

Interpreting South Asian Unionism: Remodeling Regional Architecture

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Abstract

Among others, the rise of new divisive nationalism starts polarizing the diverse ethno-cultural identities once again in South Asia, which consequently slows the socioeconomic integration of the region. However, today at the age of globalization, the regional integration is a simple necessity of our time. The policy paper forespeaks how a united South Asian model can turn the region into a world's leading economic hub, scientific and cultural excellencies, on the basis of reviving multiculturalism and secular polity of democracy. The qualitative analyses of the paper critically reassess some multiple challenges, i.e. lack of political consensus, illegal migrations, geopolitical games, neo sub-grouping inside SAARC mechanism, which grow consequential distrusts among the neighboring governments and further thwart the process of transboundary interaction among the regional citizens. Besides, the Big Power competitions of hegemony continue fomenting enmity at state level and disseminate communal hatreds among the masses in South Asia. However putting these setbacks, still towards the possibilities of transformations, the paper, maybe hypothetically, remodels an architecture for tomorrow's unification of South Asia. In addition, it seeks to trend a bottom-up approach tentatively suitable to the rebuilds of common regional embodiment beyond the separation of borders, cultural diversities, and narrowed concepts of nationalism, all against the latest political manipulation. Towards nearing these targets, the paper recommends a specific set of measures, which mainly include promoting socioeconomic cooperation through the practices of multiculturalism and increased citizen's connectivity and thus to pursue lasting peace and sustainable development in the region. Above all, it ultimately prioritizes liberal exchanges of South Asians in multidisciplinary fields of politics, academics and socioeconomic sectors on a shared basis, which work as preconditions for evolving greater possibilities of regional integration.

Keywords: Regionalism, Peacebuilding and South Asia

Introduction

The concept of United States of South Asia (USSA) or South Asian Union (SAU) does not exist as few mere dreams, rather it is an urgent necessity of our time and a proven legacy calling upon all to reestablish it sooner, in the midst of ample political mistrusts. Retrospecting the years before divisive

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1947, mentioning the pre-independence era of colonialism, united South Asia in the form of ‘Indian Subcontinent’ took a strong hand on great powers and global economy (Masani, 2013).

The hub of renowned intellectuals, scientists, and politicians, who were proudly addressed themselves South Asians². But now their generations fall under the categories of national identities, i.e. Indians, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis and so on, even the communal awareness caused them of classifying as Hindus, Muslims, Sheikhs or any other tagline identities. Colonial masters in the erstwhile-undivided Bharatbarsha gave rise to the theory of dualist nationalism³ and ultimately India-Pakistan became independents as results based on religious territoriality, but soon after the same concept found delusive with the spontaneous liberation of Bangladesh—splitting of a Muslim country from another Islamic state. In reality of hundreds years, multiculturalism dominates both internal and regional states within South Asia as throwbacks of its shared narratives (Mannan, 2015).

The paper compares SAARC with some of the integrated and successful regional unions like—EU, ASEAN, and GCC etc. Even after gaining sovereignty from the neighbors, there are some countries of these regions, which successfully form an economic union with common market, common currency, and common visa system. Therefore in this section of the paper, it suggests a regional parliament (common legislature) in resolving common regional concerns, but not necessarily to less-signify individual parliaments within the countries in the region. Suggested regional parliament would executes policies with a view to utilizing resources so that they can reform South Asia economically growing, commercially investible and environmentally sustainable and state parliaments will remain concerned in internal matters as before—a model of interdependency.

Background/rationale of the study

Many of the hypotheses remain exact in utopian dimensions and most of them remain even harder to bring into practices. On the ground of reality, SAARC or any other initiatives in the region seems more articulated in nature of the legal documents, but opposite to apply in empiricism.

² South Asians commonly refer to a geographic identity of based on their origin from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Sometimes Myanmar (Burma) is also included. They are linked by the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC).

³ The two-nation theory is a political campaign that advocates to divide nations based on religions, among Hindus and Muslims in the South Asian subcontinent, while ignoring their language or ethnicity and other components to form a nation.

