

NATIONALISM AND JINGOISM IN CONTEMPORARY TIMES – AN OUTPUT OF BLIND FAITH

Author – VEDANT RATHA, Student at KIIT SCHOOL OF LAW, BHUBANESWAR

Best Citation – VEDANT RATHA, NATIONALISM AND JINGOISM IN CONTEMPORARY TIMES – AN OUTPUT OF BLIND FAITH, *LEX IS US LAW JOURNAL*, 2 (1) of 2023, Pg. 23-27, ISBN - 978-81-960384-0-3.

ABSTRACT

This research article explores the meaning and manifestation of nationalism and jingoism in contemporary times, and the impact of blind faith in these concepts on society. Nationalism is an ideology that emphasizes the importance of the nation-state and promotes national unity and independence. Jingoism is a more extreme form of nationalism that involves an aggressive foreign policy and glorification of war. Blind faith in these ideologies refers to an unquestioning and uncritical acceptance of them, which can lead to a belief in the superiority of one's country and a rejection of alternative viewpoints.

Contemporary factors such as globalization, immigration, and economic interdependence have amplified blind faith in nationalism and jingoism. Globalization has led to an increased awareness of cultural differences and a sense of cultural threat, which has resulted in the promotion of national identity and rejection of multiculturalism. Immigration has led to a perception of cultural and economic competition, resulting in the promotion of nationalist policies and rejection of immigrants. Economic interdependence has led to a perception of economic vulnerability, resulting in the promotion of protectionist policies and rejection of globalization.

KEYWORDS

Nationalism, Jingoism, Blind faith, Contemporary times, Globalization, Immigration, economic interdependence, National identity

INTRODUCTION

Nationalism and jingoism are two concepts that have been prevalent in human societies for

centuries. While both concepts involve a strong attachment to one's country, nationalism is often considered a positive force that promotes a sense of pride and belonging, whereas jingoism is often viewed negatively as an extreme form of nationalism that promotes aggressive foreign policy and military action. In contemporary times, these two concepts have been amplified by various factors such as globalization, immigration, and economic interdependence, resulting in the emergence of blind faith in nationalism and jingoism. This research article seeks to explore the meaning and manifestation of nationalism and jingoism in contemporary times, and the impact of blind faith in these concepts on society.

NATIONALISM AND JINGOISM

Nationalism is the ideology that emphasizes the importance of the nation-state, which is a political entity that is based on a shared cultural, linguistic, and historical heritage. Nationalism often emphasizes the uniqueness and superiority of a particular nation and its people, and it seeks to promote national unity and independence. Nationalism can be both a unifying and a divisive force, as it can foster a sense of pride and solidarity among the citizens of a nation, but it can also lead to conflicts and tensions between different nations and groups. Jingoism, on the other hand, is a more extreme form of nationalism that involves an aggressive and bellicose foreign policy, often accompanied by a glorification of war and military action. Jingoism is characterized by a belligerent and chauvinistic attitude towards other nations and peoples, and it often involves the use of nationalist rhetoric to justify aggressive foreign policies. Jingoism can be seen as a dangerous

manifestation of blind faith in nationalism, as it can lead to conflict, war, and human suffering.

BLIND FAITH IN NATIONALISM AND JINGOISM

Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism refers to an unquestioning and uncritical acceptance of these ideologies, without considering their potential negative consequences. Blind faith can lead to a belief that one's country is superior to all others, and that any actions taken to defend or promote the interests of the nation are justified, regardless of their moral or ethical implications. Blind faith can also lead to a rejection of alternative viewpoints and a refusal to engage in constructive dialogue or compromise with other nations and peoples.

In contemporary times, blind faith in nationalism and jingoism has been amplified by various factors such as globalization, immigration, and economic interdependence. Globalization has led to an increased awareness of cultural differences and a sense of cultural threat, which has resulted in the promotion of national identity and the rejection of multiculturalism. Immigration has led to a perception of cultural and economic competition, which has resulted in the promotion of nationalist policies and the rejection of immigrants. Economic interdependence has led to a perception of economic vulnerability, which has resulted in the promotion of protectionist policies and the rejection of globalization.

It is important to note that blind faith in nationalism and jingoism is not unique to any particular nation or culture. It is a phenomenon that has been observed throughout history and continues to persist in contemporary times. Moreover, the rise of populist leaders and movements in recent years has brought renewed attention to the issue of nationalism and jingoism.

