

IMPLEMENTATION OF HINDRAF RALLY FOR MALAYSIA

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ABSTRACT

The aim of the present study is to understand the impact of HINDRAF (Hindu rights Action Force) movement in the Malaysian politics. On November 2007, about 30,000 ethnic Indians converged in Kuala Lumpur to highlight the longstanding racial discrimination and inequalities practiced by the ruling government against Indians in Malaysia and a massive crackdown by the government. 75% of the protesters in the rally were youth who felt alienated due to denial of getting equal opportunities by the government in jobs, education, starting small businesses, buying houses etc. The spontaneous protests and demonstrations organized by the HINDRAF hit newspaper headlines in 2007. Equally relevant, the educated ethnic Indians have been protesting against many undemocratic practices of the Malaysian Government like the notorious Internal Security Act (ISA). The anger is not towards other ethnic groups but at those in power including the leaders of Malaysian Indian congress (MIC) who are sharing power with the ruling party. This was clearly manifested in the 2008 General Election, when Samy Velu, President of MIC lost his parliamentary seat in his stronghold constituency. The ruling coalition, the Barisan National (BN) and its main party, the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) suffered their worst electoral defeat since independence in 1957. The coalition, which until then had held 198 of the 220 seats in parliament, only won 140 and lost control in 5 of the 13 states of the federation. It was a significant victory for the opposition, the Pakatan Rakyat, which had allowed it to pass any laws it wanted in parliaments. While the same result 2/3 majority is repeated 2013 General Election, and additionally BN seats were fallen to 133 and lost control in 7 states. It is also a sign that Malaysian society aspires to profound changes.

Key words: HINDRAF, Implication, General Election, Indians, MIC, Barisan National opposition

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Introduction:

Malaysia is a typically multi-racial and multi-religious country. Historically Malaysian Indians, Many are descendants from those who migrated from India during the British colonization of Malaya. There is possibility that the first wave of Indians migration towards Southeast Asia happened when the Asoka's invasion towards Kalinga and Samudragupta's expedition towards the South. And then they have been present in the Malayan archipelago since the period of the influential Tamil Chola dynasty of the 11th century. Today, they form the third largest ethnic group 7.7 per cent in Malaysia after the 26 percent Chinese and 65.1 per cent of the Malays. In terms of ethnic Indian, own economic share in Malaysia 1.5 per cent of national wealth.

The socio-economic problems of a large number of Indians are rooted in the plantation economy. For several generations, they have been dependent on the plantation companies for employment and housing .these plantation resident communities earned low wages, lived in poor conditions without adequate facilities, experienced low levels of health care and personal welling while their children were educated in poorly equipped Tamil primary schools. Government rural development programmes in the 70s and 80s never reached them because the plantations, including the workers' living quarters, were classified as private property. Though the government recognized plantation workers as a poverty group and indicated that specific strategies would be adopted to improve the housing and quality of life of the estate population, little was done to improve their lot.

Indians are devoid of not only economic power but also economic power but also political clout. Although ethnic Indians comprise 7.7 population of the total population of Malaysia, there is not a single parliamentary or state assembly constituency where they predominate. This is because of their territorially uneven distribution. As an analyst pointed out, the Indian voters could tilt the balance in favour of the marginal winner in a few constituencies, where the Indian vote accounted for a little over 15 per cent of the rolls. The Malaysian Indian Congress¹ (MIC) image as an 'honored' member of the ruling Barison Nasional, took further beating as the Indian voters remained divided. While the rural Indian voter favoured the ruling

¹ **Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA)** is a uni-racial political party in Malaysia that represents the Malaysian Chinese ethnicity; it is one of the three major component parties of the ruling coalition in Malaysia called the Barisan Nasional (BN) in Malay, or National Front in English.

