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English Abstracts

**From Great Power Competition to the Global South:
Modi Government's Strategy towards Africa—A Neoclassical Realist Perspective**

Zhang Shujian and Chen Aodan

Abstract: As key constituents of the Global South, India and Africa provide a critical case for understanding intra – Global South relations. Drawing on neoclassical realism, this article analyzes the formation of India's Africa policy under the Modi government, as well as Africa's multifaceted positioning within India's foreign strategy. This article argues that the systemic pressures arising from the rise of the Global South, intensified geopolitical competition in the Indo – Pacific region, and China's increasing influence in Africa, filtered and transformed through mediating variables such as strategic cognition, realist strategic culture, Hindu nationalist ideology, and domestic political and economic environment, have prompted the Modi administration to position Africa as a strategic space encompassing three dimensions: a geopolitical arena, an economic development partner, and a testing ground for the Global South's discourse. India's diplomacy towards Africa reflects the complex interplay between international structure and domestic mediating variables, positioning Africa as crucial to India's pursuit of strategic autonomy and leadership among Global South nations.

Keywords: Neoclassical realism, the Modi government, India – Africa relations, the Global South

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**Military –Security Interactions Between India and East African Countries:
A Perspective of Multiple Spatial Consciousness in International Politics**

Yang Siling and Ye Shilong

Abstract: From the perspective of “multiple spatial consciousness in international politics,” this paper analyzes the underlying motivations and prospects of India's intensifying military –security interactions with East African nations in recent years. The article argues that India's actions are not driven by a single factor, but represent a

strategic choice shaped collectively by its sixfold spatial consciousness: territorial, demographic, cultural, developmental, honorific, and power – related. India views the Indian Ocean as its natural sphere of influence and vital security artery. It aims to establish itself as a “net security provider” and regional leader through deepening comprehensive defense cooperation with East African countries, ultimately serving its strategic goal of becoming a global power. However, India’s increasingly prominent extreme self – serving strategic orientation—manifested in its hardline stance on territorial disputes, its ambitious drive to dominate regional affairs, and its sense of superiority in aggressively promoting Hindu culture—will be a fundamental constraint on the long – term development of its relations with East Africa. Based on historical experience and practical interests, East African countries generally pursue a multi – balancing diplomacy and will hardly accept the dominance of any single external power. Therefore, if India fails to adjust its extreme self – serving strategic mindset, its military deployments and influence expansion in East Africa will prove unsustainable and may trigger vigilance and alienation among East African nations.

Keywords: India, east African countries, military security, maritime security, multiple spatial consciousness

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The Construction of Social Capital and Economic Power Among Indian Businessmen in Tanzania

Yang Chongsheng, Xiong Xinghan and Chen Zeyu

Abstract: Tanzania’s national system emphasizes transcending ethnic groups in discourse, yet socio – economic activities continue to rely on ethnic networks. Therefore, this study combines historical documents and field interviews to focus on how Indian businessmen in Tanzania construct social capital, maintain, and localize their economic power. The article argues that their success does not simply rely on closed ethnic networks or external institutional privileges, but rather through a dynamic process of “institutional translation,” strategically transforming internal social capital—including business networks, trust mechanisms rooted in family and community, and shared values—into forms that can be accepted and recognized by mainstream Tanzanian society and official institutions. Through three mechanisms: resource legitimization

translation, identity recognition translation, and network power translation, Indian businessmen build bridges between “ethnicity” and “national system,” achieving the local embedding of their economic power. The centralization of resources within core families, intergenerational inheritance of economic and cultural capital, and continuous negotiation between Indians, the state and other ethnic groups jointly shape the power structure. Consequently, Indian capital can act as a positive force for Tanzania’s economy, yet it may also foster exclusion in contexts of social stratification and trust deficits, revealing the multifaceted nature of institutional embeddedness.

Keywords: Tanzania, Indian merchants, social capital, economic power, cross – cultural interaction

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Consensus and Contestation: The Dual Pathways of Political Development in Somalia’s Puntland

Cui Yuanyuan

Abstract: Against the backdrop of overall instability in Somalia, the Puntland region has emerged as an “island of stability,” whose development path holds unique research value. A systematic analysis of Puntland’s internal governance mechanisms and external strategies reveals that its stability stems from the systematic practice of a dual strategy. Internally, it has constructed a model of consensus politics, grounded in clan – based selection and operationalized through indirect parliamentary elections. This system balances clan interests and resolves internal conflicts via power – sharing mechanisms. Externally, Puntland acts as a strategic actor within the federal framework, employing strategies of cooperation and balancing to safeguard its autonomy and expand its regional influence. The key to the success of Puntland’s dual strategy lies in its single – tribe – dominated social structure, historically accumulated governance experience, and pragmatic resource integration capabilities. However, Puntland’s development faces challenges such as elite solidification, insufficient social inclusiveness, and uncertainties in its external relations. Puntland’s governance practices provide a new perspective for understanding local stability in Somalia, and its experience offers a governance path that

can be referenced by regions deeply troubled by governance failures and conflicts.

