

**STUDIES IN POLITICAL LEADERSHIP:
A CASE STUDY OF CANDIDATES IN NAGPUR MUNICIPAL
CORPORATION ELECTION, HELD IN 2007**

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The present study is an attempt to create a political profile of leadership, in which the profile of the candidates who contested the municipal corporation election held in the year 2007 in Maharashtra state is being studied. The information regarding the socio- economic background of the candidates and their affiliation to political parties, social and institutional bases of their support, issues they addressed, strategies they applied to gather support, the result of such strategies in terms of support building and aspiration of the candidates as political leaders will be collected and analyzed.

Objectives of the Study

1. to create a data base regarding political leadership
2. to find out the socio- economic background of the candidates and their affiliation to political parties.
3. to find out social and institutional bases of the support of the candidates contesting elections at local level.
4. to find out the issues & strategies the candidates applies to gather support & the result of such strategies in terms of support building.
5. to find out the aspiration of the candidates as political leaders.
6. to find out party building & recruitment strategies of political parties at local level.

Importance of the study

The study of electoral behavior of the voters and party-voter linkages is being carried out in India since 1990s. These studies have enriched our understanding of Political process but lack in explaining how political parties and the political leadership influences or shapes electoral choices of the voters.

To overcome this lacuna the studies in political leadership should be carried out along with the study of voting behavior. Such a database does not exist anywhere & needs to be created which would be helpful in understanding Indian politics. This will also help in improving our understanding of party building and recruitment strategies of political parties at local level

Methodology.

Nagapur is selected as a field of research because data of Nagpur is easily available.

Data regarding the geographic and demographic structure of all the wards is collected from the official website of Nangpur Municipal Corporation.

A detail study of candidates contested in Nagpur municipal corporation elections held in 2007 is undertaken, in which around 1200 candidates in all the 136 electoral wards are interviewed and their significance in local political process is being analyzed quantitatively & qualitatively.

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