GOVERNANCE IN JAMMU & KASHMIR UNDER GHULAM MOHAMMAD SADIQ (1964-1971): CENTRALISATION UNDER SOCIALIST GARB

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ABSTRACT

The era of Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq [1964-71] in Jammu & Kashmir marked a complete departure from the preceding periods in the sense that he was ideologically differently oriented and relatively liberal as compared to his predecessors. During his tenure the governance in the State developed close proximity with the central government and most of the central government agencies started acquiring more space in the state apparatus. A new chapter was opened up in the development of relations between state and Indian union. Although he took various steps to eradicate the menace of corruption, promoted men of integrity, institutionalized the administration, tried to remove regional disparities, but the system of governance was married by various grave infirmities as the result of which the targeted results could not be achieved. His tenure witnessed Indo-Pak relations at its lowest and the two countries engaging each other in two full-fledged wars. Also the secessionist tendencies in Valley too flourished during the period. While analyzing closely the governing era of Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq, it seemed that despite him being a liberal socialist, he carried forward the legacy of predecessors to govern the state in more than one ways. The paper is an attempt to understand the nature of governance during the era of Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq and its relative impact on the state.

Keywords: Ghulam Mohammad Sadiq, Governance, Jammu and Kashmir, Regional Disparities, Center-State Relations