Keywords: Somalia, Puntland, tribal politics, power – sharing, political governance

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**The Transformation of Tanzania's Civil Service Salary System:
Dynamic Mechanisms and Evolutionary Logic**

Sun Jin, Xu Xiuli and Wu Jin

Abstract: Institutional change in developing countries is often viewed as a simplistic binary of external pressure versus local response, but this perspective fails to explain why similar reform pressures yield divergent institutional paths. Analysis reveals that the actual process of institutional change is not a simple confrontation, but rather the result of the interaction between international norms, local capabilities, and domestic gaming. In this interactive process, national elites do not passively accept or reject external norms, but strategically integrate them through the use of intermediate institutional arrangements that combine ambiguity and resilience, thus forming a unique hybrid governance model. By examining the evolutionary process of Tanzania's civil service salary system, it can be observed that its institutional evolution has undergone a dynamic transition through four stages: negotiation and adjustment, formal adoption, selective embedding, and autonomous adjustment. Throughout this process, the allowance system, as a core intermediate institution, sequentially acted as a mobilizer, a buffer, a converter, and a balancer. This evolutionary pathway has a profound impact on national governance, specifically manifested in three aspects: cyclical fluctuations in administrative incentives, a dual-track logic in policy implementation, where superficial compliance coexists with deep-seated autonomy, and a pattern of asymmetric modernization, featuring coexisting technological progress and structural stability. The central implication of these findings is that adaptive governance and hybrid models are inherent logics with universal significance in the modernization process of developing countries. Therefore, understanding and respecting the authentic local institutional operating mechanisms is a key prerequisite for building more effective international development cooperation relationships.

Keywords: Tanzania, civil service salary system, composite power structure, national governance

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**China –Africa Economic and Trade Cooperation in the Context of the Global South:
Strategic Value and Development Path**

Tang Bin, Shi Zhiqin and Xiao Hao

Abstract: As typical Southern countries, China and African countries underscore the need and significance of their cooperation in geopolitics, resource endowments, development potential, and global governance. China – Africa cooperation has become a model for Global South cooperation. Serving as the “ballast” and “propeller” of China – Africa relations, economic and trade cooperation addresses Africa’s industrialization challenges and external dependency, strengthening the foundation of bilateral ties and promoting high – quality development of the relationship. Since the new century, China – Africa economic and trade cooperation has achieved remarkable results, including improving cooperation mechanisms, advancing infrastructure development, enhancing industrial cooperation, and promoting trade liberalization. Moving forward, to implement the “Ten Partnership Actions” for China – Africa modernization, both sides should focus on six modernization development goals: just and equitable, open and win – win, puts the people first, diversity and inclusiveness, eco – friendly, and peace and security, further refine the top – level design of economic and trade cooperation, consolidate its traditional foundation, expand “trade and economic + ” cooperation fields, create flagship pilot projects, and coordinate development with security to prevent and mitigate risks, ensuring steady and sustainable China – Africa economic and trade cooperation.

Keywords: The Global South, China – Africa economic and trade cooperation, FOCAC, six modernizations

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Mandate Expansion and Role Misalignment: The Organizational Transformation and Development Limits of IGAD

Liu Xiaolan and Wang Tao

Abstract: The organizational evolution of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) reveals the inherent tension between functional expansion and capacity building in regional organizations. Since its establishment in 1986, IGAD has undergone three major functional shifts: from an environmental governance body initially focused on combating climate disasters, to an entity with security functions centered on conflict mediation, and later further developing into a regional economic community dedicated to economic integration. This evolution was not driven by endogenous capacity building, but rather constituted a passive response to external agenda – setting and regional crises. Consequently, a structural disconnect has emerged between its mandates and its capabilities, manifesting as chronic resource shortages, limited agenda – setting autonomy, and a lack of political consensus among member states. Thus, despite notable successes in specific cases such as mediating the Sudanese civil war, this structural misalignment continues to severely constrain IGAD’s overall performance in social development, security governance, and economic integration. Unless the fundamental contradiction between its functions and capacities is resolved, the organization will continue to face the risk of marginalization in its core areas of operation.

Keywords: IGAD, Horn of Africa, environmental governance, conflict resolution, economic integration

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A Review of Research on Mutual Learning between Chinese and African Civilizations in China Over the Past Decade

Wang Keyan

Abstract: This review examines studies on mutual learning and exchanges between Chinese and African civilizations published in China’s core academic journals from the second half of 2015 to the first half of 2025. The literature is organized into three parts: conceptual scope, historical inheritance, and practical domains, and it summarizes key viewpoints and research progress. Beyond conceptual discussion, scholarship advances along two main lines: the historical line and the reality – oriented line. The historical line traces traditional roots of China – Africa exchanges and mutual learnings, as well as their

influences on both cultures. The reality – oriented line analyzes current channels, models, and outcomes of cultural and people – to – people exchanges and cooperations. Overall, research in the past decade has made clear progress and has deepened understanding of the content and mechanisms of China – Africa cultural exchange. However, gaps remain in building coherent theoretical frameworks and diversifying research perspectives. Future efforts to deepen research on mutual learnings between Chinese and African civilizations should foster interactive development between theoretical innovation and practical application, thereby contributing greater intellectual support and cultural strength to China – Africa cooperation.

Keywords: China – Africa relations, mutual learning between civilizations, the Global Civilizations Initiative (GCI), China – Africa Community with a Shared Future

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