

## BRICS TOWARDS THE MULTIPOLAR WORLD

**DR. BABITA MAJI**

*Assistant Professor*

*Department of Political Science*

*R.G.(P.G) College, Meerut*

*Email: majibabitargpg@gmail.com*

**Abstract**

*Rise of new groups in 21st century is witnessing a Shift of power in world order. The BRICS emerged as regional organisations which have similar values and common objectives. After the formation in 2009 BRICS has been trying to create an important international system and a multipolar world. This organisation demand for a revival in the traditional setting of United Nations security council, reforms in the international financial System such as IMF World Bank WTO and have initiated a new discourse of the global south on the responsibility to protect climate change. The establishment of BRICS new development Bank has been one of the prime contributions of BRICS which shows their willingness and capability to accept the responsibilities for new growing power. This paper will assess that how this organisation will help to create a multipolar world. This paper also examines that by the mid 21st century BRICS would be wealthier than US hegemony and BRICS systems also have shaping multipolar global order.*

**Keywords-** BRICS, Multipolar World, Global Order,

Reference to this paper should be made as follows:

**Received: 11.05.2021**

**Approved: 10.06.2021**

**DR. BABITA MAJI**

*BRICS TOWARDS THE  
MULTIPOLAR WORLD*

*RJPSSs 2021, Vol. XLVII,  
No. 1, pp. 024-031  
Article No.04*

**Online available at:**

<http://rjpss.anubooks.com>

[https://doi.org/10.31995/](https://doi.org/10.31995/rjpss.2020147i01.04)

[rjpss.2020147i01.04](https://doi.org/10.31995/rjpss.2020147i01.04)

## **Introduction**

With the decline of the US dominated unipolar world order BRICS States as the emerging economic and developing power have attracted global attention especially their concepts like non polarity and post American world becoming more popular. BRICS might be considered as one of the rising forces shaping the new structure of international relations in the 21st century. With the BRICS grouping emerging as the new centre of power factor in global politics they have been core concern in representation of Southern values and interest in various global multilateral forum and financial institutions.<sup>1</sup> the expression multilateralism and multiple arise multi polarize bring new insights in the context of the rise of BRICS .<sup>2</sup>

BRICS as leading emerging economic and political powers at the regional and international level was first conceived by economist of Goldman Sachs as part of an economic modelling exercise to fore cast global economic trends over the next half century. The word BRICS was coined in 2001 to highlight the role of emerging economic including Brazil Russia India and China. Due to high economic growth rates and demography development BRICS further in lead position and it was argued that their increased relevance should also be reflected in their incorporation of G7.<sup>3</sup> These four countries met as a group in 2009 and in 2010 South Africa was invited to join this group which was then referred as BRICS. <sup>4</sup> Many believe that the rise of BRICS forum will contribute to promote to a non-western order in the future. The main aims of the BRICS are to enhance the voice of emerging and developing countries in international arena.

BRICS economic power and size 43% population and 25% GDP make them important in global stage and they used veto power as a outsider against the unilateralism of the western countries and some international organisation such as the IMF and United nation. The performance in global conferences of G20, UN Security Council, and World climate conference BRICS pay attention to South-South cooperation and assistance for the developing world challenging Western dominance in international politics.

It is worth attending to the manner in which China has sought to address political friction. The watchword seems to be de-linking. Set aside presently insoluble issues and work on fronts that promote trade and other exchanges. While China has used this approach towards several countries, it has been particularly dramatic in the Indian case. Although China had made overtures to improve relations with India, it was not until after the Tiananmen incident of 1989, that Beijing intensified its efforts to reduce its international isolation by courting countries like India. The rapprochement entailed, first of all, de-linking the Sino-Pakistan from Sino-Indian relationship. India

gained a small victory in the 1990s when China refused to back Pakistan in internationalizing the Kashmir problem by insisting on the UN declaration of Kashmir plebiscite as the starting point of negotiations. The Himalayan border issues were also de-linked from other matters, and China and India have co-operated in various international forums such as the Doha talks of July 2008, at the Copenhagen conference in December 2009 etc. <sup>5</sup>

However, the relations of Sino-India are complex with competition and cooperation in BRICS forum and international areas. In BRICS system, China and India will greatly improve their cooperation reducing their conflicts and competition, however, India will still consider the US as the most important partner in Asia-Pacific area. Many believe that the rise of BRICS forum will contribute to promote the new multipolar world and may be prompt to a “non-western order” in the future. As so far, BRICS forum has held more than ten summits, and we can conclude from their agendas that they are committed to the multilateralism world order and global governance.

