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Historicizing conflict: Conflict Narratives in Southeast Asia and Northeast India

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Abstract

Historicizing conflict is tounderstand conflict in a historical context, both in its contemporary situation and chronological history. It describes an attempt at counteracting projections of current conflict concept into history without divorcing the relevance of the past. Whetherbetter understand the present through historical interpretation, it needs to rethink familiar and fundamental concepts to go beyond the limits or its own historical container. Under this backdrop, the article observes the conflict narratives in Northeast India in different dimensions. For Southeast Asia, special focus is made on conflicts of Myanmar and Cambodia whereas for Northeast India conflict in Nagaland and Mizoram is taken into account. Myanmar has been plagued by conflict for decades: the military rule vs.democratic movements and also the Rohingya issue. In Cambodia, thewar (1967-1975), genocidal communism in late 1970's and a number of related factors are observed. On the other hand, India's two northeastern states Nagaland and Mizoram have their unique narratives of conflict. The broad aim of the article is to explore the narratives of conflict in South East Asia and North East India and to make a comparative study. It also explores Look East Policy influence on conflict resolution process of these particular regions in contemporary framework.

Low Quality of life (QoL) in Indian breast cancer patients: a critical analysis of Uttar Pradesh

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Abstract

Background

Breast cancer is the commonest of all cancers among women across the world and India being no exception to this deadly disease. There may be many symptoms due to cancer, some are complex but some are not complex. Measuring quality of life (QoL) is important to measure overall burden of disease. It is important to evaluate cancer specific QoL which is associated to all stages of this disease. Also Quality of Life is a term that adds various dimensions of quality of life such as physical, psychological, socio-economical, spiritual, cognitional & social dimensions. Balance between all the four domains (i.e. Physical, Psychological, Social and Spiritual) means good quality of life, but in India QoL in general is not good and if we talk of cancer patients its worst.

Objective

The aim of this study is assessment of QoL in breast cancer patients undergoing treatment through various modalities at different stages of disease. **Methods:** This is a cross-sectional study, a total of 150 breast cancer patients were included. Patients quality of life were assessed by Ferrel's Quality of Life Instrument-Breast Cancer patient version and the instrument is already validated by Ferrel BR et al (2012). These questionnaires consist of general well-being, psychological well-being, distress, fearfulness, social concerns and spiritual well-being. The data obtained gives Cronbach alpha value of 0.642 which is reliable enough for further study. The QoL in for most subjects was around 50% and is a cause of concern as this is quite low as compare to global standards.

Results

A significant relationship between type of cancer, amount of pain, and fatigue (tiredness) was found. However, none of the demographic variables (age, marital status, income) were significantly related to QoL. Education and type of treatment were found to be correlated with QoL. The physical well-being score was found to be Mean = 4.82, SD = 2.19. The Psychological well-being score was found to be Mean=4.95, SD=2.02. For social well-being score was found to be Mean=4.98, SD=1.94. The highest score was for spiritual well-being Mean = 5.32, SD = 2.46.

Conclusion

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Influencing quality of life (QoL) is an important issue in Breast cancer patients. Apart from effect of treatment there are other factors like socioeconomic status, psychological wellbeing, fear of recurrence etc., Which plays a pivotal role in patients wellbeing and if counseled at various levels like family, hospital and society can improve QoL.

Tamil Teaching Materials and Pedagogy for Learning Disability Children: A Case Study

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Abstract

The learning disability children face the major challenge in the real world as criticism due to unawareness and they become insecure, and secluded from social environments. Over the decades, pedagogical structural management and awareness has been deployed in diverse countries to improve and support the learning disability children. The Dyslexia, Dysgraphia and Dyscalculia are the major syndromes under the learning disability with different comorbids. In this case study, a group of learning-disabled children of age group 8-14, Tamil as their native language has been considered. A clear analysis on specific teaching materials, adoption of unique pedagogies for teaching Tamil language to the children has been carried out. The paper presents the various Tamil learning / teaching materials of learning-disabled children, challenges in teaching Tamil to the children and highlights the need of Tamil voice enabled mobile interfaces in helping the children to reach their potential as well as reducing the workload of specially trained trainers.

