

# Indian Meddling in Nepal's Political and Administrative Activities

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**Abstract:** The objectives of this paper are to emphasize India's micromanagement in Nepal's internal affairs and examine the roots of such a situation. To achieve the purpose of examining Indian micromanagement in Nepal, the author used descriptive and analytical methods of inquiry. To further authenticate facts and numbers, key informant interviews were conducted with individuals from academia, politics, and civil society to produce KII criteria. Through this study, the author revealed that India lags behind Nepal in terms of micromanagement. Nepal-India ties have been defined by geolocation, an open border, socio-cultural connection, linguistic proximity, public diplomacy, and more than India's engagement in every political movement. Although India does not advocate for democracy in Nepal, the country's government and administration do. Nepal is forced to accept unilaterally beneficial accords such as Tanakpur (Mahakali), Koshi, Gandaki, and others in order to acquire this chance. Since the 12-point agreement made prior to the issue of the present constitution by the Maoists and the SPA, Indian micromanagement has devastated Nepal's politics and governance. India is meddling in Nepal under the guise of professing to be a democracy, but its involvement in Nepal has vested meaning. i.e., cozy politics and administration, because it promotes numerous political and non-political components that are strongly opposed by one sector of Nepali society, whilst democratic blocks see Indian engagement in Nepal with suspicion. The author identified the causes of India's micromanagement as well as Nepal's politics and administration in this circumstance.

**Keywords:** Nepal-India Relations, Micromanagement, Geo-Location, Public Diplomacy, Treaties, People to People Relation, Democracy, Internal Affairs

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## 1. Introduction

This study (2006-2022) on "India's micromanagement in Nepal's internal affairs" focused on Indian undue impacts in Nepali politics and administration. Because of India's involvement in facilitating the implementation of the 12-point accord reached between the Seven Party Alliance (SPA) and rebel Maoists, Indian influences in Nepal's political and administrative sectors have unexpectedly increased, which could be due to political turmoil or our failure to handle our own political crisis. In reality at all, the agreement caused quite a stir shortly after the CPN Maoist emerged as the largest party in Constituent Assembly I and made Prachanda headed government. As previously said by PM Manmohan Adhikari as a sitting PM, Maoist leader Prachanda has also stated that the 1950s pact should be annulled due to changed circumstances [23]. However, it later appeared to be just vote

politics and sentimental politics, as seen by Prime Minister Babu Ram Bhattarai's signing of the Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPPA) on April 4, 2012. Evaluating such dilemma, a vast segment of the Nepali society viewed India's role in Nepal's political upheaval as Indian assistant, while certain fractions and extremist forces resisted and raised anti-Indian sentiment among Nepali youngsters.

The twelve-point agreement reached with Indian facilitation between the Seven Party Alliance (SPA) and opposing Maoists gave India space for micromanagement in Nepal because it was Indian perusing that India is necessary for any political or administrative change in Nepal and that it is hindering in Nepal. India influenced the demise of the Constituent Assembly I (2008), frequent government changes, India's discontentment in Nepal's present constitution (2015), an informal blockade in 2015, a cartographic war between

Nepal and India (2020), and other happenings.

## 2. Statement of the Problem

India is delighted of its involvement in bringing about political change, i.e., democracy, in Nepal, and claims to be acting in accordance with Nepalese people's desires, but it wants its own government to make such reforms. With the change of government in Nepal, India wants first state visit by new PM in India, Nepalese commitment to the fact that no use of Nepali territory against Indian security, as well as Chinese authorities adhering to the same version of one China policy. In such a key geopolitical context, how Nepal-India ties are seen by academics, analysts, civil society activists, politicians, and diplomats, with a special emphasis on India's micromanagement, is crucial.

## 3. Objectives of the Study

The study's overarching goal is to examine Indian meddling interest in Nepal ties since 2006.

The following are the research's precise objectives:

- a) To findout events of Indian micromanagement in Nepal.
- b) To analyze the causes of India's micromanagement in Nepali politics and administration.

## 4. Theoretical Review

Geographically, Nepal is located in the heart of Asia, wedged by two advanced technical superpowers, China to the north and India to the east, west, and south, with a population of over 1.40 billion people with leading infrastructure and nuclear power. The relationship between Nepal and India is shaped by centuries-old social, cultural, historical, and geographical ties. Similarly, due to Nepal's larger geophysical exposure to the south, India has become an oppressive neighbor, impacting its political movements and administrative activity. India declares overtly that it encourages democratic governance in Nepal, while it covertly promotes its preferred government and administration. Based on IR theory, this analysis revealed the following generalizations in this dual India policy.

