



**BCs NEITHER
SUDRAS
NOR HINDUS**

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(N. K. Sharma, New Delhi)

For good or for bad, every society is divided into groups. These need not be on the basis of religion alone. Organised religion is about 2,000 Years Old. Even in UK, the society is divided into Lords, Commons, Celts etc. These groups cannot be abolished whether one likes it or not. So also the Indian groups where the upper castes (UCs) are savarna and the rest are avarnas. Scheduled Castes. Backward Castes and Scheduled Tribes are avarnas. An avarna does not mean he is out-caste but out of the chaturvarna (four--fold caste system) Because of the brahminical brainwashing, we are made to believe that these casteless people are outcasted by the UCs No. They are out of the caste fortress and hence uncontaminated by the caste system. The Americans in the USA are also avarnas i.e. beyond the pale of varna system or chaturvarna. So also the Chinese and Russians. Savarnas did not admit these original inhabitants of

India—SCs, STs, BCs, into their varna system or into their vedic dharma or aryadharm or Hinduism. why? Unlike the Christians, the Aryans. did not want these people to enter their religion. So their scriptures condemned all these original inhabitants of India as Untouchables (to mean enemies) simply to inflict punishment as slaves. Therefore, SCs, STs, BCs, are not sudras. Aryans have devised only four caste—groups and they have their own sudras. They might have treated their sudras worse than dogs. But SCs, STs and BCs are not sudras. How can they be sudras when they are not even Hindus?. savarnas do not want them except as slaves and subjects. They DV headline to Brahm Prakash article (Jan. 16, 87) said "Sudras are not Hindus". SC, ST, BCs are neither sudras and never Hindus. They are partly hinduised. In fact, it is the savarnas who borrowed their gods and customs and erased the difference in the styles of worship. It is the blind belief that made the UCs adopt their gods. These are irrefutable facts. To call SC/STs and BCs as sudras, therefore, is factually wrong and historically fallacious. So also the title to Dalit Sahitya Akadamy's book. Salvation to Sudra Slavery (1986) is also wrong. If BCs are sudras, they automatically become Hindus because Hinduism alone has the sudra varna. When they are avarnas, how they can be sudras?

By calling BCs as sudras we only will make them sudras and hence Hindus. In the sudra slavery book, Periyar did talk about upper caste sudras as the fourth and BCs as the fifth varna etc. He mentioned Untouchables as separate from the sudras. As BCs did not organise themselves for their rights, everyone ignored them.

We should not confuse BCs by calling them sudras and push them into the Hindu fold. That will be a grave tragedy.

May be that the Dravidian sudras are original Indians like the Black Brahmins. Now it does not serve any purpose to talk about them. We are concerned with BCs and not OBCs. As Periyar says that upto a few hundred years ago, South was a conglomeration of tribal groups with out varnas. We will be more correct to say the BCs like—Shetty-Balijas of South or Yadav-Kurmi-Ahirs of North—are not sudras but untouchables and original inhabitants. We are not concerned with sudras.

“Outcastes” do not mean that they are outcasted. SCs, STs, & BCs refused to join the chaturvarna / aryadharm / vedicdharma. Throughout the last 3, 000 years the two were hostile to each other. That is why they never joined the caste system on their own. So they are outcastes and hence casteless. The smrities and shastras called these people as avarnas (casteless) and ati—sudras (beyond the pale of sudra and varna system). The upper castes (UCs) have their own sudras, as the fourth varna or caste. In the beginning, the UCs or Aryans wanted to make peace and invited SCs, STs, BCs to become sudras, but these people refused. These three groups are described in the Aryadharm/vedic dharm/Hinduism as Untouchables meaning enemies. Strict penalties are prescribed if they violate the rules of the slavery.

CONFUSION ABOUT SUDRAS: There is a lot of confusion about the sudras, and who made it. Sudras are the fourth varna of the Aryadharm, and so the sudras

are also upper castes. SC, STs BCs are not sudras. Anglo—Indians are also not sudras. They are casteless. The confusion about the sudras arises mainly because we are brainwashed and made to look everything through the Aryadharm/vedic dharm/Hindu glass. We have to leave this habit of using others' glass.

DV is taking a refreshingly new line of thought with its emphasis on search for roots, origins, indentities and dignities. When we are searching for our roots, we have to be scientific in our approach. Why wear others' hats when we have our own? We to have judge everything with reference to our own standards—origins and destinies.

