

## Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Contribution towards upliftment of Dalits

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### Abstract

*Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar is generally known as the prophet of down-trodden people who worked sincerely for the upliftment of those who were the repressed by the so called upper classes of the Indian society. Ambedkar's contribution for the social reforms in the context of Indian culture cannot be forgotten. Right from the beginning, he was aware of this fact that Indian society is divided on the basis of castes, and for the dalits it is not easy to get equal rights in social as well as in economic fields.*

### Paper

Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar is one of the greatest architects of Indian Republic. He not only plays a constructive role in the development of democratic structure of India but also transform the process of social and political faster. It was Dr. Sahib raise his voice for the lower caste who was exploited in the 20th century due to caste system. It was due to continuous efforts of Dr. Ambedkar that the British government has to change his mind towards the growth of poor and downtrodden but Gandhi ji and Congress has included the upliftment of poor and downtrodden in their manifesto. Dr. Ambedkar was born in Schedule Caste and he was aware of the pain of the low caste segment of the society. He take this disgrace personally and make a promise that he will fight for the deaf downtrodden until and unless

they got civil liberty and political rights. Dr. Ambedkar wants structural change in the Hindu Society. In the year 1920 for downtrodden atrocities and make the downtrodden dynamic he publish a magazine titled Dumb hero and untouchable Bharat. For Civil Liberty he makes movements in the area of Public ponds, wells, Mandires. Mahar Movement was well known in the history for his protection of Human Rights. With the help of Mahar Movement Dr. Ambedkar wants to bring the attention of world towards Crores of Downtrodden facing dilemma of untouchability and disgraceness. Dr. Ambedkar also advised the downtrodden that they don't misguided by the Congress and Gandhi. He also advocated that their lost rights will not come back just by asking for the soul searching exercise but it will be achieved by continuous fight. Dr Ambedkar was of the opinion that Downtrodden future will be secures by their active participation in the politics and Downtrodden must understand their duties. His only point of contention where he differs from the opinion of Gandhi that he wants downtrodden from political arena .

That's why Dr Ambedkar makes a political demand before British government Southbury Committee by signing that untouchability must not be left at the mercy of higher cast instead of this it is wise able to give self power to untouchable casts. Although they are not power hungry but just makes a humble equality of rights in the society .Untouchable can be led by the untouchable and nobody else can raise their voice form them self. That's why they must be given representation according to their population .From the point of view of Dr Ambedkar it is compulsory political participation of downtrodden for economic and social growth .He was also doubtful that if they are not given representation in

farming the constitution then they will not get rid of the exploitation from Majority Hindus.

Dr. Ambedkar during the Round Table Conference makes it clear that until and unless downtrodden gets political power their problems cannot be eradicated. Dr Ambedkar makes it clear that if they are not given assurance that downtrodden will get full security of their rights he will not give his consent. It was first time in the political history of India that a reformer of downtrodden society raise his voice at National and International level for equal economic social and political rights and above all demanded imprisonment for the violation of rights of downtrodden. In this conference Dr Ambedkar retorted that On whole I am standing here they on behalf of the one fifth of total population. But my fellow downtrodden are living a life of slavery even slave are touched by their owner but in our case it is a great sin to touch Dalit. A memorandum was submitted to the chairman in which demand was made for removal of untouchability equal rights, recruitment of untouchable in the army, reservation in government jobs having separate election constituency and reserved seats for the downtrodden This conference was windup on 19.1.1931 without any conclusion as there was no representative of congress in the conference. On 7.9.1931 Second Roundtable conference gets started where Gandhiji participated and Dr Ambedkar views that downtrodden should be given rights as given to minority. As no solution was made for minorities this conference ends in vain. The Prime minister was given a right to take decision and everyone comes back to india. On 20.8.1932 Communal Decision was taken and untouchable gets separate electorate rights according to which they can fight election. During that period Gandhiji was in Yeraveda Jail and he writes a letter to Prime minister by showing his discontent with the decision and wants to change the decision otherwise from 20 sept onwards he will goes on fast till death. On 19

