

Political Mobilization in Nizamabad District During the Telangana Agitation: 1969–2014

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Abstract

The Telangana agitation, which began in 1969 and continued until 2014, is considered to be one of the most significant regional movements in India after the country gained its freedom. This study investigates the patterns, actors, and processes of political mobilization that occurred in the Nizamabad district during the protracted conflict that took place there. Through an examination of historical stages, socio-economic conditions, and organizational techniques, the study sheds light on the manner in which local concerns evolved into a more widespread political movement. The purpose of this study is to show that Nizamabad became an active site of mobilization as a result of agrarian poverty, unemployment, and cultural identity. Students, political parties, and civil society all played an important role in this development. This research makes a contribution to the knowledge of the sub-regional dynamics that are present within large political movements. The perceived socio-economic and political inequities that occurred after the creation of Andhra Pradesh in 1956 gave rise to the desire for a separate state of Telangana. The agitation reached its highest point for the first time in 1969, and it culminated in the government of Telangana being established in 2014. The movement was not consistent; rather, it developed in a manner that was distinct from district to district. As a result of its agricultural economy and historical legacy under the Hyderabad State, the Nizamabad area emerged as a significant hub for political mobilization.

Keywords: *Telangana Agitation; Political Mobilization; Nizamabad; Regional Identity; Student Movements; Telangana Praja Samiti; TRS*

1. Introduction

Participation, in its literal sense, refers to the act of taking part in or having a share in common with other individuals pertaining to the process of decision making. It also refers to involvement. The idea of political involvement has been interpreted in a variety of ways by various individuals. Some people consider it to be a contribution in terms of monetary and material resources. In the eyes of some individuals, it conveys the idea of being physically present within a group in which certain decisions are made, and membership is also considered to imply participation. When we talk about participation, we are referring to two actions that every person engages in. The first is the decision of whether or not to act, and the second is the choice of who to vote for. Both of these activities are performed by every individual. The act of participating in politics is a cumulative one; individuals who participate in one political activity frequently participate in other political actions as well. A common perception of political participation is that it is an activity that is connected to voters and the degree to which they participate in political processes. People can participate in a social phenomenon in a variety of ways, either consciously or unconsciously, directly or indirectly. Participation

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is a social phenomenon. Through participating in politics, one has the potential to exert influence over the policies of the government. Individuals and groups engage in connection with one another through participation, which results in the development of patriotism, loyalty, and a sense of devotion to society as a whole. Getting individuals to agree and go along with a project that has already been planned for them or that has support from a small number of leaders is what we mean when we talk about participation. The term "political participation" refers to any action taken by citizens with the intention of influencing the government, even if the activity itself does not have an effect on the government. Actions that have been mobilized might also be considered part of participation. Influence can be exerted over political involvement.

It is possible to observe a distinct distinction between the student protests that occurred in India prior to the country's independence and those that occurred after freedom. Students who were enrolled in schools prior to independence were heavily and extensively active in the Nationalist or Independence movement. Before 1947, political concerns were very plain and dramatic. The British needed to be expelled from the subcontinent, and profound social reform needed to be implemented in Indian society. Both of these things needed to happen. The two sorts of movements that they were involved in were either norm-oriented or value-oriented. Their engagement was strongly rooted in both models. On the other hand, value-oriented movements are concerned with broader ideological issues, and when they are involved in concrete actions, these activities are typically linked directly to a broad concern. This is in contrast to the norm-oriented movement, which is concerned with a specific goal and is more likely to be the result of an emotional reaction to a specific issue. The word "social movements" was first used in 1850 by the German sociologist Lorenz von Stein, who published his book titled "History of the French Social Movement from 1789 to the Present" in the same year. Large informal groupings of persons and/or organizations that are focused on certain political or social concerns are referred to as social movements. To put it another way, social movements are focused on bringing about, resisting, or undoing a social change. When we talk about social change, we are referring to the concept of social progress or socio-cultural evolution. This is the philosophical concept that people believe society advances by dialectical or evolutionary means. Various factors, including cultural, religious, economic, political, scientific, and technical forces, can be the impetus behind social change. The change that is proposed by social movements may also be more extreme or revolutionary, as it requires fundamental changes to be made in the social institutional structures and connections that are now in place. Within the framework of the system, a sociopolitical movement necessitates a structural shift. It is possible for it to be organized around a particular problem or series of issues, or it could be organized around a set of concerns that are shared by a community or social group. It aims at convincing the citizens and /or government personnel to take action on the issues and concerns which are at the focus of the movement. The expression of the battle of a social group for the political space and rewards is what we mean when we talk about political movement.