The MIC was established in August 1946, and has ceased to exist at the end of World War II, to fight for Indian independence from British colonial rule. After India gained its independence, MIC involved itself in the struggle for the independence of Malaya (now Malaysia which was achieved in 1957. It positioned itself for representation on behalf of the Indian community in the post-war development of the country. The MIC joined the National Alliance comprising the United Malays National Organization (UMNO) and the Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) in 1954 which became the Barisan Nasional in 1973 with further expansion in the number of component parties. The current head of the MIC is President Dato' Palanivel Govindasamy.

coalition the urban Indian voter forfeited non-communal parties like Democratic Action Party² (DAP). The cumulative effect of all these factors is that the MIC forfeited the advantage of bargaining from a position of strength and threw itself at the mercy of the major partner of the coalition³ (UMNO) for the seats to contest as well as for the cabinet berths. Though Indians, constituted a minority community, their votes were considered crucial in the event of the split in the Malay vote, following the rift between Mahathir Morhammod and Anwar Ibrahim.

Objectives: An attempt has been made to study the economic, political condition of Malaysian Indian and political implication of HINDRAF movement on Malaysia politics.

Methodology: This research paper is specially focus on ethnic Indian community , and the collection of source material from, various books, journals, newspapers articles, internet material and other relevant documents published by government report and relevant materials.

The Malay Agenda: The Malaysia constitution adopted at the time of the country independence from British colonial rule, in 1957 provide for special treatment to the Bumiputeras in government employment and in the matter of admission to educational instrument. In the aftermath of the 1969 riots, the Malaysian government introduced, in 1971, the New Economic Policy (NEP)⁴ to provide affirmative action programs for the majority “Bumiputeras” (Sons of the Soil) i.e ethnic Malays in business, education and the civil service toe compensation for their

² DAP is one of the three main opposition parties in Malaysia, along with the PKR and PAS, that are seen as electable alternatives to the Barisan Nasional coalition of parties. It is one of the component parties of Pakatan Rakyat (or known as People's Alliance). Though most of the seats it contests consists of majority Chinese Malaysians, the DAP receives support from the Malaysian Indians and a significantly large number of liberal Malays. The party's strongholds are the states of Penang, Perak, Selangor, Johor, and the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur. In the 2013 Malaysian General election, DAP swept nearly all the federal seats it contested throughout Malaysia, the seat they lost being the seats of Labis, Tanjong Piai, Sepanggar, Putatan, Alor Gajah, Mas Gading, Serian, Mukah, Kapit, Bintulu, Lawas, and Cameron Highlands.

³ The **United Malays National Organisation (UMNO)**, is Malaysia's largest political party; a founding member of the National Front coalition, which has played a dominant role in Malaysian politics since independence. UMNO is widely considered as backbone of Alliance Party (Malaysia), ruling coalition since 1951 and its successor since 1973, Barisan Nasional.

⁴ The **Malaysian New Economic Policy (NEP)** was an ambitious and controversial socio-economic restructuring affirmative action program launched by the Malaysian government in 1971 under the then Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak. The NEP ended in 1990, and was succeeded by the National Development Policy in 1991. Although the NEP was hailed in some quarters as having reduced the socioeconomic disparity between the Chinese and Malay majorities, while others accused it of having reduced the status of non-Malays to second-class citizens by cementing *ketuanan Melayu* (Malay supremacy). The NEP is often invoked as part of the Malay Agenda, which is in turn part of the Malaysian social contract granting Malays special rights in return for citizenship for non-Malays.

economic and social backwardness. The NEP institutionalised these special privilege to the Bumiputera community. The Bumiputera were encouraged and given incentives to uplift themselves in socio-economics, education and employment various institutions were formed for the exclusive benefit of the Bumiputera community. In 1971, the Bumiputera share of national equity was a mere 1.9 % with the implication of the NEP their stake increase 19.4 %⁵. There were government counteract for construction, the importing of foreign cars and other business opportunities exclusively for Bumiputera. Developers were forced to sell a portion of their property to Malays at a discounted price. Every public company was obliged to give minimum of 30% of their shares to Malays. Even jobs in the government were reserved specially for them. All these laws were meant to raise the Malay share of equity and to create a whole new ling of affluent middle class Malays. No effective action was taken on the NEP promise of reducing poverty even among the Bumiputera.

