



## Researcher paper

## A Comparative Analysis of Ahinda Mobilisation in Karnataka and Black Political Cohesion in the Early 20th-Century United States

**Harish R Jogin**

Faculty of Political Science,

Department of BA (UG), Bangalore University, Jnanabharathi Campus, Bengaluru, India

**Corresponding Author:** \* Harish R Jogin

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Abstract	Manuscript Information
<p>This study explores the political mobilisation of marginalised communities through a comparative analysis of the AHINDA movement in Karnataka and black political cohesion in the early 20th-century United States. AHINDA, an acronym for minorities, backward classes, and Dalits, emerged as a socio-political coalition aimed at restructuring caste power in Karnataka politics. Similarly, Black political cohesion in the United States developed as a response to racial segregation, disenfranchisement, and systemic inequality. Although these movements arose in different socio-historical contexts, both represent strategic efforts by marginalized communities to consolidate political agency against entrenched hierarchies. Using comparative political sociology, this paper explores their origins, leadership structures, ideological frameworks, electoral strategies, and long-term impacts on democratic participation. The analysis demonstrates that identity-based coalitions can significantly reshape political discourse while simultaneously facing challenges of internal fragmentation and institutional resistance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>ISSN No:</b> 2583-7397</li> <li>▪ <b>Received:</b> 08-11-2024</li> <li>▪ <b>Accepted:</b> 28-12-2024</li> <li>▪ <b>Published:</b> 30-12-2024</li> <li>▪ <b>IJCRM:</b>3(6); 2024: 282-285</li> <li>▪ <b>©2024, All Rights Reserved</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Plagiarism Checked:</b> Yes</li> <li>▪ <b>Peer Review Process:</b> Yes</li> </ul> <p><b>How to Cite this Manuscript</b></p> <p>Harish R Jogin. A Comparative Analysis of Ahinda Mobilisation in Karnataka and Black Political Cohesion in the Early 20th-Century United States. Int J Contemp Res Multidiscip. 2024;3(6):282-285.</p>

**KEYWORDS:** AHINDA Mobilisation, Black Political Cohesion, socio-economic impact, political impact, Karnataka politics, and United States political history.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The politics of marginalised communities has been central to democratic transformation across societies. In India, caste has historically structured access to power, resources, and representation, while in the United States, race played a comparable role in determining political and economic inclusion. The AHINDA movement in Karnataka and Black political mobilisation in early 20th-century America emerged as organised responses to these inequalities. AHINDA, popularised by Siddaramaiah, sought to unite Alpasankhyataru (minorities), Hindulidavaru (backward classes), and Dalitaru (Dalits) into a durable electoral and social coalition. Black political cohesion in the United States evolved through organisations such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the leadership of figures such as W.E.B. Du Bois and Booker T. Washington, and later through urban political consolidation during the Great Migration. This paper argues that both movements reveal how marginalised groups construct collective political identities to challenge dominant social orders. Despite differences in context, the two cases exhibit parallels in coalition-building, identity politics, and democratic negotiation.

## 2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To examine the historical emergence and development of the AHINDA movement in Karnataka and Black political cohesion in the early 20th-century United States.
2. To analyse the social, economic, and political conditions that contributed to the mobilisation of marginalised communities in both societies.

## 3. METHODS AND MATERIALS

The research paper is mainly based on secondary sources. The secondary data were collected from various sources such as books, research journals, articles, government reports, policy documents, dissertations, and credible online databases. The study adopts a comparative qualitative research design, which helps in understanding similarities and differences between socio-economic and political movements. The study follows a comparative qualitative research design, which facilitates an in-depth understanding of similarities and differences between socio-economic and political movements across different contexts. These sources provide both theoretical and empirical insights relevant to the study of AHINDA mobilisation in Karnataka and Black political cohesion in the early 20th-century United States.

