

International Multidisciplinary
Research Journal

Golden Research
Thoughts

Chief Editor
Dr.Tukaram Narayan Shinde

Publisher
Mrs.Laxmi Ashok Yakkaldevi

Associate Editor
Dr.Rajani Dalvi

Honorary
Mr.Ashok Yakkaldevi

Welcome to GRT

RNI MAHMUL/2011/38595

ISSN No.2231-5063

Golden Research Thoughts Journal is a multidisciplinary research journal, published monthly in English, Hindi & Marathi Language. All research papers submitted to the journal will be double - blind peer reviewed referred by members of the editorial board. Readers will include investigator in universities, research institutes government and industry with research interest in the general subjects.

International Advisory Board

Flávio de São Pedro Filho Federal University of Rondonia, Brazil	Mohammad Hailat Dept. of Mathematical Sciences, University of South Carolina Aiken	Hasan Baktir English Language and Literature Department, Kayseri
Kamani Perera Regional Center For Strategic Studies, Sri Lanka	Abdullah Sabbagh Engineering Studies, Sydney	Ghayoor Abbas Chotana Dept of Chemistry, Lahore University of Management Sciences[PK]
Janaki Sinnasamy Librarian, University of Malaya	Ecaterina Patrascu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest	Anna Maria Constantinovici AL. I. Cuza University, Romania
Romona Mihaila Spiru Haret University, Romania	Loredana Bosca Spiru Haret University, Romania	Ilie Pinteau, Spiru Haret University, Romania
Delia Serbescu Spiru Haret University, Bucharest, Romania	Fabricio Moraes de Almeida Federal University of Rondonia, Brazil	Xiaohua Yang PhD, USA
Anurag Misra DBS College, Kanpur	George - Calin SERITAN Faculty of Philosophy and Socio-Political Sciences Al. I. Cuza University, IasiMore
Titus PopPhD, Partium Christian University, Oradea, Romania		

Editorial Board

Pratap Vyamktrao Naikwade ASP College Devrukh, Ratnagiri, MS India	Iresh Swami Ex - VC. Solapur University, Solapur	Rajendra Shendge Director, B.C.U.D. Solapur University, Solapur
R. R. Patil Head Geology Department Solapur University, Solapur	N.S. Dhaygude Ex. Prin. Dayanand College, Solapur	R. R. Yalikal Director Management Institute, Solapur
Rama Bhosale Prin. and Jt. Director Higher Education, Panvel	Narendra Kadu Jt. Director Higher Education, Pune	Umesh Rajderkar Head Humanities & Social Science YCMOU, Nashik
Salve R. N. Department of Sociology, Shivaji University, Kolhapur	K. M. Bhandarkar Praful Patel College of Education, Gondia	S. R. Pandya Head Education Dept. Mumbai University, Mumbai
Govind P. Shinde Bharati Vidyapeeth School of Distance Education Center, Navi Mumbai	Sonal Singh Vikram University, Ujjain	Alka Darshan Shrivastava Shaskiya Snatkottar Mahavidyalaya, Dhar
Chakane Sanjay Dnyaneshwar Arts, Science & Commerce College, Indapur, Pune	G. P. Patankar S. D. M. Degree College, Honavar, Karnataka	Rahul Shriram Sudke Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore
Awadhesh Kumar Shirotriya Secretary, Play India Play, Meerut (U.P.)	Maj. S. Bakhtiar Choudhary Director, Hyderabad AP India.	S.KANNAN Annamalai University, TN
	S. Parvathi Devi Ph.D.-University of Allahabad	Satish Kumar Kalhotra Maulana Azad National Urdu University
	Sonal Singh, Vikram University, Ujjain	

Address:-Ashok Yakkaldevi 258/34, Raviwar Peth, Solapur - 413 005 Maharashtra, India
Cell : 9595 359 435, Ph No: 02172372010 Email: ayisrj@yahoo.in Website: www.aygrt.isrj.org

REGIONALISM OF BORDER DISPUTES AN OVERVIEW



Mahalinga K
Assistant Professor, Dept of Studies and Research in Political Science,
Tumkur University, Tumkur .

