

**POLITICAL PROCESS IN
INDIA
AHPLS-202/C-4**

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TOPIC

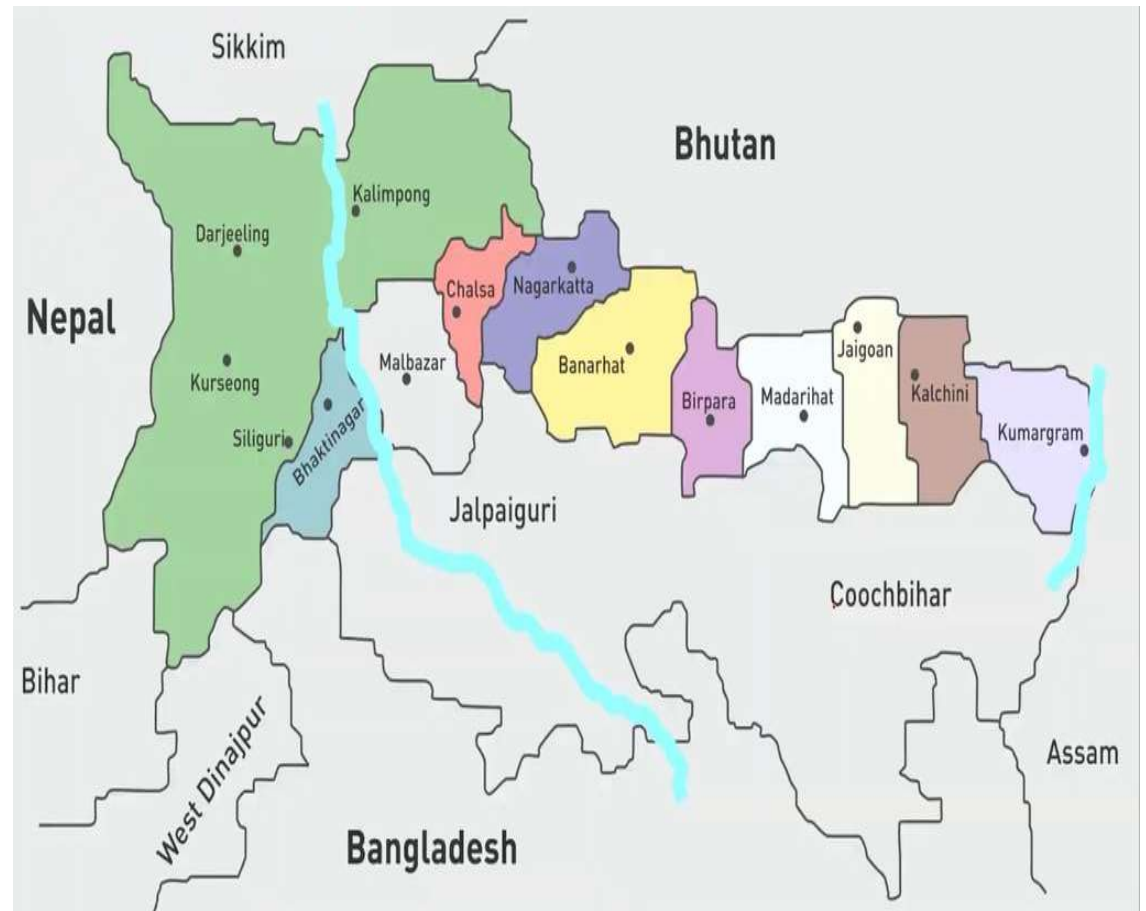
Gorkhaland Movement

- What is Gorkhaland movement
- History of Gorkhaland movement
- 2013 Agitation
- 2017 Agitation
- GTA

What is Gorkhaland Movement and Why

- The **Gorkhaland movement** is a campaign to create a separate state of India in the Gorkhaland region of West Bengal for the Nepali speaking Indians.
- The main cause of the separatist movement in **Gorkhaland** is due to ethnic, cultural, and linguistic disparities.
- In the northern region of West Bengal, folks of Nepali-Indian Gorkha ethnic background desire a state based on their cultural identity, which is quite dissimilar from Bengali culture.
- There is also a problem of poverty, underdevelopment, and politicisation of the subject, in addition to a sense of self-identity crisis.

