

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LAW

MANAGEMENT & HUMANITIES

[ISSN 2581-5369]

Volume 3 | Issue 1

2020

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Protests in 21st Century

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ABSTRACT

Protest is a discontent measure for the society and it can be seen as a form of politics by other means. In the past several years, we found that the world has been shaken by protests, peaceful and otherwise. This paper gives information about the protests in 21st century. This paper contains some historical background i.e. Satyagraha movement in 1923 and Swadeshi movement started in 1905. Aim of this paper to understand the meaning of protests in the 21st century, protests in simple language we called as Dharna, March, and Rally. In Indian history, we found that most powerful protest was Quit India movement 1942 and Civil disobedience movement 1930 till now. Further we move in 21st century Protests in India, we found that there has been a lot of protest here like that Nirbhaya Movement in 2012, LGBT Protest, and NCR AND CCA. This paper also talks about the world wide protest i.e. Me Too Movement or # Me Too movement, Anti-war protests around the world. And finally this paper has a unique conclusion.

Keyword – Protest, Dharna, ME Too movement, 21st century, LGBT Protest, Quit India movement, peaceful, March.

MAIN ARTICLE

“Never be afraid to raise your voice for honesty and truth and compassion against injustice and lying and greed. If people all over the world...would do this, it would change the earth.”

— William Faulkner

First of all, we have to know the meaning of Protest, because today protest is becoming the biggest issue, as we know, everyday protest is being done with some issue somewhere or the other, we remain in 21st Century today. We do not know the meaning of Protest. The purpose of this article is that we should understand the meaning of Protest and decide what is right and what is wrong. India is 2nd largest population country in the world, where have a different religions, customs, traditions and caste that people live in. Everyone has a view to understand their own thinking and everyone can have an also different view of thinking to understand the any issue. Let us know 21 century protest. First of all we will talk about ancient civilization from where that text on it is for the benefit of our rights, rules, law, and regulation. When it

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hurts our humanity, human rights, and democracy somewhere we have to stand in front of public and private body to protect our basic rights.

These can be of many types for public as well as private body like (Dharna, March, Rally, Strike) but these have the same objective and aim to protect the rights. In which many of the people coming in the group put their point on the same issue, we call as Protest. This issue can be anything, and it can be against the government or private body and it also against the society. Popular protests have long been part of the human story in the modern era: the Protestant upheaval (so named for its protests), in the sixteenth century².

I. PROTEST MOVEMENT IN INDIA

In India is passing through many classes this crisis is the result of many factors and force that have been operating in our soil for four past decades has lost its contact with the Indian people and even the genius demand and popular aspirations of the People's remain unfulfilled we are with a phenomena of peasants urban religion and violence and terrorism violence crime and corruption have come to Association with political life at all levels and people of India sale receive and with their performance of political system has we witness in protest movements.

There is no doubt to good deals literature have produced a socialist physical and political thinking in the protest of any issues this phenomena of protest and dissent in the society number of approaches and theory have been described³.

II. MOST POWERFUL PROTESTS IN INDIAN HISTORY

Before you know that what might be India's most powerful protest, we would consider because it necessary to know about the history of **Satyagraha movement** in 1923 and **Swadeshi movement** started in 1905, it is considered to be the biggest Protest of history.

1. Quit India movement 1942: The quit India act (bharat chhodo andolan), this movement was against the British government. Mahatma Gandhi' calls for satyagraha. There was a mass protest demanding to Gandhi called "an orderly British withdrawal" form India.

2. Civil disobedience movement 1930:- This movement was against the British government to the sea in protest of British monopoly on salt. Aim of this movement were abolish salt taxes , to revise the revenue rate of the peasant and boycott of foreign goods and people against the British rule and challenge the laws of British government . This was under guided by the

² Robin Wright, *The Story of 2019: Protests in Every Corner of the Globe*, THE NEW YORKER (December30,2019) <https://www.newyorker.com/news/our-columnists/the-story-of-2019-protests-in-every-corner-of-the-globe>

³ DALIP SINGH ,The Indian Journal of Political Science, Vol. 52, No. 4 (Oct. - Dec., 1991), pp. 448-457 <https://www.jstor.org/stable/41855582?seq=1>

Mahatma Gandhi.

III. 21ST CENTURY PROTESTS IN INDIA

1. Nirbhaya Movement, 2012:- Let's get to know about Nirbhaya a little bit. This incident was from Delhi in 2012, in which a girl was gang raped by the person. This gang rape was very much shameful for the society. In this incident, the girl was dead After the incident, many people came out on the roads to protest in various parts of the country Since the incident, People clearly told that this is happening too much, now we will not sit silent mood, here after that thousands of people come and protest. This protest has only one reason to people wants justice. Since this movement comes in front of the media with a very big issue and this accident tells about the safety of girls and women. How women are not saved in society even today.

2. LGBT Protest: India Just Passed A Trans Rights Bill. Why Are Trans Activists Protesting It?

LGBTQ pride in India's capital New Delhi, people danced to the beat of drums and say "Love is love". LGBTQ protest against the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) bill. This bill was not mention rights for transgender like education, and employment. If a transgender was identified by legally recognized or to submit proof of gender confirmation to the government and also gives transgender persons a "right to self-perceived identity". But government say transgender have requires to register them self as if they want to be officially recognized as "transgender."

