

## **Electoral Change in India: A Study of Parliamentary Elections in Delhi (1985–1999).**

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This thesis is an attempt at understanding the emerging pattern of electoral behavior and its resultant impact on the political changes and developments in Indian politics. As a matter of fact the Indian psephologist in particular has not taken an indepth understanding of electoral politics in Delhi seriously. This exercise is a modest attempt in that direction.

During the course of study it is found that Delhi not only remained a hub of political activities in the ancient and medieval India but also continue to remain so in the modern and contemporary India. The party in power in Delhi and the political calculations that Delhi witnesses have tremendous bearing on the other segments of Indian polity. Delhi not only represents the cosmopolitan and multicultural facets of Indian society but also represents the GCM of Indian politics.

Even though in the recent past an era of coalition politics has dawned in Indian society, however, the political permutations and combinations in Delhi largely determined the tone and tenor of Indian politics.

The entire freedom movement got focused in Delhi and after independence the socio-political institutional infrastructure and a constitution wedded to a fine traditions of renaissance namely secularism and democracy were envolved in Delhi. As such Delhi constitutes the heart of Indian politics and this thesis is an attempt at rediscovering Delhi as the focus of Indian politics.