While there does not appear to be a bias in favor of Bumiputeras in the matter of taxation, instance are repeatedly cited, without the availability of authentic data, pertaining to alleged racial discrimination against non-Bumiputeras in many other fields to include:

1. allotment of Business license
2. closure of Tamil Primary Schools
3. award of government scholarships
4. granting of citizenship to Indians
5. granting of permits for taxis
6. allotment of shipping lots
7. admission to universities
8. appointment of lecturers

In 1991, the NEP was revised under the New Development Plan, NDP(1991-2000) to achieve further socio-economic upliftment of the Bumiputeras. The same preferential treatment of the majority Malays has continued under the new Vision Policy (2001-2010)

⁵ Janakey Raman Manickam, 'The Malaysian Indian Dilemma; The Struggles and Agony of the Indian Community in Malaysia', A Research Book on Social, Economy Education and Political Issues, 3rd Edition, Nationwide Human Development and Research Center, Selangor Darul Ehaan, Malaysia, 2013.p.144

The Economic Statuses of Malaysia Indians:

Malaysian Indians is socio-economically neglected community by the government. Despite the enormous economic growth Malaysia has enjoyed since independence, the position of the Indian Community did not improved much⁶. When the NEP (New Economic Policy), was formulated, the majority of the Indians were employed in the low-paying agriculture and service sector⁷. The major of NEP, NDP (New Development Policy), NVP (New Vision Policy), have emphasized poverty eradication of irrespective of ethnicity and the restructuring of society to eliminate the identification of economic function with economic ethnic groups as a core strategy. Thus, the government's aims were to promote an equitable society by raising the income and quality of life of low income group and to reduce economic disparity among ethnic groups. But in the Development Policies (NEP and NDP, NVP), the Government Priority is Bumiputeras, it has been replaced the discrimination system of Development Policies between the Bumiputeras-non-Bumiputeras. The Indian group is mostly sufferer to these policies, because most of the people working in plantation sector, municipality workers, they leave to very poor living condition. The development⁸ policy (NEP, and NDP, NVP) does not maintain the equalities of economic development. By the end of NDP period in 2002, the Indian community had not gained equitable access to economic opportunities. Two recent studies concluded that the government's continued neglect and the high levels of poverty in a section of the community have led to a worsening of their social and economic marginalization

The Eight Malaysia plan had proposed to undertake greater efforts to implement the employment restructuring strategy and programmes in various sectors of the economy and at all levels of occupations to reflect the ethnic composition of the population. Measures were also to improve the balance between Bumiputra and non-Bumiputra employment in the public and private sectors. More advanced vocational and training institute were to be set up to enable workers and graduates of vocational and training institutions to upgrade their skills and

⁶ K. Anbalakan, 'socio-economic self-help among Indians in Malaysia', K.Kesavapany, A.Mani, P.Ramasamy(edits), "Rising India and Indian communities in East Asia", Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore(published), Singapore , 2008, p.422

⁷ Ibid. p.423

knowledge. However, attention was more focused on increasing Malay Bumiputera participation, particularly in the professional managerial and other high-income occupations.

Hence, the development and poverty eradication approaches and programmers proposed for the Ninth plan should be designed to be holistic and inclusive of all ethnic groups. As table 1 (below) on the social stratification of Malaysian society indicates, low income earners come from all ethnic groups. An income-based approach in addressing issues of relative poverty and tackling social ills target all ethnic groups, including the 48 per cent of Bumiputera who fall under the category. This approach will prevent the politicization of development issues and counter the tendency towards ethnic mobilization and chauvinism. Such an approach will also meet the long-term goals emphasises in the NEP, NDP and NVP, i.e. eliminating the identification of ethnic groups with economic functions and enhancing national unity and integration.

