Dr. Pragya Rai, Asst. Prof. Political Science, Maharaja Colleg

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The Systems Theory of International Relations

In the recent years efforts have been made to study international relations in the context of the systems analysis. Scholars believe that a scientific study of international relations can be made only if the relevant material is treated in terms of system action. The study of the actions of the parts of a political system can be made in terms of an analysis of the actions of participating units. It is assumed that there is a system in international relations. The nations (states) being its part are involved in the process of interaction as each nation (a unit) is in constant contact with "the whole" or the international environment. Therefore, each system can be a sub-system in relation to a larger system. A nation's behaviour is "a two way activity of ~~the~~ taking from and giving to the international environment" International system came into existence with the emergence of the modern European State system. State system existed in the earlier period. But these systems were limited to certain well defined areas like Greece, Italy, China and India.

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