

Department of Political Science, BBAU

Course Title: Indian Politics-Processes

Course Code: 301

Semester: III

Course Teacher- Narender Kumar

Email: kumarr.narender@gmail.com

Credits: 4

Course description:

Democracy in India has survived in spite of qualms expressed by Western Scholars at the time of India becoming a Republic. This course shall ponder over the processes that have made the democracy not merely survive but its maturing with all the challenges and shortcomings. This course compliments the Indian Politics -Institutions taught in the previous semester. Institutions do not function in vacuum. Rather they have an interface with societal standards under different circumstances. The rationale of the course may be understood in terms of pragmatic politics that goes on in the functioning of various institutions and its relation with the citizens. How the citizens relate themselves with the state and other non-state actors like the political parties, NGOs and civil society in general is the focus of this course.

Course Objective:

Following are the objectives of the course:

1. To get acquaintance with the formation of State in Republican India.
2. To reflect upon the challenges posed to democracy by special Indian societal contexts and its triumph.
3. To understand emergence of identity politics and its impact on the functioning of democracy in India.
4. To analyze the relationship of caste and politics; gender and politics; religion and politics.
5. To broaden the understanding of relationship between state institutions and non-state actors.

Evaluation Method:

Performance of the student will be evaluated on three bases:

1. Mid-term Exam-20%
2. Assignment-10%
3. End-semester Exam-70%

Course content:

Unit-I State in Republican India (January 15)

- I. Constructing State
- II. State-Societal Interface
- III. Politics of National and Regional Parties

Essential Readings:

Sumit Sarkar, “Indian Democracy: The Historical Inheritance” in Atul Kohli, ed. *The Success of India’s Democracy*, Cambridge University Press

Susanne Hoerber Rudolph and Lloyd Rudolph, *In Pursuit of Lakshmi: Political Economy of the State in India*, (Westview Press), **Chapter on State Formation.**

Partha Chatterjee, ed, *State and Politics in India*, **Introduction and conclusion**

Zoya Hasan, ed, *Politics and the State in India*, (New Delhi, OUP) esp. essays by Sudipta Kaviraj, Achin Vanaik, Rajni Kothari

Atul Kohli, ed. *India’s Democracy: An Analysis of Changing State-Society Relations*, (Princeton, Princeton University Press)

Francine Frankel, Zoya Hasan, Rajeev Bhargava and Balveer Arora, eds, *Transforming India: The Social and Political Dynamics of Democracy*, (New Delhi, OUP) **especially Essays by Rajeev Bhargav, Paul Brass and Yogendra Yadav**

Zoya Hasan, (ed) *Parties and Party Politics* (New Delhi, OUP)

Thomas Hansen and Christophe Jaffrelot, (ed), *The BJP and the Compulsions of Politics in India* (New Delhi, OUP)

Unit-II Politics of Recognition

- I. Language and Region
- II. Secular Construction and Religion
- III. Rise of Hindu Nationalism and Naxalism

Readings

Rajeev Bhargava, ed, *Secularism and its Critics*, (New Delhi, OUP), **esp. essays by D.E Smith, Stanley Tambiah and Partha Chatterjee**

Paul Brass, *Language, Religion and Politics in North India*, (Cambridge: CUP)

Alok Rai, *Hindi Nationalism*, (New Delhi, Orient Longman)

D.L.Seth, 'The Great Language Debate: Politics of Metropolitan versus Vernacular India', in Upendra Baxi and Bhiku Parekh, eds, *Crisis and Change in Contemporary India*

Christophe Jaffrelot, *Hindu nationalism and Indian Politics*, (New Delhi, Penguin)

Thomas Hansen, *The Saffron Wave: Democracy and Hindu Nationalism in India*, (Princeton, Princeton University Press)

Francine Frankel, *et al*, *Transforming India*, esp. essays by Christophe Jaffrelot and Amrita Basu (New Delhi, OUP)

Rajat Kujur, "Naxal Movement in India", IPCS Research Paper

Prakash Louis, "Naxal Movement in Bihar", IPCS Research Paper

Sohail Jawaid, *The Naxalite Movement in India*, (New Delhi, Zed Books)

Unit-III Caste, Class and Gender

- I. Emergence of Middle/Dominant Castes
- II. Dalit Politics and Question of Governance
- III. Gender and Politics of Representation

Readings

Marc Galanter, *Competing Equalities: Law and the Backward Classes in India*, (New Delhi, OUP)

Francine Frankel and M.S.A. Rao, eds, *Dominance and State Power in India: Decline of a Social Order*, especially essays by **David Washbroke, Jayant Lele, Ghanshyam Shah and Frankel** (New Delhi, OUP)

Christophe Jaffrelot, *India's Silent Revolution*, (New Delhi, Permanent Black), **Introduction**

Manoranjan Mohanty, *ed. Caste, Class and Gender*, (New Delhi, Sage), **Introduction, Chapter one**

Zoya Hasan, *ed, Politics and the State in India*, (New Delhi, Sage) **Especially essays by D.L. Seth and Francine Frankel**

Nivedita Menon, *ed. Gender and Politics in India*, (New Delhi: OUP) **especially Introduction and essays by Radha Kumar, Nandita Shah, Ratna Kapur and Brenda Cossman**

Leslie Calman, *Towards Empowerment: Women and Movement Politics* (New Delhi, Westview)

Badri Narayan, *The Making of the Dalit Public in North India*, (New Delhi, OUP)

Narender Kumar, "Representation, Hegemony and Governance: Alternative Contestations", *History and Sociology of South Asia, Sage Journal*

Unit-IV Civil Society

- I. Social Movements
- II. NGOs and Non-State Governance
- III. Media and Mobilization Politics

Readings

Neera Chandhok, *State and Civil Society: Exploration in Political Theory*, (New Delhi, Sage)

Manoranjan Mohanty, Parthanath Mukherji and Olle Tornquist eds, *People's Rights: Social Movements and the State in the Third World*, (New Delhi, SAGE)

Ghanashyam Shah, *Social Movements in India: A Review of Literature* (New Delhi, Sage)

Leela Fernandes, *The New Middle Class: Democratic Politics in Era of Economic Reform*, (Washington, University of Minnesota) **2nd Chapter**

Suggested Readings

Rajni Kothari, *Politics in India*, (New Delhi, Orient Longman)

Partha Chatterjee, *State and Politics in India* (New Delhi, OUP)

Nirija Gopal Jayal, *Democracy in India* (New Delhi, OUP)

Francine R. Frankel and MSA Rao, *Transforming India: Social and Political Dynamic of Democracy*, (New Delhi, OUP)

Zoya Hasan, *Politics and the State in India* (New Delhi, OUP)

Atul Kohli, *India's Democracy: An Analysis of Changing State-Society Relations*, Princeton, Princeton University Press)