### 4.1. Theories on Democratization

According to Acharya [1], the relationship between democracy and international relations in Asia remains one of the least understood themes, particularly when compared to other drivers of Asia's regional order, such as power balance, economy, interdependence, or regional institutions. Comparative politics scholars studying Asian democracy have concentrated more on the local context and causes supporting democratic transitions than on their external underpinnings. The gaps uncovered in both types of studies investigate the two-way interaction between democracy and international affairs. The first component of the equation examines how and to what extent international and regional variables have influenced Asian democratization prospects.

On the other hand, too many democratic countries have an impact on the possibilities of regional international relations.

The author [1] also claimed that for much of the Cold War, the United States' position toward democratization in formally allied countries such as South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and the Philippines was ambiguous at best. In the Philippines, the US played a minor part in removing Marcos' administration, which occurred late in the people's power revolt. The same can be said of the United States' participation in the demise of non-aligned authoritarian governments like Suharto's in Indonesia. Overall, the US has been apathetic toward democratic transitions and, in many cases, has directly or indirectly assisted to the continuation of authoritarian rule (p. 6). Democratic principles may have a greater impact on the foreign policy of South Asia's immediate neighbors. The author [1] stated:

There is no way to measure the impact of domestic norms in Asia's democratic states or the foreign policy action of older democracies like Japan and India at this time, but India's behavior toward its neighbors is argueable (p. 7).

Rasler and William [16] proposed that democratic peace theories strive to explain the disproven empirical fact that two constitutional democracies have never gone to war with each other since 1816. As a result, they rely on a similar hypothesis to demonstrate the reality of democratic peace theories: that relations between democratic state pairings are fundamentally more peaceful than contacts between other regime kinds (i.e., democratic vs non-democratic or non-democratic versus non-democratic). For example, Michael Doyle has attempted to establish a causal relationship between the independent variable "democratic political structures and the unit level" and the dependent variable "the asserted absence of war between democratic states."

International relations through democratization of adjacent and other nations are similarly bogus, as Smith's argument demonstrates, as does American support for the military regimes of Argentina, Chile, and Brazil. However, Lere [12], opined that for a long time, liberal democratic theology has been at the core of intellectual and political debate. Individual freedom is not negotiable and the rule of law is unchangeable under liberal democratic ideology, which sets a higher priority on it than states' among governments'. International market forces, which are the major restraints of state at both the local and international levels, are also given a premium. Scholars and statesmen such as Norman Angel, Michael Doyle, Charles Beitz, Francis Fukuyama, David Held, Woodrow Wilson, Stanley Hoffman, Immanuel Kant, and Richard Rosecrance place a greater emphasis on democratic economic interdependence and international legal regulation of security and economic issues via international organizations (IOs). According to Hoffmann [7], democracy and world politics are inextricably linked since the interaction between the two is multifaceted. A variety of schools of thought can be identified at the conceptual level. These schools cover the fundamental debates over liberal and interpersonal notions of democracy, representative and participative models of democracy, institutional and

parliamentary models of democracy, and the role of nation states as "borders" of regions where democracy can or should flourish. In international politics, these disputes are connected with concerns of authority and legitimacy.

International reactions, according to Chung [3], are international intergroup relations that reflect democracies as domestic intergroup politics. Because liberal, socialist, and rationalist democracies are for all people, they are capable of generating cooperative international orders for all states within their individual democracies. Liberal democracy, for example, can establish a cooperative liberal international order for all liberal democratic nations. Because elite democracy and nationalist democracy are not for everyone and are hostile to foreigners, they can only produce competitive international relations as competitive realism. Proper international relations and liberal democracy can keep the peace and prosperity.

The Arab-spring (2011) have clearly shown that the international community is working in course of demoralization of traditional authorities through out the world [10]. According to Kane [11], the growing popularity of democratic peace theory poses a severe challenge to US foreign policy and, by extension, global stability and peace. More than just a side issue in international relations, democratic peace theory appears to be an important focus for articulating and choosing the best course of action for US foreign policy. As the author asserted that the foreign policy/relation of international political agents (nation-states) can foster if there is democratic rule in the nations with whom one wants to maintain relations with another. However, it does not reveal the international community's vested interest in the fragile politics of a weak country in the name of democracy; that aspect is revealed by the author of this piece.

