

# Border Dispute between Odisha and West Bengal with Special Reference to Udaypur and Sankhamedi Villages

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## ABSTRACT

Boundary or border either domestically or internationally plays vital role to reveal state's identity. Most of the time boundary or borderland becomes bone of contention among the provinces or the nation-states. In this work, the border discontentment between West Bengal and Odisha with special reference to Udayapur and Sankhamedi villages out of 14 disputed villages is focused on. The work is produced by the data from both primary and secondary sources. And to make it more scientific, both quantitative and qualitative methods are applied. From the study, it is found that frequent border disputes among the people from both sites are occurred on the borderland of Udayapur due to its rich natural tourism resources, people's blind love towards their own state (province) and language. Further, the reason of sudden conflict among the people of both sides is business interest. Again, the dispute in Sankhamedi village is primarily due to neglect of Odisha government and over focus of West Bengal government which resulted in one-sided demarcation previously which has been opposed by Odisha. This lingers the controversy there. Finally, this work has suggested some remedial measures like immediate joint demarcation, establishment of special police force at borderland, inculcation of the sense of humanity and brotherhood into the mind of both sides of the people for solution of border dispute between these two states in the villages of Udayapur and Sankhamedi.

**Keywords:** Border, Dispute, Government, Udayapur, Sankhamedi, Odisha, West Bengal.

## INTRODUCTION

It will never be answered unambiguously what determines human society the most. Needless to say, numerous elements will synthetically form a way for people to live. However, it seems obvious that among other elements geography plays a significant, fundamental role in shaping outcomes in human societies. In this sense that geography and human beings mutually affect each other, borders appear to be worth examining because they are not only physical, geographical figures, but also political structures (Alvarez 1995)<sup>1</sup>.

Borders have tended to be intentionally created by people in accord with their political perspectives, except in the case where there are inevitable environmental constraints, such as mountains and rivers. Although many borders have been consciously designated by people to define jurisdictional, administrative divisions, and have become important due to the physically partitioned space, they have also mentally affected human beings in shaping the way people think about their state. Hence, most of the time there is conflict on border and territories as people are by nature self-interested, contesting and conflictual. Border dispute otherwise known as Territorial disputes are about territory or 'Terra,' which in Latin means "land" or "earth." Territorial disputes are the most complex, most encompassing and historically charged of all border disputes. Traditionally, they broach issues of sovereignty, but also ethnicity, language, religion, culture and sense of belonging, as well as natural resources, including access to water, rivers, sea and transportation network. Border dispute is a common source of political instability and military conflict around the globe, both in the present day and throughout history (Brunet-Jailly, 2015)<sup>2</sup>. It is a disagreement over the possession or control of land between two or more political entities. Many root causes of boundary disputes exist like natural or manmade changes in land features or formations. Again, conflicting legal descriptions in the deeds or documents adjoining properties and contradictory or confusing language within the same deed also raise border dispute. Boundaries create opportunity for conflict by states violating the boundary drawn and invading on the opposing "territory", conflicting over resources in an area shared by boundaries, being too small or large for a given state.

A border dispute arises when two governments or more do not agree on the location of the border between their lands. For example border dispute between Pakistan and India, India and China etc. in International level. Further in India, conflict between Odisha-West Bengal, Odisha-Andhra Pradesh, Odisha-Jharkhand and Odisha-Chhatisgarh are important border dispute issues presently. Now-a-days, it's a very common issue between two states. During the First World War a forceful movement was organised and led by Pandit Gopabandhu Das. As a result, Orissa was separated from Bengal, Madras and Central Provinces. It came into existence on 1st April, 1936 (Brief History of Orissa, 2005)<sup>3</sup>. From that

time implicitly or explicitly the border dispute between Odisha and West Bengal over Udaypur, Sankhamedi, Jaleswar region has been bone of contention between two neighbouring states. There are those who are adversely impacted by the problem. As these villagers do not have any identity card to prove their domicile status, they don't know whether they belong to Odisha or another state. As a result, these villagers cannot withdraw rations, and don't have voting rights. In this study border dispute between Odisha and West Bengal has been highlighted with special reference to Udaypur and Sankhamedi village under Bhograi block of Odisha. The border dispute hinders development of the outskirt areas of both the states.

### **Research Problem**

Both West Bengal and Odisha are literate states. They claim to have capable government, administration and personalities to solve any problem. But since the creation of Orissa as independent province the border dispute is going on. Presently, Odisha has a border row with West Bengal over 14 villages in Balasore and Mayurbhanj districts. The disputed villages are mostly in Bhograi and Jaleswar blocks in Balasore district (Odisha's border disputes keep villagers on tenterhooks, 2016)<sup>4</sup>. It creates many sub problems. It pushed both the states in to conflict. It creates linguistic and physical violence between the people of both states. Further it prevents development of the disputed region, i.e. Udaypur, Sankhamedi and Jaleswar. The researchers through this study examine the problems with special reference to Udaypur and Sankhamedi and suggest solution.

