagonistic vibe and the start of a quiet financial compromise in Europe. France and Germany were the two engines in within confined the ECSC. Along these lines the considered pooling (Carine and Henning, 2008) Franco-German coal and steel worked out as expected and the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) was encircled.

This choice was economical and also political, as these two row materials were the reason of the business and power of the two countries. The French Foreign Minister, Robert Schuman, in his acclaimed attestation of 9 May 1950, suggested that Franco-German coal and steel creation be put under an High Authority inside the structure of a relationship in which other European countries could partake. The purpose of the Treaty, as communicated in Article 2, was to contribute, through the essential business segment for coal and steel, to financial expansion, improvement of job and a rising lifestyle. In the light of the establishment of the ordinary market, the Treaty exhibited the free development of things without exchanging hindrances or obligations (Europa, 2015). This financial collaboration incorporated entire Europe, when different nations of Europe got to be individual from European Community. Presently there are 28 member nations of European Union and Euro is single money of European Union and there are 17 states expresses that utilization Euro as single coin. France and Germany is the engine of this monetary combination.

India-Pakistan can likewise begin such financial and exchange participation in free development of products without exchanging hindrances or obligations. At that point when their financial volume will expand the enmity will be abatement in both sides.(Dar,2010) Monetary thriving will change the view of contention. The Franco-German monetary collaboration model is a best sample for India-Pakistan. They ought to take risk to begin such choices. Dialogue is the most important piece of compromise for better economic relations. To begin with standardize visa procedure and after that opening borders with the expectation of complimentary ventures. In France and Germany there is no border framework between the two people groups (Nayer, 2014). The individuals can go France to Germany and vice-versa. They can move their capital starting with one state then onto the next state. They can do work in either country. These are the lessons for the two enemy states of South Asia to cut the foundations of contention.

7. Social and cultural cooperation

France and Germany chipped in diverse cultural and social fields. The generations of today are the leaders of tomorrow. Therefore, France and Germany considered the Youth as potential component of compromise. The Franco-German Youth Office is an affiliation which serves to support Franco-German co-operation. By denoting the Elysée Treaty on 22 January 1963 General De Gaulle, the President of the French Republic, and Konrad
Adenauer, the Federal Chancellor, set up the network of the Franco-German Youth Office. The Intergovernmental Agreement of 5 July 1963 realized obtainment made under this Treaty of Franco-German cooperation by making a body known as the Franco German Youth Office to develop relations amidst French and German youths. (Franco-German Youth Office, 2015) Around eight million young people German and French people have taken part in around 300,000 exchange activities. More than 5,500 associates, affiliations and affiliations support the German-French foundation arranged in Paris and Berlin. To wreck and moderate feeling of hater, contempt the two states started marriage programs among individuals when all is said in done of both states (Schofeld, 2003). When they had been able to be near to the point that practically 50,000 French-German couples get hitched consistently.

The TV channel Arte is in like manner the picture of Franco-German social and cultural coordinated effort. The objective behind to secure this channel was that it would bring French and German subjects closer together on a social level and development joining all through Europe. It was made to propel the fundamental social legacy of France and Germany. (Maria, 2001) November 1988 in Bonn, the French and German governments decided to make a Franco-German social TV station that they would back together and after support from both governments it existed in 1991 and started its broadcasting after 1992. The event opened another stage in Franco-German social relations.

The TV channel Arte is joint social TV channel working following 1992 as image of Franco-German social participation. This channel shows news and different projects in German and French dialects. This is an amazing sample for India and Pakistan to begin such a social TV channel. Indian and Pakistani news and projects can demonstrate in perspective “Pak-India Dosti” point of view. These projects may help to kill emotions of hater in both sides.

India-Pakistan has numerous things that are familiar more than France and Germany e.g.; dialects talked among both sides are same for example Urdu/Hindi, Sanskrit, Punjabi, Gujarati, Rajistani and so forth. Individuals have same emotions, (Haider, 2013) same propensities, foods, dressing, houses and diverse traditions, marriage customs and family setup. After 1945, France and Germany began “twinship” or towns, regions and urban communities in clash zone and outskirt zones. This is the second mainstay of Franco-German Parapublic underpinnings. There are more than 2000 “twinships” in both sides. Where French and German both dialects have been taught in schools and colleges. Pakistan and India can gain information from these twinships venture (Nayer, 2014). The two South Asian rival countries can change the eventual fate of individuals by opening borders in a few zones as a test case.

8. Educational cooperation

France and Germany coordinated in the field of education. The most basic composed exertion in the midst of France and Germany is "History Text Book" to crush the adversarial history from the books of both sides. Since 1960 this venture has been begun and finally (Universite Franco-Allemande2015) the effective to begin the undertaking in 2006. The reason joint history book is to eradicate the disdain and feeling of hostility from the pages of history and new history reading material help the youth to adore one another. Pakistan and India can likewise begin such a joint history reading material. It is critical need of today to begin such venture. After partition the historians and journalists of both sides has composed considerably more against one another which is not genuine (Franco-German University, 2015). All and everything has been composed just to spread despise in the brains of society. The Franco-German University is another instructive undertaking for University students of both sides.

