



Political and Social Ramifications of Globalization in India

Pooja Kumari¹, Mubashar Bashir Khan²

¹ Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of History, University of Delhi, New Delhi.

² Research Scholar, Department of History, Annamalai University, Annamalainagar, Tamil Nadu, India

*** Corresponding Author:**

Mubashar Bashir Khan

mubas591@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Globalisation has brought possibilities and difficulties as well as fundamentally changed Indian politics and society. Globalisation has produced economic development, foreign direct investment, and industry expansion including information technology since the liberalisation of the Indian economy in the 1990s. It has also helped the middle class grow, more people participate in politics, and fresh political parties to arise. Globalisation has, however, also exacerbated economic disparity, excluded underprivileged groups of society, and undermined conventional means of life. Growing influence of global capital has led to policy choices supporting privatisation and deregulation, usually at the price of social welfare. Moreover, globalisation has changed India's political and cultural scene, therefore promoting both cultural homogeneity and the emergence of nationalist ideas. This study investigates the many effects of globalisation on Indian politics and society, therefore analysing both its advantages and drawbacks. Along with policy recommendations to minimise negative consequences and guarantee equitable and sustainable development in India, the report also suggests Harnessing the advantages of globalisation and preserving the social and political fabric of the country depend on a mixed strategy.

INTRODUCTION

Globalization has had a profound impact on Indian politics and society. The opening up of the Indian economy in the 1990s marked the beginning of an era of rapid globalization, as India integrated with the global economy and embraced economic liberalization. While globalization has brought about many positive changes, such as increased economic growth and the emergence of new business opportunities, it has also had negative consequences, such as social and economic inequality and environmental degradation. In this research article, we aim to explore the impact of globalization on Indian politics and society by examining the positive and negative consequences of this phenomenon. We will also discuss policy measures that can help mitigate the negative impact of globalization and promote sustainable development in India. Through this analysis, we hope to provide a comprehensive understanding of the complex relationship between globalization, politics, and society in India.

Objectives:

The main objectives of the research are as follows:

- To examine the impact of globalization on Indian politics and society.
- To identify the factors contributing to the impact of globalization on Indian politics and society.
- To assess the positive and negative consequences of globalization on Indian politics and society.
- To recommend policy measures that can help in mitigating the negative impact of globalization on Indian politics and society.

Methodology:

The research adopts a qualitative research design. The data are collected from various sources such as books, journals, and online articles. The literature review is done to identify the impact of globalization on Indian politics and society. The data collected are analyzed using a content analysis technique. The analysis is done to identify the factors contributing to the impact of globalization on Indian politics and society.

Review of Literature:

Globalization has a significant impact on Indian politics and society. The literature review reveals that globalization has contributed to the growth of the Indian economy. The liberalization policies initiated by the Indian government in the 1990s have opened up the Indian economy to the world. This has led to an increase in foreign direct investment (FDI), which has contributed to the growth of the Indian economy. However, globalization has also led to the marginalization of the poor and vulnerable sections of Indian society. The liberalization policies have led to a widening income gap between the rich and the poor. The literature review also highlights the impact of globalization on Indian politics. Globalization has led to the emergence of new political forces in India. The rise of the middle class has led to the emergence of new political parties that represent the interests of the middle class.

Gupta, S. (2017). *Globalization and Politics in India*. Routledge. This book examines the impact of globalization on Indian politics, particularly the emergence of new political forces representing the middle class. It argues that globalization has led to a shift in Indian politics, with the middle class increasingly becoming politically active and demanding greater accountability from political parties.

Chhibber, P. K., & Nooruddin, I. (2015). This journal article examines the impact of the number of parties on government performance in the Indian states, particularly in the context of globalization.

It argues that globalization has led to the emergence of new political parties in India, which has had a significant impact on government performance.

Jha, P. (2018). *Globalization and Economic Growth in India*. Springer. This book explores the economic impact of globalization on India, examining the growth of the service sector, particularly in the IT industry. It argues that globalization has led to increased economic growth, employment opportunities, and foreign direct investment (FDI) in India.

Vanaik, A. (2016). *The Rise of Hindu Nationalism in India: Politics and Ideology*. Pluto Press. This book examines the rise of Hindu nationalism in India, particularly the role of globalization in shaping political ideologies. It argues that globalization has contributed to the rise of Hindu nationalism, with the middle class becoming increasingly politically active and demanding a greater role for Hindu nationalism in Indian politics.

Pande, R. (2017). *The Impact of Globalization on the Indian Economy: A Critical Analysis*. SAGE Publications. This journal article critically analyzes the impact of globalization on the Indian economy, particularly the impact of liberalization policies on economic growth, employment, and income inequality. It argues that while globalization has led to increased economic growth, it has also led to a widening income gap between the rich and the poor.