### **Hypothesis**

The hypothesis is doubtful question about research problem to be proved or disproved. In this respect the present student researchers devised following hypothesis.

1. Distant remoteness of the disputed areas Udaypur and Sakhamedi from headquarters of the both states leads to border dispute.
2. Lack of interest of the government, administration and local leader is responsible for continuance of border dispute between Odisha and West Bengal.
3. Trade, business and profit motive among the people of both states continue the border dispute.

### **Objective**

The objectives are the ways to achieve the main goal. In this respect to analyse the problem and get the solution to the problem the researcher has undertaken the following objectives.

1. To study the conceptual and historical background of the research problem.
2. To study and evaluate the governmental and administrative measures taken to solve the border dispute.
3. To examine the behaviour pattern and mental attitude of all the stakeholders towards to research problem.
4. To suggest the remedial measures to solve the border dispute at Udaypur and Sankhamedi regions.

### **Research Methodology**

This study is based on both theoretical and field work. The theoretical work is based on secondary data from books, articles in journals, newspaper and internet sources. Through field work the primary data has been collected on the basis of interview method, group discussion and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA). For interview, a structured and printed scheduled of question has been used on the respondents in the sample area i.e. Udaypur and Sankhamedi villages. The researcher used simple random sampling design and the sample size is fixed as 80 having considered significant limitations. The collected data are encoded, tabulated and analysed using the computer and the SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Science) software. For analysis simple statistics like Percentage, decimal are considered. It has emphasized on qualitative method. In short the work has become scientific, behavioural & triangular.

### **Significance of the Study**

A State is constituted by the people or citizens. According to Morgenthau self-interest is the inherent quality of any person, whether people or citizen. Through their behaviour the state's behaviour is modified. The same thing is applied in case of inter-state border issue in India, whether it is the conflict between Odisha and West Bengal, Odisha- Andhra Pradesh or Odisha- Jharkhand and Odisha -Chhattishgarh. The present study is important as because it focuses on the smooth solution and management of the border dispute between Odisha and West Bengal. End to this dispute will open a new chapter of development in relation to economic, social, political etc. Hence it is important.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

The aim of the literature review is to discover what available knowledge exists related to the present research topic. It helps to find research gaps in published research works on the concerned topic that may generate new original ideas in the present research. The present researcher has undertaken an ideal amount of books, articles etc. for literature review and tried to find out the research gap.

Urbatsch (2006)<sup>4</sup> in his doctoral thesis "Borders of Magnitude: Politics near Jurisdictional Boundaries" pointed out different characteristics on political engagement between people near borders and people elsewhere. His argument can

be interpreted as evidence of sub-national border effects, since he suggested that state borders in the U.S. let borderland people exhibit different preferences over particular politics due to the different escapability, in his terms, of policies. Holmes (1998)<sup>5</sup> promptly assumed the state characteristics unrelated to policy are the same on both sides of the border concerning the location of industry. At state borders, he noted the geographic determinants of the distribution of manufacturing for example, climate, soil fertility, access to transportation, and the level of agglomeration benefits are approximately the same. Thus, he straightforwardly insisted the effects of location on industry are a matter of policy.

Forsberg (1996)<sup>6</sup> in his article “Beyond sovereignty, Within territoriality: Mapping the space of late Modern” observed that the sources of conflict in many societies are rooted in imbalance in economic and political systems that encompass disparity in the distribution of wealth, legislative and administrative power among ethnic, religious groups. By creating “otherness,” we create separate identities through the maintenance of the border. The location of the boundary may change through time, as some groups or territories expand and others decline, but they will always demarcate the parameters within which identities are conceived, perceived, perpetuated and reshaped. Whatever the form of re-territorialisation which takes place, territory remains an important dimension of identity.

Goodhand (2018)<sup>7</sup> in ‘Borderlands, Brokers and Peacebuilding: War to Peace Transitions’ observed that nature, intensity, and frequency of conflict have evolved in recent years, shifting from wars fought directly between states to various forms of violence, including insurgencies, guerrilla wars, terrorism, organised and large-scale criminal violence, and protests. This broadly positive trend in the “successful” reduction of conflict at national levels often masks sub-national and cross border pockets of latent, simmering or protracted conflict.

Becher(1989)<sup>8</sup> in “Academic Tribes and Territories: Intellectual Enquiry and the Cultures of Discipline” observed that as long as the study of boundaries was synonymous with the lines separating the sovereign territory of states in the international system, the focus of research was geographical. The understanding of boundaries has taken on new forms and scales of analysis; so the study of the bordering phenomenon has become multi-disciplinary with sociologists, political scientists, historians, international lawyers and anthropologists taking an active part in the expanding discourse. But like many multi-disciplinary discourses, the language, semantics and meanings of the border have experienced difficulties in fusing into a single set of recognizable parameters and concepts. Crossing the language barrier of the borders between academic disciplines and practitioners is often harder than the trans-boundary movement which is increasingly taking place across the borders between states and regions. Borders may be as much perceived as they are concrete and tangible phenomena in the landscape. Kleemann and Thomas (2006)<sup>9</sup> in “Developing a forced choice measure of conflict handling behaviour: the ‘mode’ instrument”, Educational and Psychological Measurement “ observed that Environmental conflicts over the use of natural resources, intensified of use, environmental degradation and resource scarcities are relevant sources of conflict in various regions of the world .

