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MANAGING CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN A GLOBALISED WORLD: RELEVANCE OF MULTICULTURALISM

U.K. Jha

The phenomenon of globalisation - involving large scale movement of ideas, capital, goods and people across the borders - is perceived as a threat to local and national cultures in many quarters. The perception is based on the belief that globalisation introduces a single world culture based on 'consumerism, mass media, Americana and English language.' As a result, a new class of political claims and demands have emerged from individuals, communities and countries feeling that their local cultures are being swept away. So, managing the cultural diversity has emerged as one of the central challenges of our time. Many people apprehend that globalisation can lead to the abandonment of traditional values and practices and the dismantling of the economic basis on which the survival of indigenous cultures depend. Such a kind of threat perception has necessitated an alternative approach that respects and promotes diversity while keeping countries open to global flows of capital, goods and people. It aims at promoting cultural freedom by expanding people's choices in the ways people live and identify themselves. This paper is an attempt to examine the challenges posed by a globalised world on cultural front and how the policy of multiculturalism can be used to manage the cultural diversity. In this context attempts have also been made to examine the rich Canadian experience in managing the problems arising out of diverse cultural composition of their population and what lessons the world can draw from their experience. Keywords: Cultural diversity, Multiculturalism, Globalisation, Identity Politics, Clash of Cultures, Homogenization, Heterogenization, Xenophobic Policies, Indigenous Cultures, Coercive Movements.

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WOMEN IN DEMOCRACIES: QUOTA SYSTEM AND POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN CHANGING SOCIETIES

Anuradha Rai

Democracy guarantees equal right to both men and women and opens up equal spaces for the participation of women in the political process. Nonetheless, constitutional guarantee of equality proved futile and in most of the democracies women constitute less than 30 percent of the total representation. To encourage and ensure greater participation of women in politics, further incentives were invented and quota system is one of the widely advocated mechanisms to increase the participation of women in political process of the countries. Role of quotas to accelerate women's political participation has been recognised in most of the developing countries, including India and the studies shows that quotas have a positive effect on increasing women's involvement in politics. Out of the top 26 countries with the highest gender equal ratios of representation, 20 have quota systems in place. However, the political empowerment of women is more than an increase in the number of women in politics. It demands women in decision-making role to promote gender justice. Does quota truly empowers women or it works as a token of empowerment in these countries? The paper will look into the effectiveness of quota for women political empowerment in these countries and how successfully women in these countries are supporting the cause of structural and physical violence against women. Keywords: Democracy, Empowerment, Quota system, Women, Representation

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FUNCTIONS OF THINK TANKS IN INDIA

Anuj Saran Srivastav

This research paper is an attempt to focus on the role of think tanks in India. Fundamentally the role of think tank is to link the two major roles, that of policy maker and academics by conducting deep analysis of different issues and providing this research for better sound understanding of the policies to the policy makers. Yet it evolving in India but continuous emergence of the thinks since 1943 has clearly indicated their enhanced role in India. This research paper attempt to elaborate functions of some leading think tanks in India like United Services Institution of India, Indian Council of World Affairs, Institute for Defence Studies & Analysis

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THOUGHTS OF SWARKAR ON FOREIGN POLICY & ITS RELEVANCE TODAY

Sonwalkar Ramesh Shankarrao

Sawarkar was a great patriot. He was very spirited and a staunch nationalist. His writings talk about his boundless love for the motherland. Throughout his life, he only thought of the nation and gave importance to the national sentiments. He persistently worked for the national interest and for getting independence. His freedom movement had the colours and background of liberty and equality- He was against inhuman and unjust political power. He was for the democratic system being run by the fixed constitutional rules. But Sawarkar's work and his thoughts were criticized. Especially his thoughts regarding foreign policy and international relations are not focused; on the other hand these thoughts are kept aside (hidden). Actually they are very important and useful to foreign policy makers. Taking all the points in to the consideration, I have tried to study thoughts of Sawarkar on foreign policy and international politics. I have also tried to analyze the relevance of Sawarkar's thoughts in the context of present Indian foreign policy and international politics. The purpose behind writing this article is not only is to appreciate Sawarkar's views on Indian Foreign Policy, which can be interpreted as the fine amalgamation of realism and idealism. That is making our country powerful in all regards such as military, finance etc. But also adhere to the divine principle of human religion. Also I don't want to under-estimate the very core genres of Indian Foreign Policy stated by the thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi and Pt. Nehru but to focus Sawarkar's neglected and ignored views which are nationalistic, realistic and later extension of it in the world human religion.

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REVISITING INDIA'S LANGUAGE POLICY: NEED FOR A HOLISTIC APPROACH

Papia Sengupta

The recent controversy involving the teaching of German as a third language in the Central schools (Kendriya Vidyalayas) can be viewed as an opportunity to take a deeper and critical look at India's language policy in the changing globalized world. The article raises the questions as to what should be the basis for language in education policy, who decides what languages to learn and not to learn? In a democracy should it be citizens' decision or should the state intervene in the name of national integration and nation-building? It argues for adoption of a holistic approach based on democratic deliberations rather than impetuous decisions.

