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**PUBLIC FINANCE IN ANCIENT INDIA:  
REFLECTIONS ON TAXATION AND REVENUE COLLECTION IN  
KAUTILYA'S ARTHASHASTRA**

**Sanjeev Kumar Sharma**

The studies on ancient Indian politics have generally focused on politico-administrative aspects of polity. The financial administration including taxation and revenue collection have been conveniently ignored while given the present importance to political economy. These dimensions need to be probed systematically and deeply. The present paper tries to explore these dimensions by way of understanding the nature and extent of taxation as a system in Kautilya's Arthashastra. The paper puts forward certain relevant issues and paves the way of further studies in this area.

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**THE GOOD GOVERNANCE :  
NEED OF THE HOUR**

**Gopal Prasad Singh  
Gagan Kumar Singh**

The good governance stands for complete prevalence of rule of law with full accountability and transparency. It also prescribed for adequate democratization, decentralization, devolution of funds, functions and functionaries and above all, the people's participation. We have many bottlenecks in having good governance, like corruption, coalition compulsion, rusting of steel frame, undue political interferences, criminalization of politics and politicization of crimes, decline in social and moral values, paid medias, structural weakness, lack of computerization etc. with active and aggressive people's participation, complete and coherent decentralization of powers, responsible and responsive administration, determined and dedicated political will we can embrace and embark on efficient and effective good governance.

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**WINDS OF CHANGE, VICTORY OF DEMOCRACY AND ELECTORAL REFORMS-  
HOPE OF AN OPTIMIST**

**Harish Ramaswamy**

The scandals and controversies that marked the recent movement against corruption in India and the stubborn stand of the parliament in defiance of the peoples' persistence under the leadership of Sri Anna Hazare, threw up two major questions for consideration. One; what is the limit of peoples' power in the face an elected parliament? Where to draw a line between the powers of the parliament as enshrined in the constitution and the limits of the civil society to force its will on the parliament. The second question; was with regard to the powers of the

Parliamentarians in legislating at will/with an agenda (Manifesto) of the party vs. their representatives in terms of party positions and the demands from the civil society. Both these are hard questions to contemplate despite their appearances. Issues regarding corruption in India have become increasingly prominent in recent years. The country was subject to socialist-inspired economic policies dating from independence in 1947 until the 1980s. This has support characteristically by over-regulation, protectionism, and government ownership of industry that because of the inefficiency of generalist arguments led to slow economic growth, high employment, and widespread poverty.

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**SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN INDIA :  
AN OVERVIEW**

**S.R. T.P. Sugunakararaju**

Social movements refer to deliberate collective action involving revolt, reformation or revolution in the existing social order. This work makes a modest attempt to argue that social movements and human rights are closely linked and all social movements raise, directly or indirectly, questions of basic human rights. The prominent movements that India witnessed including, among others, peasant movements, tribal movements, Dalit movements, women's movements. Naxalite movement, ecological and environmental movements, human rights/civil liberties movements are discussed here. Here it is shown that the social movements in India have raised the issues of violation of right to life, deprivation of livelihoods, cultural discrimination and social exclusion, environmental degradation and so forth. Indian state accommodated or co-opted movements that are reformatory in nature whereas it seeks to crush those movements seeking a radical restructuring of Indian social order (such as the Naxalite movement) with all its might.

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**FEDERALISM, GOVERNANCE AND THE DEMAND FOR SMALLER STATES IN INDIA**

**Ramesh K. Chauhan**

The present paper touches upon the issues of federalism and governance with a perspective on the demand for smaller states in modern India.

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**GLOBALIZATION AND NATION-STATE**

**Saraman V. Zala**

The paper tries to analyze the issue of globalization in perspective of the theoretical framework of nation state.

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**PARADIGM SHIFT IN THOUGHT PROCESS DURING NATIONAL MOVEMENT:  
A STUDY OF SAVARKAR'S IDEAS**

**Manju Kumari Jain**

The present paper discusses the trajectory of events during freedom movement and their impact on the thinking process of VD sarvarkar and the visible changes there on.