Debates, dialogues and all other maneuvers for the dream of south Asian unionism have last-resorted to bottom-up approach of practicality now in our age.

The year of 2015, for example examined a particular approach of young diplomacy in an effort of integrating the prolonged hopes for South Asian unity. This time in the history of the region, South Asian Youth Society (SAYS)⁴, had successfully been able to host first ever Model SAARC summit⁵ in Dhaka. The summit had just lasted for a period of four days, but it definitely reevaluated every possibility to rethink the regional architecture for meaningful integration in South Asia (SAYS, 2015).

The summit facilitated the assemblage of noted young policy makers, prominent researcher, and observers of eight SAARC countries across the region. Behind the meet, a clear-cut objective lied and that is obviously the goal of integrated South Asia. Majority delegates pointed out the existing homogeneities prevailing over the region for centuries, while agreeing that the division in the region is created mostly by politicians. However, the last-remaining hopes that the delegates identified is the key role of youth counterparts, which has unanimously been stressed to enhance greater connectivity towards ensuring integration, peace, and prosperity in South Asia. End of the summit, the delegates representing all South Asian countries on the tables of meeting and discussion, came up with a declaration named the ‘Dhaka Dialogue’, a formulae of public diplomacy. The paper dose not exclusively rely upon hardcore state apparatuses, rather it primarily emphasizes upon activating regional organizations and initiatives working at the root level of the societies to evolve the popular aspirations for the integration (Hasan, 2015).

The is first ever initiatives, taken by U.S. Department of State in collaboration of U.S. Embassies⁶ in South Asia, bringing all regional young policy makers and the foreign envoys at Dhaka, in March, 2015. Throughout the summit, I interviewed all the delegates, foreign envoys, academics, scholars and the government officials who attended the summit and their insights have been incorporated in the policy paper.

⁴ SAYS is region's largest youth network, with the mission to promote youth development and create a united platform for South Asian Youth by exploring, networking, training and through knowledge sharing, social and cross-border activity and crowning cultural bondage.

⁵ Model SAARC will be an educational simulation and academic competition in which future policy makers learn about diplomacy and regional relations. Like the Model United Nations it involves and teaches research, public speaking, debating, and writing skills, in addition to critical thinking, teamwork, and leadership abilities.

⁶ A number of six of U.S. Embassies nominated their State Department Alumni in Dhaka, in mid 2015. Bhutan and the Maldives operate their diplomatic missions respectively in India/Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

Finally the rationale of the study concentrates upon the notion of vibrant young diplomacy and frequent cultural exchanges among the youths towards gradual integration in the region. However, the collaborative structure of political schemes, large-scaled interregional investment and collective engagement in the region are given priorities as preconditions to apply the remodeled design.

Literature Review

The contemporary policy papers reviews few specific books, chapters and journal articles. The areas of trade and investment can evolve the multilateral regional integration of South Asia. In her project paper titled, 'Political economy of regional integration in South Asia', Priyanka Kher argues political disputes and protracted conflicts hinder strategic and economic interests to grow in the policy and development discourse. She focuses upon bilateral relationships, with particular focus upon India and Pakistan, lack of common threats to the region, absence of protectionism mechanism and lack of comparative advantage, asymmetric power and geographic dependency have resulted in the regional disintegration or dysfunctional SAARC apparatus. Therefore the paper proposes to build an ambience of interdependency propagating the necessity and incentives through remodeling of South Asian unionism.

Priyankar Upadhyaya wrote 'Securitization Matrix in South Asia: Bangladeshi Migrants as Enemy Alien' and Braja Bihari Kumara wrote another book, 'Illegal Migration from Bangladesh'. Both of the book generalize a grave tensions of damaging demographic textures of frontier provinces of India with the migration of Bangladesh. But the paper debate the political campaign of migration in India, which fuel the hates and enmity in-between the nations. Moreover, South Asia is infested with refugees crisis, i.e. Tibetan refugees in Nepal, Nepalese migrants in Bhutan, Pakistani refugees in India and Myanmar claims Rohingyas spring from southern Bangladesh.