#### 4.2. *Empirical Review*

Nepal-India links are as old as Aryan culture and may be justified by numerous scholars' publications [4]. According to Kalim Bahadur and Lama [12], "the relations between two nations have been religious, cultural, linguistic, and racial threads that have been unique, set as they are by the long history of the subcontinent and woven into a fabric thread." No two countries share as many similarities in terms of people and traditional interactions as India and Nepal. The 1950 treaty between Nepal and India allowed India ample room to micromanage Nepal. The treaty brought Nepal under India's security umbrella, as proven by the fact that India sent a military mission to Nepal in 1952 to deploy checkpoints along the Nepal-China border. The mission and checkpoints were later withdrawn, except paramilitary force of Kalapani, in the late 1960s, as Nepal's sovereign status was called into question [5]. Rose (1971) [18] made the following claim in this regard:

India encourages special connections with Nepal as a result of its backing for the 1951 political shift. The author has characterized Nepal-India relations during a particular age as Nepal as the midwife of India's Rose.

The Royal Coup of January 2, 1960, was carried out by other forces rather than King Mahendra because Prime Minister B. P. Koirala's growing popularity was a major source of concern in India. The recognition of Israel by Nepal, as well as Marshal Tito's views on B. P. Koirala as Asia's rising star, resulted from India's displeasure, which led to the king's authority in Nepal [14]. Similarly, Nepal's procurement of Chinese weapons in 1988 resulted in an 18-month blockade of Nepal-India relations. India was also crucial in the political changes of the 1990s. India attempted micromanagement in Nepal as well.

India considered King Gyanendra's royal actions by means of the patient wait and see method in the hope of using Gyanendra in Indian interests in Nepal, but when it noticed King Gyanendra's completely opposite role, India placed up the environment for a twelve-point consensus between the Seven Party Alliance and in rebellion Maoists, who had a vested interest in taking revenge on King Gyanendra because he had tilted towards China and used Chinese cards contrary to India (Indian blame). The constituent Assembly election held on April 10, 2008, highlights the inadequacy of New Delhi's micromanagement tactics in Nepal, while the 12-point accord, which was held in India, was the product of the Nepali democratic process backed by India [20]. In this regard, Singh [20] views:

Interestingly, Man Mohan Singh's National Security Advisor, M. K. Narayan, had provided a certificate of permission that India was lending a helping hand to the campaigns of the Nepali Congress and the CPN (UML), which was later found to be not only inappropriate but also imprudent (p. 233).

Moreover, Prime Minister Prachanda's state visit to China was sooner than in India and caused quite a fuss in India because the custom of state visits by newly elected or chosen PMs was first in India and abroad in terms of state visits right after government changes in Nepal. Prachanda criticized our narrow-minded friends for the problem [26]. The Maoists' relationship with India has also worsened [24].

After Prachanda's administration tumbled, Madav Kumar Nepal, the leader of the CPN (UML), appointed Prime Minister, which was assaulted as a pro-Indian (Kathaputali/Puppet) government; however, after his fall, Jhal Nath Khanal's government emerged organically. India did not welcome the Khanal government and did not request a state visit. Making the fall of this government, it is referring to UCPN (Maoist) leader Babu Ram Bhattarai's pro-Indian government, which signed the Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPPA) and wanted to hand over security of Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA) to India, which has been seen as a threat to Nepal's national security and sovereignty. Given Nepal's geographical location on the Indian subcontinent, it is typical for strong powers to exert influence in their periphery. Such so-called whims of influence are not facts; rather, our leaders' visions are more accountable for welcoming India into Nepali politics and administration.

According to an article published on May 10, 2010 in

Gorkhapatra Daily by Nepali hydropower specialist Mr. Ratnasansar Shrestha, India planned to invest in Nepal's hydropower sector, but it was delayed owing to security concerns. But where are DPR and the Mahakali Treaty implementation? We should make every effort to lessen our reliance on India. When discussing Nepal-India ties, we should consider both national interest and national ideology [6].

In this context, Pradhan [16] claimed that the election government formed by the consensus of four major parties under the chairmanship of Chief Justice Mr. Khil Raj Regmi was additionally criticized as a pro-Indian grand scheme, and later, CIAA chief Lokman Singh Karki's controversial selection was also seen as advantageous for India. The succession of state visits to India by Nepalese top officials during the Mass Uprising II of 2006 reveals that perhaps Nepalese political actors are significantly influenced by India or they believe it is difficult to keep power without India's endorsement.

Over half of Nepalis oppose India, and a considerable proportion of the population despises Indians. One of the reasons is the Indian government's encroachment on Nepal's borders. India's detrimental involvement in Nepali politics and elected officials, India's unethical control over Nepalese territory, the two countries' uneven water and energy sharing agreements, and India's assert to the birthplace of Buddha are all depicted in film, television, novels, magazines, the internet, and real life, most notably in Indians' serious bigotry towards Nepalese.