### **Research Gap**

The available reviews of literatures have covered conceptual and theoretical aspect of border or territorial dispute especially with a macroscopic focus. Further, there are many existing works on international border issues. There is meagre work on interstate boundary dispute in relation to India. Very important matter is that there is neither any microscopic work on border dispute on Odisha and West Bengal nor any work on border dispute especially relating to Udaypur and Sankhamedi villages under Bhograi block in the district of Balasore. In this view this work will definitely plug that gap and provide new ideas and strategies for a practicable solution to the problem.

### **Conceptual Framework**

Boundaries have been a key component of the modern territorial vocabulary. They have origins in Euclidean thinking, which sees space as two-dimensional. They also fit in well with Kantian rationality, which considers space and time as two symmetrical conditions of human experience. They can be considered “a generic term for the linear spatial discontinuity” Its Saxon etymology suggests the “boundary” or “border” could be that which binds, a place of friction or meeting where alternative is negotiated. Probably more than boundaries, borders are a kind of space where the relationship with otherness can be developed such a way as to allow for identity-building and place-making. This socio-anthropological definition of borders emphasizes the complex relations of the spatial divides with distance. The Roman etymology (of the word boundary/or border) differs from the Saxon one: The direct translation of boundary in languages derived from Latin, such as “frontière” in French or “frontera” in Spanish, has its roots in the “front” and attests to the rivalries and battles that took place before linear devices known as boundaries were in use (Fall, 2005)<sup>10</sup>.

Humans began marking territories when they started harvesting and later when planting seeds and harvesting about 9,500 years ago. Marking, fencing and walling territory is as old as our earliest cities. What is recent is the systematic repertory of land possessions by the rulers of this world. The first ever-international treaty is Westphalia, which in 1648 innovated in establishing the international and legally enshrined mutual recognitions of the territorial possession of particular rulers and the search for a balance of power guaranteed by territorial stability. The extent of a state’s power

was thus to be limited by the extent of a rival political domain, upon the agreement over a partition of space symbolized by a common separation line that would thereupon be called a border.

In Political Science territory is a broad term with numerous meanings. Territory is always an attribute of sovereignty. In giving a succinct analysis of sovereignty as a corollary of territory, Shaw asserted that the state relies upon the foundation of sovereignty which expresses internally the supremacy of the governmental institutions and externally the supremacy of the state as a legal person. But sovereignty itself, with its retinue of legal right and duties is founded upon the fact of territory. Therefore, without territory a legal person cannot be a state (Shaw, 1999)<sup>11</sup>. According to Hutha territorial dispute involves either a disagreement between states over where their common homeland or colonial borders should be fixed or more fundamentally, the dispute entails one country contesting the right of another country even to exercise sovereignty over some of or all its homeland or colonial territory. Huthopined that a territorial dispute exists between two states in any of the following situations: 1) At least one government does not accept the definitions of where the boundary line of its border with another country is currently located, whereas the neighboring government takes the position that the existing boundary line is the legal border between the two countries based on a previously signed treaty or document; and 2) One country occupies the national territory of another and refuses to relinquish control over the territory despite demands by that country to withdraw (Huth, 1996)<sup>12</sup>.

There are some other causes to the problem of boundary dispute. First, there is the use of inappropriate topographical terms, such as crest, range, and mouth. Second, there is the use of vague geographical features. A third category of uncertainty in drawing borders consists of intricate human and cultural features. Finally, there is the use of inconsistent or contradictory statements (Mancini, 2013)<sup>13</sup>.

Further, the difference between a boundary conflict and territorial conflict is that, a boundary conflict is a conflict over a boundary line that as a minimum is defined, or is in the process of being defined, by the parties, by implicit consent or explicit agreement. This means that all stakes and issues leading to disputes and armed conflicts are related to once and somehow agreed upon boundaries. International boundaries are thus sharply defined lines, fixed by nations like fences between their respective properties. However in nature there are no sharply marked boundaries of any sort, only zones of transition (Nordquist, 2002)<sup>14</sup>.

Territories contestation and conflicts have earned increasing scholarly attention within social science over the past decades. According to Holsti territory has continued to be the main indicator of a nation's power as it has been since the days of Louis XIV (Holsti, 1991)<sup>15</sup>. For Walter the most intractable conflicts in the 20th century were those fought over territory. It is studied that territorial issues are one of the most frequent sources of war, and that competing governments are less likely to resolve disagreement over territory than almost any other issue (Walter, 2004)<sup>16</sup>.

