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## SOCIAL SCIENCE AND CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY- WITH REFERENCE TO THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY IN INDIA

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### ABSTRACT:

*Social science is an important component of the social system and plays a key role in society. Over the past decades, there has been a dramatic increase in social issues in the system. Despite its importance and efficacy, social science effects from several drawbacks. One of the most significant current discussions in social science with social consciousness and social science was neglected. Several studies have proved the importance of social science. This paper seeks to address the following the questions: Social Science was neglected, Development without Social development, Social Science and Constraints, Society and Social media. And this paper first gives a brief overview of Social Science.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Social Science, Globalization, Society, Social Media, Social arrogance, Cultural arrogance, Academic illiteracy.*

### INTRODUCTION

The social sciences do have a contribution to make to social practice, but not so large a contribution as they will make if helped to develop properly. At this point in history, the magnitude of major social problems exceed the capacity of social scientists to solve them. Social scientists are currently being offered a fourth opportunity to display what they have to offer toward the solution of what is now a fairly well-standardized, if incomplete, list of problems: poverty, caste discrimination, urban decay and the strangulation of transportation, human and

mechanical pollution of the environment, and a perceived increase in the incidence of crimes of violence. Will social scientists succeed better this time in living up to the expectations that face them? What can and should be done to make a possible greater success? There are several purely scientific difficulties in applying social science successfully to the solution of social problems. Limitations of space prevent their adequate discussion here their importance is such that they must at least be mentioned, however, and they require persistent scientific effort in order to improve the capacity of the social science disciplines to cope with social problems. There are three major scientific issues: so-called "Hawthorne effects" or changes in behaviour which

result from the fact that individuals are subjects in an experimental study; the inadequacies of existing data about social problems and individual behaviour and the defects of indirect data; and finally the manipulability of social factors that are variables in social scientific analyses of problems. These are difficult scientific problems, but not impossible of solution. Furthermore, much headway can be made in applying social science without fully solving them. On the other hand, the real basic advances in social science seem more likely to occur in settings—such as disciplinary departments—that are relatively free of the pressures to devise immediate solutions, to work with client systems, and to attend to the range of extra-

scientific considerations that are involved in solving social problems. A convincing argument can be made that the most pressing needs of social science are methodological and that the greatest opportunities for strengthening the social sciences lie in improving methods of research and developing more powerful theories. Indeed, a considerable amount of the advance in social science that has taken place in the last decade has come about through basic research of this sort, conducted in disciplinary departments.

### **SOCIAL SCIENCE AND GLOBALIZATION**

The Globalization changed the total scenario of Indian society and social science education. Globalization lacks social responsibility and it affected the Indian education system from school to higher education level and it made the social science departments like unemployed dumping yards. From 1991 onwards the job opportunities are created on the basis of technical education and social sciences were neglected which resulted in the tremendous increase in crime and social conflicts in Indian society. The attitude of society was drastically changed on the bases of the utility instead of social conscious growth, even in the education system, the subject studying becomes the social status in Indian society and which resulted in crises in social science researchers in India from the 21<sup>st</sup> century at schools social science was taught by non-social science teachers and it is becoming difficult to find a good social teacher and social researchers. Globalization created maximum opportunities for the technical education and even growth and activities of the philanthropists were very less in the last two decades as it happened basically on the basis of the creation of new demand and supply in the Indian society.

### **INDIAN SOCIETY AND SOCIAL ISSUES**

The major role played in any nation by the literature and Media. The Indian media and literature at various flat forms mis-interpretations are influencing very strongly. The social consciousness and mantel strength of the individual were prepared from the school classroom but the social media is affecting the society like the trolls in 'YouTube' etc...at a larger extent. For example in You-tube Video with the title 'Why Nathuram Godse Killed Gandhi'<sup>1</sup> with a story where 'Gandhi family supported the Nathuram Godse' and for this 3700 likes and only 383 dislikes<sup>2</sup> and for the same video was published in YouTube in almost all Indian regional languages and in that for video Telugu 6,600 likes and 1,100 dislikes<sup>3</sup> and also in the comments "Suitable person for our father of nation would have been only "Godse" not "Gandhi"<sup>4</sup>. Here the question is not condemning the right to expression, what about the fundamental duties and role of social consciousness towards a nation were with the false information which is creating the academic illiteracy to society which is more dangerous than the illiteracy to any society. The effects of such works in social media will create a social disturbance, an ideological disturbance that creates cultural and social arrogance in the minds and creates irresponsibility over 'fundamental duties'.