Co - Author Details :

Chikkanna

Assistant Professor, Dept of Studies and Research in Archeology and History, Tumkur University,
Tumkur



ABSTRACT

It is generally said – we can change history, not geography. Nevertheless, there are many instances when geography has been changed – some times by political decisions, sometimes by wars, at other times by some great engineering feat. Since the last 100 years human activities responsible to border disputes, and the ecological collapse it invited have changed geography. In this situation in which the teeming millions languish under the crushing burden of poverty, only about twenty per cent of the populations enjoy the benefits of development. This ever- widening gap between the two groups of India constitutes the root cause of inter-ethnic, inter-

communal and inter-regional conflicts-various manifestation of regionalism. Regional parties play a prominent role in the spread of regionalism and in creating regional consciousness. Since these parties have their political existence in regional support, they arouse it to gain its benefits to serve their end. It is a well-known strategy of the regional leadership to launch their agenda against the Centre, i.e. the opposition party for discriminating against the state with political motives. Besides, the regional press, which is primarily language-oriented, immensely contributes in the emergence of regionalism. It is a powerful vehicle for the expression of regionalism and regional sentiments.

KEYWORDS : *Regionalism, discrimination, prominent, manifestation, consciousness, disputes.*

1.INTRODUCTION :

Regionalism is a country wide phenomenon and it took the form of well-conceived and well organized agitations and campaigns. Regionalism has been the most potent force in Indian politics since India's independence. It has remained the basis of regional political parties. It is a significant type of sub-territorial loyalty. Interestingly enough, regionalism in India, has flourished in close identification with the regions. In the post-independence period, it has often been conflicting as well as collaborating force, largely depending on the manner of accommodation. Regionalism in India is deeply rooted in its manifold diversity of languages, cultures, tribes, religions, communities, etc. It originates from the feeling of regional concentration, which is often fuelled by a sense of regional deprivation. The country of more than a billion people of different castes, creeds, customs and

cultures, India's broad regions are distinct from one another. For instance, southern India, the home of Dravidian cultures, itself a region of many regions is very different from the north.

REGIONALISM

Given India's social, cultural, and historical diversity, it is only natural that regional parties play an important role in the country's political life. Because of India's federal system, state assembly votes are held in an electoral arena that often enables regional parties to obtain power by espousing issues of regional concern. Simultaneously, the single-member district, first-past-the-post electoral system has given the advantage to national parties, such as the Congress, which possess a realistic chance of gaining or retaining power at the national level and the opportunity to use central government resources to reward their supporters. Although regional parties have exercised authority at the state level, collectively they receive only from 5 to 10 percent of the national vote in parliamentary elections. Only during the governments of the Janata Party (1977-79) and the National Front (1989-90) have they participated in forming the central government. However, as India's party system becomes more fragmented with the decline of the Congress (I), the regional parties are likely to play an important role at the national level. What is Regionalism?

Regionalism describes situations in which different religious or ethnic groups with distinctive identities coexist within the same state boundaries, often concentrated within a particular region and sharing strong feelings of collective identity. Regionalism stands for the love of a particular region or an area in preference to the nation or any other region. It often involves ethnic groups whose aims include independence from a national state and the development of their own political power. In Indian context, regionalism refers to assertion of distinct ethnic, linguistic or economic interests by various groups within the nation. Since the roots of regionalism lie in linguistic, ethnic, economic and cultural identities of the people living in specific geographical area, political scholars have treated various forms of regionalism which include economic regionalism, linguistic regionalism, political regionalism and even sub-regional movements in the general frame of regionalism. In other words, it is the manifestation of those neglected socio-political elements which fail to find expression in the mainstream polity and culture. These feelings of frustration and anger resulting from exclusion and neglect find expression in regionalism. Prejudices and biases have a lasting impact on the mind of the people. They themselves do not play a part in the political process, but as a psychic factor they do influence their party organizations and their political behavior. Seen in this perspective, regionalism in India, as elsewhere, is basically a psychic phenomenon. It has its root in the minds of the people.

REGIONALISM AND REGIONAL POLITICAL PARTIES

One of the notable features of the Indian Party System is the presence of a large number of regional parties. By regional party we mean a party which generally operates within a limited geographical area and its activities are confined only to a single or handful of states. Further as compared to the broad ranging diverse interests of national parties, the regional parties represent the interest of a particular area. In simple words, regional parties differ from All India parties both in terms of their outlook as well as the interests they pursue. Their activities are focused on specific issues concerning the region and they operate within the limited area. They merely seek to capture power at the state or regional level and do not aspire to control the national government. It is noteworthy that in India, the number of regional parties is much larger than the national parties and some of the States are being ruled by the regional parties, viz., Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir etc.

