# The Historical Evolution of Nationalism

In the 20th century however, nationalism evolved into something much broader and complex due largely to two world wars which drastically shifted global politics. Post-World War I era witnessed an upsurge in nationalist sentiment among colonized countries leading to their independence from European powers during decolonization phase post World War II.

Later part of twentieth-century also saw rise in ethno-nationalism (identity-based nationalism) causing civil unrests & ethnic conflicts in different parts of world such as Balkans or Rwanda. Nationalism thus has transformed over time from being a force for unity against oppression to one which can foster division along racial or ethnic lines.

# Media as a Tool for Nationalistic Propagation

In democratic societies too, mainstream media can be subtly used to instill nationalism indirectly by focusing on specific issues that appeal to national sentiments like immigration policies or defense strategies.

Media narratives on these topics are often framed from a perspective which implicitly suggests protection and promotion of national interests as being paramount over global humanitarian concerns. This tactic can create an environment conducive for political parties with nationalist agendas to gain public support thereby influencing governance policies at large.

# Role of Propaganda in Shaping Nationalistic Ideals

In contemporary times, propaganda continues to play a significant role in fostering nationalism albeit through more sophisticated channels like social media platforms or state-controlled news outlets.

Digital propaganda can quickly reach a large audience disseminating information (often misinformation) creating echo chambers reinforcing nationalistic sentiments within society. This can lead to heightened tensions between different ethnic or religious groups within nations and exacerbate conflicts with perceived external enemies thereby disrupting global peace initiatives.

# Influence of Social Media on Modern Nationalism

Social media platforms' algorithms are designed in such a way that they promote content similar to what users already engage with. This creates echo chambers where individuals are constantly exposed to viewpoints that align with their own beliefs and opinions – including nationalistic ones – reinforcing them further.

As a result of this constant reinforcement through likes, shares and comments by like-minded individuals; these online spaces often transform into breeding grounds for radical nationalism potentially leading to real-world conflicts.

# Case Studies: Effective Use of Media and Propaganda in Nationalism

In contrast, India's struggle for independence from British rule presents another perspective where nationalist sentiments were fostered through peaceful means using media and propaganda.

Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi effectively utilized newspapers and public speeches to spread their message of non-violent resistance or 'Satyagraha'. These communications served not only to unite diverse Indian communities under the common goal of independence but also promoted values like tolerance and unity in diversity which form integral part of Indian nationalism till today.

# Ethical Implications and Challenges in Media-driven Nationalism

Confronting these challenges requires widespread education about media literacy so people can critically evaluate information they consume rather than accepting it blindly.

There's also need for stricter regulations on digital platforms which often serve as breeding grounds for extremist ideologies under guise of nationalism. Policymakers globally must work towards creating a balance where media serves its role as fourth estate without jeopardizing societal harmony or global peace initiatives.