Dean Cheng's 'China's View of South Asia and the Indian Ocean' analyzes the Indian Ocean is increasingly turning into an geostrategic cockpit. China has engaged in the region to pursue its 'string of pearls' strategy of cultivating India's friendly and enemy neighbors, respectively Pakistan and balancing rising India to protect its economic and security interests, while freezing outsider power, the U.S from plotting against Chinese territorial integrity, Tibet and so other strategies.

The literature here reviews all three major challenges, like socioeconomic impasses, trans-boundary migrations and insurgency and finally the geostrategic game theories. Significantly every major challenges were normally dealt within the maneuvers of the governments of the region. But the paper, for the first time ever, seeks to remodel a architecture that

aims at increasing people-to-people connectivity as bottom-up approach of rebuilding a culture if regional integration at mass level, mostly through non-governmental initiatives.

Paralyses to regional integration

Contemporary debates: illegal migrants

Illegal immigration turns into a global challenge today, rather than to be country-specific issues, say for Europe or South Asia.

Over the recent times BJP, for example continue its communal campaign against the issue of unproven 'Illegal Bangladeshi Immigrants' (2 cores/20 million), living primarily in West Bengal, Assam and other bordering states of India (as their allegations) (Nandy, 2005). On the other hand, *Siliconindia Magazine* of Bangalore unveils approx. 500,000 illegal Indians living and working in Bangladesh, sending as much as \$3,716 million remittance to India, which ranks Bangladesh in top 5th position, amongst the top 15 remittance incoming countries for India (*The Daily Ittefaq. 2014*). But the problem is the political campaigns inside of India may revive communal hatreds and incite poisonous hated tensions among the peoples of both nations, which may even weaken existing people-to-people connectivity.

Fragile security architecture: a dilemma of trust deficits

Unfortunately South Asian security depends upon what occurs outside of the region. While India defines its security concerns in the light of Chinese military strength, since 1962's brief war against China⁷. Pakistan on the other hand updates its security apparatus counterbalancing India's position. As consequences, the counter-competitions destabilize the region.

South Asia is one of the diversified and rich cultural heritages on Earth. The region has been bestowed with almost everything but No Peace and so No Prosperity. Major neighbors remain spending so much on defense budget but notably contributing nothing to eradicate poverty and social inequalities all across the region. To understand the scenario, the following statistics is crucial--like from one year defense budget of India and Pakistan, at least 1000 of schools and colleges can be built and reconstructed in the region (Shahzad, 2015)

Luckily South Asian country Bangladesh, first initiated SAARC but in subsequent years it remained nothing worth but a ceremonial annual assemblage giving few symbolic reasons to hope.

Here at this stage the most crucial question is how our regional defense budget can be redirected towards nontraditional security of human development, across the region.

⁷ The Sino-Indian War, also known as the Sino-Indian Border Conflict, was a war between China and India that occurred in 1962.

Geopolitics of Indian Ocean: is South Asia China-USA' cockpit?

Currently we live somewhat in a non-polar world and the balance of global power passes through the evolutionary period. The degrees of geopolitical developments in the Asia-Pacific region remain volatile about its moves. We live in an era of change due to the ongoing paradigm of power shift and power diffusion in South Asian subcontinent, rather than less-signifying European continent.

China's rise equally reduces India's regional ambitions and its holds in the Indian ocean and the ability to counter emerging Chinese hegemony, Indo-US close cooperation has been the policy of the Modi government and the presence of President Obama at the Republic Day on 26th January is a manifestation of their close interaction between the two countries and it suits both countries strategically (Associated Press, 2015).

Another equation in the region is that India's influence in Afghanistan is a mounting threat for Pakistan, which establishes resilient anti-Pakistan sentiments in Afghanistan (Dalrymple, 2013). Western states try to isolate Pakistan regionally to prevent Pakistan in becoming energy corridor between Iran and China, among others (Rafiq, 2015).

