

DALIT VOICE

The Voice of the Persecuted Nationalities Denied Human Rights

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Democracy is foreign to Hindu mind :
Thus spake Ambedkar

Thus Spake Ambedkar

Democracy is foreign to Hindu mind: foreigners warned

Turn to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He draws his inspiration from the Jeffersonian Declaration; but has he ever expressed any shame or any remorse about the condition of the 60 millions of Untouchables? Has he anywhere referred to them in the torrent of literature which comes out from his pen? Go to the youth of India, if you want. The youths who fill the Universities and who follow the Pandit's lead are ever ready to fight the political battle of India against the British. But what do these children of the leisured class Hindus have done to redress the wrongs their forefathers have done to the Untouchables? You can get thousands of Hindu youths to join political propaganda but you cannot get one single youth to take up the cause of breaking the caste system or of removing Untouchability.

Democracy and democratic life, justice and conscience which are sustained by a belief in democratic principle are foreign to the Hindu mind. To leave democracy and freedom in such Tory hands would be the greatest mistake democrats could commit. It is therefore very necessary for the American friends of the Hindus to ask Mr. Gandhi and the Hindus to declare their War aims, so that they may be sure that the fight of the Hindus against the British is really and truly a fight for freedom. The Congress and the Hindus will no doubt refer their inquiring foreign friends to the Congress Resolutions regarding minority rights. But I would like to warn the American friends of the Hindus not to be content with the "glittering generalities" contained in Congress declaration of Minority Rights. To declare the rights of the minority is one thing and to have them implemented is another. And why should the friends of the Hindus if they are really friends of freedom, not insist on implementation straight away? Are not the Hindus saying that they would not be satisfied with mere declaration of freedom from the British? Are they not asking for immediate implementation? If they want the British to implement their War aims, why should the Hindus be not prepared to implement their War aims? American friends of the Hindus, I am sure, will not be misled by the Hindu propaganda that this War of the Hindus against the British is a War for freedom. Before helping the Hindus they must get themselves satisfied that the Hindus who are urging that their war against the British is a war for freedom will not turn out to be the enemies of the freedom of millions of Indians like the Untouchables. That is the plea I am making on behalf of the 60 millions of the Untouchables of India. And above all let not the American friends think that checks and balances in a Constitution the demand for checks and balances suited to Indian conditions-are not necessary because the struggle is carried on by a people and is carried on in the name of freedom. Friends of democracy and freedom cannot afford to forget the words of John Adams when he said:

"We may appeal to every page of history we have hitherto turned over, for proof irrefragable that the people when they have been unchecked, have been as unjust, tyrannical, brutal, barbarous, and cruel as any king or Senate possessed of uncontrollable power: the majority has internally and without one exception usurped over the rights of the minority".

If all Majorities must be subjected to checks and balances how much more must it be so in the case of the Hindus?

(Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings & Speeches, Volume IX, Rs.50 1991, Govt., of Maharashtra, Bombay). The book may be had from Director, Government Printing, Stationery and Publications, Netaji Subhash Road, Bombay - 400 004.

DALIT VOICE

The Voice of the Persecuted Nationalities
Denied Human RightsBangarappa, victim of brahminical
conspiracy: calls the bluff of
"Hindu tolerance" in Karnataka

Hinduism - the latest name for brahminism - is said to be world famous for its tolerance. No other religion is said to be possessing this unique quality. Non-violence, they say, springs from this "tolerance".

We want our readers to buy a copy of Hindu nazi ex-editor of the *Indian Express*, Arun Shourie's book, *Hinduism, its Essence and Consequence (A study of the Upanishads, the Brahma Sutra and the Gita)* (Vikas 20/4, Industrial Area, Sahibad, Ghaziabad dt., UP- 1979, pp.414, Rs. 125).

Since Arun Shourie, a Punjab Brahmin, is today the darling of Hindu nazis, what he speaks on Hinduism should be golden words for all Hindus. He has devoted one whole chapter (no. 10) to deal with Hindu "Repressive tolerance" and we give only some select quotations as we would like to deal with this much-publicised "Hindu tolerance" separately.

Arun shourie says Hindu society is "very tolerant in matters that did not effect the social order", meaning the brahminical social order (BSO). "While the tradition was very tolerant of such diverse practices, it was very intolerant in matters that might affect the social order". Hinduism's system of powerful sanctions and rules "do not exemplify a tolerant society that is determined to make unthinking conformity the second nature of its members". (p.361). Those not conforming to its world view are called "demoniac" (p.366) - a word used to describe the non-Aryan original inhabitants of India.

Hate philosophy: Shourie says that in the Bhagawad Gita, the "Supreme God" Krishna preached hatred and violence (p.362). He concludes saying that Hinduism "is not a society tolerating those who oppose it but a society that is co-opting the ring leader of those who might oppose it". (p.363).

We have elaborately dealt with this question in our book, *Brahminism, Curse of India* (DSA-1981), but this editorial has a limited purpose: Bangarappa, the man in the news

today, in the context of "Hindu tolerance". Bangarappa provides the most beautiful test for "Hindu tolerance".

Test case: How tolerant the Hindu could be? Karnataka provides a test case.

For the first time Karnataka has a Backward Caste Chief Minister in Bangarappa. Of course, there was Devaraj Urs, Karnataka's greatest CM and the darling of the downtrodden. But "Urs" (meaning ruler in Kannada) belonged to the Mysore royal family community. Though the royalty, the Wodeyars, was from the Backward Caste potter community, the Brahmins started worshipping them when they became the rulers and their community tagged the "Urs" tail to their names. Since Aryans/Hindus worship only the rising sun, the potters became "Urs" (rulers).

Devaraj Urs killed: That is how Devaraj Urs loved the BCs and the upper castes "tolerated" him for some time though they only conspired, kicked and finally killed him employing an Iyengari IAS woman, Nirmala Prasad. (DV, July 16, 1982: "Who Killed Devaraj Urs?"). We have lot of facts on this cold-blooded murder of Devaraj Urs on whom not even a post-mortem was ordered by the govt. then headed by a Brahmin, Gundu Rao. The murder of Devaraj Urs is another test case for "Hindu tolerance".

Bangarappa was brought up by Urs. A Lohiaite, Bangarappa belongs to the Untouchable Ediga (toddy-tapper) community and hence the most hated community though a section of his *jatwalas* became toddy and arrack contractors and later became liquor barons and multi-millionnaires. Under the BSO, a person may make any amount of money but on the social ladder if he is down he is out.

In TN, this *jati* is called Nadars. Kamaraj Nadar, who belonged to this community, brought them up. And today, the Nadars are a fairly affluent community but continued to be despised by the BSO.

In Kerala, they are called Ezhavas and Thiyyas

who though forming a formidable 30% of the State population (single largest community) are totally deprived even to this day. Once liberated by the great revolutionary, Sri Narayana Guru, this non-Hindu community has slipped back into the jaws of the ever-hungry Hinduism which used marxism to make mincemeat out of Ezhavas.

Deccan Herald owners: In Karnataka, this community is known by different names: Edigas in "old Mysore". The State's largest circulated English daily, *Deccan Herald* (DH), is owned by this group though its present editor, Hari Kumar, son of a great Ediga leader, K.N. Nettekallappa (who was responsible for recruiting this writer into *Deccan Herald* as a cub-reporter way back in 1959), turned a "marxist" during his JNU days and later lost even the little *jati* feeling when he married a Gujarati Bania. Today, this great institution set up (1948) by the great Guruswamy and Venkataswamy, the two mighty pillars of the Ediga community, to fight brahminical terrorism at the instance of Arcot Ramaswamy Mudaliar, then Dewan of Mysore, has slipped back into the ever hungry brahminical stomach. The top posts in the Printers India (the name of the company that owns the DH chain of papers) are held by upper castes.

This is despite the fact that the other owner of DH, Tilak Kumar, younger brother of Hari Kumar, has married Bangarappa's daughter.

Marxism to promote brahminism: Upper castes fondly describe Hari Kumar as "progressive, secular and marxist". They have given this certificate to him because he has "graduated from caste to class" forgetting his oppressed community, for whose benefit DH was set up, and kept DH at the service of the upper castes. The Hindus/Aryans "tolerate" all BCs who betray their community. "Marxism" is one such weapon used by the brahminical forces to destroy the identity of the SC/ST/BCs and Muslims.

All SC/ST/BCs and Muslims/Christians/Sikhs who betray their community interests and serve the BSO will be "tolerated". Today, DH is a flourishing institution and it will continue to flower as long as it goes on pouring milk to the serpent. This is another example of "Hindu tolerance".

Deccan Herald is the country's only top class newspaper institution owned by the BCs but alas its services are kept exclusively at the

disposal of the Aryan upper castes - thanks "marxism" which co-opted an Ediga institution.

Though the "Deccan Herald" is just one part of the story, it is an essential part because the BSO "tolerated" DH because it surrendered to the BSO but Bangarappa refused.

Bangarappa refuses to bow: The urban-born, urban bred, marxist - brainwashed owners of DH were easily sucked into the system (BSO) and surrendered. But Bangarappa, the village-born and rural-bred, a born fighter like Lohia, fought back.

To finish DH, the BSO used marxism but Bangarappa, brought up in a pure, uncontaminated village atmosphere and educated in Lohia philosophy is today fighting with his back against the wall as this is written. Bangarappa may go or may not go but that is a different matter, but he has given a shock to his upper caste tormentors who are spending sleepless nights. This is where Bangarappa stands out as a unique personality.

Had he also succumbed and surrendered, the BSO would have "tolerated" him and he could have "ruled" the State as per the BSO dictates. In such a case, he too would have been hailed like Karunanidhi, also an Untouchable (Isai Vellalar of the temple-piper community) who succumbed and surrendered to the BSO. (DV June 1, 1992 p.15: "Bangarappa-baiting by three exploiting jatis").

Tamil Cut-throat: BSO has no objection against any sucker-licker BC making money. The BSO will itself give any facility to make more money. Jagjivan Ram did it. Karunanidhi did it and did it stomach full. As he betrayed his guru, Periyar EVR, and his Dravidian community and proved anti-national to the Tamil Nation, and settled down with his many wives including a *papan* one, the history pronounced its verdict and called him Cut-Throat. Today, from the dustbin of history the Cut-Throat is yelling but the betrayed Tamil masses have gone over to Dr. Ramadoss, the emerging BC star on the Tamil horizon.

But the brave Bangarappa did not succumb and surrender. He said he would rather die than be a *chamcha* sucker-licker of the BSO. And that is how the most "tolerant Hindus" called him corrupt. Every "national" toilet paper in India is today singing, shouting and screaming that Bangarappa is corrupt. "Bangarappa is

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Karnataka's most corrupt CM".