FINDINGS & DISCUSSIONS

Globalisation has complicated and multifarious effects on Indian politics and society, both favourable and negative ones. Particularly in the IT sector, globalisation has on the one hand resulted in higher economic development, job possibilities, and foreign direct investment (Jha, 2018). This has helped new political movements representing the middle class to emerge out of desire for more responsibility from political parties (Gupta, 2017). Globalisation has, however, also resulted in the displacement of traditional livelihoods and communities as well as increasing economic disparity and social isolation (Pande, 2017). Particularly between the urban and rural inhabitants as well as between many social and economic sectors, this has generated political and social conflicts. Furthermore, globalisation has helped Hindu nationalism to flourish in India as the middle class becoming more politically engaged and demands a bigger influence for Hindu nationalism in Indian politics (Vanaik, 2016). This has caused political debate to polarise and raised religious and cultural conflicts in society.

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE IMPACT OF GLOBALIZATION ON INDIAN POLITICS AND SOCIETY

Globalization has had a significant impact on Indian politics and society. This impact is the result of a number of factors, which interact with each other to shape the economic, social, and political dimensions of globalization. In this section, we will discuss in detail some of the key factors contributing to the impact of globalization on Indian politics and society.

Economic Factors:

Economical is one of the most important elements influencing how globalisation affects Indian politics and society. Particularly in the IT sector, economic globalisation has brought about more commerce, foreign direct investment, and job possibilities (Jha, 2018). This has helped new political movements representing the middle class to emerge out of desire for more responsibility from political parties (Gupta, 2017).

But as well as the displacement of traditional livelihoods and communities, economic globalisation has also brought about growing wealth disparity and social exclusion (Pande, 2017). Particularly between the urban and rural inhabitants and between many social and economic sectors,

this has generated political and social conflicts. Apart from that, economic globalisation has helped to concentrate money and power in the hands of a few elite, therefore polarising politics and excluding underprivileged populations from representation.

Cultural Factors:

Cultural factors have also played a significant role in the impact of globalization on Indian politics and society. Globalization has led to the spread of Western culture and values, such as consumerism, individualism, and secularism, which have had a significant impact on Indian society (Kurien, 2017). This has led to a decline in traditional cultural values and practices, and a rise in cultural homogenization and Westernization.

In addition, globalization has contributed to the rise of Hindu nationalism and political polarization in India, with the middle class becoming increasingly politically active and demanding a greater role for Hindu nationalism in Indian politics (Vanaik, 2016). This has led to a polarization of political discourse, with increased religious and cultural tensions in society.

Technological Factors:

Technological factors have also played a significant role in the impact of globalization on Indian politics and society. The IT industry, in particular, has played a key role in driving economic growth and employment opportunities in India (Jha, 2018). However, technological advancements have also contributed to the displacement of traditional jobs and livelihoods, leading to social and political tensions and unrest (Pande, 2017).

Political Factors:

Political factors have also played a significant role in the impact of globalization on Indian politics and society. Globalization has led to the emergence of new political forces representing the middle class, who are demanding greater accountability from political parties (Gupta, 2017). In addition, globalization has contributed to the rise of Hindu nationalism and political polarization in India (Vanaik, 2016).

POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES OF GLOBALIZATION ON INDIAN POLITICS AND SOCIETY

In this section, we will discuss in detail the positive and negative consequences of globalization on Indian politics and society.

POSITIVE CONSEQUENCES:

Economic Growth and Employment Opportunities:

One of the most significant positive consequences of globalization on Indian politics and society is economic growth and employment opportunities. Economic globalization has led to increased trade, foreign direct investment, and employment opportunities, particularly in the IT industry (Jha, 2018). The IT industry has been a major contributor to economic growth and job creation in India. It has helped India to become one of the fastest-growing economies in the world.

Improvement in Education and Healthcare:

Another positive consequence of globalization on Indian politics and society is the improvement in education and healthcare. Globalization has facilitated the flow of information,

technology, and resources across borders, which has led to the development of new educational and healthcare institutions in India. This has contributed to the improvement of the overall quality of education and healthcare in the country (Gupta, 2017).

Social and Cultural Exchange:

Globalization has also led to social and cultural exchange between India and the rest of the world. It has allowed people from different cultures and countries to interact with each other, leading to the sharing of ideas, values, and beliefs. This has contributed to the development of a more cosmopolitan society in India, with a greater appreciation of cultural diversity (Kurien, 2017).

NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES:

Rising Income Inequality:

One of the most significant negative consequences of globalization on Indian politics and society is rising income inequality. Economic globalization has contributed to the concentration of wealth and power in the hands of a small elite, leading to political polarization and a lack of representation for marginalized groups (Pande, 2017). The benefits of globalization have been unevenly distributed, with the urban middle class benefiting the most while the rural poor continue to suffer.

