

## ROLE OF YOUTH IN INDIAN POLITICS: A POLITICAL ANALYTICAL STUDY

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### **Abstract**

In India, youth involvement is evident in every field and profession. From engineering to medicine, law, commerce, business, sports, social work, and other fields, we find that young people are fully engaged in these areas. However, when it comes to politics, we hardly ever see it, and when we do, it is eventually suppressed as a career. India has been stuck in a vicious cycle of the same political parties and an unaltered system since independence, but more young people in the system could lead to more significant and progressive changes in the nation. The under-representation of youth in politics, social and political variables including familial expectations, and a general lack of trust in political institutions are just a few of the numerous reasons why youth are under-represented in the Indian political system. But these enduring factors—which can persist indefinitely if nothing changes—make the impact that the kids could have on our nation irreversible.

Young revolutionaries like NetajiSubhash Chandra Bose, Bhagat Singh, Chandrasekhar Azad, and Rani Lakshmbai fled the British in the contemporary era. The nation's father, Mahatma Gandhi, had many youthful leaders who helped his activities succeed, and it was under his direction that India achieved independence. In terms of modern India's history, from independence to the present, youngsters have been at the forefront of numerous movements and transformations. The youth took on responsibility for everything from creating nuclear power to making India self-sufficient in food production (Green Revolution). Young minds were responsible for both the new economic policies and the computer revolution.

India is the youngest nation in the world when it comes to the present. Based on population figures, those under the age of twenty-five make up half of India's total population, while those beyond the age of thirty-five make up the remaining sixty-five percent. Because of this, it is seen as a worldwide superpower and is expected to emerge victorious in the twenty-first century. The country's progress can only be driven by its youth population. Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, a former president of India, had stated that we have a treasure of youth resources and that we may quickly become a superpower if we give them more power.

**Keywords:** Youth politics, Political parties, Green Revolution, Leadership,Population.

## Introduction

The world's largest democratic nation is India. In spite of this, young people in this country rarely participate in politics. The world's largest democratic nation is India. In spite of this, young people in this country rarely participate in politics. It has frequently been noted that young people's distaste for politics prevents them from wanting to enter the field. However, individuals must realise that until they get involved in politics, the negative aspects of politics will not go away. The Indian Constitution grants the right to vote to any youth over the age of eighteen. Youth play a crucial role in such circumstances.

In addition, the educational system must be strengthened in order to develop young people into valuable human resources. In the nation's colleges and universities, education is still delivered in a conventional manner. As so, our colleges are falling behind in the competitiveness around the world. The primary problem with the educational system is that grades are still placed far too high, which makes kids lazy and prevents them from becoming creative and original. We fall behind in terms of creativity and innovation for this reason. To address this, efforts should be undertaken to raise the quality of primary and higher education.

In India, the word "democracy" is starting to have dual meanings. Following elections and taking office, the accountable are making progress while the rest are regressing. There have been years of this. Once in power, leaders don't give a damn about what other people think. As a result, society is likewise falling behind. Leaders in the past lived by societal values, but now days, which definition is evolving. It is now crucial that young people pay attention to this as a result. Every occurrence, no matter how minor, shows up as the result of society's breakdown in accountability if we give it some thought. It is also unexpected how little weight the educational system places on concepts like democracy. Thus, the people's ignorance is making society weaker as well. Youth with fresh ideas are required for it. They should step up and sincerely do anything that changes society because they have the will to move it forward. Its direction can only be altered by youth. Knowledgeable and astute young people will need to consider it. We must let go of our obsession with power and consider what is best for society as a whole. There will undoubtedly be a shift in society after that.

Some young people prefer to stay out of politics because they are too busy studying or preparing for competitive tests. Even now, many well-educated young people from respectable homes aspire to work in politics. To eliminate the numerous anomalies in the nation's politics, the youth of the nation must step forward. To make the politics of the nation better, young people with education must enter politics. It is undeniable that these leaders have encouraged young people to pursue careers in politics, even though dynasty has given them important positions in the political system. While I do not discount the experience, how will the youth's ten flaws be counted if they are not given the chance to come forward? But why do we remain mute about the acts of the so-called seasoned politicians of today? We will keep having talks, claiming that nothing bad will happen to this nation and that the young people need to leave the discussion boards, face the facts, and demand their rights. Youth play a critical role in military readiness and police management, which are essential to ensuring the nation is strategically secure and that

every citizen is safe. The greater the proportion of young people working in these fields, the safer the nation will be.

It's only during elections that you remember your childhood. For many years, the topic of young people and students getting involved in politics has been very popular. This question becomes a hot topic, particularly during national elections, when this youth force starts a major movement, or when it manages to capture the public's attention by its intense outrage over a specific occurrence. Youth turnout in future elections will also be notable. It is unfortunate that nobody thinks this is important enough to think about. The extent to which youth politics should be practiced is still up for debate. It is astonishing that, in this country—the largest democracy in the world—young people are still not clearly viewed as playing a critical role, even though this role is obvious in other nations.