The term 'regionalism' has two connotations. In the negative sense, it implies excessive attachment to one's region is preference to the country or the state. In the positive sense it is a political attribute associated with people's love for their region, culture, language, etc. with a view to maintain their independent identity. While positive regionalism is a welcome thing in so far maintaining as it encourages the people to develop a sense of brotherhood and commonness on the basis of common language, religion or history and culture etc.

CAUSES FOR THE GROWTH OF REGIONALISM

In India a number of factors have galvanized the movements of regionalism:

- 1.The efforts of the national government to impose a particular ideology, language or cultural pattern on all people and groups compelled the regionalism movements to crop up. With the same effect, the states of the South began to resist the imposition of Hindi as an official language as they feared this would lead to dominance of the North. Emulating the same the Assam anti-foreigner movement was launched by the Assamese to preserve their own culture.
- 2.Continuous neglect of an area or region by the ruling parties and concentration of administrative and political power has given rise to demand for decentralization of authority and bifurcate of unilingual states. On occasions sons of soil theory have been put forth to promote the interests of neglected.
- 3.The desire of the various units of the Indian federal system to maintain their sub cultural regions and greater degree of self-government has promoted regionalism and given rise to demand for greater autonomy.
- 4.The desire of regional elites to capture power has also led to rise of regionalism. It is well known that political parties like DMK, AIADMK, Akali Dal, Telugu Desam, Assam Gana Parishad etc., have encouraged regionalism to capture power.
- 5.The interactions between the forces of modernization and mass participation have also paved the way for growth of regionalism in India. As the country is still away from realizing the goal of a nation state, the various groups have failed to identify their group interests with national interests; hence the feeling of regionalism has persisted. The growing awareness among the people of backward areas that they are being discriminated against has also promoted feeling of regionalism. The local political leaders have fully exploited this factor and tried to feed the people with the idea that the Central Government was deliberately trying to maintain regional imbalances by neglecting social and economic development of certain areas.

HOW TO COMBAT REGIONALISM

Regionalism has been an important aspect of Indian politics. Sometimes, it has posed threat to the unity of the country. Hence it is necessary to take steps to reduce such tendencies. Some such measures can be

- 1.To promote even development of the hitherto neglected areas so that they feel a part of the national mainstream.
- 2.The central government must not interfere in the affairs of the State unless it is unavoidable for national interest.
3. Problems of people must be solved in a peaceful and constitutional manner. Politicians must not be allowed to misuse the issue of regional demands.
- 4.Except for issues of national importance, the states should be given freedom to run their own affairs.
- 5.Changes are necessary in the Central-State relations in favor of the states, and for introducing a system of national education that would help people to overcome regional feelings and develop an

attachment towards the nation.

GEO-POLITICS AND GEO-STRATEGIES

Geo-politics involves varying degrees of historical determinism based on geography. It also affects the country's internal policy and her national interests. Ideology can change, socio-political systems can change, but a state must retain a territorial personality. The security of a state depends largely on a vigilant policy towards its neighbors, which postulates a sound frontier policy. Frontiers are indeed the razor's edge on which hang suspended the modern issues of war and peace or life and death of nations. More so, selection of neighbors is never by choice.

Pakistan's geo-strategic environment has caused serious problems as it is situated in the region described as the 'Fulcrum' of Asia – a region where the Central Asian States, China, India and Pakistan meet. The politics of this region is characterized by several discontinuities, intra – regional conflicts based on discrepancies in ideology, national objectives, territorial disputes and political rivalries. The super powers also maintain direct and indirect interests in the region and its politics. While devising domestic and foreign policies, Pakistan has to take into account the geo-strategic realities and intraregional discontinuities as well as the policy posture of the super powers towards the region.

The recent global changes in general and that in South Asia in particular have brought in new realities in a very pronounced manner. The decay of bi-polarity and the birth of a uni-polar world have adversely affected the geo-strategy of the region. With the demise of the Soviet Union, Pakistan is no more a front line state for USA to fight the iron curtain and communism. On the other hand, the situation in Afghanistan is still fluid adding to the uncertainties. Settlement of Afghan crisis for Pakistan has become a corner stone for the achievement of regional policies as well as the all important land link with the Central Asian Republics. In this realm Pakistan has to play her cards most carefully in the pursuance of national aims with respect to Afghanistan and Central Asian Republics. In a way the fallouts of the regional and global changes have compelled this Muslim dominated region to look towards Islam as a cohesive and binding force which had certainly brought its own share of complexities with regards to religious fundamentalism and terrorism.

