

Mordan Animus Dominandi between India -China

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Abstract

Theory of Animus Dominandi.(the struggle for power)Propounded by Hans Morgenthau has been studied analytically in the context of India and China. Hans Morgenthaureferring to the Peloponnesian War, writes that Athens, which was an established power, is challenged by Sparta, which was an emerging power, because one wants to maintain its dominance and the other wants to achieve that position. Therefore, there is a conflict between the two. Hans Morgenthau applies this in the context of America and China and calls it Animus Dominandi¹. But when India and China, both of which are emerging international powers, are evaluated, the characteristics of this theory are found. Kautilya uses the term Vijaygishu for India and other scholars use the term Dragon for China. The hunger for power in both Vijaygishu and Dragon is found in the facts written above and both of them are seen fighting among themselves rather than fighting with the established power. The biggest reason for this is the geopolitical proximity of these two states to each other. Therefore, an emerging power can also fight with another emerging power instead of an established power. The findings of this research establish a theory in this context, which I call the modern Animus Dominandi.

Keywords: National Interest, Geopolitical Situation, Ideological differences, World Politics, Regional Politics.

Historical Overview of Animus Dominandi:

The Latin term "Animus Dominandi," meaning "the desire to dominate nor Lust For Power," has been a common topic in historical and political discussions. Throughout history, this idea has appeared in different forms of political, economic, and social control. Here is a historical summary of how the desire for power has been present in various time periods. During ancient times, civilizations like Mesopotamia and Egypt had strong leaders aiming to increase their power and dominance over nearby areas. The building of massive structures like ziggurats and pyramids showcased their power. City-states in Greece, such as Athens and Sparta, demonstrated the desire for power through their military actions and political power. Alexander the Great sought to conquer the world as it was known at that time. At its peak, Rome, with its extensive empire, showcased the ambition to reign over significant regions of Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa. The Roman Republic and later the Empire were characterized by a continuous drive for growth and dominance. In medieval Europe the feudal system revolved around a structure of lords and vassals, with kings and nobles striving for control over lands and people. The Crusades were driven by a mix of religious fervor and the goal of dominating the Holy Lands. The Byzantine Empire aimed to uphold its power in the eastern Mediterranean, as Islamic caliphates rapidly expanded their control from the Iberian Peninsula to the Indian subcontinent. European countries, motivated by the desire for power, began setting out on exploration journeys. Spain, Portugal, Britain, France, and the Netherlands created settlements in the Americas, Africa, and Asia, taking advantage of both resources and populations.

¹PARIZEK, MICHAL. (2008, March 8). Evil Human Nature as a Necessary Assumption of the Neorealist View on International Politics. *E-International Relations*. ISSN 2053-8626. pp.1-2. <https://www.e-ir.info/2008/03/03/evil-human-nature-as-a-necessary-assumption-of-neorealist-view-on-international-politics/>

Emergence of Morden Dragon:

China's ascent as a global power is often characterized by what some perceive as a strategic and calculated pursuit of influence and control. This "lust for power" can be examined through various lenses, encompassing political, economic, military, and cultural dimensions. Below is an exploration of these aspects. Throughout its imperial history, China often exerted influence over its neighbors through tributary systems, where surrounding states acknowledged the Chinese emperor's supremacy in exchange for trade benefits and political support. The period of foreign domination and internal strife from the mid-19th to early 20th century fostered a national drive to reclaim sovereignty and restore China's position as a central global power. The Communist Party of China (CPC), since its establishment in 1949, has maintained strict political control, emphasizing stability, unity, and the promotion of socialist values. This centralized power structure is aimed at consolidating and perpetuating the party's rule.

Xi Jinping's tenure has seen a tightening of political control, with anti-corruption campaigns, enhanced surveillance, and suppression of dissent. This consolidation of power is intended to ensure long-term stability and control. The economic reforms initiated by Deng Xiaoping in the late 1970s transformed China into a global economic powerhouse. The state's control over key industries and strategic sectors has allowed China to direct its economic trajectory and exert influence globally. Launched in 2013, the BRI aims to enhance global trade routes and infrastructure, extending China's economic reach and fostering dependency among participating countries. This initiative is often seen as a means to project economic power and gain strategic advantages. Significant investments in modernizing the PLA, including advancements in naval capabilities, cyber warfare, and missile technology, reflect China's desire to enhance its military power and protect its interests, particularly in the South China Sea and Taiwan. China's assertive claims in the South China Sea, border disputes with India, and the handling of Hong Kong and Taiwan are indicative of its strategic ambitions to secure territorial integrity and regional dominance. China's focus on becoming a leader in emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence, 5G, and biotechnology, is aimed at gaining a competitive edge and establishing technological supremacy. Part of the BRI, this initiative focuses on digital infrastructure, enhancing China's influence over global digital standards and cyber governance.

