



ST. LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL

A JESUIT CHRISTIAN MINORITY INSTITUTION

CLASS - XII

STUDY MATERIAL



TOPIC: International Relations

DATE: 18-05-2020

Definition of International Relations:-

International relations, the study of the relations of states with each other and with international organizations and certain subnational entities (e.g., bureaucracies, political parties, and interest groups). It is related to a number of other academic disciplines, including political science, geography, history, economics, law, sociology, psychology, and philosophy. The field of international relations emerged at the beginning of the 20th century largely in the West and in particular in the United States as that country grew in power and influence. Whereas the study of international relations in the newly founded Soviet Union and later in communist China was stultified by officially imposed Marxist ideology, in the West the field flourished as the result of a number of factors: a growing demand to find less-dangerous and more-effective means of conducting relations between peoples, societies, governments, and economies; a surge of writing and research inspired by the belief that systematic observation and inquiry could dispel ignorance and serve human betterment; and the popularization of political affairs, including foreign affairs. The traditional view that foreign and military matters should remain the exclusive preserve of rulers and other elites yielded to the belief that such matters constituted an important concern and responsibility of all citizens. This increasing popularization of international relations reinforced the idea that general education should include instruction in foreign affairs and that knowledge should be advanced in the interests of greater public control and oversight of foreign and military policy.

Power (International Relations):-

Power is one of the most important and most discussed concepts in the field of international relations, with some going as far as suggesting that international relations is dominated by ideas of power. While there are many definitions of political or political power, Payne defines power as "The ability to get others—individuals, groups, or nations—to behave in ways that they ordinarily would not". Viotti & Kauppi define power as "the means by which a state or other actor wields or can assert actual or potential influence or coercion relative to other states and non state actors because of the political, geographic, economic and financial, technological, military, social, cultural, or other capabilities it possesses". While we have definitions of power,

National Power: Elements, Evaluation and Limitations :-

There are a number of elements of National Power. Several political scientists have attempted to classify these. Whereas Morgenthau has classified these into two parts— permanent and temporary elements, Organski has preferred to classify these into the natural and social determinants—the former including geography, resources and population and the latter economic development, political structures and national morale. Palmer and Perkins, Charles O. Lerche, Abdul Said, Theodore A. Coulombis and James H. Wolfe have classified these elements into two parts; Tangible and Intangible Elements— the former category includes those elements which can be assessed in quantitative terms and latter such elements as are ideational and psychological and cannot be quantified. Geography, raw material, natural resources, population and technology are the tangible elements, whereas ideology, morale, leadership, personality, organisational efficiency and quality of diplomacy are the intangible elements.

1. Geography

Amongst the elements of National Power, geography is the most stable, tangible, permanent and natural element. Its importance as a factor of national power can be judged from the fact that Geo-political scientists, like Moodie, Spykman, Haushofer, Mackinder and others, regard Geography as the determinant of international politics. While describing -the importance of geography in international relations Napoleon, observed. "The foreign policy of a country is determined by its geography." Geography is, however neither an independent determinant of national power nor of foreign policy. It is just an element of National Power.

a. Maps:

Maps are always geographical in nature. These are sometimes used by nations to justify a particular course of policy or action as well as to reject the views of other nations. "Observers of international relations always need an atlas showing population, raw materials, communication routes and other data and the ability to interpret maps." —Padelford and Lincoln. The Sino-Indian dispute has been a dispute of maps regarding McMahon Line. Maps are used as instruments for justifying a particular demand or action of a nation. These are used to influence decisions in one's favour.

b. Size

Size is another geographical element of national power. The large size of a country can accommodate a large population, offer better natural resources and raw materials, and can be more helpful in the defence of the country. A large size can help the country to defend by retreat in the event of an attack. It is definitely more, rather very difficult for a state to defeat a big country. It was also the large size of the erstwhile Soviet Union that helped it to defeat the forces of Hitler.

c. Location:

Location of a nation can be as helping as well as a hindering factor for its national power. It determines whether a nation can be a sea-power or not. England could become a big naval power and thereby an imperial power because of its location. The location of Japan has helped it to be a major ship- building nation. Location of Germany in the heart of Europe has been a sources of strength for it. The location of the USA helped it to adopt (1823-1945) and follow the policy of isolationism. Further, its location, being relative to land as well as seas, has helped it to be a both land and sea power. The location of Switzerland has been instrumental in securing for it the status of a permanently neutralized state

d. Climate:

No one can deny the importance of climate in the context of National Power. Climate determines the food production, economy and even the culture of a nation. It can be a source of big limitation or help for the human capabilities. The cold climate of Arctic zone and Antarctic and the excessive heat of the Tropical zone, and Sahara have kept the development of life backward in these areas. Extreme heat or cold are unfavorable conditions for national power. The prosperity of India stands inseparably conditioned by Monsoons. A failure of Monsoons weakens India and likewise timely and good Monsoon rains help India to be self- sufficient and even surplus in food production. It is a well-known fact that the great centres of power have so far emerged only in the moderate temperate zone, between 20 and 60 degrees north. A helpful climate can be a source of power and an unkind climate can be a source of weakness.

e. Topography

The nature of terrain, together with other geographical elements, is an important factor of national power. Terrain can influence the power of a state and its potential for offence, defence and growth. A nation with plane and artificial boundaries can be an easy victim of expansionism on the part of a powerful nation. Natural boundaries with strategic advantages are always a source of strength for a nation. It is terrain which determines decisions concerning physical security of the state. The English Channel has remained a source of defence and some security for England. The Atlantic and Pacific Oceans have provided strength to the security of the United States. Since mid-1950s defence of the Himalayas has been a source of limitation on India's power. The lack of a good number of natural harbours along the sea coast has hindered the development of economic and trade relations of India with other countries. All these examples highlight the role of topography in determining the national power of a state.

f. Natural Resources

No nation can hope to be a powerful nation if its territory is not adequately graced by natural resources. Natural resources are indeed "gifts of nature of established utility." The industrial and military capabilities of a nation as well as its economic well-being are dependent upon the existence of natural resources. A self-sufficiency in certain key resources can be a big source of power of a nation. The USA has been in a position to be a super power in the world mainly due to its near self-sufficiency in respect of several key natural resources. No nation can be powerful without becoming a developed industrialized nation and the chances of becoming an industrialized nation are basically linked with the possession of natural resources, particularly industrial raw materials and minerals. Natural resources, in the form of minerals, fertile soil, flora and fauna, through planned exploitation and use always make a nation powerful.

Meaning And Nature Of National Interest:

Frankel divides the various attempts to define national interest into two broad categories objective and subjective approaches. The first category embraces those approaches which view national interest as a concept which can be defined or examined with the help of some objectively definable criteria. The second category contains those definitions which seek to interpret national interest as a constantly changing pluralistic set of subjective references.³ The definition of national interest relies on the stand taken by a particular person about various pairs of extremes such as ideals versus self-interest, idealists versus realists, short term and long term concerns, and traditional and individual concerns.

Function and Purpose of National Interest:

One cannot be more specific in explaining the meaning and content of national interest as both its value roots and the process of its synthesis are peculiar to the history, traditions and institutional make-up of a country. One can, however, be quite clear about its function. Lerche and Said explain: As the overriding purpose governing the state's relation with the outside world, it serves two purposes: it gives policy a general orientation towards the external environment, and more, importantly, it serves as the controlling criterion of choice in immediate situations. The dominant view of, national interest, in other words, dictates the nature of a state's long term effort in foreign policy and governs what it does in a short term context. National interest also adds an element of consistency in a nation's foreign policy. A country carefully

sticking to its national interest in a swiftly changing situation, is more likely to maintain its balance and continue to advance towards its goals than it would be if it altered its interest in adapting to each new situation.

Types Of National Interest:

Robinson has pointed out six types of national interest which are as follows:

I. Primary-Interests:

These are also known as core or vital interests. These include the preservation of physical, political and cultural identity of state against possible encroachments from outside powers. These interests are primary and vital that state must constantly defend them at all cost. These interests cannot be compromised.

2. Secondary Interests:

Though less important than the first one these are quite crucial to the existence of the state. These include the protection of the citizens abroad and ensuring of diplomatic immunities for the diplomatic staff.

3. Permanent Interests:

These pertain to the relatively constant and long term interests of the state. The change in the permanent interest, if any, is rather steady. An example of this kind is provided by the determination of Britain to maintain freedom of navigation during the past few centuries for the protection of her overseas colonies and growing trade.

4. Variable Interests:

These interests are considered vital for national good in a given set of circumstances. In this sense the variable interest can diverge from both primary and permanent interest. These changeable interest can diverge from both primary and permanent interests. These changeable interests are mainly determined by the factors like personalities, public Opinion, sectional interests, partisan politics, political and moral folkways.

5. General Interests:

These refer to those positive conditions which apply to a large number of nations or in several specified fields such as economics, trade, diplomatic intercourse etc. For instance, it was the general national interest of Britain to maintain balance of power on the European continent.

6. Specific Interests:

Through the logical outgrowth of the general interests, specific interests are defined in terms of time and space. For example, Britain regarded it as a specific national interest to maintain the independence of the new countries for preserving balance of power in Europe. Besides the above six types of national interest, Robinson has mentioned three other interests which he describes as international interests. These are as follows:

1. Identical Interests:

These refer to interests which are held in common by a number of states. These are also known as common interests. For example both USA and Britain have been interested that Europe should not be dominated by any single power. Third World countries have a common interest in asking for New International Economic Order. It must be mentioned here that the area of commonness is always subject to change.