The proposed state includes the hill regions of the Darjeeling district, Kalimpong district and Dooars regions that include Jalpaiguri, Alipurdwar and parts of Cooch behar districts.



History of movement

A demand for separate administrative unit in [Darjeeling](#) has existed since 1909.

In the 1980s, [Subhash Ghisingh](#)^[4] raised the demand for the creation of a state called Gorkhaland.

A new violent movement for a separate state of Gorkhaland was started in 1986 by [Gorkha National Liberation Front](#) (GNLF) led by [Subhash Ghisingh](#).

The demand for Gorkhaland took a new turn with the assassination of [Madan Tamang](#), leader of Akhil Bharatiya Gorkha League

2013 Agitation

- 1. On 30th July resolution passed for separate Telengana state from Andhrapradesh.**
- 2. Following a 3 days Bandh GJM announced an indefinite bandh from 3 August.**
- 3. GJM announced a unique form of protest 'Janta Bandh'.**
- 4. The people in the hills were asked to voluntarily stay inside on 13 and 14 August.**
- 5. On 16 August at Darjeeling, the pro Gorkhaland parties informally formed 'Gorkhaland Joint Action Committee'.**

SOME PICTURES OF AGITATION



A FIRST A global march for Gorkhaland saw people take to the streets, from New York to Hong Kong, Tokyo to Sydney, on Sunday...

As daily life in the Hills stands still...

110 years The demand for a separate region for Gorkhas was first made in 1907

11 weeks The latest stir triggered after state bid to make Bengali compulsory in school

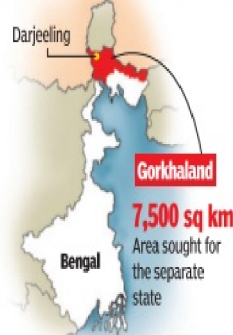
48 days Indefinite bandh: no school, no internet, no business. Some boarding schools shift classes to Siliguri

Weeds grow in tea estates...

90% Decline In tea production in June 2017 compared to June 2016

31% Loss First six months compared to Jan-June 2016

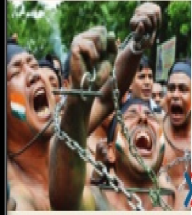
87 Tea gardens closed since June 15



... With no relief in sight

30 Netas in Gorkhaland Movement Coordination Committee, umbrella of all hill parties led by GJM. The indefinite bandh has been called by GJM, not GMCC

10 days 'Deadline' GMCC gave Centre on Tuesday to intervene in logjam. Else GMCC threatens to intensify stir



Darjeeling has seen sporadic violence and clashes with police

Source: TNN, Tea Board of India

2017 AGITATION

- ❖ Between June and September 2017, there was another agitation in Darjeeling.
- ❖ Protests first started after the West Bengal government announced on 16 May that Bengali language should be a compulsory subject in all schools across the state.
- ❖ On 9 July, the protests reach New Delhi. Supporters staged a march from Raj Ghat to Jantar Mantar.↓
- ❖ The supporters met the Home Minister on 19 September.
- ❖ Then on 27 September, GJM headed by new chairperson [Binay Tamang](#) finally called off the strike after 104 days

GORKHALAND TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATION

- ❖ **Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA), a semi-autonomous administrative body for the Darjeeling hills, was signed on 18 July 2011.**
- ❖ **A bill for the creation of GTA was passed in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly on 2 September 2011.**
- ❖ **The West Bengal government issued a gazette notification for the GTA Act on 14 March 2012, signalling preparations for elections for the GTA.**
- ❖ **In the elections of the GTA held on 29 July 2012.**
- ❖ **GJM candidates won from 17 constituencies and the rest 28 seats unopposed.**

REFERENCE

- **Gorkhaland Movement: Ethnic Conflict and State**
- <https://www.jstor.org/stable/24481489>
- https://www.researchgate.net/publication/347983036_Gorkhas_and_Gorkhaland
- bn.wikipedia.org
- **Gorkhaland: Crisis of Statehood** by [Romit Bagchi](#)



THANK YOU