Because the BSO owns these toilet papers, it can brainwash its readers, and some newspaper readers have also started calling Bangarappa corrupt and he must go. An Ediga reporter in a Bangalore Press Club talk was the most vociferous in calling Bangarappa corrupt and that he must go. The BSO brainwashing is so perfect and precise that it makes a brother fight brother. Veerappa Moili, an Untouchable from South Kanara but with hardly any mass support, was the first to revolt against Bangarappa. Aziz Sait, a powerful Muslim leader, was the other. BSO is an expert in this job having mastered the laws of contradictions.

Paradox of the press: At the time of writing this it is on the lips of everybody. "When is Bangarappa going?" Everybody is asking this question. But Bangarappa is not going. "Why he is not going? He must have bribed P.V. Narasimha Rao". Imagination running riot.

The answer to this question is very interesting. The Indian language newspaper-reading population in Karnataka or for that matter in the whole of India is not even 10% (English-reading population is much less). Some 5% more would get brainwashed on hearing the "news" from the readers that "Bangarappa is corrupt and he must go".

Who are those 10+5: 15%? They are mostly the upper castes. It is only the upper castes who managed to become literate and have the financial capacity to buy these toilet papers.

Illiteracy helps?: The other 85% who are kept illiterate (and hence poor) by the upper castes are the SC/ST/BCs, the victims of the upper caste exploitation. *This 85% may be illiterate but this illiteracy has helped them to remain uncontaminated by the poison spread by the toilet papers. This statement may shock some but alas it is true.*

One example: The three upper caste ruling communities of Karnataka - Brahmins, Lingayats and Vokkaligas - with the power of the press they own, made it appear that Indira Gandhi would be defeated in the Chickmagalur Lok Sabha byelection. Even Devaraj Urs was rattled by the vehemence of the nazi publicity blitz. The Lingayat leader, Veerendra Patil, was the upper caste candidate against Gandhi then. Every newspaper had predicted her rout. But she won hands down. **Chickmagalur then proved that**

this toilet papers have no influence. At the most they have only a nuisance value. What can this 10 to 15% of the newspaper-reading population do? Today, Bangarappa proved the same for the second time.

The paradox of the BSO is that it deliberately kept a section of the population enslaved and illiterate but this illiteracy itself has saved them from the Hindu poison. And this uncontaminated 85% does not read any toilet papers and hence saved from this brahminical brainwash. *Bangarappa is banking on this uncontaminated, uncorrupted SC/ST/BCs and minorities who are with him.*

The problem with Bangarappa: But the problem with Bangarappa is he has exhibited his guts to bend the State into "forward" and "backward" castes. Very good. We like it. But when the issue is clinched, will he be able to do the bending and also succeed?

This is where we have the doubt.

Mere fighting spirit and guts are not enough to fight the BSO. Along with guts, he may also have the sincerity and commitment to his backwards. But what is needed much more is superior strategies and tactics. We do not know how far Bangarappa has this. If he has it, he has not given any proof of it.

The example of Sikhs: The brave Sikhs have the guts in plenty and they have proved it when they "finished" Indira Gandhi as a retaliation to the 'Blue Star'. But what has the "guts" given them? The BSO has made a *bara baje* out of them. They are nowhere near their goal. Nobody in recent history has fought the BSO as bravely as the Sikhs.

But they failed to realise that BSO can't be fought with mere guts and guns. BSO is an idea and an idea can't be fought with guts and guns. An idea can be fought only with a counter-idea. Has Bangarappa that counter-idea to defeat the BSO?

This writer has been close to Bangarappa for the last 20 years. In fact, after Devaraj Urs he is the person who has come closest to our heart. **But after he became CM, we had no entry. If Bangarappa was interested in fighting the BSO, we should have been the first to be drafted. But he never thought about us, though we are ever willing to serve such a great cause.**

Devaraj Urs had both the guts and the counter-

DV CELEBRATES THE FALL OF BUSH, THE BUTCHER

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: At last DV proved right on Bush, the Butcher. American voters themselves rejected this Shaitan who acted as if he is the owner of the whole world.

No paper has attacked Bush as bitterly as DV. And all that we predicted has come true (DV Feb. 16, 1991: "*Welcome Gulf War: War of the rich against poor*").

The best comment on his departure is from Saddam Hussain, firing shots from his gun, "Bush fell a long time back. He fell when he attacked Baghdad".

"Mother of all battles": Other committed journalists as usual gave prominent coverage to the American elections. Indian reporters, as usual, filled their filthy columns with those rubbish reportings of their American godfathers. Only we had predicted that Saddam Hussain would win

"The Mother of all Battles". The war caused the humiliation of American generals, dismissal of American policemen and shattering of American economy. And also the elimination of fear psychosis from the minds of the Third World countries.

Two days prior to the election, Bush himself accepted his defeat. In the last speech of his election campaign Bush begged voters in the name of Saddam by saying "Saddam Hussain is making arrangements to celebrate my defeat after two days in Baghdad. See that he postpones his programme for four years". Look at the criminal in his mind.

Hate philosophy: The fair-minded American voters, knowing full well that all their troubles are because of Bush mad adventure of attacking Baghdad and eating dust, refused to accept his brags of American victory and rejected him.

America is in shambles. Clinton can only steer the sinking ship for more time than Bush but cannot take it ashore.

We don't say Clinton will prove better than Bush. No President of America can make drastic changes. He has to pursue the anti-Black, anti-Muslim, anti-Asian, anti-woman hate philosophy at the behest of Zionists and the western whites. Since India's ruling brahminical social order -world's original racists, also thrives on the same hate philosophy, it will align with the American rulers.

But whatever it is, we celebrate the fall of Bush, the Butcher. His fall should be a warning to all tyrants and more so to the Indian BSO. But tyrants do not read history, do not know history. And that is how they become tyrants.

Has Clinton read history? We don't know.

Anti-"Bangalore papatti" war gets new teeth

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: The Kanchi-sponsored but the Tanjore Iyer-executed Aryan bid to tame "Bangalore papatti" (DV Nov.1, p.20) has acquired a new teeth, the IAS papatti Chandralekha.

Said to be a classmate of the Bangalore papatti, the pretty-looking Iyengar became a victim of the latter's wrath when she defied the dictator's whip. In the acid attack her face was disfigured. It is said all her three ex-husbands, of which one a Dalit IAS officer, rushed to see her at a Madras hospital. The Tanjore Iyer has roped in Chandralekha and that means the fake war this alleged "buffoon" has launched will get lot

more publicity. Aryans thrive on publicity stunts which get wide coverage in their Aryan press.

Slaves of TN: But the whole thing is of entertainment value to the rulers and a subtle brahminical bid to confuse the film-addicted slaves of Tamil Nadu.

The slaves will be more confused because the Tanjore Iyer is also a *papan* and that he is "fighting" a *papatti*. "That means he must be progressive, revolutionary. Otherwise why will a *papan* fight another *papan*?" The Tanjore Iyer has become overnight a hero. Many

Dravidian idiots have jumped into his bandwagon. The most famous is a Adi-Dravida (Dalit) stooge of the Kanchi.

But the Bangalore papatti cannot be tamed. She is going full steam. And in this "battle" between the two sections of *papans*, we support the more honest Bangalore papatti.

One thing is becoming more clear that the country's ruling elite the brahminical social order is losing all sense of balance and in its bid to keep itself in power it is resorting to desperate steps. Desperate steps need desperate remedies. ■

Varhade to attend Nagpur Dalit meet on Dec. 28

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: Yogesh Varhade, the Dalit intellectual from Canada who twice stormed into UN to establish that SC/STs are indigenous peoples of India, is expected to attend the Dalit Solidarity Programme's (DSP) first seminar at Nagpur from 28 to 31.

Though DSP is a Dalit Christian Programme started at the initiative of the World Council of Churches, Geneva, (DV June 16, 92, p.7: "WCC recognises Dalits as indigenous people"), *Dalit Voice* has been fully supporting the Dalit Christian fight for human rights as they are none other than our own blood relations.

Change of religion is like change of dress. The blood and flesh inside is the same. Ethnic identity is more important than religious identity though the latter is equally important.

Six segments: Whether it is Dalit Christians, Dalit Sikhs or oppressed Muslims, they are all one - blood relations of Scheduled Castes, Tribes and Backward Castes. These six segments - SC/ST/BCs and Muslims/Christians/Sikhs - are pre-Aryan Dravidas and Adi-Dravidas and hence original inhabitants of India. Together, they constitute over 85% of India's population as against less than 15% alien Aryans who not only keep us divided but make brothers fight brothers.

All the six segments are oppressed by one common single enemy, the ruling Aryan upper castes. Hence the need for us to actively launch our self-defence programme.

DSP is a step in that direction and Yogesh Varhade who twice took the battle of the indigenous peoples into the UN (DV Nov.16, 92, p.6) will be a special attraction at the Nagpur meet.

For detail on DSP seminar write to: Dr. James, Massey, PB.No. 1585, Kashmere Gate, Delhi - 110 006 ■

"HOLIEST" RIVER WATER NOT SAFE

New Delhi: The Ganga water is not yet safe for drinking. It is only fit for bathing purposes, with more than Rs. 297 crore having been spent so far over a period of six years on the operation cleaning of the mighty but dangerously polluted river under the Ganga Action Plan. (*Hindustan Times* Nov.7).

(DV Oct. 16 p.11: "Beef-eaters to clean India's holiest river") ■

DV congratulates US Black Senator

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: The Editor of *Dalit Voice* has sent a cable congratulating Ms. Carol Moseley Braun of Illinois who became the first Black woman elected to the US Senate on Nov.4. The Editor's book, *DALIT - The Black Untouchables of India* (Clarity Press. 1987) and the Nov.16 issue of *Dalit Voice*, which carries two articles on racism in India, were posted separately to her US Congress address.

The Blacks in US celebrated the defeat of Butcher Bush and DV joins our Black sisters and brothers in this celebration. ■

PHOOLAN "PUNISHED"

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: Phoolan Devi, now rotting in the Gwalior jail without any trial, has received another punishment from the Hindu jail authorities. They removed her womb.

"We don't want Phoolan breeding more Phoolans", the jail authorities told Mala Sen who wrote the book, "*India's Bandit Queen: The True story of Phoolan Devi*".

Mala Sen says this was an illegal operation which they performed on her without her knowledge. She is convinced that Phoolan is not released because she is an Untouchable.