2. Complementary Interests:

Those interests which though not identical, can form the basis of agreement on some specific issues are called complementary interests. For example, Britain was interested in the independence of Portugal against Spain because she wanted to control the region of the Atlantic Ocean. Likewise, Portugal was interested in the British maritime hegemony because this was a safe means of defense against Spain.

3. Conflicting Interests:

The interests, other than the identical and the complementary interests fall in the category of conflicting or opposed interests. The conflicting interests are not fixed and undergo a change owing to the force of events and diplomacy. Thus the present time conflicting interests may become complementary interests. Similarly, the complementary and identical interests can also be converted into conflicting interests. With the passage of time the number of common and conflicting interests of each nation may develop or decline, depending on the current exigencies of international relations.

Methods Of Achieving National Interest :-

i. Diplomacy:

It consists of the techniques and procedures for conducting relations among states. Diplomacy functions through a network of foreign offices, embassies, legations, consulates and special missions all over the world. It can be bilateral as well as multilateral in nature. It includes a multitude of interests, from the simplest matter of detail in the relations between two states to vital issues of war and peace. When it fails the war or at least a major crisis is inevitable.

2. Alliances:

These are usually concluded by two or more states for the promotion and protection of their common interests. After the conclusion of the alliance the protection of these common interests becomes a legal obligation which the member states are duty bound to discharge. These alliances may be concluded for achieving different kinds of national interests and their nature depends on the type of the interest sought to be fulfilled. Thus the character and the tenure of the alliance will depend on the relative strength of those interests, Robinson observes: the advantage of pursuing the national interests through alliances, of course, lies in the translation of inchoate, common or complementary interests into common policy and in bringing the nation's power directly to bear on questions of national interests.

3. Propaganda:

In the twentieth century propaganda has become a major instrument for the promotion of national interest. States have set up permanent agencies for the systematic exploitation of the possibilities of propaganda as an instrument of national policy. At present no state can easily overlook these possibilities. In the most general terms any attempt to persuade persons to accept a certain point of view or to take a certain action is propaganda. Its meaning becomes clear when one sees its relationship to education. Lasswell says, Propaganda is the manipulation of symbols to control controversial attitudes education is the manipulation of symbols (and of other means) to transmit accepted attitudes (and skills). From the point of view of international relations propaganda is condensed to mean merely organized efforts by governments to induce either domestic groups or foreign states to accept policies favorable or at least not unfavorable to their own. In the post Second World War period it became a major component of the cold war between the Soviet Union and the United States, both in direct relations and in competitive policies toward the emerging nations of the Third World. It has been a chief characteristics of Sino Soviet rivalry. This instrument has been utilized in hot as well as cold wars such as in Korea, in Vietnam, in Arab Israel, in Gulf, in Indo Pak etc.

4. Psychological and Political Warfare:

Eisenhower associated psychological warfare with the struggle for minds of men. Linebarger defined psychological warfare in the broad sense as the application of parts of the science of psychology to further the efforts of political, economic, or military action and in the narrow sense as the use of propaganda against an enemy, together with such other operational measures of a military, economic, or political nature as maybe required to supplement propaganda

5. Economic Methods:

States deliberately follow certain policies in pursuit of their national interests. A state may pursue economic policies to enhance its domestic welfare without harming another state. But a state may also pursue economic policies clearly aiming at harming another state. Since every state is in some way dependent on other states, it is to some extent amenable to pressures from other states, likewise it may also be able to pressurize other states. Whenever, economic policies are designed to achieve national interests whether or not they intended to harm other state they are economic instruments of national policy.

6. Imperialism and Colonialism:

These have long been used as instruments for the promotion of national policy. From sixteenth century till the middle of twentieth century European nations used imperialism and colonialism as a tool to further their national interests. After the Second World War most of the Western world and part of the Eastern were threatened by Communist imperialism, the Communists were also inveighing against Western imperialism, and vast areas of Asia, Africa and Latin America are charging most of their difficulties and problems to the colonialism of the congregate colonial powers. It will be wrong to presume that imperialism and colonialism are dead. As a matter of fact their entry through the back door in the form of Neo colonialism has made appearance in many parts of the world.

7. Coercive Methods and War:

The state can take certain coercive measures on its own territory to advance its national interests which ultimately work against the enemy state. These include actions like seizure and confiscation of the property of the rival state or its subjects by way of compensation in value for the wrong, suspension of operation of treaties, embargo of ship belonging to the offending states lying within its parts, seizure of ships at sea etc. All these methods are prima facie act of war and the state against whom they are directed has to determine whether it wants to give the developments the shape of war or not. In the extreme form these methods can take the shape of bombardment, military operations and military occupation.