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RURAL RECONSTRUCTION AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Deepak Kumar Pandey

Agenda for national development is undoubtedly prime agenda of any nation- state and Indian nation state is not an exception in this regard. Our national leaders were not only concerned with the plight of Indian masses, but also with alternate model of development. One stream of thought lead by Pandit Nehru was of the view that, the wheels of development would be urban centre having the driving force of modern technology. Capital motivated growth and urbanization was considered as landmark of development. Another stream of thought popularly known as Gandhian Model of Development, considered this model as superficial and incomplete and advocated for such kind of development, which moves downward to upward, rather than from upward to downward, to make it more inclusive and people oriented. It considered rural villages as unit and engine of development, which guide the future course of development as per the needs of community and society to make it more sustainable. But irony of the fact is that despite being the common agenda of national development, our national leaders failed in identifying the required path of development, which will lead to nation- building in right direction. This paper is an attempt to enquire the situation of rural development along with the probable changes that may change the course of rural and national development to make it more inclusive and sustainable
Keywords: Rural Reconstruction, national development, capital, inclusive and sustainable development.

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GANDHI AND GLOALIZATION

Kuldeep Raj

There are two parallel trends of the ever widening process of globalization. First relates to those who are in favour of globalization. Secondly there are those who vehemently criticize this process. Supporters and critics of globalization both can be said to have certain vested interest. There is however a need to understand and analyze these two mutually opposing processes and trends from a more genuine and humane perspective of the Gandhian philosophy. The panorama of contemporary globalization in Gandhian perspective is not very difficult to see. Gandhi's experiments have led him to evolve a predominantly non-violent state as his second best ideal and a non-violent society as his ultimate ideal for establishing a vibrantly creative global and just political ethos where cooperation, equality and non-violence replace exploitation, inequality and bloody warfare and mutual hatred. Interestingly, these are also aiming of the emerging global civil society as a concomitant aspect of globalization. Key Words Internationalism, Nationalism, De-terrotiarialization, Borderlessness, Global-Village, Global Civil Society, Swadeshi, Trusteeship, Non-violence, Sarvodaya, Liberalization, Privatization, Self-knowledge.

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“IMPLEMENTATION OF TWO CHILD NORM IN PANCHAYATS AND ITS IMPLICATIONS”

Arun Kumar Gupta

For making our panchayat system more viable and representative 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act 1992 was passed by the Indian Parliament. It mandated special provisions for reservations for SC, ST , and women. It was major development in democratic decentralization. There was another development in 1990s regarding panchayat raj, the 'Two child norm'. This law was considered as a milestone in population control and family welfare by the policy makers, but studies show that its implementation in panchayats in five states of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Orissa and Rajasthan did not receive adequate attention. The 73rd amendment is aimed at providing women, dalit and younger persons an opportunity to participate in politics and governance. The two child norm discouraged the very purpose of the 73rd amendment that is to encourage entry of women across caste and class in punchayats. There is need for a wider debate on the rationale of the two-child norm in the context of grassroots reality.

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POLITICAL REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTIONS: A STUDY OF WARANGAL DISTRICT

Ajmeera Shankar

The objectives of the study were to assess the level of autonomy and decision making power of tribal women. Traditionally women have always been subjugated. True development of a nation is not possible if one half of the population is ignored or marginalized. Therefore the Constitution of India has many rights and acts in favor of them. The present study examines the decision making role of tribal women and to find out the impact of their socio-economic status on their decision making roles. The study was based on primary data collected from Warangal districts women representatives in local bodies. The development of every community cannot be accelerated without women participation. Therefore the government should focus on developing the literacy rate among the tribal women which would facilitate their economic upliftment. This would surely result in their qualitative participation and decision making among all aspects of their living. Key words: Participation, Panchayat Raj, Decision-making, Development

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EXPLAINING THE CONCEPTUALISATION OF SECURITY IN MAINSTREAM INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS THEORY

Swatilekha Bhattacharya

Security studies have long been concerned only with war and the means to prevent war. The way the notion of security has been formulated and conceptualised in mainstream international relations theory, several limitations has crept into it. During the Cold War, this was accompanied by thinking on nuclear strategy, nuclear deterrence, arms control and grand strategy. Issues affecting the individual were thought fit to be relegated to the background of any discussion on international security. However, major changes have taken place since the end of Cold War and this has necessitated a relook into the discipline.

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CRITICAL EXAMINATION OF THE STABILITY DISCOURSE IN CHINA

R Veena

This paper critically examines the stability discourse in China by contextualizing the political discourse of stability within the cultural discourse of harmony in order to understand the culture of protests in China. The objective is to investigate the political space for protests within the broader arena of harmony. Confucian ideal of harmony has been idealised in China and the paper examines the significance of harmony in defining difference or discontent. In the process, the paper will also examine the post reform quest for stability in China amidst increasing protests. This paper argues that the stability discourse is only a part of the larger discourse of harmony in state society relations in China. The stability is only the political use of the concept of harmony.

