

ABSTRACT OF TRACE OF HISTORY OF ENVIRONMENTALISM SINCE 14TH CENTURY.

Though the concern for environmental problems and the impact of it on humans dates back from Roman times till 19th century environmentalist actions on many countries did not give rise to public activism. In 19th century slowly liberalism started and environmentalist believed that government instead of free market should be responsible for protecting the environment and ensuring the conservation of resources. Environmental organizations established during late 19th century were primarily middle class lobbying groups concerned with nature conservation, Wild life protection and the pollution that arose from Industrial development and Urbanization. During this period many conservation developments were occurring throughout the world especially in US, Europe, Ocenia etc. Various philosophical strands of environmentalism were given political expression through the establishment of "green" political movements in the form of activist ,nongovernmental organizations and environmentalist political parties .Four pillars provided a unifying theme to the broad goals of political ecology despite the diversity of environmental movement. They are:1)protection of the environment,2) grassroots [democracy](#), 3)social [justice](#) 4) nonviolence. However, for a small number of environmental groups and individual activists who engaged in [ecoterrorism](#), [violence](#) was viewed as a justified response to what they considered the violent treatment of nature by some interests, particularly the logging and mining industries. This paved the way for the Contemporary Green Movement.

CONTEMPORARY GREEN MOVEMENT:

The goals of this movement focused on changing the government policy and promoting the environmental social values. In the less-industrialized or developing world, environmentalism has been more closely involved in "emancipatory" politics and [grassroots activism](#) on issues such as [poverty](#), democratization, and political and [human rights](#), including the rights of women and [indigenous](#) peoples. Eg:Chipko movement

STRATEGIES OF CONTEMPORARY GREEN MOVEMENT:

The early strategies include [direct protest actions](#) designed to obstruct and to draw attention to environmentally harmful policies and projects. Other strategies includes 1) media campaigning, 2)Public education ,3)community-directed activities ,and 4) conventional [lobbying](#) of policy makers and political representatives. The movement also attempted to set public examples in order to increase awareness of and sensitivity to environmental issues.

ELECTORAL STRATEGIES OF CONTEMPORARY GREEN MOVEMENT:

This movement included the nomination of environmental candidates and the registration of [green political parties](#). These parties were conceived of as a new kind of political organization that would bring the influence of the grassroots environmental movement directly to bear on the machinery of government, make the environment a central concern of public policy, and render the institutions of the state more democratic, transparent, and accountable.

Green parties widely spread to different countries and have been formed in the former Soviet bloc, where they were instrumental in the collapse of some [communist](#) regimes, and in some developing countries in [Asia](#), [South America](#), and [Africa](#), though they have achieved little electoral success there.

GERMAN GREEN PARTY:

The most successful environmental party has been the [German Green Party](#) founded in 1980. Although it failed to win representation in federal elections that year, it entered the Bundestag (parliament) in both 1983 and 1987, winning 5.6 percent and 8.4 percent of the national vote, respectively. The party did not win representation in 1990, but in 1998 it formed a governing coalition with the [Social Democratic Party](#), and the party's leader, [Joschka Fischer](#), was appointed as the country's foreign minister.

IMPORTANT POINTS ON GREEN PARTIES:

Throughout the last two decades of the 20th century, green parties won national representation in a number of countries and even claimed the office of mayor in European capital cities such as [Dublin](#) and [Rome](#) in the mid-1990s.Outside Europe, New Zealand's Green Party, which was reconstituted from the former Values Party in 1990, won 7 percent of the vote in the 1990 general election; its influence had grown to 9 of the country's 121 parliamentary seats by 2002 and to 14 parliamentary seats by 2014.

FALL OF GREEN PARTIES

Despite the success of some environmental parties, environmentalists remained divided over the ultimate value of electoral politics.

Commented [GJ1]: I believe the first environmental activism began in the US in late 60s early 70s, especially California, and led to legislation and community practices. But it never became a political success as in Europe

In particular, earlier strategies such as continuous policy involvement by party members, grassroots control over all party institutions and decisions, and the legislative rotation of elected members to prevent the creation of career politicians were sometimes perceived as unhelpful and disruptive when green parties won representation to local, national, or regional assemblies

RISE OF NGO'S

By the late 1980s environmentalism had become a global as well as a national political force. Some environmental **nongovernmental organizations** like green peace, Friends of the earth established a significant international presence, with offices throughout the world and centralized international headquarters to coordinate lobbying campaigns and to serve as campaign centers and information clearinghouses for their national **affiliate** organizations.

CONCLUSION :

Through its international activism, the environmental movement has influenced the agenda of international politics. The changing nature of public debate on the environment was reflected also in the organization of the 1992 **United Nations Conference on Environment and Development** (the Earth Summit) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, which was attended by some 180 countries and various business groups, nongovernmental organizations, and the media. In the 21st century the environmental movement has combined the traditional concerns of **conservation**, preservation, and **pollution** with more contemporary concerns with the environmental consequences of economic practices as **diverse** as **tourism**, trade, financial investment, and the conduct of **war**. Environmentalists are likely to intensify the trends of the late 20th century, during which some environmental groups increasingly worked in coalition not just with other emancipatory organizations, such as human rights and indigenous-peoples groups, but also with **corporations** and other businesses.

MY TAKEAWAY FROM THIS RESEARCH:

Earlier, environmentalist did not know how to proceed further. They had only one strategy of protesting directly on violent actions against environment. Today environmentalist have taken up other powerful strategies like Media campaigning, educating the public etc. Also the subject and courses on environment from the younger generation till the degree courses helps in increasing the awareness on protecting our environment.(Example :Greta's education about the climate change contributed towards the Fridays for future movement.

The rise of many NGO'S and indivial activist across the world is also one of the major factor for changing in lifestyle of people. Also environmentalist earlier were just environmentalist focusing only on the protection on environment.Today , an environmentalist is also a student ,an entrepreneur, business man, a government staff etc who are widely spread across different jobs who mostly set as an example and are important in creating the awareness and in changing lifestyle of the people.

Though Production of plastics brought a great revenue to the industry across the world when knowing the harmful impact of it on earth, govt across the globe banned using plastics and people around 70-80% were able to accept it to not use it because of the awareness. This shows the changing life style of people then and now.However the research says for other 20% of people mindset is a hindrance.

GROWTH OF RENEWABLE ENERGY :

Historical production of renewable energy has been dominated by traditional biomass – the burning of wood, forestry materials and agricultural waste biomass. Although implemented at smaller scales for thousands of years, across a range of countries, hydropower output did not feature at large production scales with pumped storage development until the 1920s.**Today, traditional biofuels remain the largest source of renewables, accounting for 60-70 percent of the total.** Traditional biomass remains the dominant fuel source for cooking & heating across many low-income households. **The World Bank reports that only 7 percent of the world's low-income households have access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking;** the average share in Sub-Saharan Africa was 13 percent; and approximately one-third in South Asia.Of the remaining renewable technologies, **hydropower remains dominant, accounting for approximately one-quarter of renewable consumption.**

OTHER IMPROTANT FACTS:

Number of International laws on Environment : approx. 95

Number of International law journals : 35 approx

