



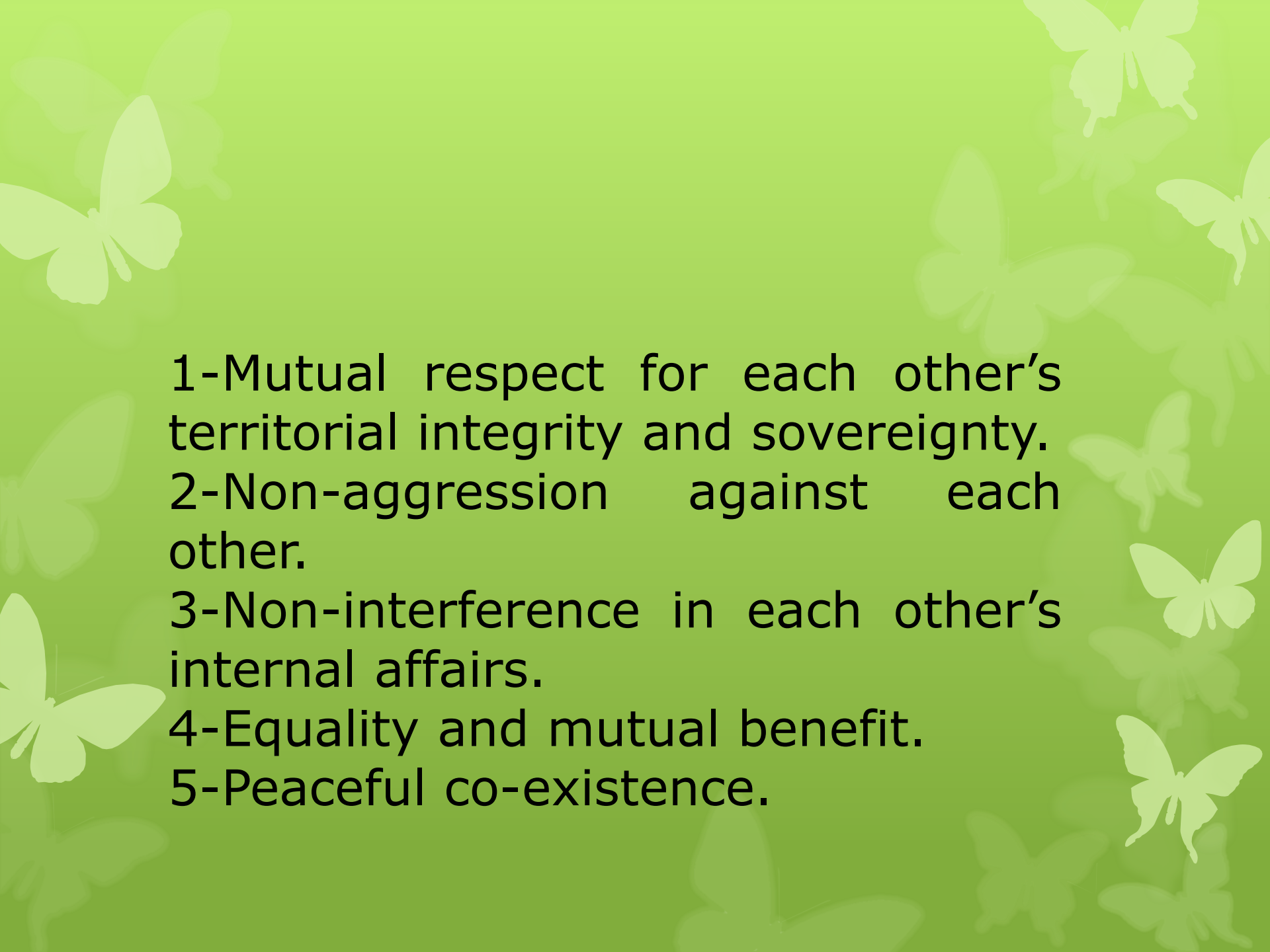
Principles of India's Foreign Policy

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The principles of India's foreign policy and its objectives are closely interlinked with each other. These principles are embedded in the international law and India's foreign policy practice. Some of these principles can be discussed.

Panchsheel

- Indian Policy makers understood the association between peace and development and survival of mankind. Panchsheel was signed on 28 April, 1954 and since then it has become a guiding principle of India's bilateral relations with countries also. Panchsheel includes the following five principles of foreign policy:

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- 1-Mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty.
 - 2-Non-aggression against each other.
 - 3-Non-interference in each other's internal affairs.
 - 4-Equality and mutual benefit.
 - 5-Peaceful co-existence.

Non-alignment

- Non-alignment is the most important feature of India's foreign policy. Its core element is to maintain independence in foreign affairs by not joining any military alliance formed by the USA and Soviet Union, which emerged as an important aspect of cold war politics after the Second World War. India played a lead role in popularizing and consolidating the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

Policy of Resisting Colonialism, Imperialism, Racism

- India has been victim of colonialism and racism and was as such opposed to these evils in any form. India considers colonialism and imperialism as the threat to international peace and security India was the first to bring the issue of Apartheid in the UN in 1946. The end of racialism in South Africa in 1990 was a great success for Indian policy.

Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes

- One of the basic elements of India's foreign policy is its constant belief in the political solution and peaceful settlement of international disputes. This principle has been included in the Constitution of India, under the Directive Principles of State Policy as well as in the Charter of the UN.

Support to UN, International Law and a Just and Equal World Order

- India has deep respect for the international law and the principles of sovereign equality of nations and non-interference in the internal affairs of other nations as espoused by the UN. India has played a key role in stabilising world peace by helping in the decolonization process, and through active participation in UN peacekeeping activities.