



Asian Research Consortium

Asian Journal of Research in Social Sciences and Humanities
Vol. 10, No. 10, October 2020, pp. 14-24.

ISSN 2249-7315

A Journal Indexed in Indian Citation Index

DOI NUMBER: *10.5958/2249-7315.2020.00018.0*

SJIF - SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL IMPACT FACTOR :7.615(2020)

India's Strategic Interest in SAARC Countries: Soft Power Approach

Pooja Raghav*; Trishna Rai**

*Doctoral Fellow,

Department of Political Science,

Madras University, Madras Christian College, India.

**Doctoral Fellow,

Department of Political Science,

Madras University, Madras Christian College, India.

trishnarai73@gmail.com

Asian Journal
of Research in
Social Sciences
and
Humanities

www.aijsh.com

Abstract

South Asia is an eccentric region defaced by inter-state provocation, various disputes and several absurdities. The paper is based on the multi-dimensional approach by collecting data and analysing it from various viewpoints. This includes primary sources such as bilateral treaties, official reports, letters and speech of political leaders. For the secondary source research papers, reports, peer-reviewed journal articles and books were also consulted. The later part of the paper is organised as follows: Section two will give an overview of the conceptual framework of the soft power and transition of power in India's foreign policy towards other South Asian Countries. Section three will assess India's foreign policy towards other South Asian countries before the establishment of SAARC. Part four focuses on India's stand after the establishment of SAARC. Further, the future aspects of SAARC are discussed, followed by the Conclusion.

Keywords: Soft power, India, foreign policy, South Asia.



References

- Bright, J. S. (1950). *Before and After Independence: A Collection of the Most Important and Soul-Stirring Speeches Delivered by Jawaharlal Nehru*. Vol. I: India's Struggle for Independence, 1922–1946.
- Goel, O. P. (Ed.). (2004). *India and SAARC Engagements (Vol. 2)*. Gyan Publishing House.
- Gujral, I.K., *A Foreign Policy for India*, 1998.
- Gupta, S. (1964). *India and regional integration in Asia*. Asia Publishing House.
- Hagerty, Devin T., 'India's Regional Security Doctrine', in: *Asian Survey*, 31 (April 1991) 4, pp. 351-363.
- Indian National Congress, & Zaidi, A. M. (1987) *INC, the Glorious Tradition: Texts of the Resolutions Passed by the INC, the AICC, and the CWC*. Indian Institute of Applied Political Research.
- Kurlantzick, J. (2007). *Charm offensive: How China's soft power is transforming the world*. Yale University Press.
- Kraska, J. (2009). Sharing water, preventing war—hydrodiplomacy in South Asia. *International Journal of Phytoremediation*, 20(3), 515–530.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09592290903293852>
- Kugiel, P. (2012). India's soft power in South Asia. *International studies*, 49(3-4), 351-376.
- Larson, D. W. (2018). New perspectives on rising powers and global governance: Status and clubs. *International studies review*, 20(2), 247-254.
- Maxwell, Neville, *India's China War*, New York 1970.
- Mazumdar, A. (2014). *Indian foreign policy in transition: relations with South Asia*. Routledge.
- Muni, S. D. (1985). SARC: Building Regionalism from below. *Asian Survey*, 25(4), 391-404.
- Mohan, C. Raja, India's positive unilateralism, in: *The Hindu*, 27. October 2003.
- Mohan, Raja C., The Manmohan Doctrine, in: *Daily Times*, 28 February, 2005
- Morgenthau, H. J., Thompson, K. W., & Clinton, W. D. (1985). *Politics among nations: The struggle for power and peace*.
- Mukherji, I. N. (2000). Indo-Sri Lankan Trade and Investment Linkages: With Special Reference to SAPTA and Free Trade Agreement. *South Asia Economic Journal*, 1(1), 53-77.
- Muni, S. D. (1985). SARC: Building Regionalism from below. *Asian Survey*, 25(4), 391-404.



- Muralidharan, S., Towards free trade-in: Frontline, Vol. 16, No. 02, Jan. 16 - 29, 1999 (accessed 13 February 1999).
- Nye, Joseph S, "Soft Power." Foreign Policy, no. 80 (1990): 153-71. DOI:10.2307/1148580.
- Nye, Joseph S. Soft Power: The Means to Success in World Politics. New York: PublicAffairs, 2004.
- Nye, Joseph S, "Think Again: Soft Power," Foreign Policy, 23 February, 2006.
<https://foreignpolicy.com/2006/02/23/think-again-soft-power/>
- Patryk Kugiel, "India's Soft Power in South Asia," International Studies 49 (3&4) (2012); 363 doi: 10.1177/0020881714534033
- Prime Minister's Address at Fourth SAARC Summit at Islamabad on 29 December,1988, Foreign Affairs Record, Vol.XXXIV, No. 12 December 1988,p.426.
- Prasad, B. (1960). Origins of India's Foreign Policy, Calcutta: Bookland Pvt.
- Pant, Harsh. 2011. "India's changing role: The Afghanistan conflict." Middle East Quarterly 18, no. 2, pp. 31–39.
- Rajagopalan, R. (2018). INDIA ' S POST- POLICY AGENDA. Carnegie Endowment for Intern, 2017.
- Sikri, R. (2009). Challenge and strategy: rethinking India's foreign policy. SAGE Publications India.
- Singh, Jaswant, India's Perspective on International and Regional Security Issues, Lecture 17 January 2001, Berlin, manuscript.
- Sridharan, E. (2017). Where is India headed? Possible future directions in Indian foreign policy. International Affairs, 93(1), 51-68.
- Sharma, S. (2001). India and SAARC. India Quarterly, 57(2), 99-120.
- Thussu, D. (2013). Communicating India's soft power: Buddha to Bollywood. Springer.
- Wagner, C. (2005). From hard power to soft power? Ideas, interaction, institutions, and images in India's South Asia policy.
- Waltz, Kenneth, Theory of International Politics, Reading 1979.
- Yousaf, N., Ahmad, M., & Shah, Z. (2017). SAARC Summit And Pakistan's Foreign Policy: An Analysis. Journal of the Research Society of Pakistan, 54(2).