

NOTION OF NATIONALISM: AN INSIGHT FROM PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Tanya Johri* Raj Kamal** Ravi Kumar*** and Pritika Thukral****

Nationalism is an intrinsic phenomenon which is embedded at the cognitive level of almost every individual residing in the country. During Indian freedom movement, the freedom fighters of our nation made an enormous amount of effort to inculcate the feeling of "Deshbhakti" among citizens from conscious level to behavioral level. It has been proven that group polarization through the positive psychological constructs leads to group cohesiveness. Variables such as compassion and empathy also played an important role as a linking factor that contributed to strengthen all the ties and also helps an individual to associate themselves with the group and to the society as a whole. Civic engagement activities like volunteerism reduces tension arises between ethnocultural diversity and helps to reconcile differences with the help of social capital. It has also been seen that empathy plays an effective role through which other prosocial behaviors could be developed which in turn promotes the feelings of cooperation and brotherhood among the diverse population. The humanities concerns shown by the freedom fighters like Mahatma Gandhi, Swami Vivekanand, Sri Aurobindo and Dr Ambedkar has helped in the reunification of society at cognitive, emotional and behavior level. Historical sufferings like Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, Pulwama Attack to recent Galvan conflict with the neighboring country that have occurred at the collective consciousness had already generated many feelings that resulted in changing the negative orientation of mind to a rich mindset focusing on positive attitudes, hope, aspirations etc. It also forced the people of our nation to think and recalibrate our actions in the direction of nationalism by identifying our self in terms of collective self-identity as a Bhartiya. This study focuses on reinterpreting the feeling of nationalism through the lens of psychological enquiry.

Key words: Psychological Enquiry, Empathy, Compassion, Nationalism, Leaders.

* Ms. Tanya Johri, Research Scholar, Department of Psychology, Arts Faculty, North Campus, University of Delhi.

** Mr. Raj Kamal Sharma, Head (Human Resources), Himgiri Automobile Pvt. Ltd

*** Mr. Ravi Kumar, Student, University of Delhi,

**** Ms. Pritika Thukral, Student, Sri Aurobindo College (Eve), University of Delhi.