The pupils of both states get entrances in this institute and those degree completed individuals are working in diverse offices in both states (Berning, 2011). These youngsters work for the better relations of both sides. Some of them get to be representatives and communicate in German and French easily. It is necessary to learn French and German for each ambassador.

Pakistan and India ought to dispatch grant projects for the pupils of both nations than begin university program as joint instructive system. All and everything is conceivable if the political leaders make development.

9. Alsace-Lorraine and Saar region

In the Franco-German relations coal and iron stayed noteworthy. The area of Alsace-Lorraine was rich with biggest stores of Iron, metal and steel. In the nineteenth century it had incredible significance of steel, Iron and metal on account of its uses in weapon generation, tanks, Helicopters and other war heads. This locale stayed bone of dispute between them. As Verifiable it was a bit of Charlemagne in 9th century A.D. Later it stayed under control of Roman Empire; than it was region of Germany however Treaty of Westphalia in 1948 offered it to France (Paul, 1995). The Franco-Prussian war in 1970-71 got critical because of French annihilation. This war developed a feeling of hater, hostility and animosity against Germans. From 1870 to 1914 it stayed under control of Germany yet 1919 France took it at the end of the day till 1940. From 1940 to 1945 it stayed under Germans amid World War II however it needed to surrender to France by and by. This battle region area is currently the picture of peace. It’s a part of France now (Fr-Gr Uni, 2015) (where both German and French similarly taught in schools. It transformed into the aide of peace and connection.

In India and Pakistan relations, Kashmir is the core issue. Since 1947 both states battled three wars
on Kashmir. In such manner the perspective of both nations is diverse. India declares that Kashmir is the piece of its body "Atoot Ang" while Pakistan says it is Vein of Neck "Sheh-e-rag" for her. Pakistan dependably weight on India for a plebiscite Kashmir (report, 2002) so that the populace of Kashmir will choose possibly they need to join India or Pakistan however India never acknowledged this interest of Pakistan.

Kashmir has extraordinary significance due to its excellent valleys and new water assets. Truly and geologically it remained the piece of (Cheema, 2010) Pakistan. The populace of Kashmir needs to join Pakistan. Siachen and Sir Creek are minor issues. The time has come now India and Pakistan need to unravel the Kashmir issue and other minor issues (Center, 2015). The dialogue are the main path forward through which every reciprocal issue between the both nations could be conveyed to arranged and friendly settlement.

10. Conclusion

After a long history of animosity has revealed the truth that it has destroyed France and German relations. The World War II was the most fatalistic war in human history. France and Germany at last understood the devastation of war, started the process of cordial relationship and reconciliation. The loss of 8 million Germans and 550,000 French in World War II gave a good lesson to the both enemy states. The started reconciliation, took solid steps: established coal and steel community, Treaties of Room and signing of the Elysee Treaty in 1963. They threw wars in to dustbin and buried all antagonistic nationalists thinking about each other. They became the motor and engine of European Integration, which brought peace, prosperity and security in European continent. France and Germany cooperated in all key areas. Through European Coal and Steel Community and Treaties of Room they cooperated in economic and financial areas, free trade, custom Unions, single market, single currency, a common passport area and common foreign policy are distinguished achievements of Franco-German reconciliation. In the area of education youth participation in the peace keeping have given importance, 200,000 young men and women cross border each year to learn French and German, The Franco-German Youth Office playing key role in exchange of youth. Around 800,000 students get benefited from this programme. Franco-German University is the most important achievement also mentioned in the "History Text Book" a joint history book. Cultural cooperation also has significance, the joint cultural channel Arte is best example and some 50 thousands cross marriages the very year and learning of both languages is compulsory for students and also diplomats. India and Pakistan are arch enemies of each other since 1947, fought four major wars. Instead loss of humans and infinite wealth they are still a way of reconciliation. It is the hottest nuclear flash point of the world. Kashmir is the core issue and Siachen, Sir Creek, Wuller Barrage, water issue, territorial disputes, and terrorism are the issues of India-Pakistan's rivalry. To overcome this animosity I have presented some suggestions in the discussion. India-Pakistan can get lessons from the reconciliation, cooperation and integration process of France and Germany. Through signing a no war pact, through apologized from each other's for the killings and looting during partition, through para-public projects, through cricket diplomacy, through Joint film production on Pakistan-India friendship, through cricketers because they are ambassadors of their nations, through trade of youth on instructive projects recompensing them scholarships, through easy visa process, through trade and economic cooperation and opening of borders for each other's. The common man of both countries wishes to build friendship between India and Pakistan. Both the countries should conflict with neediness, obliviousness, debasement and unemployment which are their regular adversaries. The philosophy of love peace and nonviolence espoused by the Quaid-e-Azam and Mahatama Gandhi was inspired by the Quranic message and the people of India and Pakistan should take guidance from the teachings of their respective founding fathers.

References