Rahul Singh, son of Khushwant Singh, reveals all this in his weekly column in the *Week* (Nov. 8, p.13). ■

TN ARYANS THROTTLING CHRISTIANS

New Delhi: A section of the minorities, especially the Christian community, is perturbed over the Tamil Nadu Government's attempt to regulate the functioning of minority educational institutions in the State. The Muslim reaction is comparatively muted, presumably because the number of Muslim educational institutions in TN is much smaller than those run by various Christian organisations. Indeed, the State Government's move has been "provoked" by the allegedly arbitrary dismissal of three teachers of the Madras Christian College and to that extent the Christian institutions are more directly involved in the controversy. (*Hindu* Oct. 23) ■

Arrian and Moses of Khoren point towards the Aryan roots of Medes and Persians. The traditions of Iran show the Peshdadian dynasty coming from the Aryan lineage and the names of the epic kings bear a remarkable phonetic similarity to Indo-Aryan words: Kavata, Apivahu, Usadan, Pishinah and Hausravah.

If the evidences, archaeological and otherwise, point to an Aryan migration in the Middle East region, the refutation of Aryan entry into India seems to be based on wrong hypothesis.

However, the term 'conquest' is really out of context for these vast movements of people in ancient times. As pastoralists, and later when crude rudiments of agriculture were learnt, a land was a precious commodity and one tribe pushed another in their efforts to acquire more land.

The Aryans, one of many migrating tribes in ancient times, are particularly remembered today on account of the legacy they carried with them that formed the basis for evolving the Avesta and the Vedas that have influenced other cultural religious movements.

(Times of India Nov. 6). ■

DV proves right on Narmada Dam

Bangalore: DV has proved on Narmada. "Socialist brahmins", leading the innocent tribals being thrown out by the Sardar Sarovar Project (Narmada), have succeeded in fooling the tribals and managed to see that the mega-dam project would come up with World Bank loan.

The Narmada Bachao Andolan is led by Ms. Medha Patkar and there are many more Aryan outfits bearing different names engaged in duping the tribals. They have beautifully executed their job in a painless operation. Did we not say that this "socialist brahmin" natak co. of Medha Patkar is secretly in league with the Aryans bent upon building the Narmada Dam? Yes. We proved right.

This is how "socialist brahmins" are duping our innocent people all over India And they will continue to do it as long as we don't study the laws of contradictions. A new "socialist brahmin", B.D. Sharma, has started his nataka co. in MP.

Our editor is coming out with a book itself on this fake battle between "socialist brahmins" and "sacred brahmins". The book is titled "Dialogue of the Bhoodevatas". The book will expose all these Patkars, Sharmas, Karnaths, Iyers who are engaged in the work of duping SC/ST/BCs and Muslims. ■

Politics of the scoundrels

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: Look at the treacherous role being played by our politicians.

This Thakur, Chandra Shekar, cheated V.P. Singh and joined hands with Hindu nazis to topple the Janata Dal Govt. to become the Prime Minister.

And this arch betrayer, the enemy of the Backward Castes and Dalits, today speaks with another tongue and calls the nazis the enemies of India. He wanted the nazis to help him to come to power then and for that he praised them. Today, the same nazis are keeping P.V. Narasimha Rao, their own man in power. So this Thakur is angry.

New Delhi: Former Prime Minister and Samajwadi Janata Party leader Chandra Shekar on Oct. 29 accused the RSS-BJP combine of "destroying" the country by "equating its dignity with language and religion". "Their (RSS-BJP) concept of the nation is a fragmented one. When they think of the nation's dignity, they put different values in it", he said in an interview. (Deccan Herald, Oct. 30).

Politics is the last refuge of scoundrels, said a British philosopher. Shekar proves it. ■

DR. AMBEDKAR AWARD

RAMAKANT RAO, HYDERABAD

The Govt. of India has announced a "Dr. Ambedkar National Award carrying a prize money of Rs. 10 lakhs to be given every year. It will be given to individuals and institutions "who have made outstanding contributions in promoting social understanding and for the upliftment of the weaker sections in India". It says "achievements, contributions and work within the ten years immediately preceding the nomination shall be the criteria for deciding the Award", to be presented on April 14 every year.

Going by the "qualifications and achievements" of over ten years needed for the Award, I think *Dalit Voice* is the most eminently suited institution fit to receive this award. No institution in the country has done so much for the promotion of Ambedkarism and awakening of Dalits as DV. This is not my opinion but all DV readers. Vice-President K.R. Narayan is the chairman of the jury for selection.

Will the readers of DV send their nominations to the Member-Secretary or Director, Dr. Ambedkar Foundation, 25-Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110 001

Arrian and Moses of Khoren point towards the Aryan roots of Medes and Persians. The traditions of Iran show the Peshdadian dynasty coming from the Aryan lineage and the names of the epic kings bear a remarkable phonetic similarity to Indo-Aryan words: Kavata, Apivahu, Usadan, Pishinah and Hausravah.

If the evidences, archaeological and otherwise, point to an Aryan migration in the Middle East region, the refutation of Aryan entry into India seems to be based on wrong hypothesis.

However, the term 'conquest' is really out of context for these vast movements of people in ancient times. As pastoralists, and later when crude rudiments of agriculture were learnt, a land was a precious commodity and one tribe pushed another in their efforts to acquire more land.

The Aryans, one of many migrating tribes in ancient times, are particularly remembered today on account of the legacy they carried with them that formed the basis for evolving the Avesta and the Vedas that have influenced other cultural religious movements.

(Times of India Nov. 6).

DV proves right on Narmada Dam

Bangalore: DV has proved on Narmada. "Socialist brahmins", leading the innocent tribals being thrown out by the Sardar Sarovar Project (Narmada), have succeeded in fooling the tribals and managed to see that the mega-dam project would come up with World Bank loan.

The Narmada Bachao Andolan is led by Ms. Medha Patkar and there are many more Aryan outfits bearing different names engaged in duping the tribals. They have beautifully executed their job in a painless operation. Did we not say that this "socialist brahmin" natak co. of Medha Patkar is secretly in league with the Aryans bent upon building the Narmada Dam? Yes. We proved right.

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"India Today" comments on Mandal smells of gutter journalism

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: The Aryan anti-Mandal maniacs use any and every stick to beat the Mandal Commission report - the Bible of the Backward Castes. They have the press to write their bullshit but the oppressed people of India have none except DV to defend justice and truth.

The Nov.15 *India Today* editorial, "Mandal's Big Lie", is one. In this the editor uses the Anthropological Survey of India's People of India Project's (POI) just released Vol. I to berate Mandal. This latest POI report lists 1,046 "communities" under Backward Castes while the Mandal had identified 3,743 groups. This is his complaint.

The editorial criticises the Mandal for "bloating" the population of the BCs and recommending a 27% reservation to BCs. And this is described as a "major discrepancy" and "arbitrary categorisation" and the editorial demands the total rejection of Mandal.

Only objection: Yes. Mandal harms the upper castes and they have the *India Today*, *India Tomorrow*, *India Day-after-Tomorrow*, *the Sunday*, *Monday*, *Tuesday* to write their nonsense.

All Aryans/upper caste/racist are opposed to Mandal. And the *India Today* cannot be an exception. So, we are not surprised by its opposition. If the *India Today* has to be sold it has to write only such anti-Mandal stuff.

The *India Today's* only point of accusation is the POI has listed 1,046 castes as against 3,743 of Mandal.

Village republic: These urban-born, urban-bred upper caste editors do not know what is a village and yet they lavishly comment on a thing which they have never known, never loved.

India is a country of villages. And every village has certain fixed service *jatis*: barber, potter, weaver, fisherman, toddy-tapper, washerman (dhobi), goldsmith and ironsmith, bangle-maker, shepherd, oil crusher, cow-rearing people and such other *jatis* who live "serving" the Aryan upper castes. These BC *jatis* exist in every village. Hindus call this their "ideal village republic."

From Kanyakumari to Kashmir and from Saurashtra coast to Nagland, all the BC *jatis* do the same work, do

the same service.

They may be doing the same service but they are known by different names.

Same work different names: One example: toddy-tappers in the four southern states are known by different names: Ezhavas in South Kerala but Thiyyas in North Kerala, Billava in Karnataka's coastal district of South Kanara, Namadharis in N. Kanara, Idiga in old Mysore, Nadars in TN, Gowd in AP. That means in South India alone one particular service *jati* of BC Nadars is known by over ten names. Mandal might have listed these as ten different BC *jatis* and POI might have clubbed all of them in one because all these *jatis* do the same work and hence they are one.

The difference between Mandal listing of the BCs and the POI is exactly this.

Dhangars and Kurubas: We can cite several more examples. In Karnataka, the shepherds are known by the name Kurubas but in Maharastra they are called Dhangars.

The difference is in the name but the service is the same. This is the cause of "discrepancy". Are you listening Mr. Arun Purie?

For writing this editorial, the *India Today*, *India Tomorrow* and *India Day After-Tomorrow* may get kudos galore. Its circulation may go. The editor may get awards and rewards. But that is not journalism.

What is journalism?: Journalism is called tomorrow's history today. But Arun Purie is not contributing to history with his half-baked knowledge of the country.

B.P. Mandal, the author of the Mandal Commission, was a great Lojiaite with a firm grounding on the soil of Bihar of which he was once a Chief Minister. Parliament had two debates on the Mandal report and hailed it wholesale. No political party has so far rejected the report. To comment on such a historic document, the Bible of the Backward Classes, it needs lot of study, experience and vast contact.

Just because Arun Purie has dubbed such a historic document as "a Big Lie", it doesn't become one. That is why we say what we have in India is gutter journalism, confined to less than 15% of the country's elite. ■

Letters to Editor

Ms. Eva Maria Hardtmann, Stockholm: We get our DV on time and follow your writings. I am sending an article which was published in the prestigious *Niasnytt*, 1992/2, *The News of Nordic Institute for Asian Studies*, a periodical read by most scholars interested in Asia, in the Nordic countries. Any comments from you will be valuable to me.

Runoko Rashidi, 4140-Buckingham Rd, Suite D, Los Angeles, CA 90008, USA: During the summer, I edited two books and then I went to Egypt where I lectured on the Dalits. Since the Los Angeles rebellion I have been extremely active both writing and lecturing. My book, "A Guide to the Study of African Classical Civilization" (which contains an appendix by you) is to be published in Nov. 1992. I have worked on this book off and on for three years now, so it should be good. During the last six months, I have made major presentation in more than a dozen US cities on the African presence in Asia, with particular emphasis on the Dalits. At some point, I hope, to write a long delayed commentary on the Los Angeles Uprising and an overview of my trip to Egypt.

Myriam Scheiber, President, International Movement Against All forms of Discrimination and Racism, 3-5-11, Roppong Minato-Ku, Tokyo-106, Japan: We present our update kit on the UN World Conference on Human Rights and its preparatory process. The UN General Assembly decided in 1990 to convene the World Conference on Human Rights to discuss crucial issues with regard to UN human rights activities. The conference will be held in June 1993 at Vienna, Austria, for two weeks.