SC, STs&BCs are human groups. It was the English rulers who invented the suffix "caste" to all including SC/ST and BCs. Only the UCs have the caste. It was the Muslim kings who inaugurated "Hind" and "Hinduism". The British legalised the term and due to ignorance they called everyone "Hindu" by attaching the tail, "caste".

Hence the need to give scientific definitions to terms like caste, casteless, sudras and backward castes, to avoid confusion.

Tulsidas in his Ramayana called SCs and BCs as garmars' in his famous sloka, Sudra, gamar, pasu, nari thalanike Adhikari' which became popular through a film-song two years ago.

It means Doli (bandbox) gamars sudra, animals and women are fit only for lashes. Here this term gamars refer to SCs and BCs and not sudras. Sudra refers to

upper caste—the fourth varna of Aryadharmā. The Vokkaligas, Lingayats, Reddys, Kayasths, and Katries etc. come under this sudra group.

INSULTING FILM: when the film was released with that insulting sloka, several leaders of SCs protested against the term sudra and not against the term 'gamar'. Such is the total confusion of our people about the sudra term. They do not know that it does not refer to them. Sudra does not refer to SCs and BCs in the past or at the present. In the past sudras, were also treated badly like the Untouchables and BCs. Instead of saying "sudras are not Hindus" (DV Jan. 16) the title should have been "BCs are not Hindus" because BCs are not sudras. Upper castes laugh at those BCs claiming sudraship just as they do when some one claims to be a Brahmin.

To say that sudras are not Hindus is as good as telling that Hindus are not Hindus. It is both incorrect and totally confusing. If someone is a sudra plainly he is a Hindu. Why label someone as sudra and then say he is not Hindu? It is a double-mistake.

Chaudhary Braham Prakash blundered in labelling BCs as sudras and then say that they are not Hindus. The BCs are not sudras to begin with and so they are not Hindus.

Th statement "sudras are not Hindus" is not correct for that does not fit into the science of society or the art of life; for it leads to utter confusion. We have to Judge these issues in the background of Hindu scriptures and the historic facts.

WHO ARE THE SUDRAS? : Who are the sudras with varna and within the chaturvarna of Hinduism/vedic dharma or Aryadharmā? The Kayasthas, Katris, Patidar Patels (Gujarat), Reddys (AP), Nairs (Kerala), vokkaliga (Karnadaka), Mudaliyars (TN) or the Marathas etc. Are the sudras with a varna or the fourth varna of Hindus who are monopolising the power, and oppressing the BCs, SCs & STs. These sudra castes are upper castes whom we have to fight for our rights and dignities. In fact these non-Brahmin upper castes necked out the Brahmins from power in many States and became the inheritors and executors (or instruments) of brahminism. Brahmins are migrating to Delhi for jobs. They control the Congress Party and are in a position to manipulate things in it to their favour. The Brahmins know that only an all-India party allows them scope to manipulate things to their advantage. small parties, regional parties or a multy-party system is to their disadvantage. That is why it is always the Brahmins who make so much about "nation" and "nationalism". Anything against them automatically becomes anti-national. Multi-party rule as in Kerala is to the advantage of the minorities, SCs. ST and BCs. That is why the UCs in general and the Brahmins in particular damn smaller parties and the multi-party system.

The Hindu scriptures say the sudras are born from the feet of Brahma. And along with Brahmins, Kshatriyas and Vaisyas, they make the chaturvarnas or the four varna of the Hinduism. Thus these Kayasths, Mudaliars, Nairs, Reddys, Marathas, Patels are the sudras referred to in the Vedas.

So the SC, ST, BCs are not sudras. They are not partners in Hinduism. They are all Untouchables. But

the sudras of Hinduism are not untouchables to the upper castes today. Hindu scriptures refer to SC, ST, BCs' (who make up 80% of the population) as Untouchables and as outsiders to Hinduism but not as sudras.

ORIGINAL INHABITANCE: why these untouchables (SC, ST & BCs) are so predominant in number? It is because they are the original inhabitants of this land, once known as Jharkhand and also as Jambudweep. The UCs (all four varnas with their sudras included) make up just 10% of the population, because they are aliens and a line races. Invaders. All aliens remain a microscopic minority in every land. All these aliens are not Aryans, but a mixture of many a line races who invaded this country and joined the ruling class (UCs) following another horde of invaders who defeated them.

The Nayyars of Punjab and the Nairs of Kerala came from Iran. That is why the UCs wage war and violence over the predominant original inhabitants (SC, ST, BCs) in the name of "reservations" "nationalism" in the name of Naxalism to mean the denial of minimum wages fixed by law. The UC monopoly power is at the root of the UC aggression. They are feeling insecure fearing that 85% original inhabitants—once they discover their roots their origin—will unite to assert their human rights. The UCs suffer from a great psychological insecurity in this country, a fact unknown to many "intellectuals" of India.