In the case of the Sabarimala Temple which is a social sensitive issue related to gender by removing "The Notification dated November 27, 1956, issued by the Travancore Devaswom Board restricts the entry of women between the ages of 10 to 55 years as a custom and practise integral to the sanctity of the Temple, and having the force of law under Article 13(3)(a) of the Constitution. The High Court in S. Mahendran v. The Secretary, Travancore Devaswom Board, Thiruvananthapuram & Ors. (supra) noted that this practice of restricting the entry of women is admitted to have been prevalent since the past several centuries" revoked by the judgement of the supreme court of India<sup>5</sup> which created

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49QyCAXNeeA>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=49QyCAXNeeA> , dated 19/04/2019.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkRajaEk2cA>, dated 19/04/2019.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid. one of the comments from the 1572 comments.

<sup>5</sup> Supreme Court of India judgement, Writ Petition (CIVIL) NO. 373 OF 2006 between the 'Indian Young Lawyers Association(s) (Petitioner) & Ors. Versus The State of Kerala & Ors.

social chaos in India but those who played a vital role to make it as a national issue forgot the past. Those who played a very active role in this issue mostly are also not allowed to all most all the temples in India up to 1934, in such a case it is evident according to 'The tale of Nandanar'<sup>6</sup> explains that the Brahmin, Kshatriya, and Vishaya are only allowed to all most all the Shivite temples and with the social contradiction outcaste people are allowed to see the SHIVA LINGA<sup>7</sup> in to Shivite temples where NANDI<sup>8</sup> the statue had turned towards its left side, 'India is a museum of races' and every caste has its customs and traditions and a recent study by 'Niti Aayog' "unable to classify the 65,000 castes thrown up by its study- not as comprehensive as a senses- and decided to limit itself to identifying 7,331 communities instead".<sup>9</sup>

Rationality is identifying Ayyappan as "a priest or oracle-revealer of the hunting deity, Ayyappan, whose chief shrine is in Savarimala [sic].... The duty of Talanani was to deck himself out...in his sword, bangles, beads. &c., and highly frenzied with excitement and strong drink, dance in a convulsively horrid fashion before his idols, and reveal in unearthly shrieks what the god had decreed..." who was he? "Hunting deity"? P.K. Sajeev, founder and general secretary of the Aikya Mala Araya Maha Sabha, says he was a prophesied warrior born in the early 12th century AD to fight the invaders during the "Hundred Years' War" between the imperial Cholas on the one side, and the second Chera 'empire' and their southern neighbours, the Ay kingdom—supposedly the forebears of the Mala Arayans—on the other<sup>10</sup>.

How it will reach to the society! Since the issue contains social, religious sensitivity and it impacts on the political and secular system of the Indian Republic at the national level, is it because of the system lacked the social sense! or some deadlock is there which is influencing the social science from school level to research in India!

The changes in the education system is also somewhat responsible like The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) recently removed the 9<sup>th</sup> class lesson "Clothing: A Social History" in 4.1 'Caste Conflict and Dress Change' describes the struggle of lower-class Hindu women in Kerala who were not allowed to use clothes to cover the upper part of their body till the 19th century and the court cases in colonial India about wearing a dress in 1822 and also in 1862, there was a famous case of defiance of the 'shoe respect' rule in a Surat courtroom. With these lessons, learners can understand the issues like non-entry of Dalits to Tirumala and Meenakshi temple case of 1939, which are reliable to the society to understand reservation policy and etc... by hiding from academics and social science and social science was made as one non-serious subject in Indian schools and research!

### GLASS CURTAIN SOCIETY<sup>11</sup>

Indian society and culture have its legacy globally but due to the invasion of the science and technology in urban and in metro political cities where major GDP contribution from the service sector had socially hit seriously, and highest literacy rate state Kerala also facing increases in suicide cases and ranked 8th in India and Bihar ranked with 36. The suicide rates for men and women in India were much higher than the global averages the three Indian states with the highest age-standardized suicide rates among men-Tripura, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu-would be the 11th, 17th and 20th highest in the world and also "an unusual trend in a country where the divorce rate was just 1 in 1,000 in 2005 and reached 13 per 1,000 and 11,667 cases of divorce were filed in Mumbai in 2014 up from 5,245 cases in 2010 and 8347 divorce cases were filed in Kolkata in 2014 a 350% increase from the 2388 divorce

<sup>6</sup> The tale of Nandanar – belongs to 12<sup>th</sup> century A.D describes the story of an untouchable 'Nandanar' when he wants to see the Lord Shiva's LINGA in the temple by requesting the NANDI and the NANDI took its turn towards the left to give a view of LINGA to 'Nandanar.' instead of allowing him inside the temple.

<sup>7</sup> An aniconic representation of the Hindu deity Shiva in Shaivism

<sup>8</sup> According to Hindu mythology the vehicle of Lord Shiva.

