

# GLOBALIZATION AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS: RESISTANCE OR SOCIAL CHANGE

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**Abstract:** Social movements are interactive components of a world currently in the process of rapid transformation. Social movements represent either a single social movement or a generic term that comprises of a number of separate social movements. Social movements against neo-liberal forms of globalization are novel because of the significant participation of citizens from the developed and other advanced industrialized countries. Social movements serve as critical response of individuals and groups and directly attack global capital's economic and political infrastructure with radically democratic politics and a strategy of confrontation. The paper attempts to provide a broad framework for understanding social movements in the context of challenges posed by globalization. This paper traces the complexities and potential for change inherent in a new wave of social movements concerned with the contemporary process of development and globalization.

**Index Terms:** Globalization, Social Change, Social Movement, Culture, Identity.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Globalization is a set of social, economic, political and cultural processes that have taken place together and produced the characteristic conditions of contemporary existence (Hawley 2001: 209). Globalization, the most contested concept of the twenty-first century, has emerged as a significant term in a wide-range of popular and academic discussions, especially after the end of Cold War. The concept gained considerable momentum to the extent that it described almost any and every aspect of daily life. The process of globalization integrates national economies into the international economy through trade, foreign direct investment, capital flows, migration and through the spread of information and communication technologies (OECD 2010: 20). While the Western governments, in particular, have considered globalization as an external beneficent force, the economic globalization's impact on developing countries are particularly severe. The internationalization and the economic linkages of this process have prove to be inadequate in assuring prosperity to the developing countries and also have caused widespread suffering, disorder and unrest. The increasingly global flows and networks also pose threats to the cultural identity and the environment. The challenges and the inability to diffuse technological progress made the developing countries to create a strange world that nourishes the feeling of exploitation. This phenomenon created a condition for the emergence of a transnational system that has reshaped the world order and have challenged the Westphalian system of nation states. As a whole, the rise of globalization has produced vast riches, but at very high costs to the majority of people. The process of globalization associated with the changing source of insecurity give rise to a new means of protest, resistance and organization, parallel with globalization, under the banner of 'social movements'. Social movements represent either a single social movement or in general that includes a number of separate social movements. Social movements' serves as voices, grievances and concerns of individuals and groups and demand that something can be done to change them against the neoliberal forms and global flow of capital (Fominaya 2014: 7). Unlike the traditional movements, social movements of contemporary times form the most important inter-networked movements as an alternate to resist the growing influence of globalization. Most studies of globalization discussed and analyzed the rise of information and communication technologies and the economic dimensions of globalization rather than the impact of this phenomenon. It is in this context that social movements against globalization acquire significance and this paper examines a broad framework for understanding social movements in the context of challenges posed by globalization.

The process of globalization and its consequences has profoundly affected social movements. A social movement starts when a feeling of dissatisfaction among people spreads and institutions were not able to respond (Della Porta and Diani 2006: 13). While on the one hand it gives huge opportunities for growth and development through capitalism, the challenges emerge out of the capitalist profits, human costs and environmental problems harms social development. Social movements have influenced the political landscape and directly attack global capital's economic and political infrastructure with a radically democratic politics and a strategy of confrontation. This paper explores the complexities and potential for change inherent in a new wave of social movements concerned with contemporary process of development and globalization. The paper focuses among other things, some of the aspects of the social movements which resist and expresses concern over the growing inequalities of global economic and trade regimes in the name of globalization. It also examines the emergence, form, discourse and dynamics of social movements in the wake of the growing campaigns and movements against the impact of globalization.

## II. CONTEXT

A movement differ from a mass action in respect that it involves a measure of intended or planned action in pursuit of a recognized social goal. The concept of social movement, like every other notion in Social Sciences, not only suggests new methods of organizing, but also proposes new ways of knowing and interpreting social reality. Social movements are a kind of group or collective action in which the motivation to act emerges out of the attitude and aspirations of the participants involved within a loose organizational framework (Heywood 2000: 232). Social movements involve the collective effort of large informal groups of individuals or organizations with a common purpose and solidarity on definite political and social issues, envisioned to

carry out, resist, or undo a social change (Heywood 2000: 232). In other words, it can be identified as a continuous campaign that support a social cause either to implement or to prevent a change in society's structure or values (Alexander 2016: 28). The level of commitment and political activism forms the essential feature of participants who are involved in social movements.

