

**NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON
GLOBALIZATION, DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS
IN INDIA**

February 18-19, 2019

**ORGANISED BY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY, ALIGARH
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CONCEPT NOTE

Societies have been changing and coming in contact with one another for a very long period of time in human history but the pace and intensity of change has become very fast during the last four decades. This period of swift and sudden change is called 'globalization', a term that has gained currency since late 1980s'. It is propelled by many factors, chief among them, other than the much-referred to collapse of the Soviet Union, are deregulation of economic and financial markets and advancement in telecommunication technologies. Globalization is said to have increased frequency and volume of interrelatedness of cultures, commodities, information, and peoples across time and space; given rise to notion of a 'global village' and ideology of 'globalism; created organizations, institutions and social movements to promote, regulate, oversee or reject globalization; and generated competition and conflict, uncertainties and risk, vulnerabilities and inequalities at an unprecedented scale. It is a social phenomenon aptly called 'Juggernaut', affecting every aspect of our life for better or worse.

Globalization appears to accelerate economic growth, but its role in 'Development' i.e. growth with structural changes, bridging gap between developed and developing countries, between rich and poor, and promotion of holistic Human development etc. has been intensely debated. Those who argue in favour of globalization explain development through trickle down impact of macroeconomic changes such as integration of world financial and trade markets, growth of multinational corporations, resurgence of free market, neo liberalism, spread of information communication technology, the advent of internet and the ways in which it majorly influenced knowledge, education, economy, polity, media, social movements etc. Advocates have also referred to prospects of development and international cooperation through peace dividend due to end of cold war and flowering of transnational organizations and human rights movements. On the contrary there are scholars who highlight adverse impact of globalization on development as it promotes new conflicts around ethnicity and religion, exploitation of 'periphery' by 'core' of the system, concentration of wealth, emergence of hyper-consumeristic middle class and impoverished masses, exploitation of natural resources and massive environmental degradation.

Indeed, globalization raised both hope and fear in equal measure but the balance somewhat varies across nations and socio-economic groups. It is a process of contradictory consequences, creating many forms of structural imbalances, condition of relative deprivation and personal anxieties. These in turn give rise to new patterns of social unrest and conflict, leading to mobilization of people for 'Rights', 'Protest' and 'Resistance'. A wave of mobilization for 'globalization from below' popularly known as International Justice Movement began from the beginning of new millennium, addressing a number of issues of marginalised identities such as women, children, refugees, minorities, disabled, gender, LGBT and mobilisation around pressing global concerns such as child labour, unemployment, ecological imbalance, deforestation, military intervention and so on. These movements are not uniform in nature, but represent heterogeneity of people, ideas and organizations, employing various forms of protest and resistance.

The era of globalization in India, like elsewhere, began with the introduction of 'neo liberal economic policies' or deregulation of markets called 'Reforms' from the beginning of 1990s. Very soon it engulfed many other sectors like education, health, media, and so on. Globalization is thought to be a catalyst for growth and development as India has witnessed rapid increase in its GDP and per capita income, growth and expansion of cities, increase in number of business corporations complemented by staggering growth of professional middle-class, migration of people within and outside the country, mushrooming of lavish sites of consumption (high-rise buildings, shopping malls, gated elite societies), rampant growth in number of cars and motor bikes in big cities during the last two and a half decades. This period also witnessed launch of many policies and programmes of human development like Free and compulsory elementary education, Rural health mission, Employment guarantee programme, and so on. These and other developmental policies as well as economic and material growth during this period seem to have little equitable and inclusive impact. The dangerous development of this period has been the rise of divisive politics, erosion of constitutional values and democratic institutions, and spread of hate and violence. This has resulted into many forms of conflicts leading to mobilization for collective action both in social and mainstream media and on the ground. Given its layered history and complex existing profile, it is high time to assess the impact of globalization in cost-benefit, development-destruction fashion. This seminar will mainly focus on following themes;

1. Globalization and patterns of social change in India.
2. Equity and inclusion through policies of education, health, environment, urbanization, unemployment & poverty, rural development etc.
3. Impact of globalization on Indian social institutions and customary practices, democratic institutions and governance, social exclusion of marginalized communities, inter-group relations, communication and mass media and so on.
4. Globalization and ushering of transnational social movements as a result of a more informed understanding of rights.
5. Any other related theme.

Well researched papers are invited from academicians, practitioners, researchers, scholars and students on the above mentioned themes. Abstract of a paper of at least 500-700 words should be communicated by 15th January 2019. Selected abstracts will be printed in 'Book of Abstracts'. Full paper should be submitted at the time or prior to the dates of the seminar. Only selected papers will be published in an edited volume with ISBN number.

All abstracts and papers shall be sent via e-mail to drssociology@gmail.com as an attachment.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

- ❖ Registration Fee for Faculty : Rs. 1000/- per participant
- ❖ Registration Fee for Research Scholar : Rs. 500/- per participant
- ❖ Registration Fee for PG Students : Rs. 100/- per participant

Registration fee for local participants may be submitted in the office of DRS-II, 3rd Floor, Department of Sociology, AMU from 15th to 17th February, 2019 during office hours. On the spot registration facility will be provided for the outstation participants only.

BOARDING AND LODGING

Outstation participants will be provided modest lodging and boarding for the two days starting from 17th February till 19th February 2019. The type of accommodation will be double room on sharing basis.

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