

# DALIT VOICE

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The Voice of the Persecuted Nationalities Denied Human Rights

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☆ **Why Dalits failed to defeat Brahmins:  
Expert diagnoses weakness as  
lack of professional excellence**

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Minorities an explosive force :

**THUS SPAKKE AMBEDKAR**

## Thus Spake Ambedkar

### Minorities an explosive force: Hindu "majority" warned

It is largely due to the fulsome praise bestowed upon it by Metcalfe who described them as little republics having nearly everything that they want within themselves, and almost independent of any foreign relations. The existence of these village communities each one forming a separate little State in itself has according to Metcalfe contributed more than any other cause to the preservation of the people of India, through all the revolutions and change which they have suffered, and is in a high degree conducive to their happiness and to the enjoyment of a great portion of the freedom and independence. No doubt the village communities have lasted where nothing else lasts. But those who take pride in the village communities do not care to consider what little part they have played in the affairs and the destiny of the country; and why? Their part in the destiny of the country has been well described by Metcalfe himself who says:

"Dynasty after dynasty tumbles down. Revolution succeeds to revolution. Hindoo, Pathan, Mogul, Maharatha, Sikh, English, are all masters in turn but the village communities remain the same. In times of trouble they arm and fortify themselves. A hostile army passes through the country. The village communities collect their little cattle within their walls and let the enemy pass unprovoked".

Such is the part of the village communities have played in the history of their country. Knowing this, what pride can one feel in them? That they have survived through all vicissitudes may be a fact. But mere survival has no value. The question is on what plane they have survived. Surely on a low, on a selfish level. I hold that these village republics have been the ruination of India. I am therefore surprised that those who condemn Provincialism and communalism should come forward as champions of the village. What is the village but a sink of localism, a den of ignorance, narrow-mindedness and communalism? I am glad that the Draft Constitution has discarded the village and adopted the individual as its unit.

The Draft Constitution is also criticised because of the safeguards it provides for minorities. In this, the Drafting Committee has no responsibility. It follows the decisions of the Constituent Assembly. Speaking for myself, I have no doubt that the Constituent Assembly has done wisely in providing such safeguards for minorities as it has done. In this country

both the minorities and the majorities have followed a wrong path. It is wrong for the majority to deny the existence of minorities. It is equally wrong for the minorities to perpetuate themselves. A solution must be found which will serve double purpose. It must recognize the existence of the minorities to start with. It must also be such that it will enable majorities and minorities to merge some day into one. The solution proposed by the Constituent Assembly is to be welcomed because it is a solution which serves this two-fold purpose. To diehards who have developed a kind of fanaticism against minority protection I would like to say two things. One is that minorities are an explosive force which, if it erupts, can blow up the whole fabric of the state. The history of Europe bears ample and appalling testimony to this fact. The other is that the minorities in India have agreed to place their existence in the hands of the majority. In the history of negotiations for preventing the partition of Ireland, Redmond said to Carson "as for any safeguard you like for the Protestant minority but let us have a United Ireland". Carson's reply was "Damn your safeguards, we don't want to be ruled by you". No minority in India has taken this stand. They have loyally accepted the rule of the majority which is basically a communal majority and not a political majority. It is for the majority to realize its duty not to discriminate against minorities. Whether the minorities will continue or will vanish must depend upon this habit of the majority. The moment the majority loses the habit of discriminating against the minority, the minorities can have no ground to exist. They will vanish.

The most criticized part of the Draft Constitution is that which relates to Fundamental Rights. It is said that Article 13 which defines fundamental rights is riddled with so many exceptions that the exceptions have eaten up the rights altogether. It is condemned as a kind of deception. In the opinion of the critics Fundamental Rights are not Fundamental Rights unless they are also absolute rights. The critics rely on the Constitution of the United States and to the Bill of Rights embodied in the first ten Amendments to that Constitution in support of their contention. It is said that the Fundamental Rights in the American Bill of Rights are real because they are not subjected to limitations or exceptions.

*(To be continued)*

*Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings & Speeches*, Vol. 1:3, (pages 61 - 63) 1994, Rs. 190. 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 Rights

BANGALORE - 560

# Why Dalits failed to defeat Brahmins? Expert diagnoses our weakness as lack of professional excellence

I have never been a student of political science. But I understand that political power is key to most of the problems. I may be wrong, but I am reluctant to admit that the political power is key to all the problems. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar was acutely aware of this political power. He was convinced that Dalits by themselves because of their numerical strength and financial strength will never be a ruling power on their own. This fact made him more aware about the fate of Dalits; his own people. He advised Dalit intellectuals to grab political power as much as they could do. The whole idea behind separate electorate and double vote for Dalits was that the Hindus will have to depend on Dalits for their political power; if they (Hindus) had to depend on Dalits for political power; Hindus would never be able to afford to neglect Dalits.

