



A POLITICAL STUDY OF LEADERS OPINION ON BELGAUM BORDER DISPUTE

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Abstract

The present study has been carried out to examine political analysis of leader's opinion on Belgaum border dispute. the problems of the study is to measure the attitude of the leaders, regarding Belgaum border dispute, in terms of leaders language conflict, often movements, culture, medium of education, socio-economic development impact on border dispute areas. This study is mainly an attempt to explore the socio-economic status of the masses and leaders and the extent of their impact on border dispute areas. Objectives of the study: to study the leaders opinion of border dispute with the use of different variables. Hypotheses: there is no significant difference on border issue between the people speaking different languages. 2 there is positive relationship between border issue and caste/religion. Population and sample: the researcher will use random sampling technique. The investigator will finally draw 100 respondents who are staying in border area between Karnataka and Maharashtra. Method of the study: the researcher will use historical method to know the details of issues of border dispute and empirical method for the data collection and pilot analysis. It is a case study of the border dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra. Tools used: questionnaire will be prepared by the investigator and administered to the respondents. Procedure of data collection: the investigator will personally visit all the 100 respondents staying in the Karnataka and Maharashtra border of Belgaum district and collect the required information within the speculated time. Major findings of the leader's opinion on Belgaum border dispute. 1. the study found that, all the educated leaders like school education, graduate and post-graduate respondents have studied about geographical conditions of the border issue and their knowledge have made to oppose the statement that, geographically the border disputed villages to be part of Maharashtra. But only illiterate respondents who do not have clear idea about border dispute opined that, the geographically the border disputed villages are part of Maharashtra. 2. The majority of people opined that, Belgaum city and disputed border villages in Karnataka. But language of the Maratha community people is the root cause for this problem. The spirit of the

language of Marathas made them to oppose the statement and they are against the retention of Belgaum city and disputed border villages in Karnataka. 3. The study found that the present day the border dispute movements are weakened day by day compare to last two decades because people have not interest to the border issue. researcher opine that the present border issues there is no interested by the public, but some political leaders politically showing positive interest in this issues because of them.

Key word: Border Dispute, Attitude

INTRODUCTION:

After Independence the nation that is India, had to cope with many difficulties like reorganization of states displacement and so on. Soon after Independence, the issue of Jammu and Kashmir came up. It was not only a conflict between India and Pakistan. More than that, it was a question of the political aspirations of the people of Kashmir Valley. Similarly, in some parts of the north-east, there was no consensus about being a part of India. First Nagaland and then Mizoram witnessed strong movements demanding separation from India. In the south, some groups from the Dravid movements briefly toyed with the idea of a separate country. These events were followed by mass agitations in many part of the formation of linguistic states. Today's Andra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat were among the regions affected by these agitations.

Karnataka and Maharashtra have been in a border dispute. This conflict poses a threat to peace between the two states. After India became independent in 1947, the Belgaum district (which was in the erstwhile Bombay Presidency) became a part of the Bombay State. In 1948, the Belgaum Municipality requested the Indian Dominion, Indian Constituent Assembly and the Boundary Commission to include the Belgaum Municipal District in the proposed Samyukta Maharashtra state for the Marathi speakers.

The principle argument here is that human factors influence border disputes. Especially influential is the role of leadership in determining reasonable alternatives to the status quo. There is a need to utilize adjoining geographical and cultural space between states to break the hostile vicious circle of conflicts generated by contested frontiers. In particular, this thesis will study the opinions of mass and leaders regarding border dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra with special reference to Belgaum District. It will argue that, pro-active administration can initiate peaceful negotiations and resolve these disputes of Karnataka and Maharashtra. Additionally, leaders should devise means to control the diminishing natural resources of Karnataka and Maharashtra disputed area and develops the region co-operatively. Stability and security are a prerequisite for growth; therefore, a peaceful environment will provide a proper setting for sustainable economic development.

NEED FOR THE STUDY: The challenges facing border disputes world-wide stem from a multitude of factors, including the steady increase in population, urbanization, environmental degradation, and

industrialization. Those challenges are compounding border disputes, and in turn, resulting in steadily increasing international disputes over border. Such disputes are getting more complex and novel, involving not only states, but also legal entities, corporations, and individuals against other states. The claims now go beyond the traditional border issues, and involve border lines across boundary disputes, and legal issues. The settlement institutions have expanded considerably and now include varied international and national tribunals, as well as third and fourth parties. This study reviews and discusses those novel claims, claimants and dispute settlement institutions, and analyzes emerging trends in this area.

After going through many research reviews and literature it was noticed by the researcher that there are very few studies done in the border dispute areas especially in India. The present study stresses on the opinion of the people residing in border dispute area in Belgaum district. The struggle between border dispute of the Maharashtra and Karnataka Government since 1947 is being focused by the investigator. An attempt to know the causes of the dispute is going to be the area of research. The opinion of the people on border dispute of Belgaum District has to be recognized. Hence, the investigator has made an attempt to collect the available literature on the issue and public opinion in this regard. The primary information collected shall be subject to political analysis. Therefore the subject, "The Political Analysis of Border Dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra in the Belgaum District" has been undertaken.