### Historical Background: AHINDA Mobilisation in Karnataka

The roots of AHINDA can be traced to anti-Brahmin and backward caste movements in southern India during the late colonial period. Influenced by social justice ideologies and leaders such as B. R. Ambedkar and Devaraj Urs, Karnataka witnessed significant efforts to politically empower lower castes and marginalised communities. Devaraj Urs's policies in the 1970s laid the groundwork for backward class assertion through land reforms and reservations in education and employment. AHINDA later emerged as a more structured political formula

under Siddaramaiah in the 2000s, combining caste and minority politics into a unified electoral strategy. The movement was rooted in: Opposition to upper-caste political dominance, Expansion of welfare policies, increased representation of backward communities, and Secular coalition-building among minorities and oppressed castes. AHINDA transformed Karnataka politics by reframing electoral competition around social justice rather than solely linguistic or regional identity.

### Black Political Cohesion in Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century America

In this section analyse Black political mobilisation in the United States developed in the aftermath of Reconstruction (1865–1877). Although formerly enslaved African Americans briefly gained political representation during Reconstruction, the rise of Jim Crow laws in the southern United States severely restricted Black voting rights and political participation. During the early 20th century, Black communities responded through institutional organisation and collective activism. The following key developments include - Formation of the NAACP in 1909, Expansion of Black newspapers and intellectual networks, Growth of urban Black communities during the Great Migration and Increased labour activism and civil rights advocacy. The migration of African Americans from the rural South to northern industrial cities created new opportunities for political organisation. Urban centres such as Chicago, Detroit, and New York City became hubs of Black political influence. Leaders such as W. E. B. Du Bois advocated direct political activism and higher education, while Booker T. Washington emphasised economic self-reliance and vocational advancement. Together, these approaches shaped the broader trajectory of Black political cohesion.

### Analysis of Socio-Economic and Political Conditions in AHINDA Mobilisation and Black Political Cohesion

This section analyses the emergence of AHINDA mobilisation in Karnataka and Black political cohesion in the early 20th-century United States, reflecting how structurally marginalised communities respond to long-standing systems of inequality. While AHINDA is rooted in caste-based social stratification, Black political cohesion developed under racial segregation and disenfranchisement. Both movements emerged as collective strategies to convert social disadvantage into political agency.

#### 1. Socio-Economic Conditions

**AHINDA Mobilisation in Karnataka:** Karnataka's socio-economic structure has historically been shaped by caste hierarchies and agrarian inequality. Marginalised communities—particularly Dalits, backward classes, and minorities—experienced widespread landlessness and dependence on agrarian labour, with dominant castes retaining control over land and rural production systems. Their access to education and skilled employment remained limited, reinforcing cycles of intergenerational poverty. These groups also faced social exclusion from networks that enabled economic mobility, alongside caste-based occupational segregation that restricted livelihood choices. Over time, dependence on state welfare

programmes grew and later became an important mobilising force in AHINDA politics. Reformist interventions under leaders such as Devaraj Urs weakened entrenched rural hierarchies through land reforms and measures aimed at uplifting backward classes, thereby contributing to the socio-political foundations that later enabled AHINDA consolidation.

**Black Political Cohesion in the United States:** African Americans in the early 20th-century United States faced entrenched systems of racialised economic exclusion that shaped patterns of inequality and collective political awareness. In the Southern states, sharecropping and debt peonage sustained cycles of poverty long after emancipation, effectively limiting economic independence for Black families. In northern industrial centres, wage discrimination was widespread, with Black workers often restricted to low-paid and insecure forms of labour. Residential segregation further reinforced these disparities by limiting access to quality housing and preventing wealth accumulation through property ownership. Even during the Great Migration, increased geographic mobility did not translate into proportional economic security, as structural inequalities persisted in urban labour and housing markets. These intersecting conditions contributed to a growing collective economic consciousness, which in turn strengthened support for labour organising and civil rights institutions across the country.