Conan Lee, 32-Dumont Rd. Stoke Newington, London N16 0NS: I am interested in *Dalit Voice* and any information on Dalit movement. One of my areas of interest is the African presence throughout Asia. I was advised by Gordon Boller of Naataangeh Association to write. I wrote to Runoko Rashidi but no reply.

Shigekiyo Matsunaga, Fukuoka-India Educational Exchange Organisation, 522-227, Shimotukikuma, Hakata-ku, Fukuoka, 816-Japan: Your *Thamate* concert held on the Sept. 20 to 27 '92 really impressed the Japanese people. They gave us indescribable excitement, joy and courage. We could also make out the plight of the Dalit people living in India and got a feeling of solidarity with them. We are happy that the visit fulfilled our work. (DV Oct. 16, '92 p.11: "*Dalit team*

returns from Japan").

Miss Florence Eppie Lam and Roberto Ricci, Asian Center for the Progress of Peoples (ACPP) 48-Princess Margaret Road, Kowloon, Hongkong: This letter is to thank you for receiving us during our stay in India. We have learnt much during our trip about Dalits and their oppression.

M.M.S. Salahuddin, Doha: I made photocopies of important articles from DV ("Spanish Experiment", "In Defence of Sulaiman Sait" etc) and distributed it to some Kerala Muslims. Happy to inform that every Kerala Muslim knows DV after your visit to Abdul Nasser Madani at the Trivandrum Hospital. But you are not popular among Tamil Muslims. That is the reason for the absence of Muslims at the PMK Marina Beach meeting you addressed.

Mallam Shuaibu Dele Oladepo, Dir.Gen., Centre for Islamic Culture, 13-Kola-Balagun Crescent, PO Box 985, Osogbo, Nigeria: This is a non-profit making centre to propagate Islamic tenets. We need your support.

Lavy Thomas, Long Island University, New York, Bangalore: I learnt about you from *Dalit Voice*. I want more information concerning the Buddhist movement in India. I am a student of the Friends World Program which has its S. Asian Centre here. My school places emphasis on experimental education, the students obtain credits mostly through internships and direct field participation with organisations of their interest. I want to study Buddhist movement among Dr. Ambedkar's followers. I will be here till May.

Haridas, C-41, ONGC colony, Nazira, Assam-785 685: Dalits in this part are imitating Hindus and getting enslaved. Instead of following Buddha and Babasaheb, they are going behind our enemies. I am giving one example: Some time back the Hindus celebrated *Karwa Chauth* festival when all Hindu women worship their husbands. A day earlier I collected all my Dalit friends with their wives and raised the topic of the forthcoming *Karwa Chauth* and took the view of each woman present there. Except two, all of them said they would observe the ceremony. I tried my best to impress them that this festival is a Brahmin custom to keep their women as slaves. But they won't listen. Some women said their husbands liked this puja. Even the Dalit husbands refused to convince their wives. Next day, I saw all these women doing *Karwa chauth* going to temples, praising Hindu gods and busy performing the puja of their husbands who sit like stone statue enjoying the worship. I am fed up.

M.G. Bhima Rao, Sattenapalli, AP - 522 403: I admit the Dalits are made slaves by upper castes using

liquor as a weapon. This liquor was originally brought to India by the Aryan invaders as history reveals. Babasaheb Ambedkar said the Aryans were a race of drunkards. Aryan gods Rama, Krishna, Arjuna were all liquor addicts (*soma*). Liquor contractors are all the upper caste people even today. Hence there is certainly an urgent need to combat this Aryan culture of liquor as part of our struggle against upper castes. The AP Dalit Maha Sabha has formulated a strategy to combat this Aryan menace.

Convener, DV Readers Circle, C/o Harish Mandal, Agapura, New Barrackpore, WB-743 2276: We are ready to call a meeting of DV readers provided no individual tries to use it. It will be a workshop to collect new talents with the motto to create an atmosphere of mutual respect to each others so that the talent of each individual is honored. It must lead the way to Dalit-Muslim unity which is an urgent need of the hour.

Gorakh Prasad, Dr. Ambedkar Mission of Purvanchal, 542-Jungle Tulsi Ram, Bichhiya, Gorakhpur-273 014: On the "Poona Pact day" (24.9.92) we had a symposium here. Inaugurating it, Molhoo Baudh, ex-MP, said the govt. is trying to dismantle "service associations of SC/ST. Economic criteria in reservation is a conspiracy against us". Chief guest Gaya Prasad said the present Ayodhya is the ancient Saket of Buddhists.

R.U. Rangari, Executive Engineer, MSEB colony, Vasai Road, - 401 202: Dr. P.K. Sukumaran, Trichur, Kerala (DV Aug.16), says SC/ST/BC/Muslims must get united at any cost. Close cooperation in all fields must start. An economic blockade of *savarnas* will give definitely a fantastic result. DV is the only one magazine of SC/ST/BC/Muslim. If the money going from the pockets of SC/ST/BC/Muslims to other English papers and magazines is stopped and diverted to the *Dalit Voice* then only fantastic results can be achieved. Dr. Sukumaran should explain how to stop this flow of money and divert it to *Dalit Voice*.

Dalit Vishwanath, Manjeswar, Kerala: Dalit and Muslim Youth League leader, AP Unnikrishnan, recently criticised the growing Hindu nazi activities in this northern end of Kerala. Hindu nazis are threatening to kill him and they announced this on Oct.3. The Dalit Liberation Front of Manjeswar has decided to fight the nazis.

Bhaya Maheshkumar, Chitguppa, Bidar-585 412: Some upper caste youths put a garland of chappals on Dr. Ambedkar statue at Vidyanagar, Gulbarga. But our people suspect the Muslims. In almost all the localities of Gulbarga, there is no good relation between Dalits and Muslims. Tukaram Bhavidoddi, your

representative, has opened a bookshop to sell Dr. Ambedkar literature. DV circulation is shooting up. We have decided to burn the Aryan god Ram's photo in Kohinoor village.

S.H. Gondane, C-3, Swagat, off Mahakali Caves Rd. Andheri (E) Bomnbay - 400 093: I want to become a life member of *Dalit Voice* which has impressed me so much. One cassette on Babasaheb is made at a cost of about Rs. 4.5 lakhs. I will send one to you. We need to spread Babasaheb's true message to those who cannot read and write. Audio visual is the best medium. I am an engineering graduate (32) from Nagpur working as flight purser in Air-India. I am guided by Yogesh Varhade of Canada.

Vardhini Dalit, Tumkur, Karnataka: On Oct. 24, TV showed the closing ceremony of "Festival of SAARC member countries". A Kerala minister, T.M. Jacob, insulted our Karnataka Dalit Governor, Rachaiah, by not even mentioning his name. Jacob's act was not a slip, it was deliberate. He used appreciative words lavishly on all other guests on the stage except Rachaiah who swallowed the insult.

Rachaiah is our good old friend and a well-known stooge of the upper castes. Hegde selected him for this useless post of Governor as he is a time-tested loyal dog. Such fellows use their community name only when they are in trouble. When they are happy they are in the company of Aryans. It is a waste of time to bother about such Rachaiahs.

EDITOR.

C. Madhavan, Trivandrum: I am very much moved by M.A. Siraj article and your comment (DV Nov.1-15, 92): "Warning to Muslims on Media". From its very inception in 1981, DV declared its policy and frame of mind. How many persecuted Muslims feel likewise? This is really a tragedy. Look at Punjab, Kashmir, Tamil Nadu. Even the affected parties are not quick to realise their own plight. The fact is that the Muslim elites do not want to go with the Untouchables.

Mrs. Prem Shila Ambedkar, Mata Rajpati Home Library, Bahorwa, Parari Bazar, Deoria-274 701: Few days back at 11 pm the "Best national award" film *Bagh Bahadur* was shown on TV. In this film there is not any objectionable point or sex. Why then it was chosen for a late night show? Because the film criticises brahminism, and the people will make out that brahminism is our Enemy No.1.

B.K. Nag, Jeypore, Orissa: Some upper caste nazis are writing "Letters to the editor" to destroy the unity between the sufferers (SC/ST/BC) and co-sufferers (Christians/Muslims/Sikhs). This is because you publish such "letters" even if it is critical of you. I

appreciate your idea to face healthy criticism, but unhealthy criticism should not be entertained as it may harm the interest of the 85% Bahujan Samaj.

N.K. Sonare, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar National Association of Engineers, Tushar, 19th Road, Khar, Bombay- 400 052: Thank you for publishing my letter on revision of post-matric scholarship for SC/ST. I have received a letter from the Welfare Ministry saying the revision is being examined. This reply is contrary to the statement made by Ram Vilas Paswan, then Welfare Minister, in his speech at the Staff Selection Commission Programme in July 1990 where he announced the decision of the Govt. of India to revise the post-matric scholarship linked with DA and disburse it on monthly basis. DV readers and SC/ST/BC associations must send telegrams to Sitaram Kesri, Welfare Minister, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-1 urging upward revision of post-matric scholarship linked with dearness index and monthly disbursement of the same.

Dr. S.P. Sumanakshar, Bharatiya Dalit Sahitya Akademy, Model Town, 233-Tagore Park, Delhi-9: We are holding the 8th national conference of Dalit writers here on Dec.6-7. Dr. Ambedkar National and International Awards will be distributed then.

Gangadhar Naik, Bhubaneswar: On reading your newly-started column, "DV 10 years Ago", and comparing it with your writings today, one thing has become clear. To put it in your language, "our upper caste rulers have learnt nothing, forgotten nothing". I find no "change of heart" on their part. Rather they are getting more criminalised.

Dr. Santosh K. Duria, Sharda Niwas, Mohi, Kankroli, Rajasamond dt., Raj - 313 338: I have just read few issues of DV and some DSA books. We are having a SC/ST/BC organisation. On Jan.12 last, we organised a State-level convention attended by 1,400 students. A State cabinet minister presided. I came to know you from your "Letter" in the *Hindustan Times* (Sept.26) titled "PMK clarifies". Till then I was in dark about the PMK. I think PMK will be a good party. I am a post-graduate student of Raj. College of Agriculture, Udaipur. Dalits of Rajasthan may contact me.

Binod Biplabi, Bargarh, Orissa: The CM and the Tribal Minister of Orissa have admitted that the SC/STs are being treated as second-class citizens even now. They said this at the SC/ST reservation conference at Bhubaneswar on Oct. 22. The CM said "something" should be done to bring the SC/STs on par with the *savarnas* but he did not know what the "something" should be. The head of the State does not know what should be done to liberate the SCs/STs. How funny? The conference could not arrive at any

decision as the upper caste students did not allow the Dalit leaders to speak out.

