CLASS:--12TH,POLITICAL SCIENCE, UNIT : 04, INDIA'S EXTERNAL RELATIONS

DATE:- 21/08/21

Afro-Asian Unity

- Nehru era marked the establishment of contacts between India and other newly independent states in Asia and Africa.
- Under the leadership of Nehru, India convened the Asian Relations Conference in March 1947.
- India supported the process of decolonisation and opposed racism, especially apartheid in South Africa.
- The Afro-Asian Conference held in the Indonesian city of Bandung in 1955 which is known as Bandung Conference and marked the establishment of the NAM.
- The first summit of the NAM was held in Belgrade in September 1961.

Peace and Conflict with China

- Independent India began its relationship with China on a friendly note as India was one of the first countries to recognise the communist government.
- Some of Nehru's colleagues like Vallabhbhai Patel, were worried about possible Chinese aggression in future but Nehru thought it was exceedingly unlikely that India will face an attack from China.
  Paonchsheel (The five principles of peaceful co-existence) Agreement signed between Indian Prime Minister Nehru and the Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai on 29th April, 1954 was a step in the direction of stronger relationship between two.

Tibet

- Tibet, a plateau of the Central Asian region, is one of the major issues that historically caused tension between India and China.
- After the Panchsheel Agreement of 1954 India conceded China's claim over Tibet.
- In 1959, the Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama was given asylum (refuge) by India which worsened the relations between both countries.

The Chinese Invasion, 1962

- China annexed Tibet in 1950 and removed historical buffer between two countries. The issue of Dalai Lama added fuel to the fire.
- China claimed two areas within the Indian territory: Askai-Chin area in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir and state of Arunachal Pradesh in North Eastern Frontier Agency (NEFA).
- China launched a swift and massive invasion in October 1962 on both the disputed areas.
- The China war dented India's image at home and abroad.

- **The Sino-Indian conflict and the growing rift between China and the Soviet Union created irreconcilable differences within the Communist Party of India (CPI). The Pro-USSR faction remained within the CPI and moved towards closer ties with the Congress.**