In reality, not a single country or nation loves an assault or invasion of another country or nation. Nepali is a brave and valiant people with their own distinct identities and a long tradition of struggle and triumph; they are not a slave nation; how could they endure India's condescending attitude? India's problem is that it cannot exist without meddling in the domestic affairs of its neighbors. From Sri Lanka to Nepal, Pakistan to Bangladesh, and the Maldives to China, every neighboring country is suffering as a result of Indian intervention. India-Pakistan border clashes, Kashmir invasion, 2019 Pakistan is the most vulnerable target of Indian meddling, as India unlawfully aids criminals and terrorists in the Pakistani province of Sindh, and other provinces.

The ultimate blockade was imposed in September 2015 by the BJP terror machine led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and it continues to haunt Nepali victims' thoughts. The Nepali leaders who currently govern the country have certainly urged Indian forced mediation in the form of the much-touted 12-point agreement calculatedly intended by the third-class feeling inferior complex-ridden ambassador Shyam Sharan and his close companions in Kathmandu's political loop, who, under the guise of the said Delhi agreement, not only supplied Nepali Maoists to Kathmandu but also obtained their overpowering entrance into Nepal's political system. And this was probably the best and noblest way for them to administer Nepal through their hired and NOIDA-sheltered operatives. Pundit Nehru's desires have been granted.

Indian foreign policy with South Asian countries is predicated on interfering in accordance with its interests [8]. India's relations with Afghanistan and Bangladesh have remained solidly strong, but relations with the other South Asian countries represented in the May 26 ceremony have not fared as well. The bilateral relationship with Sri Lanka had seen its fair share of ups and downs, as well as brief periods of calm, and the latest thorn in India's side was Mahindra Raja Pakse's meeting with Modi in New Delhi. It may be recalled that the former president had blamed India for intervening in Colombo's affairs in the run-up to the 2015 presidential election, in which Sri Lanka ousted him and elected the less China-friendly Maitripala Sirisena instead. It demonstrates that India has a direct stake in the political changes of South Asian countries, and Nepal is not immune to its vested foreign policy [8].

General Bipin Rawat stated in September 2015 that Nepal and Bhutan could not separate from India owing to geography and warned countries against Chinese aid. During a press conference, Army Chief General Bipin Rawat stated that the assistance from China is only temporary. At the BIMSTIC-MILEX 18 (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Ways of Cooperation, Field Training Military Exercise) closing ceremony. However, Nepal refused to participate in this training, believing that India had a vested interest in the project.

India's strong opposition to Nepal's constitution proclamation demonstrates evident Indian meddling in the country. Under the guise of disgruntled Terai-based political groups, India initiated an unofficial embargo, and India has yet to accept the Nepalese constitution, which was promulgated on September 20, 2015. Instead, it has handed Nepal an unofficial seven-point constitution change proposal. Indian worries include Nepali political autonomy, and Indian micromanagement of Nepal has been difficult due to China's serious involvement with Nepal and its growth areas. All previous literature has demonstrated that India is present in Nepal through micro-management perspectives, but it is unknown how and to what extent India is active in Nepali administration and politics, as the author revealed via this study.

#### **4.3. Research Gap**

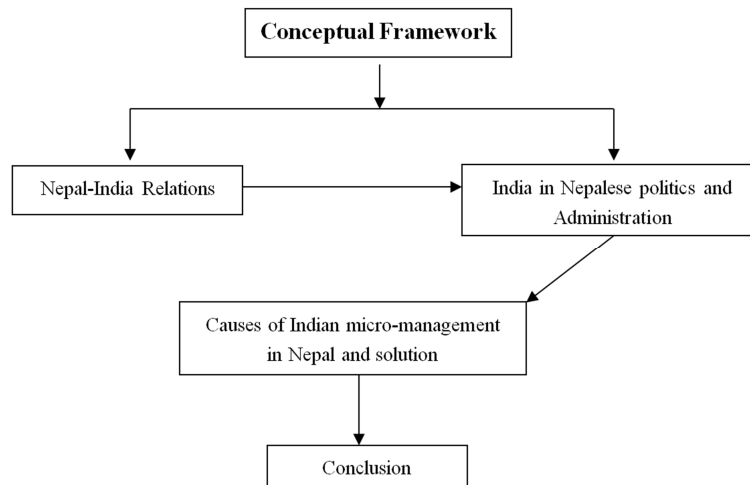
Nepal-India ties are unique, yet India has been infiltrating Nepal's political and administrative sectors for the past 70 years in the name of democratization of Nepal. But various pieces of literature reviewed above are ambiguous about Indian micromanagement in Nepal. As a result, the focus of this study has been on fact- and figure-based Indian micromanagement in Nepal.