The UCs have no rules or scriptures to bind them to speak truth. They rule others by fooling them with lies. They are cunning but not clever. According to their own scriptures, the UCs know that SC, ST, BCs are not sudras

but avarnas and outcastes. But to fool them they describe SCs, ST & BCs as sudras, and thereby call them Hindus. This mischief is two-fold: to swell the number of Hindus, frighten the minorities by the number game and to set the SC, ST, BCs against Muslims, Christians, Sikhs and Buddhists. When such big lies are repeated 99 times, it becomes truth when said for the 100th time. So SC, ST, BCs feel that they are all Hindus.

ENSLAVING THE MINDS: They enslave the minds first so that the bodies can be controlled or raped later. How powerful is their false propaganda? Such a merciless, brutal enslavement of a people is not found in any other part of the world. And despite our education and attainments we (SC, ST, BCs) come to believe wrongly that we are sudras though the Hindu scriptures tell us that we are atisudras and avarnas. We are fooling ourselves in believing that we are sudras.

Let us not behave like lifeless cabbages to hurl ourselves into different graves which the UCs, invented to bury us alive. First, it was the muslims who invented this term, "Hindus". The British attached the tail, "castes" to our names.

The UCs are exploiting these two terms "Hindu" and "castes" to enslave our minds, to exploit our bodies to demolish our dignities and to deny our legitimate constitutional and human rights. But we are casteless groups and outside Hinduism according to the definitions of the Hindu shastras and scriptures itself.

Those who are eager, to be sudras from among the avarnas (SC, ST, & BCs) may also ask the UCs to amend,

their scriptures. If they refuse to do this, those SC, ST, BCs, desiring to be the fourth grade sudras are at liberty to do so or assume the sudra name to cover their shame. But they should know what they are doing. They are not sudras but they are voluntarily jumping into the fire. What they are doing is certainly against the vedic/Aryan/Hindu dharma. It is adharmā to allow SC, ST, BCs to be sudras and the Hindu scriptures prohibit this.

INTRUDERS: Still the UCs welcome intruders into their fortress. Why? In a democracy, they need numbers to claim that 85% are Hindus in India. The UCs need these slaves opting for the fourth or fifth-grade sudra status. Do you know that "Mahatma" Gandhi wanted to make the untouchables the fifth varna of Hinduism and called them panchamas to mean fifth varna? That is why some untouchables (SCs) shamelessly describe themselves as sudras. That shows the extent of enslavement of their minds or brainwashing. The expression sudras in the UC scriptures does not refer to the SC, ST, BCs. The punishments prescribed for the sudras in Hindu scriptures are aimed at the upper caste sudras (with varna) like the Vokkaligas, Reddys, Mudaliars, Nairs, Marathas, Kayasths, Katris etc. They also provide for separate punishment for the untouchables (SC, ST & BCs) The term "untouchables" (achut) in the smṛithis refer to SC, ST, BCs.

Tulasidas refers to SC, ST, BCs as gamars and not sudras. SC are untouchables throughout the country. Their touch sight pollutes. In Bihar and in some other states, BCs also suffer from the stigma of pollution. In Kerala, till very recently the Ezhavas were untouchables.

Narayana Guru through his reform movement made them "touchable". But the UCs treat them also as Untouchables by not touching them. In some parts of UP savarnas including Brahmins touch the Untouchables also. For centuries, it is the bhanggi (scavenger who carries nightsoil on her head) woman who attend on pregnant UC woman and help in the delivery of the child. They look after the baby and the mother for the first few months. Thus the UCs do touch Untouchables whenever they want our people, Anukoola Shastra. But they consider touching BCs as pollution.

Thus Untouchables and untouchability has a deeper meaning. It does not merely mean touch-me-notism. The real meaning of untouchables is original inhabitants enemies and subjects (slaves). The real meaning of untouchability is denial of dignities and deprivations of possessions, powers and status. SC, ST, BCs suffer from these real meaning of untouchability. They are referred to as Untouchables and they are the Untouchables described in their "sacred scriptures". That means to be called as Untouchable is a great thing, If we look at a village, we will realise the meaning of SC, ST, BC who all live outside the village limits without power, possessions and status.

