

*Get this from a library! Regionalism and national identity: Canada, India: interdisciplinary perspectives. [Mahendra Prasad Singh; Chandra Mohan:] -- Contributed articles on the causes and probable resolutions of recent inequities in political confederation and regional economic disparities.*

Multi-complexity in the definition of regional political party on the other and the term regional itself has a divers and un-comprehensive notion that used to sue in a loose sense. Focusing on this dimension it is attempting to explore the amicable approaches for enhancing the defined concept of regional political party. On the other the term regional political party is also used by different thinkers and political elites in different way. As no uniformity in the global concern it is very difficult to those interested in the study of regional political party. With this view, efforts are made to redefine the preconceiving ideas to be brought out an acceptable concept and definition. Regionalist parties are at once an exhilarating and difficult topic, with not too much in common. More or less in another encounter might be when it classifies in different categories. Besides, it is questionable that why such party has been made accentuation in the context of emerging trend of coalition politics and whether it stands against unity and integrity of the state as well. Minor party, Ad-hoc party, party mosaic, region, regionalism

**Prelude:** A number of regional political parties have come into existence throughout India and being considered utmost significant in the contemporary Indian politics. But many of them are in complex situation due to inconsistency of ideology and territorial base. Besides, number of regional political parties may have fluctuation from time to time as status of regional political parties and national political party is certainly based on their performance in the elections and achievement for the purpose by Election Commission of India. There is also no uniform pattern of politics in all the states where such regional political parties have appeared not only in India but other parts of the world, mostly in Western Europe. Hence any attempt to develop a theoretical framework in order to analyze regional parties is very difficult. A region, by defined, implies a large polity of which it is a part. Regional allegiance and aspirations can, therefore find articulation in the framework of wider polity. They may even acquire an autonomous or quasi- autonomous status within this framework. The concept of region is also one of the most confusion. For a long time it has been principal organizing concept in geographical work. However, owing to the ill-defined nature of the concept, there has never been a commonly accepted definition of Region, but some writers have been variously defined as: Vidal de la Blache "A domain where many dissimilar beings artificially brought together subsequently adopted themselves to a common existence. Harberston "A complex of land, water, air, plant, animal and man regarded in this special relationships a together constituting a definite, characteristic portion of the earth surface. Fenneman "An area characterized by similar surface features and which is contrasted by neighbouring areas. Platt "An area delineated on the basis of general homogeneity of land character and occupance. Young "A geographic area unified culturally, unified at first economically and later by consensus of thought, education, recreation etc. Its homogeneity determined by criteria formulated for the purpose of sorting from the whole range of earth phenomena the times required to express or illuminate a particular grouping, areally cohesive. So defined, a region is not an object, either self determined or nature-given. It is an intellectual concept, an entity for the purpose of thought, created by the selection of certain features that are relevant to an areal interest or problem and by disregard of all features that are considered to be irrelevant. The study of region was set in the focus of geographical interest on areal differentiation, or chorology, a Kantian Central theme of German Geography early in the century. Accurate, orderly, and rational description and interpretation of the variable character of the earth surface not only in terms of the differences in certain things from place to place, but also in terms of the total combination of phenomena in each place, different from those at every other place. Region has its characteristics possessing of location that all regions physically or culturally are often expressed in the regional name such as Middle East, South East Asia, and North Eastern Region etc. It has spatial extent, the homogeneous physical and