However it is speculated that India does not wish that Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal should have a large Chinese footprint in their territories (Sitaraman, 2013) and if sub-regional cooperation is strengthened with these nations in form of BBIN formula⁸ (Ramaswamy, 2015), there will be less likely Chinese influence on them. Furthermore, to add to the perception from some of the big player nations, the Indian position on regional policy is reportedly supported by Japan and the US, because these two states also enemy state of China and thus embracing South Asia as friend—enemy's enemy is ally (India, 2014). Here is a million dollar question on how these speculations, suspicions or games can be transformed towards peace and security inside South Asian regionalism.

Connectivity may multiply more trans-boundary tensions

Regional connectivity may facilitate subversive or non-state actors to operate threats like militancy, terrorism, and many other cross-border skirmishes, especially for Afghanistan's Kunduz and Helmand Provinces, Pakistan's Kashmir and Baluchistan, India's Kashmir and Northeast, Bangladesh's Chittagong Hill Tracts and Sri Lanka's Northern Province (possibility).

The regional governments should come up with collective responsibility to ensure regional security in possible integration and they would reach a consensus that no one of them would plot about insurgents or terrorists against another state in the region as strategic benefits. All the government

⁸ The Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal (BBIN) Initiative has recently been oriented as a sub regional coordinative architecture of countries in South Asia. A Joint Working Groups (JWG) comprising official representation from each member state formulated implement and review quadrilateral agreements.

should work together to design regional mechanism in fights of those non-state actors, to rebuild trusts.

Sub-grouping inside SAARC and Modi leadership

Over the recent years, there emerges a tendency of sub-grouping in SAARC setups. A landmark Motor Vehicles Agreement (MVA) has recently been signed, which include Bhutan, Bangladesh,

India and Nepal (BBIN). Significantly, BBIN aims at paving the way of free movement of people and goods across the sub-region within SAARC. It clarifies an unofficial demise of SAARC or an initiative to replace SAARC with sole Indian hegemony, which technically excludes Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Maldives (The New Indian Express, 2015). Rise of non-state actors in forms of religious militancy and separatism is highly predictive to tsunami the regional fabrics of possible integration, e.g. militancy in Afghanistan and Pakistan, religious extremism in Bangladesh, religious polarization and Northeastern separatist movement in India.

Regarding the realpolitik of subgrouping in South Asia, popular propositions justify that terror-infested Afghanistan and Pakistan are not yet ready to join the BBIN.

However, Narendra Modi invited SAARC prime ministers/presidents in his swearing, which is phenomenal in recent South Asian polarization and soon after his debut as an Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi initiated 'Neighbor First Policy'⁹, visiting most of South Asian neighbors. Definitely the initiative breeze the hopes for South Asia.

Research methodology

The paper reviews significant number of policies from journal papers and newspaper articles and larger parts of those literature include critiques and comparative analyses of regional integration. Besides, the paper deduces multiple dynamics of regional disintegrations into few specific policies of integration. The qualitative paper is written on the basis of empirical experiences and exclusively seek solutions more at the bottom level of people' engagement, rather than mainstreaming approaches of state-to-state initiatives, which significantly fails of records.

Findings or conclusions: bypassing clogged arteries

In collaboration with civil and regional organizations, the member states of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) crucially needs to develop ranges of collaborative measures. As per the 'Dhaka Dialogue' of Model SAARC Summit 2015, the region should take care to build trusts among the member states of South Asia, applying particular

⁹ It is believed that the most significant initiative, introduced by Narendra Modi government is the focus on neighbouring countries and major Asian powers coupled with an emphasis on the two decades old Look East policy.

action plans. The paper largely concerns policy analyses on socioeconomic growth, education, sciences and technology, including environmental sustainability, rather solely resolving issues at the state level. On the other hand, the paper engages mass people to grow awareness of regional connectivity in a way someday all of our regional governments will understand common interests of the people.

A roadmap to socioeconomic integration

The member states for the '*Committee of Socio-Economic Development*' came up with the idea of economic approaches, i.e. '*Blue Economy*' to be applied in the regional setting for fostering the economic integration as preconditions for political Ice-melting. However the committee concludes that Blue Economy, an economic model shifting society from scarcity to abundance with what is locally available, is an emerging economic concept which requires extensive researches and awareness-building to understand first and then to apply across the region.