Cultural and Soft Power:

Through Confucius Institutes, media expansion, and cultural diplomacy, China aims to enhance its soft power, shaping global perceptions and fostering cultural influence. China's active participation and leadership in international organizations, such as the United Nations, World Health Organization, and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, reflect its ambition to shape global governance structures in alignment with its interests.

U.S.-China rivalry, regional disputes in Asia, and scrutiny over China's global initiatives highlight the international response to China's rising influence. Countries balancing economic cooperation with China against concerns over political and strategic influence underscore the complexity of China's global integrat.China's "lust for power" is a multifaceted and strategic endeavor, rooted in its historical context and driven by contemporary political, economic, military, and cultural ambitions. Understanding these dynamics is crucial for comprehending China's current actions and future trajectory on the global stage².

Emergence of Morden Vijaya Gishu:

India, as a rising global power, exhibits ambitions and strategic interests that some may perceive as a "lust for power." This drive encompasses political, economic, military, and cultural dimensions, shaped by its historical context and contemporary aspirations. Here's an exploration of these aspects. India's history of colonization under British rule has left a profound impact on its national psyche, driving a desire for self-reliance, sovereignty, and regional influence post-independence in 1947. India's ancient civilization, with its rich cultural and intellectual legacy, informs its contemporary aspirations for a significant role in global

²Kim, Samuel S. (1997). "China as a Great Power." *Current History* 96, no. 611 : 246–51. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/45317710>.

affairs. As the world's largest democracy, India seeks to project itself as a model for democratic governance and a counterbalance to authoritarian regimes in Asia. India aims to be the preeminent power in South Asia, exercising influence over neighboring countries through diplomatic, economic, and cultural means. It seeks to balance China's influence in the region.

India's economic reforms since the 1990s have spurred significant growth, aiming to transform the country into a global economic powerhouse. Initiatives like "Make in India" aim to boost manufacturing and attract foreign investment. Building strategic economic partnerships, such as with the United States, Japan, and the European Union, is part of India's strategy to enhance its economic and technological capabilities. India is investing heavily in modernizing its military, including advancements in nuclear capabilities, missile technology, and defense infrastructure. The acquisition of advanced weaponry and indigenous defense production are key aspects. India's assertive stance on border disputes with China and Pakistan, its strategic positioning in the Indian Ocean, and its involvement in regional security initiatives reflect its military ambitions. India's focus on becoming a leader in information technology, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology is part of its broader strategy to enhance its global influence. The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has achieved significant milestones, such as the Mars Orbiter Mission and Chandrayaan missions, showcasing India's aspirations in space exploration and satellite technology.

Through initiatives like International Yoga Day, cultural diplomacy, and the global influence of Bollywood, India aims to enhance its soft power and cultural reach. India leverages its large and influential diaspora to build connections, foster economic ties, and enhance its global image. India's active participation in international organizations like the United Nations, BRICS, and the G20 reflects its ambition to play a significant role in global governance. Navigating relationships with major powers like the United States, China, and Russia, while pursuing an independent foreign policy, highlights India's complex strategic calculations. Addressing internal challenges such as economic inequality, infrastructure deficits, and social cohesion is crucial for sustaining its global ambitions. India's "lust for power" is driven by its historical experiences, democratic values, economic aspirations, and strategic interests. As it navigates the complexities of regional and global dynamics, understanding these motivations provides insight into India's actions and future trajectory on the world stage³.

Clash between Dragon & Vijaya Gishu:

Strategic competition between India and China is often framed as a clash of interests and ambitions, driven by their respective "lust for power." This dynamic encompasses geopolitical, economic, military, and cultural dimensions. Here's an exploration of the key aspects of the India-China rivalry. The long-standing border disputes, particularly in regions like Aksai Chin and Arunachal Pradesh, have been a major source of tension. The 1962 Sino-Indian War and subsequent skirmishes, including the recent 2020 Galwan Valley clash, underscore the contentious nature of their shared border. China's occupation of Tibet in 1950 and India's asylum to the Dalai Lama in 1959 have added to the historical grievances and strategic distrust between the two countries. Both India and China seek to be the preeminent power in Asia. China's influence in South Asia and the Indian Ocean Region through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its strategic partnerships with Pakistan (e.g., the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor) are seen as attempts to encircle India. On the global stage, both countries aim to enhance their influence through participation in international organizations such as the United Nations, BRICS, and the G20. Their competition extends to leadership in global governance and setting international norms. China's rapid economic growth has positioned it as the second-largest economy in the world. India, with its own significant economic ambitions, seeks to emulate and compete with China's economic model through initiatives like "Make in India." "The significant trade imbalance in favor of China has been a point of contention for India. Efforts to diversify trade partners and reduce dependence on Chinese imports are part of India's economic strategy.