cultural attributes of the earth surface have spatial areal extent e. Latin America, Anglo America cover certain areas of earth surface. It has physical or cultural boundaries that language region in India, there is a line of demarcation between the Telugu, Tamil and Malayalam region in India. Similarly we find tribal and non tribal region in the different States in India. Regions boundaries are however, not like the Walled medieval city. It may have either formal or functional region. We may observe homogeneity of language, religion, ethnicity and lifestyle in certain areas such regions are treated as formal cultural region. Functional region is concerned the interactions and connections that give it a dynamic, organizational basis. Its boundaries remain constant only as long as interchanges establishing it remain unaltered. Generally, regions do not have sharp boundaries. In most of the cases their boundaries are transitional it means there is some overlapping of one phenomenon over the other. Socialist and Christian democrat parties, for example, seem to have considerably more in common across national frontiers; and nearly all are important or highly visible in their respective political system. Regional parties are disparate in the specificity of their demands. There is little in the way of a common economic policy or common view of the structure of society. Not all are linguistic base. All are rather small. The treatment of regional parties therefore must be rather different from that of other party genres. In short, a regional political party has a regional support base, a regional perspective and a regional issue orientation. Besides, many writers and political scientists have been treated state parties and regional parties in the same roof as Election Commission of India has been given political party criteria as National party, State Party, Registered-recognized party. In this connection, Hans Raj, Indian political scientist, has broadly categorized political party as National party, Regional party, Local and ad-hoc party. He meant regional party is one which has hold in a particular region. So, it is cleared that what popularly call regional party, local party and ad-hoc party is intellectual term on the basis of their characteristic features and activities and area of functions, moreover their aims and objectives. Theoretically, regional parties exist and function in a limited geographical area and represent the interest of the people of that region. Regional parties also represent particular linguistic, ethnic, cultural or regional groups of people. Their outlook is limited to the area they represent unlike the national or federal parties who have a broader or national perspective and are concerned with the interests of the entire country. Further the support or mass electoral base of regional party is limited to the region it represents and its interests. The Election Commission of India has 5 been mentioned the criteria or status of political parties, that political parties are registered with the Election Commission of India under the law. Political parties so registered with it are granted recognition at the State and National levels by the Election Commission of India on the basis of their poll performance at the general election according to prescribe by it. The conditions in clause a and b above shall not be deemed to have been fulfilled by a political party, if a member of the House of the people or the Legislative Assembly of the state becomes a member of that political party after his election to that House or, as the case may be, that Assembly. In fact, all the regional political parties are in the criteria of state party or simply registered party. Generally, regional political parties are confined in the state or states concerns, or sometimes, spread their functional area to neighbour states where the homogeneity of culture, language, identity exists. Sometimes, it get confuse, whether the party is regional or state party as political leaders treat as the same, as yet, today no theoretical concept of regional political party or local party is made clearly. Actually, regional political party has its different aims 6 and objectives, hardly emphasis on regional which means in that concern state for the fulfillment of regional aspirations. Such parties, commonly, have no aim to upgrade on the status of National party. The term regional political party is used with considerable looseness as an omnibus designation for all manner of political formation. In so far as the character of a party is determined by the number of States in which it has some electoral support and the percentage of votes it polls in the State Assembly and Lok Sabha election, an element of instability is introduced. A national party may over time, into a state party and mutatis mutandis, a regional or state party may spread out and may get promoted to the status of National party. It represents the interest of particular ethnic or cultural groups which are concentrated in a particular region. The activities of regional parties focus on specific issues, concerning the region. And they merely seek to capture

