

ORIGIN OF TRADE UNIONISM IN KERALA

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ABSTRACT:

The study is an attempt to document an overview of trade unions in Kerala, southern state of India. A trade union is an organization of employees formed on a continuous basis for the purpose of securing diverse range of benefits. It is a continuous association of wage earners for the purpose of maintaining and improving the conditions of their working lives. Trade unions are a part of society and as such, have to take into consideration the national integration as well. Some important social responsibilities of trade unions include: promoting and maintaining national integration by reducing the number of industrial disputes, incorporating a sense of corporate social responsibility in workers achieving industrial peace. The paper argues that globalization had marginalized trade unions in Kerala. At present, trade unionism in Kerala suffers from a variety of problems such as politicization of the unions, multiplicity of unions, inter-union rivalry, uneconomic size and financial debility.