China and India have different strength about their models of the economy. For example, China overmatches India on FDI, but India has also its strength in the home grown entrepreneurs. Chinese economy has taken off, but few local firms have followed, leaving the country’s private sector with no world-class companies to rival the big multinationals. Therefore, we can conclude that China and India have their different strength in the development of Asia economy. India and China play an important role in the Asian economy, however the two countries do not really trust each other, and greater Security for one undermines the Security of the other, as that Indian official revealed.

China and India dominate prevailing economies in the BRICS system and these two are also neighbouring Asian countries which make them sensitive relations sometimes cooperation and sometimes competition. As the two Asian giants, China and India have carried out cooperation in various fields. China and India are committed to boost their political relations at regional and international levels such as the UN, IMF, international climate change; ASEAN regional forum and Shanghai cooperation organization.<sup>6</sup> The political cooperation of Sino-India has been strategic level and lack of specific operation. It is important how to reduce the conflicts & promote the world’s two largest developing countries cooperation, and impact on the international political order which need the people and politicians between the countries find the new cooperative development direction under the BRICS system. Today under the BRICS system, the strategic cooperation of Sino-India mainly reflects in the climate governance and energy cooperation. Climate changes will have a significant impact

on the BRICS because of the size and rate of economic growth of the BRICS countries. BRICS summit pay attention to stress over sustainable development and agree that establish ‘open working group on the sustainable development goals’ about issue of the climate change governance, the BRICS countries agree that the developed countries and the developing countries should take different responsibilities. Facing the greatest challenges and threats, the BRICS address that the wealthy industrial nations should not only provide the technological & financial solutions but also take moral responsibilities abiding by the UN framework convention on climate change challenge and make efforts to solve the issue through sustainable and inclusive growth and not by capping development.<sup>7</sup> The common interests have promoted China and India to concern about global warming and energy security, pushing development of the renewable energy technology in BRICS system.

The point has been mentioned that the Sino-Indian relationship is essentially bilateral in nature, but the relationship has also been shaped and conditioned, by the evolving global major organisation like BRICS which influenced the India-China interaction. Therefore, the evolving global setting and international aspects assumes importance in the comprehensive study of India-China interaction. China and India are emerging as pivotal components of the evolving balance of power in Asia. The concurrent economic rise of these two Asian powers implies that the next few decades will witness a massive redistribution of global wealth and power towards the eastern hemisphere.

The United States is only superpower in today’s world that could change in coming years. Both China and India have the potential to transform the international system into a multipolar world either individually or in concert with other likeminded states. And though Beijing and New Delhi have set the emergence of a multipolar world as their primary objectives- with the tacit belief that their respective capitals will be among these poles— they accept that such might not be easily attained. Similarly, though both share a common outlook on the discriminatory nature of the now proliferation regime, they differ on how it should be applied, particularly to the other.<sup>8</sup> For instance, China’s white paper on national defence in 2000 recognizes that relations “among big powers are complicated, with many interwoven contradictions and frictions. However, drawing on each other’s strength, cooperating with and checking and constraining each other remain a basic feature of their relationship”.<sup>6</sup> The white paper also notes that “there is a serious disequilibrium in the relative strength of countries, no fundamental change has been made order” and that “hegemony and power politics still exist and are developing further in the international political, economic and security spheres”. Thus, the white paper argues that the

