

'The Genius of the People': Popular Sovereignty in an Indian Princely State

Dr Tejas Parasher King's College University of Cambridge tp491@cam.ac.uk

Figure 1: Royal palace of Mysore (October 1921)

Democracy's Ascent: 1918 - 1992

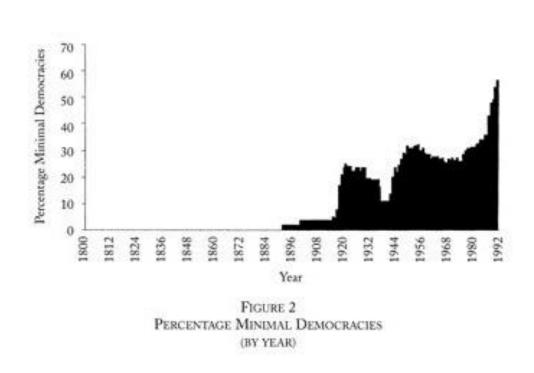


Figure 2: Democracies by year. Source: Renske Doorenspleet, "Reassessing the Three Waves of Democratization," *World Politics* (April 2000), p. 394.

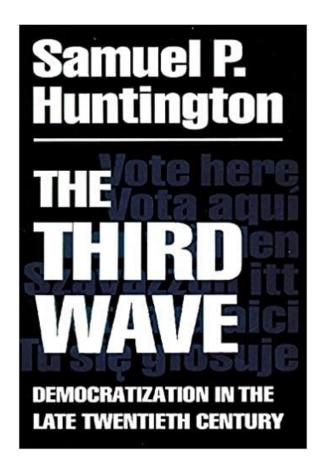


Figure 3: Samuel P. Huntington, *The Third Wave:* Democratization in the Late Twentieth Century (1991)

Vernacular Histories of Democracy

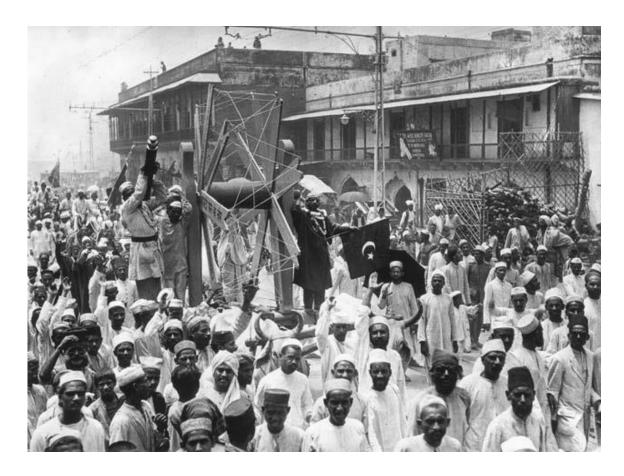




Figure 3: Civil disobedience rally, old city of Delhi (July 1922)

Figure 4: Sun Yat-Sen as leader of Republic of China (1912)

Mysore and the Princely States



Jammu & Kashmir British India Princely states Khasi States Baluchistan Assam Provinces States of Kolhapur and -Deccan States

Figure 5: Location of Mysore (shaded in red)

Figure 6: Princely states (shaded in blue) vs. British provinces

Mysore and the British Government

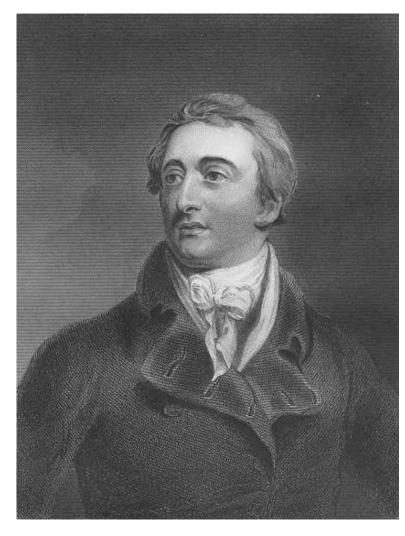


Figure 7: William Bentinck (1774 – 1839)