power at the regional level. In short Regional political party is an agency through which leaders of the state concern try to capture power by making more emphasis on regional and ethnic issues. At the national level some parties are secular and without any ideological commitment and others are ideological committed rightist and leftist. Then there are regional parties both communal and non communal. Some regional parties have their influence in a particular area. Then come ad-hoc and fringe parties which forms only on the eves of election and these are disappeared after the election unless they do achieved nothing. University of Warwick says in his analysis of Harbinger, Fossil or Fleabite? However, the European Universe of this analysis has been modified in three ways. First, events in Spain since the death of Franco have permitted the inclusion of the 7 country in analysis. Second, by taking the regional boundaries from institutional framework of the regime, the earlier analysis may have created undue large regions within which small, though interesting, parties may have been swamped. Applying these more flexible criteria provided universe of post parties spread across 17 Western European countries. Ibid In examining contests by region, one may anticipate three alternative patterns; parties one nationwide in their activity, contesting all seats everywhere; parties are imperfectly nationwide, nominating at least some candidate in all or nearly all regions; or parties are exclusive, restricting their activities to only one or few regions. In this connection, Western European party universe shows that more than two-thirds have contested elections on a nationwide basis, and most of the remainder does so imperfectly rather than regionally. The exception fall into two groups; those party that are conventionally regarded as autonomist and regionalist; and those small grouping that, because of their lack of resources and perhaps also the vagaries of electoral system have failed to establish themselves as nationwide movements. Back in time one might find similar parties that successfully turned themselves into nationwide parties. A Ad-hoc regional party: Such ad-hoc regional parties are born for their political advancement that is commonly formed on the eve of election or near election and such party is generally not long live and commonly formed by factional or dissident groups. Such party does not have long live and do not bother what ought to be achieved. It needs to mention, the existence of regional parties in terms of recognition and criteria to be considered as a regional party is deferred from country to country accordingly to their political system. B Identity base regional party: C Ethnic, culture base regional party. In this case such party is by and large base on ethnic culture and linguistic. Basic Features of Regional party: Regional political party must, naturally, be the territorial differential. By its very nature, a regional party restricts its area of action to a single region which, in the prevailing Indian situation, means a state. A party which extends its organizational network and electoral concerns over more States than one becomes cross-regional and in proportion to its territorial extension, its regional commitment gets diluted since it may have to sort out the conflicting interests of its various state units. At times and particularly in respect of electorally sensitive area-specific issues, every party is prone to swim with the regional tide. Now it is upgraded to the status of National party. II Some regional political party articulates and seeks to defend a regionally based ethnic or religio-cultural identity.

In Canada, regional identities were formed after Europeans settled across the continent among distinct First Nations tribes. Today, regionalism is expressed in various provincial identities, in our economy, and in the daily textures of life in different parts of the land. First Nations and Early Settlers The phrase "Canadian regionalism" refers broadly to the vitality of regional differences within Canada. But it also refers to tensions between national and local economic, institutional and emotional attachments. Regionalism is an inescapable part of society, economy and politics in Canada. Before European arrival, the land of Canada was occupied by many distinct First Nations tribes. When Europeans began arriving in the early s, they settled first on the East coast and then moved west, restricted in the north by the tundra and in the south by American expansion. Some European settlers arrived early in the 17th century when a few fishermen were left behind in rockbound Newfoundland harbours. At the same time, Acadian settlers occupied the marshlands of the Bay of Fundy , and French settlers began to farm the narrow borders of arable land along the St. Much later, Irish, Scots and English " propelled by Highland clearances, Irish famine or the technological and demographic changes of early 19th-century industrialization " filled up the southern Ontario peninsula and the fishing harbours, the lumber camps and the agricultural patches of Atlantic Canada see Immigration. The descendants of all these settlers soon faced a common predicament. The patches of settlement were small, their agricultural possibilities limited, and as numbers multiplied in these rural pre-industrial societies, there was soon a shortage of land. The pioneer fringe ran into rock. Until the end of the 19th century, there was no western safety valve, only the granitic Canadian Shield and other already settled patches of British America. Settling the West The surplus young faced the choice of striking north into rock and spruce or south into the United States. The Canadian Prairie was settled over a short generation before the First World War , by migrants from eastern Canada, emigrants directly from the British Isles, and by the late 19th- and early 20th-century peasant migration to America from central Europe. A wave of American settlement moving northward along the eastern flank of the Rockies added to the European population. There was no continuous, expansive Canadian experience with the land. One patch would fill up, then people would emigrate to a new area. Different patches were settled at different times by people of different backgrounds who depended on different technologies and economies. Central Canada and the Rest The Canadian economy also fuelled regionalism. The decision to create a Canadian market was implicit in Confederation and explicit in the National Policy that followed it. The rest of the country would consume the products made in the core, and would supply it with raw materials in return. Canadian settlements achieved a considerable economic integration. Resource-based primary industries were scattered across the land, and core and periphery were linked by growing commercial and financial networks. Economically, such integration encouraged sharp regional specialization, reflected, for example, in the Prairie wheat economy. Emotionally, it laid the basis for strikingly different regional perceptions of Canada. Those at the core tended to feel expansive about the country on which their economy relied and over which their institutions exerted much influence. French Canadians, who worked in the factories but did not own them, had little entrepreneurial enthusiasm for a transcontinental country and a good deal of cultural suspicion of it. But for most English speakers in the core, a British Canada that stretched from sea to sea would reinforce their traditions as it expanded their markets. On the other hand, those on the peripheries were suspicious of the core. Many saw that their local circumstances were controlled from the core, and felt they were subsidizing central Canada and absorbing the cost of Confederation. What was seen as a National Policy in central Canada, was interpreted by the Maritimes as Upper Canadian imperialism, and in the West as economic manipulation. Provincial Identities Regional identities are strikingly notable among provinces, and also within provinces for example, the distinctiveness of Cape Breton in Nova Scotia. The provinces " each with its own clear boundaries and constitutionally defined power " now tend to replace

