

The Indian Journal of Political Science
Vol. LXXV, No. 1, January-March, 2014, pp. 9-16 (ISSN NO. 0019-5510)

REVISITING POLITICAL THEORY AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS ORIENTAL AND OCCIDENTAL

Madhurendra Kumar

The present paper attempts to analyze various political theories and systems both in contemporary and ancient contexts and also looks into the need for revisiting political theory in the wake of changing needs and new socio-political and economic issues.

The Indian Journal of Political Science
Vol. LXXV, No. 1, January-March, 2014, pp. 17-22 (ISSN NO. 0019-5510)

DEMOCRACY AND POLITICAL PARTIES

**Narinder K. Dogra
Varinder Singh**

The present paper aims to examine the role of political parties in a democratic regime while studying the extent of internal democracy in these parties.

The Indian Journal of Political Science
Vol. LXXV, No. 1, January-March, 2014, pp. 23-30 (ISSN NO. 0019-5510)

RECENT TRENDS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Anjana Jha

The present paper consists of three parts. The first part describes the development of Political Science from ancient time to the emergence of Liberalism as universal ideology. The second part deals with the challenges faced by liberalism from such theories as Communitarianism, Feminism, Post-modernism and Environmentalism. The third part critically examines the most recent trend in Political Science which is known as "Public Economy" or "Public Choice Theory" or "Rational Choice Theory".

REGULATION OF WOMEN'S IDENTITY IN THE COURSE OF NATIONAL FREEDOM STRUGGLE

Chayanika Saxena

A political struggle marking a quest for identity, the Indian national movement was launched on the planks of an imagined golden past and a sense of 'spiritual superiority'. On a dichotomy between the 'material and the spiritual' world that gave the 'culturally subjugated' people of British India an agency; a voice that they hitherto been denied. But while a discourse on nationalism that was steeped in annotations of spiritual superiority came to empower many, its empowerment however, was stopped short of embracing women. While the omission of women from the nationalist front was evidently problematic, their commission was an equally big error. Particularly so, as such commissions came to light in a discourse that has claimed to represent the subalterns, of which women were unquestionably a part. Touted for their spiritual chasteness, a false sense of empowerment that came about with this dichotomy was never problematized. That patriarchy was still regulating women's identity was never recognized. A halo accorded to their identity did not make much difference, for even as the control came to be decorated in spiritual frills, the status of women was elevated to that of goddesses, these attributions were nonetheless determined, allocated and divested by the men, nonetheless. Thus, exploring the re-manufacturing of patriarchy and women's identity in the course of the national movement, this paper will show how the identity of womanhood was recast to bolster the claims of the 'indigenous', 'our own' claims for freedom. And in doing so, the paper will build on the Feminist evaluation of Partha Chatterjee's "National Resolution of the Women's Question".

A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF DIRECT FUNDING ISSUE IN AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT COUNCILS OF MIZORAM

Jangkhongam Dounjel

The paper attempts to trace the genesis of the issue of direct funding issue in the Sixth Schedule area of Mizoram. It critically analyses the different versions and contexts of direct funding issue with objective approach in the three Autonomous District Councils of Mizoram, namely, Chakma Autonomous District Council (C.A.D.C.), Lai Autonomous District Council (L.A.D.C.) and Mara Autonomous District Council (M.A.D.C.).

The Indian Journal of Political Science
Vol. LXXV, No. 1, January-March, 2014, pp. 53-58 (ISSN NO. 0019-5510)

IDEALIST THEORY OF STATE: INTERPRETATION OF K. P. MUKERJI

Bharati Patil

During early 20th century most of the studies on ancient Indian political thought were carried by historians and there was no student of political science who studied it through the perspective of theory of State except Prof. Beni Prasad. Immediately after independence, Prof. Mukerji and his students V. Shankaran Nair and N.K. Krishnan critically studied ancient Indian State through idealistic perspective. Prof. Mukerji wrote books on the theory of the State and Ancient Political experiences.

The Indian Journal of Political Science
Vol. LXXV, No. 1, January-March, 2014, pp. 59-70 (ISSN NO. 0019-5510)

CULTURAL NATIONALISM IN INDIAN PERSEPECTIVE

**Atanu Mohapatra
D D Pattnayak**

India is at the moment in search of its identity. Nothing is more ironical than the fact that a nation possessing the largest possible civilisational history is to struggle against the odds of the distortions engineered by the successive alien invasions and entailing rule on one hand and lack of introspection on the part of the natives on the other hand.