**2. Social Conditions**

**Karnataka (AHINDA):** The social structure in Karnataka has been significantly shaped by entrenched caste hierarchies. Practices of untouchability and social segregation historically restricted Dalit participation in public spaces and civic life. Educational exclusion further constrained opportunities for backward communities, limiting their prospects for upward mobility and reinforcing structural inequality. Over time, caste-based identities, once sources of marginalisation, gradually evolved into instruments of collective mobilisation and solidarity within political spaces. In addition, minority communities increasingly engaged in coalition-building as a response to social and political insecurity. The ideological influence of B. R. Ambedkar was particularly significant in this transformation, as his ideas helped convert experiences of social humiliation into a framework for political assertion and empowerment.

**Black Political Cohesion in the United States:** African American cohesion in the early 20th-century United States developed under racial segregation and exclusion. Jim Crow laws enforced segregation in schools, transport, and public life, while racial violence and lynching reinforced collective vulnerability and solidarity. Black churches and civic groups became key spaces for organisation and support. The Great Migration enabled strong urban communities in cities like Chicago and New York City. Groups like the NAACP strengthened collective identity through legal and political advocacy.

**3. Political Conditions Karnataka (AHINDA):** The political landscape in Karnataka became increasingly competitive with

the deepening of democratic processes. In the early phase, upper-caste elites largely dominated political institutions, which generated sustained demands for broader representation among marginalised groups. With the expansion of electoral democracy, space opened for coalition-building among socially and economically disadvantaged communities, strengthening their collective political voice. Reservation policies further institutionalised affirmative action, playing a key role in encouraging political participation and mobilisation across backward classes, Dalits, and minorities. In this evolving context, the leadership of Siddaramaiah was instrumental in shaping AHINDA into a structured electoral strategy grounded in social justice and inclusive representation.

**Black Political Cohesion in the United States:** Black political mobilisation in the early 20th-century United States emerged under systematic political exclusion. In the South, disenfranchisement through literacy tests, poll taxes, and racial intimidation severely restricted voting rights. One-party dominance further suppressed meaningful political participation. In contrast, limited but growing urban influence in northern states created small spaces for electoral engagement. Intellectual leadership from figures such as W. E. B. Du Bois strengthened demands for direct political action and civil rights advocacy, shaping early frameworks of organised resistance.

**Table 1:** Dimensions of AHINDA in Karnataka and Black Political Cohesion (US)

S. No	Dimension	AHINDA (Karnataka)	Black Political Cohesion (U.S.)
1	Basis of Inequality	Caste system	Racial segregation
2	Economic Condition	Agrarian inequality, landlessness	Wage discrimination, sharecropping legacy
3	Social Response	Coalition-based identity politics	Institutional + grassroots solidarity
4	Political Space	Democratic participation	Partial exclusion + civil rights struggle
5	Key Strategy	Electoral mobilization	Legal activism + community organization

**CONCLUSION**

The comparative analysis of AHINDA mobilisation in Karnataka and Black political cohesion in the early 20th-century United States demonstrates that marginalised communities often develop collective political identities in response to long-standing systems of structural inequality. In Karnataka, caste-based hierarchies and socio-economic exclusion led to the formation of AHINDA as a coalition aimed at achieving political representation and social justice. In the United States, racial segregation, economic discrimination, and political disenfranchisement encouraged African Americans to build cohesive political and civil rights organisations. The study highlights that despite differences in historical and institutional contexts, both movements share common features such as identity-based solidarity, leadership-driven organisation, and the pursuit of equality within democratic frameworks. Leaders such

as Siddaramaiah, B. R. Ambedkar, W. E. B. Du Bois and Booker T. Washington played significant roles in shaping ideological and organisational foundations for marginalised mobilisation. Ultimately, the study concludes that identity-based political movements, when strategically organised, can transform historically excluded groups into influential political actors. However, sustaining such coalitions requires addressing internal divisions, structural inequalities, and evolving political contexts.

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