Besides, the massive awareness can be boosted up with declaring the decade of 2016-2026 as the 'SAARC Blue Economy Decade'. And the decade should encourage institutionalization of the concept in respective financial organizations of the member states in SAARC region. Therefore, it suggests to conduct extensive researches of qualitative and quantitative methodologies on conceptual deliberations to the theories and the practices of Blue Economy.

The committee reiterates its commitments to innovative efforts to ensure socio-economic sustainability safeguarding the common interests of the people, while maintaining equity in the distribution of shared benefits.

Each of the member state of SAARC should adhere to the principles and objectives of the new economy, which would be initiated in the region by collective efforts of member states.

In the implementation of the Blue Economy, the collective decision in the summit urges all the member states to establish 'SAARC Blue Economy Fund' to reorganize the institutions and to exchange the technologies, making the region ready to take the model into practices at national and regional level. The committee drafts a roadmap to facilitate and guide the member states towards meeting those goals and targets.

A proposal is set forth for the next summit to evaluate the required coordination to rescrutinize time-demanded goals and targets of the kind of economy.

On the other hand, the member states should work together to find a sustainable mechanism for energy cooperation, notably in the hydro-electric and solar sectors, including bunch of other renewable energy sectors, with

the solemn aim of setting up a common regional power grid/solar power bank.

The most significant sectors that the member state should cooperate is to develop a common guidelines to foster Ecotourism and the sustainable exploitation of natural resources—marines, sea-beds and fisheries in particular.

With the installation of post-modern governmental discourse of NGOs, the member states should allow wider engagement of Non-profit/Non-Governmental Organizations to play valuable complementary roles in diverse development process — disaster managements, women empowerment, youth-led projects, IT sectors and so on.

In order to facilitate greater communication, awareness and trust-building between states and organizations, the member states should promote Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) in the region as a whole. For the purpose, periodic joint studies, workshops, conferences are encouraged to stream exchanges among the regional NGOs and private initiatives.

To run these people-to-people initiatives, it proposes a Region Fund under the regulatory framework where the member states are expected to contribute its portions to the fund as set by the SAARC Secretariat on the assessment of particular needs in particular countries.

Detailed schemes and timelines, it calls upon the SAARC Secretariat to monitor the coherence of the NGO activities, while locating and then minimizing the repetitions of role of NGOs in the same areas of responsibilities—dividing NGOs to act in their relevant fields and even to redirect NGO which might have the chance to repeat activities that another NGO doing similar in the same areas.

The complex of issues of NGO managements at regional level, a consortium of NGOs can be established, enabling to operate under the jurisdiction of national and regional governments within the region. The consortium should deal ranges of inter NGOs understandings and cooperation, such as sector-based meetings, policy discussions, expertise/network sharing, under the defined SAARC agenda to create mutual support systems.

Superstructure: renaissance of own pattern of education, science and culture

Apart from basic structure, i.e. economy, the committee reviews the superstructure, i.e. culture of the region. The committee immensely emphasized upon the initiation of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to the backward region of South Asia. It reiterates the SAARC objectivities in the ICT areas. The most crucial agreement the

member state in the committee came up with the recognition of access to ICT as fundamental right. To implement the ICT policies in SAARC region, the committee advocated Right Based Approaches (RBA) for South Asia.

The regional design of the ICT facilities should not be monopolized among the member states, rather it should trend the culture of wider experience and expertise sharing across the nation in the region. Again a stable fund is required to subsidize ICT services in areas that lacks to the modern times opportunities. As most of the bureaucratic complexities, Public Private Partnership should urge the member state to contribute 1 percent of the national budget to form a Universal Access Fund.

Apart from the growing activism of our time, the changing policy options should inspire the bunch of youth leadership in participation at the level of policy-making, in entrepreneurship and in the contribution of social development, towards fostering democratic practices and consolidating institutions among the nations in the region.

