

The Roots of Internationalism and League of Nations:

Remembering the Past for a Better Future

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Internationalism is the rationale behind international organisations. International Organisations in the modern sense came into existence in the nineteenth century Europe. Internationalism was given an impetus with the creation of the League of Nations. It was an institution with many flaws. The nadir of the organisation was the declaration of the Second World War. The organisation despite its drawbacks had taken significant steps towards cooperation. The treaties formulated under the League, the discussions in the Assembly, the decisions of the Council and the judgments of the Permanent Court of International Justice have repercussions in the present. In today's world we see a reversal of internationalism due to fundamentalism. Protection of sovereignty of a country is important but international co-operation is inevitable in this world knit together by globalisation. International organisations are being rejected by the powerful countries. Due to the availability of many options called forum shopping, States today are opting for alternatives to international organisations. This challenges the future of international organisations and internationalism itself. Unless and until we highlight the better part of international organisations, we can envisage a bleak future which may again show we the people the scourge of an irreparable world war. The paper will deal with the significance of the history of international law with reference to important treaties under the League of Nations, the contributions of the League, the drawbacks of the organisation, the repercussions in the present and the challenges faced by the internationalism threatening the future of international organisations.