th September a meeting was organised by Madan Mohan Malviya in which Dr. Ambedkar was invited but no solution was made in this regard. Dr. Ambedkar was pressurised from every quarter and later on meeting was fixed between Gandhi ji and Dr. Ambedkar and final decision was made on 24.9.1932 and this pact was known as Poona Pact and Gandhi ji's life was saved. A separate constituency was accepted and reserved seats were also allocated and increased. Reservations in jobs and employment is also accepted. It was a fortunate moment for Dalits that Dr. Ambedkar was a member of the Constituent Assembly and aspirations of the downtrodden can be fulfilled as he was the Chairman of this assembly. If Dr. Ambedkar was not there no doubt Dalits will get their due rights but they never get social, political and economic upliftment as they deserve. Dr. Ambedkar's contribution for the downtrodden society especially in social/political/economic upliftment cannot be ignored.

Article 330 of the Indian Constitution declares reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the House of the People for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes except some STs in the autonomous districts of Assam and Scheduled Tribes in the autonomous districts of Assam. Article 332 in the constitution of India states about the reservation of seats of SCs and STs in Legislative Assemblies of the States. 73rd amendment of constitution in Article 243 declares that "Panchayat bodies must have proportionate representation of SCs and STs and women. Such reservation should also apply in the case of Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons of their bodies". Besides these several programmes of the Indian State in the form of grants, scholarships, loans, stipends etc. are being provided for Dalits. This is all due to provisions of constitution drafted by Dr. Ambedkar. He was really a God Father for the Dalits in true sense.

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar had a real visionary towards the upliftment of Dalits. His main aim was to uproot the evil of deep-rooted caste system, uplift the status of downtrodden society, create honor amongst so called upper castes and to transform this country from uncivilized state to civilized state. By fighting against English rulers and including Articles in the constitution he tried his best to enable Dalits and women to the present day developed state. Before independence the social, economic and political conditions of Dalits and women were very grim. Today we find all round development of disadvantaged groups in India. Untouchability has reduced, their socio-economic and political status have improved. Today Dalits have become a powerful political force in India and enjoy greater access to education and economy than ever before. They are exercising their voting rights. Their political consciousness and awareness about various political activities and participation in these activities have increased very much. Due to these facts now-a-days the Govt. is also making various decisions relating to their rights and privileges. Efforts are still going on to remove different discriminatory practices against them. Now votes of the Dalits have become one of the major deciding factors for winning of a candidate or a political party in elections. The honours for Dalits in high caste society have also increased. Today we do not ask the person seating besides us which caste he belongs to? Today at least in towns both Dalits and non-Dalits enjoy the same tea stall, hotel and cinema hall but usually nobody bothers about knowing the caste identity of a person. This is all due to the un-tired and intelligent efforts of Dr. Ambedkar.

The Constitution of India provides equal rights to all its citizens' right to live with equality, honour and dignity. But the caste system and untouchability somehow and others are still playing negative roles from different parts of the society.

Untouchability is a crime against humanity. Hence it is the right time to adopt the principles of Dr. Ambedkar. The Constitution of India is designed in such a way that all its citizens are equal before it. Our nation is facing different sorts of socio-economic, educational and political evils in the society and only the effective implementation of Constitution in its real spirit can overcome them. The Dalits also will have to come forward and to labour hard in all social, economical, educational and political fields to compete with the other members of the society. They should avoid power demonstration and enjoy their rights properly. Each Dalit member will have to try to become a Second Ambedkar. God has created the entire creature including human beings without caste identity. It is we who make all these discriminations. So the people of advanced classes will have to change their mentality. They will have to be more generous towards the Dalits regarding untouchability and the upliftment of their socio-economic, educational and political status etc. The social structure of our society is based primarily on them because they are the people who perform all types of menial works which are usually avoided by the people of elite class. Without them no society has run previously, not running now and will not run in future. His credibility is marked and proved automatically what he did for Dalits in particular and others in general as his views and philosophy is not confined to the limited section of society as he was a man of ubiquitous approach, idealism and hence realism. The downtrodden society of India has given the world a warrior of human rights and unique personality. Dr Ambedkar battle for the downtrodden with honesty and commitment is the inspiration and legacy of Dalit Society.

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