M.A. Chavada, Editor, "Daulat", Junadeesa-385 540: I regularly read *Dalit Voice* and also your books. I am now able to identify that brahminism is the cause of India's all-round violence. Your pen is very mighty. Your foresight remarkable. You are the architect of the Dalit-Muslim unity. We must start the "Indian Minorities Conference" with you as president. For this, a conference of some leading luminaries of all six minorities selected from every State must be invited. I and my friend, K.G. Pathan, Advocate, at Radhanpur will come to Bangalore to finalise the proposal.

We are not "minorities". We are the majority. How can those who constitute over 85% of the population be a minority? This "minority" tag was given by the Aryans. Hate what Aryans love and love what the Aryans hate - EDITOR.

Dr. Anees Ahmed, Press Secretary, SIM of India, 151-C, Zakir Nagar, New Delhi-25: Press reports have maligned the SIM and alleged that SIM is involved in terrorist activities. This allegation is a blatant falsehood. Tahir Jamal and Saqib Nachan have been arrested under TADA. Both the arrested are ex-members of SIM. But they are being depicted as members to malign the SIM. SIM can't be held responsible for its ex-members (SIM has an age-limit and those crossing 30 years leave SIM). Baseless and absurd charges have been labelled against these people. If there is a substance in the charges, why they are not presented in the open court? They are being detained under TADA, which is a most inhuman and anti-democratic law. A section of the press has been making a lot of noise about their visits to Pakistan. There was nothing clandestine about these visits. They had travelled on valid passports and visas. If there was anything shady about these visits, why were these visits allowed? Is it a crime for a Muslim to visit Pakistan or to meet relatives while in Pakistan? The charges of terrorism against SIM is absurd. Those who know SIM are very well aware of the fact that SIM is a student body working openly. There is nothing secret about its activities. (DV Nov.1 '92, p.18: "Damaging report on SIMI").

Faheemuddin, 322-cross Rd. 14 - Jawaharnagar, Mango, Jamshedpur-832 110: I did not know what our Dalit brethren think until your fortnightly opened my eyes. Whole of India is declaring Muslims as aliens and enemies. It is only the *Dalit Voice* which expressed warm sympathy and brotherhood towards Muslims. I wish your *Voice* becomes louder and louder and becomes a death-knell to the anti-national Hindu nazis who are anti-Muslims too.

Aytul Haque, "The News", Magazine and books corner, Tatarpur, Bhagalpur-2: We keep *Dalit Voice*. Most of the people who are interested in your magazine demand the Hindi and Urdu version of *Dalit Voice*.

A.Q. Malik, Ast. Editor, "Kashmiriat-weekly" Momin Abad, Anantnag, Kashmir -192 101: I am highly impressed by your writings and ideas. I want to dedicate rest of my life for the noble cause of social justice and awakening of the Dalits. Maqbool Ahmed V. Ray, our Editor, is a staunch supporter of Dalits and has succeeded in forging Dalit-Muslim unity. He intends to set up a medical college at Anantnag exclusively for Dalits and Muslims.

Muslim Students Organisation of India, AMU Branch, Anwar Manzil, Purani Chungi, Aligarh-202 002: We are enriched by reading your literature. Dalit movement is gathering force and liberating the oppressed Dalits. We declare our solidarity and unity with Dalits and in all your efforts. We will support your movement in the matters relating with Dalit oppression and fighting Hindu nazi crimes.

Md. Ibrahim Ali, VPO Loti Bari, dt. Bangaigaon, Assam-783 384: I am not a regular reader of DV but your views have some similarities with mine. I think all political crisis is born out of economic crisis. But you disagree.

Brother Ali, like all those brainwashed by "marxists", talks of economic determinism. How can he say that the Babri Masjid "political crisis" is caused by economic crisis? Muslims and Dalits can overcome their persecution if they become economically well-off has proved false. Hindu nazis will not bother about the poverty-stricken Muslims and Dalits. Only when they acquire some economic strength they are attacked. How to save innocents like Ali is worrying us. EDITOR.

J. Fareed Ahmed, Madras: With ref. to reports in the "national" toilet papers that the ISS is "dying" in Kerala due to the counter-attack of the Muslim League, it is a fact the Muslim League has done nothing for Muslims from past 42 years except saving their parliament seats. The ISS brought a hope among the Muslim masses and Dalits. But it is sad that the Muslim League has fallen to the evil designs of the nazis and divided the Muslims for personal benefits. I request the ISS not to lose heart but carry out this task more fiercely and organise ISS units all over India.

Kamran Y Khan, Post Box, No.421, Lucknow-226 001: Your literature which informs Dalits about their roots, without of course attacking their faith i.e. Hinduism, and books which cost a rupee or two, might sell here. Because here due to high prices, large

families and lack of education, the Dalits and Muslims are only busy in how to earn a dime and thus are socially unaware of the day to day happenings except what happens inside their families. So to coax them into the mainstream, it will be necessary to sell them cheap books on their origin, Babasaheb etc. plus distributing some free literature with every purchase.

R.K. Yadav, 237 - Emerald Hostel, ISM, Dhanbad-826 004: I read your letter in the *Hindustan Times* of Sept. 21. You have appreciated VP Singh who fooled BCs and blocked the progress by apprising the bureaucrats of impending danger. A Dalit woman was raped by a Thakur family in his constituency in 1990.

M. Sakthivel, 66-Kuppusamipuram, II street, Tirupur - 638 604: My friend, a former Periarist and now a DV reader, tells that 'armed struggle is nothing but rowdism'. The same gentleman secretly welcomes the LTTE. What a contradiction.

S. Gian Singh, EA-58, SFS, Maya Enclave, New Delhi-64: We are overwhelmed after going through your letter in the *Hindustan Times*. The fact remains that 4% Brahmins are ruthlessly ruling and enjoying all the fruits absolutely depriving the shares of the rest of the people who really contribute to the might of the country. Time has come that SC/ST/BCs assert and fight out the aggressors.

S.P. Singh, Takiapar, Patna-12: I have read your book, *Who is ruling India?* I want to translate it into Hindi. I have read the *Annihilation of Caste*. It is unique. I have grown wiser. Your Foreword to this book is a piece of literature and is to be appreciated as such (especially para 2). Please publish it in DV. Caste system cannot be destroyed unless the BCs admit they belong to the same race of SC/ST one Dravidian race. As the Indian music was replaced by Western music, Indian masses replaced all their tribal customs, language, mode of worship etc. Calling a brahman for puja is just a change of customs - the original customs are relegated to the women. Though a BC, I would like to put Babasaheb's ideas into practice. I have one more ally. He is Dr. Ramnath of Kanpur. Some rich BCs are the real hurdle. They are of mixed breed. On this point, I recommend study of Puranas, especially the *Mahabharat*. When Parasuram killed a large number of Kshatriyas, the widows engaged Brahmins for a progeny. They obliged the widows and subsequently became their family priests. This was one reason of mixture of blood. You shall be remembered in Indian history as one who has kept the spirit of Babasaheb alive. Toilet papers never gave any coverage to Babasaheb. We did not know much about Babasaheb. In these 12 years *Dalit Voice* has

brought in a real revolution in the country. Why the Socialist Party failed? Why the SSP failed? Why the PSP failed? They were all headed by upper castes who wanted to use the BCs keeping them under their leadership.

V.B. Rawat, 7/29, Nehru Nagar, New Delhi-65: Kudos for your wonderful editorial, "VP warned not to dilute the Mandal Commission report".

Gokuldas V. Bhandary, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 32: Unless all Dravidian forces unite we cannot achieve anything. Brahmins are playing the divide and rule game very effectively. Following the brahminic traditions is a fashion with our Dravidas. Intellectuals like you should conduct seminars in different parts of India about our Dravida culture.

Nani Gopal Das, 17-Dattabad Road, Salt Lake, Calcutta-700 064: Nagarajuna of the Regional Engineering College, Calicut, (DV May 16, 92) wanted to know if the *kumkum* mark (pottu) used by the Hindu women on their forehead was introduced by the Dravidas or the Aryans. In the primitive age, when there was no law and order the strong would prevail over the weak. The strong would snatch away pretty women from the weak. In case of protest, the strong would seek a duel in which the weak is killed with his weapon, crush the liver of the dead and the blood coming out would be put on the forehead of the conquered woman. Then he would tie up her hands with a creeper and drag her to his residence. As the time passed, the blood has turned to *kumkum* or vermilion and the creeper to bangles in the hands of the woman. Another version is, on way to Dandakaranya, Ram, Lakshman and Sita took shelter in the ashram of sage Bharadwaj for a few days. As they were leaving the wife of Bharadwaj smeared some red powder on the forehead of Sita and henceforth that became a custom among the Hindu women. As the first paint of bloodstain is more ancient the Dravidian custom should be taken into account. Congratulations on your report on Gandhi's racism (DV Oct. 16, p.6: *Brahminical bid to name street after Gandhi defeated*" *The Amrita Bazar Patrika* (Sept.6) also published this report. I like to send a copy of my book, *Was Gandhi a Mahatma?* to the great leaders of this agitation at Atlanta.

Sunder Babu, Hyderabad: I learn that you have written a superb foreword to Babasaheb's masterpiece, *Annihilation of Caste*, when it was reprinted by the Dalit Sahitya Academy in 1987. Though the book, your office says, is long out of stock people who have read your Foreword say it is great like the book itself. As our friends are hungering to read this Foreword, will you please reproduce it in DV?

Principal Gurdial Singh, 179-Model Gram, Ludhiana: *Know the Hindu Mind* has been translated into Punjabi. On receipt of authority from you to publish it, steps may be taken.

Suresh Mane, Lecturer in Law, Bombay University, Bombay - 32: I am sorry for not becoming a subscriber of DV though I am its regular reader since 5 years and have found that DV is, in its true sense, *the Voice of the Persecuted Nationalities Denied Human Rights*.

Raju Thomas, Madras: Bhante Sasai has to be congratulated for his war of liberation. We must invite Buddhists all over the world, especially the Chinese Buddhists, to throw out the Aryan Hindu nazis from all our Buddhist viharas in India. All the aryanised Hindu temples were once Buddhist temples. Buddhist viharas means parliaments of wisdom. Once this task is achieved then the nazis will run away having lost their business in temples. All the "Hindu temples" in India were Buddhist temples. Ayodhya temple also was once a Buddhist vihar. The Mandal war got defeated only because of the BCs. Ezhavas are the single largest community in Kerala (27%). But what is the use of this number? The Muslims are less in number (24%) but they have got five ministers. Why the BC Ezhavas are zero because they obey the BSO and practice brahminism.

Katti Padma Rao, Gen. Secretary, AP Dalit Mahasabha, Ponnur, AP-5222 124: We opened our Madras unit on 6.9.92. Adi Andhras numbering about a million have been living in Madras for over a century serving the Madras Corporation and others in road cleaning and scavenging etc. They clean others but live on the banks of drainage canals where not even animals are allowed to be kept.