The basic concept of social movements revolves round a broad camp of multiple kinds of movement or movements, none of which dominates the other, rather complement each other and also collaborate to the degree they can, in order to counter the threat of imperialism. However, the social movements are also devoid of tensions between the participants. Tension usually arises between those who want to keep it as an open forum and those who want to organize direct political action.

Social movements are not only a way of empowering people and offering a ray of hope for a better future, but also a mechanism for ordinary people's participation in public politics (Tilly 2004: 3). Tilly suggests three elements of social movements: a sustained, organized public effort making collective claims on target authorities (campaign); employment of combinations from among all the following forms of political action, i.e., processions, vigils, rallies, demonstrations, petition drives, media statements and pamphleteering (social movement repertoire); and participants concern with worthiness, unity, numbers and commitment (Tilly 2004: 3-4). Social movements serve as instrument for resolving problems such as economic and social justice, human rights, cultural and environmental problems often through the participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Social movements themselves are shaped by their relationship with the state as well as external and internal classes. Even at times, national movements are merging into transnational ones. As Garner puts it:

Movements are changing from fairly coherent national organizations into transnational networks, with highly fragmented and specialized nodes composed of organizations and less organized mobilizations, all of which are linked through new technologies of communication (Garner 1994: 431).

Social movements lost ground during the early eighties. However, the post-Cold War international politics witnessed the emergence of 'new global social movements' and they have further emerged as a stable platform for the fight against the imperialist nature of the globalization process. The new social movements of the contemporary period involve a network of movements and associations that developed out of activist streams of the earlier ones. This network also facilitates cooperation and exchange across national boundaries. New social movements in the post-Cold War era were largely considered as disruptive forces. It was also identified as a counter culture; the search for alternative forms of social and cultural life (Touraine 1985: 751).

The acceleration of global integration due to the process of globalization has declined the role of the modern State and its capacity to influence both domestic and global processes. Social movements identify State as oppressive and unable to deal with the growing exploitation, poverty and uneven development. They stress the importance of civil society to perform the role of the 'vanguard of democracy'. Civil society against the State thus formed the central message of new social movements. The new social movement perspective emphasizes the cultural nature of the new movements and views them as struggles for the constitution of new collective identities. This approach emphasizes discontinuity by highlighting the differences between the new movements and traditional movements. It is in this context that the paper attempts to bring together the implications of globalization process for political mobilization as well as to identify the ways that new social movements engage global political processes and effect change. In order to analyze the process of social movements a detailed account of the theoretical understanding is essential.

### III. THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES ON SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

There are various theories related to the social movements and these theories are closely connected with the general problems of society's development. However, four main approaches can be distinguished among them which include: (1) collective behaviour; (2) resource mobilization; (3) political process; and (4) the new social movements. Attempts to reduce the heterogeneity of positions adopted in a given field of study to a limited number of approaches is subject to certain uncertainties and in order to analyze these approaches, three points need to be taken into account (Della Porta and Diani 1999: 3). First, these are not homogenous intellectual movements and it is possible to differentiate within each a variety of concerns, which cannot on the whole be assimilated. Second, individual scholars have often borrowed concepts and insights from several theoretical perspectives. Finally, transformations have taken place over a period of time due to the intellectual development of individuals.