Inequalities in the allocation of wealth, power, and privilege, reactions to the effects of social policies, and cultural shifts or transgressions are the starting points for social movements. Organizations that are dissatisfied or desirous may get together in order to pursue their common values and objectives. Communication is a necessary part of the process of socialization and the evolution of society. When we talk about social change, we are referring to the concept of social progress or socio-cultural evolution. This is the philosophical concept that people believe society advances by dialectical or evolutionary means. Strategic communication plans are developed by social activists in order to bring their demands to the forefront of the public discourse. This is done in order to garner support for the issues that they are fighting for. There are times when participants of social movements make significant sacrifices on their behalf in order to explain the widespread presence of social movements.

Those in authority in Andhra Pradesh, who were still reeling from the cruel treatment they had received at the hands of the Tamil ruling elite during the time of the Madras Presidency, transferred the pain on the people of Telangana's state. One such explanation is that the feudal castes of the Andhra region, specifically the Kammas, Reddys, and Brahmins, have a strong desire to acquire authority and substantial wealth. Unscrupulous film wealth and colonial abuse of Telangana's water and power resources have resulted in the creation of a society that is completely

dysfunctional. It should come as no surprise that the Congress and Telugu Desam served as the official representatives of this insanity. At the same time that the riches of Telangana are being completely exploited for the benefit of the Andhra region, attacks are being made against the way of life of the people of Telangana. In point of fact, the whole act of insisting on the establishment of Andhra Pradesh was done with the goal of seizing control of the resources that Telangana possessed. One of these socio-political movements in India is the ongoing struggle for Telangana's right to be an independent state. This marks the beginning of the Indian people's fight for economic and cultural independence. A demand for Telangana is a call for politics that are accountable and require participation from the people. Small states are in high demand at the moment. The need for democratic governance is intertwined with the demand for autonomous states. Over the course of 1956, residents of Telangana engaged in a campaign of protest against the proposed merger of Telangana with Andhra. Nevertheless, it was also deceived. Contrary to popular belief, the Telangana movement of 1969 did not start until the sixth of December in 1968. A parade was organized by students from Vivek Vardhini College, which is located in Hyderabad. Both the police and the so-called integrationists who had recruited the rowdies who attacked the parade were responsible for the attack. In a short amount of time, demonstrations were organized in Khammam and Warangal, and they eventually extended to Nizamabad and other regions in their entirety.

- **Telangana Movement in Nizamabad District**

Feelings of regional prejudice, economic exploitation, and abandonment of cultural identity were the driving forces behind the Telangana movement, which lasted from 1969 to 2012. It was a political fight that lasted for a long time and sought to separate the Telangana area from Andhra Pradesh. Student engagement, political maneuvering, and collective participation were the defining characteristics of the movement, which reached its highest point of agitation in 1969 and then underwent a revitalized phase from 2001 to 2012. Farmers, employees, and students from the Nizamabad area, along with those from neighboring districts, were among the most active participants in this movement. They were fighting against the "colonization" of local resources by settlers.

