The introduction of reforms by Gorbachev brought radical changes in the political processes and developments in the Soviet-Union. The reemergence of nationality question after 1985 influenced the political processes and developments in Central Asian republics. The reforms created democratic atmosphere in a totalitarian system. So the suppressed nationalities discontents came out in the free atmosphere. Though, republics were based on nationality line, but even in practice there was no political autonomy. The assurance of Bolsheviks for political self-determination to various nationalities remained in theory. The monopoly of power by CPSU reduced the republics as administrative units to implement orders from Moscow. Russification was followed instead of cultural autonomy.

So after reforms, nationalist forces determined the courses of political processes and development in Central Asia. The nationalist discontents in Central Asia expressed in ethnic riots. The Alma-Ata riot was first violent manifestation of nationalism in Soviet Union. The various informal groups articulated the national demands. The desovietization was followed by the rising trend of nationalism. The results of semi-free elections in some non-Russians republics put the question on the
legitimacy of CPSU. So the republican leadership became responsive to the demands of people than to Moscow. Initially people were demanding political, economic, and cultural autonomy.

Inspite of manifestation of nationalism, no concrete policy was adopted for the solution by authority. The declaration of sovereignty and than independence by Baltic republics forced authorities to negotiate for new Union treaty. But coup changed the political developments. The declaration of dissolution of Soviet Union by three Slavic republics surprised Central Asian leaders. Inspite of nationalistic discontents, Central Asian political elites were not ready for independence. They were for some sort of loose political arrangement like federation or confederation. So they joined in the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The independent Central Asian republics have adopted democratic and secular constitution ending the speculation of following Iranian model of Islamic state. But the political processes is not totally democratic. The ruling political elites are from old communist party. But they have changed their ideology from socialism to nationalism. The suppression of opposition groups in some republics on the pretext of political stability is followed. But ruling elites cannot suppress the opposition groups for a long. In order to create stable democratic political system, opposition groups should be
accommodated in political processes. Still the political processes are
determined by the all powerful presidents. But dependence on the one
man cannot ensure political stability. Rather, institutionalization of political
system should be followed. The threat of Islamic fundamentalism is there.
But in Tajikistan, it is actually a fight between two regions for power.

Inspite of problems, democratic political system is working after
many years of Soviet rule. People are not adjusted to the new reality in a
short time. The political processes and developments Central Asia have
a wide ramification in international relation. If there will be political
instability, then it will affect other neighbouring states.

The first chapter is "historical background" of the topic. It discusses
the formation of the Soviet-Union. It gives the ethnic composition of USSR.
The Tzarist nationality policy is described in brief. Then Bolshevik
nationality policy in theory and practice is analysed.

The second chapter is "reemergence of nationality question". It
discusses the nationalities problem before the October revolution. Then
reemergence of the nationalities problems in the Soviet Union after
introduction of radical reforms are described. The reemergence of the
nationalities question and its relationship with 'glasnost' and 'Perestroika'
is analysed. The chapter also focusses on the nationalities problems in Central Asia.

The third chapter is "political processes". The chapter focusses on the Central Asia. The chapter discusses Gorbachev's measures to solve the nationality question in the beginning. The resolutions of 27th congress of CPSU, 19th All-Union conference of CPSU and 28th congress of CPSU are analysed.

The fourth chapter is "political Development in Central Asia". It discusses the responses of Central Asian leaders to the programmes of CPSU. The formation and activities of various groups since 1985 is analysed.

The fifth chapter is "disintegration of the Soviet Union". It discusses the impact of disintegration on Central Asian Political processes. Then the formation of new political parties and groups is discussed followed by an analysis of constitutional development in Central Asia.

The thesis concludes with a summary of major findings about the political processes and developments in Central Asia after the reemergence of nationality question since 1985.