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Jawaharlal Nehru's views on nationalism and internationalism

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Abstract

Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime minister of India was a great statesman and thinker of modern India. Born in a elite family he was educated in England for seven year. He was western in ideas and emphasized in outlook. But taken under the influence of Mahatma Gandhi he joined Indian freedom movement and also visited various parts of the country. This led to change in his ideas and western liberal thinking was mixed with Indian realities to give a birth to practical statesman with a deep thinking mind.

Keywords: Jawaharlal Nehru, nationalism, internationalism, modern India, Indian freedom movement

1. Introduction

To have a clear idea about his nationalistic and internationalist thinking first it is imperative to know some of the basic postulates of his thought. Therefore, a quick view of his ideas on Individual freedom, National Freedom, Patriotism, Nationalism, Socialism, Democracy, Internationalisms, Secularism humanism have been attempted. The action of Nehru as a leader of Indian freedom movement as well as a Prime minister and International States man have also been considered. English paper, I have discussed the nationalism views on Nehru [1].

Nehru talked of individual freedom as a exposing of positive liberty. He was in favour of freedom for Individual in terms of western liberal tradition. As like Sri Aurobindo, he too, believed that if individual freedom is hampered in will have negative impact on the national growth. But, at the other hand, he was not ready for unrestricted freedom. Like Indian tradition of Oshenic view individual and community he also considered liberty in terms a providing room for the fellow beings also. So there was no antagonism in his thoughts between the man and society on the issue of freedom. He also synthesised western and Indian outlook.

Jawaharlal Nehru was a great champion of national freedom, who led the freedom movement as a co-partier of Mahatma Gandhi for which he was jailed many times. He wanted to throw the foreign yokes for the sake of individuals freedom he also he believed that humanity cannot be emancipated unless each and every nation is free.

Regarding Nationalism his views are both a result of his adherent patriotism as well as result of the impact of past tradition of the country and impression forms the modern nationalistic tendencies flowing world-wide. He believed that nationalism is the result of psychological unification of making of a centre in geographical area due to the impact of past tradition, culture and history. It also underlines the common identity of the people [2].

He further, explained nationalism in terms of memories of the past and vision for the future. During the days of freedom struggle, he started thinking in terms of internationalism. He under the influence of communism, tried to look for a socialistic world free from the social disparities and international barriers. Thought teller he was somewhat dismayed with the violent methods of communism and maxims instead Gandhi's non-violent satyagrah become more prominent and shed casting effect on his mind. Therefore socialism was Indianised by Nehru and he statured talking of socialistic pattern of the society. For this, purpose after independence his ideas were directed towards the mixed economy. During the days of foreign rule also he started working for the liberties of individual in the sphere of social, political and economic sphere.

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For this purpose Nehru thought that the idea of parliament democracy was most suitable to the Indian conditions. He had firm path the democratic setup provides for the full expressions of individual freedom and growth vis-a-vis-co-ordinal relations with fellow beings and development of the nation. Democracy in his opinion, is based on the idea of toleration for others views and thus, allows the positive freedom of others too [3].

Here, he also appreciate the Panchyati Rai System of India which has travelled through centuries and is most successful tradition of participative democracy. Such democracy, in Nehru's opinion, is based on the respect for equality and liberty of all and thus leads to brotherhood among people. Moreover the democracy he favoured, must be based on the ideas of equality of gender, of economic classes, of caste and of religion. He wanted to modernize Indian society scientific tradition and to raise above the might's, superstitions and dogmas of religion and caste barriers. As a secularist thinker, religion for Nehru was a matter of personal development on spiritual lines. He was against any dogmatic which could lead to communalisation of society in the name of god. He called the Indian masses to raise above such distinction of religion. Even during the speeches and tasks at constituent assembly, he spoke in favour of raising the faith of isles in the political system. He was against the hegemonies of majority community of India and also emotional back mailing of the minorities. He wanted to provide equal opportunities in society finical system to cell. Due to his efforts in this regard he is considered d a true secularist of who has great impact on India society. Nehru's travelled the various riots affects parts of country during partition and tried to convince people about the harmonicons living. He was the sole leader who was listened by the minorities during those days. As, other prominent leaders considered either Hindu minded on Muslim fantasists [4].

