

## Geo-Spatiality of Electoral Politics in the Bidhan Sabha Constituencies of Purulia from 1952-2006

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**Abstract:** In the subject domain of Electoral Geography geospatiality of election results plays an important role for analyzing the political behavior through a regional perspective. The paper examines the spatial pattern and structure of voting in the district of Purulia between 1952-2006 analysing the spatial organizations of electoral areas and assessing socio-economic, agricultural, demographic and other geographical factors responsible for these election results and their overall impact on the socio-economic life of the district through the grass root political mobilization of different ethnic groups.

**Key words:** Geospatiality, Kurmi Mahato, ethnic class marginality, MDCC, IOU, Swing factor, index of concentration, turnout, voting percentage of winning parties and candidates.

Electoral Geography is one of the important branches of Political Geography which is defined as the study of geographical aspects associated with election and election studies of social and Ecopolitical structure in Geospatial approach. More precisely it is the subject discipline to analyse the spatial voting pattern/behavior. According to the Indian Geographer Sudeepta Adhikari there are five major areas within the subject framework of Electoral Geography :

- (i) Constituency
- (ii) Spatial variation of voting pattern
- (iii) Environment both in socio-economic and physical aspect
- (iv) Spatail pattern of representation

Spatial variation in power and in policy implementation

The study of Electoral Geography particularly the phenomenon of Geo-spatiality was first introduced by Siegfried in France in his famous work *Geographie Electorale* in 1913. At that time New French School of Electoral Geography emerged with the works of Krehbeil (1916) , Goguel (1951) and Lancelot (1968). All these