BLOCKCHAIN-POWERED ETHNIC EQUITY AND GOVERNANCE: ESTABLISHING A MINORITY SENATE AND AN ETHNIC EQUITY INDEX FOR TRANSPARENT AND INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE

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The Ethnic Conflict in Sri Lanka is an intermittent issue that requires a sustainable solution. Since federalism is opposed by political parties from both the northern provinces and the southern part of the country, it is highly unlikely that a solution for the ethnic conflict will be found through the Federal governance mechanism. Thus, it is the most auspicious time to propose a brand-new concept tailor-made for Sri Lankan-specific needs to settle this conflict, and for the progress to be positive for the people in the country. This research will propose a comprehensive governance framework that integrates blockchain technology, a Minority Senate, and an Ethnic Equity Index (EEI) to promote transparent, inclusive, and equitable decision-making. The study specifically aims to design a system where Northern communities, including various Tamil societies and minorities living Up Country, have guaranteed representation and influence over national policies, while blockchain ensures transparency and accountability in governance processes. By introducing an EEI, this framework will measure and address disparities in resource distribution, public service delivery, and ethnic representation, fostering trust and unity among diverse communities. Blockchain will integrate procedural fairness while preventing biases and corruption by designing a blockchain-based model for resource allocation, electoral processes, and policy implementation. This will develop a decentralized platform for real-time grievance redressal and public feedback. This idea will be backed up by establishing a second parliamentary chamber dedicated to minority representation for Tamils, Muslims, and other marginalized groups with veto power over legislation affecting ethnic and regional interests. The mechanism will further straight-up with EEI by assessing and monitoring disparities in governance metrics such as resource allocation, infrastructure development, education, and healthcare. This novel module will be discussed in detail throughout the study, with a comparative analysis of existing governance mechanisms for decentralizing power.

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