Table1: Social Stratification of Malaysian Society

Ethnic group	Top	Middle	Bottom	Total
Bumiputera	1995500(13%)	5986500(39%)	7368000(48%)	15350000
Chinese	2040000(34%)	270000(45%)	1260000(21%)	6000000
Indians	360000(20%)	900000(50%)	540000(30%)	1800000
Total percentage of total population	4395000(18.9%)	9586500(41.4)	216800(39.6%)	23150000

Source: Yoyasan Staratageic social (April 2005), Jayasooria, Denison (2005), Social Unrest and Low Income Families in Urban Areas: Implications for National Unity, paper presented to the Parliamentary Select Committee on National Unity in Kuala Lumpur⁹

In opting for an income-based approach, it should be noted that the current official poverty figures are unrealistic and appear to under estimate the number of poor in the country.

The above table shows the social stratification of Malaysian Indians, 30% of Indians is bottom stage, 50% middle class people, around 80% Malaysian Indian poores and middle class

⁹ www.cpps.org.my/resource_low_income_malaysia.pdf. p.9

people, remain 20% of Malaysian Indians has to top economic statues. In the social stratification the Chinese shows the better position to compare with the Indians and Malays.

Ethnic Indian community is continuously deprived come marginal group in Malaysian society. The government implementing the discriminatory policy systems in all fields of Malaysian society like, economic, political, education, Religion...etc. an implication of Development Policies (NEP, NDP and 20-20 Vision Policies), the government more priority to Malays and less priority to other ethnic groups, particularly Indian community loss for their civil right opportunities specifically in Business sector, educational sector and political field. For this discriminatory reason Indian community strongly argue these policies. An Indian political organization MIC was failure to protecting the Malaysian Indian rights. It is one of great supporting party of ruling government. According to recent studies find out, Forty per cent of the serious crime in Malaysia are committed by Indians; there are 38 Indian based gangs with 1,500 active members; Indians also from the highest number of those detained under Emergency Regulations. Further, Indians the highest suicide rate, and account for 20 per cent child and wife abuse and 14 per cent of Juvenile delinquents. In Kuala Lumpur they comprise 15 per cent of the squatters. Malay-Indian are represented through the Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC), which is an important constituent of the United Malay National Organization (UMNO)¹⁰

Political Implication of HINDRAF Movement: The politics of Malay hegemony essentially entailed UMNO giving priority to the political, economic and cultural interest of Malays. While the practice of Malay hegemony, did not exclude the participation of non-Malays, their interests of Malays. In the initial stage of the pro-Malay policy, promotion of interests was defended on the grounds of affirmative action principles. But as time went on, UMNO was emboldened to emphasize the nation of Malay dominance (Ketuanan Melayu) as its strategic, concern¹¹. Apart from the continuing socio-economic and politico-cultural discrimination of the ethnic Indians in Malaysia, the growing Islamization of Malaysia society is also one of the major factors for the peculiar condition of the Malaysian Indians. Najib declared on august 2007 that Malaysia has

¹⁰ V.Suryanarayan, "Indian communities in Malaysia: challenges ahead" journal of Indian ocean studies,10(1): 2002,Pp.64-80

¹¹ P.Ramasamy, 'Politics of Indian Representation in Malaysia', K.Kesavapany, A.Mani, P.Ramasamy(edits), "Rising India and Indian communities in East Asia", Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore(published), Singapore , 2008, p.358

“never been secular because being secular by western definition means separation of the Islamic principles in the way we govern the country”¹². The above statement of Najib, now the prime Minister of Malaysia, clearly shows the attitude of the Malay political elites towards other religions and minorities of Malaysia. Over the past year Wahabbis from of Islam has also risen in Malaysia. Therefore, the non-Muslims, especially Hindus, feel that they are completely marginal to the dominant cultural ethnos, norms and tradition.