One of the challenges in addressing blind faith in nationalism and jingoism is that it often appeals to emotions and identity rather than reason and evidence. Nationalist and jingoistic rhetoric often involves the promotion of a dominant national identity and the

demonization of those who are perceived as different or threatening to that identity. This can be a powerful tool for mobilizing people, but it can also be divisive and harmful.

In addition, blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can be reinforced by social media and other forms of digital communication. Online echo chambers can amplify nationalist and jingoistic messages and make it difficult for people to access alternative perspectives. Moreover, the anonymity of online communication can lead to the spread of hate speech and extremist views.

To address these challenges, it is important to promote media literacy and critical thinking skills. By teaching people how to evaluate information and to recognize bias and propaganda, it is possible to reduce the impact of blind faith in nationalism and jingoism. In addition, efforts to regulate online speech and promote responsible digital citizenship can help to reduce the spread of hate speech and extremist views.

CAUSES OF BLIND FAITH IN NATIONALISM AND JINGOISM

Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can arise from a variety of factors, including historical grievances, economic anxieties, and cultural fears. In many cases, these factors are intertwined, making it difficult to separate them out. Some of the key causes of blind faith in nationalism and jingoism include:

Historical Grievances: Nationalism often arises from a sense of shared history and identity. However, historical grievances can also fuel nationalism, leading to a belief in the superiority of one's own nation and a rejection of other nations. This can be seen in the case of many countries in Europe, where historical conflicts have contributed to the rise of nationalist movements.

Economic Anxieties: Globalization and economic interdependence have led to significant changes in the world economy, with some countries benefiting more than others. In some cases, this has led to economic anxieties and a belief that one's own country is being

disadvantaged by globalization. This can fuel nationalism and jingoism, with people looking to their own nation as a source of economic strength.

Cultural Fears: The increasing diversity of societies around the world can also fuel nationalism and jingoism. In some cases, people may feel threatened by the presence of different cultures and religions, leading to a rejection of multiculturalism and a promotion of a dominant national culture.

IMPACT OF BLIND FAITH IN NATIONALISM AND JINGOISM

The impact of blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can be seen in various aspects of contemporary society, including politics, international relations, and culture:

Conflicts and Tensions: Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can lead to conflicts and tensions between nations. The promotion of national identity and rejection of multiculturalism can lead to the perception of cultural and religious differences as threats, which can exacerbate tensions between nations. In addition, blind faith in jingoism can lead to the glorification of war and the rejection of peaceful means of conflict resolution.

Erosion of Global Governance: Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can erode global governance, leading to a breakdown in international cooperation and the rejection of international institutions and treaties. This can make it more difficult to address global challenges such as climate change, terrorism, and economic instability.

Economic Isolationism: Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can lead to economic isolationism, with countries promoting protectionist policies and rejecting globalization. This can lead to a reduction in trade and investment, which can harm economic growth and development.

Cultural Homogenization: Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can lead to the promotion of a dominant national culture and the rejection of minority cultures. This can lead to cultural homogenization and the erasure of

cultural diversity, which can harm social cohesion and inclusion.

Political Polarization: Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can lead to political polarization, with people becoming more entrenched in their beliefs and less willing to engage in cross-cultural dialogue. This can make it more difficult to find common ground and work towards shared goals.

CONTEMPORARY FACTORS AMPLIFYING BLIND FAITH IN NATIONALISM AND JINGOISM

Globalization: Globalization has led to an increased awareness of cultural differences and a sense of cultural threat. This has resulted in the promotion of national identity and rejection of multiculturalism. In many societies, globalization has led to the perception that their culture is under threat from foreign influences. This perception has resulted in the promotion of national identity as a means of preserving cultural traditions and rejecting multiculturalism. In addition, globalization has led to the perception of economic competition, which has resulted in the promotion of protectionist policies and rejection of globalization.

Immigration: Immigration has led to a perception of cultural and economic competition. This perception has resulted in the promotion of nationalist policies and rejection of immigrants. In many societies, immigration has led to the perception that immigrants are taking jobs and resources away from native-born citizens. This perception has resulted in the promotion of nationalist policies as a means of protecting the interests of native-born citizens and rejecting immigration.

Economic interdependence: Economic interdependence has led to a perception of economic vulnerability. This perception has resulted in the promotion of protectionist policies and rejection of globalization. In many societies, economic interdependence has led to the perception that their economies are vulnerable to external shocks. This perception has resulted in the promotion of protectionist

policies as a means of protecting domestic industries and rejecting globalization.