Manohar Prasad, Pune: Your analysis, your predictions, your presentations, your interpretations are first class. There is no doubt that DV is "tomorrow's history today" (DV Nov.16, p.3: "*DV enters trubulent 12th year*"). But what is the use? The brahminical social order has kept the 85% of the Bahujan Samaj (BS), which is the target of DV, illiterate. They can't read DV. They have not even heard of DV. Since you say the BSO wins by its sheer strategy and tactics, you have to formulate one for DV so that the "gems" that you produce reach the BS. DV has the right philosophy and the right ideology to liberate the BS. You find fault with the BS for its lack of strategies and tactics, but you yourself don't have one. Your great but poor DV is limping. Will the DV readers advice the Editor?

Arshad Kalliat Trivandrum - 13: "Education which submerges group consciousness and kills one's

individuality is not worth having". This is what Shyam Sundar of Bheem Sena had said some three decades back. The same sounds so significant in the context of the so-called "cap controversy" which engaged the Hindu nazis in Kerala for over a month now. Some Muslim students at St. Joseph's High School, Pavaratty, Trichur, had started wearing the traditional skull caps as a mark of religious respect. So what? But, the anti-Muslim management of the school, guided by the nazis, had different ideas. They threatened the students and later, failing in their strong arm tactics, closed down the school. The nazis even fabricated a letter claiming to have been written from the "Physical training center" of the Islamic Sevak Sangh (ISS) at Pavaratty (there is no such 'center' there) threatening the school authorities with their lives. Reams after reams of "toilet papers" were used to print front - page stories. Hindu readers were quick to react. They wrote about the "lack of discipline" shown by the Muslims - some even hinting that in future the Muslim students would be looked at with suspicion only - as if now they are all so candid in their dealings with the Muslims. Anyway, things stand more or less the same even after an agreement was signed at Trivandrum with the State Govt. acting as the mediator. But, it seems that the management is backtracking now, realising its mistake. Whether the nazi papers would let the opportunity go by, is the question.

B.K. Nag, Jeypore - 1: It is true that Congress is the original brahminical party and India is not a "nation" but a country of several "nations". Nehru says the same in his *Discovery of India* (8th edition): "Mr. Jinnah said that this could only be done after we recognised publicly that Moslem League was the sole representative organisation of the Moslems of India and the Congress should consider itself a purely Hindu organisation" (p.391). "Mr. Jinnah's demand was based on a new theory he had recently propounded that India consisted of only two nations, Hindu and Moslem. Why only two I do not know, for it nationality was based on religion, then there were many nations in India. Of two brothers one may be a Hindu, another a Moslem, they would belong to two different nations. These two nations existed in varying proportion in most of the villages of India. They were nations which had no boundaries, they overlapped". (p.392). "Jinnah's family, it is interesting to note, was originally Hindu (p.390).

R. Arul, E. 122/6, Urja Nagar, Chandrapur, MS-442 404: T.K.S. Iyengar wrote (DV Nov. 1 92) "Vanniyars are daily attacking and abusing Dalits in every village" - This is a very old story. Dalits are attacked by BCs in TNs southern districts only not northern districts

because Vanniyars are in majority in North and Thevars (BCs) in South. Dr. Ramadoss is educating the BCs but the Thevar leaders are corrupting their followers. Because of Dr. Ramadoss, Vanniyars are learning that the Dalits are brothers. Only Aryans are our enemies. (not individual Aryans) In the last election Vetriveeran, a Dalit youth contested Assembly seat from my native place on Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK) ticket but he was defeated because of Rajiv Gandhi murder. Today, he is a leader in my native union Kumaratchi in South Arcot dt. Dalits are represented from bottom to top in PMK. Some Dalit leaders are trying to spoil the SC/BC/Muslim unity being forged by Dr. Ramadoss. Ilaya Perumal is one such "Dalit leader" planted by the *papans*. Earlier, he was with Dr. Ramadoss. He went over to *Bangalore Papatti* and won two MLA seats in the last election. His two MLAs later joined the ADMK. Ilaya Perumal is left (with no MLA) high and dry. Now, he is going with that Tanjore Iyer, a Kanchi-zionist agent, because he wants to take revenge against the *Bangalore papatti* for stealing his two MLAs. Some Dalit leaders are getting corrupted. The PMK is urging all TN Dalits to come under it. Vanniyars are prepared to apologise for past sins. Dr. Ramadoss once said "Vanniyars and Dalits are like that rail track, one side Dalits and the other side Vanniyars. The rail engine is the upper castes and *papans* who are riding on us. They live on our sweat and blood". How beautiful. My appeal to Dalits and Vanniyars is don't surrender to brahminical brainwash. Let us not fight each other because both belong to the depressed classes - Dravidians and Adi-Dravidas. If we (Vanniyars and Dalits) and others (BCs, Muslims, Christians) join hands under the PMK, we can recover our lost human rights. So please join hands - to defeat the *papans* to secure self-determination, to recover our lost rights. Dr. Ramadoss once said "My total life is devoted only to Dalit-Vanniyar unity. This is my no.1 job". He added: "If the Vanniyar Sangam or PMK takes anti-Dalit stand, I will not be with Vanniyars and PMK. I will go with Dalits and fight the Vanniyars. I must unite Dalits and Vanniyars before I die". Today, Dr.S. Ramadoss is nearing his goal.

Dr.Ambedkar Human Rights Federation, Kalaikkoodam, Melakkal Village, Madurai dt. TN - 624 234: Some Dalit leaders of South India met on Oct. 18 at Madurai and discussed the topic "Which religion gives social liberation to Dalits?" Rev. Koilpillai of the Christian Theological College and Prof. Maria Joseph Xavier advocated Christianity. But they accepted that Christianity was polluted by the caste system. Republican Party leader Sakthi Dasan and Prof. Muthia advocated Buddhism. However, they agreed

Oct. 1, 1982

Editorial: "Plight of the Minority Commission".

Here we are dealing not with the plight of India's vast persecuted minorities but with the plight of the Minority Commission appointed by the Govt. of India to look into the plight of minorities-Muslims (11.21%), Christians (2.60%), Sikhs (1.89%), Buddhists etc. Chairman of the Commission Justice M.H. Beg has complained of non-cooperation (Statesman, July 17, 82). That the Commission's report itself is about two years old and it was placed before Parliament only on Aug. 3, 1982 shows how the govt. treats the Commission. Sadder still is how India's "national press" treats this report concerning a fifth of India's population. Hardly any newspaper thought it worth publishing. If this is the treatment given to the Minority Commission Report placed before Parliament, one can will imagine the treatment of minorities in India. The Commission itself had a chequered career. Appointed by the short-lived Janata Govt., its two successive chairmen, M.R. Masani and Justice MR Ansari, had to resign in disgust and retire without getting further extension, respectively. Despite repeated pleas, the Commission has not yet been conferred the constitutional status. But who is to give it? Even if it is given what is the use of this status when there is no will to implement its report? The problem of India is that its govt. is governed by its ruling class. India's two largest communities - Muslims and Christians - have been faithfully voting for the ruling Congress. At least this loyalty should have persuaded the govt. to concede the Commission's legitimate demands. When such a simple demand cannot be met, how then the minorities can expect it to protect their life and property? The UP govt. did not allow the Commission to visit places where Muslims were killed. Even the most serious Moradabad riot in which about 1,000 Muslims were killed while doing Id-prayers, it could study after several months of the bloodbath. To poison young minds, Hindu fascists are using school books. A Maharashtra govt. book says, "The world is ruled by fools and the church is ruled by superfools". Hindu teachers in UP are writing on black boards that "A Muslim eats seven cows during his life time. A Hindu will be saving seven cows if one Muslim is killed". RSS has engaged some historians to rewrite Indian history. Muslims are killed in India not because they are poor but because they are Muslims. The religious prejudice is the reason. This applies to Dalits and Christians as well. The cause is the deep-seated Hindu prejudice. Under some vague pretext, the press does not identify the victims of riots. The excuse is that such a publicity may encourage more violence. The solution to this is to prevent riots and not curbing it after starting one. Since this very same press is so much concerned about the "freedom of the press", why not it set an example by publishing the names of the victims of the communal riots?

Hinduism Vs. Untouchables' Movement in India:

Paper presented by V.T. Rajshekar at the Christian Conference of Asia at Colombo.

"**Harijan**" word banned: Mrs. Sheila Kaul, the Minister of State for Education announced this in the Lok Sabha on Aug. 5 1982.

Sue Satya Sai Baba for sodomy: Letter addressed to the Union Home Minister by the President, Indian Rationalists' Association, Y.A. Lokhanwala, Bombay.

that Buddhism could not defeat the caste system. When the Federation chairman, Melakkal Veerapatran, asked "Dalit Muslims" to speak, Abdullah Adiyar said that there were no Untouchables among Muslims. Dr. Seppan, a Buddhist, admitted that Islam was the only religion for the salvation of Untouchables. Even T.M. Mani, a Hindu, said Islam was the only way to stop atrocities on Untouchables. Later, Veerapatran announced that Islam was the only religion for equality and brotherhood that assured liberation of Dalits. He also announced that he was embracing Islam on Dec. 6 with his followers. Veerapatran (born 1919) was a school teacher. There was objection from Hindus that he should not put on shoes. But he resisted. He joined the army during the World War II and that reinforced his courage to stoutly oppose the hierarchical tyranny of Hindus. The writings of Babasaheb Ambedkar gave him courage and strength. He upheld the final verdict of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar that a Dalit could not attain freedom within Hinduism. ■

Sikhs & human rights

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: The "Hindu tolerance", much-publicised all over the world, is so deep and widespread that it will not tolerate even a judge heading a human rights body. This is the case of Justice Ajit Singh Bains who is put in the jail.

But Bains is a Sikh and Sikhs are anti-national.

How can anti-national be tolerated?

But he was a High Court judge and heading the Punjab Human Rights Organisation.

So what? The Sikh human rights comes in conflict with Hindu human rights.

And since this is "Hindu India", the "Hindu tolerance" will not tolerate anybody challenging the Hindu human rights.

Does it mean Hindu human rights can violate Sikh human rights? Will not such an act violate the Constitution of India?

May be. "Hindus" will not care. "Hindu tolerance" will not tolerate even the Constitution of India if it conflicts with "Hindu tolerance".

Dalits, Islam and ivory tower maulvis

QURBAN ALI ZAMEENZAD, NEW DELHI

One of the crucial dilemmas facing the contemporary Dalit movement is that of religious conversion. There are some who consider religious conversion as wholly irrelevant for the emancipation of the Dalits and there are others who, in their rigidity, take religious conversion as a final end in itself and not as a means for facilitating the broader movement of the social economic and cultural emancipation of the Dalits.

