

# Chanakya's Foreign Policy

Praveen A. Kashyap\*

M.Com, K. Set, Lecturer in Commerce, Seshadripuram Composite Preuniversity College #40 Girls School Street Road, 4<sup>TH</sup> Block, Kumara Park West, Seshadripuram, Bangalore 20

**Abstract – Kautilya's Arthashastra which means 'science of wealth creation' is a work by genius of ancient Indian economy, the author identified as Kautilya or Chanakya is a well known historical figure who shaped the future of India during the Magadhan times.**

**Chanakya's speaks about various forms of quality governance, public finance, corporate governance, governance models; foreign policy etc. These foreign policies are explained with appropriate examples using his six aspects.**

**Almost he has written about foreign policy 2000 years ago but still it is very useful for today's conditions.**

**Key Words – Peace, War, Marching, Dvaideebhava, Samshraya.**

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## PAPER

A foreign policy is all about the government strategy in dealing with other nations. In other words transactions with other countries should be done with prescribed procedure and guidelines given by the government. Here government plays an important role while making policy because it must be done with extra cautious; a small error may result in huge loss to the nation. Keeping this in mind, i have taken six aspects of Chanakya's foreign policy how effectively we can use it at different situations.

Chanakya's Arthashastra says there are many aspects that one should consider with hostile country to ensure strong foreign policy. The various aspects are explained below.

PEACE: "SANDHI" entering in to a treaty, when the hostile country is more powerful then you or at least equal in strength, you need to enter in to treaty. Eventually you should not enter in to treaty when hostile country is less powerful then you. For an instance when Japan thought USA is not even equivalent in strength they dint go for treaty but when USA dropped atomic bomb on HIROSHIMA and NAGASAKI on 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of august 1945 with the consent of United Kingdom, as required by the QUEBEC agreement resulting Japanese surrendering to USA on September, 2nd 1945. This shows when to come for treaty and when not to come for treaty.

WAR: "VIGRAHA" doing injury is war; you can enter in to war only if your country is prosperous. If it is not,

then you should never enter in to war. Chanakya also says war should be the last option. For example on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2017 Pulwama attack resulted in the deaths of 40 CRPF and attack was claimed by the Pakistani based militant group Jaish-E-Mohamed. After this Indian army destroyed their base and killed the militant without raising a war because we are not prosperous and also war should be the last resort.

STAYING QUITE "ASANA" remaining indifferent is staying quite. When the hostile country is quite and having no intention to harm you, then you should remain quite.

For an instance China in Himalayan boundaries are remaining quite which means they are not making or showing any fresh aggression. In this situation we should remain indifferent.

MARCHING "YAANA" Augmentation of powers is marching. Chanakya's belief is, you can march only when there is a favourable condition to gain the fruit of marching otherwise you will fail. For example in World War II Hitler's marching on Russia during the winter leads to defeat in front of Russia.

SHELTER "SAMSHRAYA" when there is depletion of powers, one should seek shelter. You cannot afford to show any aggression when you are suffering from depletion of powers.

DUAL POLICY "DVAIDHEEBHAVA" it is all about working with association. If you want to have a

better foreign policy this aspect is very important to work with cooperation. For an instance Indian prime minister make several contracts with various countries recently Modi's four nation tour with Germany on May 29, 2019, Spain, Russia and France.

## CONCLUSION

Chanakya's foreign policy focuses on various aspects which would help in proper administration in every circumstance for smooth and proper functioning of the country hence these methods should be adopted properly in India for its successful economic growth.

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### Corresponding Author

**Praveen A. Kashyap\***

M.Com, K. Set, Lecturer in Commerce,  
Seshadripuram Composite Preuniversity College #40  
Girls School Street Road, 4<sup>TH</sup> Block, Kumara Park  
West, Seshadripuram, Bangalore 20