The resentment among the ethnic Indians regarding their marginalization in Malaysia society culminated in a historic protest rally in Malaysia on 25 November 2007, which internationalized the pitiable conditions of ethnic Indian in the country. The HINDRAF, an apex body of 30 organizations, led this protest under the banner of HINDRAF, thousands of people joined the peaceful protest against the marginalization, namely in the denial of jobs, fair wages, educational facilities, electoral reforms and equal opportunities and rights. The intentions of Malaysian government to demolish 79 Hindu Temples in the name of “Development” and same forceful conversion of the hinds added fuel to the protest. The rally was mean to support a \$ 4 trillion lawsuit filed in London in august 2007 by the HINDRAF demanding that Britain should compensate Malaysia Indians for bringing their forefathers as indentured labourers and exploiting them; it also sought to amend Article 153 of the Malaysia constitution which provides Malay supremacy. Malaysian authorities brutally crushed the protest. 136 persons were arrested. The Sedition Action was invoked against the arrested HINDRAF activists, though on the following day, police had to release the detained leaders, including HINDRAF president Waytha Moothy, legal advisor P. Uthamkumar and V.S Ganapathi Rao for lack of any evidence of their alleged seditious statements. On 27 November 2007, Prime Minister Badawi stated that the draconian Internal Security Act (ISA), which allows suspects to be detained for an identified period without charge or tried, could be used against the demonstrators arrested on 25 November 2007¹³. This social movement more aware to the Indian voters, against on ruling government and MIC party. The movement reaction explode in 8 March 2008 General Election of Malaysia was held one year ahead of its time as Abdullah Basawi was only in his fourth year as the Prime Minister and the final date of the election was not due until March 2009. It was thus widely

¹² <http://www.catallaxyfiles.com/blog/?p=5556> (assessed on august 10, 2010)

¹³ Delip Lahir, “Malaysian Indian Community: Victim of ‘Bumiputera’ Policy”, ORF Issue Brief, 2008, Pp12.1-8.).

speculated that this early call for a renewed mandate was to prevent former deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim from contesting. During the election campaign, HINDRAF was the major force that vocally used unconventional methods of campaigning. Using the internet, HINDRAF highlighted the wretched condition of the Malaysian Indians, and put forward their demands and agendas. This resulted in the unification and awakening of the Malaysian Indian society and consequently Barisan Nasional was denied two-third majority in the parliament and Malaysian Indian congress(MIC) was reduced to only three seats from nine seat in 2004, even Samy Vellu lost the election. Later on Samy Vellu resigned from the post of party president.

HINDRAF implicated the 2008 and 2013 General Elections. 2008 represented an earthquake in Malaysian political life. The ruling coalition, the Barisan Nasional (BN, National Front) and its main party, the United Malay National Organization (UMNO) suffered their most significant elected defeat since independence in 1957. The coalition, which until then had 198 of the 222 seats in parliament, only won 140 and lost control in 5 of the 13 states of the Federation. It was a significant victory of opposition, the Pakatan Rakyat (PR, People's Alliance), putting an end to the 2/3 majority held by the BN for 40 years which had allowed it to pass any laws it wanted in parliament. The same result 2/3 majority is repeated again at 2013 General Election, additionally BN loss 140 seats (2008) to 133 seats (2013), On the other hand opposition parties reached 82 seats (2008) from 89 seats (2013). This result expresses great success of opposition parties and to control the BN political power.

After several warnings by the Malaysian government HINDRAF was officially banned on October 15, 2008, confirmed by Malaysian Home Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Abar. In a statement issued at the ministry, Syed Hamid Said the decision HINDRAF as an illegal organization was made following the ministry being satisfied with facts and evidence that showed HINDRAF had and was being used for unlawful purposes and poses a threat to public order and morality¹⁴. This agitation dissolved the ruling party political strength.

