EVOLUTION OF POLITICS IN INDIA AND CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES

SYNDICATE GROUP-01

SCOPE OF PRESENTATION

- Account for the success of democracy in India.
- Regionalism-Threat or Compliment.
- Communalism- Disturbance of social harmony and attack on society.

The Success of Democracy

- Largest Democracy of the world.
- 81 crore voters.
- Free and Fair Elections.
- Overall Development-Growth, poverty-eradication, education etc.
- Constitutional Ethos enshrined in the psyche of Nation.

Challenges to the Democracy in India

- Rising Inequality and Poverty
- Illiteracy
- Unemployment
- Hunger and Under-nourishment
- Casteism
- Regionalism
- Communalism
- Criminalisation Of Politics

Challenges to the Democracy in India

- Hence It can be seen that two broad category of Challenges:
  - Political Challenges
  - Socio-Economic Challenges

Focus Area: Regionalism

- A political ideology that focuses on the interests of a particular region or a group of regions.
- Is it inherently bad???
- Is it something avoidable???

Focus Area: Regionalism

- The answer is NO…

- Why???
- Because-
  - India is a diverse country and it is bound to have regional interests and affiliation.

Focus Area: Regionalism

- So when it becomes bad???

- It becomes bad when people start focusing on regional interests at the cost of national interests.
- It becomes bad when people start doing politics over regional aspirations.
- It becomes bad when people start challenging the constitutional ethics of the country in garb of pursuing regional interests.

Focus Area: Regionalism

- Contemporary status of regionalism:
  - The demand for Separate states on linguistic basis.
  - Demand of special assistance from centre.
  - ULFA, DGHC,NSCN etc..
  - Connection with terrorism.
  - Socio-economic problems aggravated due to regionalism.

Focus Area: Communalism

- **The three basic premises are:**
- (1) Belief that people who follow the same religion has common political, economic, cultural and social interests,

- (2) Belief in a notion that in a multi-religious society like India, the common interests of the followers of one religion are dissimilar and divergent from the interests of the followers of another religion, and

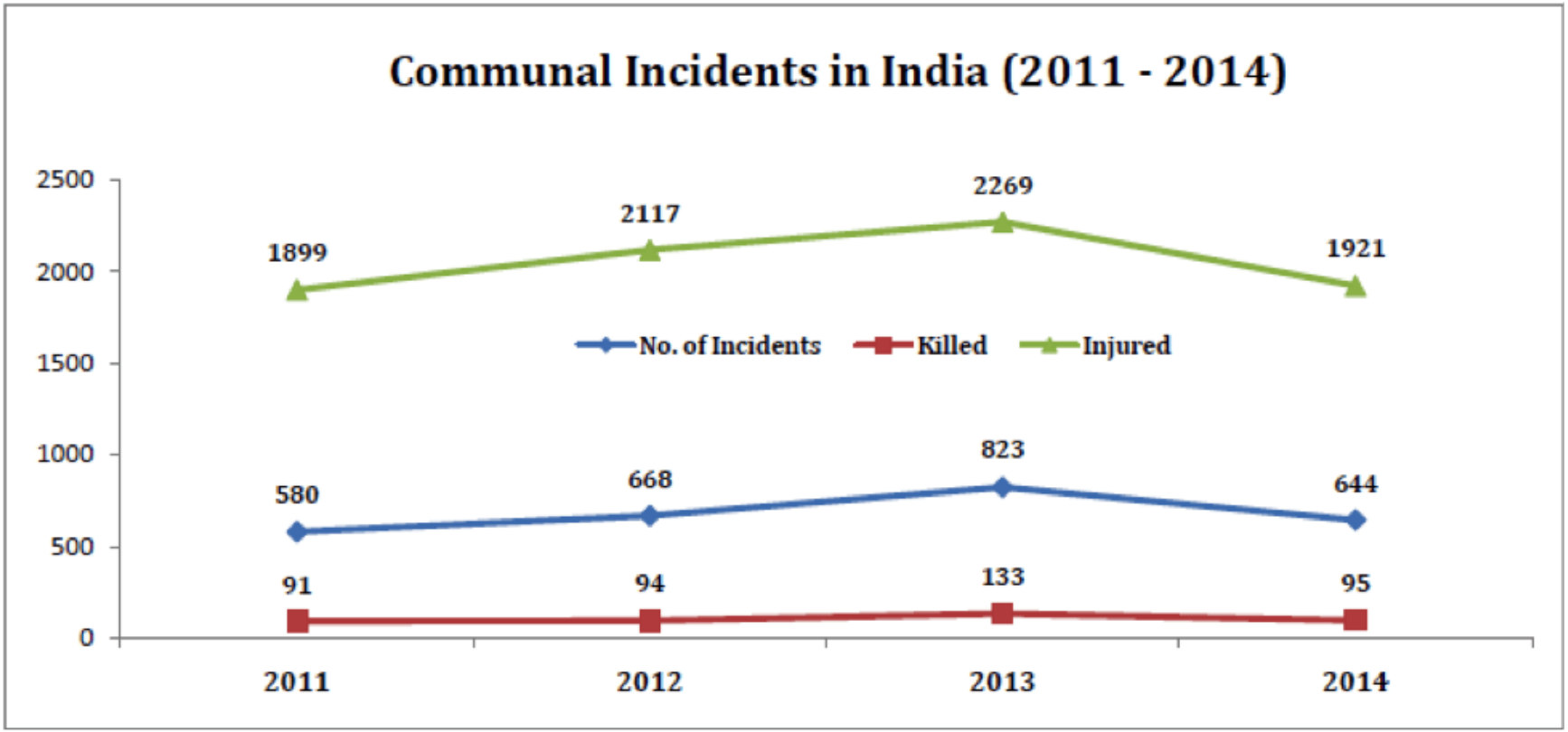
- (3) Belief that the interests of the followers of different religions or different communities are seen to be mutually incompatible, antagonistic and hostile".