Another exemplary proposal includes arrangements of SAARC Exchange Programs across the region on specific periods of time. The regional universities, for example, should host SAARC ICT Youth Exchange to disseminate the ICT literacy to the youths, who are supposed to hail from backward regions of the member states. The existing SAARC ICT Centers should be entitled to monitor the exchanges and the subsequent activities of the alumnae networks, who should be responsible to work for their communities back home as signatory conditions during their application to the program at the beginning.

SAARC ICT Centers should initiate National ICT Network in every member states, which will patronize the young innovations and incubation of the rising scientific achievements of youths. National ICT Network will outreach both the rural and urban youths in exchanging diverse ideas toward reducing the communication gap in terms of information sharing.

SAARC Regional Youth ICT Network should recruit young volunteers with the assignment of promoting culture, youth innovations and youth development to their nation.

SAARC ICT Centers should reform existing education system, incorporating vocational ICT literacy in the curriculum. Educationists and Ministers for ICT of each member states should sit together in the venue of SAARC Conference, with the participants who would represent every fraction of the communities.

The ministerial conference would facilitate the open access virtual libraries for the mass students living in the SAARC countries. SAARC ICT Fare, for instance can bring the diverse pool of regional youths in lots of

meetings, panel discussions and ideas sharing. These kinds of fares may take place at the premises of popular meeting points, i.e. schools, colleges and universities evolving cross cultural understanding and interaction of ICT knowledge.

Under monitoring and advisory panel of SAARC Regional ICT network, the concept of SAARC Online Entrepreneurship Ventures would gather the young entrepreneurs towards building SAARC E-commerce.

Propagating common threats: disaster management a way

The member states for the committee related to disaster management and rehabilitation crucially require to channel literature, learning materials of community resilience and practical training tools to help them cope up with disaster scenario in academic curriculum of schools and college in SAARC countries.

Level of awareness should be incorporated in the understanding of community leadership about disaster preparedness and volunteers should be trained up in natural risk management, including: firstly, identifying hazards, vulnerable sectors, elements, and locations and finally risk analysis and evaluation.

Information of disaster forecasting should be shared among member states in the region. SAARC Metrological Research Centre, for example can be strengthened in initiating collaboration among the states.

The idea of people-to-people communication beyond the borders, especially through the electronic devices of mobile phones, radios, social media, and satellite phones would definitely be consolidate experiences sharing among the communities exposed to climatic risks. Furthermore, the opportunity of tariff free calls should be available by local telecommunication service providers for facilitating quick communication in case of emergency across the region.

To underline the magnitude of damage with similar measurement across the region, a uniform building code can be introduced tracking out the infrastructural damage, during large scale events, e.g. earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, landslides, droughts and human-induced disasters.

Even the gravity of the incidents may require cluster management, especially bringing together all civil, military and police coordination across the region.

The role of media is crucial here and so they need to be trained up for proper dissemination of news and information.

Constitutionally each of SAARC member states reserve 1% of annual federal budget for disaster mitigation. As disaster sometimes clinch single country or particular territory of country, each country in the region can

voluntarily contribute up to half of the budget in responding crises of other member states in needs. Besides, the countries can even contribute more, maybe in term of monetary aspects and required resource materials. Hence SAARC countries can come up with Joint Fund for disaster management, in this cases too.

Ensuring all basic and fundamental rights of the survivors in the affected areas, a higher designated committee consisting of relevant ministries of each SAARC countries should coordinate efforts and information channeling in the pre and post response scenario. In details, the committee should share live streams and updates through the most reachable tools of mobile phone apps and web software to locate the resource which are already available to meet the changing demands in particular disasters.

Further monitoring and evaluation system can increase the state of preparedness in disaster mitigation.

In this regards, a common website for regional disaster alert system should be developed enabling the responders and aid workers to Geotag the scenario on the ground—aids, pictures, reporting and the affected areas. These initiatives also make the scenario public which ensures transparency and accountability in management and coordination of natural disasters in the region. Auditing on the fields and ensuring open-accessed complaint centers, for example can be effective initiatives in this regard.

