

Abstract

Ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka has number of main drivers which almost nearly interlinked. These drivers are a part of linear historical processes which one incident led a new one. Frequently huge numbers of the problems that might be considered as root foundations emerged inside a solitary yet expanding setting and similarly as regularly, at the same time. It is mainly inside the setting of ethnic politics issues and language and education policy can be found as examples.

The aim of this research is to explore and identify the difficulties in ethnic compromise in post war Sri Lanka. This examines the history leading to ethnic clashes between the Tamils and Sinhalese from ancient times to the present era. The objectives of the study are set to identify the problems of both minorities and the majority and to suggest effective strategies to bridge the gap and to enhance ethnic harmony in order to prevent future ethnic crises.

The study is a mix study which encompasses quantitative and qualitative design. Upon the study a conceptual framework was developed identifying six independent variable (History of the conflict, Language, Social & Psychological behaviour, Economic & Social Development, Politics, and Reconciliation) and a dependent variable (Ethnic Harmony). Then core argument was developed and tested using a likert scale questionnaire targeting 120 respondents in Mullaitivu and Jaffna areas. The responses received were then evaluated and analysed using Microsoft Office Excel.

The results have shown that there is a positive relationship between the six independent variables and the dependent variable. And finally, conclusions made stating that disintegration of Sinhalese – Tamils positive relationship is the result of the conflict and recommendations have been provided to minimize the gap found during the study.

Key words: *Ethnic Conflict, Government, Harmony, Sri Lanka, War*