The collective behaviour perspective is identified as an activity concerned with meaning. Collective behaviour refers to social processes and events carried out by a group of people, which are relatively free of organizational controls (Allyn 1972: 407). Resource mobilization signifies the rational and strategic components of seemingly irrational phenomena (Kendall 2006: 531). It depends on the capability of the members of the movement to acquire resources and organize people in order to achieve their goals. Resource mobilization theory is based on the assumption that humans are rational and view social movements as rational social institutions and social actors taking political action (Buechler 1999: 34). The political process approach has focused attention on social movements as new protagonists in the aggression and representation of different interests. According to this approach, certain political contexts should be conducive for social movement activities. This may favour or disapprove specific social movement or general social movement activities. The political opportunities may be understood through political concessions, social movement participation, etc. and such opportunities include: increased access to political decision-making power, instability in the alignment of ruling elites, access to elites and declining capacity and propensity of the state to repress dissent (Meyer and Minkoff 2004: 1462). Questions relating to the importance of transformations that have occurred in industrial society and their implications can be explored through the new social movements. New social movements, unlike the old social movements, are produced by new contradictions of society, contradictions between individual and state. New social movement theorists argue that

instead of labour movements engaged in class conflict of earlier times, new movements of the present day are engaged more in social and political conflicts (Touraine 1985: 752).

The four main approaches dealing with the phenomenon of social movements, however, suggests that none of them is able to explain everything. All these approaches may be correct in some aspect or the other. On the whole, each of these movements either stress attention to specific types of social movements and consider them as universal or put all the attention on a single aspect of the phenomenon of social movements and ignore others.

#### IV. CHARACTERISTICS OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

The evolution of social movements can be traced back to the early nineteenth century. Social movements gained momentum through education and increased mobility of labour due to industrialization and urbanization of societies. The earliest of the identified movements include, labour movements, nationalist movements, reform movements, etc. While the labour movements initiated measures to improve the conditions of working class and increasing workers rights, the various nationalist movements demanded independence and freedom of states from multinational European empires. The growth of social movements are indeed connected to the broad economic and political changes and has since spread across the globe.

Social movements are peculiar in nature, in the sense that they are inherently unstable. They generally operate in a manner to change the society in which they originate and not to adapt to its needs. Social movements according to Touraine are not any dramatic or exceptional events; rather they are identified as the heart of the social life (Touraine 1985: 773). He further argues that:

Social movements are not positive or negative agents of history, of modernization, or of the liberalization of mankind. They act in a given type of social production and organization (Touraine 1985: 773).

Touraine's perception differs significantly from those who see social movements primarily as organizational and political opportunities. There are various perceptions and definitions on social movements. However, significant among them that coordinates the varying degrees include the definition by Rucht. He argues that:

a social movement exists to the extent that the following qualities are co-present: In structural terms, social movements are networks of groups and/or organizations; regarding their aims, they are attempts to fundamentally change society (including power structures and basic values) or to resist such changes (Rucht 2004: 4).

Social movements are not an unending phenomenon. They have a life cycle of their own-from emergence to development to decline. They are created (movement start-up), they grow (movement organization), they achieve successes or failures (movement institution) and eventually, they dissolve and cease to exist (movement fragmentation) (Tarrow 1995: 95). Tarrow developed the theory of protest cycles and defines a cycle of protest as "an increasing and then decreasing wave of interrelated collective actions and reactions to them whose aggregate frequency, intensity, and forms increase and then decline in rough chronological proximity" (Tarrow 1995: 95). This protest cycle is expected to evolve through the interplay between external and internal factors. They are more likely to evolve in the time and place which are cordial to the social movements. However, there is a qualitative difference between the new people's struggle and the traditional movements. The new micro and the macro movements do not presuppose that they are homogenous and monolithic (Wignaraja 1993: 5). Rather, they attempt to identify the positive elements in the changes of social formations, consciousness and organizations that are beginning to emerge.

#### V. NEW MOVEMENTS FOR NEW CONFLICTS

The old form of industrial capitalism was gradually replaced by a new post-industrial, programmed society with a fundamentally different pattern of class relations and class conflicts. As a result, the socio-cultural conflicts of earlier times have also been replaced by the socio-economic conflicts. The control of knowledge and investment become more significant. It is at this juncture that the new social movements emerged.