The Indian Journal of Political Science
Vol. LXXV, No. 1, January-March, 2014, pp. 71-80 (ISSN NO. 0019-5510)

‘SWARNANDHRA PRADESH’ TO ‘HARITHANDHRA PRADESH’: QUEST FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE IN ANDHRA PRADESH

**B.Sanjeeva Reddy
A.Hari Prasad**

This paper is contextualized in the neoliberal convergence in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India and its impact on the governance. Since the formation of the state in 1956 consisting of three geographical regions (Telangana, Andhra and Rayalaseema) with imbalances and inequities in resources and development which not only presented continuous challenge for the administration but also resulted in the growth of various regional movements, people’s movements including Maoist insurgency.

**‘VAI PARTY VERSUS ZO/MIZO PARTY’:
THE CONTEST OVER THE ISSUE OF AUTHENTIC PEOPLE’S
REPRESENTATION IN MIZORAM**

Anup Shekhar Chakraborty

‘Vai Party versus Zo/Mizo Party’ forms an interesting yet complex aspect of the relations between the State of Mizoram and the Centre projected over the years. Regional disparities, historic differences and huge cultural differences compelled the framers of the constitution to opt for a federal form of government. However, they could not restrain the attraction of adding huge doses of centralizing tendencies in the provisions of the Indian Constitution. Federalism per se demands a continuous adjustment of relations between existing stakeholders. Interestingly administration and demarcation of the territorial space of jurisdiction remains a contested arena. The thrust area highlighted for discussion in this paper is the National Party versus Regional Party debate that forms the lesser discussed yet very crucial aspect of Centre-State relations in contemporary politics in Mizoram.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE GOVERNMENT

Shripad Kulkarni

Worldwide there is increasing recognition that citizen involvement is critical for enhancing democratic governance, improving service delivery, and fostering empowerment. “Demand for Good Governance” (DFGG) refers to the ability of citizens, civil society organizations and other non state actors to hold the state accountable and make it responsive to their needs. DFGG encompasses initiatives that focus on citizens as the ultimate stakeholders and include activities relating to - information disclosure, demystification and dissemination; beneficiary/user participation and consultation; complaints handling; and independent and/ or participatory monitoring. DFGG aims to strengthen the capacity of NGOs, the media, local communities, and the private sector to hold authorities accountable for better development results. DFGG mechanisms can be initiated and supported by the state, citizens or both but very often they are demand-driven and operate from the bottom-up.

CIVIL SOCIETY: CONCEPT AND CONTESTATIONS

Sarbani Guha Ghosal

The concept of civil society is one of the key concepts of modern political analysis since the last quarter of the earlier century both in west and in developing world. The inadequacy of the modern democratic state is a cause of this development. However, the concept of civil society should not be considered as an antagonistic one to the state. Increasing complementarity between the state and civil society is the key to the success of humane governance. Welfare of the people of all sections of society and popular government requires substantial coordination between the state and civil society.

INDO-US COUNTER- TERRORISM COOPERATION

Padmalaya Mahapatra

Almost a decade after the end of Cold War, South Asia, a 'strategic backwater' for policy-makers in the United States emerged as an important arena of US Foreign Policy concerns. It was but natural that India, the most important power in South Asia, should surface as a 'crucial player' and 'natural partner' of the US Administration. In recognition of India's increasing global stature and economic growth here was a rethinking among US policy – makers on the need for greater engagement with India. This paper identifies some enduring dynamics of the relationship and sources of change, emerging opportunities and remaining constraints. It will also highlight how and why US policy makers view India as a long- term and reliable partner in a region plagued by terrorism and consequent instability.

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND MICROFINANCE: A STUDY IN DARJEELING DISTRICT OF WEST BENGAL

Papia Sengupta

Any strategy of socio-economic development that neglects rural people and rural areas cannot be successful. The development benefits in most of the developing countries like India have failed to trickle down to all sections of the society. Most significantly, the women in general and the rural women in particular, constitute the most vulnerable segments of society prone to poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, malnutrition, disease and ill health. Largely unorganized and assetless, the poor women bear the burden of poverty and deprivation. This paper attempts to deal with the economic independence and economic empowerment of the women section