¹⁴ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HINDRAF>

Table2: Political Result of MIC, 1995 to 2013

year	contested seats	wining seats	lose of seats	percentage
1995	7	7	-	3.18
1999	7	7	-	3.65
2004	9	9	-	4.1
2008	9	3	6	1.4
2013	9	4	5	1.8

Source: Computed Search

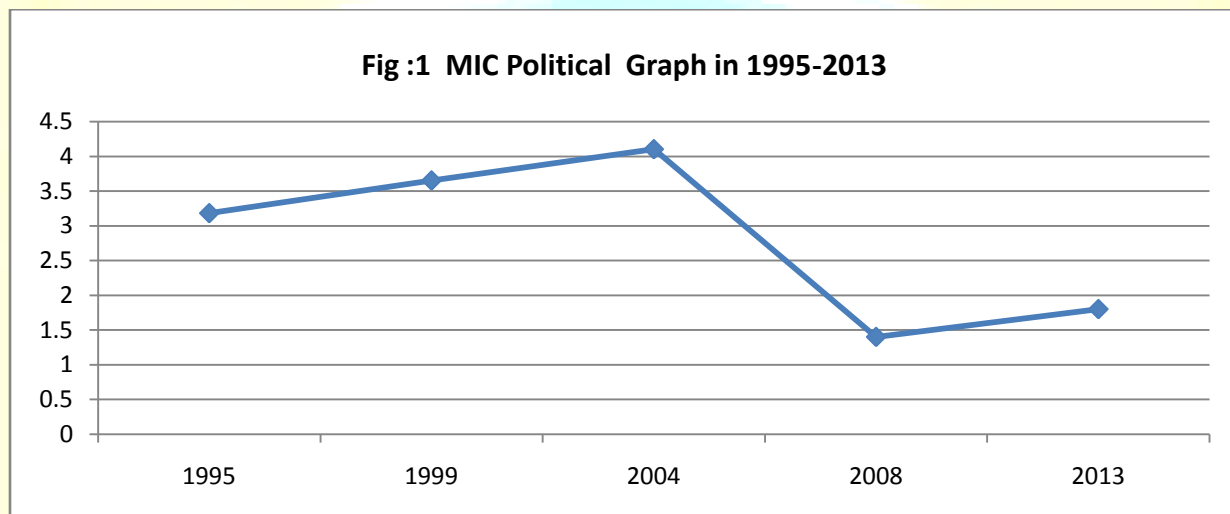


Table 2 figures shows the effectiveness of HINDRAF efforts to MIC politics, to loss the parliamentary seats can be seen in graph, the sharp decrease to 6 seats out of nine seats is the result of HINDRAF. The year 1995, 1999, 2004, was the best for the MIC in terms of ethnic Indian voters support, won by 3.18 per cent, 3.16 per cent and 4.1 per cent of the seats. This means the MIC achieved 100 per cent of Indian voters support. In 2008, MIC in particular had failed to muster the Indian electoral support, Won by 3 seats out of 9 seats. This result repeated to 13th (2013) General Election 4 seats out 9 seats. For two following elections MIC obtained 1.4 per cent and 1.8 per cent of seats, the difference of two elections just only 0.4 per cent. It was not better result to compare the past elections. The 1.8 per cent result pointed, the MIC regains the good number of Indian electorate support, compared to the 2008. The reason for this support, the decision of HINDRAF ban liftout the government before the 2013 General Election, this

sentiment slightly workout to Indian voters to take positive decision on the MIC and BN Government, it has reflected 3 seats to 4 seats (see table 2)

Table 3: BN Government and Opposition Party Result in 1995 to 2013

year	BN Government			opposition			total
	seats	%	% voters	seats	% seats	voters	
1995	162	84.38	65.2	30	15.62	34.8	192
1999	148	76.68	56.5	45	23.32	43.5	193
2004	198	90.41	63.9	21	9.59	36.5	219
2007	<i>Hindraf impact, see below years</i>			-	-	-	-
2008	140	63.06	5.27	82	36.94	46.75	222
2013	133	59.91	46.53	89	40.09	53.47	222