Defining Globalization

Since globalization was first defined in 1961, numerous academics, policy makers, academic institutions, governmental organizations, and governments have developed their own definitions. It is not easily defined, and those definitions that have been proposed are largely based on the ideological position of the person or institution making the proposal, as well as whether the person views globalization as a positive or negative influence in the world. The number of definitions collected in this publication is indicative of the number of viewpoints shared within the global community, as well as how the impact of globalization has emerged over the years. Many authors have attempted, with relative success, to define globalization in a variety of ways. Some claim that it cannot be done, others claim that it would constrain the concept to do

so, and still others have defied these two beliefs and have constructed a working definition. Despite differing opinions about developing a definition, all authors agree on one thing: that defining this term is anything but easy. This chapter will attempt to provide a comprehensive overview of the existing definitions of globalization and introduce our proposed definition:

“Globalization is a process that encompasses the causes, course, and consequences of transnational and transcultural integration of human and non-human activities

Economic globalization is one of the three main dimensions of globalization commonly found in countries, academic literature, with the two others being political globalization and cultural globalization, as well as the general term of globalization. Economic globalization refers to the widespread international movement of goods, capital, services, technology and information. It is the increasing economic integration and interdependence of national, regional, and local economies across the world through an intensification of cross-border movement of goods, services, technologies and capital. Economic globalization primarily comprises the globalization of production, finance, markets, technology, organizational regimes, institutions, corporations, and labour. While economic globalization has been expanding since the emergence of trans-national trade, it has grown at an increased rate due to improvements in the efficiency of long distance transportation, advances in telecommunication, the importance of information rather than physical capital in the modern economy, and by developments in science and technology. The rate of globalization has also increased under the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the World Trade Organization, in which countries gradually cut down trade barriers and opened up their current accounts and capital accounts. This recent boom has been largely supported by developed economies integrating with developing countries through foreign direct investment, lowering costs of doing business, the reduction of trade barriers, and in many cases cross-border migration. While globalization has radically increased incomes and economic growth in developing countries and lowered consumer prices in developed countries, it also changes the power balance between developing and developed countries and affects the culture of each affected country. And the shifting location of goods production has caused many jobs to cross borders, causing some workers to change careers.

The Implications of Globalization on Transnational Security and Stability

In discussions of globalization – how it should be defined, what the historical milestones of globalization are, and how one can measure the impact that globalization has on the modern world – one must also look at how globalization creates long-term implications for the international system in terms of security and stability. While there are measures within the current academic literature that propose a number of useful matrices for measuring security and stability at various intervals, most indices remain focused on one or two components of measuring these elements. Globalization promotes the interconnection of economies, political systems, cultures, and languages, and therefore has both negative and positive implications. This is certainly the case when discussing stability and security. Through a review of the current literature that deals with measuring levels of stability and security at the state level, it became obvious that there was a lack of connectivity between a number of important facets. For instance, agencies that were conducting measurements of various forms of stability were able to identify and measure contributing factors to stability that they found to be important. If it was the Foundation for International Studies of the University of Malta conducting the measurement, for instance, then it is not surprising to learn that it measured the vulnerability of small island developing states and focused on factors such as exposure to foreign economic conditions, remoteness and insularity, and proneness to disasters.²⁵ Other indices do not illustrate such an obvious connection between those who are conducting the measure and the variables selected; however, it is quite common to see indices that are focused on only a couple of factors. This can most likely be attributed to funding resources and the focus of the program conducting the measurement, or simply due to a lack of time and access to information.

A. Important questions :-

1. Define International Relations.
2. Discuss the different phases of Evolution.
3. What do you understand by Kenneth Thompson's other approach to the evolution?
4. What is the meaning of Power?
5. Discuss how Power is different from Force, Authority and Influence.
6. What are the different forms of power?
7. List the elements of National Power.
8. What do you mean by National Interest? Classify them.
9. Analyse the purpose and objectives of National Interest.
10. What are the methods of achieving National Interest?
11. How is National Interest formulated and implemented?
12. Analyse the role of National Interest in making the foreign policy.
13. What do you understand by Globalisation?
14. List the different forms of Globalisation.
15. What do you understand by Economic globalization?

16. Name some institutes of Economic Globalisation.
17. Discuss the four pillars of Economic globalization.
18. List the three fiscal components of globalization.
19. Analyse the methods adopted in India for Globalisation.
20. What are the positive and negative effects of globalization?
21. What are the three dimensions basis which impact of Globalisation on State Sovereignty can be considered?

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