³Pattnayak, Satya R. (2007). "India as an Emerging Power." *India Quarterly* 63, no. 1: 79–110.
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/45073224>.

India and China are heavily investing in modernizing their military capabilities. China's advancements in technology, naval power, and missile systems are matched by India's own military modernization efforts and strategic partnerships with countries like the United States, Russia, and France. The strategic posturing in regions like the Indian Ocean, where India seeks to counter Chinese influence through initiatives like the Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue with the US, Japan, and Australia), highlights the military dimension of their rivalry. China's leadership in 5G technology, artificial intelligence, and renewable energy is met with India's efforts to boost its technological capabilities through investments in IT, biotechnology, and indigenous innovation. Both countries have ambitious space programs. China's lunar missions and space station initiatives are paralleled by India's achievements in Mars exploration and satellite launches, marking another arena of competition. China's use of Confucius Institutes and media influence is matched by India's promotion of its cultural heritage through International Yoga Day, Bollywood, and engagement with its diaspora. Both countries aim to enhance their global image and soft power. China's global infrastructure projects under the BRI contrast with India's focus on cultural diplomacy and democratic values.

China's infrastructure projects in disputed border areas and India's counter-initiatives in its border regions reflect ongoing strategic maneuvering. India's deepening ties with the US, Japan, Australia, and other regional powers as part of its "Act East" policy and China's strengthening of alliances with Pakistan and other BRI countries illustrate the broader strategic alignments. India-China clash is a multifaceted and dynamic competition driven by historical grievances, strategic interests, and ambitions for regional and global dominance. Both countries' "lust for power" manifests in their economic policies, military strategies, technological advancements, and cultural diplomacy. Understanding these dimensions provides insight into the ongoing and future dynamics of their rivalry, shaping the geopolitical landscape of Asia and beyond.

Theory of Morden Animus Dominandi :

Hans Morgenthau's theory of "animus dominandi" provides a foundational framework for understanding international relations through the lens of power politics. By emphasizing the intrinsic human drive for power and the anarchic nature of the international system, Morgenthau offers a realist perspective that continues to influence and inform analyses of global politics. While his ideas have sparked debates and criticisms, they remain a crucial part of the theoretical landscape in the study of international relations. The clash of "animus dominandi" between the United States and China is a contemporary manifestation of Hans Morgenthau's realist theory, highlighting the inherent drive for power and dominance in international relations. This rivalry involves geopolitical, economic, military, and ideological dimensions, reflecting the struggle for supremacy in a multipolar world. Here's an exploration of the key aspects of this power clash. Understanding this rivalry through the lens of Morgenthau's theory highlights the deep-seated drive for power and dominance that shapes the actions and interactions of these two global giants. The outcome of this power struggle will significantly influence the future of global order and stability.

Hans Morgenthau is a realist thinker of international politics, bases the Peloponnesian war between Athens and Sparta on the hunger for power between America and China. He writes that Athens was an established power of the city-state system, which influenced the regional politics of that time through its decisions. On the other hand, Sparta was an emerging power of that time, which was challenging the dominance of Athens. That is why a 30-year war was witnessed between these two states; because one had the hunger to maintain power and the other had the hunger to acquire power. Hans Morgenthau considers America to be an established power and China to be an emerging power. There is a struggle between the two in acquiring power and maintaining the position of power, just like Athens and Sparta. Hans Morgenthau calls this theory Animus Dominandi. This theory propounded by Hans Morgenthau is not only propounded between an established power and an emerging power, but if we evaluate India and China, both of which are emerging international powers, then the characteristics of this theory are found. Kautilya uses the term Vijaygishu for India and other scholars use the term Dragon for China. The hunger for power in both Vijaygishu and Dragon matches with the facts written above and both of them are seen fighting among themselves instead of fighting with the established power. The biggest reason for this is that these two states are geopolitically close to each other. Therefore, the emerging power can also fight with other emerging powers instead of the

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