



Dimensions of Globalization

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Globalization can be defined as the intensification of worldwide social relations which link distant localities in such a way that social happenings are shaped by events occurring many miles away and vice versa. Although in a simplistic sense globalization refers to the widening of deepening and speeding of global interconnection. It is the process of world shrinkage of distances getting shorter, things moving closer. It pertains to the increasing ease with which somebody on one side of the world can interact to mutual benefit, with somebody on the other side of the world.

I. DIMENISONS OF GLOBALISATION

1. ECONOMIC:

The world economy is the international exchange of goods and services. It is judged in monetary terms. The global financial system during the first modern wave of economic globalization marked by the establishment of central banks multilateral treaties and intergovernmental organizations aimed at improving the transparencies, regulations and effectiveness of international markets. The world economy became increasingly financially integrated throughout the twentieth century as nations liberalized capital accounts and deregulated financial sector. With greater exposure to volatile capital flows, a series of financial crises in Europe, Asia and Latin American countries had become increasingly contagious effects on other countries. By early twenty-first century financial institutions had become increasingly large with a more sophisticated and interconnected range of activities.

Measurement of economic globalization focuses variables such as trade, foreign direct investment, portfolio investment and income. Newer indices are those to measure globalization in more general terms including variables related to all four dimensions of globalization and categories like science and technology, culture and international peace security, world order, planet and climate, health and well-being.

2. CULTURE:

Cultural globalization refers to ideas, meanings and values around the world in such a way as to extend and intensify social relations. The process is marked by the common consumption of cultures that have been diffused by the international popular culture media and international travel. The circulation of cultures enables individuals to partake in extended social relations that cross national and regional borders. The creation and expansion of such social relations is not merely observed on a material level. Cultural globalization involves the formation of shared norms and knowledge with which people associate their individual and collective identities. It brings increasing connectedness among different populations and cultures. The diffusion of certain cuisines such as American fast food chains is a visible aspect of globalization. The two most successful global food and beverage outlets, McDonalds and StarBucks are American companies often cited as examples of globalization with over 32000 and 18000 locations operating respectively as of 2008. Americanisation and globalization are different but overlapping phenomena.

Music has an important role in cultural development. Music genres such as jazz and reggae began locally and later became international phenomena. Globalisation gave support to the World Music Phenomena by allowing music from developing countries to reach border audiences. The term World Music originally intended for ethnic specific music now includes often hybrid sub genres such as World Fusion, Global Fusion, Ethnic Fusion and World Beat. Perception of consumption can be seen as self identification and the formation of identity. Musically this translates into each being having his own musical identity based on likes and tastes which in turn is result of culture.

Multilingualism and The Emergence of Lingua Franca: Most people are multilingual because of cultural openness and globalization. A lingua franca is a language systematically used to make communication possible between people not sharing mother-tongue particularly in case of languages distinct from both mothertongues. 3.5 billion people know English and is the dominant language of the internet. About 35% of the world's mails, telexes, cables, are in English and also 40% radio programmes.

While multilingualism is common among individuals, globally the number of spoken languages is decreasing. The top 20 languages spoken by more than 50 million speakers each are spoken by some 50% of the world population, whereas many of the other languages are spoken in small communities most with less than 10000 speakers. Historically, these less widespread languages were afforded protection through geographical isolation. Today speakers of regional and minority languages are increasingly unable to compete with those who speak dominant languages such that these languages are considered endangered



languages. The total number of languages in the world is not precisely known and estimates vary depending on many factors. The current estimate is that there are between 6000 to 7000 languages spoken and between 50% to 90% of them might become extinct.

3. POLITICS:

In general, globalization may ultimately reduce the importance of nation states, supranational institutions and the European Union, the WTO, the G8, or the International Criminal Court replace national functions to facilitate international agreement. Some attribute the relative decline in US power to globalization, particularly due to the country's high trade deficit. This led to a global power shift towards Asian states, particularly China, which unleashed market forces and achieved tremendous growth rates. As of 2011, the Chinese economy was on track to overtake the US by 2025.

Increasingly the NGO's influence public policy beyond national boundaries including humanitarianism and developmental efforts. Philanthropic organisations with global missions are also coming to the forefront of humanitarian efforts, charities and funds have combined the business model with philanthropy giving rise to philanthropic Groups and Forums which float billions of dollars towards developing countries.

As a response to globalization some countries have embraced isolationist policies e.g North Korean government makes it very difficult for foreigners to enter the country and strictly monitor their activities. Aid workers are subject to considerable scrutiny and excluded from places and regions the government does not wish them to enter. Citizens cannot freely leave the country.

4. MEDIA AND PUBLIC OPINION:

Negative globalization increased in late 1990. Africa and Asia as opposed to Europe or North America view globalization more favorably. The main opposition was from socialists, environmental groups and nationalists and considerable governments as agents of neo-colonialism that are subservient to multinational corporations.

5. INTERNET:

It connects computer users around the world, which raised from 304 million to 1858 billion from 2000 to 2008. Billions of people use the internet for various purposes. Some aspects of the internet such as maps and location aware services may serve to reinforce inequality and the digital divide. Electronic commerce may be partly responsible for consolidation and the decline of mom and pop, brick and mortar businesses, resulting in increases in income inequality. Significant socio technical change may have resulted from the proliferation of internet based social network of online communities.