Hensel (1996)<sup>17</sup> also observes that territory has remained a relatively constant source of militarized disputes, although the 1920-1939 (decades of low global economic integration) witnessed the highest percentage of territorial issues in such disputes. Further he expunges that territorial issues are more likely to escalate to produce a greater number of fatalities, and be more conflictual than non-territorial confrontations.

However, in relations to explanatory framework, a theory that tends to give territorial explanations is yet to be established but, territorial theory and the role it plays has not yet been fully examined. However, three theoretical approaches have been developed and adopted in an attempt to explain the relationship between territory and violence; these approaches focus on proximity, interactions, and territorial issues.

### **Proximity approach**

This approach according to Ben-Yehuda suggests that the relationship between contiguity and war is due to the proximity between adversaries. Distance usually places a restriction on the ability of most states to wage wars against states located far away. In this regard, distance states are likely to have little interaction and, therefore, have no stakes over which to fight (Ben-Yehuda, 2004)<sup>18</sup>. Again Dougherty and Pfaltzgraff have posited that for technologically undeveloped societies, war, like violent crime, is usually a function of physical proximity. In other words, states that are close to each other and share common boundary, have a predisposition to fight each other because of their closeness and nearness (Dougherty and Pfaltzgraff, 2004)<sup>19</sup>.

### **Interaction approach**

International boundaries however, bring states together, create interaction and cooperation, yet boundary contests constitute a serious threat to interstate relations. Zartman enunciated this point vividly, when he observed that states having a common boundary shared at the least a minimum degree of bond and cannot claim to be able to totally ignore each other. But the fact remains that the inability of national and state borders to synchronize have caused much of the sufferings in the modern state system (Zartman 2002)<sup>20</sup>.

### **Territoriality approach**

This approach focuses on territory as the paramount issue dividing rival states. What creates motivation for waging war are the territorial issues creating hostilities: “what makes for war is that, territory once seen as legitimately owned will be defended by the use of violence where other issues are less likely to be” (Vasquez John, 1993)<sup>21</sup>.

In this regard, preliminary empirical analysis consistently shows that territorial issues that give rise to militarized disputes are more likely to escalate into war than would be expected by chance. States and groups have continued to contest territory, often violently even the states in India like Odisha- West Bengal, Odisha-Andhra Pradesh, Odisha-Chhattisgarh, Odisha-Jharkhand etc.

### **Problem of Border Dispute**

Border disputes are notoriously difficult to resolve. Governments are unwilling to “lose” boundary disputes since they might suffer political consequences as well as loss to national interests. Disputed territories may contain important natural resources, such as hydrocarbon, mineral reserves, tourism resources, or water sources; provide access to the sea or shared terrestrial resources, such as grazing areas; or be a strategic location. Border areas have their own problems and peculiarities. Such areas are in general less accessible, making provision of basic facilities more difficult and costly. Such areas are often more vulnerable to illegal infiltration of population, which adds pressure on their economic and environmental resources.

Moreover, porous nature of the border enables easy cross border passage for insurgents and criminals including drug traffickers. Thus, governments of the states with international border are required to bear heavier burden for not only providing basic facilities to the people living in such areas but also for the broader national goal of securing the border. Territorial disputes have significant meaning in the international society, both by their relation to the fundamental right of states, sovereignty and also because they are important for international peace. Contemporary conflicts have become more complex and protracted. About 2 billion people, circa a third of the world’s population, currently live in countries affected by conflict. Conflict is often linked to global challenges from climate change to human trafficking..

The interstate boundary dispute across the country is huge. It’s intensity is more in north-eastern states. Also, Odisha has boundary dispute with the neighbouring states i.e. Andhrapradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal.

The Odisha government admitted that the boundaries of over 100 villages at the state's border could not be determined. According to the then Odisha Revenue Minister Bijayshree Routray, the state has border disputes with Andhra Pradesh over 64 villages -- including 22 in Koraput district, 21 in Ganjam district, 16 in Gajapati and five in Rayagada. The state government could not determine the boundaries of a total of 13 villages in Mayurbhanj, Keonjhar and Sundargarh due to disputes with Jharkhand. Similarly, the state government has border disputes with Chhattisgarh. It has dispute relating to four villages in Nabarangapur and one in Jharsuguda district.

Odisha has a border row with West Bengal over 14 villages in Balasore and Mayurbhanj districts. The disputed villages are mostly in Bhograi and Jaleswar blocks in Balasore district (Business Standard, 2016)<sup>1</sup>. Out of them Udaypur and Sankhamedi villages are most affected. Udaypur area being an economically enriched region has been attracting both the states. Both the states are trying to harvest more and more natural resources for the tourism perspective.

Even in 2016, when the Odisha government was establishing Marine Police station at Udaypur on its own land was seriously opposed by the government of West Bengal. Even illegally, West Bengal day by day encroaching the area of Odisha claiming its own. Recently the West Bengal government officials in the pretext of its own land encroached the land in Odisha with destroying some houses, trees and *PaanBaraja* etc.

