CHAPTER 12

EAST ASIAN STUDIES

Doctoral Theses

128. ANIL KUMAR Sino-Indian Relations : 1998-2010 : A Constructivis Approach. Supervisor : Dr. Janardan Sahu <u>Th 22505</u>

Abstract

The period 1998-2010 is a very important transitional phase in Sino-Indian relations. It saw many new trends. Their ties were no longer dominated by the traditional issues like Tibet or Sino-Pak nexus. Rather this period saw nuclearisation of South Asia and relative nuclear symmetry between India-China, as also US efforts to deploy its offshore balancing strategy in Asia to prevent a regional hegemon like China by developing strategic partnership with India. India led by right-wing party like the BJP, too expanded her foreign policy horizon by making strategic inroads East of Malacca. India's posture towards China was no longer that of sense of betrayal after her border clash of 1962. A nulcear-armed and economically fast growing India started showing some degree of confidence and boldness in its dealings with Beijing. China too underwent some major changes in this period. In 1997 the "third generation" of communist leaders was in a position to exercise their political powers on their own. They wanted China to discard her self-image of a victim of foreign invasions. Instead, they advocated China to assume great-power mentality. Now China tried to start a deeper engagement with India by strengthening diplomatic, economic, defense and cultural ties. This period also saw the institutionalized cooperation between the two countries. However, traditional security issues continued to persists. My work applies constructivist framework to explain these new trends in India-China relations between 1998 and 2010. It argues that the main impetus for these new changes in India-China relations in this phase came not from any shift in the global balance of power as argued by Neorealists, rather these changes can be traced to sub-systemic factors like the new great power identity projected by the new ruling elites that came to power in India and China in late 1990s.

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129. TESHU SINGH

China and the Geo Politics of the Indian Ocean : Implications for Regional Security.

Supervisors : Prof. Madhu Bhalla and Dr. Sonika Gupta $\underline{\mathrm{Th}\;22400}$

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1. Introduction 2. A critical examination of theories of Geopolitics and their relevance to an understanding the Indian Ocean Region 3. Evolving geopolitics in the Indian Ocean Region 4. Mapping the Indian Ocean Region : Small, Big and External Players 5. Regional Cooperation and National Interest-squaring the circle of the Indian Ocean Region Cooperation 6. Conclusion. Bibliography.