

Third, the traditional study, as mentioned earlier, was mainly descriptive rather than analytical, explanatory or problem-solving in its method. The emphasis was on pure description in terms of a large number of facts. There was little attempt to develop a general theory by verification of hypothesis and compilation of significant data. It has been very aptly pointed out that the empirical deficiency of traditional analysis was the adjoining drive for behaviourism. This is what Robert Dahl called 'empirical theory' in contemporary studies. The mood of discontent with subjectivism and formalism of the traditional approach to the study of government and politics was led by the logic of the situation to the process of reconstruction of the discipline. A number of factors worked to bring about a radical change first in the outlook of the US and then other countries. According to some authors, three factors— changes in philosophy, changes in the social sciences and technological innovations in research— may not completely account for the behavioural innovation in political science, but provide sufficient explanation for the growth and prosperity of the movement. According to Peter Merkl, author of *Making of a Stormtrooper*, the most momentous single factor for the current transformation of the study of comparative politics was the rising importance of the politics of developing areas. With the great rush of former colonies to independence and nationhood, and with

their increasing importance in world politics, these countries of Asia, Africa, the Middle

East and Latin America simply could no longer be unseen.

Almond and Powell mentioned some developments being chiefly responsible for

the new situation. These are as follows:

The national emergence of a multitude of nations with a baffling variety of cultures

Social institutions and political traits

The loss of dominance of the nations of the Atlantic community  
The changing balance of power

The emergence of communism as a power factor in the process of restructuring

national

International political systems