#### **4.4. Conceptual Framework**

This study is mostly concerned with Indian micromanagement in Nepali politics and government. Political and administrative variables are investigated using extant theoretical and imperial literature, and KII is used for

further justification. Actually, the focus has been on Nepal-India relations, the Indian role in Nepalese politics and

administration, and their core causes, as well as their respective solutions and future directions.



**Figure 1.** Conceptual Framework.

## 5. Methodology of the Study

Data collection, analysis, and evaluation are all part of political science study. Because the study primarily deals with Nepal-India ties and Indian oversight in Nepali government and politics, perspectives for advancement in methodology have been gained through descriptive, analytical, and empirical research. Because of the nature of the topic, a historical approach to research is required for the construction of methodology. The historical approach to research allows us to comprehend and access past events, key political and administrative events, and their effects on relationships. Furthermore, the study is interested in gathering some empirical data. It is recommended to conduct interviews with specialists on Nepal-India ties for this purpose. It incorporates information gathered from various literature evaluations, such as books, articles, journals, research papers, online sources, magazines, newspapers, and so on. It also comprises an examination of pertinent study reports, research reports, joint communiqués, and commission reports submitted to the Nepal Government. The reviews are organized into chapters based on their importance. The primary source of data derived from interviews is the key informant guideline. Interviews with diplomats, professors, civil society members, political science professionals, and political figures who have a direct or indirect role in influencing Nepal-India relations. Following an appointment, the participants were interviewed.

The interview was conducted in an informal manner. A set of guidelines for conducting interviews. During the interview, two basic strategies were used: First, the interview guideline was utilized to direct the discussion toward the major topic of political and administrative ups and downs, as well as Nepal-India ties. Second, cross-questionnaires were asked to draw tangible facts focused on India's micromanagement in Nepali politics and administration based on responses to specific

questions. The information, facts, numbers, and knowledge gathered from primary and secondary data sources are categorized under the relevant themes, such as "Development of Nepal-India Relations from the Distant Past to the Second Mass Uprising" (2006). Nepal-India ties since 2006 are primarily examined in the appropriate chapters, with information, facts, and numbers derived from important information interviews. The main focus of this study has been on India's micromanagement viewpoints in Nepal between 2006 and 2022. Along with the efforts of Nepal's India policy's independent operation.

## 6. Findings

### 6.1. India After the Second Mass Movement, 2006

Since the 12-point accord, India has been anxious to assimilate dissident Maoists into the country's political mainstream. pleasantly, the Nepalese Maoists, who were previously against parliamentary government, came to participate in the system of parliamentary elections and showed equal seats (83/83) with the CPN (UML), as well as taking part in the constituent assembly election held in 2008. The United Communist group of Nepal (UCPN Maoist) was the most powerful political group in CA, and as a result, the Maoist leader, Puspa Kamal Dahal "Prachnada," became Nepal's prime minister. On September 14-18, 2008, he paid a state visit to India. Prachanda promised to implement drastic economic reforms in order to create a "New Nepal," but to India's chagrin, the Maoists began strengthening connections with China at the expense of New Delhi. In 2008, the CA overturned a 239-year-old ancient monarchical institution by declaring the country a Federal Republic.

According to KI Bijukchhe, India employed the UCPN Maoists as a Trojan horse to terminate Nepal's nationalist power, namely the monarchy and true communist forces. The Indian interpretation on the Royal Palace as the heart of

Chinese influence in Nepal was also completed successfully. According to Thapa [23], Nepal has undergone a series of remarkable changes, including the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), which ended 11 years of violent conflict, the rise of the Maoists to power in 2008, the abolition of the Monarchy, the unexpected end of armed conflict, and the declaration of Nepal as a federal democratic republic. As a result of these changes, Nepal's relationship with its powerful neighbors, India and China, has taken on new aspects. In the connection of that, Thapa [23] writes:

However, India became more worried when Prime Minister Puspa Kamal Dahal Prachanda attempted to seize power with the help of the Army. It was anticipated that he would sign a contract with China that would contravene Nepal's 1950 Peace and Friendship contract with India, which was basically a security compact between India and Nepal. India has no alternative but to assist the Nepalese Army and opposition parties in their efforts to protect the country's democratic system.

Dahal resigned as a result of this action in May 2009. When Prime Minister Prachanda visited India in September 2008, he promised of a fresh start in the two countries' relationship. "I am returning to Nepal as a delighted person," he said. I will inform Nepalis back home that a new administration has been formed, and I assure you that we are committed to a new beginning." During his journey, he met Indian Prime Minister Man Mohan Singh and Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee. He asked India to assist Nepal in creating a new constitution. Actually, it was his blunder since; he formally referred to India in the Nepali constitution-making process, comparing our responsibilities to pounded metal grain.