‘SAARC Disaster Management Centre’ should be strengthened to conduct research on separate disasters and formulates case studies of those disasters in a way to acquire best practices for the future crises.

An anatomy of South Asian Union:

Unlike the European Union, or ASEAN or NAFTA, SAARC fails, to significant extent, to install a meaningful connectivity with one another in the region. Yes there remain asymmetric phenomena, e.g. unequal size of neighboring economies, unparalleled geographical endowments and protracted conflicts in-between India and Pakistan. For the reason, SAARC stands as the least integrated region in the world with intra-regional trade at less than 5 per cent (World Bank, 2013) while within ASEAN it goes for 32%, approx. 50% within European Union, and 68% in US-Canada-Mexico trade bloc (NAFTA). It is believed growth in bilateral economic relations may transform enmity into amicable political relations over time (Islam, 2015).

And the possibility of economic integration is not rhetoric anymore. We may start with making interdependency among the regional nations, for instance, Pakistan produces world’s best cotton but exports it in raw form. Textile industries can be setup at Bangladesh, Nepal or in Srilanka, if regional understanding and collaborative mechanism would exist in South

Asia. Thus a great number of manpower can be employed in their own country, with the initiation of regional investments.

Bangladesh grows world's largest Jute, but it does not process the maximum and the country has to export it in raw form as well. There can be setup jute processing plants in Bhutan and Maldives, who can process Jute and made different products out of it and circulate in larger regional markets. India got world's best film industry i.e. Bollywood whereas Pakistan got world's Best singers--a cultural interdependency. But at the same time, Pakistan and India are two nuclear powers lying next to each other, in belligerences, with ever competition of increasing militarization. Many of the grandparents of today's generations, hail from British India but again, most of their grandchildren are not allowed to visit their ancestral land now in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, even as tourists. Why it can't take European Union as our model? Germany and France had so many differences in histories of wars, which are even memorized in the pages of popular literatures and histories--a region devastated by the internal warfare but countries in the region have initiated peace process through trade and now we can see where they are--a frenchman can simply walk into their historic enemy Britain, if simply they wish it. Once the region is integrated, South Asia would turn itself into another regional power. SAARC is crucially needed to be revived or reformed to transform the region into regionhood and to reidentify its nationals commonly as South Asians. Therefore, common visa policy and common currency (also Atal Bihari Bajpai's dream in 1998) can begin its steps of initiating South Asian Nationhood for one-South-Asian Nation (Shahzad, 2015).

Regarding Indo-Pak protracted conflicts, concerned states should immediately dialogue together for the mutual solutions.

Now it has been 67 years, Pakistan and India are concurrently fighting on Kashmir issues but no one is ready to surrender from their stance/grip to control. But there can be a solution as well. There perhaps many solutions too, here one is put on here like India and Pakistan can jointly run Kashmir as state and can give right to both countries to visit Kashmir without Visa. And Kashmiris can be allowed to visit both countries (Technically Kashmiris will be Dual National and New INDO-PAK passport can be issued to Kashmiris). Peace process needs a step, but both India and Pakistan are reluctant to take first step. Let's both own Kashmir as their own state. Here the challenge is amount of trusts decline to initiate such dual-run mechanism for disputed Kashmir.

Theoretical and practitioner implications:

The paper has come into being so far as an empirical outcomes of unfolding young diplomacy in the region. And the idea of the concept of 'Model

SAARC Summit-2015' is installed in a way it states to grow a culture of people-to-people connectivity in the region.

This is the first summit of its kind and later it might be arranged in other member states. It less focuses upon the theorization of the objectivities of regional integration, but it develops the policy paper based on young activism or how the youths community can cooperate beyond the borders to materialize the dreams of regional integration, under the aegis of U.S department of State.

Limitations

There is less quantitative analyses in it, though not mandatorily required at all. And the paper less-signify government involvement in the process and advocate comprehensive, though not inclusive, popular approach of regional integration via people-to-people connectivity. The implication of the paper still exist at its earlier stage and so it requires the maturation with its frequent application and evaluation.

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