

# 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, Iasi	.....More
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. Yalikalr Director Managment 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



## GANDHI AN DECENTRALISED SYSTEM AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

**Kumara Naik**

Research Scholar, Dept. Of Studies and Research In Political Science, Tumkur University, Tumakuru.

**Abstract:-** Gandhi is universally known as the most renowned theorist and also the practitioner of truth, love, non-violence, tolerance freedom and peace. He was very much concerned with the nature, poor, deprived and the downtrodden and he has intender to alter the evil, political, social, and economic systems of the people. In the ethical sense, every man is 'great' who lays down his life for others. Hence Gandhiji was indeed 'Great' for he lived and scarified his life for the "lowliest of the low" and the starving millions of India. He had a dreams which consisted not of the few cities but of the innumerable villages. His mission was to reconstruct India from below upwards- a decentralized socio-political and economic order with India's myriad villages as its base.

**Keywords:** Decentralised system, Rural development etc.

### INTRODUCTION

Democracy depends upon the equality of all human beings; their right to participate is social and political transformation and the right to development, to live in dignity. Self rushing is a system and process of good governance. Villages have always been the basic units of administration in India since ancient times. The gram Sabha can become the cornerstone of the whole Panchayat raj institutional set-up, thereby the Indian democratic system. So in this paper focus is on Gandhian concept of Panchayat Raj (decentralized polity)

#### **Decentralized Polity**

Political decentralization can be defined as transfer/ dispersal of decision making powers, accompanied by delegation of required, authority to authority to individuals or units at all levels of organization even if they are located for away from the power centre.

#### **Gandhiji's concept of political decentralization**

The concept of decentralization occupies paramount importance in Gandhian scheme of rebuilding India from below upwards.

Gandhiji's concept of political decentralization bears the stamp of his passionate belief in non- violence, truth and individual freedom. He calls it Panchayati Raj or village swaraj. He wants to see each village a little republic, self- sufficient in the vital wants organically and non-herachically linked with the larger spatial bodies and enjoying the maximum freedom of decading the affairs of the locality. Gandhi wanted political power to be distributed among the villages in India. Gandhi preferred the term 'Swaraj' to describe what he called true democracy. This democracy is based upon freedom. Individual freedom in Gandhi's view could be maintained only in autonomous, self reliant communities that offer opportunities to the people for fullest participation.

#### **Village republic**

Gandhi was firmly of the view that the creation of Ram raj is possible only through the creation of Gram raj. These should be a very large number of free and voluntary associations of the people to look after their own affairs. Each village should be autonomous to manage its affairs through its Panchayat. In the government by the village the entire village will be the owner of the land a sell participate in production and the produce equally. Distributed among

all there will be no class distinctions. In this state each individual shall have maximum freedom and opportunity to develop his personality to the greatest extent

### **Village unit of a decentralized system**

Gandhi made it very clear that concentration of either economic or political power would violate all the essential principles of participatory democracy. To check centralization, Gandhi suggested the institution of village republics both as institutions of parallel politics and as units of economic autonomy. Village is the lowest unit of a decentralized system. Politically a village has to be small enough to permit everyone to participate directly in the decision making process. It is the basic institution of participatory democracy. The Gandhian decentralization means the creation of parallel politics in which people's power is Institutionalized to counter the centralizing and alienating forced of the modern state according to Mahatma Gandhi. Utilization of the local resources is quite fundamental to the development of the Panchayat Raj System. The Panchayats with the Gram Sabhas should be so organized as to identify the resources locally available for development in the agricultural and industrial Sectors.

### **Democratic development through Decentralization**

According to Gandhi decentralization of political power is the basic requirement for the success of true democracy. For him a decentralized democracy based on non- violence must consist of groups settled in small communities or villages in which voluntary co-operation is the condition of dignified and peaceful existence. For its the only way to realize the value of democracy from the grassroots level as it will enable the people to participate in taking and implementing decisions without a rigid and strict control of any higher authority. Moreover, it is the only alternative to reduce the interference of the state in day to day affairs of the people. Gandhi never believed in half-way house democracy, or disinterest decentralization he does not advocate decentralization only because of the economic and political advantages. To Gandhi decentralization envisions and upholds the cultural or spiritual ideal of simple living and high thinking. Thus his linking for decentralization originates from his usage for the shrinking of the date and depending of the roots of democracy.

### **Relevance of Gandhian political decentralization**

By the political decentralization Gandhi meant "prevention of massive concentrations of political power in the hands of too few, rather to distribute it in the hands of many. The Gandhian political order takes the form of direct participation democracy operating in a tier structure from the base village level tier upward through their district and state levels to the national level. Gandhian democracy is still relevant in India. Gandhiji's development discourse hinged in a village based participatory democracy embedded in his vision of the Panchayat Raj. Gandhi advocated for a democratic polity that would have its foundation in thousands of self governing village communities. Gandhi felt that real development of India can take place only through political system of Gram Swaraj in which the state government would only exercise such powers which are not within the scope and competence of the lower tiers of participatory governance institutions. Rural local government in the form of Panchayats were included in the chapter on Directive principles of the state policy (article-40) It stated that the states shall take steps to organize village panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self government.

But it is clear from the 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments of Indian constitution that amendment is related only with rural administration of India. One significant provision of that amendment is decentralization of power upto the rural level. That amendment has already been implemented in India in 1992.

Gandhi concept of political decentralization not only helped to people in the field of politics and also helped to social and economic. This is the method of all round development of the people. This is the Gandhian political ideal as based on ethical and spiritual grounds raising real democratic values. In the state of Gandhian enlightened anarchy there is no place for injustice, immoral actions, any kind of variations based on caste or religion, possessions or non-possessions, sex etc. Equality and fraternity only remaining there and people are enjoying their life peacefully.

### **REFERENCES**

1. WWW.MKgandhi.org/article
2. WWW.arthapedia.in
3. socialsciences.in
4. shodhaganga, inflibnet
5. appliedgandhi.blogspot.in
6. V.P.Varma-political philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi & Sarvodaya

# 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