With Prachanda's departure, CPN (UML) leader Madav Kumar Nepal was appointed Prime Minister, and Prime Minister Madav Kumar Nepal declared on May 25, 2009, that he would strengthen relationships with India, which had been severely damaged during the Maoist regime's nine-month rule. Prachanda and his India baiters exchanged handshakes, attempting to strike a balance between China and India. Beijing has gained influence in Nepal with the help of the Maoists. Madav Kumar Nepal has started the peace process, which was centered on Maoist engagement and constitution writing. The UCPN Maoists, on the other hand, strongly denounced Madav Kumar Nepal's administration as Kathaputali Sarkar. Mr. Nepal visited India from August 18 to August 22, 2009.

Leaders have consistently pledged Indian intervention in Nepalese politics. UCPN Maoist Party Chairman Puspa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' declared that "foreign forces," not the Nepali Congress and communist groups CPN (UML), were the largest hindrance to the implementation of a three-point strategy. Prachanda was clearly indicating to India that Nepal's Maoists are now extremely irritable, charging it of dabbling in domestic issues and attempting to declare the peace process dead. He also accused Nepal's ruling parties of being pawns of the Indian ruling elite. Former Indian

ambassador and foreign secretary Lalit Man Singh, however, denied the allegations. "India's role had been very constructive, but it was behind the scenes," he explained. And this is still the government's policy: don't be too invasive since we know the sensitivities involved and all that. Dr. Ram Baran Yadav, Nepal's first president, paid a state visit to India from January 27 to February 5, 2011, following the country's long history of high-level exchange visits. On October 20-23, 2011, Prime Minister Dr. Baburam Bhattarai completed another visit to India.

CA I failed in May 2012 due to Prime Minister Dr. Baburam Bhattarai's failure to put it on the correct track. With the election of Baburam Bhattarai as Nepal's new prime minister, the political fulcrum is now swinging back to where it should have been all along, with Madhesi parties comprising the other components. Although Dr. Bhattarai has emphasized that building a national government with the backing of all major parties is a priority, the unified Maoist-Leninists and the Nepali Congress are not part of the new setup. Mr. Bhattarai's election gave Nepal with a new opportunity to fulfill its relationship with destiny (<http://www.revolvvy.com>). It implies that India had great aspirations for Baburam Bhattarai to be exploited in the service of Indian vested interests, i.e., an Indian-flavored constitution and political system infiltrating Nepal through CAI. Nepal, according to Prime Minister Bhattarai, is undergoing a massive political transformation. For nearly 60 years, we struggled against feudal despotism and monarchy, as well as for broad socioeconomic development. Our movement was both peaceful and aggressive at times. Finally, the major political groups, including the Maoist UCPN and mainstream parliamentary parties, decided in 2006 to remove the king and institutionalize democracy via the CA. We were effective in overthrowing the monarchy and bringing in a new era of democracy in Nepal. We are currently institutionalizing the CA's triumphs, which will be followed by socioeconomic revolution and federal state reform. We accomplished the specific task of army integration and other peace process elements outlined in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) signed in November 2006.

## 6.2. Some Insights into Indian Micromanagement in Nepal

- a) In the event that the Army general is fired, Prime Minister Prachanda's government will fall within nine months of its formation.
- b) After defeating Prachanda's administration, CPN (UML) leader Madav Kumar becomes Nepal's government.
- c) Not to invite Prime Minister Jhal Nath Khanal on a state visit, as India did before the change in administration.
- d) Formation of Dr. Baburam Bhattarai's government and successful negotiation of the Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPPA).
- e) Making him ready to take over Tribhuvan International Airport security to India.