local settlements, and also broader amorphous regions, as a means by which Canadians express their regional identity. Regional sentiment in the provinces arose while governments were assuming a larger role in Canadian life. Provincial governments have played a growing role in the national economy, and the provinces a growing role in Canadian feeling. Many activities once organized at different regional levels are now organized provincially. At the same time, federal power has increased as Ottawa has expanded its services and its economic presence. One result of the growth of provincial and federal governments is an increasingly polarized debate between national and more regional conceptions of Canada. The culture of a French-speaking, Roman Catholic people was once defended by the local community, by a variety of nationalistic societies, and above all by the Roman Catholic Church. For some, the clearest defence of francophone culture was a rural life and a high birthrate, and from this perspective the provincial government could do little more than encourage colonization. In recent times, however, government has assumed the defence of culture. The protection of the French language, a central element of the regional variety of Canada, has become a political issue dependent on different conceptions of federal and provincial responsibility. March 15, Natural Resources The economy is an even more pervasive source of federal-provincial conflict. The location of oil and coal fields, and other economic resources, have challenged economic assumptions held by Canadians for years. Federal political power resides in the core, and if the Constitution leaves ample opportunity for federal influence on resource policy, then the economic advantages of the peripheries can be compromised by the protective instincts of the core, which accounts for the aggressiveness of western provinces and Newfoundland over resource control. Coal Mine in the mountains, Alberta. Other Expressions of Regionalism Canadian regionalism is now most vigorously promoted by provincial politicians and is most stridently expressed in federal-provincial debate, but underneath this rhetoric lies the far more subtle regional texture of Canadian life. It is expressed in the distinctive landscapes of farm, village and city, across the breadth of Canada. It is expressed in different accents and different memories of different pasts. It is expressed in the ways of life associated with different resource-based economies in different physical settings. It is expressed in the relationships of towns to different hinterlands and to different positions in the urban system. And it is expressed most sensitively throughout Canadian painting and literature.

**Chapter 3 : Regionalism (politics) - Wikipedia**

*Regionalism and National Identity: Canada India: Interdisciplinary Perspectives [M. P. Singh, Chandra Mohan] on www.nxgvision.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Contributed articles on the causes and probable resolutions of recent inequities in political confederation and regional economic disparities.*

