



Artha-Journal of Social Sciences

2017, Vol. 16, No. 4, v-vii

ISSN 0975-329X | <https://doi.org/10.12724/ajss.43.0>

Editorial

This issue of *Artha - Journal of Social Sciences* covers international political issues. International issues often influence the life of the human beings; War, conflict, economic depression and territorial disputes have a significant impact on domestic policies of countries. Nations formulate policies to achieve economic and security superiority that suit their best interest. Often, various challenges that emerge in the political domain like energy, maritime security and environmental problems affect not just the interests of one country. This journal of *Artha* brings articles that analyses such current trends in the fields of international relations and economy.

Husnain Iqbal in his article titled *Denying the Denial: Reappraisal of Genocide in East Pakistan* examines the human rights violation that took place during the occupation of Bangladesh before its independence and argues that it qualifies to be considered as genocide. He argues that the conflict in erstwhile East Pakistan, especially during 1970-1, was one of the bloodiest and most contested in the post-WWII era. The new enquiry commission, set up by the current Bangladesh government, has proposed strong action against those who were responsible for the conduct and abetment of the mass ethnic cleansing. In denying the applicability of the classification genocide to the said event, the researcher argues, that the struggle of East Pakistanis to form their country was reduced to a civic-political demand and not an ethnicity-based claim to distinct nationalism. The paper posits that the violence unleashed in former East Pakistan amounted to the systematic wiping out of the ethnic distinctiveness of its people through ideological, economic, political and military means, which qualifies the mass killings to be called as a genocide in the existing legal understanding of genocide.

Satoru Nagao examines Japan and India security cooperation in the emerging security architecture of the Indo-Pacific. He says that the rise of China, the US strategic withdrawal from the Indian Ocean region and Japan's increasing profile in the Asia-pacific region have all contributed towards a strong security partnership between

Japan and India. At the same time, India's increasing maritime prowess has contributed to strategic rethink on the part of the Japanese and has motivated them to embrace India. In his article, Satoru analyses this changing pattern of security orientation in Japan's foreign policy and hails this forward-oriented security strategy as a major factor in the evolving India-Japan security cooperation.

Ashok Sharma in his article *Australia-US Alliance and Strategic Geometry in the Indo-Pacific Region: An Evaluation* analyses the US-Australian alliance in the emerging geometrics of Indo-Pacific security scenario. The article argues that the 21st Century is witnessing a significant change in the strategic landscape of the Indo-Pacific region. The US hegemonic power that provided stability for almost seven decades is in relative decline. Over the past decade, amidst the receding hegemonic status of the US, nation-states, especially the rising powers, are reformulating their foreign policy to reposition themselves in the strategic transformation by enhancing their defence capabilities, asserting militarily and forming countervailing alliances. Countries such as China, Russia, France and Germany, have challenged U.S. unilateralism in the United Nations and other forums such as NATO, whenever their interests have not converged with the United States. This receding trend of hegemonic influence has led Australia to rethink its strategic equations with countries like India.

Anurag Tripathi analyses China's policy on Kazakhstan and observes that the Chinese interest in Former Soviet Republics is dictated by its larger strategic and geopolitical interests and a need for greater energy security. China also looks towards the Central Asian Republics as a stable market for its products. Though the Chinese are wary of opening up their borders to the Muslim majority nations on its western frontier for fear of rise in Islamic fundamentalism and cross border ethnic separatism, it adapts a very warm and welcoming foreign policy towards Kazakhstan. The friendship that these countries share, according to the author, could easily surpass any economic or strategic partnership that Kazakhstan could have with either Russia or the West.

The last two articles present interesting research results in the area of economics. Amika Khandelwal and Joshy K J examine the

private savings and its influence on economic growth in India in the post-reform period. For an economy, the supply of savings represents an important source of investment. Private savings in India, which includes the household savings, has been a major contributor to the total savings of Indian economy for several years. In this context, this article investigates the long-run causality relationship between private savings and economic growth in the post-reform period. The article identifies various determinants of private savings and analyses their impact in driving private savings and have lots of policy implications. The work covers a period from 1991 to 2014 and shows that growth in GDP and private savings in India are cointegrated and have a unilateral long-run relationship.

Karunakaran N has analysed the problems and prospects of coffee cultivation in Kerala. The research article titled *Coffee Cultivation in Kerala: Some Economic Aspects* probes different problems like scarcity of labour, pests and diseases, the high cost of production, low price for coffee, marketing difficulties and unusual climate changes that affect coffee cultivators. Small growers are the primary population that is directly hit by the aforementioned issues. The researchers also evaluate the support offered by the Coffee Board to the coffee cultivators of Kerala. The results of their research are encouraging as we see that the coffee cultivation business remains profitable.

We hope our readers have an interesting read and expect their continued support.

Joshy M Paul and Rajeshwari
Issue Editors