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE: The review of related literature is an important aspect in any research. Each new generation of human being do make use of accumulated knowledge as a foundation for building up further knowledge. Hence, the study of literature is necessary in any field of enquiry. The investigation needs to altogether update information about the area of research. Availability of adequate information and possession of sufficient familiarity with it, are unavoidable to investigation. It helps the investigator to decide whether the evidence already available solves problem adequately without further and investigation, thus to avoid risk of duplication. The review of related literature involves the systematic identification, location and analysis of documents containing information related to the research problem. The review tells the researcher what has been done and needs to be done. Some of the reviews collected from the various sources are specified below:

Mark W. Frazier (2000) made a research on china-India Relations since Pokhran II: Assessing sources of conflict and cooperation. This study assesses recent changes in bilateral relations between China and India following the South Asian nuclear tests of May 1998. As states, China and India share a number of similar problems and challenges, yet their bilateral relationship is one that remains fairly understudied by scholars and policy analysts. This gap in the literature is quickly being filled with new studies on Sino-Indian relations. This article first discusses China's fairly restrained reaction to India's nuclear tests and developments in Sino-Indian relations since 1998. It then examines several recent studies of various facets of the bilateral relationship. A number of institutional features particular to the foreign policy-making communities in China and India are identified as possible sources for the conduct of Sino-Indian relations and prospects for their future development analyzed. Among the most significant of these features is the degree of foreign policy conflict and consensus between civilian and military officials within each country.

Graver, J (2008) found in his study that "The Unresolved Sino-Indian Border Dispute"

This study posits that China's insistence on the 'return' to China of the territory constituting Arunachal Pradesh, and even China's insistence on Indian cession of a salient of territory in the Tawang area of that region, is a form of Chinese deterrence of what Beijing takes to be potentially dangerous 'anti-China' behaviour by India. Deep divergence of Chinese and Indian perceptions of Tibet, plus the history of Indian support for unarmed and armed Tibetan resistance to Chinese Communist rule of Tibet, makes Beijing fearful that India might again, someday, work to undermine Chinese rule in Tibet. An open territorial dispute serves as a standing threat to 'teach India a lesson', underlining for New Delhi the need for great circumspection in dealing with China. Indian strategic alignment with the United States exacerbates Chinese fears. The intensity of China's implicit threat can be turned up or down by Beijing as the perversity of Indian policy indicates. Keeping the border issue open dovetails with China's continuing entente with Pakistan and may even be based on an understanding between Beijing and Islamabad. A premise of this argument is that mainstream Indian opinion is willing to translate the line of actual control into an international border.

Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan & Kailash Prasad (2010) found in his study that in the Sino-Indian Border Infrastructure: Issues and Challenges. The study focuses on India to recognize that border infrastructure remains a critical element in regional integration. In the age of globalization and increasing economic interdependence, connectivity is of critical importance. India cannot afford to have poor border networks of rail & road and energy transportation linkages, which can slow down the pace of economic integration and prove to be a disadvantage for the country. An enhanced network of linkages will reduce transportation costs while facilitating intraregional and interstate trade and service networks. This will go a long way in reducing, for instance, the alienation that the North Eastern region has been sensing vis-avis the rest of India. This is in addition to the military and strategic benefits that improved infrastructure can accrue for India. As China becomes economically and militarily stronger, and exercises greater influence in the Asian neighbourhood, India, on its part, must develop and upgrade its

capabilities—military and infrastructure— and simultaneously initiate pro-active diplomacy for peace in the region and beyond.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM: “A POLITICAL STUDY OF LEADERS OPINION ON BELGAUM BORDERS DISPUTE”

TYPE OF PROBLEM: The present problem is related to border dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra. In the researcher is can find to the study of border dispute of Belgaum Districts between Karnataka and Maharashtra: So it is a case study of Belgaum district.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY: To study the Leaders opinion of border dispute with the use of different variables.

HYPOTHESES:

1. There is no significant difference on border issue between the people speaking different Languages.
2. There is positive relationship between border issue and caste/religion.

POPULATION AND SAMPLE: The researcher will use Random Sampling Technique. The investigator will finally draw 100 respondents who are staying in Border area between Karnataka and Maharashtra.

METHOD OF THE STUDY: The researcher will use historical method to know the details of issues of border dispute and empirical method for the data collection and Pilot Analysis. It is a case study of the border dispute between Karnataka and Maharashtra.

TOOLS USED: Questionnaire will be prepared by the investigator and administered to the respondents.

PROCEDURE OF DATA COLLECTION: The investigator will personally visit all the 100 respondents staying in the Karnataka and Maharashtra border of Belgaum district and collect the required information within the speculated time.

Data Analysis and Result

Table 1: Education and Leaders Decision Regarding Border Dispute.

Sl no	Education	Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Undecided (%)
1	School education (52)	44.23% (23)	3.84% (02)	51.92% (27)
2	Graduates (36)	61.11% (5)	00% (00)	38.88% (14)
3	Post Graduates (12)	66.66% (08)	00% (00)	33.33% (04)

The data analysis of the above shown table 5.4 reveal that, out of total 100 leaders of present study, 52 school educated, 36 Graduates and 12 post graduate leaders are represented in this study.