FEDERAL SYSTEM AND DECENTRALIZED GOVERNANCE

Federal system is popular political pattern adopted in plural and diversified society. According to William H Riker federalism provides for two levels of government, each of which has gone guarantee of its autonomy within its sphere. Therefore federal government is also known as dual form of government. Both the levels of governments derive their powers from the written constitution. In India the National Government is known union or central government. In America, Australia, Canada, Switzerland, the national government is known as federal government. In America and India the provinces are called as States. In Australia and Canada they are known as provinces. In Switzerland they are cantons.

The importance of federal government has been highlighted by several scholars. In the opinion of A.V. Dicey federation seeks to reconcile unity with multiplicity, decentralization with centralization and nationalism with localism. Carl J. Friedrich has pointed out that federation is a process by which a number of political communities enter into joint arrangement for working out solution. Adopting joint policies and making joint decisions on joint problems. Daniel Elazar has observed that 'federalism is designed to achieve some degree of political integration based on a combination of self-rule and shared rule. Thus federal system has been accepted as a suitable political model for plural and big societies not only to maintain unity in diversity but also to provide

decentralized governance.

POLITICIZE OF BORDER DISPUTES

Another form of regionalism in India has found expression in the form of interstate disputes. There are disputes boundary disputes for example between Karnataka and Maharashtra on Belgaum where Marathi speaking population is surrounded by Kannada speaking people, between Kerala and Karnataka on Kasargod, between Assam and Nagaland on Rengma reserved forests. There is a dispute over Chandigarh in Punjab and Haryana.

The first important dispute regarding the use of water source was over the use of water resources of three rivers mainly Narmada, Krishna and Cauvery in which states of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Maharashtra were involved. Disputes also arose between use of Cauvery waters among the states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka. Another dispute arose among the states of Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh over the use and distribution of waters of the Krishna River. Disputes between Punjab, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh over the use of waters of Ravi River. The Electricity sharing issue between Punjab and Delhi is another example of this.

MANIPULATION OF BORDER DISPUTES

The Karnataka Janata Paksha (KJP) was playing crucial role in the formation of next government, going by the favourable response the party is receiving owing to the development projects taken up by its State president, B.S. Yeddyurappa, during his tenure as Chief Minister, the writer Chandrashekhar Patil has said. Addressing a press conference here on Tuesday, Mr. Patil said that none of the national parties would secure a majority in the Assembly elections and they would have to depend on regional parties like the KJP to form the government. Major issues like Cauvery river water sharing and border disputes could be solved easily by regional parties, which would always protect the interests of local farmers and the common man. However, in the case of national parties, they were dependent on their high command's directions. "The high commands of national parties always look at the performance of their party in elections before taking a decision. They are not bothered about protecting the interests of local people," he said.

ELECTORAL POLITICS OF BORDER DISPUTES IN KARNATAKA

The Election Commission today allotted broadcast and telecast time to political parties for carrying out election campaigns on Doordarshan and All India Radio for the May 5 Karnataka Assembly elections. The Commission has decided to extend the equitable time sharing scheme on the electronic media through Prasar Bharati Corporation and the use of broadcast and telecast time will be available only to national parties and recognised state parties in the polls. While Congress has got the maximum time 166 minutes, the ruling BJP has got 163 minutes in Karnataka for each of broadcast and telecast, followed by JD-S with 111 minutes. Karnataka would go to polls on May 5 to elect its 224-member Assembly and counting of votes held on May 8. The tenure of current Karnataka Assembly expires on June 3. While 36 constituencies are reserved for SCs, 15 are reserved for STs in the state.

The campaigning facility will be available from Regional Kendras of All India Radio and Doordarshan and in the headquarters of Karnataka and relayed by other stations within the state. The EC has said a base time of 45 minutes will be given to each national party and recognised state party (in respect of Karnataka) uniformly on the Regional Kendra of Doordarshan network and All India Radio network in the State of Karnataka and any additional time allotted is on the basis of performance of parties in the last polls.

No party will, however, be allocated more than 15 minutes in a single session of broadcast and Time Vouchers will be issued in the denomination of 5 minutes to each of the six national parties - BJP, Congress, BSP, CPI, CPI-M, and NCP and the sole recognised regional party - the JD-S. The period of broadcast and telecast will be between the last dates of filing the nominations and will end two days before the date of poll in Karnataka.