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**DEEPENING DEMOCRACY IN INDIA BY BUILDING GENDER  
EQUALITY IN POLITICS**

**Sanjib Saikia**

**Ankita Baruah**

Democracy is a popular form of government all over the world and has received wide acceptance due to its principles of liberty, equality, fraternity and justice. All democratic countries including India have incorporated these principles in their Constitutions and have made attempts to put into practice these goals. But in reality, the process of democratization has remained confined to democratic institution building are arrangements involving exercise of the highest executive power by the representatives elected through universal adult franchise. The widely accepted norm of democracy as the government of the people is in contradistinction with reality. In practice, while democracy is expanding, our conception of what it seems to be democratic is gradually declining. This paper has briefly viewed the Indian democratic functioning, highlighting its weakness in making democratic rule, the rule of all and stressed on deepening of democracy in India by building gender equality in politics.

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**'INDIAN STATE' AND COLONIAL APPARATUSES :  
CAN PEACE BE ACHIEVED IN NORTHEAST INDIA BY VIOLATING PEOPLES' RIGHTS?**

**Akhil Ranjan Dutta**

Political discourse in Northeast India very often use the term 'Indian state' to manifest the grievances of the people in the region against the Union government i.e. Government of India (GoI) for its both real and perceived act of violation of peoples 'rights. Continuance of some of the apparatuses invented by the British authority to serve its colonial interests has reinforced these grievances. Armed forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 is one such colonial apparatus which remains a point of contestation between the Government of India that of civil society forces in the region. Present paper is an attempt to critically evaluate the implications of those colonial apparatuses on the much awaited peace for the region. The paper argues that the peace initiatives undertaken by the Government of India are bound to be a failure if the rallying points of 'grievance discourse' - the colonial apparatuses are not withdrawn from the region.

Keywords: coercive apparatuses; colonial legacies; Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act- AFSPA; Asian Centre for Human Rights (ACHR).

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#### **INDIAN POLICE : CRISIS OF CREDIBILITY**

**Alok Kumar Gupta**  
**Geetanjali Sharma**

Police in the immediate institution of the state which has gathered and strengthened the courage to degenerate itself on account of criminalization of politics. Obvious reason is that the political leaders have been resorting to use police officials and their subordinates to serve their own vested interests. Consequently, such police personnel become privy to their wrong deeds and corrupt practices. Once the police personnel is assured that the master himself is involved into corrupt practices on account of various interests (in most cases to make money and enhance and maintain their power), they too get motivated to mint money and serve their own interests. The entire process triggers a chain reaction which in turn leads to a strong and illegitimate nexus among the different institutions of the state, be it legislators, judicial officers, judges, police personnel, bureaucrats etc. All this results in the loss of confidence of people in the democratic governance and disillusions their faith about a rule of law society. This paper is an endeavor to highlight issues involved in some of the recent cases of criminalization of police and present an analysis of the problem thereby suggesting the prospects for its rectification.

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#### **ETHNIC CONFLICTS, POLITICS OF REGIONALISM AND THE DEMAND FOR NAGALIM: PERSPECTIVE ON THE POLITICS OF REGIONAL ACCOMMODATION & AUTONOMY**

**Biswajit Mohapatra**

In the post independence era India has been witnessing a varying growth of regionalism and struggles. Regionalism in such different forms has also been accompanied by different degrees of violence. It has sought to legitimize itself by putting forward its rationale as if asking for a better deal from the Centre. The subsequent redrawing of India by creation of new states instead of contributing towards the extinction of regional sentiments has rather encouraged more people belonging to various ethnic communities to fight for new states on the basis of their language or ethnicity, thus spawning a hitherto new phenomenon, now popularly known as sub-regionalism. In the context of Nagaland, the question of Nagalim is seen by some as rather a dangerous form of regionalism, as it perceived to be based on desire, or hope, or fantasy, to form a separate nation of one's own by integration of the contiguous areas, has been a source for perennial ethnic conflicts between different ethnic groups living in the region. In this paper an attempt has been made to analyze the effect of regionalism and its furtherance on the ethnic groups and also on political action and attitudes and gauges the capability of it to endanger the fragile peace that exists now in the region.

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**ROLE OF RTI ACT IN MAKING GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABLE AND TRANSPARENT**

**Kamla**

The paper is an attempt to show the strong connection between peoples' right to know and quality of public administration. The efforts of higher judiciary to establish a link between people's right to information and transparent, clean and efficient governance that illuminated the path for enactment of this landmark legislation in the country in the year 2005 is prominently mentioned.