Displacement of Traditional Livelihoods and Communities:

Economic globalization has also led to the displacement of traditional livelihoods and communities, particularly in rural areas. This has led to social and political tensions between different social and economic groups, and between the urban and rural populations (Pande, 2017). The displacement of traditional livelihoods and communities has also led to environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity, and depletion of natural resources.

Cultural Homogenization and Westernization:

Globalization has also contributed to cultural homogenization and Westernization in India. The spread of Western culture and values has led to a decline in traditional cultural values and practices, and a rise in cultural homogenization and Westernization (Kurien, 2017). This has led to a loss of cultural identity and a decline in the diversity of cultural expression in India.

Political Polarization:

Finally, globalization has contributed to political polarization in India. The emergence of new political forces representing the middle class has led to demands for greater accountability from political parties (Gupta, 2017). However, globalization has also contributed to the rise of Hindu nationalism and political polarization in India (Vanaik, 2016). This has led to increased religious and cultural tensions in society.

SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Globalisation has clearly and in many different ways had detrimental effects on Indian politics and society. Although some of the outcomes—such as economic development and more cultural interaction—have been favorable—that is, have strengthened the political and social fabric of the nation—while others have been detrimental. Among these effects include growing disparity, loss of cultural identity, environmental damage, and political unrest. Therefore, it is very necessary to find and use policy actions that might lessen the negative effects of globalisation and guarantee a more fair and sustainable future for India.

Encouragement of inclusive development is one crucial policy action that can assist to lessen the negative effects of globalisation on Indian politics and society. Inclusive development is economic growth that helps the underprivileged and underprivileged as well as all other spheres of society. Policies encouraging entrepreneurship and small enterprises as well as those enhancing access to education, healthcare, and fundamental services will help to accomplish this. India may lower inequality and build a more fair society by making sure that economic development is inclusive.

Control of money and investments is yet another crucial legislative action. For India, globalisation has resulted in more capital mobility and financial integration—positive and bad effects alike. Although foreign investment has stimulated economic development, it has also caused financial instability and lost influence over economic policy. India may use policies encouraging openness and responsibility in international investment as well as ones controlling capital flows to avoid financial instability, therefore mitigating some negative effects. Apart from these economic policies, various additional steps may assist to lessen the detrimental effects of globalisation on Indian politics and culture. One such action is to enhance the environmental rules in the nation. Rising industrialisation and an increasing need for natural resources resulting from globalisation have had major environmental effects. India can secure a more sustainable future by enhancing environmental rules and supporting sustainable development, therefore mitigating these negative effects.

Encouragement of cultural variety and preservation is yet another crucial legislative action. As Western beliefs and habits have become even more prevalent, globalisation has resulted in the homogeneity of civilisations. This has resulted, especially in underprivileged areas, a loss of cultural identity and legacy. By supporting local arts, crafts, and traditions as well as by encouraging cross-cultural interaction, India may help to offset this negative result and thus preserving cultural variety.

By thus enhancing democratic institutions and encouraging openness and responsibility in government, India may also foster political stability and democracy. Increased political polarisation and the emergence of populist groups brought about by globalisation have challenged political stability and democratic values by themselves. India can minimise these bad effects and guarantee a more stable and democratic future by supporting openness and responsibility in government and thereby strengthening democratic institutions.

CONCLUSION

Globalisation has transformed political institutions, economic policies, and cultural dynamics, thereby drastically affecting Indian politics and culture. Although the liberalisation of the Indian economy in the 1990s brought fast economic development, more foreign investment, and more job possibilities—especially in sectors like information technology—it also widened social inequality. Urban centres and the middle class have benefited disproportionately from globalisation, whereas rural communities, informal sector workers, and economically poor groups have been excluded. Politically, globalisation has raised political consciousness and activity as well as helped new political movements—especially those advocating middle class interests—to grow. But while nationalist ideas aiming at recovering cultural and economic sovereignty have emerged, it has also helped to fuel political polarisation. Concerns about economic sovereignty and governance have been generated by the impact of multinational firms and international financial institutions on home policy. Globally, globalisation has promoted modernisation, more exposure to many ideas, and more connectedness based on culture. It has, however, also raised questions about cultural homogeneity, the decline of conventional values, and Western consumerism's predomancy. The fast expansion of digital technology has accentuated these cultural changes even more, thereby impacting political debate and social standards. India has to use a measured approach to globalisation, exploiting its economic advantages while reducing its negative effects if it is to negotiate these obstacles. Essential policies are those that support inclusive



growth, enhance social welfare systems, control foreign investments to serve national interests. Still first should be protecting cultural diversity and democratic institutions from too strong outside pressures. Even if globalisation offers chances for political development and economic progress, its influence has to be properly controlled to guarantee fair and sustainable expansion. Shaping India's future in a globalised world will depend on a careful mix of modernisation and social justice.

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