3. NCR AND CCA⁴

The Current Protests in India are a Training Ground for a Break with the Past protest was against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), the National Register of Citizens (NRC), and the National Population Register (NPR) demand for the repeal of laws as interests – anti-caste, atheists, religious, communist, and liberal.

The story of Jamia, name called as “anti-national” university born of deep Indian nationalism⁵. It was also against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA).the university's students protesting against India's new and discriminatory citizenship law were brutalized by Delhi police personnel.

⁴ Shaj Mohan & Divya Dwivedi, *The current protests in India are a training ground for a break with the past*, THE WIRE, (25 Jan 2020)
<https://thewire.in/rights/debate-cao-protests-training-ground>

⁵ Manavi Kapur, *The story of Jamia, the “anti-national” university born of deep Indian nationalism*, QUARTZ, (30 December 2019)

Shaheen Bagh protesters seek a face-saving exit⁶. The protesters at Delhi's Shaheen Bagh, who have been sitting very long time, peoples were protest and demanding the government rollback of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

4. Sc/St (prevention of atrocities) act, 1989⁷: The protest led by the Sc/St groups. The act that does not allow the court to grant anticipatory bail to accused person. The people form Sc/St protest against the Supreme Court Oder. On 2 April 2018 a national strike was started by representatives of Sc/St caste group in the Supreme Court decision.

IV. 21ST CENTURY PROTESTS, ALL OVER THE WORLD.

1. Me Too Movement⁸: The Me Too Movement (or #MeToo), is a movement against sexual harassment and sexual assault. #MeToo spread virally in October 2017, sexual assault and harassment in workplace. After the sexual misconduct allegation against Harvey Weinstein. **Tarana Burke**, an American social activist and community organizer, began using the phrase on the MySpace social network "**Me Too**" as early as 2006. Burke, who is creating a documentary title *Me Too*, has said she was inspired to used the phrase after being unable to respond to a 13 year old girl who confided to her that she had been sexually assaulted. Burke later wished she had simply told the girl, "**me too**".

2. Anti-war protests around the world⁹: - Anti-war protesters took to the streets o keep the pressure on world leaders as a US-led attack on Iraq looms. The outpouring of anti-war turned out for biggest demonstrations. But amid the chants of "give peace a chance" were pessimistic voices as well.

3. Indonesia protester against new law¹⁰: - Thousand of people protesting a controversial new draft law that would changes the country's penal code and among other changes, would criminalized sex outside of marriage. Students are concerned about the government trying to control their private life. Under this law includes banning of sex outside of marriage and prohibiting unmarried couples cohabiting.

⁶ Navtan Kumar, *Shaheen Bagh protesters seek a face-saving exit*, (25 January 2020) <https://www.sundayguardianlive.com/news/shaheen-bagh-protesters-seek-face-saving-exit>

⁷ Akash Bisht, *Anti-reservation protests*, SCROLL (09 Oct 2018) <https://scroll.in/article/897387/anti-reservation-protests-how-the-bjps-move-to-restore-sc-st-act-backfired-in-poll-bound-mp>

⁸ Anita Raj, *MEASURING #METOO*, UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO (20 March 2020 02:15 pm) <http://geh.ucsd.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2019-metoo-national-sexual-harassment-and-assault-report.pdf>

⁹ Ryan Prior & Alisha Ebrahimji, *Activists across the US and the world protest a possible war with Iran*, CNN, (4 January 2020) <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/01/04/us/iran-protests-roundup-trnd/index.html>

¹⁰ Indonesian protests over new laws cloud business sentiment, HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH, (18 September 2019) <https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/09/18/indonesia-draft-criminal-code-disastrous-rights>

- 4. France:** ‘The gas tax is the tip of the iceberg’ in January 2019¹¹, protesters with the yellow vest movement to march against the government’s increased the taxes. After anti-government march turn into violent and again shut down France.

V. CONCLUSION: -

We live in a democratic society not all constituents will agree, but there will be some that will protest. All democracies in a country not merely ‘including’ India but ‘notably’ India provide spaces for protests. But for a long time, the grammar or meaning of protests in India has been change and attempting to destroy India’s institutional parliament-executive-judiciary grid, delegitimize. When it using political violence. Here political in the sense of a perceived collective action; it is violent in the degree of using physical force; it is political violence in the way that it uses violence to impose to achieve the political goals. From students of Jawaharlal Nehru University to those in Jamia Millia Islamia, Nirbhaya Movement, 2012, LGBT Protest, NCR AND CCA. All these protests are directly challenge to the government and constitution of India. But all protests have own meaning, aim and objects. Some time, protests are converting into violations and create a dander situation for us.

¹¹ The World staff, *For France's yellow vest protesters, 'gas tax is the tip of the iceberg'*, PRI, (04 December 2018) <https://www.pri.org/stories/2018-12-04/frances-yellow-vest-protestors-gas-tax-tip-iceberg>