- f) Interference in the process of creating a constitution.
- g) Formation and extension of regional and ethnic political organizations, particularly Terai-based political parties.
- h) India's foreign secretary, Jay Shankar, visited Nepal and encouraged the Nepali leadership to postpone the proclamation of the monarchy. In the event of the dismissing of the Army general, Prime Minister Prachanda's government fell within nine months of its creation.
- i) By defeating Prachanda's government, CPN (UML) leader Madav Kumar forms Nepal's government.
- j) Not to invite Prime Minister Jhal Nath Khanal on a state visit, as India was before the change in administration.
- k) Formation of Dr. Baburam Bhattarai's government and successful negotiation of the Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPPA).
- l) Making him ready to hand over Tribhuvan International Airport security to India.
- m) Interference in the process of creating a constitution.
- n) Formation and expansion of regional and ethnic political organizations, particularly Terai-based political parties.
- o) Earlier this week, India's foreign secretary, Jay Shankar, visited Nepal and encouraged the Nepali leadership to postpone the proclamation of the new constitution for a few days.
- p) The objective of India's pro-democracy political activism is clear [9].
- q) Indian dissatisfaction with the issuance of the Constitution in 2015 unofficial economic boycott of India against Nepal following the independently issued constitution agitation of Madhesh-based parties in a no-man's land between Nepal and India's borders, and Indian support for them in the form of shelter, food, and political back-up.
- r) Roy (2015) [19] states that the following seven amendments were proposed by India:
  - 1) The creation of electoral constitutions based on population proportions.
  - 2) The right to participate in governmental structures based on proportional inclusion principles.
  - 3) Allowing citizens by descent or naturalization to run for and hold all key political positions, including president, vice-president, prime minister, chief justice, speaker of parliament, chairperson of the national assembly, head of province, chief minister, speaker of the provincial assembly, and chief of security bodies.
  - 4) Proportional representation in the National Assembly based on province population.
  - 5) The division of federal states.
  - 6) Delineation of electoral districts every ten years and
  - 7) Automatic acquisition of naturalized citizenship upon application. The crafting of electoral constitutions in proportion of the population.

As stated by Bhattarai [2], after the blockade, Indian influence in Nepal's domestic politics has been less visible, and there are speculations that Indian policy toward Nepal has altered. However, Narayan Kaji Shrestha, senior leader of the ruling Nepal Communist Party (NCP) and former foreign minister, believes that reaching a judgement is premature. India's meddling in Nepal's internal affairs has now been curtailed, but we must wait to see if India's Nepal policy has changed post-blockade."

While India has strongly backed numerous democratic initiatives in Nepal, it has recently obstructed independent debate on constitutional clauses ousted by the CA in 2015, culminating in an Indian blockade. During his March 20-27 visit to China, Prime Minister K. P. Oli inked a transit treaty with China. However, it created a major headache for India. PM Oli frequently visited India to clear Indian suspects. However, on June 12, 2016, Maoist leader Prachanda announced his withdrawal from the KP Oli administration, which came as no surprise. KP Oli condemned his government's nationalist approach for being despised by India, which pushed Nepal-India relations toward growing anti-Indian sentiment in Nepal. Actually, Nepali President Mrs. Vidhya Devi Bhandari's planned India visit was canceled at the last minute due to Prime Minister KP Oli's India policy. One of the main reasons for the cancellation was India's alleged attempts to replace Oli with another leader, Prachanda.

The Nepali Congress and the Maoist Center negotiated an arrangement in which Prachanda served as Prime Minister for the first few months and Sher Bahadur Deuba of the Nepali Congress (NC) oversaw electoral administration. He travelled to India after leaving office as Prime Minister. Both countries maintained their top-level visits in order to succeed in their efforts to build a mutually beneficial and lasting cooperation. After losing in the general election on November 26, 2017, the CPN Alliance emerged as the most powerful political party in the federal cabinet, with a substantial majority. KP Oli, a staunch ally of China, was elected Prime Minister. He visited India and China, focusing on significant economic development in Nepal with the help of both nations, and he is working hard to achieve balanced Nepal and China-India ties with reciprocal foundation.

It means that India is unsatisfied with the present constitution's promulgation and that India has a strong interest in keeping political control over Nepal. Nepal's independent political initiatives irritate India. KP Oli went on to remark that focusing on the current interest while failing to appreciate the entire long-standing relationship would be inappropriate. Nobody should compromise the greater relationship by becoming concerned in little matters.

In this enticing environment, a new constitution for federal Nepal was issued. "We take note of the promulgation of the new federal constitution of Nepal," India's Ministry of External Affairs stated in a statement. It went on to note that India was concerned about the violent situation in many parts of the country that border Indian states. India also extended its warmest wishes to the people of Nepal. Following that,

the MFA expressed grave concern regarding violent acts that caused in death and injury in Nepal's regimes bordering India. Oli stressed that Nepal's new constitution has the support of 85% of CA members, which in a democracy is unthinkable.

Madhesh-based political parties and Tharu community people headed out of the CA, stating that their demands were not incorporated in the new document. India is ready for the Nepalese government to use affirmative action to realize the dreams of the plains people, particularly the Madhesi and Janajati. When Indian Foreign Secretary S Jay Shankar visited Nepal last week, he requested that the new constitution be delayed for a few days in order to address the concerns of various agitating groups. In answer to Mr. Jaishankar's question, Oli stated that the CA has broad representation from all sectors of society and that the constitution was drafted via democratic means. He went on to say that tiny groups were being formed.