INDIAN DEMOCRACY: INCLUSIVE IN THEORY EXCLUSIONARY IN PRACTICE

**S.K. Pandey
Siddhartha Mukerji**

Inclusive democracy has appeared as a watchword in contemporary Indian politics indicating a shift from procedural to substantive democracy. It encompasses a multi-dimensional approach to the study of democracy and its impact on overall well-being. The vision of modern India necessitated the adoption of a constitutional framework that offered wide-ranging possibilities for the inclusion of the marginalized groups and communities. The principles of equality, secularism, federalism and development were modified according to the Indian conditions and utmost care was taken to preserve the multicultural nature of Indian society within the framework of national integration. However, as the political process unfolded and the power conflicts surfaced within the dominant party, undemocratic means of rule were established during the 1970s. This, however, created conditions for the emergence of sectarian parties that began mobilizing the marginalized castes and communities who remained excluded from the political mainstream due to rhetorical commitments made by Congress party. Inclusive democracy was confronted with bigger challenges on the economic front with the advent of global capitalism since 1991. State's incapacity to ensure equitable redistribution of resources as a result of its pro-business, pro-growth policies resulted in wide disparities between regions and between different castes and communities. This paper is an attempt to trace the trajectory of inclusive democracy in India since independence by first understanding the procedural aspects of democratic state, and then critically examining the historical realities of exclusionary practices that are perpetuated in India today.

INDO-BHUTAN RELATIONS: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Madhu Rajput

The present paper is an attempt in analyzing the bilateral relations of India with a small yet strategically important nation of Bhutan. Besides, an effort has also been made to delve into the significance and impact of this Indo-Bhutan association in south-Asian region.

MICRO FINANCE AND SELF HELP GROUPS

Raghwendra Kishor

Micro Finance for the poor and women has received extensive recognition as a strategy for poverty reduction and for women's economic empowerment. It has been noticed that women in particular stand to gain a lot from Micro Finance because it gives them an independent means of generating wealth and becoming self-reliant in a society that does not offer them much scope for entrepreneurship. Women in rural India lived in virtual isolation unable to access even the most basic services. But, with the formation of women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs), these women are now achieving social and physical mobility. It is recognized that while the empowerment of women is a process that will not happen automatically, SHG is a suitable means for the empowerment of women particularly.

ROLE OF OPPOSITION IN A PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY

Devendra Kumar

Democracy is a government by discussion and discussion presupposes arguments and counter arguments. Parliamentary democracy is considered to be the best form of government because in this system, there is scope for the people to reflect their wishes and grievances through their elected representatives on the floor of the House. Parliamentary form of government is a method of arguments, discussion and decision of the majority and of accepting the majority decision providing for the right of the individual to hold a different view. Here, all points of views are expressed and discussed. As there could be always at least two sets of views on any subject, there could be at least two political parties. The essence of parliamentary democracy, therefore, basically lies in the fact that the majority has its way and the minority has its say. As Laski pointed out, "Men who are to live together peacefully must be able to argue together peacefully". Parliamentary democracy is based on the party system of government. It is a government by criticism and exposition and therefore, it has to be governed by two political parties – a party or parties in power and a party or parties in Opposition.

CONSTRUCTING INDIA: DISCOURSE, IDENTITY, AND, ORIENTALISM IN INDIA-UNITED STATES NUCLEAR RELATIONS

Runa Das

This article examines the significance of discourse and the construction of identities between India and the United States' nuclear security relations since the late 1990s focusing on India's May 1998 nuclear testing, and, thereafter in the post-9/11 context. Beginning with a short review of the Western (Orientalist) prerogative that has structured the international security regime, the article uses the post-colonial approach in International Relations theory to reveal how India at the eve of its detonation, and, following 9/11, gets discursively constructed from the national security perspectives of the United States. Deconstructing this Western/US prerogative of Orientalism, the article concludes with an analysis of the significance of discourse, identity, and, Orientalism in international relations.

REVIEW ARTICLE CORRUPTION THERAPY FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: A TREATISE IN TUNE WITH CONTEMPORARY INDIAN REALITY

Debasis Poddar

“It is the duty of all leading men, whatever their persuasion or party, to safeguard the dignity of India. India's dignity cannot be saved if misgovernment and corruption flourish because misgovernment and corruption always go together. It is now an established fact that corruption is increasing in the country, and therefore, we cannot remain self-centered rather need to think beyond in larger interest of the nation as a whole.

DEEPENING DISCONTENT AND DILEMMAS OF ACCOMMODATION IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Karuna Thakur

Since independence, political assertion of ethno-cultural groups in India has given rise to demands for separate statehood, autonomy and secession. Apart from an urge for recognition and protection, the driving force behind such assertions is the concern for equality and empowerment in the public domain. However, state recognition of claims made by dominant groups becomes a critical factor in the marginalization of others, resulting in competing claims for protection and accommodation. In Jammu and Kashmir, longstanding regional discontent of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh has deepened in a context of democratic deficit and political fluidity where old debates are revived and new issues articulated by competing social groups in a bid to find a share of political power, recognition and autonomy. The paper is an attempt to analyze current discourses that shape the contours of politics in the state within an overarching frame of reference of Indian state and society.