

ABSTRACT

This research is primarily conducted to analyze the concept of ethno-nationalism and how nationalistic affiliations on the basis of ethnicity can impede the process of national integration? Both the developed and developing states have been confronting with the issue of ethnic polarization from unprecedented time period. In particular, Pakistan is not an exception in this regard. Since its inception, the ethnic heterogeneity has been an apple of discord in its nation building process. In this regard, the researcher has opted two major ethnic groups (Balochi and Sindhi) in order to understand that why these ethnicities hoist the banner of separatism against Pakistan and on which basis the Sindhi's and Baluchi's launched ethno-national movements.

As far as the researcher's understanding is concerned, the central ruling elites completely neglected the whims and wishes of ethnic groups and adopted punitive steps of assimilation rather than accommodation. These authoritative measures transcended ethnic groups into ethno-national movements. Moreover, the core leadership did not learn a lesson from history after the dismemberment of its eastern wing in 1971 and replicated the centralized policies of their predecessor in grappling with the wave of ethno-nationalism in Sindh and Baluchistan.

The dissertation makes a radical departure from other works by analyzing the role of existing ideas, norms, values and institutions in socially constructing the phenomenon of ethno-nationalism in post partition era. Unlike primordialism, the researcher has adopted the theoretical lens of social constructivism in order to unravel the real root causes which are creating ethnic rifts among various groups, there by undermining the process of national integration. Furthermore, the theoretical framework of social constructivism has also been applied to unveil the high headedness of state elites in endorsing a unified concept of national identity on the alienated ethnic groups without taking in to consideration their due ethnic demands.

In addition to this, the proceeding research can provide valuable insights to the policy makers in tackling with the problem of ethno-nationalism in an immaculate manner.

It is pertinent to mention here that the leadership should bring about fundamental in its political structure in order to maintain a national harmony in an ethnically diverse society. For this purpose, a pluralistic cum consocio-federalism is the panacea for resolving the ongoing ethnic antagonism and also for accommodating the marginalized ethnicities in echelons of power.