“powerfulness of China will constitute no threat to anyone, but will rather promote.....world peace, stability and development”.<sup>9</sup> Although Beijing supports the principles of non-proliferation, it also maintains that peaceful use of technology should be promoted, and it continues to have serious reservations about the existing multilateral expert control regimes.<sup>10</sup> Similarly, the annual report of India’s ministry of external affairs for 2000-2001 notes as one of its priorities the need to “strengthen further India’s role as a factor for peace, stability and security and balance in Asia and in the world” and lists one of its objectives as to “work with the P-5 (permanent five members of the UN security council) and other major powers to promote bilateral relations and to work towards strengthening peace, stability and multipolarity in the world”.<sup>11</sup> Implicit in this is the desire to attack a permanent seat in an expanded UN security council. In addition, the annual report of the defence ministry for 2000-2001 reveals that “India has adopted a more comprehensive approach to security encompassing economic strength, internal cohesion and technological progress” and asserts that “India will need to maintain a desired level of military strength and preparedness .....to contribute positively to the promotion of peace and stability in the region”. On the issue of the non-proliferation regime, “India continues to maintain its opposition to the NPT as a discriminatory and flawed treaty” and argues that “lasting non-proliferation can only be achieved through disarmament”.<sup>12</sup> Clearly, even though both China and India share similar concerns and common interest at the global level, they remain reluctant to combine their efforts. For instance, while paying up service to the principle of supporting the candidacy of developing countries to permanent membership of a reformed UN security council, Beijing has publicly offered its support to Germany but has shied away from giving similar support to India, with which it purportedly shares a similar global outlook. This is primarily because, despite the improvement in their relations, they still remain wary of the other’s intentions. This is particularly true in the relations that Beijing and New Delhi are developing with other key global actors, particularly the United States. Today, in a rapidly changing world order, an entirely new architecture is being formed in the global economy, politics and security.<sup>13</sup> And on how relations develop between the two leading economies of Asia, not only determines the stability of the region, but also the direction of global politics for decades to come. Obviously, the events taking place in different corners of the world cannot be considered in isolation. It is hardly a coincidence that the BRICS countries needed to put forward the idea of forming their own development bank, seeing that the United States had taken an aggressive stance towards countries forming the backbone of the BRICS. The creation of such a bank, and the transition to using national currencies in settlements between BRICS countries, in the coming

decades could undermine dominance of the global financial system by the American dollar.

Although outright confrontation is unlikely (the border dispute, though a serious hindrance to normalization, probably will not lead to a shooting war), it could occur. For example, China might fail to maintain its neutrality in the Indo-Pakistani confrontation, and Islamabad might successfully draw Beijing into its conflict with New Delhi. Also, weak leadership in both countries might allow hawkish elements to dominate policy. There is also a danger that misperceptions and miscalculations could drive policy irrationally. Due to the low level of economic interaction and people-to-people contacts, Sino-Indian relations tend to be seen mostly through strategic lenses to the exclusion of other elements of the bilateral relationship. At the strategic perceptual level, there is a tendency towards viewing the evolving global and regional security environments in zero-sum terms.<sup>14</sup> As a result conflict security aspects may tend to be highlighted while other aspects of the bilateral relationship, which may be more conducive to cooperation's are ignored. This is most evident in the tendency of published security analyses and writings to over interpret, misinterpret and exaggerate the significance and threatening nature of the other words, many of these views are lopsided, biased and based on worst-case analysis. The India-United States-China triangle illustrates this tendency. Although Washington may consider its China and India policies to be based on their own merits and addressing different sets of geostrategic political and economic concerns, Beijing and New Delhi may have different interpretations, expectations and anxiety.<sup>15</sup>

However, the current global financial crisis will have a significant effect on Indo-China relationship, one that will either be to the detriment or the benefit of the relationship. The peaceful development road model makes all countries in the export-processing network highly dependent on levels of trade and foreign demand for manufactured goods, factors which have been hit hardest by the credit crunch in advanced economies.<sup>16</sup> This financial stress has had serious implication for domestic stability within each country as well as for regional relation

### **BRICS and covid-19**

In the global war against the Nobel corona virus emerging economic country brakes have reached out to other countries humbled by the pandemic. India as a largest producer of hydroxychloroquine has exported the drug to SAARC countries, gulf region, Russia, Brazil Israel and US. By the vaccine maître also exported vaccine. India to force and inclusive BRICS driven Pharma lines which would also actively explore the production of vaccine.