- **Telangana Movement: 1969–2012 Overview**

1969 Movement: As a result of the breakdown of the Gentlemen's Agreement (1956) and the failure to enforce Mulki laws, which guaranteed jobs to locals, the situation became extremely unstable. A significant number of students were the driving force behind the unrest, which ultimately resulted in the deaths of around 369 demonstrators. With the intention of establishing a separate state, the Telangana Praja Samithi (TPS), which is led by M. Chenna Reddy, was established as the movement's driving force.

1970s–1990s: After the proposal of a 6-point criteria in 1973, the movement began to see a decline. Dissatisfaction, on the other hand, persisted, particularly among workers, which resulted in the rebirth of the problem, which included the "Jai Andhra" campaign in the 1970s and the following neglect of the Telangana region.

2001–2012 Phase: In 2001, Kalvakuntla Chandrashekar Rao (KCR) resigned from the Telangana Democratic Party (TDP) in order to establish the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS). Protests such as "Idli Sambar Go Back" and hunger strikes, as well as large strikes by employees and students, helped the campaign gain pace.

Key Turning Point (2009-2012): Following the fast-unto-death that KCR carried out in 2009, the Centre launched the process of state creation, which was met with intense protests and subsequent delays until the year 2012.

- **Role of Nizamabad District in the Movement**

Due to the tremendous historical significance of the Nizamabad district as well as the harsh economic impact it was subjected to, the district played a key part during the Telangana freedom movement.

Opposition to Migration & Land Acquisition: The purchase of fertile lands in the Godavari basin, particularly in Nizamabad, Warangal, Khammam, and Adilabad, was made possible by the large-scale migration of Andhra migrants to Telangana after the year 1956. It was the settlers who gained control of important irrigation projects like Nizam Sagar.

Nizamabad as a Hub of Resistance: Residents and activists on a constant basis participated in agitation against the neglect of irrigation and agricultural resources in the area, which was once known as Indur. This district was at the center of local protests.

Sacrifices and Protests: In addition to its politically engaged student community, the district was well-known for its active student body. During the month of December 2009, in response to the passing of student Srikantha Chary, a constable from the Nizamabad area named Kistaiah took his own life in support of the campaign. This event served to illustrate the extensive emotional engagement of the local community.

Political Activity: The region served as a focal point for the Telangana movement against the government of Andhra Pradesh. Leaders frequently used the district for political campaigns, including trips by KCR. This was one of the defining characteristics of the region.

Significance: It was brought to the attention of the Nizamabad District Collector that the district in the united state of Andhra Pradesh did not accomplish the progress that it had hoped for, and that the struggle was for the restoration of local rights.

2. Conclusion

The foundation of Telangana was brought about by a number of social, economic, and ethnic factors, which resulted in a number of demonstrations, movements, and the loss of thousands of lives. It was on June 2, 2014 that Telangana was ultimately established as a distinct state as a result of the demand for its independence. The Telangana movement was a direct outcome of the long-standing disparities, particularly those that pertain to wealth, education, and employment opportunities. The establishment of the state of Telangana gives rise to an additional foundation for the formation of states, which is the disparities in terms of development that exist between different regions. Having a similar language is not enough to bring people together because of it. How the people of Telangana are fighting their final battle for emancipation from the exploitation and cultural dominance is something that the entire world is watching. And how are the colonialists of Andhra reacting in order to maintain their dominance and carry on with their ongoing exploitation? The question of Telangana will determine the path that Indian politics will take in the future. It is the melodrama of being directed; the movie play itself was spurred and enacted by the UPA Government in New Delhi, which was led by the Congress party. Telangana, which has been in the forefront of such movements for the past half-century and is currently waiting for the right and unified leadership to fight its final struggle, has been witness to sacrifices and sabotages, as well as countless ups and downs. A demand for Telangana is a call for politics that are accountable and require participation from the people. Small states are in high demand at the moment. The need for democratic governance is intertwined with the demand for autonomous states. Within the Telangana Region, the term "public gain" is understood to refer to the "common good for the majority of those who are oppressed and of those who are facing injustice."

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