Source: Arab Aliran Malaysia: Peninsula Pilihan Ray¹⁵

Fig: 2 Political Graph BN, Opposition parties in 1995-2013

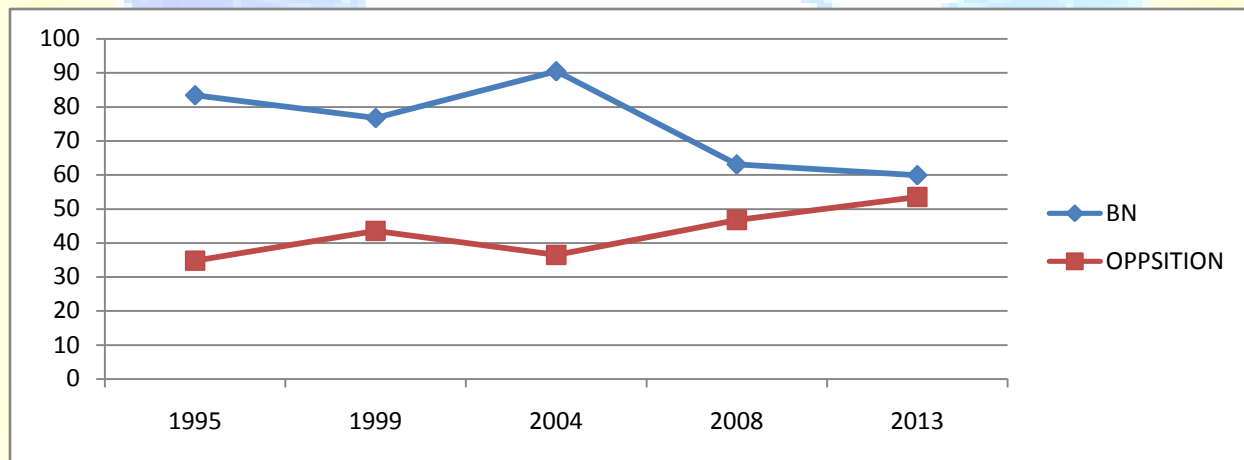


Table 3 shows the HINDRAF movement implicated the Malaysian voters 2008, 2013 General Elections. Before the movement (1995 to 2004) BN party still obtained 80.38 and 90.41 per cent popular seats, total average 83.62 per cent seats to three General Elections 1995, 1999, 2004, with 61.86 percent voters. In 2004, a quick analysis of the 62 parliamentary constituencies

¹⁵ Election%20% in%20 malaysia %20-% 20 the% 20 free 20 encyclopedia.htm

where there are more than 10 per cent Indian voters saw a 93.5 per cent success for the BN, as BN lost is only four of the 62 seats¹⁶. After the HINDRAF movement, BN secured 133 seats with 46.53 per cent popular votes compared to 140 seats with 50.27 per cent popular votes in 2008. This means a loss of seven seats and 3.74 per cent popular voters. Opposition on the other hand, this time, won 89 seats with 53.47 per cent popular voters compared to 82 seats and 46.75 per cent popular votes in 2008. This means the coalition has gained seven seats and an increase of 4.12 per cent popular voters (see table 3). For two elections running, the opposition was able to deny the ruling BN a two-thirds majority in parliament. Hence in terms of net seats and popular vote, the 2013 result shows the BN fared worst in 2008

But in terms of state legislature, in 2013 BN won nine out of the 12 states Kelantan, Penang and Selangor were won by PR with increased majorities, while it lost Ketah to B. states such as Perak and Terengganu were won by a narrow majority by BN with three and two seats respectively. In 2008, BN lost five states, namely Kelantan, Penang, Selangor, Perak and Kedah which were won by PR. However, Perak was lost to BN a year later when three PR legislators crossed over to BN

