



Nation-State, Nationalism and Citizenship

Introductory to Social Science and Culture
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+ The very Idea of Nation

- Nation as a large group of people who share a common language, culture, ethnicity, descent, or history.
- An ethnic community, or *ethnie*, shares a common myth of origins and descent, a common history, elements of distinctive culture, a common territorial association, and sense of group solidarity.
- A nation is much more impersonal, abstract, and overtly political than an ethnic group.
- It is a cultural-political community that has become conscious of its coherence, unity, and particular interests.

+ Nation-State

- State: a political entity with a high degree of sovereignty over a group of people and definite geographical and territorial entity.
- Nation-State: a state that self-identifies as deriving its political legitimacy from serving as a sovereign entity for (a group of people within) a nation as a sovereign territorial unit.
- Westphalian System:
 - the principle of the sovereignty of the states and the fundamental right of political self-determination;
 - the principle of legal equality between states;
 - the principle of non-intervention of one state in the internal affairs of another state

+ Before Nation-State

- Preceded by Multi-Ethnic Empires:
 - Austrian Empire, British Empire, Ottoman Empire, Majapahit and Sriwijaya Empire;
 - A Monarchy ruled by a King, Emperor or Sultan;
 - Consisted of many ethnic groups with variety of spoken languages;
 - Its territory could expand by royal intermarriage or merge with another state when the dynasty merged;
 - May consists of smaller vassal states protected from other Empires yet having its independence on internal/domestic affairs.

+ Nation-State: its characteristics

- Characteristic of Nation-State:
 - A legitimate and definite politico-territorial unit limited by certain borders with other nation-states; semi-sacred and un-transferable; and initially set up by the settlement of its people.
 - A definite group of people settled in the area with certain rights and duties;
 - A monopoly of using Army Force for the national defence system;
 - A set of unity and uniformity on public (political) administrations and economic system by abolishing internal customs within;
 - A promotion of such a National Culture and Language primarily through National Education System.

+ Nation and Nationalism

- Debate: which did come first, nation or state?
 - Consists of population with a single (ethno-) national;
 - Consists of population with many (ethno-) nationals;
- The case of Indonesia: a nation and/or nation-state?
- Nationalism
 - Attitude toward such a National Identity;
 - Action when seeking a self-determination or fighting against foreign invasion

+ Ben Anderson's (1983) Imagined Community of Nationalism

- A nation as "an imagined political community - and imagined as both inherently limited and sovereign.
- It is imagined because the members of even the smallest nation will never know most of their fellow-members, meet them, or even hear of them, yet in the minds of each lives the image of their communion.
- It is limited in that nations have finite, if elastic boundaries, beyond which lie other nations".
- It is sovereign since no dynastic monarchy can claim authority over them, in the modern period.

+ Imagined Community

- A nation is an imagined community because regardless of the actual inequality and exploitation that may prevail in each, the nation is always conceived as a deep, horizontal comradeship.
- Ultimately it is this fraternity that makes it possible, over the past two centuries, for so many millions of people, not so much to kill, as willingly to die for such limited imaginings.
- creation of imagined communities became possible because of "Print capitalism" referring to the publication and circulation of books and media in Latin script for the whole populace. As a result, readers speaking various local dialects became able to understand each other, and a common discourse emerged.

+ Citizenship: a basic

- It is simply understood as a membership of such a state; or such a National Identity.
- It relates to many other contextual aspects of society such as the family, military service, the individual, freedom, religion, ideas of right and wrong, ethnicity, and patterns for how a person should behave in society.
- How to gain Citizenship?
 - Parents are citizens;
 - Born within the country;
 - Marriage to citizens;
 - Naturalisation.

+ Citizenship

- Defined as a bond that extends beyond basic kinship ties to unite people of different genetic backgrounds, that is, it is more than a clan or extended kinship network.
- It is about the relation between a person and an overall political entity such as a city-state or nation and signifies membership in that body.
- It is characterized by some form of political participation, although the extent of such participation can vary considerably from minimal duties such as voting to active service in government.
- It is closely allied with freedom, an important status with legal aspects including rights, and it has sometimes been seen as a bundle of rights or a right to have rights.
- It has an element of exclusion by excluding non-citizens from basic rights and privileges.

+ Two Views of Citizenship

- Liberal-Individualist View:
 - Every citizen has an equal right to a fully adequate scheme of equal basic rights and liberties;
 - The main task of the State is to ensure that each citizen is able to exercise her rights and take benefits from the presence of the state.
- Civic-Republican View:
 - Every citizen shares the equal duties and obligation for the betterment of the state instead of exercising its rights;
 - The state might interfere the public affairs including the private/individual realm of citizen.