During a bitter relations time between India and Nepal, when the sovereign Constituent Assembly issued the constitution, India imposed an unofficial economic blockade, highlighting anti-Indian sentiment in Nepal, but PM Oli and Nepali citizens faced the difficult task of protecting nationality, sovereignty, and independence, which were guaranteed by the 1950s Nepal-India peace and amity treaty. PM Oli went above and beyond by establishing the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) to conduct necessary investigations on the 1950 treaty, whether for repeal or amendment.

Nepal's location truly advantages India; transportation between the two nations is easier, cheaper, and well established. Because of their close cultural and social links, these two neighbors have a more extensive history. This could also explain India's fascination with the cat-and-mouse game. They are hoping that Nepal will be humble enough to submit. I'm probably hoping that the current recalcitrant KP Oli administration would fall under the weight of its own contradictions, allowing India to once again dictate terms [8]. However, India's purpose was thwarted due to the overwhelming support of the Nepali people for the Oli government.

Because India is a kind of Bade Bhai /older brother, it is frequently referred to as a "caring elder brother," as External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj stated in the Indian parliament. Regardless of the nomenclature employed or India's status as Nepal's only neighbor, Nepalese foreign policy has generally aligned with Indian goals. on terms of micromanagement, India has always had more influence on Nepal than China due to the overwhelming cultural similarities and historical linkages.

This influence, however, has frequently been seen as micromanaging Nepal's politics. Behind the curtain, the Nepal Army Chief Rukmangat Katuwal incident, Lok Man Singh Karki's nomination as CIAA Chief, the rise of Khil Raj Regmi, the chief judge, the election government chairman, and other notable cases of Indian micromanagement may be found.

In reality, the Indian Ambassador to Nepal is jokingly referred to as the "Governor of Nepal" in political circles and

regularly engages with Nepal's political leaders. Other sovereign countries do not always take this into account. After the Second Mass Movement, our political structure was thrown into disarray, and India began meddling in petty affairs as well. The defeat of CAI separated India much further from Nepali politics. When Indian dominance grew significantly, China yielded to Nepali communist forces, and Prime Minister Sushil Koirala received approval from Pakistan and other anti-Indian countries. Nepali politics have taken on a new tone since the constitution's adoption, and Prime Minister Oli is attempting to preserve independent and balanced relations with neighboring countries. [Teligraphnepal.com](http://Teligraphnepal.com) [22] writes:

Yet, the communist partnership Oli led government did not work as Prachanda explicitly said to the TV anchor on March 2, 2021, that "now it is time for Prime Minister Oli to be supplanted with a "new coalition" which includes his NCP faction, the Nepali Congress, and the Janata Samajwadi (JSP) that is "comfortable" for the Indian administration. Commenting on Prachanda's "comfortable" theory, Ram Bahadur Thapa Badal, the commander of his Delhi-based military wing, told an impressive gathering in Pokhara on March 1, 2021, that "Prachanda's Maoist war era" was all a calculated act of providing service to the Indian establishment at the expense of Nepal. Prachanda wishes to return Delhi for all it accomplished for him during his safe "hibernation" in New Delhi [22]. In this connection, [telegraphnepal.com](http://telegraphnepal.com) [20] further writes:

In fact, while he was in India, Delhi provided him state security on the condition that he "devastate and damage Nepal" in such a way that a completely devastated Nepal would never have been dependent on India. It is also true that the Indians devised, engineered, and executed.

## 7. Conclusions

India-Nepal Relations have gone through several fluctuations since the monarchy's demise. It is the role of political party leaders to strengthen international relations. Leaders must act wisely and objectively in order to develop bilateral partnerships. Although historical ties bind and evaluate every relationship, when the majority of the baggage is negative, leaders must break free from the previous perspective. Since British times, Nepal has been an ally of India, although it has its own foreign policy based on sovereignty, as opposed to the Bhutanese model, which India believed would meet Nepalese expectations. Nepal seeks to improve its bilateral relationship with India. Nepal's ability to realize its ambitions has surely driven it to strengthen ties with China, which views Nepal as a key ally for its own geopolitical goals. This suggests that, while people-to-people links have dominated India-Nepal relations, there is also a need to strengthen government-to-government ties. To attain a high level of cordiality, both countries must sensitively grasp each other's issues. Both countries should take a moderate approach to expressing unhappiness. For example, there is a need for both countries to understand the

importance of each other's support, not only to maintain regional stability but also to promote each other's interests globally. More importantly, Nepali authorities should rely on their own people to handle their own problems, and they should not involve India in any domestic concerns. Similarly, India should abandon its dual Nepal policy in practice and discontinue micromanagement efforts in Nepal as a result of so-called democratization in Nepal.

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