The 52 school educated leaders are participated in this study. Among them 44.23% leaders opinion that, all my supporter support my leadership and they accept my decision regarding Border Dispute, while 3.84% leaders do not support my leadership and they are not accept my decision regarding Border dispute and more 51.92% leaders of are undecided to come to a definer opinion. Similarly the graduate leaders are 36. Out of which 61.11% leaders agree that, my entire supporter support my leadership and they accept my decision regarding Border Dispute. But 38.88% of them have undecided in respect of this statement.

The Post-Graduate leaders are 12 in this study. Out of 12 leaders 66.66% leaders agree that, my entire supporter support my leadership and they accept my decision regarding Border Dispute and 33.33% leaders have not expressed their opinion in this regard. Therefore the study found that, all the educated people like School education, Graduate and Post-graduate respondents have studied about geographical conditions of the border issue and their knowledge have made to oppose the statement that, geographically the border disputed villages to be part of Maharashtra. But only illiterate respondents who do not have clear idea about border dispute opined that, the geographically the border disputed villages are part of Maharashtra.

Table 2: Caste and Leaders Decision Regarding Border Dispute.

Sl no	Caste/ Religion		Agree (%)	Disagree (%)	Undecided (%)
1	Hindu (42)	Marathas (42)	61.90% (26)	2.38% (01)	35.71% (15)
		Other Castes (45)	53.33% (24)	00% (00)	46.66% (21)
2	Muslims (08)		12.5% (01)	12.5% (01)	75% (06)
3	Others (05)		40% (02)	40% (02)	20% (01)

The data presented in the table 5.5 reveals that, leaders of Hindu religion are 87, among them Marathas are 42 and other castes leader are 45 in this study. Out of 42, 61.90% Marathas leaders agree that, my entire supporter support my leadership and they accept my decision regarding Border dispute, On the contrary 2.38% of this community respondent do not support my leadership and my decision regarding Border dispute. But 35.71% leaders of same community are undecided my leadership and decision regarding Border dispute, Similarly the leaders of others caste includes Lingayat, Brahmin, S.C, S.T, Jain and Kuruba Community in Hindu religion are 45 .Out of which 53.33% leaders say that, all my supporter support my leadership and they accept my decision regarding Border dispute and 46.66% of them have not expressed their opinion in this regard.

The Muslims are 8 in this study. Among them 12.5% leaders say that, all my supporter support my leadership and they accept my decision regarding Border dispute, while 12.5% leaders are not support my leadership and my decision regarding Border dispute and 75% of them have not decided in this regard.

The other religious of leaders are 5 in this study. Out of 5 leaders, 40.00% leaders opinion that, all my supporter support my leadership and they accept my decision regarding Border dispute, where as 40% leaders are not support my leadership and decision regarding Border dispute and 20% leaders have not expressed their opinion in this regard. Therefore the language of the Maratha community people is the root cause for this problem. The spirit of the language of Marathas made them to oppose the statement and they are against the retention of Belgaum city and disputed border villages in Karnataka.

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE LEADERS OPINION ON BELGAUM BORDER DISPUTE

Border disputes are not just restricted to the interiors of a country, they're often international issues. Boundaries between states or countries are sometimes natural, though more often than not, they are man-made. Borders are being continuously redrawn as results of wars, due to the large scale of migration of ethnic groups and the ensuing mutual agreement of the affected parties etc.

1. The study found that, all the educated Leaders like School education, Graduate and Post-graduate respondents have studied about geographical conditions of the border issue and their knowledge have made to oppose the statement that, geographically the border disputed villages to be part of Maharashtra. But only illiterate respondents who do not have clear idea about border dispute opined that, the geographically the border disputed villages are part of Maharashtra.
2. The Majority of people opined that, Belgaum city and disputed border villages in Karnataka. But language of the Maratha community people is the root cause for this problem. The spirit of the language of Marathas made them to oppose the statement and they are against the retention of Belgaum city and disputed border villages in Karnataka.
3. The study found that the present day the border dispute movements are weakened day by day compare to last two decades because people have not interest to the border issue.

CONCLUSION: After independence India witnessed many political, cultural, social changes. Indian society is a transitional one and among these changes, political change is prominent one. Now it is the proper time to study the working democracy of India and her citizens' participation in different political activities and the factors which influence this participation. The motilities factors like Income or Economic Status, facilities, caste, languages, occupation, literacy, urbanization, mass media etc. promote and ensure the political participation. Among all these factors, the researcher has taken up the language factor for his study and how it is an absolute for the growth of border areas. In this border area, the language driven politics and the peoples' participation in the politics is the crux of this research. Further this study involves knowing the opinion of masses and leaders of the border area and it also records the changes in the act of political participation. In this study found that based on public and leaders opinion there is a significance difference researcher opine that the present border issues there is no interested by the public, but some political leaders politically showing positive interest in this issues because of them.

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