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INDO-PAKISTAN SECURITY DILEMMA AND ITS GLOBAL IMPLICATIONS

Devina Shukla

The security dilemma asserts that both strength and weakness in national security can be provocative to other nations. If a nation is too strong, this can be provocative since "most means of self-protection simultaneously menace others." On the other hand, if a nation is too weak, "great dangers arise if an aggressor believes that the status quo powers are weak in capability or resolve." Thus, directly and indirectly, both strength and weakness can upset the balance of security in international relations.

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BRICS: THE POTENTIALITIES AND CHALLENGES

B.Sanjeeva Reddy

A.Madhu Sudhan Reddy

The paper discusses the nature, profile and the potential of BRICS.

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**POSITIVE UNILATERALISM TO REGIONAL HEGEMONY:
INDIA'S PERSPECTIVES ON POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN NEPAL**

**Anjan Kumar Sahu
S. N. Ambedkar**

Formation of a new Constitution is a commendable work of the political leaders of Nepal. The new Constitution underlines the principles of republicanism, federalism and secularism. This is an enduring effort and a long overdue for the people of Nepal. However, the inclusiveness of the Constitution has been widely criticised which finally led to the blockade of goods coming from Indian side of border to Nepal. However, this blockade put India and Nepal relation under strain. Nepal blames that the blockade is orchestrated by India. In addition to it, Nepal also plays the China card to reduce the increasing importance of the South Asian region which could threaten the security and economic interest of India. The moot point is that any internal developments that take place in Nepal, most Nepalese political leaders blame India. This is the challenge for the present Government of India. Since the inception of Nepal, India has been providing all kinds of material and moral supports, but if any country in South Asia, including Nepal, goes against the interest of India, then India has every right to project its military and diplomatic power to secure its interest.

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THE DURAND LINE DISPUTE: PAST TRENDS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

Vinay Kaura

Pakistan has always had a rocky relationship with Afghanistan mainly because of the conflicted claims on the Durand Line that separates both the countries. Tension and mistrust between Pakistan and Afghanistan has lingered for decades and has caused armed clashes on account of the controversy surrounding the Durand Line. Since its demarcation in 1893, several unsuccessful attempts have been made to mark out the Durand Line but all plans have floundered after meeting fierce opposition from Afghanistan. Pakistan's policy towards Afghanistan has been constructed with the purpose to create a submissive regime in Afghanistan that could be manipulated to serve Pakistan's strategic interests. On the ground, local populations have disregarded the Afghan-Pakistan border, crossing back and forth without state control. This article explores the struggle between Afghanistan and Pakistan in search of a 'normal' border, with suggestions as to how it might end. Key Words: Pakistan, Afghanistan, the US, the USSR, India, Durand Line, Pashtun, Mujahideen, Taliban, Federally Administered Tribal Areas, Balochistan, Kabul

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SOUTH CHINA SEA DISPUTE AND INDIA'S CONCERNS

Ganesh Malhotra

The South China Sea is a semi-enclosed sea that is surrounded by China and a few Southeast Asian countries. It is bordered by China to the north, by Vietnam to the west, by Peninsular Malaysia to the south-west, by Brunei Darussalam and the two Malaysian States Sabah and Sarawak to the south, and finally, by the Philippines to the east.

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INDIA'S ROLE IN RE-BUILDING AFGHANISTAN—POST 2014

Suresh Prasad Sarangi

The objective of this paper is to discuss the Indo-Afghanistan relations from the historical as well as political angles and to highlight the most important development that took place from Soviet invasion to Taliban takeover in Afghanistan. It also emphasises the relation between India and Afghanistan after Post 9/11 and Post 2014 changing political scenario and the manner in which the Afghanistan peace process and the re-building work were initiated and more specifically the challenging role of India in this process is emphasized.

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**POLICY FORMULATION, ELECTORAL POLITICS AND THE POLITICAL
ECONOMY OF NEO-LIBERAL REFORMS IN INDIA**

Divya Upadhyaya Joshi

There is a need to study the political economy of reforms in India and the complex inter-linkages therein, especially in the context of the political dynamics of coalition governments and the compulsions of electoral politics. Policy formulation and implementation in India which has been aimed at inclusive growth in the post-liberalization period (after 1990), and especially since 2000, appears to have failed to produce the desired results due to the adverse effect of politics. This paper attempts to analyze the strong linkage between politics and economics in the context of Indian political economy. In the history of independent democratic India policy formulation has been motivated and shaped by political factors, especially by compulsions of electoral and coalition politics. The linkage between politics and economics leads to policy distortions, and economic policies have their intended results diluted. Past researches reveal that politics has a strong negative impact on economics (especially on the aspect of policy formulation and implementation) in India. It is imperative to focus on the analysis and understanding of these distortions and their adverse impact on policy process with specific reference to the goal of inclusive growth, and to analyze and understand the link between policy formulations and politics in the wider perspective on the political economy of reforms, especially in the context of electoral politics in India. Keywords: Policy Formulation, Electoral Politics, Political Economy of Liberal Reforms, India.