Many illegal business and activity are continuing through the border as there is no fixation/determination of boundary between two states. Most of the time there is sudden conflicts occurred among the shopkeepers and local residents relating to their livelihood issues or shops and business. Anyway the problems occurred in the disputed places between two states may be as follows:

### **Livelihood issue**

Most of the time people and authorities from West Bengal destroyed the shops, farms, *PaanBaraja*, houses etc. in the pretexts that these are their land. Further, disturbance is created; when some shopkeepers from other side of the state start business in the counter state’s areas.

### **Land documentation**

In the village, Sankhamedi which is a part of Odisha the people are unable to get the land documents or Record of Rights of the land they are staying for long. They complained that the authority of West Bengal have snatched away such

documents from them. So, they cannot get any type of certificates. Even their children cannot get the scholarship and admission for higher studies.

### **Basic Amenities**

Both the villages i.e. Udaypur and Sankhamediare under dispute; people do not get proper amenities or facilities for their day to day living. For Example, people do not get ration card to withdraw essential commodities distributed freely or with concession by the government.

These villagers do not have any identity card to prove their domicile status, they don't know whether they belong to Odisha or another state. They do not get proper road to walk. Presently, all most all the area is connected with concrete road, but it is pathetic that in rainy season it becomes too difficult to walk on the muddy road in Sankhamedi. There is no safe drinking water facility in these areas as neither of the states takes care of these villages. Not to talk about medical facilities of these areas.

### **Education Facility**

Education is an important aspect for development of human personality. But, it is unfortunate for the part of these people that children are not getting certificate after finishing their study. There are no teacher, no sufficient study material. Even, there is language crisis. The people those who are part of Odia are talking in Bengali language.

### **Profile of the Study Area**

There are 12 blocks in the district of Balasore. Out of them, Bhograi block is the largest. It is situated in the extreme North-Eastern part of the district. It is partly encircled by Bay of Bengal. The state of West Bengal is very adjacent to the Bhograi block. The river Suvarnarekha is running in the block. According to 2011 census the total population of Bhograi block is 2, 83,880. Out of which 1, 46, 843 are males and 1,37,037 are females.

The total SC population is 52, 482, out of which 26,728 are male and 25,754 are female and ST population is 7,193 out of which male are 3626 and female are 3,567. The average sex ratio of Bhograi block is 936 while child sex ratio is 923. The rate of literacy in Bhograi block is 84.67%. Male literacy is 91.95% and the female literacy rate is 76.91% in Bhograi block.

Udayapur is a medium size village located in Bhograi Block of Balasore district, Orissa with total 265 families. The Udayapur village has population of 1118 of which 583 are males while 535 are females as per Population Census 2011. In Udayapur village population of children with age 0-6 is 184 which make up 16.46 % of total population of village. Average Sex Ratio of Udayapur village is 918 which is lower than Odisha state's average of 979.

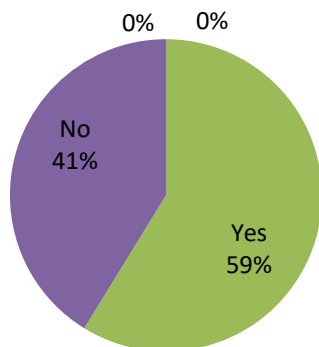
Child Sex Ratio for the Udayapur is 822, lower than Odisha average of 941. Udayapur village has higher literacy rate compared to Odisha. In 2011, literacy rate of Udayapur village was 74.73 % compared to 72.87 % of Odisha. In Udayapur Male literacy stands at 83.40 % while female literacy rate was 65.49 %. In Udayapur village, most of the villagers are from Schedule Caste (SC). Schedule Caste (SC) constitutes 83.63 % of total population. In Udayapur village out of total population, 395 were engaged in work activities. 81.52 % of workers describe their work as Main Work (Employment or Earning more than 6 Months) while 18.48 % were involved in Marginal activity providing livelihood for less than 6 months. Of 395 workers engaged in Main Work, 29 were cultivators (owner or co-owner) while 93 were agricultural labourers.

Sankhamedi is a medium size village located in Bhograi Block of Balasore district, Odishawith total 98 families. The Sankhamedi village has population of 486 of which 258 are males while 228 are females as per Population Census 2011. In Sankhamedi village population of children with age 0-6 is 56 which make up 11.52 % of total population of village. Average Sex Ratio of Sankhamedi village is 884 which is lower than Odishastate's average of 979. Child Sex Ratio for the Sankhamedi as per census is 647, lower than Odisha's average of 941. Sankhamedi village has lower literacy rate compared to Odisha. In 2011, literacy rate of Sankhamedi village was 34.42 % compared to 72.87 % of Odisha. In Sankhamedi male literacy stands at 42.41 % while female literacy rate was 25.73 % (Udayapur Population - Baleshwar, Orissa, 2011)<sup>22</sup>.

