

## Get Familiar to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar before Breaking His Statue

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**ABSTRACT:** Now a day it is a fashion to break the statue of historic personalities who had given any contributions to build a nation or democracy or present peaceful country. What are the motives behind doing such acts is mystery for common people. The act of breaking statues is happening in different parts of our country from last couple of days. The people involved in such a cheap activity must read and understand the thoughts and life of Ambedkar before demolishing the statue. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth. He was the victim of social injustice but he didn't give up. Instead he decided to fight against this injustice and to change rule of the game. When Dr. Ambedkar made up his mind to advance in education and studies, he was not getting the benefit of reservation or any other caste based benefits from the state. By his own efforts and hard work, he reached upto Ph.D., highest level of education, only depending on his own talent. He made great efforts to change the life of the suppressed and the depressed of the society by bringing them into current stream with the help of education and equal status. But that doesn't mean that he is the property of that particular community. He was the real son of India and of every community. He has done tremendous job for advancement of people of our country and country itself. The people involved in breaking the statue of such a great son of India must raise themselves upto Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's level of education, intelligence and patriotism.

**KEYWORDS:** Buddhism, Indian Constitution, Social Reforms, Public Finance and Agriculture

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### I DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR: AS AN ECONOMIST

Dr. B.R Ambedkar was a great scholar and master of economics. His work in economics is outstanding and remarkable. Public finance and agriculture are the most important areas to be focused according to him. The concept of welfare state must be considered in governments spending. Prof. Amartya Sen, Indian Economist, Noble prize winner 1998, is well known for his contribution in welfare economics and social choice theory and for his interest in the problems of society's poorest members. He has mentioned that Dr. Ambedkar is my Father in Economics. The words of Prof. Amartya Sen speak about the glory of Dr. Ambedkar. His contribution in the field of economics is marvelous and will be remembered forever.

Dr. Ambedkar wrote the thesis on 'The Problem of the Rupee'(DSc degree at University of London) that revealed an analysis of how the British, by linking the value of the Indian Rupee with the British Pound, had made maximum profit while pushing the Indians into deep economic morass. That had led to Indian money flowing into the coffers of the British Empire and being used in the interest of the British people. Later this thesis was published in the form of a book. RBI was conceptualized as per the guidelines, working style and outlook presented by Dr. Ambedkar in his book titled 'The Problem of the Rupee- its origin and its solution' and presented to the Hilton Young Commission. The bank was set up based on the recommendations of the 1926 Royal Commission on Indian Currency and Finance, also known as the Hilton-Young Commission. It was Dr. Ambedkar's tireless efforts due to which the Reserve Bank of India came into existence. Dr. Ambedkar's Ph.D. thesis (at Columbia University)-'The Evolution of the Provincial Finance in British India' exposed British bureaucracy in India.

There is one significant write-up of him-'Small Holdings in India and Their Remedies' throws light on consolidation of small and scattered agriculture plots for agriculture reforms. Apart from these academic economic writings, he also contributed in form of speeches in the different legislative bodies and book reviews which all have some economic contents.

He had given great contribution not only towards restructuring of the Indian social structure but also in the fields of agriculture irrigation, industrialization and modernization. In this field his important contribution is welfare of the labour classes, agricultural irrigation and initiatives and preparation of water transport schemes, flood control schemes, river transport schemes for increasing power production. He suggested collective

farming, equal distribution of land. According to him the state must play a vital role in such transformation of agriculture and advocate the nationalization of land and the leasing out of land to groups of cultivators, who are to be encouraged to form cooperatives in order to promote agriculture.

Large scale Industrialization of provision of providing money, water, seeds and fertilizers to farmers by the government, cultivation of waste land by allotting waste land to landless labour, minimum wages to laborers, control and regulation of private lenders of loan to farmers for solving the problem of agriculture in India. Due to his efforts the 'Land Ceiling Act' was passed after Independence.

Dr. Ambedkar knew that development of India was impossible without rapid industrialization. He suggested the need for industrialization so as to move surplus labour from agriculture to other productive occupations to raise yields. He also suggested that government should start large scale industries and smaller industries should be kept in private sector and the insurance and transport companies should be nationalized. Dr Ambedkar knew that without population control, Indian economy cannot flourish. He forcefully argued for population control and family planning in India and it was due to his effort that the government of India adopted family planning as a national policy.

Thus, Dr. Ambedkar's thoughts on public Finance and agriculture has vital relevance and still applicable in current scenario of India. In order to enhance productivity of agriculture sector, government is needed to take measures on the basis of Dr. Ambedkar's guidelines and suggestions.