Definitions, Characteristics and Types of Regionalism Article shared by: Subject to contextual and conceptual variation, a region is generally conceived as a permanent and definite area. The concept of region varies with the criteria chosen for its demarcation. However the regional analysis pioneered by Walter Christaller has been increasingly appropriated by other social scientists. Before Christaller, regions were defined as natural systems created by topographical features. But Christaller defined them in terms of social relationships and organizational principles. Skinner extended the regional analysis to social and cultural phenomena. Regional analysis was further extended to new questions concerning kinship, religions, ethnicity, politics and class by considering questions of history and evolution; and by developing certain new principles of analysis. When dominant economic activities are considered as criteria we arrive at economic regions. And when purely cultural factors like language, religion, etc. All these concepts are based on the concept of areal homogeneity. Berry and Hankin have recognized three types of regions: The region in general sense in which the region is given a priority. A homogeneous or uniform region—This is defined as an area—Regionalism has been interpreted as extreme loyalty or love to a particular region which may undermine the interest of the nation or the state of which the region is a part. Regionalism is something which remains to be realized and further developed, as well as a phenomenon which has already appeared and taken form. In one sense, and perhaps the best one, regionalism is a way of life, it is a self-conscious process. Economic social and cultural organisations are analyzed in terms of their interrelationships and functions within the geographic region. From the positive angle regionalism embodies a quest for self-identity and self-fulfillment on the part of the domiciles of a region. It is mostly believed that deprivation is purposefully inflicted by the powers. Regionalism is a psychic phenomenon. It is built around as an expression of group identity, as well as loyalty to the region. It prohibits people from other regions to be benefitted by a particular region. Though the typology of regionalism is an overlapping concept, a state is widely accepted as a unit for evolving the types of regionalism. Three main types of regionalism may be conceived on that basis. First type of regionalism may be designated as supra-state regionalism which is an expression of group identity of several states. In this type of regionalism, the group of states join hands to take common stand on the issue of mutual interest vis-a-vis another group of states or at times against the union. The group identity thus forged is negative in character and based on specific issue or issues. It is not an instance of permanent merger of state identities in the collective identity. Even at times inter-group rivalries, tensions, and conflicts may tend to persist, simultaneously along with their cooperation. North Eastern states in India may be said to have possessed the supra-state regionalism. The Second type of regionalism may be designated as inter-state regionalism which is coterminous with provincial territories and involves juxtaposing of the identities of one or more states against another. It is also issue specific. The issue is highlighted because it sabotages their interest. Disputes between Karnataka and Tamilnadu over the distribution of Kaveri water may be construed as inter-state regionalism. The Third type of regionalism refers to intra-state regionalism wherein a part of the state strives for self identity and self development and therefore, it is taken in a positive sense. In negative terms it militates against the collective interest of the state as well as the nation. As for instance there is always a feeling of coastal region and western region in Orissa.

**Chapter 4 : Regionalism | The Canadian Encyclopedia**

*Regional identities in India have not always defined themselves in opposition to and at the expense of, the national identity, noticed a democratic effect of such process in that India's representative democracy has moved closer to the people who feel more involved and show greater concern for institutions of local and regional governance.*

The name Canada is derived from the Iroquoian word *kanata*, which means village. Canada is located in the northern portion of the continent of North America, extending, in general, from the 49th parallel northward to the islands of the Arctic Ocean. Its eastern and western boundaries are the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans respectively. Its land area totals 3,960,000 square miles 9,984,670 square kilometers. The easternmost portion of the country is a riverine and maritime environment, consisting of the provinces of Newfoundland, Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick. The central portion of the country, in its southern areas, is primarily boreal forest the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. This forest region extends across the entire country from the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains through to the Atlantic coast, and is dominated by coniferous trees. A section of the country westward from the Great Lakes basin along the southern extent of this forest region is a prairie made up mostly of flat grasslands in the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The westernmost portion of the country is dominated by the Rocky Mountains, with a narrow riverine environment, made up of northern rain forests, west of the mountains in the province of British Columbia. Between the southern Carolinian forest of the central regions of the country lies a region in Ontario and Quebec characterized by numerous lakes and expanses of exposed rock known as the Canadian Shield, an area left exposed after the most recent glacial retreat. Across the northernmost portion of the country from east to west lies a region dominated by tundra and finally at its most northern reach, an arctic eco-zone in northern Ontario and Quebec and in the territories of Nunavut, Northwest Territories, and the Yukon. These variations have had important social and cultural effects. The largest segment of the population resides in the central Carolinian region, which has the richest and most varied agricultural land and, because the Great Lakes waterway system dominates the central portion of the country, is also where most of the major manufacturing is located. The savanna or prairie region is more sparsely populated, with several large urban centers in a network across the region, which is dominated by grain farming, cattle and other livestock production, and more recently, oil and natural gas extraction. The two coastal regions, which have some agricultural production, are best characterized by the dominance of port cities through which import and export goods move. In the northern section of the center of the country, also sparsely populated, resource extraction of minerals and lumber, has predominated. The effect of this concentration of the population, employment, and productive power in the central region of the country has been the concentration of political power in this region, as well as the development over time of intense regional rivalries and disparities in quality of life. Equally important, as employment in the center came to dominate gross national production, immigration has tended to flow into the center. This has created a diverse cultural mix in the central region of the country, while the prairie and the eastern maritime region have stabilized ethnically and culturally. The consequence of these diverse geographies has been the development of a rhetoric of regional cultures: Prairie, Maritime, Central, and because of its special isolation, West Coast. A final differentiation is between urban and rural. Local cultural identity is often marked by expressions of contrasting values in which rural residents characterize themselves as harder working, more honest, and more deeply committed to community cooperation, in contrast to urban dwellers Canada who are characterized by rural residents as greedy, dishonest, arrogant, and self-interested. Urban dwellers express their own identities as more modern and forward looking, more sophisticated, and more liberal in their overall social values, and perceive rural residents as conservative, overdependent on outmoded traditions, unsophisticated, and simple minded. This distinction is most explicit in Quebec, but also plays a key role in political, social, and cultural contentions in Ontario. The official population at the last census calculation, in 1996, was 29,000,000, an increase over the previous