The 'new' movements evolved as a resulted of changing values in post-industrial societies, the expansion of welfare states and growing new middle classes, the turn to individually defined needs, and the framing of new collective identities through new types of collective action based on direct participation and decentralized grassroots politics (Eder 1985: 870-72). The class politics of the earlier times have been replaced by new politics, which turn away from the established parties, pressure groups and representative process towards a more innovative form of protest politics. Apart from offering new and rival centres of power, new movements diffuse power more effectively by resisting bureaucratization and developing more spontaneous, effective and decentralized forms of organization.

The term new social movements denote to a plethora of social movements that emerged in various Western societies which departed significantly from the conventional social movement paradigm (Pichardo 1997: 411). The new movements differ from traditional social movements in various aspects: (i) they characteristically attract the younger generation who are better educated and are relatively affluent, rather than the oppressed or disadvantaged; (ii) they have a post-material orientation, more concerned with the quality of life than with material progress; (iii) they guarantee a common and clearly-defined set of values and beliefs, while traditional movements had little in common and seldom worked together (Heywood 2000: 232). Social movements including environmentalism, feminism, nationalism, anti-immigration and various peace movements figure prominently in the modern world.

Many of the new social movements tend to emphasize social changes in lifestyle and culture, rather than pushing for specific changes in public policy or for economic change. The rise of the movements during the 1960s and 1970s were considered to be the European Social Science response to the critique of the Marxist models of interpretation of social conflict (Della Porta and Diani 2006: 8). These models have encountered difficulties in explaining the developments associated with that period. The social transformation that took place post World War II put the centrality of capital-labour conflict into question. The widening of the access to higher education or the entry of women into the labour market had created new structural possibilities for conflict and increased the significance of social stratification criteria.

Scholars associated with the new social movements agrees that the conflict among the industrial class is of decreasing relevance and that representation of movements as largely homogenous subjects is no longer feasible Della Porta and Diani 2006: 8). There were differences of emphasis in relation to the possibility of identifying the new central conflict which would characterize the model of emerging society, defined as post-industrial, post-Fordist, technocratic or programmed (Touraine 1981: 29). Touraine, explicitly upholding this position explains social movements as not a marginal rejection of the order; but as central forces fighting one against the other to control the production of society by itself and the action of classes for the shaping of historicity (Touraine 1981: 29). The ruling class and the popular class oppose each other in the industrial society, as they did in agrarian and the mercantile societies and they will probably do in the programmed society, where new social classes will replace capitalists and working class as the central actors of conflict. According to Touraine, there are three crucial dimensions of social movements, which include: (i) a collective identity, (ii) manifesting opposition to the adversary; and (iii) stemming from the 'totality' of its historical and cultural terrain. (Touraine 1981: 108)

The difference between the movements of the industrial society and new movements were evident during the 1980s. German Sociologist Claus Offe viewed these movements in order to develop a fundamental, metapolitical evaluation of the social order and of representative democracy, challenging institutional assumptions regarding conventional ways of doing politics in the name of radical democracy (Offe 1985: 824). When compared to the workers movements, the advancements of the new movements are a critical ideology in relation to modernism and progress, decentralized and participatory organizational structures, defence of interpersonal solidarity against the great bureaucracies and the retrieval of autonomous spaces, rather than substantial advantages. According to them, the new social movements are characterized by an open fluid organization, an exclusive and non-ideological participation and greater attention should be given to social rather than economic transformations (Offe 1985: 824).

Defining the characteristics of the new movements in the programmed society, Alberto Melucci describes contemporary societies as highly-differentiated systems, which invest increasingly in the creation of individual autonomous centres of action, at the same time requiring closer integration, extending control over the motives for human action (Melucci 1985: 791). The new social movements oppose the intervention of the State and the market into social life, reclaiming the individual's identity and the right to determine his/her private and affective life, against the omnipresent and comprehensive manipulation of the system (Della Porta 2005: 5). The new social movements also do not limit themselves to seeking material gain, unlike the workers movements, but challenge the diffuse notions of politics and society themselves. To guarantee security and well being, new actors do not ask for an increase in the state intervention; rather, it resists the expansion of political-administrative interference in daily life and defends personal autonomy.