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**NAGA POLITICS:  
ISSUES AND PROBLEMS**

**H John Sema**

The paper discussed various aspects of Naga Politics in a historical manner besides providing fruitful insights into the issues involved.

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**INDIA- BHUTAN RELATIONS**

**Tuhina Sarkar**

India has hailed the first ever elections in Bhutan as a "great moment" in the history of Bhutan. Indeed, India- Bhutan relations are set to reach a new height of mutual cooperation as India, the world's largest democracy will find it convenient in dealing with a democratic (though not multi-party) Bhutan. The elections will not only further boost bilateral relations but will also strengthen developmental and security cooperation between the two countries. The development cooperation between the two countries can be effectively divided into three significant waves. The first wave (1960s-1970s) focused on building the social and physical infrastructure. The second wave (1980s-1990s) saw substantive efforts towards democratization. The third wave of the relationship focused on developing hydel projects, which has now expanded into other areas such as information technology, disaster risk management, education and research cooperation.

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**PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGE OF FOOD SECURITY IN NIGER**

**Jaideep Rajak**

The recent paper discusses various aspects of the issue of food security in Niger.

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## **THEORY OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN PERSPECTIVES TO CHILD RIGHTS**

**Abhay Vikram Singh**

The present paper is an attempt to examining the concept and the genesis of human rights since the inception. An attempt will be made to trace the philosophical foundation of human rights in western as well as in Indian system. It focuses on the issue of child rights and provides invaluable information, initiatives taken and solution to enhance and protect the rights of the child.

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## **RECENT TRENDS IN INDIAN POLITICS: AN INTROSPECTION**

**Rajbir Singh Dalal**

Revolutionary changes have noticed in Indian economy vis-à-vis polity in the last two and half decades. However, some of these changes are progressive and fruitful to the nation and society whereas the others are regressive and suicidal in character. Hung legislatures, coalition politics, unstable and minority governments, weak position of PM and Chief Ministers, decline in public life, rising opportunism, lack of statesmanship, emergence of extra constitutional power centres, downsizing of public sector and rising corporate under the impact of LPG process, parochial outlook and rising insurgency and trend of road justice are the major challenges and issues of the day. If they are not addressed well in time, these can put at stake the unity and integrity of the Nation. Moreover, the progressive tendencies like strengthening of constitutional bodies as Election Commission, Higher Judiciary, Comptroller and Auditor General, Legislatures etc. as well as the vigilant and participatory citizenry need to boost up for making Indian Democracy more viable and vibrant. Ethics in public life and RTI Act, 2005 will be instrumental in attaining optimum benefits from the ongoing programmes of social welfare and development.

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## **THE GREEN INDIA MISSION (GIM) :**

### **A ROADMAP FOR NEO- LIBERAL EXPLOITATION IN FOREST**

**Sourish Jha**

The Green India Mission (GIM) is one of the eight as announced by Prime Minister under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) in 2008. The proposed Missions aims at addressing the issue of climate change by enhancing carbon sinks in the State's forests while enabling forest dependent communities for adaptation in the face of climatic vulnerability. Against the backdrop the present article would critically examine the Mission's strategy for decentralizing forest governance in the context of ongoing participatory forest management practices which involve an inclusive technique of exploitation of forest communities under the rubric of 'public-people participation'. The paper would expose further the neo-liberal schemata for incentivization of the community service for raising carbon stock to promote an integrated

carbon market leading ultimately to defacement of the organic relationship between the community and the forest.

Keywords: Carbon, Defacement, Exploitation, GIM, Neo-Liberal.

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**PANCHAYAT ACT AND GRASSROOT LEADERSHIP IN  
DECENTRALIZED DEMOCRACY**

**Chetna Singh**

Madhya Pradesh has been a precursor a in implementing the Panchayat Act (73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment Act) and it has witnessed the evolution of grassroots leadership in State. The paper endeavors to analyze the impact of Panchayat Act to further the emergence of tribal leadership with special reference to Shahdol District of Madhya Pradesh. Shahdol comprises 43.6% tribal population of its total population. With this high numerical strength, reserved representation makes the tribal community significant in the political scene of the State. The study also highlights the political emergence of tribal community in our society. Content analysis and empirical study been adopted to endorse the proposition