## **II DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR: AS A DESIGNER OF INDIAN CONSTITUTION**

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was a great Scholar, Social Reformer, Humanist and Father of Indian Constitution. Every independent country has its own constitution. Constitution is a basic document which may be in written or unwritten. Indian constitution is in written and also the longest in the world. Administrative structure of the country, distribution of powers to govern the country, judicial system all that important aspects are covered under the constitution. It is a very tough task to frame the constitution for the country like India. This challenging task was undertaken and successfully accomplished by Dr. Ambedkar. He was the most talented and eligible personality to frame the constitution of India. He has taken the responsibility of scripting the greatest ever Constitution to make Independent India into true Democratic India. In fact, he was the most talented, qualified and visionary at his time at the time of Independence to write the best Constitution for India. He is the person who taught us how to govern India in terms of rights and responsibilities. He spelt out how Legislature, the Executive and Judiciary are required to function within their boundaries. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar was Principal Architect of Indian Constitution. As he was the great scholar, he studied thoroughly the constitutions of the other countries before drafting the constitution of India.

When India became Independent, it was necessarily of designing a comprehensive constitution to govern such a largest country in the context of clarity of direction. The Drafting Committee was formed under the chairmanship of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar for framing the constitution on 29 August 1947. The formation of constitution was time consuming process. It would take 2 years, 11 months and 18 days. The Drafting Committee submitted the Constitution to the Constituent Assembly on November 5, 1947. The Draft was published on February 21, 1948. It was circulated among the members of Constituent Assembly, Provincial and Legislative Assemblies, Press and the people for an open discussion. And after B.R. Ambedkar presented the draft Constitution before the parliament and people of India, and on November 26, 1949 it was adopted by the Constituent Assembly and came into force on January 26, 1950 and celebrated as the Republic Day in our country.

On June 5, 1952, The University of Columbia, on its Special convocation awarded the LL.D. degree (Honoris Causa) to Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar in the acknowledgment of his drafting the Constitution of India. The Columbia University flagged him as "one of India's leading citizens, an enormous social reformer and heroic upholder of human rights". Babasaheb is the individual, who with his efforts had build India in her early years. They fought for the independence of India and then strived to build India of their dreams.

*Why Indian constitution is longest in nature?*

Inclusion of various countries constitutions

Indian Government Act, 1935 which is long and comprehensive document in nature

Comprehensive administrative laws

Various critical issues of the country included

State constitutions are also included

Special provisions for Jammu and Kashmir

Separate provisions for Nagaland, Sikkim, Manipur and Maharashtra

Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy

The Preamble in the Constitution of India is a well drafted document which states the philosophy of the constitution. It declares India to be a Sovereign Socialist Secular Democratic Republic and a welfare state committed to secure justice, liberty and equality for the people and for promoting fraternity, dignity the individual and unity & integrity of the nation. The Preamble is the key to the constitution. It states in nutshell the nature of Indian state and the objective it is committed to secure for the people. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's role in drafting of the Indian Constitution was outstanding to handle well the burning issues like untouchability, caste or gender or religion based discriminations. He was the utmost talent in drafting the constitution so he can be truly entitled as the Principal architect of the Indian Constitution.

### **III DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR: AS A SCHOLAR AND WRITER**

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar was very brilliant student and very interested in study right from his childhood. He knew that education is the only remedy to come out from hell like life. He passed the Intermediate Examination with good percentage of marks. He joined Alfnston College, Bombay and obtained his degree there. The Maharaja of Baroda was highly impressed with his talents and he awarded him scholarship for further studies. It helped him to go to America for higher education. In 1916, he obtained the postgraduate degree in Economics. Then he started his career as a professor and served for four years. In 1923, he went to England to pursue higher studies. In England he received the degree of M.Sc., D.M.S. Law and Ph.D. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar was the great thinker and writer. He made a mark in writing his thoughts about the every aspect which was related to the nation, economy, human being, social injustice and life experiences of his own. Some of his known and unknown writings and thoughts are:

- Castes in India
- Small Holdings in India and their Remedies
- The Problem of the Rupee
- The Evolution of the Provincial Finance in British India
- Annihilation of Caste
- Mr. Gandhi and the Emancipation of the Untouchables
- Ranade, Gandhi and Jinnah
- Thoughts on Pakistan
- What Congress and Gandhi have done to the Untouchables
- Maharashtra as a Linguistic State
- Who were the Shudras?
- Status and Minorities
- History of Indian Currency and Banking
- The untouchables
- Thoughts on Linguistic State
- Buddha and Karl Marx
- Communal Deadlock and Way to Solve it
- Buddha and the Future of the Religion
- Future of Parliamentary Democracy
- Linguistic States: The need for checks and balance
- Buddhism and Communism
- The Buddha and his Dhamma
- Hindu Women: Rise and Fall

Also Dr. Ambedkar wrote many articles in English and Marathi, which were published in different magazines and newspapers and they all have literary and social value. In view of the importance of Ambedkar's writings, the education department of the Maharashtra government drew up a programme to publish a collection of all his writings and speeches. To date 22 volumes of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar writings and speeches have been published.