After the HINDRAF last General Election 2008 and 2013, opposition parties has notable success in constituencies with a heterogeneous ethnic composition (“mixed seats”¹⁷) because the majority Chinese and Indian populations voted against BN parties, before the HINDRAF opposition gained only 15.92 to 9.59 seats only and the average seats for three election only 16.17 per cent with 38.26 per cent of total three election (1995, 1999 and 2004). When they started ethnic Indian movement, it was mobilized the Malaysian voters. Although, the Chinese and Indian voters have decisively swung to DAP and Keadilan, causing MCA, MIC and Gerakan to lose massive support, it was totally unexpected for UMNO to lose their seats, but this movement great advantage of opposition parties to reach 38.51 per cent of average seats in 2008, 2013 General Elections with 50.11 per cent of voters (see the above table). Finally HINDRAF rally

¹⁶ Denison Jayasoori, ‘Social Development & Indians in Malaysia: An Agenda for Social Inclusion, Yasan Strategic Social (published), Kuala Lumpur, 2008. P.181)

¹⁷ Malay majority seats here refer to constituencies which have Malays making up 80 per cent and above of the voters. For example, in delineation exercise after the 1999 elections, several Malay majority seats were converted into mixed seats in Kedah to advantage UMNO (Ong and Welsh 2005)

broke out the BN political records and created the successful records of opposition party's political history.

By the political strategy, before the General Election April 2013, the Federal Government decision to lift its ban on the organization in January 28, 2013. The ruling party tried to attract the Indian voters support, and also accepted the 18 demands¹⁸ of HINDRAF. This positive step slightly reflect the 13 general election and MIC got 4 seat (see table 2) this result is better than 3 seats of 2008 election.

The Malaysian Indian community is at the cross roads today. A disenchanted and frustrated Indian community can turn out to be serious ailment for Malaysia. It should be pointed out that one reason for the rapid improvement of the status of the Malaya, the indigenous community in Malaysia in the post-independence era, had been the vigorous implementation of affirmative action in favor of Malays followed by successive control and state governments. The Indian community in Malaysia is the most disadvantaged community in Malaysia today. It requires sympathetic attention of the Malaysian Government.

Conclusion:

It can be stated that the HINDRAF implication o Malay politics the struggle of Malaysian Indians are difficult because the government NEP policies always favorable to Bumiputeras, the minorities suffering from this policies, moreover Indian community that are marginalized and the majority of Indians settled in menial workers. They could not get any special benefits from these policies, and the MIC always failed to articulate its grievance before top UMNO leaders. The ruling party government couldn't give the religious importance to demolishing the Hindu temples, this reasons is holding point of Malaysian Indians and they rising their voice against the Government and other minority groups and opposition parties (DAP, Parakant Rakayat) supported to the Indian community. Hence the major minority groups compromise with Indians have the keep their channels open. Elections of 2008 and 2013 have clearly indicated that UMNO is losing the grip over power. Election has also tough lesson to sterile Indian leaders who did not actively nurture of support their community needs.

¹⁸ Hindraf won't celebrate yet, the Malay mail, 28 January 2013, p.3

More than any other leadership crisis that has visited the MIC party; the rise of the 12th and 13th General Elections marked the turning point in its history and the loss of the MIC's vote base for good.

Hindraf was clearest sign BN legitimacy crisis. It was also interested as a protest vote against the pro-Bumiputera policy and perceived marginalisation of the Indians

Hindraf had become one of the triggers for change in the course of the Malaysian country.

Hindraf implicated the 12th and 13th national elections in 2008, 2013 ended with astounding results. Despite the decades-long dominance of the governing coalition, the opposition was this time able to win a tremendous number of voters after its devastating performance in the last elections in 2004. Opposition politicians spoke of a "revolution" and a "new dawn"

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Acknowledgements:

I would like to express my deep gratitude to Professor P.Munirathnam Reddy (Retd) my research supervisors, for their patient guidance, enthusiastic encouragement and useful critiques of this research work. I would also like to thank Dr. P.Padmaja, for her advice and assistance in keeping my progress on schedule. My grateful thanks are also extended to Mr.Bhupal for their support in the site measurement.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the technicians of the Centre of Southeast Asian & Pacific Studies department for their help in offering me the resources in running the program.

Finally, I wish to thank my parents for their support and encouragement throughout my study.