The new social movements of recent times, to a large extent, succeeded in bringing together different social forces with multiple and even conflicting ideas. These movements may differ in their methods of actions and means. However, such movements demand significant changes in the present neo-liberal economic model and practices. The new social movements also challenge the nature and consequences of global socio-economic factors and further contest the foundation that governs them.

## VI. GLOBALIZATION AND SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Globalization is the emergence of a complex web of interconnectedness in which, the day-to-day life of individuals are shaped by the events that occur and decisions that are made, at great distance from us (Held *et.al.* 1999: 1). The process of globalization reflects the idea that the modern world is rapidly being moulded into a shared social space by economic and technological forces and the developments in one region have had profound consequences for the life of individuals on the other side as well. The framework of the current process of globalization enables poor countries to depend more on rich countries and also increases their dependence on international monetary organizations. This detrimental nature of globalization influences the development process of developing societies and further widens the gap between rich and the poor inside and between countries. The central feature of globalization is that geographical distance is of declining relevance and that territorial boundaries, such as those of nation states, are becoming less significant. Globalization also implies 'the local' and the 'national' as subordinate to 'the global' and rather, it highlights the deepening as well as the broadening of political process, in the sense that local, national and global events constantly interact (Held *et.al.* 1999: 1).

The process of globalization reflects a situation where the factors of production have become increasingly mobile. Capital moves freely and technology and information diffuse almost instantly across national boundaries. Raw materials are rapidly transported from their source to processing and production sites which are too far. States, especially developing States, with varying degrees of intensity, are participating or in other words, are compelled to do so in this process of integration of the national economies into a global world economy. Openness to the international market and the harnessing of foreign investment and trade, in connection with new technologies, promise a new momentum for development and growth. On the contrary, the integrating part of the globalizing process results in large scale displacement and exclusion of ordinary people. There is also a popular apprehension that large groups of people are being left out while global civil society and liberalization engulf the world. The globalized struggles or the anti-globalization movements with the uncompromising message of opposition to globalization,

under the broad camps of the social movement's gain considerable significance in this context. It further unites the diverse concerns into a singularly forceful assertion of the need for alternatives to today's dominant political and economic paradigms.

The rise of globalization marked a qualitative change from the earlier approaches and raised the question of the point at which changes in quantity, in the essence of scope, depth and pace, constitute a change in quality. Arjun Appadurai provides the element of an answer when he highlights two meanings of the term globalization, first as a socio-economic formation and second as a term of folk ideology in journalism and in the corporate world (Appadurai 1998: 228). Both these senses mark a set of transitions in the global political economy since the 1970s. The decades that followed witnessed the replacement of multinational forms of capital organization by transnational, flexible and irregular forms of organizations. Labour, finance, technology and technological capital began to be assembled in ways that treated national boundaries as mere constraints or fictions (Appadurai 1998: 228). Diffusion of knowledge and technology characterizes the current globalization process and it further strengthened the social relations between states and societies across the globe to experience a profound change.

It is a fact that globalization is a multi-dimensional process, including economic, technological, ecological, political, social and cultural aspects. It is also a proven fact at least for developing countries, that globalization has more negative side effects for people across the world than positive effects. Globalization of the modern times is associated with the new patterns of global stratification in which some States, societies and communities are becoming increasingly enmeshed in the global order, while others are becoming increasingly marginalized. Globalization also challenges sovereignty of nation states, poses a threat to state power and territoriality and reduces them to the status of more complex concepts. Further, the threat associated with the idea of global culture eventually results in a homogenous world culture, which in turn erases existing differences between local cultures and leaving in its path an impoverished, Westernized culture. These factors emphasize the argument that globalization is not only associated with a new sovereignty regime, but also with the emergence of powerful new territorial forms of economic and political organization in the global domain, such as multinational corporations, transnational social movement, international regulatory agencies etc. (Held *et.al.* 1999: 12). In this sense, the present world order can no longer be conceived as purely State-centric or even primarily State governed, as authority has become increasingly diffused among public and private agencies at the four levels of social organization: local, national, regional and global levels.