MUSLIMS ELECTED AMBEDKAR: In fact it was the Muslims who elected Babasaheb Ambedkar to the Constituent Assembly in 1946 from East Bengal, Dr. Ambedkar proposed a peaceful exchange of Muslim and "Hindu" population (Hindus to India and all Muslims to Pakistan) along with the partition to remove religious rivalry in this country, facilitating a straight fight with the UCs by uniting all these three groups (SC, ST, & BCs) of Untouchables.

In the absence of Muslims, the UCs would have been deprived of the handle to raise the foul slogan that "Hindus are 85% and put the BCs against Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, and thereby make them forget about their own slavery and rights.

Today, it is the BCs and SCs who are used to kill/attack the Muslims, These SCs and BCs are quite unaware of what they are doing. Their brains have been destroyed. They are unaware that their attack on Muslims and the Sikhs will only strengthen UCs who have to keep this flame of communalism alive and divert the minds of SCs & BCs from fighting for their own rights and dignities. Thus in every communal violence on one side SCs & BCs die, while on the other side the innocent Muslims perish. Brothers fighting brothers. But the UCs' sleep is not disturbed, because their homes are all away from such violent spots.

It is in the interest of the UCs to encourage this "communal riots" and that is the only way to keep their monopoly power over the state and society.

ALL HINDUS ARE NOT BAD: The Muslims had realised this point and openly declared that "all Hindus" are not their enemies. The partisan police, they emphasised, was their main enemy. And they indeed fought pitched battles with the police and not with Hindus, SCs or BCs. Muslims have identified their enemy. But when do these SCs and BCs realise that they are pawns in the UC game?

It is time that our people (SC ST, BCs) give up their interest in "Hindus" and Hinduism. Let us not worry whether someone is a Hindu or not. Certainly

sudras are Hindus but SCs, ST, BCs are not sudras. Those who do not want to be "Hindus" must first realise that they are not sudras.

This does not mean that all UCs are Nazis fascists. It is the fascists among UCs that matter; for one Hitler symbolised the German Nazis. There is dignity in describing ourselves as Untouchables (SC, ST, & BCs). There is pride. There is prestige in saying We are moool bharatis,

Untouchables means original inhabitants. The BCs are yet to realise that they are also untouchables and original inhabitants of this great land.

TRIBAL IDENTITY: Of course, the tribals remained independent throughout the ages because they refused even to deal with the Upper Castes. They refused even to talk to UCs. Some tribals kill away any stranger entering their areas or island. SCs and BCs were the first to be enslaved centuries ago.

The problems of the BCs and SCs would not be solved even if all the UCs declare themselves as non-Hindus. They are sure to make this declaration just as the Ramakrishna Mission did last year and declared itself a non-Hindu organisation simply to save a few rupees from tax authorities. The Tamil Nadu Brahmins formed a Brahmin Association and demanded a separate State for their 3% population of TN. Why should the UCs care for the slogan or label of Hinduism when that name does not yield profits to them? If these labels and slogans cease enslaving the SC, ST & BCs they are going to invent new brand names.

JATS & GUJJARS : Chaudhary Brahm prakash is an eminent Jat leader and highly respected by all BCs of Delhi. Now over 70 years, He was Delhi's Chief Minister. He is right in telling that the Jats, Gujjars, Yadavas, Ahirs, and the Kurmis, the prominent BCs in the North making 50 % of India's population, are not Hindus. The confusion arises when he called these BCs as sudras though they are not sudras.

There is a historical background for this confusion also. The Jats and the GuJJars are not BCs in the sense they are original inhabitants. They belong to the Outer Himalayas. They are the Huns who plundered the UCs and ruled them 2000 years ago. The UCs degraded these Jats to the level of BCs, and today they occupy a lower status than that of the Yadavas both economically and socially. Their origin and degradation explains the presence of a jat regiment in the Indian army right from the days of the British but not other backward caste has any regiment in the army. Jats fought for the British and defeated all Rajput dynasties of the Hindus in innumerable battles. The Jats have their own Jat panchayat covering the whole of North India to decide the issues affecting their community. The way the Huns became Jats and degraded in social scale through the centuries to a level down to Yadavas or BCs, disprove the foulsome theories of the UCs and the Mahatmas that these castes originated through sexual pollution and through outcasting of people, They sell any foolish theory even though historical facts and reality disprove these cunning cocks.

The theory itself is aimed to inculcate false feelings of shame, inferiority complex and enslavement among sudras

Jats are a powerful group today. Many of the Jats from Delhi take leave and travel 50 miles to Bagpat to vote for the victory of Charan Singh, the uncrowned Jat leader !.