## **FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS**

In this project work the researcher has many findings to his credit. He has tested the concerned hypotheses on the basis of the data collected in the field study. He has tried his best to study the perceptions of the respondents i.e. local residents, local shopkeeper etc, of Udaypur sea beach at Bhograi block under the district of Balasore to analyze the problems and probable solutions of the problem. He collected data from 80 respondents cautiously and systematically. The researcher has taken the hypothesis no 1 that whether distant remoteness of the disputed place i.e. Udaypur and Sankhamedi from State and district headquarter is the cause of continuance of the border dispute. To prove this hypothesis the researcher interviewed 80 people with three hypothetical questions.

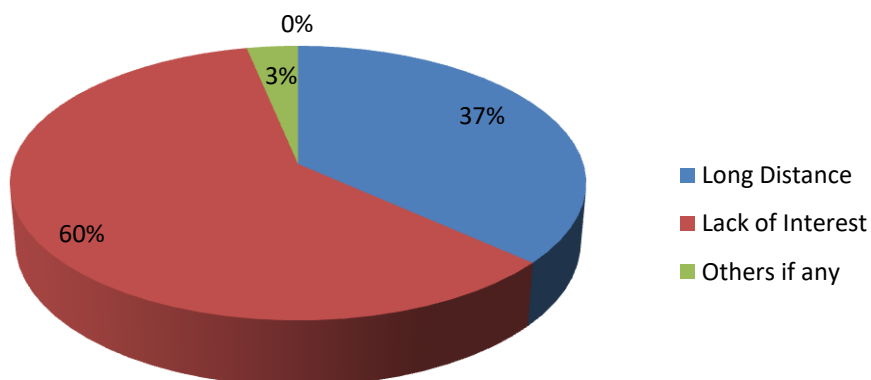
**Chart No 1. Showing the responses whether the higher civil servants come to the border dispute area i.e. Udaypur**



Firstly, they asked “do the higher civil servants come to the disputed site for solution of problem?” In answer, 47 (57.3%) respondents told “Yes”, whereas 33(40.3%) respondents said “No”, the statistics of which is reflected in chart no.1. So, the study finds that there is no relation of remoteness of the disputed border problem with its solution. Hence the hypothesis no 1 is rejected.

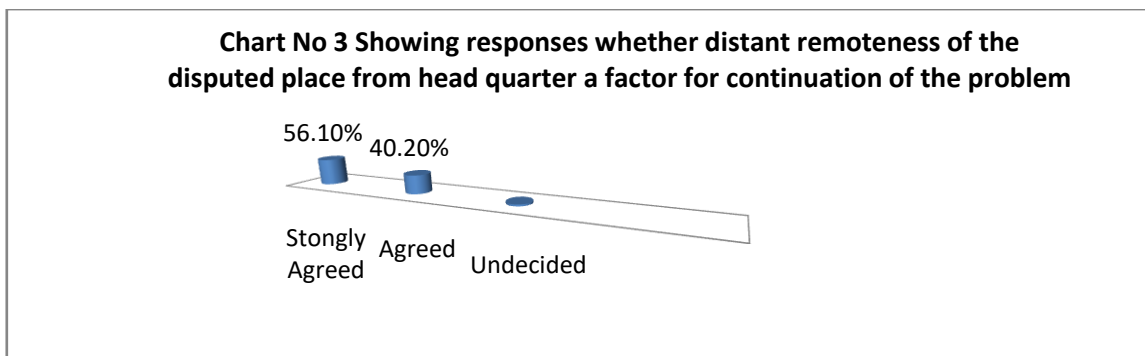
Further, having known the response of 40.2% people about not coming to the disputed site; the student researchers tried to find out the reason of not coming of the higher officials to the disputed sites.

**Chart no 2 Showing why don't public officials come to the border dispute site Udaypur for making solution**



In answer, 11(13.4%) respondents replied that perhaps due to long distance from their office, they are not coming and looking into the matter properly. Again, 18(22.0%) respondents revealed that in their view they are not coming as because they have lacked interest to solve the matter. These statistics are given in chart no. 2.

Again, the researcher tried to inquiry whether distance remoteness has any impact on the border dispute or for its continuance. So he asked whether it is a factor for continuance of the border dispute between West Bengal and Odisha so for Udaypur and Sankhamedi villages are concerned.



To this question 46(56.1%) respondents strongly agreed that distance remoteness is the cause for the continuance of the issue. Further 33(40.2%) people agreed that distance remoteness is a factor for continuation of the situation. Only 1(1.2%) manifested that he is undecided to answer the question. Finally, from this study, it can be found that though higher authority comes to the place for solution of the problem; still it is continuing as they are not serious to the problem by keeping frequent touch physically and mentally the problem.