Nehru also believed in socialism and leftist ideas. Earlier he even was not against cohesive methods to form an equalitarian society but later under the Gandhian Influence he become a believer in peaceful methods. His socialism was transformed into what is called democratic socialism. He wanted to restrict individual property nut not by happening the freedom of some individual for the sake of others. Therefore, he talked in terms of applying democratic methods of mixed economic and planned economy to crimate the poverty from India and also to bridge the gap between which and poor the industrialization through government sector and limits on highest land sailings were his favourite methods. However, non-implication of land laws by the state becomes a great hurdle in this path. Today the between rich and poor is widening as India is not marching on the path of democratic socialism. Thought during the forming of constitution Nehru insisted on inclusion of socialistic pattern of society and economic upliftment of the masses was included in the part IV in terms of Directive principles of state policy on his insistence. Most of them still remain the pinions wishes till date [5].

Nehru's ideas about internationalism which started grooming during freedom movement found their fuller expression teller in terms of his foreign policy and international relations. He emerged as a world leader especially of the newly resurgent nations of Asia & Africa and of these who were still under foreign rule. Nehru's internationalism has roots in his ideas of individual freedom and nationalism. He

was against the Darwinion concepts of survival of fittest'. Instead Nehru wanted to utilize the energies of powerful beings and nations for the wellbeing of so called weak nations. He thought that international cooperation while. Establish a peaceful world which intern will provide better place for the growth of individuals and nations. Therefore, the nationalism in terms will provide better place for the growth of individuals and nations. Therefore, the nationals in terms of ascertain of national self respect was right for him, but not as aggression and expansionism and imperialism. He was snouch critic of imperialism as nationals, and same too as an internationalist [6].

In this way Nehru's idea of international incorporates the idea of human evolution towards ability to synthesise conflict. He, too, like Aurobindo and Tagore considered internationalism an inevitable process in the evolution of making in which nation state will give way to the idea of world state [7].

Nehru as a planner of foreign policy of India has such internationalist tendencies in his mind. Therefore, he, forwarded the idea of peaceful coexistence, mutual coordination and peace in his concept of Panchsheel. This idea is still relevant in the present day international scenario on the international level Nehru is also remembered for his policy of non-alignment. This policy as he believed was an idea to protect the dignity and self respect of the so d weak nations who has achieved freedom towards the second of the twentieth century with Nasar and Tito he was successful in keeping more than fifty nations from the might of power blocks and establishing peace in add war era [8].

The non-alignment movement succeeded mainly due to Nehru's insistence as self respect, independent foreign policy and freedom as well as mutual cooperation of these nations. This movement's greatest achievement was to create a block to avoid wars and thus establish world peace. Nehru's internationalism in corporal the humanistic tendencies of his ideas. He was humanistic shiner thinker in the way that he respect in the way that he respect the freedom and dignity. A individuals as well as of nation. It's a humanist Nehru had faith in the respect for freedom of others and also in the capacities of man to deliver good to other [9].

Here he believed in dankness of mankind as a creation of one God. Therefore, he was against inculcation of any disparities in the minds of the masses in few name of caustic class or religion in this way it can be said, that Nehru was a firm believer in the ideas of individual freedom, a patriot and a nationalist. He was even as internationalist per excellence. He worked through his life for the liberation of country, of freedoms of individual's economic, social and political upliftment of his countrymen and also for the people of Asia & Africa. He also sought after the world peace. He tried to balance the autogenetic tendency of national ego and internationalism, individual and community for the sake of humanity. Thus, he is called international states man and thinker of whom India is proud as a nation. Thought he failed as certain issues like that of proper incorporation of Jammu and Kashmir to India and on fronts in China war. Still his contribution to the thinking minds and practical issues is unparallel in Indian History.

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