MANIFESTATION OF BLIND FAITH IN NATIONALISM AND JINGOISM

Politics: Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism has led to the rise of populist movements and the rejection of traditional political elites. Populist movements often promote nationalist policies and reject international institutions and treaties. This rejection of international institutions and treaties can lead to conflicts and tensions between nations. In addition, populist movements often promote protectionist policies and reject immigration, which can lead to economic isolationism and further exacerbate tensions between nations.

International Relations: Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can lead to increased conflicts and tensions between nations. The promotion of national identity and rejection of multiculturalism can lead to the perception of cultural and religious differences as threats. This perception can lead to the rejection of international cooperation and the promotion of nationalist policies, which can exacerbate tensions between nations. In addition, blind faith in jingoism can lead to the glorification of war and the rejection of peaceful means of conflict resolution.

Culture: Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can also impact culture. The rejection of multiculturalism and the promotion of national identity can lead to the erasure of cultural diversity and the promotion of homogeneity. This can lead to the rejection of minority cultures and the promotion of a dominant national culture. In addition, blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can lead to the glorification of war and violence in popular culture.

CONCLUSION

Blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can have negative consequences for society, leading to conflicts, tensions, and the erosion of global cooperation. It is important to critically examine these ideologies and consider their potential impacts on society. While nationalism can be a

positive force for national unity and identity, it is important to recognize the dangers of extreme nationalism and jingoism. Blind faith in these concepts can lead to a belief in the superiority of one's country and a rejection of alternative viewpoints, which can lead to conflicts and tensions between nations.

To mitigate the negative impacts of blind faith in nationalism and jingoism, it is important to promote a more nuanced understanding of national identity and multiculturalism. This can involve the promotion of cross-cultural dialogue and the celebration of cultural diversity. In addition, it is important to recognize the benefits of globalization and economic interdependence, while also acknowledging the potential drawbacks. This can involve the promotion of policies that support international cooperation and economic integration, while also addressing the concerns of those who may be negatively impacted by these processes.

In conclusion, blind faith in nationalism and jingoism can have significant negative impacts on society, leading to conflicts, tensions, and the erosion of global governance. It is important to critically examine these concepts and consider their potential impacts on society, while also promoting a more nuanced understanding of national identity and multiculturalism. By doing so, we can work towards a more peaceful and inclusive future for all.

REFERENCES

- I. **Sayantani Chakrabarty**, *Dispute Resolution and restructuring in the outer space*, <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/books/features/tagore-declined-to-worship-his-country-rabindranaths-relevance-in-todays-jingoistic-times/articleshow/58557969.cms>
- II. **Jennifer Llewellyn, Steve Thompson**, *Nationalism as a cause of world war I*, **Sep 7 2020**, <https://alphahistory.com/worldwar1/nationalism/>
- III. **Rober T. Schatz, Ervin Staub, Howard Laviene**, *On the Varieties of National*

- Attachment: *Blind versus Constructive Patriotism*, **Political Psychology**, Vol. 20, No. 1 (Mar., 1999), <https://www.jstor.org/stable/3792008>
- IV. **Aniruddha Ghosal**, *Rabindranath Tagore in 1908: 'I will never allow patriotism to triumph over humanity as long as I live'*, December 2, 2016, <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/national-anthem-flag-in-theatre-rabindranath-tagore-supreme-court-4406145/>
- V. **Leonidas Donskis**, *George Orwell: The anatomy of fanaticism and hatred*, 2003 <https://www.eurozine.com/george-orwell-the-anatomy-of-fanaticism-and-hatred/>
- VI. **Shekhar Gupta**, *Modi & Shah have turned India into 'Jingostan' to conquer the country*, 2019, <https://www.thebridgechronicle.com/opinion/modi-shah-have-turned-india-%E2%80%98jingostan%E2%80%99-conquer-country-34316>
- VII. **TNN**, *Hindutva-Nationalism is Jingoism*, 20th December 2019, <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/hindutva-nationalism-is-jingoism-guha/articleshow/72876476.cms>
- VIII. **K. B. Ganapathy**, *Thoughts on Patriotism Nationalism And Jingoism*, December 18, 2022, <https://starofmysore.com/thoughts-on-patriotism-nationalism-and-jingoism/>
- IX. **Ziya Us Salam**, *Jingoism as politics*, February 22, 2021, <https://frontline.thehindu.com/cover-story/politics-post-pulwama-balakot-airstrike-modi-muscular-nationalism-chest-thumping-jingoism/article33895993.ece>