

**India proves [Western style] democracy is no longer fit for its purpose, while China's model shows the way**



[su\_panel background="#fbfbf4"]Deep K. Datta-Ray says democracy's reliance on people's ability to be rational [which should be based on access to reliable, not manipulated information] is its fatal weakness. While malfeasance in politics, poverty and inequalities hold back progress in India, China is charging ahead in delivering economic growth, and freedom for its people.[/su\_panel]



India's PM Narendra Modi at the podium, addressing a rally.



Dateline: 15 Jun 2018

**Disinformation scarred campaigning in elections in the Indian state of Karnataka, culminated in an [illegitimate minority government](#). Its downfall by covert surveillance, money politics and an opportunistic alliance of sworn enemies is no consolation.**

**OPEDS**

Such odious tactics are democracy's leitmotif globally, as [Brexit](#) and [Donald Trump's](#) election demonstrate. In combination, they suggest that democracy is not fit for purpose, especially in developing

nations, particularly since there is a clear alternative: China's political system.

Irredeemably flawed at inception, democracy's most debilitating characteristic is its reliance on – often illiterate – people to analyse events. This has been proved repeatedly, by electorates worldwide. [India's Narendra Modi](#) stormed to victory in 2014 on the people's disgust with several scams, but investigations now reveal that there were none! Disinformation continues to be harnessed, with people's inability to reason through the morass of media reports.

Nearly 90 per cent of India's population voted the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) into power regionally because they accepted its outlandish claims. Modi, for instance, asserts ancient Indians invented genetic surgery and that climate change is just people feeling colder.



Democracy's dependence on the democratic principle to animate institutions fatally undermines it because, paradoxically, democracy is eroded by the very politics it countenances. The politicisation of India's provincial judiciary has now reached the apex court. The Supreme Court is embroiled in an ugly imbroglio to impeach the chief justice. The opposition brought the motion, alleging politically motivated assigning of cases to judges.

**Meanwhile, everyone knows justice hinges on wealth and power.** Its operation was highlighted, again, by a politician's son –

no less – getting away with murder in February 2006.

Democracy is also unworthy because it is delusive. Claiming to engender equality, democracy actually succeeds by enhancing inequality. Overshadowing highly incendiary rhetoric against minorities is the rise in [attacks by the Hindu majority](#).

Legislative inequality is also distressing. Minorities are disproportionately under-represented in Parliament, by design. In 2014, of the BJP's 482 candidates, just seven were Muslim. None won. Muslims are roughly 4 per cent of Parliament, but 14 per cent of the population.



The story is replicated in the provincial parliaments. There, as of January, only four of the 1,418 members are Muslim. That the number of minorities exceeded 300 as recently as November 2014 reiterates that the BJP's democratic success is contingent on eliminating minorities from having any, let alone an equal, political voice.

Ultimately, however, a political system is by definition too grandiose to be judged technically. What matters is its moral accountability, and democracy's bankruptcy is laid bare when the metric is the only one that matters: delivering freedom.

All Indian parties sing from the same democratic hymn sheet. Yet Indians continue to be subjugated, both absolutely and relative to other developing nations, by poverty. This is often blamed on the handicap of massive colonial exploitation, which developed Europe at India's expense. But this blame

culture divests leaders of any responsibility for having failed to free people, and even permits the erosion of what little freedom they enjoy. What democracy offers then is a powerful elite empowering itself by demonising the enemy without, and by exacerbating inequality within.

Nor are the devastating effects of democracy limited to democratic states, for they wage war. India has been involved in continuous border wars since independence, at a minimum, with [Pakistan](#). Meanwhile, China has fought less in the past 40 years than [the UK](#), [France](#) and [the US](#) did in [one weekend of bombing Syria](#). The West calls the [Tiananmen Square incident](#) a “massacre”, but it is insignificant compared to the deaths meted out by the democratic West’s militaries.

A pacific China is possible because its political system is moral in a manner impossible for democracies. China is moral for delivering freedom, more equitably and efficiently than, at the very least, India. Until the 1950s, India’s gross domestic product per capita was higher than China’s. In 1978, China’s was US\$13 more than India’s.

That China’s political system achieved this is all the more remarkable because those decades saw the tumult of the Great Leap Forward and the [Cultural Revolution](#), but no economic reform. The superiority of China’s political system is confirmed by the freedoms citizens – and beneficiaries of Chinese investment globally – now enjoy thanks to stupendous growth, distributed equitably, over the past 30 years. As the [World Inequality Report](#) notes, Chinese inequality is “moderate” because Beijing invests in everyone but Indian inequality is “extreme” because investments are made by them for themselves.

