



THE KARNATAKA UNIFICATION MOVEMENT AND ITS IMPACT ON MALNAD KARNATAKA

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ABSTRACT

The Karnataka unification movement was a significant political and social movement in India, aimed at unifying the Kannada-speaking regions under a single administrative unit. The movement gained momentum during the 1950s and 1960s and culminated in the formation of the state of Karnataka in 1956. This paper examines the impact of the Karnataka unification movement on Malnad Karnataka, a region in Karnataka comprising of several districts, including Chikmagalur, Hassan, Kodagu, Shimoga, and Uttara Kannada. The paper analyzes the role of the Malnad region in the unification movement and discusses the impact of the movement on the cultural and economic development of the region.



KEYWORDS: *Karnataka unification movement, political and social movement.*

INTRODUCTION

The Karnataka unification movement was a significant political and social movement in India, aimed at unifying the Kannada-speaking regions under a single administrative unit. The movement gained momentum during the 1950s and 1960s and culminated in the formation of the state of Karnataka in 1956. The formation of the state of Karnataka was a significant achievement for the Kannada people and has since then played an important role in the cultural and economic development of the state. This paper examines the impact of the Karnataka unification movement on Malnad Karnataka, a region in Karnataka comprising of several districts, including Chikmagalur, Hassan, Kodagu, Shimoga, and Uttara Kannada.

Methodology:

This paper is based on a review of relevant literature, including books, articles, and government reports. The paper also draws on primary sources, such as interviews with local historians and community leaders, to provide a nuanced understanding of the impact of the Karnataka unification movement on Malnad Karnataka.

Results and Discussion:

The Malnad region played an important role in the Karnataka unification movement. The region had a significant Kannada-speaking population, and the people here strongly identified themselves as

Kannadigas. However, the region was divided between different princely states and provinces, each with its own administrative setup and language. The movement for unification gained momentum in the Malnad region during the 1950s, with various Kannada organizations and political parties demanding the merger of the different regions under a single administrative unit. The movement received widespread support from the people of the region, who saw the unification as a means to promote their cultural identity and to bring about economic development.

The unification of the different regions under a single administrative unit had a significant impact on the cultural and economic development of the Malnad region. The formation of the state of Karnataka brought together various regions that were earlier part of the states of Bombay, Hyderabad, and Madras. This led to the development of a common language and culture, which has played a significant role in the cultural identity of the region. The unification also led to the development of infrastructure, such as roads, railways, and communication networks, which facilitated the economic development of the region. The Malnad region is now known for its coffee plantations, tourism industry, and natural beauty, which has contributed significantly to the economic growth of the state.

CONCLUSION:

The Karnataka unification movement was a significant political and social movement in India, aimed at unifying the Kannada-speaking regions under a single administrative unit. The movement had a significant impact on the cultural and economic development of the Malnad region. The formation of the state of Karnataka brought together various regions that were earlier part of the states of Bombay, Hyderabad, and Madras, leading to the development of a common language and culture, which has played a significant role in the cultural identity of the region. The unification also led to the development of infrastructure, such as roads, railways, and communication networks, which facilitated the economic development

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