Indo-Japan CEPA and Agro-trade: Opportunities and Challenges for India Amreen Mahmood

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Abstract

In 2011, two of the Asia's largest economies signed free trade agreement called Indo-Japan CEPA. From the signing of agreement, based on trade value, India will abolish tariffs on items covering about 90 per cent of its imports from Japan by 2021 whereas Japan will eliminate tariffs on items covering about 97 percent of its imports from India in the same year. The agreement on trade in goods, proposes to gradually reduce tariffs for over 4500 tariff lines or products at 6 digit level by 2021 on both the sides. The study aims to identify the list of potential agricultural products in which India gains from increased exports and list of commodities where India needs to adopt defensive strategy in trading with Japan. It covers ten years' period from 2007-08 to 2017-18 and the same is divided into two subperiods i.e., pre-FTA period (2007-08 to 2010-11) and post-FTA period (2011-12 to 2017-18). Seventeen agricultural products such as chickpeas, frozen pacific salmon, ground-nut oil-cake, cotton seed oil-cake, frozen livers and roes, fennel seeds, opium sap, wheat and meslin were identified as potential products in which India can gain from increasing its exports to Japan. Eight agricultural products were identified as sensitive products. Out of these eight products, five have been kept under Exclusion category by India under IJCEPA therefore these products are cautiously defended by India but three products such as Soups and broths, Pasta and Yeasts are subjected to gradual reduction in tariffs (i.e., duty free by 2021). Technical and financial assistance to the traders and producers of these products be given to help them match the requirements imposed by Japan of SPS and TBT measures and increase their exports. Government should also provide clear directives and necessary assistance to the domestic producers or processors to counter the competition from Japans exporters.

Commodity Fetishism and Advertisements: A Survey of Internet Subscribers of Pakistani Products Farahat Hossain

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Abstract

The world at now as we know has evolved and recognized as an entity represented by dynamic economic and political systems which in their unique way affect the human beings' mentality. Upon focusing on capitalism in the cultural industry form, it is noticeable that different artificial needs are being created in the result of components of the system. This paper aims to study the effects of advertisements on their users to gauge the level of considering the needs shown in the advertisements as their real needs and the consciousness about the money required to purchase the products of those advertisements. Purposive sampling is selected to choose the internet subscribers of four Pakistani advertisements i.e.Fair and Lovely, QMobile, Coca Cola, and Milk Pack. The study has surveyed among 160 persons, 40 each from the four advertisements' subscribers. Commodity Fetishism is the theoretical framework that talks about the economic determinism and cultural industry which further leads the study to gauge the false consciousness within which false needs have been created. It is concluded by the study that Advertisements are creating false needs in those who expose themselves to the advertisements. Furthermore, it is also found that the internet subscribers of the advertisements never stop thinking about the money required to purchase those products. Meeting the false needs is the elixir for capitalism which incorporates masses with the system that Adorno called 'the total power of capitalism'.

Sustainability Growth of GST in Indian Economy-Past, Present & Future Prospects

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Abstract

The Philosophy of Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India is Good and Simple Tax is a very significant step in field of indirect tax reform in India. It is 2nd major surgical strike on tax evaders, brings most traders into the tax net, help develop a common market India makes movement of commodities freer in the country attracts foreign investors with a unified market with a single tax thought it has inconvenienced citizens on a spending spree with inflated bills on winning and dining, travelling property purchase etc. from the consumer point of view the biggest advantage would be there is no cascading effect of tax, and help in increase gross domestic product (GDP), ease of doing business and investment in the country. It make Indian product competitive in the domestic and international market. The transparent and self policing character would be easier to administer.GST is the only sustainable form of finance to guarantee the long term prosperity of nation.

Affordances of Flipped Classrooms: Unveiling the Paradox of Basics and Key Principles of Flipped Learning

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Abstract

Flipped classroom is an active, student-centered strategy that has been developed to enhance the quality of the classroom era. For many years up till now, language experts have been seeking better ways to teach and learn. Flipped learning in the classroom that spreads quickly throughout the globe is not well known in our nation. All through the history of teaching and learning, traditional methods have come and gone. Despite traditional methods, modern methods tend to be more of a student-centered, constructivist, inquiry based one. "Flipped learning" is an eye-catching model that has recently become popular. This article seeks to provide perspectives into flipped classes: roles, processes, and step-by-step what really happens inside and outside! That is to attract attention to its potential in education field and provide to make it recognize more by educators and researchers. To this end, it has been tried to clarify the benefits and constraints of what flipped classroom strategy is all about.