### **IV DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR: AS A SOCIAL REFORMER**

Dr. Ambedkar left an indelible mark on Indian Society. He was visionary for great India where every human being must be treated at least human being without any caste discrimination. His vision on nation building was based on the concept: Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision was to eradicate the social evils, disparities, injustice and to establish an egalitarian world society. He was completely against the cast discrimination which is the major reason for social injustice. Ambedkar's vision of national building was geared with social transformation and human progress. His contribution pervades the entire gamut of social life. He was an illustrious son of India who struggled throughout his entire life to restructure the Indian society on egalitarian and humanitarian principles.

Dr B.R. Ambedkar's thoughts give amazing and constructive insights to the problem of the social exclusion of the deprived and other excluded groups within India. His thoughts not only conceptualized the social discrimination, but also focused on social emancipation and continuously inspired discussions on the origins of the social injustices within the social, cultural milieu of Indian society. Ambedkar's efforts to eradicate the social evils like untouchability and caste restrictions were remarkable. Throughout his life he fought for the rights of the Dalits and other socially backward classes. His ideas revolved around the welfare of mankind through social and political action, he stressed on respect for basic human dignity, human rights and secularization of state. His belief in peace and non-violence, constitutional morality, social justice are some of the most valuable and enduring elements of his political and social philosophy which helps in building up humane and just society. His ultimate mission in life was to build up a nation where everyone, without any caste barriers, lives and breathes like alive without the presence of the word "Harijan" that brings towards untouchability and injustice.

#### **V DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR AND RELIGION**

Dr. Babasaheb was born in Hindu community in a low caste family of harijan. He was brilliant from his childhood. But his low caste birth was a cause of his disgrace, hardship and humiliation. He had to suffer every moment due to his caste. Ambedkar experienced caste discrimination right from the childhood. That caste discrimination at that time led him to change his religion. As he was very popular among the dalit community and had a great influence on them, his move towards any religion would affect greatly not only the politics of India but also communal imbalance. If he turned to become Muslim, thousands of dalit community people also had accepted their religion as Muslims. The same was applicable for other religions. Dr. Ambedkar was aware about this fact. As he declared to change his religion, he was invited by various community religion leaders like Muslims, Christians to accept their religion. But he was true Nationalist in that sense, because he chose Buddhism as religion. By choosing Buddhism, he supported the Hindu community greatly, because Buddhism is also a part of Hinduism in some manner. By choosing Buddhism, he took a great stand for Hinduism otherwise our country was witnessed of a chaos arising out of communal disputes on religion ground. By considering all these facts, it is said that he was true Nationalist from bottom of his heart by supporting our country to make it bound together and saved from division into caste based country. More or less he is the great wall of our democracy that we are enjoying as an Indian without any caste based labeled country.

#### **VI CONCLUSION**

A multifaceted personality like Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar is truly inspiring. He was honoured with Bharat Ratna posthumously-the highest civilian award of India. He had done tremendous job as a Social Reformer, Economist, Constitution Designer, Scholar and Writer. To make a world class country, we need to wake up our soul to raise the Ambedkar within us. As one Ambedkar is not enough, it is our duty to create an atmosphere to grow, develop and nurture thousands of Ambedkars in every part of our country. Dr. Ambedkar spent whole the life for the depressed and the oppressed people to restore them in society with equal opportunity and status. Equality in true nature comes when everyone will become eligible for equal opportunity without any discrimination in terms of caste or reservation or financial and social status. Talent must be the priority for the country like ours where more than 60 percent population is youngest among the world. By choosing a right track we can make a difference and in real India will rise. People of the county must come out from the religious boundaries and stop identifying themselves as Hindu or Muslim or Christian or dalit or savarn etc. Don't be dumb and deaf to become a two edge sword of political parties that play with your emotions and destroy communal peace and harmony of the society. Now it is a time to change the mindset of the people by putting changes in education systems. Also bring amendments in Constitutional provisions that create discriminations among the people of the country and must be reviewed to build one nation. Caste based reservation system must be reviewed in present scenario as the motive of caste based reservation should have been completed after 70 years of independence. Due to vote bank politics, the reservation ratio has been increased to almost 50 percent. In present scenario it is totally impractical to provide caste based reservation in education and jobs. By doing this we are going to give born another society based on discrimination that was the case at the time of independence for dalit community. For which Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar insisted reservation to bring them equal social and financial status. He advocated it for a limited time period and in limited quota. After accomplishing that task all must be treated equal. But it is not happening presently. As a result of that people who feel that caste based reservation system has destroyed the future of talented scholars or students or professionals, are reacting by demolishing the statue of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar who introduced caste based reservation system. So the present situation is alarming for the policy makers of the country because in every morning there is news of breaking statue of personality like Dr. Ambedkar. Dr. Ambedkar is not responsible for present situation of our country in the context of caste based discrimination. It is political parties and our low level mindset of

getting benefits with less effort and at a cost of others, is more responsible for leading our country towards turmoil.

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