6. POPULATION GROWTH:

The world population has experienced continuous growth since 1360. It peaked at 2.2% in 1963 and declined to 1.1% by 2011 with global population expected to reach 7.5% and 10.5 billion by 2050. World population has grown by about 4 billion since beginning of Green Revolution and there is a global change in diet among newly prosperous population leading to rise in food prices. World grain production increased to 250%. UN documents 850 million people suffering from chronic malnutrition in 2005. Increasing rates of soil erosion human consumption of sea food doubled in last 30 years. Growing populations declining energy resources and food shortages will create a perfect storm by 2030. Accordingly food reserves were at a 50 year low and the world would require 50% more energy and water by 2030. The world will have to produce 70% more food by 2050 to feed 2.3 billion people says FAO. Social scientists have warned of the possibility that global civilization is due for a period of contraction and economic relocation due to a decline in fossil fuels and resulting crises in transportation and food production. They have predicted a restoration of sustainable local economic activities based on hunting and gathering, shifting horticulture and pastoralism.

7. URBANISATION:

It resulted due to increased industrialization and globalization with middle class growing rapidly resulting in disparities of wealth and rural and urban areas, megacities with 10 million populations have raised from 3 in 1973 to 24 in 2013 with estimates of up to 27 by 2025.

8. HEALTH:

Global health and global health problems transcends perspectives of national health. Thus global health is about worldwide improvement of health, reduction of disparities and protection against global threats that disregard national borders.

9. INTERNATIONAL SPORTS:

Olympics are the global sports. Hosting summer Olympics have a positive effect on the philanthropic contributions of the corporations headquartered in the host city which seems to benefit the local non profit sector and civil society. The positive effect begins in the years leading up to the games and might persist for several years afterwards. Among negative effects Olympics have displaced more than two million people over two decades. Globalisation has increased competition in sports. Millions of people watch world sports. The global sports industry is worth 350 billion pounds and 450 billion pounds.

10. INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION:

UNESCO in their 2009 World Conference on Higher Education reported 2.5 million students studying outside their homes and this number might rise to 7 million by 2020. Main destinations are UK US, Germany, France, Canada and Australia. The sharpest percentage increases of international students have occurred in New Zealand, Korea, Netherlands, Greece, Spain, Italy, and Ireland.



11. GLOBAL NATURAL ENVIRONMENT:

The natural environment encompasses all living and other things occurring naturally on earth or some region thereof. It is an environment that encompasses the interaction of all living species. The natural environment is contrasted with the built environment strongly influenced by humans. Since factories in developing countries increased global output and experienced less environmental regulation, globally there have been substantial increases in pollution and impact on water resources. The state of world 2008 report said that economic growth of India and China was not sustainable. The world ecological capacity is found to be insufficient to satisfy the ambitions of the world states in the face of dwindling resources and the Malthusian Catastrophe. There have to be global regulations on pollution. Action has been taken by the UN to monitor and reduce atmospheric pollutants through Kyoto Protocol, the UNESCO AIR INITIATIVE and studies of air pollution and public policy. Global traffic production and consumption are causing increasing levels of air pollutants. The northern hemisphere has been the leading producer of carbon mono oxide and sulphur oxides. China surpassed US as the top emitter of CO₂.

Hydrology, climate maintenance, biodiversity, can best be maintained by maintenance of forests and habitat i.e ecology.

12. GLOBAL WORKFORCE:

The global workforce in the international pool of workers including those employed by multinational companies and connected through a global system of networking and production immigrant workers, telecommuting workers and those in export oriented employment and other employment. In 2012 there were 3 billion workers and 200 million unemployed. All this reflects international division of labour. The global economic factors driving the rise of multinational corporations-namely cross border movement of goods, services technology and capital with roots in social processes, surrounding to shift to standardization and industrialization.

The global workforce is competitive and is known as war for talent. The competitiveness is in part due to communications technologies that assist companies to attain global labour arbitrage-i.e. finding workers elsewhere and not only locally.

13. INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION:

There are guest workers in the US and Mexico. Migration more or less corresponds to employment opportunities.

14. SUPPORT AND CRITICISM: ADVANTAGES

- i. Greater employment opportunities for people.
- ii. Availability of greater goods and services to the consumers.
- iii. More competitive prices to the competitor.
- iv. Ability of companies to achieve lower costs.
- v. Access to bigger markets.
- vi. Faster and wider spread of new technologies.

15. DISADVANTAGES:

- i. Unrestricted globalization can hamper the development of less developed countries.
- ii. Smaller firms may lack the resources to compete internationally and therefore may be forced out of competition.
- iii. Countries become increasingly dependent on other countries for meeting their needs for goods and services.
- iv. Adverse economic situation in one country can escalate to other countries and may even adopt global proportions.
- v. Globalisation may also lead faster spread of infectious disease for people animals and plants which may be carried through people and goods.

II. CONCLUSION

Globalisation is responsible for withdrawal from modernity, resurgence of identity politics and a retreat from democracy. Globalisation through the creation of international, multinational or regional trade and economic institutions can lead to a feeling of loss of political power by groups within states. The sense of loss of power, in turn, leads to a fostering of tribalism and other revived or invented identities and traditions which abound in the wake of the uneven erosion of national identities, national economies and national state policy capacity. The upsurge of religious fundamentalism is a case in point. The hostility of fundamentalism to freedom of expression and belief has ominous implications for democracy.



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