**(Be sure to click on the arrows on the top right of the diagram below to see more panels.)**

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In short, China's political system, without deluding its people or resorting to international violence, ensures the elite deliver freedoms to the people in a manner unimaginable in India or other democracies. Representative is the freedom to travel and think. In 2017, just 16,000 Indians, versus 88,000 Chinese, were allowed to study in the UK.

Their predecessors imported democracy to Asia, but it is now time for Indians to reassess their inheritance and for the Chinese to disseminate the truth about democracy vis-à-vis Beijing's system.

The latter is unlikely because Chinese politics encourages humility. After all, which democrat speaks of [building a moderately prosperous society](#), as [Xi Jinping](#) did, and that, too, with his political system's unparalleled success at [bettering not just Chinese citizens, but also, mankind?](#)

This article appeared in the South China Morning Post print edition as: Why democracy is no longer fit for purpose in India.



PRIDE IN THEIR NATION AND MORALE REMAIN HIGH IN CHINA Chinese dressed in replica red army uniforms take pictures at a base relief showing former Chinese Communist leaders Mao Zedong and Zhu De at a historic site of the Long March in the mountains outside Jinggangshan, Jiangxi province, on September 14.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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## News

^0America's Goal...

Make every homeless tranny

gender comfortable!

Things to ponder

While our media prostitutes, many Hollywood celebs, and politicians and opinion shapers make so much noise about the still to be demonstrated damage done by the Russkies to our nonexistent democracy, this is what the sanctimonious US government has done overseas just since the close of World War 2. And this is what we know about. Many other misdeeds are yet to be revealed or documented.

## **OVERTHROWING OTHER PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENTS: U.S. THE MASTER LIST**

*By William Blum – Published February 2013*

### **INSTANCES OF THE UNITED STATES OVERTHROWING, OR ATTEMPTING TO OVERTHROW, A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT SINCE THE SECOND WORLD WAR.**

(\* indicates successful ouster of a government)

China 1949 to early 1960s	Ghana 1966 *	Afghanistan 1980s *
Albania 1949-53	Chile 1964-73 *	Somalia 1993
East Germany 1950s	Greece 1967 *	Yugoslavia 1999-2000 *
Iran 1953 *	Costa Rica 1970-71	Ecuador 2000 *
Guatemala 1954 *	Bolivia 1971 *	Afghanistan 2001 *
Costa Rica mid-1950s	Australia 1973-75 *	Venezuela 2002 *
Syria 1956-7	Angola 1975, 1980s	Iraq 2003 *
Egypt 1957	Zaire 1975	Haiti 2004 *
Indonesia 1957-8	Portugal 1974-76 *	Somalia 2007 to present
British Guiana 1953-64 *	Jamaica 1976-80 *	Honduras 2009
Iraq 1963 *	Seychelles 1979-81	Libya 2011 *
North Vietnam 1945-73	Chad 1981-82 *	Syria 2012
Cambodia 1955-70 *	Grenada 1983 *	Ukraine 2014 *
Laos 1958 *, 1959 *, 1960 *	South Yemen 1982-84	
Ecuador 1960-63 *	Suriname 1982-84	
Congo 1960 *	Fiji 1987 *	
France 1965	Libya 1980s	
Brazil 1962-64 *	Nicaragua 1981-90 *	
Dominican Republic 1963*	Panama 1989 *	
Cuba 1959 to present	Bulgaria 1990 *	
Bolivia 1964 *	Albania 1991 *	
Indonesia 1965 *	Iraq 1991	

<https://williamblum.org/essays/read/overthrowing-other-peoples-governments-the-master-list>

Parting shot—a word from the editors

The Best Definition of Donald Trump We Have Found



In his zeal to prove to his antagonists in the War Party that he is as bloodthirsty as their champion, Hillary Clinton, and more manly than Barack Obama, Trump seems to have gone “play-crazy” – acting like an unpredictable maniac in order to terrorize the Russians into forcing some kind of dramatic concessions from their Syrian allies, or risk *Armageddon*. However, the “play-crazy” gambit can only work when the leader is, in real life, a disciplined and intelligent actor, who knows precisely what actual boundaries must not be crossed. That ain’t Donald Trump – a pitifully shallow and ill-disciplined man, emotionally handicapped by obscene

privilege and cognitively crippled by white American chauvinism. By pushing Trump into a corner and demanding that he display his most bellicose self, or be ceaselessly mocked as a “puppet” and minion of Russia, a lesser power, the War Party and its media and clandestine services have created a perfect storm of mayhem that may consume us all.— **Glen Ford, Editor in Chief, Black Agenda Report**

**Up to You.**

^3000US citizens have no real political representation.

We don't live in a democracy. And our freedom is disappearing fast.

I don't want to be ruled by hypocrites, whores, and war criminals.

What about you? Time to push back against the corporate oligarchy.

And its multitude of minions and lackeys.