Today, the Jats and Gujjars are being used by the UCs as gunpowder for their violence against Dalits and Muslims. If Brahm Prakash's declaration makes the Jats and Gujjars to realise that they are not Hindus, it is sure to solve a major part of the social and communal violence in Hindi belt.

Not all Jats are Huns and certainly the BCs joined them to swell their numbers. And that also explains the reason for social harmony between the Jats, Yadavas, Ahirs or Kurmis-in shot the BCs. Thus the Jats, are neither sudras or Hindus. So also the BCs are neither sudras or Hindus. These are historical facts and it is for them to reclaim their humanity.

NAMELESS PEOPLE : Those without a name, fame identity, and a religion of their own become an easy prey for disintegration and "assimilation"- meaning enslavement under the label of absorption or subjugation. They also show a tendency to cover their shame with an insulting name like sudras. Nameless people always hanker after a name. It is for these reasons the Jats, Gujjars, SCs easily identified themselves as sudras under a greate confusion. But they are ati-sudras (beyond sudras) and can get not the fourth but the fifth status under the chaturvarna. Thus it is not enouhg if they declare themselves as non Hindus or no Hindu. But they should find a name and a librating religion to themselves which promises not to absorb

them, but rekindle their self-respect and dignities. They need not go in for any of the existing formal religions and religious conversions, for that would be a long process. The urgent need is to find a name for themselves to resist the onslaughts of integration or absorption and enslavement.

When the BCs realise that they are not Hindus or sudras, they will be opening a new chapter in the history of India.

If the Muslims stood as a rock throughout the centuries and carved out a place for themselves even when the British defeated them and dumped them on the outskirts it is because of their religion. Two hundred years of British rule did not disintegrate the Muslims or degrade them socially. That is why our fascists and Nazis hate Islam.

ISLAM LIBERATES DALITS: But for Islam, the Muslims too would have felt downgraded to at-sudra level long ago. After a 1,000 years of Muslim rule if we find more non-Muslims in India today, it is because the Muslim kings never showed any interest in converting the people to Islam. Many untouchables and BCs flocked to Islam on their own to improve their social positions. The Muslims in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan did not come from Arabia. But most of them (95%) are original inhabitants being Untouchables or BC converts. Islam liberated millions of Untouchables by its very presence in India.

Thus all reference to sudras in Hindu literature or scriptures refer to the UC non-Brahmin ruling castes, and not to SCs, BCs or tribals including Jats and Gujjars. The Jats, Gujjars and other BCs should stop acting as bodyguards of the UCs to carry out the UC-manipulated violence against the Sikhs, the Muslims and the Untouchables. In the Nov. 1984 barbaric riots against the innocent Sikhs, the gooda elements from Jats and Gujjars were employed and even the "national press" put the blame for the riots on Gujjars, Jats and Valmikiyas (sweeper community of Untouchables). Though the reports were right, and the police supervised the riots, none from these communities even protested or denied the accusations; and that shows the degeneration, degradation and enslavement of these communities by the UC propaganda machine.

Ambedkarites stand for justice. They are interested in the emancipation of all communities and minorities including the UCs, Every caste and community should fight for its own share in the Govt.

Two neighbouring countries co-exist peacefully on the principle of "equals but separate". If so, why not the different castes and religions, communities in India?. A hundred people called Sentinels/Negroid tribes live on a small island called Sentinel. No man ever set his foot on the island and they kill away by shooting arrows anyone approaching their Island. They have no contact with the "civilised" man. You can "integrate" them only by killing all of them or leave them to live on their own as they like. They remain almost naked and very healthy too, without any outside "help". Their cherished dream is to remain separate but as equals.

Thus "integration" need not be intrinsically beneficial, "Separate but equal". Dr. Ambedkar wanted the separation of the Untouchables, away from the UCs. He called it "separate settlements" which would have assured them security self-respect and independence along with equality.

JHARKHAND : Tribals know outsiders endanger their identity and security. In Jharkhand, outsiders are called, Dikkus (foreigners). If integration was a good principle these castes and communities would have "integrated" themselves centuries ago. If one advocates "integration" he means enslavement. Abolition of castes is not possible. A casteless society is a mirage. The "outcastes" remain as long as the caste system remains. It is for the outcastes to become equal and delink themselves and become separate to retain cultural identity.

Each caste is a nation by itself Just as one nation co-exists with another neighbouring nation, it is possible for different castes to co-exist as "equals but separate". Any move to tamper with castes or religious groups and their personal law will result in bloodshed. Integration leads to disintegration.

(The above article by a noted Dalit intellectual needs wide discussion. So it may be reproduced and translated in the journals of Dalits, tribals and backward castes—EDITOR)



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