<sup>9</sup> R. Vaidyanathan, Caste as Social Capital, p.xiv

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.outlookindia.com/magazine/story/the-tribal-ayyappan/300919>

<sup>11</sup> The society seems to be very good in practising customs and traditions in social life but in reality the society with more cultural and social issues.

cases filed in 2003"<sup>12</sup> and in Bengaluru an average 50 divorce petitions filed every day by 2016 and there pending of over 54,000 cases in the city<sup>13</sup> is it creating the women empowerment? Or going towards collapsing the Indian culture! Due to 1991 reforms affect the society and skipped to semi-western pattern and facing the problem. Is it due to neglecting the social sciences? The development on the name of the economy and it is reaching to his goals with social distraction! On the name of culture, society stood at a higher level but in reality, it was a Glass Curtain Society.

### SOCIAL SCIENCE AND CONSTRAINTS

In India, inter and multidisciplinary research was a recent trend with a contradiction with theories and the effect of theories on researchers was limited. The traditional attitudes in the social science education system become one of the biggest Constraints. Social science required an interactive environment in the class and research by taking society as a laboratory but the Indian education system becoming like an examination system. The outcome from repudiated schools like Navodaya Vidyalas, Kendriya Vidyalas and few institutes only imparting social science. In the education system drastic changes were observed in India from school level to higher education level where the teacher has to promote the students with good grade with the target pass percentage! And students are confined to score marks in the social science where actually it required the social output and coming to higher educational institutions, to promote individual working on social science research papers without social audit and social outcome. Until and unless changes from the bottom to top, it is very difficult to bring changes in the society and sometimes it leads to academic conflict<sup>14</sup> between teacher and student because of social media what the teacher is teaching was true or student knows the subject better than the teacher? In the internet, the misinterpretation's are more related to social sciences. The trolls influencing the present society for the benefit of a specific social group and political parties which are related to caste and religion etc... Hear the society is preparing with that misinterpreted trolls making viewers minds with predetermined mindset and claims that what they watched was true and condemning the facts and feels under misinterpretations and in this the students and academicians also falling under trolls and with the media effect. "It would, of course, be a curious kind of "understanding" that had no implications for action and this is perhaps especially true for the social sciences. Nevertheless, there is a difference between enlarging one's understanding of human behaviour and society on the one hand and trying to solve a social problem on the other. The social sciences are distinct from social problem solving, but each can contribute to the other"<sup>15</sup> as per the recent reports of "The Microsoft survey, covering 22 countries and coming a few months (from February 2019) ahead of the general elections show that as many as 64 percents of the Indians surveyed have encountered fake news as against the global average of 57 percent"<sup>16</sup>.

### CONCLUSION

Social Science was neglected and already the society is facing its problems from personal, family and socially at every level since India is a developing country and the feature depends on Social science to produce philanthropists and citizens of the nation. During the colonial rule, the social science played a vital role in every colony and present condition was bridge conduction to pave the way to the feature and we need to remember if the importance was not given now it will become an 'alien subjects by the

<sup>12</sup> Hindustan times, dated, Apr 24, 2019.

<sup>13</sup> Naradanews, dated, 21 Nov 2016.

<sup>14</sup> Ex. 'A' by looking at the book's and authors of the Modern history course outline and he raised the question 'why Historian Bipin Chandra book – 'India's Struggle for Independence' was added and also added he commented 'Bipin Chandra was a congress paid Historian' and B gave an explanation for that and if he stood on his opinion it is up to the 'A' but 'A' raised the question 'why don't you add Shashi Tharoor (Congress M.P from Kerala State) 'z' book'.

<sup>15</sup> Henry Riecken, Social Science and Contemporary Social Problems, 1969, Vol.23,p.5

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2019/feb/05/india-topping-fake-news-menace-globally-microsoft-1934770.html>

mid of the 21<sup>st</sup> century'<sup>17</sup>. Whatever the nation's development achieved in economic terms will appear like a huge giant green tree without roots. The society is with actions and reactions with emotions and it should be controlled with proper rational thought, society will get everything like "For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction" either towards social construction or destruction. Until and unless social science was not imparted as a serious subject to the society, society has to struggle Academic illiteracy for the question like why Akbar is "The Akbar" and why not 'Maha Rana Pratap Singh' is 'The Maha Rana Pratap Singh' or 'Great Singh' in the History', why women should be allowed to Sabarimala etc... And its effects on sciences like a 'PhD student submitted a thesis in 2017 declaring Earth to be flat unmoving, young and the centre of the universe.( <https://gulfnews.com/opinion/oped-eds/phd-thesis-the-earth-is-flat-1.2009202> Published: April 10, 2017) The lack of social science will create social arrogance, cultural arrogance, etc... to avoid all such obstacles it is must impart social science strongly from schooling. Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India in 2018 by giving directions to national importance research in the universities and introduced social science papers in engineering studies is one of the good move for the national and social development. Even though some criticism is there but it is must for sustainable development for the overall development of the nation.



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<sup>17</sup> Yuval Noah Harari, Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind, Vintage Publisher, 2014.