By and large, however, the thinking sections of Ambedkarites recognize the pressing need for religious conversion as the initial step towards an all-embracing liberation. They take conversion not as a final goal in itself, but as a means to attain freedom from the shackles of hideous caste oppression. In this they rightly affirm Dr. Ambedkar's contention that religion should serve man and not the other way round.

Confusion: Having recognized the pressing need of religious conversion for the Dalits, there is some confusion among Dalits as to which religion they ought to convert to. Some Dalits argue that since Dr. Ambedkar himself chose Buddhism, the Dalits today should follow in his footsteps. Both Dr. Ambedkar and the Buddha stressed the fact that a person should think for oneself and should not blindly follow what he or she is told by others, even by saints and prophets.

This is not to suggest that Dr. Ambedkar is not relevant today. We sincerely believe that the Ambedkarite path is the only means for Dalit liberation. But, in accordance with the essence of Ambedkarism we also advocate the need for making a distinction between the basic principles of Ambedkarism (which have to be the foundations of the

Dalit movement) and those elements of Dr. Ambedkar's thought that were relevant only to a certain juncture of Indian history.

War against brahminism: For instance, Dr. Ambedkar's relentless war against brahminism and caste oppression is a basic principle. On the other hand, his advocacy of bourgeois parliamentary democracy and his non-opposition to the inclusion of the right to private property in the Indian Constitution may perhaps not be capable of being defended today. Parliamentary democracy has not at all helped liberate the Dalits, and the right to private property has only led to widening socio-economic inequalities. We are confident that were Dr. Ambedkar alive today he himself would have actively opposed these mechanisms of perpetuating the slavery of the Dalits, even though he could not, for various reasons, oppose them effectively in his own day.

Similarly, while we accept the religious conversion for the Dalits is a basic principle of Ambedkarism, we, in line with the essence of Ambedkarite philosophy, also stress that Buddhism need not necessarily be the only religion that the Dalits ought to embrace. Buddhism, it is true, is a noble religion in its own way, but since there is no non-Dalit Buddhist community in India today (excepting in the Himalayan regions), Dalit converts to Buddhism, being the only Buddhists, can therefore still be identified as having been Dalits.

Mahars: For instance, a "Maharashtrian Buddhist" is merely another term for a Mahar. This problem is not so acute in the case of Dalit converts to Islam, Christianity or Sikhism since there are pre-

existing Muslims, Christian and Sikh communities into which, theoretically, they can integrate themselves.

Some advocates of Buddhism argue that since Buddhism was born in India itself, the Dalits therefore should convert to this religion. They assert that since Islam and Christianity evolved outside India, Dalits should not accept them. This argument is rather absurd. The mere geographical origin of an ideology or religion has nothing whatsoever to do with its truth or appropriateness. Modern science was born in the west, but is desperately sought after by the orient. Buddhism was born in India but has found its staunchest adherents in the Far East and in South East Asia. Hence, simply because Islam and Christianity, unlike Buddhism, were not born in India, it should not be argued that the Dalits should reject them.

Threat of Islam: The Dalits today need to seriously consider the choice of a religion to convert to solely on the basis of its capacity to liberate them by posing the greatest challenge to the brahminical system.

The brahminical rulers are unanimous in their belief that Islam poses the gravest threat to their continued oppression and exploitation of the Dalits and Backward Castes. As M.S. Golwalkar, the supreme leader of the RSS, himself admits:

"Islam was the first religion to interfere with our social organisation of Chaturvaran ... Islam in India challenged our scheme of class-caste organisation". (MS Golwalkar, *Thoughts on some current problems*, 1948, p.26).

On the other hand, the RSS - mouthpiece, *Organiser* (16/10/63) asserted that, "so far as Jainism

and Buddhism are concerned, they have never made any contribution to social and political thought, as such we have not inherited any *arthashastras* (politics and economics) or *dharma shastras* (social law) from them".

Note carefully what these two quotations assert. *Golwalkar admits that Islam was the first religion to challenge the caste system effectively, and Islam came to India long after Buddhism.* The *Organiser* suggests that Buddhism was unable to offer a new pattern of social organisation to replace the caste system.

US Blacks: Islam has empowered the oppressed Blacks in the US. The once-Buddhist Afghans, upon embracing Islam, became one of the greatest races of fighters the world has produced. Slaves among the Muslims have even ruled over vast empires as in the case of the Muslim slave dynasty of Delhi and the Muslim slave Mameluke rulers of Egypt. Bhagwan Das says:

"Untouchables embraced Islam and joined the forces of the Muslim

invaders. Many rose and attained higher ranks in the Muslim Armies. One (ex-untouchable) adopting the name of Nasiruddin Khusro Shah ascended the throne of Delhi Sultanate and ruled over Delhi for some months". (Preface to *Untouchable Soldiers*, by Ardythe Basham, 1980, p.2).

In his book, *Pakistan or the Partition of India*, Dr.Ambedkar had made certain critical remarks on the rigidity and ultra-orthodoxy of Muslim society. He was perfectly justified in making some of these comments.

Debate on Jamate-Islami: The Muslim feudal elite and ivory-tower "Maulvis" of this period presented Islam in such a narrow light that it was natural for Dr.Ambedkar to imagine Muslims to be reactionaries and obscurantists. Even today many Maulvis are more concerned about the petty externalities of religion and completely ignore the great liberative essence of Islam. This point was clearly brought out during the long DV debate on Jamate-Islami.

However, every religion can be

interpreted in different ways according to the interests of different classes and individuals. *Islam, in Dr.Ambedkar's day, and today too, is presented by the feudal elite and ivory tower Maulvis as a closed, restricted, suffocating system. On the other hand, "lower class" Muslims throughout the world are presenting Islam in a diametrically different way as a weapon for social liberation. This radical interpretation of Islam was not articulated widely enough in Dr.Ambedkar's own day since the Muslim "lower classes" were still under the firm control of vested interests and feudal lords.*

If Dr.Ambedkar were alive today, we believe he would approve of the radical interpretation of Islam that many "lower class" Muslims are seeking to articulate. We are also confident that he would have advised the Muslim 'ulema' that the only way they could present Islam as an attractive and meaningful philosophy for the oppressed of the world was through creatively interpreting it to enable it to play a socially emancipatory role. ■

Autonomy for Kashmir

Alappuzha: The Kashmir problem could be solved only by giving the State the maximum possible autonomy, said Ibrahim Sulaiman Sait, President, Indian Union Muslim League. "I am just back from a visit to Kashmir to study the situation there for my party. I found that Kashmir is going through very great hardship," he told the press. The security forces were indiscriminately killing innocent people in the name of combating terrorism. "More civilians than terrorists are killed" (*Hindu Nov.5*) ■

MUSLIM VICTIMISED IN UK

London: A Muslim schoolboy is demanding an apology from his headmaster and compensation after being banned from lessons for several weeks for refusing to shave off his beard. Syed Dohan, 15, was sent home from his comprehensive school after he objected to the headmanster's demand that he remove the beard, which the boy says is part of his religious and cultural tradition. (*Statesman Nov.3*) ■

RPI & Parliamentary democracy

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: This is to remind about our editorial of Oct.1: "*BSO killing Dravida leadership through corruption using parliamentary democracy*".

No better example to prove our point can be given than the Republican Party of India (RPI), the party started by Babasaheb Ambedkar himself. What is its fate today? RPI is splintered into six units and some say it is much more. Not only the party is divided but one unit trying to kill the other.

This is what the ruling upper castes wanted to do with the RPI and they did it using the parliamentary democracy.

Today, every faction chief of the RPI is stooging one Hindu leader or the other and as a prize of stooging he is getting his share in the corruption that has become part of India's parliamentary political life. ■

History proves Periyar greater than M.K. Gandhi

Kottayam: A life-size statue of Periyar EV Ramaswamy has been set up at Vaikom as a memorial to the founder of the revolutionary Dravida Kazhagam movement.

It was the former Tamil Nadu chief minister, M.G. Ramachandran, a Malayali Nair, who hit upon Vaikom, famed for the valiant struggle of 1924-25 for human freedom, social justice and removal of caste-based brahminical tyranny, as the fitting site for the Periyar memorial.

It was Periyar who provided the leadership for the Vaikom satyagraha, describing it as the outburst of the Dravidians against Aryan domination.

Besides the statue, there is also a public library, an open-air theater and a children's park - total cost Rs. 15 lakhs.

Sikh support: This was also the first anti-Aryan struggle in the country which ended in a victory for the oppressed Untouchables. Ezhavas, Pulayas and Paryas who were denied the right to use the roads near and around the Mahdevar temple there. Singhnboards and tablets warning that the Untouchables were forbidden to use particular roads were also set up. Those seeking to eradicate untouchability approached M.K.Gandhi, the self-styled Aryan saviour of Untouchables, but he opposed the idea.

The Ezhava leader, Sri Narayana Guru, also plunged headlong into the struggle. But the Brahmin priests remained adamant and so a satyagraha was finally launched on March 30, 1924. The Sikhs came all the way from Punjab and set up free kitchen (*langar*). The satyagraha attracted the attention of Periyar who with a group of followers came to Vaikom on April 12, 1924 and actively took part in the struggle. To further strengthen the movement, a new committee consisting of Periyar, Nair leaders like Mannath Padmanabha Pillai and Chittettu Sanku Pillai and the Muslim leader, Abdul Rahim of Coimbatore, was formed. But today the same Nairs are with Brahmins.

The roads were thrown open to all castes except the one in front of the last gate of temple. Finally, the satyagraha was called off in Nov. 1925.

So, who is proved greater - Gandhi or Periyar ? History says Periyar.

Making scavengers better scavengers and getting awards & rewards

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: We had written earlier also about this Bihar brahmin getting all sorts of awards and rewards for making scavengers better scavengers. Since this is what M.K. Gandhi also did, the brahminical social order (BSO) is very happy with Pathak who on one side is getting name and fame, and on the other side tons of money.

New Delhi: Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak, founder of Sulabh International, has become the first Indian to be awarded the international Saint Francis prize for the environment instituted by the Vatican.

Dr. Pathak, who was blessed by Pope John Paul II shortly after he had received the award on Oct. 24 in Rome, told a press conference here on Oct. 30 that he was chosen for the honour out of 42 nominations from different countries because the Sulabh had succeeded in "relieving about 30,000 scavengers from suffering the humiliation of carrying night soil as a head-load." The prize consists of a citation and a statue valued at \$ 60,000 (*Times of India*, Oct. 31).

Pathak is supplying electricity to Patna's most important street on which the State govt. seat is located. Power is manufactured out of the human excreta.