census in of about 6 percent in five years. The previous five-year increase was almost 7 percent. There has been a slowing population increase in Canada over the last several decades, fueled in part by a decline in the crude birthrate. This slowing of growth has been offset somewhat by an increase in immigration over the last two decades of the twentieth century, coupled with a slowing of emigration. Statistics Canada, the government Census management organization, is projecting a population increase of as much as 8 percent between and , mostly through increased immigration. Canada is bilingual, with English and French as the official languages. English takes precedence in statutory proceedings outside of Quebec, with English versions of all statutes serving as the final arbiter in disputes over interpretation. As of , the proportion of Canadians reporting English as their mother tongue was just under 60 percent while those reporting French as their mother tongue was slightly less than 24 percent. The percentage of native English speakers had risen over the previous decade, while that of French speakers had declined. At the same time, about 17 percent of all Canadians could speak both official languages, though this is a regionalized phenomenon. In those provinces with the largest number of native French speakers Quebec and New Brunswick , 38 percent and 33 percent respectively were bilingual, numbers that had been increasing steadily over the previous twenty years. In contrast, Ontario, which accounts for more than 30 percent of the total population of Canada, had an English-French bilingualism rate of about 12 percent. This is in part a result of the immigration patterns over time, which sees the majority of all immigrants gravitating to Ontario, and in part because all official and commercial services in Ontario are conducted in English, even though French is available by law, if not by practice. English-French bilingualism is less important in the everyday lives of those living outside of Quebec and New Brunswick. First Nations language groups make up a significant, if small, portion of the nonofficial bilingual speakers in Canada, a fact with political and cultural importance as First Nations groups assert greater and more compelling claims on political and cultural sovereignty. The three largest First Nations languages in were Cree, Inuktitut, and Ojibway, though incomplete census data on First Nations peoples continues to plague assessments of the extent and importance of these mother tongues. Changing immigration patterns following World War II affected linguistic affiliation. In the period, from to , for example, only 54 percent of immigrants had a nonofficial language as mother tongue, with more than two-thirds of this group born in Europe. Almost a quarter of them reported Italian, German, or Greek as mother tongue. In contrast, 80 percent of the 1., immigrants who came to Canada between and reported a nonofficial language as mother tongue, with over half from Asia and the Middle East. Chinese was the mother tongue of just under 25 percent, while Arabic, Punjabi, Tagalog, Tamil, and Persian together accounted for about 20 percent. In , the three largest nonofficial mother tongue groups were German, Italian, and Ukrainian, reflecting patterns of non-English and non-French immigration that have remained relatively constant through most of the twentieth century. In the period ending in , this had changed, with the rank order shifting to Chinese, Italian, and German. This is reflected in regional concentrations, with Italians concentrated heavily in Ontario, Germans in both Ontario and the Prairie regions, and Chinese and other Asians most heavily represented in southern Ontario and in British Columbia. A gradual decline in out-migration from Europe, coupled with political changes in China and throughout Asia, leading to increased out-migration from these areas, is changing the ethnic and linguistic makeup of Canada. It should be stressed, however, that these changes are concentrated in two or three key urban centers, while linguistic affiliation elsewhere in the country remains stable. This is likely to change in the early twenty-first century as an aging cohort of European immigrants declines and out-migration from Europe continues to decrease. These shifts will come to have increasingly important cultural effects as immigrants from Asia and, most recently, from certain areas throughout the continent of Africa, come to influence the political and social life of the core urban centers in which they settle. Ethnic and cultural diversity in Canada, in which different cultural groups were expected to maintain their distinctiveness rather than subsume it to some larger national culture, which is the historical effect of the English-French biculturalism built into the Canadian confederation, means that national symbols in Canada tend to be either somewhat superficial or regionalized. There are, however, certain symbols that are deployed at both official and unofficial events and functions

