

Underscoring Peace 'as' Hospitality in Indo-Pak Relations: Toward Alternatives of Conflict Resolution in South Asia

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KEYWORDS Hospitality. Spectrality. Openness. Otherness. Difference. Carnival

ABSTRACT The researcher's paper investigates present-day Indo-Pak problems in the context of Jacques Derrida's idea of hospitality that helps analyze conventional issues of international relations in an unconventional manner. Derrida's hospitality theory contends that any kind of interaction, to be ontologically meaningful, has to be underpinned by a *spectrality* that requires the guest, the host and hospitality. The purpose of the researcher's paper is better highlighted if we consider the recent ceasefire in Jammu and Kashmir unilaterally declared by India, and developments that have followed India's decision that this ceasefire would be effective, pending review, till 26 January 2001 (if not further). But India as the host would also like Pakistan as the guest to hospitality respond to this contemporary dialog and not miss the second diplomatic bus. The first such diplomatic bus was missed by Pakistan due to its 'alleged' involvement in Kargil, an unofficial Indo-Pak war that had signified nothing of import but had, at the same time, failed to either resolve or even defer the uncoordinated otherness(es) of the signifiers involved that is, India and Pakistan.