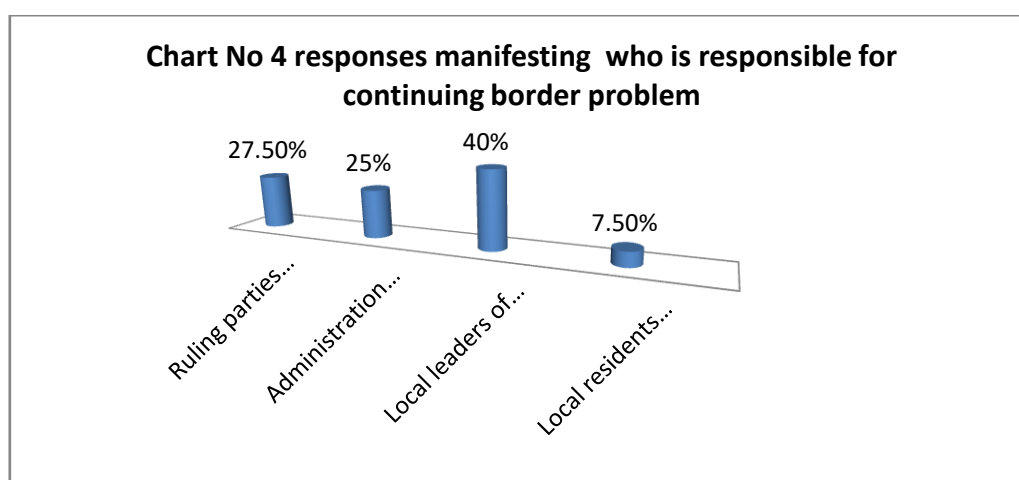
The researcher tried to prove the hypothesis no 2 which says whether there has been problems with governmental measures like lack of interest of the Odisha government, administration and local leaders.

**Table No 1. Showing responses governmental problems for continuance of border dispute at Udaypur under Bhograiblaock, Balasore**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid Lack of good policies	5	6.3	6.3	6.3
Lack of finance	2	2.5	2.5	8.8
Lack of interest	61	76.3	76.3	85.0
Lack of Awareness Measures	1	1.3	1.3	86.3
Others, if any	11	13.8	13.8	100.0
Total	80	100.0	100.0	

Accordingly, the researcher asked to know the governmental problems. In answer 61(76.3%) respondents replied that lack of interest of the government of Odisha is responsible to linger the dispute with West Bengal relating to Udaypur and Sankhamedi border. Again 5(6.3%), 1(1.3%), 2(2.5%) and 11(13.8%) respondents responded that lack of good policies, lack of awareness measures, lack of finance and others if any respectively are the problem of Odisha government for which the border problem is continuing.

Again, to unearth the truth in details, the researcher minutely asked another question to know who is particularly responsible to continue with this problem. From this inquiry, it is revealed that 32(40%) respondents fingered against local leader of the state are responsible to continue it, as they are not being seriously involved in the issue.





Further, 22(27.5%) blamed the ruling political party as responsible for continuance of the West Bengal and Odisha border dispute relating to Udaypur and Sankhamedi villages. Again, 20(25%) and 6(7.5%) respondents targeted administrators and local residents respectively forlingering the problem of Udaypur and Sankhamedi border issue. Further, to know the roots of instant dispute at border village; the researcher tried to find out the role of the local people or residents. Exactly here, the researchers wanted to know; what was the real cause for sudden conflict among local people from both sides of the border area. Sometime it has taken the shapes of measure conflict between the two states.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Trade and business	1	1.3	1.3	1.3
	Language problem	1	1.3	1.3	2.5
	Love towards own state	43	53.8	53.8	56.3
	Anti-social activities	11	13.8	13.8	70.0
	Others, if any	24	30.0	30.0	100.0
	Total	80	100.0	100.0	

In the study (table no. 2.), 43(53.8%) respondents opined that peoples “love towards own state” is the main cause for instant conflict in people’s level at border areas of Sankhamedi and Udaypur villages. Again, 11(13.8%) respondents replied that anti-social activity is the main cause for conflict at people’s level. Besides, 1(1.3%), 1(1.3%) and 24(30.0%) respondents responded that language problem, trade and business and others if any respectively are responsible for conflict in local people level. So, in short the hypothesis no.3 which was fixed as trade and business was the main cause for conflict in local people’s level is rejected as the permanent cause was people’s love toward own state.

Again, the researcher was also too much enthusiastic to know what were the problems created by border dispute between two states. In reactions (table no 3.), 44(55.9%) respondents reacted that due to border dispute huge ownership problem of the residential land is created. The people cannot get their land documents easily for which they fall in multiple problems.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cum. Percent
Valid	Ownership problem of the residential land	44	55.0	55.0	55.0
	Hindrances for Business	2	2.5	2.5	57.5
	Problem of availing certificates	7	8.8	8.8	66.3
	Forceful displacement from one's own land	7	8.8	8.8	75.0
	Others , if any	20	25.0	25.0	100.0
	Total	80	100.0	100.0	

Further, 2(2.5%) respondents said that they faced trouble to their trade and business. Again, each 7(8.8%) respondents manifested that they face problems of availing certificates and displacement from their own land respectively. Further, 20(25%) respondents responded that they face with others minor problems in their day to day life due to border dispute between West Bengal and Odisha relating to Udaypur and Sankhamedi villages. Again, the researcher has tried to suggest the steps should be taken to resolve the border dispute. Hence, they have also collected the suggestions of the respondents to this problem.