which are generally shared across the entire country, and can be seen as general cultural symbols, even if their uses may not always be serious. Canada is often symbolically connected with three key images—hockey, the beaver, and the dress uniform of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. What gives it its profound symbolic importance is the way in which hockey events, such as the winning goal scored by the Canadian national team during a competition with the Russian national team in the s, are used as special cultural and historical markers in political discourse. Hockey is used, in its symbolic form, to signify national unity and a national sense of purpose and community. That most Canadians do not follow hockey in any serious way does not diminish its role as a key cultural symbol. The beaver, which appears often on Canadian souvenirs, might seem to be an odd animal to have as a national symbol. It is a ratlike character, with a broad flat tail and, in caricature, a comical face highlighted by front chewing teeth of considerable prominence. What gives the beaver its special merit as a cultural symbol, however, are its industriousness, toiling to create elaborate nesting sites out of mud and twigs, and its triumph over the seasons. The beaver is humble, nonpredatory, and diligent, values that form a fundamental core of Canadian self-identification. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police RCMP, often represented in their dress uniform which includes a tight-fitting red coat, riding pants, high black boots, and broad-brimmed felt hat, also represent this Canadian concern with diligence and humility. Canada was opened to European occupation not by a pioneering spirit fighting against all odds to push open a wild and dangerous frontier, as in the United States, but by a systematic effort to bring the vastness of the Canadian landscape under police control. That is, Canada was opened to European occupation and control almost as a bureaucratic exercise in extending the rule of law. Where the American frontier was a lawless and wild place, later brought under control by centralizing government bodies, the Canadian frontier never quite existed. Instead, Canada was colonized by law rather than by force. The core values that inform these symbols are cooperation, industriousness, and patience—that is, a kind of national politeness. The Canadian symbolic order is dominated by a concern for order and stability, which marks Canadian identity as something communal rather than individualistic. History and Ethnic Relations Emergence of the Nation. Canada throughout its history might best be described as a nation of nations. Two European colonial powers dominate the history of Canada and its emergence as a nation: France and Great Britain. In time Britain emerged as the dominant political and cultural force in Canada, but that emergence exemplifies the sense of compromise and cooperation on which Canadian social identity is founded. While Britain, and later English Canada, came to be and remain the most powerful part of the Canadian cultural landscape, this dominance and power exists in a system of joint cultural identity, with French Canada, in Quebec and in other parts of eastern Canada, remaining a singular and distinctive cultural entity in its own right. Two communities, distinguished by language, culture, religion, and politics live in isolation from each other with divergent aspirations and very divergent views of the history of Canada as a nation. The peace between the French and English sides of the Canadian coin is a peace born in war, with Britain defeating French colonial forces in the late eighteenth century. It is a peace born of common purpose when the now English colony of Canada withstood invasion from the newly formed United States, with the sometimes uneven assistance of the remaining French community in Lower Canada, later to be called Quebec. It is also a peace driven by controversy and scandal. During the opening of the westward railroad in the late nineteenth century, a process of pacification of the Canadian frontier most noteworthy for its having been planned and carried out by a series of government committees, French Canadians felt, not without cause, that they were being excluded from this nation building. And it is a peace marked, even today, by a deep sense of ethnic antagonism, most particularly in Quebec, where French Canadian nationalism is a vibrant, if not the dominant political force. Most important, the development of the Canadian nation, however uneven the power of the English and the French, has been characterized by discussion, planning, and compromise. The gradual opening of all of Canada to European control, and its coming together in as a national entity, was not the result of war or revolution but instead, of negotiation and reconciliation. When, in the early s Canada would take the final step towards political independence by adopting its own constitution, it would do so through negotiation as well, and again, the