## VII. STATE, CIVIL SOCIETY AND THE EMERGENCE OF SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

The nation-state and associated sovereign models of absolute power have dominated inter-state relations since the creation of the Westphalian state system. Westphalian sovereignty located supreme legal and political authority within territorially delimited States. However, a gradual and increasingly noticeable shift towards a governance framework has emerged with the globalization process. The world today has become increasingly rooted in the framework of a new globalized society that includes not only a changed and reformed State, but also a new understanding of sovereignty models, the influence of private interests, and particularly the growing importance of civil society. The growing inter-connectedness, through the emergence of movements, groups, networks and organizations, have all called into question the importance of States.

In the globalization debates, the central role of the nation-states has become deemphasized in favour of either global governance or civil society. The civil society has evolved from a rather undefined conglomerate of individual households and an inarticulate container of economic classes and disparate social movements to a full-fledged, articulate actor with developmental potential (Schuurman 2001: 11). Civil society can be identified as a context within which a number of collectives are formed and interact. Civil society comprises of formal organizations of a representative kind, formal organizations of functional kind and more informal social and political networks, ranging from local voluntary groups and ad-hoc activist coalitions to nationally or internationally coordinated social movements (Shaw 1994: 648).

Social movements of the contemporary times follow a wider approach, rather than from the traditional ones, and see them as the forms of collective social action which expresses the contradictions of modernity (Giddens 1990: 18). This approach assumes that social movements are organized around social contradictions. Social movements taking place in this wider sense give rise to the critique of globalization. Social order normally corresponds with civil society. Civil society and social order mutually affect each other. There is always a degree of inconsistency between civil society and social order. This creates new social interests which are not incorporated by social order. It is on this basis social movements emerge. In other words, the emergence of social movements can be identified as a reaction of society to the discrepancy between civil society and social order (Anderson and Herr 2007: 1308). The social movements further attempt to change social order in correspondence with civil society.

The socio-economic factors and the technological integration of countries to the world politics is characterized by an increase in economic inequalities and conflicts, especially in developing countries. As a result of these growing inequalities, citizens and civil society, in large, expresses their resentment and resistance. This large scale people's participation can be identified as a distinct phenomenon as far as the emergence and consolidation of global civil society is concerned. A global civil society of this kind is believed to be bigger and wider, offering 'a positive response, even counterweight, to a narrow notion that linked globalization to economic processes alone' (Kaldor *et.al.* 2003: 3-4).

A growing shift from a national to a more global orientation of social movements has emerged with regard to the increased use of communication, application of technology, ease of transportation and the greater diffusion of ideas and values across boundaries. Social movements on a global scale have become more prominent and effective in promoting or resisting a change in the society in which it is a part. This evolution links closely with the shifting role of the nation-state. Globalized social movements further provide additional evidence of the declining role of state's unilateral power.

## VIII. GLOBAL SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

Globalization has reduced the sense of isolation felt in much of the developing world and had provided access to knowledge well beyond the reach of even the wealthiest in any country a century ago. The anti-globalization protests, critical of the globalization of capitalism, themselves are the result of this interconnectedness. These protests are novel because of the significant participation by citizens from the developed and other advanced industrialized countries. Links between activists in different parts of the world brought about the pressure that resulted in the demonstrations and protests against the policies and actions formulated by the institutions of globalization on a global scale. Well-organized public pressure forces the international community to realize the negative impacts of globalization. In order to check the growing inequalities, it also suggests the need for an alternative against this iniquity with the active participation of social forces on a wider context.

Globalization and the introduction of the growing market economy has not produced the promised results in most of the economies, particularly the developing countries, that transformed their market structures, rather than they, in turn, resulted in the growing divide between 'haves' and 'have-nots' (Stiglitz 2002: 5). The notion of global social movements gained currency in order to create a 'general strike' to bring down the growing inequalities with the uncompromising message of opposition to globalization. This process in a long run is intended to break down all barriers that affect the society and also to bring the global community closer to the new reality of radical social equality (Muralidharan 2004). These movements are also considered to be the international framework for all those opposed to globalization and building alternatives to think and organize in favour of human development and market domination of countries and international relations. It also demonstrates civil society's ability to mobilize the basis of a methodology that ensures diversity and responsibility in the process of constructing the events that resists globalization.

