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Findings

This Ph.D. thesis, titled, “*Changing Discourse of Nationalism: A Case Study of India and Iraq,*” stands out for its profound exploration of the concept of ‘nationalism’ from its origins to global resonances. And, the unique selling point (USP) of this study lies in its detailed analysis of nationalism particularly in context to Kashmir (India) and Kurdistan (Iraq). Before this, it explores the evolution of nationalism from its birth in Rome (from the word *natio*) and origins (in present context) from European thought (British and French) to its diverse manifestations in the non-Western circumstances. It highlights the role of nationalism in both uniting and dividing peoples on the basis imagined as well as constructed identities. Moreover, by analysing the case of regional autonomy in Kurdistan and the separatist movements in Kashmir, this study uncovers the unique ways in which nationalism can simultaneously serve as a force for freedom and an instrument of oppression. Furthermore, by employing a multidisciplinary methodology that integrates historical, socio-political, and cultural analyses, this research demystifies the complex interplay between global forces and local ambitions in the formulation of secessionism including nationalist narratives within sovereign states. This research also contributes to a deeper understanding of nationalism's dual potential to foster identities and ignite conflicts within, between and beyond nations.

Finally, it is expected that this study will add value for a wide range of stakeholders, such as students, scholars, policymakers and diplomats to understand the roots of regional conflicts and nationalist ambitions. It would assist them in making domestic and foreign policy decisions accordingly. In fact, this study will improve the ability of NGOs and international organizations to increase their efforts in regions affected by nationalist conflicts. Last but not the least, local communities and socio-political activists may also gain a deeper awareness of the historical and political aspects of nationalism about the regions discussed above.