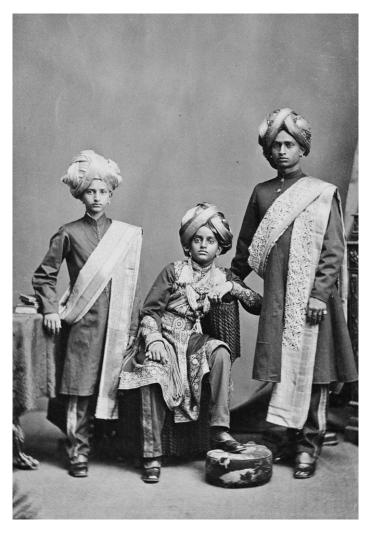


Figure 8: Princes of Wodeyar family (1887)

October 1922 – March 1923: A New Constitution



Sir Brajendra Nath Seal

Figure 9: Brajendranath Seal (1864 – 1938)



Figure 10: Oriental Research Institute, University of Mysore (1922)

CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN MYSORE

REPORT

OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED
TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS
OF THE SCHEME



BANGALORE: PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT PRESS

CONTENTS

1.	Committee's Covering Letter to the Dewan	PAGES (1)—(6)
2.	Committee's Report	1-111
3.	Committee's Recommendations	113-146
4.	Schedule A-List of Constituencies	147—151
5.	Schedule B-Demands for Grants	152-153
6.	Annexure I—Rules of Business and Procedure for the Representative Assembly	155—168
7.	Annexure 11—Conduct of Elections, etc., of the Representative Assembly	169 178
8.	Annexure III—Rules of Business and Procedure for the Legislative Council	179—205
9.	Minutes-	
	(i) By Messrs. K. Chandy and K. Matthan	207 - 209
	(ii) By Mr. Mahomed Abbas Khan	210-228
	(jii) By Messrs. S. Venkatesaiya and C. Srinivasa Rao	229—239

Figure 11: Mysore Constitutional Developments (Seal) Committee 1922-23: Report. Bangalore, 1923. IOR/V/26/272/9: 1923. India Office Records, British Library.

The constituted central legislatures in such Governments (taking both Houses together) are filled in great part by representatives who come in by a secondary or a tertiary election, or who are thrice removed from the spheres and interests of life they legislate upon, or whose composition does not even fairly reflect the actual balance of social forces in the country. Owing to these inherent disadvantages of representative Government by majorities (which can hardly be redressed by any scheme of proportional representation) it happens that direct action by primary interest-groups (or function-groups) in various spheres of life comes into the arena,

associations and assemblies had an independent origin and sanction; and the State, even when it came to incorporate them, and grant them charters, did not and could not wholly suppress their quasi-independent character or usurp their jurisdiction or functions.

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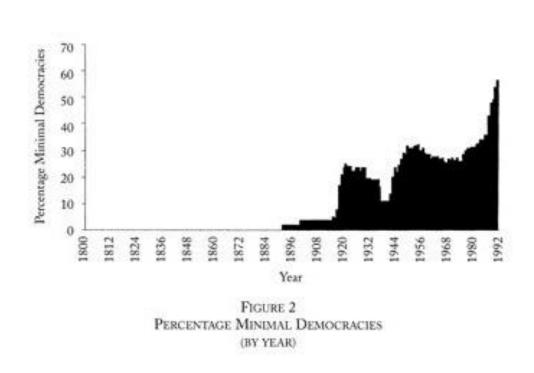


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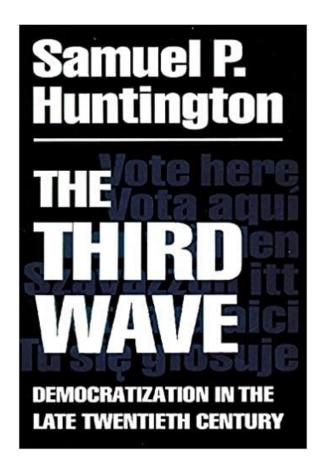


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