


International Relations Between South Asian Countries: Social, Political, And Economic Changes

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Article information	Abstract
DOI : xxx Correspondence : nodirbek2702@gmail.com	The fluidity of change in the international ties among the potential SAARC members—India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, and the Maldives—is thoroughly addressed throughout this paper. The emerging social, political, and economic relationships which impact both bilateral and multilateral collaboration are investigated from a cross-disciplinary approach. Historical evolution, changing power dynamics, and diplomacy in the context of the globalized global economy are a few of the issues. The dynamic function of regional associations, such as the SAARC, in encouraging or inhibiting collaboration and resolution of disputes is given more attention. In order to produce complex data on regional dynamics and the influence of international relations on world politics, the article also aims at highlighting how external as well as internal variables complicate the politics of South Asian international relations.
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INTRODUCTION

Comprising Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, South Asia is among the most heavily populated and culturally varied areas of the globe. A complex mix of historical, political, and economic factors has shaped the international interactions inside this area, therefore influencing its modern diplomatic scene. With legacies of colonialism, territorial conflicts, and the split of India crucial for establishing the region's international relations, South Asia has historically been a place of notable political turmoil (Bajpai, 2019).

With each dimension impacting the others in both predictable and unexpected manners, the social, political, and economic developments occurring in South Asia are tightly linked. While regional economic policies and societal changes could either promote collaboration or exacerbate tensions, political unrest in one nation can have speedy and far-reaching impacts on its neighbors (Bukhari, 2020). Examining how historical events, social changes, and economic policies have changed their interactions over time, this research seeks to investigate the many dimensions of international relations between South Asian nations. Particularly with India's ascent as a regional force and China's increasing economic weight,

South Asia's geopolitical relevance has changed throughout recent years. For the nations in the region, these developments provide both possibilities and challenges; generally, they call for a careful balancing between national sovereignty and collaboration across borders (Chandra, 2021).

METHODOLOGY

The present study analyses the international relations among the South Asian governments with a qualitative research approach using both primary and secondary sources. Along with reports of the regional organizations like SAARC, there are official papers, treaties, diplomatic speeches. Secondary sources include books, UN reports, peer reviewed papers, research papers and policy briefs released by regional/national/near abroad think tanks emphasizing South Asian political economy.

Using a comparative approach with specific focus to significant players like India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Maldives, both dyadic and triadic connections are examined. The work examines both cooperation and rivalry inside the area using selected important events, like conflict, commercial, or cultural exchanges among countries. Using ideas from the theories of international interactions— realism, liberalism, and constructivism—the state operations, regional integration, and impact of international systems by diplomacy in the regional diplomacy are explained (Malhotra & Sharma, 2022). The study also uses a multidisciplinary approach to guarantee that it gathers data from political science, sociology, and economics all of which will present a fair picture of the international relations of the area (SAARC Secretariat, 2023).

Furthermore, under discussion is the location of regional organizations which include SAARC in enhancing diplomatic relations and addressing shared political, economic, or environmental challenges. This method of organization not only indicates the study subjects for additional developments but also helps to present a comprehensive balanced perspective of the dynamics of international relations in South Asia (Singh, 2023).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the analysis, historical experience, the post-Cold War age, and world politics shape the interactions among the southern Asian nations. Culturally and religiously, the area has been a benefit and a curse in the sense that follows. Culturally there is great interchange and hence admiration; yet, violence has been sparked mostly by ethnicity and religion. One of the best illustrations of the nature of interstate war is one between India and Pakistan, which results from different national identities as much as geographical claims (Kuznetsov, 2010). The possibility for the growth of cooperation has been recognized in line both economic liberalization and the expansion of international commerce as well as the creation of regional organizations such the South Asian Free commercial activity Area (SAFTA) (Chakma, 2022). Still, they remain what could be called untapped given political distaste, inadequate infrastructure, and usually unequal growth. Still, there seems room for more thorough South Asian regionalism that would seem to have great economic benefits for the member governments, particularly in commerce and communications technology and tourism.

Furthermore strangely conflicting are the political interactions in the area: cooperation and rivalry (Pandey, 2021). South Asian governments and the likes of Bhutan and Maldives want to remain neutral, hence Switzerland is not a choice for them; hence, regional politics are still under control by India and Pakistan. Security is the key topic under discussion in the debates; so, the themes that might be discussed in diplomacy mostly center on security and thus few agendas on which they are ready to collaborate in domains other than security, such education, health, or environmental challenges (Dey, 2022). The case studies also indicate that although political fragmentation and interstate competitive advantages obviously show, problems including climate change, migration, and transnational terrorism demand cooperation.

This study also reveals specific constraints with regard to prior investigations. For instance, they have not paid enough attention to the official and effective forms of cooperation like cross-cultural events and global networks (Raghavan, 2020). Moreover, little study has been done on South Asian international relations more critical perspectives of state, society, and non-state actors as well as migrations of people. Though the idea of economic interdependence is very common, empirical data in this field is rather rare, therefore the importance on thorough research in future is highlighted (Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad, 2024).

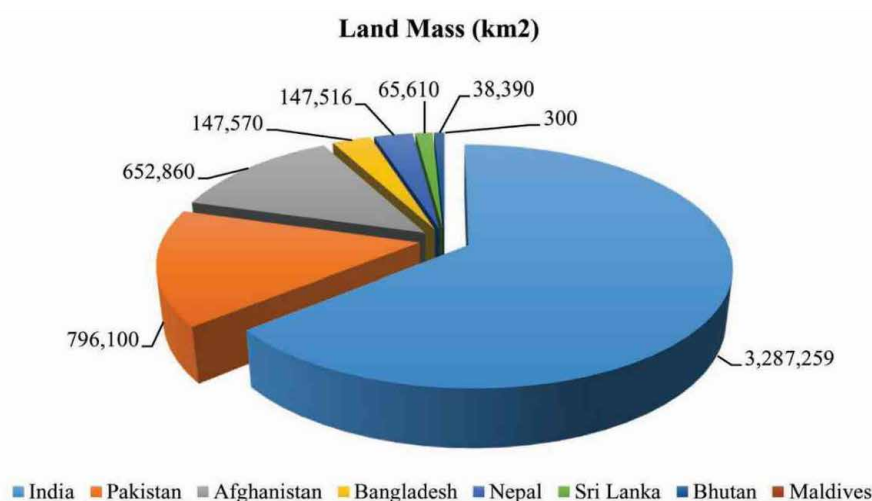


Figure1. Problems and prospects for the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

Further understanding of the economic and safety concerns of the area can come from visual aids including graphs of trade absence and security expenditure. These images highlight the need of economic rebalancing and a change of governmental emphasis toward human development over military expenditure (Europa Publications, 2023).

Nevertheless these difficulties, regional collaboration is becoming increasingly regarded as important. More cooperative ties could be facilitated by economic interdependence, shared environmental concerns, and the possibility of group answers to issues which means terrorism and climate change (Pant & Xavier, 2023). However this will need for major diplomatic campaigns both bilaterally and inside local organizations as SAARC.

CONCLUSION

Strategic positioning, cooperation, and a careful balance define the foreign relations among the South Asian nations. Although past grudges still influence the foreign policies of the area, there is rising movement toward more political, social, and economic cooperation. Future global geopolitics for South Asia will mostly rely on how its countries handle internal strife, stimulate economic growth, and negotiate the impact of global powers including China and the United States.

South Asian nations have to go past past animosities and concentrate on creating a cooperative

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