### **Youth politics in the pre-independence era**

There is a rich history of youth politics during the pre-independence era. The division of Bengal was briefly discussed by Lord Curzon in 1905 at the Calcutta University convocation, but the students quickly grasped the meaning of it. Following that, protests against this began to spread throughout the state. The British administration was taken aback at one point. Bengal was the birthplace of this awareness, which quickly extended to other states. With the All India College Students' Conference held in Nagpur in 1920, student organisations gained a truly all-Indian identity thanks to Nehru's efforts. Ideological disagreements caused the organisations to split up after this. It was shelved for a few years. In the 1970s, two significant trends undoubtedly surfaced in the field of youth politics. The first was the wide-ranging national problems movement of the JP in 1974. Young students took part in the Second Assam Students Movement, which had a positive outcome.

The way the youth's protest over the Mandal Commission was made public rocked the nation once more. Over the last few years, political parties have become more involved in student politics, to the point where only students affiliated with a political party are able to run for office and utilise all available means of electioneering.

Caste, regional, and caste equations have strengthened in addition to party politics. Elections at the majority of Bihar's and Uttar Pradesh's colleges are being fought using caste systems. Thus, things are becoming worse. It is now evident from the way party politics are developing on campuses whether student politics should be focused solely on the campus or with an eye towards the assembly or parliament. Since these two disparate goals necessitate distinct political characteristics.

### **Youth Politics in Modern Era**

Since India is a youthful nation, the youth of the country are also under consideration. Leader of the AamAadmi Party and former election analyst YogendraYadav asserts that there are more young people in our society than in any other. Even now, young people who speak English and reside in cities still represent the ideal of youth. They are a very minor part of our youth, despite the fact that we think of them as icons of youth. In terms of political engagement, today's young

is no different from the old or any other generation. However, the current extraordinary level of interaction is astounding and has undoubtedly had a big influence. However, experts argue that youngsters should begin with social work before becoming fully involved in politics, since this will allow them to have a direct impact on the problems. Such young people ought to learn from civil society how to advance cautiously. In schools and colleges, rotary clubs and other organisations can take the lead on this. The only people who can give the nation's traditional politics a fresh perspective are the conscientious youth.

Young people who want change believe that politicians should have a retirement age as well. A certain level of education is required in order to pursue a career in politics. Additionally required is a minimum qualification. The individual ought to have prior social work experience. Not even a tarnished image. Youth Influence in the Most Recent Election Approximately 15 crore young people cast their first votes in the most recent Lok Sabha election. Sixty-five percent of the 1 billion and 250 million people living there were young people. In 2014, every Lok Sabha constituency gained approximately 1.5 lakh new voters. Approximately 42,000 voters between the ages of 18 and 19 were added to the total of 542 Lok Sabha constituencies in 2014. They also made a big difference in how the election turned out.

A person's youth can reflect any age or nation. Which makes the history, present, and future of that era readily visible. They are willing to take on any challenge because of their boundless enthusiasm. Young people cherish the past. This is the real meaning of youth—that one is the captain of the future.

The nation of India is democratic. India now has a larger youth population than any other nation. Those in the youth group are those who fall within the 14–40 age range. Both mentally and physically, the younger generation is more robust. Whichever nation aspires higher. Seventy-five percent of young people in India are literate today. The youth of India now understand their national rights and obligations.

Youth illiteracy is one of the major curses on development. Poverty in the modern world is primarily caused by illiteracy. Approximately 90% of those residing in rural regions lack literacy. This is because their extreme ignorance and lack of resources prevent them from moving in the proper way. To get up, they require assistance from someone, and young people may be a huge help in this regard. Since all young people anticipate possibilities and chances, having an open mind might help them develop into better individuals. Only when the majority of their young people are cultured and educated, and when education is applied to the nation's benefit, can any of these countries grow stronger and healthier. High moral standards and values are necessary for them to be able to turn disagreements into creative opportunities. We have future doctors, businesspeople, innovators, and who knows, maybe the next president. Youth Citizenship and Affiliation Politics: In the modern period, the role of youth empowerment has grown in significance. He entered the political sphere on his own. Young people are heavily involved in social movements. In order to address its most urgent issues, our nation must involve its young people. The youth, in my opinion, will be able to address the significant issues the nation is currently experiencing.

