

Diaspora Diplomacy: A Case Study of Indian Diaspora's Geopolitical Impact

DD Samaragunaratne^{1#}

¹Faculty of Defence and Strategic Studies, General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka

#deshanidewmini@gmail.com

The geopolitical influence of diaspora communities is increasingly reshaping global politics, with India's diaspora emerging as a key player. This study critically examines the role of the Indian diaspora, particularly under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in enhancing India's geopolitical, economic, and cultural stature. It focuses on India's strategic engagement with its diaspora to achieve broader economic and political objectives, positioning the diaspora as an essential tool of statecraft. Through qualitative analysis of political events, economic data, and cultural trends, this research aims to provide a nuanced understanding of the Indian diaspora's role in global affairs. Key findings reveal the Indian diaspora's political activism particularly in Canada and the UK, through movements like Operation Blue Star and the Khalistan Movement. Economically, remittances and investments from the diaspora have contributed significantly to India's development, though further research is needed to fully understand how these financial flows translate into broader economic growth. On a cultural level, Bollywood continues to be a powerful force, fostering a sense of identity among Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) and maintaining strong ties with the homeland. This study highlights the multifaceted nature of the Indian diaspora's influence, framing it as a crucial soft power instrument for India. Beyond financial remittances, the diaspora contributes to the global dissemination of ideas, values, and practices, reinforcing India's international presence. The findings call for a deeper examination of the Indian government's evolving strategies to harness these contributions more effectively.

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