Job reservation: Brahmins and other upper castes have been complaining that because of job reservations to SC/STs the "poor" among them are not getting govt. jobs. Yes. this is a legitimate complaint. To help such "poor brahmins", why can't Pathak employ his own *jatwala* graduate, give him Rs. 2,000 salary a month and employ half-a-dozen of them in each such Sulabh Shouchalaya?

Why should he employ only our people and make them better scavengers and take credit for that?

This is our complaint.

We have no complaint against Pathak getting awards and rewards and making money. He can do the same thing employing his *jatwalas* and "relieving the suffering" of his own poor *jatwalas*.

That is our point. Is Pathak listening? ■

DALIT CHRISTIANS ASSURED

New Delhi : The Govt. will consider extending the job reservation facility applicable to Scheduled Caste Christians. This assurance was given by welfare minister, Sitaram Kesri, to the National Council for Churches in India (NCCI). A delegation of the NCCI led by the minister of state for small industries, P.J. Kurien, called on Kesri here. (*Times of India* - Nov. 11) ■

Why PVN cannot take decision on anything?

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: Our "national" toilet papers, those who write in it called the "opinion-makers" and our great editors in their august editorial columns which people hardly read - all have started saying that PV Narasimha Rao has become notorious for taking no decisions. This is true.

His biggest and the most annoying "inaction" is said to be Bangarappa. They are worried that he is simply delaying dismissing Bangarappa. And this is causing too much of heart-burning to the upper castes. Because they hate Bangarappa.

But the same upper castes (Brahmins, Lingayats, Vokkaligas in the case of Karnataka) do not know the consequences of "removing" Bangarappa. PVN, the wily "socialist brahmin" knows it. He knows that if Bangarappa goes, with it the Congress, the country's original brahminical party, also goes.

Regional party: The upper castes will be happy if the Congress is dead in Karnataka because they think that will pave the way for the entry of the havyak brahmin. But they don't know that R.K. Hegde is not liked even inside his own party - Janata Dal.

All this the crafty neogi brahmin knows and hence the delay and inaction. But the real danger of touching Bangarappa is that he would launch a regional party of Backward Castes taking BCs in JD and the Congress.

And this is what the people want. But this is what the "socialist brahmins" don't want.

And hence the "inaction" on Bangarappa.

But the neogi brahmin can't be blamed for his "inaction". No PM can take any action henceforth on anything. Because what is a "welcome action" to one "nation" will be a poisonous pill to another "nation".

Babri Masjid: Take the case of Babri Masjid. If he backs history and justice, he will be displeasing the Hindu nazis. As the neogi brahmin's heart is with the nazis, if he favours them, the Muslims will break away from the country's original brahminical party of M.K. Gandhi and this the "socialist brahmins" will not allow. Even the Hindu nazis will not allow it.

The same thing applies to Punjab, Kashmir, Jharkhand, Tamil "nation" - every issue. Henceforth no PM can take "action" on any issue.

Privatisation flop: The most striking and the latest is the "privatisation". The Govt. of India has decided to privatise and sell the country to America via the World Bank.

The govt. has decided but the ruling upper castes are not allowing it. So "privatisation" is blocked. The darling Harshad Mehta's multi-million dollar scam is the first obstacle.

So how can anybody blame PVN for inaction? ■

Godman swallows premier medical institute

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: A shocking news comes from Delhi warning us that the ruling class is going to subvert every institution and force it to serve its interests.

New Delhi: The country's premier referral centre, the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) here, proposes to have collaboration with the newly-set up Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences (SSSIHMS) situated in the rural pocket of Andhra Pradesh's Anantpur district.

The special treatment and consideration shown to SSSIHMS by AIIMS has got the nod from the highest political quarters. This was also acknowledged by a SSSIHMS trustee, Indulal Shah, in a letter written to Prime Minister Narasimha Rao late last November while thanking Rao for inaugurating the SSSIHMS. (*Hindustan Times*, Oct. 29).

Bogus swami: The SSSIHMS, a hospital for the rich, meaning the upper castes, is promoted by India's

richest and the most famous bogus swami, Satya Sai Baba alias Satyanarayana Raju, a Backward Caste fellow from Anantapur. This fellow is controlled by a couple of Brahmins. Brahmins don't flock to this illiterate Raju but the fans mostly come from the mentally sick upper castes and the mentally deranged sections in America. PVN comes from AP and being a neogi brahmin he is doing everything to see that this Raju keeps the country under superstition and slavery. Home Minister Chavan is another devotee. Palkhivala, the rich man's lawyer, is another fan. The corrupt capitalists pour money. All these "leaders" are conspiring to keep India enslaved and to do that they subvert govt. institutions. Fraud man Sai Baba is used for this purpose. ■

Karnataka where realisation follows the dream and hopes culminate in achievements

SHRI. S. BANGARAPPA, CHIEF MINISTER

"I have great pleasure in wishing you all the happiness and joy of the Rajyothsava Day. It has been the priority of My Government to launch and implement programmes and projects to help the poor, the weak and backward of the state. You have supported it. My Government also takes pride in preserving and enriching the glorious cultural heritage of Karnataka. On this great day I thank you for all your love and affection and look forward to your support in creating an even greater future for our state"

"JAI KARNATAKA"

Karnataka has always been the home of lofty aspirations, glorious dreams and fulfilled achievements. Down the ages the Kannadigas have, by the sheer strength of heart and mind, shaped Karnataka into a jewel that India is proud of. This splendid tradition is being maintained and improved upon by the present government under the leadership of Shri S. Bangarappa and the commitment and support of the millions all over the State.

TOWARDS NOURISHING A RICH HERITAGE

LALITHAKALA UNIVERSITY

The Government has already taken the decision to establish a University of Fine Arts at Mysore. The University will impart training to young and aspiring artists in the fields of folk art, sculpture, painting, music etc. and will provide much needed trust and focus in the field of Fine Arts.

KANNADA BHAVANA

The Government has sanctioned the construction of Kannada Bhavana - a prestigious house to preserve and propagate Kannada Language and Culture.

KARNATAKA DARSHANA

A great visual treat. To be established near Bangalore city. To acquaint all visitors with the glory that is Karnataka. The project depicts the landmarks and monuments of Karnataka and the visitor can look forward to knowing the whole of Karnataka without visiting every nook and corner.

ALL INDIA AWARD FOR MUSIC

Karnataka has the unique distinction of nurturing both classical Hindustani and Carnatic music. An All India Award will be instituted to cherish this great tradition.

MUSIC FESTIVAL

By the sad demise of Basavaraja Rajaguru,

Kumara Gandharva, Mallikarjuna Mansur, the state has lost three of its greatest musicians. To honour their memory it is decided to have a three day annual music festival in Karnataka inviting the best of talents in the field.

DEVELOPMENT OF FOLK ARTS

Karnataka is the home of vibrant and colourful folk arts. A folk arts festival under the auspices of the Fine Arts University will be organised on a permanent basis.

KUVEMPU & BENDRE PRATHISHTANA

A Kuvempu Pratishtana at Kuppalli, Theerthahalli Taluk, Shimoga district and Bendre Pratishtana at Dharwad will be established to maintain the residences and works of these great writers of Karnataka. These will develop into places of pilgrimage for students and lovers of literature from all over the world.

HONOURING OF TWO GREAT KANNADIGAS

Poet Laureate K.V. Puttappa and stage and film artist Dr. Raj Kumar are two of the gems of Karnataka. The highest honours of the state will be conferred on them in a befitting manner in the month of November.

Karnataka Information

Advt/-

The State Government greets the people of Karnataka on the occasion of Rajyothsava Day.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND WELFARE IN INDIA

Consists of 30 papers submitted by noted scholars on social problems.

Includes a paper by V.T. Rajshekar, Editor, *Dalit Voice*, comparing approaches of Dr. Ambedkar, Gandhi and Karl Marx to liberate Untouchables.

Editor: Dr. Jogan Shankar, Reader in Sociology, Mysore University, Mysore.

1992 pp.400 Rs. 500

Asish 8/81, Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi -26

THE MUNDA OF CENTRAL INDIA

An account of their social organisation

Dr. Robert Parkin

Freie University, Berlin

A pure Dravidian tribe, about 6 millions of which Santals account for 2/3 of the total.

1992 pp.315 Rs. 325

Oxford University Press

Brahmins admit they are Aryans

ARYANS IN SOUTH INDIA

Dr. P.P. Narayana Namboodiri

Retd. Prof. of History, St. Peter's College, Chengacherry, Kerala.

Decline and fall and rise again of Namboodiris who are not pure Brahmins but a cross breed.

1992 pp.260 Rs. 315

Inter-India, D/17, Raj Garden, New Delhi - 15.

DARD KE DASTAVEJ

(Dalit Poems in Hindi)

Dr. N. Singh

1992 pp.166 Rs. 75

Anand Sahitya Sadan

Siddharath Marg, Chavani 20, Aligarh - 202 001.

Dalits protest racism in India: Upper caste imperialism

AMARJIT SINGH, 44 - GOWAN ROAD., WILLES DAN, LONDON NW 1025 H.

Over 1,000 Dalits and their sympathisers gathered in Hyde Park here on Oct 25 to demonstrate against the recent atrocities against their brothers and sisters in India. In the village of Kumer and Bharatpur, Rajasthan, were on June 6 1992 over 160 people, young and old, were burnt alive, over 44 cattle-heads and 500 houses were set on fire and more than 50 Dalit girls and women were gang-raped by upper caste Jats of the village. They were also demonstrating against the sacrificial slaughter of a Dalit youth by the Hindus at Chamunda Devi temple on June 11 1992. In the open presence of police officers, MLA, and MPs of BJP and Congress (I). Leaflets distributed also described the massacre at Chunder in Andhra Pradesh.

The demonstration was organised by the National Committee of Great Britain Against Atrocities on Dalits, an umbrella organisation of Guru Ravidas Sabhas, Maharishi Valmik Sabhas, and Federation of Ambedkarites and Buddhist Organisations. *It is the first time in UK history that such a unity has been forged. This is indeed a long awaited development.*

Despite the near freezing temperature and monsoon like rain coupled with high winds, the people turned up from hundreds of miles around London. Some women even brought their children in pushchairs. The placards carried such messages as brahminism-nazism, castism-racism, caste system in Apartheid, End massacre of Dalits etc. Slogans could be heard long distance away from the march which was very well disciplined. People shouted "Down with caste system?", "What we want? human rights?", "Down with Indian govt.?" A delegate presented the memorandum to the Indian High Commission.

The National Committee intends to organise further demonstrations in the future.

For further information: **Dr. Ambedkar Memorial Committee of Great Britain Buddha Vihara, Upper Zoar Street, Pennifields, Wolverhampton WV3 OJH.**

(Read: *History of Hindu Imperialism*, Swami Dharna Thirtha, 1992, Rs. 100 write to *Dalit Voice* office).

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