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Discussion between states	44	55.0	55.0	55.0
	Organization of awareness by states	4	5.0	5.0	60.0
	Research activities	8	10.0	10.0	70.0
	Involvement of Civil societies	8	10.0	10.0	80.0
	Others , if any	16	20.0	20.0	100.0
	Total	80	100.0	100.0	

In the reaction (table no 4) , 44(55%) respondents opined that discussion between the two counter states is highly necessary. 4(5%) respondents told that organisation of awareness is highly essential to ease the border dispute between

two states. 8 out of 80 responded that there should be research activity to bring out the truth of the dispute and new good policies to resolve the issue. Further, 16 (30%) out of 80, respondents, responded with 'others if any' option to end the border dispute. Very important matter is that, Sankhamedi village is mostly affected with border dispute.

**Table No 5. Response of the people of Sankhamedi for solution for border dispute**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Give back our Property paper	21	26.3	26.3	26.3
	Identification of land	24	30.0	30.0	56.3
	Provide certificate for higher study	1	1.3	1.3	57.5
	Provide Residential Certificate	13	16.3	16.3	73.8
	Others ,if any	21	26.3	26.3	100.0
	Total	80	100.0	100.0	

Even, the governance and administrations of Odisha has not been accessed and helped the people in time. They have been fully neglected. They complained that even all the land documents have been taken by the authorities of West Bengal though they are the citizens of Odisha. They are in such positions that they don't have proper livelihood facility, education facility; land documentation facility, community development facilities etc. In their response(table no 5), 21(26.3%) respondents out of 80 responded that the government authorities of West Bengal should return their land documents. Further, 24(30%) opined that there should be proper identification of the land and allot the land in their favour. Further, 14(17.6%) respondents demanded that the government authority should give them different certificates for higher study of their children. Further, 21(26.3%) opined for 'others if any' category with many miscellaneous problems they are facing.

#### SUGGESTION AND CONCLUSION

Scholars of international relations have long found conflict over territory to be one of the key factors that lead states to war. Many cooperative approaches to resource and border issues have been implemented by states on an agreed basis or as a result of dispute resolution assistance. Examples of such approaches include: joint management and exploitation of contested or shared resources, including hydrocarbon reserves or fishery stocks; joint regulation, or cooperative sharing, of contested and/or shared resources, such as grazing rights or water supplies; negotiated access to the sea for landlocked states or through territorial waters for neighbouring states; agreed rights of transit for states with non-contiguous territories; and/or commitments to respect the cultural, historical, or social heritage, as well as political autonomy of national minorities. Borderness has been studied with institutional changes across borders, say, the borders between different countries or different states within a federation; borderlessness is necessarily assumed along with no institutional change and results in no effects. This suggests border effects and institutional distinctions such as policy differences have not been separated in border studies

Borders may be perceived by people in places where no physical boundary exists. Equally, physical boundaries may be ignored in places where people perceive them as being irrelevant in their daily lives and cross them at ease with little, or no, restrictions to trans-boundary movement. The study of borders has been opened up to include the representations, images and narratives that people have of the lines that separate them from others. The stronger the barrier function of the border, the more powerful the imagined, the more abstract the narrative of what is perceived as lying on the other side.

So far Odisha-West Bengal border dispute is concerned following suggestive measures may be prescribed:

1. There should be agreement with 'common rationale' in between to two counter states with common guideline and circular for demarcation of the boundary line.
2. There should be agreement on local border administration aftermath demarcation in order to ensure that local knowledge as well as borderland population interest is reflected in border practice. After demarcation Record of Rights should be given to the concerned land owners of both Udaypur and Sankhamedi villages.
3. In order to fight criminal activities and collect taxes, it is imperative that states should include borderland populations in their welfare and service delivery mechanisms and make them part of the legal trade structures.
4. There should be strengthening of cross-border security and mutual co-operation by localizing border management and calling for vigilance by the border population. Enhance efficiency and inclusiveness in peace-building along the borders. Both state governments should appoint special cops for stability for peace.
5. People should be inculcated a sense of mutual respect and love towards each other's territory. Hence, people-to-people connection can be enhanced.
6. There should be establishment of administrative offices near border from both states to see the practice of the common administrative rules and regulation for bringing among both the states.

In conclusion, disputation is part of the nature of individual or human being. However, man as rational being should try to resolve it for a peaceful life. Likewise, the state consisted of individual should bring resolution to keep its people peaceful. Hence, the people, government, administration, civil society etc. of both the states should use their hard support and soft support mechanisms to bring the long standing border dispute.

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