antagonism between English and French Canada, which resulted in the Government of Quebec refusing to sign the constitutional enabling agreement would provide both the drama of the moment, and its fundamental character, one of compromise and collaboration. Developments in human rights law, for example, with a new emphasis on the importance of group rights and in particular group rights under conditions of inequality among groups, were pioneered in Canada. The model of universal health care for all citizens in Canada which, while currently stressed by economic changes in the final decades of the twentieth century, illustrates how a system of co-operative engagement between multiple and independent political partners can produce institutions which benefit everyone. An early colonial governor of Canada is reputed to have said that it is "nearly impossible to govern a nation where one half the people are more British than the Queen, and the other more Catholic than the Pope. Leading up to and following the emergence of Canada as an independent political state in , English Canada and English identity dominated the political and cultural landscape. The remaining French presence, in Quebec and throughout the eastern part of the country, while a strong cultural entity in itself, exercised only limited influence and effect at the national level. English symbols, the English language, and the values of loyalty to the English crown prevailed throughout the nation as the core underpinnings of national identity. The dominance of English Canada in terms of national identity, especially in a federal system in which binationalism and biculturalism were enshrined in the founding legislation of the country, exercised a powerful effect on ethnic relations, but that effect was not ethnic homogenization. Instead, the dominance of English Canada served as a major locus of ongoing tension between the two national identities of Canada, a tension which, in the period from the s onward, has come to be expressed in growing French-Canadian nationalism and so far unsuccessful attempts on the part of French Canada to secede from the Canadian confederation. This tensionâ€”which is built into the principles of the confederation itself, which recognizes the duality of Canadian national identityâ€” while regularly threatening the unity of the federation, has also had a mollifying effect on ethnic divisions more generally. Canada has seen successive waves of immigration, from the Netherlands, Germany and Italy, England and Ireland, China and Japan, and more recently from south and east Asia and from many countries throughout Africa. While some of these migration waves have resulted in considerable political and social conflict, as in the large-scale migration of Chinese laborers brought into Canada to work on the national railroad, the overall pattern of in-migration and settlement has been characterized by relatively smooth transitions. This is in large part an effect of the legislated binationalism and biculturalism on which Canada is founded. Such a model of confederation, which institutionalizes cultural diversity, has meant the new cohorts of migrants have not experienced the kind of assimilationist and acculturationalist pressures which have characterized ethnic relations in the United States. Where, in the United States, there was considerable pressure on migrant cohorts to become "American," in Canada these cohorts have more often than not retained their identity of birth.

#### Chapter 5 : Culture of Canada - history, people, traditions, women, beliefs, food, customs, family, social

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*The thesis demonstrates that regionalism is a component of the ongoing (re)conception of nation within the majority nation, and that during periods of strong minority nationalist agitation, a political environment is created which allows elites in the majority nation to mobilize national and regional identities.*

## Chapter 9 : Regionalism: Definitions, Characteristics and Types of Regionalism

*Regionalism. Regionalism is the theory or practice of coordinating social, economic or political activities within a geographical region comprising a number of states.. On an institutional level, regionalism involves the growth of norms, rules and formal structures through which coordination is brought about.*