BRICS countries now need to pull and co-ordinate their effort in partnership with the US and Europe and North America both badly affected by the pandemic as part of a global asset on the virus. The Sanghigh based new development Bank of the BRICS countries has already demonstrated the way forward to unlock its financial resources to combat covid-19. New development Bank led the financial help to provide 10 billion dollar increases related assistance BRICS member country.<sup>17</sup>

BRICS made some remarkable joint efforts to counter the pandemic on 28 April 2020 BRICS minister of foreign affairs held a video conference after this meeting all BRICS countries agreed to allocate 15 billion dollar to the new development Bank multilateral development bank established by the BRICS states. In this respect the end we could both help meet emergency expenses for the pandemic and support the subsequent economic revival. Beside the block illustrated its support towards the world crucial role during the crisis the emphasis the necessary of enhancing and 20 emergency facility to handle the pandemic this action reflected BRICS States willingness to contribute to solving the global crisis.

### **Conclusion**

The world is experiencing a changing economic scale with the developing world becoming a driver of the global economy and with import demand from this developing countries led by BRICS nation leading the global recovery from the recession. There is also an emergence of multilateral world order where developing countries like China and India play a dominant role and their population joining the world economy as well as the effect of global interdependency. During the corona pandemic and recession new development bank can take place of the traditional economic institution like IMF and World Bank.

### **References**

1. Hampson Fen Osler and Heinbecker Paul (2011): The new multilateralism of the twenty first century, global governance, p-299
2. Wade Robert H (2011): Emerging world order? from multipolarity to multilateralism in the G-20, the world bank and the IMF , politics and society, pp347-377
3. Renjie Xin , Xianpiao Sun(2011): “The mechanism of BRICS cooperation and Sino-India Relations” South Asian Studies Quarterly
4. Panda Jagannath P.(2012): A “BRICS” Wall? The complexity of China-India multilateral politics” Indian Foreign Affairs Journal, vol. 7, no. 2, April-June p. 176
5. Acharya A.(2008): “China and India: Politics of incremental engagement” p. 271
6. Wade Robert H. (2011): ‘Emerging world order? From multipolarity to multilateralism in the G 20, the world bank and the IMF, politics and society 39(3), pp 347-77

7. ENS Economic Bureau (2012), “Development Bank tops Brics Summit agenda”, The Indian Express, 29 March 2012.
8. Dikshit, Sandeep (2012), “BRICS to focus on Syria, Iran today”, The Hindu, 29 March 2012.
9. Ministry of External Affairs, government of India “Annual Report”2000-2001( New Delhi: government of India,2001) pp.ii-iii
10. Ministry of Defence government of India “Annual Report”2000-2001( New Delhi: government of India,2001), pp. 7
11. Antkiewicz, Agata and Andrew F. Cooper (2011), “Beyond Geography: BRIC/SAM and the New Contours of Regionalism”, in Timothy, M. Shaw, (eds.), The Ashgate Research Companion to Regionalisms, Farnham: Ashgate Publishing Limited.
12. MEA (2009), Address by Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon on BRICs in the New World Order, ORF Conference, [Online: web] Accessed on 19 April 2012 URL: <http://meaindia.nic.in/mystart.php?id=100514910>
13. Chellaney, Brahma (2010), “Asian Juggernaut: The Rise of China, India and Japan”, Harper Business Publications.
14. Serfaty, Simon (2011), “Moving into a Post-Western World”, The Washington Quarterly, 34:7-23.
15. Huntington, Samuel (1990), “The Lonely Super Power”, Foreign Affairs, <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/54797/samuel-p-huntington/the-lonely-superpower>.
16. [www.thehindu.com](http://www.thehindu.com), May4, 2020
17. [www.geopoliticalmonitor.com](http://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com) Aug24, 2020