## **Role of youth in nation building**

Lastly, youth development must be a top priority for them. He has the ability to make a name for himself and lead the nation in its future, but he can only accomplish this with the backing of his government and associated young. As a result, the young people with a drive for achievement can take over the world and add to the prosperity of their stunning country. Our goal is to create a magnificent India. We have an obligation to uphold the principles set out by selfless leaders. The entire social structure's foundation has begun to crumble. In addition to science, math, and language, character development must be our primary concern. Swami Vivekananda, who was born in India, must be regarded as a magnificent man with an unusual personality. His thoughts remain the greatest even in the current times. Which nation on earth deserves to be called "Punjabhumi," where the qualities of nature—tenderness, chastity, mercy, kindness, forgiveness—and human development are more advanced than in any other place? Our motherland, India, is the place that best fits the description of the "home of international and spirituality." Their way of life, their ideas, and their labour should be repeatedly remembered rather than celebrating some of the hard truths that the globe has encountered in its global travels as a remedy. Thanks to his extensive knowledge, Swami had confidently offered his ideas.

We have split up into many groups, philosophies, and faiths these days. We constructed a large number of wells around ourselves and then began to live inside of them, completely oblivious to society and the outside world. Our understanding of universal religion—that is, what is meant by human religion—gradually weakened in Hinduism, which is everlasting. We no longer remember the Vedas' assurance that all religions are authentic and that we can arrive at the ultimate truth—God—by taking various routes. Let's think about this.

We have a lot of questions ahead of us. There is less certainty that the impoverished, tired of debt and starvation, will make it safely home even in this day and age. Depression has been a major factor in the suicide of many young men and women. How long will we remain silent about rape, adultery, assault against young women, and extortion as though they are uncomfortable? Today, the Delhi case has raised red flags.

## **Some Youth-led Movements in India**

In India, youth-led movements are a symbol of the country's dynamic democracy. They not only significantly improve the welfare of the nation, but they also inspire others—particularly their fellow young people—to improve society. These youth-led movements serve as an example of how, as leaders, they may affect more change in the nation if their cause can generate such a vocal following. Several examples of these movements are:

- **Chipko Movement:** Based in Uttarakhand, the Chipko Movement began in the 1970s and was spearheaded by peasants, many of whom were young people. They protected the trees from being toppled by giving them embraces as a form of protest against deforestation and careless tree-cutting.
- **Anti-Corruption Movement:** Social activist Anna Hazare spearheaded an anti-corruption movement in India in 2011. Many young people actively took part in hunger strikes and rallies to



call for the enactment of the Jan Lokpal Bill, which would create an impartial anti-corruption watchdog.

- **Nirbhaya Movement:** There was a nationwide outrage in 2012 after a young woman was brutally raped by a gang and killed in Delhi. Thousands of youths staged protests in the streets, calling for tougher legislation against sexual assault as well as justice for the victim.
- **Jallikattu Protests:** In 2017, a large-scale demonstration against the outlawing of the age-old bull-taming sport known as Jallikattu took place in Tamil Nadu, primarily spearheaded by youth and students. The movement's dual goals were to protect traditional customs and guarantee the security and welfare of the animals involved.
- **2020 anti-CAA protests in Delhi and Assam: Bells for division:** After the Union government passed the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) in December 2019, the All Assam Students' Union organised large-scale, sometimes violent protests that quickly spread to neighbouring northeastern states. Their concern was that granting citizenship to illegal immigrants from Bangladesh would upset the region's demographic balance, depriving them of their political rights, culture, and resources. Five young people were killed by police shooting in Assam. In the meantime, large-scale demonstrations at Delhi's Jamia Millia Islamia on December 15 resulted in the destruction of public property by firecrackers. Over a hundred students were hurt when the police forcibly invaded the Jamia campus and utilised tear gas and batons. Students and civil society organisations across India staged street demonstrations in opposition to the CAA and in support of the Jamia students. But in contrast to the demonstrators in the northeast, those elsewhere thought the CAA discriminated against Muslims.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, youngsters play a critical part in the development of the nation. They are very ambitious, adept at solving problems, and excellent role models for the country and other youth. They possess the capacity to forge their own identity and advance the country. But without the help of their government and other young people, they won't be able to accomplish this. In order for the young people to successfully cultivate and beautify their lovely country.

The influence that young people have on the development of our nation is enormous. They help to mould our nation's destiny and steer it towards great achievements. However, in the process, one of the main elements influencing the nation's development is its political system, which the youth must also work to lead. They must remember that their opinions count and that their involvement in Indian politics has a real impact—as long as they remain true to their goals and don't let outside influences sway them in the wrong direction. It's also critical to keep in mind that even modest political engagements, like voting, keeping up with current events, or joining groups led by young people, can help expose young people to politics. Promoting political education, fostering candid communication, and providing forums for young people to express their concerns are all crucial. By establishing a more vibrant and inclusive political landscape, we inspire more young people to actively engage and address the current difficulties by fostering an inclusive and supportive environment.

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