

Nationalism in Pakistan: An Analysis of Ethnic Conflict in Baluchistan

Ishfaq Ahmad Wani and Zahid Sultan Magray

Doctoral Fellow, Central University of Kashmir

E-mail: ¹waniishfaq869@gmail.com, ²sultanmagray23@gmail.com

Abstract—*The world comprises of different nation-states which are composed of both homogeneous and heterogeneous population. The concept of nationalism becomes a site of contestation in heterogeneous societies. The countries having heterogeneous population have many ethnic groups within their periphery which have various demands and aspirations which comes into direct conflict with the very idea of national cohesiveness. When the state fails to accommodate these demands and aspirations of ethnic groups, these groups raise their voices which often turns into mass movement and sometimes into overt conflicts with state. In Pakistan various ethnic groups exist like Sindhis, Balochs, Pathans, Punjabi and Muhajirs etc. which are contesting the very idea majoritarian nationalism. The Balochistan movement of ethno-nationalism is attracting the national as well as international attention. This piece of work will provide the theoretical framework of ethno-nationalism in Pakistan and will also provide an insight about how majoritarian nationalism is challenged by Baloch ethnic movement.*