Global social movements reject the faceless symbols of the world economic order, guided by the policies and procedures of the organizations and institutions of globalization. The discriminatory nature of the West dominant order was under attack from everywhere, especially from the developing countries who were the worst victims. As a result, the contemporary world is characterized by large scale movements at the national, international and global levels. Participants all over the world stand united in opposition to the unregulated political power of large multi-national corporations (MNCs), particularly the powers exercised through trade agreements and institutions. The new social movements of these kinds initiates coordinated behaviour of collective action that seek to resist or promote change, whether social, cultural, economic or political through protest. International summits, gatherings of institutions like International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank and World Trade Organization (WTO) have become the primary focus of these movements, which in turn was directed against neo-liberal free trade policies. The aim of these protests is to inform and make awareness among the public about the problems faced by marginalized people due to globalization. Major problems faced by common man include, among others, the problems of landless peasants, farmers and fishermen in their home countries threatened by the liberalization of the economy, the aggressive marketing of genetically-modified seeds, pesticides, and other activities.

The new social movements of the contemporary times can be identified as the most successful variants trying to create an anti-systemic movement that would encompass a wide range of existing movements without trying to suppress them rather allow them full space. This type of new social movement is an indicative of a new stage of modernity. The World Social Forum (WSF) is such an initiative or common platform where social movements, NGOs, networks and other civil society organizations opposing globalization and neo-liberal policies or any form of imperialism joins together. Since its formation in 2001, the WSF provides forums for the construction of alternate strategies to respond to the forces of neoliberal economic globalization. This alternative globalization movement debates ideas democratically, formulates proposals and shares their experiences and also formulates network for effective action. Such resistances usually grew from earlier local, national and transnational mobilizations against trade liberalization agreements, IMF and World Bank policies and the failure to protect human rights and the environment (Gonzalez 2015: 158). These movements also choose to stop short of national revolutionary movements, distance themselves from militant or armed action or insurrections and strengthen themselves through people's movement. 'Networked social movements', the new social movements that emerged in the recent times with the help of internet and social media leading to social change raises hopes of a more critical public sphere and less vulnerable to influences (Castells 2015:264).

## IX. CONCLUSION

Globalization has become a catchword in a wide range of aspects of contemporary life like the complicated machinations of contemporary capitalism, to the rise of transnational organizations and corporations, to the threat posed by global culture to local cultures and tradition, to the communication revolution introduced by new technologies, etc. The growing inequalities and discrimination associated with globalization challenged the international order built around the power of nation-state. Countries, especially developing countries, all over the world have been subject to the impact of colonialism, imperialism and global capitalism and this in turn forced them to struggle with issues such as structural adjustment, the penetration of transnational companies, trade liberalization and the transformation of rural societies. It is in this context that the new approach to international solidarity campaigns emerged, driven mostly by the activities of individuals and social justice organizations with planned actions and protests to oppose the neoliberal form of globalization. The key concerns of these protesters are related more on global social, political and ecological problems, rather than on the traditional notions of protests.

The process of globalization is geographically unlimited and it has numerous implications and repercussions associated with it. The protest movements under the notion of new social movements will provide a stable platform for uniting diverse concerns into a singular forceful assertion of the need for alternatives to today's dominant political and economic paradigms. The inequalities of the global economic and trade regimes form the focus of the broader agenda of issues involved in the social movements of the present times and it, in turn, functions as the safety valves for the discontents of globalization. Social

movements can also perform the institutional reform at the global level that would engender a new policy environment, in which multilateral agencies would not interfere into the sovereign space of a nation to decide on the social security system best equipped to address its needs. Unlike the earlier movements which are not fundamentally organized, these new movements seek to define a novel relation to the political realm. In the era of increasing globalization, the new social movements serve as a critical response to the advancement of neo-liberal globalization. On the whole, social movements of wider framework help to break down all the barriers that affect the welfare of humanity and perform the role of bringing the global community closer in order to attain the new reality of radical social change.

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