Causes:

- **Divide and rule policy of british**
- **Sense of fear among the minorities**
- **Communalization of politics**
- **Economic factors**
- **Educational and cultural factors**
- **Cross border factors**
- **Failure of the governments**

Communalism: How it affects the social fabric of the country

- Communal violence
- Sense of victimization
- Non participation of minorities in the political mainstream
- Ghettoisation
- Terrorism


Communal Incidents in India (2011 - 2014)
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
1899
2117
2269
1921
No. of Incidents
Killed
Injured
580
668
823
644
91
94
133
95
2011
2012
2013
2014

- ***According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, a total of 2715 communal incidents occurred in the country from 2011 to 2014. This is an average of 57 incidents a month. Eight states Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh account for close to 85% of all the incidents. These states were ruled by various different parties and not a single party. Eight states did not report a single such incident in these four years. Seven of the Eight North Eastern states did not report a single communal incident.***

- Of the 35 States/UTs of India, only eight (8) states accounted for close to 85% of all the communal incidents in the country. Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh are part of this group. It is also interesting to note that these states are from all the regions of country. Karnataka & Kerala are from the South, Gujarat & Maharashtra are from the West, Rajasthan & Uttar Pradesh from the North, Bihar from the East & Madhya Pradesh from Central India. What is interesting is that, these eight states were ruled by different parties during this period. The Congress, BJP, NCP, SP, BSP ruled these states at various points in time.

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Corruption
Terrorism
Treason
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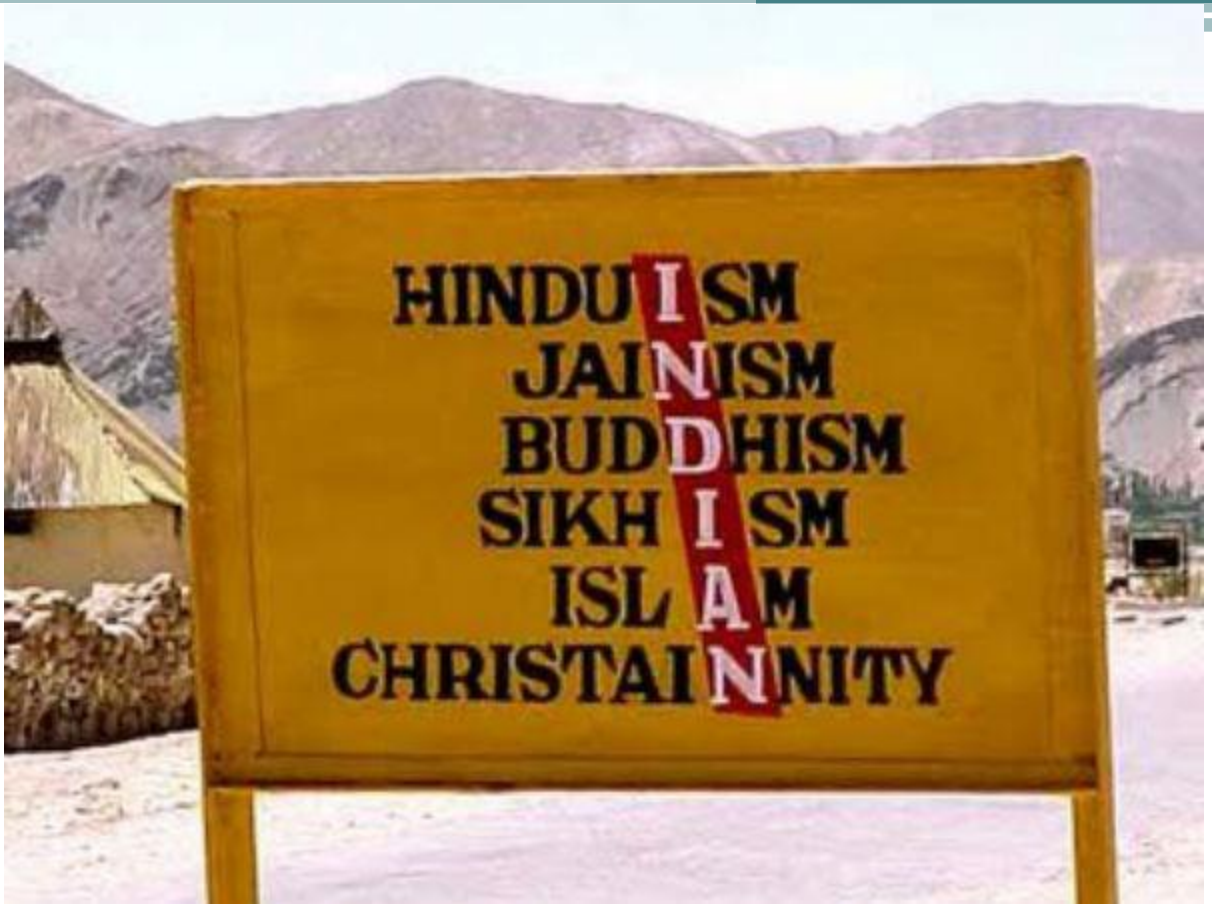
Watch, Experience and Participate ! http://www.hindujagruti.org/summit/

Way Forward…….

- More of a psychological and moral problem than a law and order problem.

- Hence needs to be tackled on two fronts:
  - Strong Laws and better conviction
  - Inculcate the spirit of Nationalism and Secularism in the Society.

Harmony makes
small things grow,
lack of it makes
great things decay.
Sallust
BrainyQuote



THANK YOU…

- http://www.ipcs.org/article/india/communalism-and-politics-in-india-1380.html