CONCLUSION

The resurgence of regionalism in various parts of the country has emerged as such a serious problem that it literally threatens to divide the country. The creation of new states like Jharkhand, Uttaranchal (Uttarakhand) and Chhattisgarh in recent times is in fact the expression of territorial regionalism. Again, the demand for Bodoland, Vidarbha, Gorkhaland etc. cannot be traced in the earnest desire of the people to have their regional identity, which results from regional imbalances. In fact, it is the natural desire of the people in a region or territory to make rapid social and economic development so that they may live happily. But in course of time when some part of the region makes rapid development, and other remains neglected, then the feelings of anger and frustration creep into the mind of the people which find expression in demand for a separate homeland. Thus, this development imbalance in which some part of the state receives special attention and other areas are neglected and allowed to rot causing immense suffering and hardship to the common appeared in the form of Gorkha movement, Bodo movement, etc. There is certainly no denying that social Utopias of leaders like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru were mainly responsible for the lopsided development of the country and the creation of the society in which a few rolled in wealth, the majority of the people yearned for food. This marks the inefficiency and incapability on the part of the authority concerned – the Parliament, the Executive-to respond to the people's expectations and efficiently handling the growing unrest and deepening conflict. Besides, the local leadership is to be held equally responsible, which fails to reconcile with the aspirations of the people. The mixed economy of India, consisting of large state sector and corporate sector, miserably failed to generate job opportunities for majority of people who are forced to live a life of poverty, illiteracy and starvation. Large portions of the population are under housed and live a life without benefits of rudimentary health care.

The views expressed in them are, often quite contrary to those in the English media, i.e. national media. In an age of coalition governments, where regional forces in the country are strengthening, vernacular press has become more vocal and articulates. Naturally, it has strengthening effect on regional sentiments. Thus, the need of the hour is to develop a realistic perception of regionalism at the conceptual level focusing on righteousness and judicious outlook on the part of the political parties. If this objective is achieved, then the realization of the idea of different communities, speaking diverse languages and each linked with particular cultural expression, "thinking globally, acting locally and seeing human unity in diversity in practical terms" too would become a distinct possibility.

REFERENCE

1. A. Bailes, *Regionalism in South Asian Diplomacy*, 2007
2. Deepti, Mahajan, 'Identity, nation and the region: trends and concerns in South Asia', WISCOMP CT Working Paper IX, WISCOMP Foundation for Universal Responsibility, New Delhi, 2007.
- 3.L. Mangi, *Regional Cooperation: Southeast Asian Experience*, International Seminar on Regional Cooperation in Asia and Option for Pakistan, Islamabad Policy Research Institute, Pakistan, 2007.
4. Niaz Niak, *South Asian Economic Cooperation: problems and prospects*, 2001
5. I.K. Gujral, *Inaugural address*, SAARC 2015 expanding horizons and forging cooperation in a resurgent

Asia, Friedrich-EbertStiftung, New Delhi, 2007, pg. 19.

6.Mahendra, Lama, 'SAARC dynamics of emerging new regionalism', Conference on expansion of SAARC: challenges and opportunities, organized by Institute of Foreign Affairs and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Nepal, 2006.

7.Niaz Naik, 'Confidence building in South Asia: problems and prospects' Seminar paper presented in the International Seminar on South Asian Economic Cooperation: problems and prospects, organized by the Institute of Policy Studies, Colombo, 2001.

8.Lama, Conference on expansion of SAARC: challenges and opportunities, 2006

Publish Research Article

International Level Multidisciplinary Research Journal For All Subjects

Dear Sir/Mam,

We invite unpublished Research Paper, Summary of Research Project, Theses, Books and Book Review for publication, you will be pleased to know that our journals are

Associated and Indexed, India

- ★ International Scientific Journal Consortium
- ★ OPEN J-GATE

Associated and Indexed, USA

- EBSCO
- Index Copernicus
- Publication Index
- Academic Journal Database
- Contemporary Research Index
- Academic Paper Database
- Digital Journals Database
- Current Index to Scholarly Journals
- Elite Scientific Journal Archive
- Directory Of Academic Resources
- Scholar Journal Index
- Recent Science Index
- Scientific Resources Database
- Directory Of Research Journal Indexing

Golden Research Thoughts
258/34 Raviwar Peth Solapur-413005, Maharashtra
Contact-9595359435
E-Mail-ayisrj@yahoo.in/ayisrj2011@gmail.com
Website : www.aygrt.isrj.org