But this was not to happen and what happened was the "Poona Pact". With this "Poona Pact", the political enslavement of Dalits was complete. The fear of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar that the joint electorate for Dalits will produce Dalit leaders who will be the slaves of majority and not the champions of minority has come true. Kanshi Ram of BSP has changed the "caste politics" to a "class politics". This class politics (85% versus 15%) has paid the dividends as can be seen from the result of Assembly elections 1993. This has given hope to the Depressed Classes that if they come

together they can capture Delhi. Hopefully, one day, the good sense will prevail over these Depressed Classes and they will come together. But why one needs to capture Delhi? All this struggle, as I can understand, as a novice in socio-political field, is to get the social equality

## Neglect of intellectual field caused fall of Dalits

*This is the first time we are publishing a Document, a whole chapter in a book as a guest editorial to provoke a Debate on the country's Dalit movement which is virtually dead. The voidik forces killed it and we allowed them to kill it.*

*In the previous issue (June 16, 2001) we had an article by Dr. V.D. Chandanshive who was also making a similar point. We need serious self-criticism to quickly correct this drift. Dalit intellectuals are requested to join the Debate.*

*This is the last chapter in the book, **My Encounter with Dronacharya** (2001, pp. 324, Rs. 200 Sugava, 562 - Sadashiv Peth, Pune - 411 030), by Dr. Ashok Bhojraj, a noted cardiac-vascular surgeon at Nagpur. It is reproduced because in this the author comes out as an eminent intellectual talking the DV language and endorsing almost every criticism voiced by us on the Dalit society.*

*The book (announced in DV/May 16, 2001 p.24) in general and the chapter in particular needs wide discussion because it pinpoints that we can check the brahminical mischief only when we intellectually defeat them. But the reality is that the Dalit society in its craze for political power and money through reserved jobs has totally neglected the intellectual fields — EDITOR.*

(equal opportunities) — social equality of that degree that there will no more be Sharmbhuks, no more Karnas and no more Eklawyas. With the efforts of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, nay, with his life-long struggle, SC/STs got the reservations. Reservations are nothing but the guarantees.

Have these reservations — the guarantees — given social equality to SC/STs? The answer is no. Reservations gave education, degrees, jobs as per quota and with that the money. There are many from SC/STs who are richer than the Brahmins and other upper castes. Reservation has given the chance to

achieve economic equality. But is economic equality a social equality? No. What then can give social equality? It is the professional excellence, at large, which can give social equality. I will extend this further and I dare say that the professional excellence alone can give social superiority. Sociologist will agree with me that the class with social superiority alone can be the governing class. Democracy is the game of numbers. But will those with the numbers without professional excellence vis-a-vis social superiority be able to give good governance? I say not, at least not for a long time. Have the intellectuals (thanks to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar) from SC/ST, during these 45 years of reservation, succeeded in leaving the legacy of excellence behind, that the generation present and the generations unborn be proud of that legacy? In short, have the intellectuals from the SC/ST created the social identity for their respective communities? Can a member of SC community stand up and shout that he is proud of his community? And if he says "yes" then I would like to ask him a

counter question, "on what grounds?" Today, if I have to admit my son to nursery, leave alone school and college, for a better education, I have to look to Brahmins and other upper caste fellows. If my son asks me, "Dad, why should I be proud of my community?" In answer, I have nothing but to hang my head in shame.

The day is not very far when Dalits will have to fall at the feet of Brahmins for education; I mean better education.

#### **HOW U.S. BLACKS ACHIEVED EQUALITY**

**The intellectuals from SC/ST have left the legacy of selfishness and treachery behind. Leave alone social identity and social superiority, we have even failed to create social equality that one should be proud of.**

Why the SC/STs, during the last 45 years of guarantees could not produce positive social identity? People may say that 45 years is a short time. But haven't we created a negative social identity in these 45 years? People may say that there is discrimination. I do agree that there is discrimination. How come, then, the Blacks in US could establish positive social identity? Could they do this because there is no racial discrimination in America? There it is and it is astounding.

Rodney King's case will be an eye-opener for those who believe that there is no racial discrimination in America. One can recall the humiliation suffered by the world's greatest athlete Jesse Owens, who after his record-breaking performance at the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games was forced to eke out a living by racing against horses as he could not secure a decent employment in the White-dominated society. In the sixties,

another great Olympian was the butt of racial discrimination.

#### **WHY CASSIUS CLAY EMBRACED ISLAM?**

Olympic champion, Cassius Clay, not only threw away his gold medal into a river but also got converted to a new religion to escape racial discrimination. He embraced Islam and also changed his name to Mohammad Ali. Mike Tyson is very critical of Whites.

"The White society will not allow Blacks to be their equals because Blacks were once slaves".

Tyson told *Jet Magazine*. And who can forget the now famous dream speech of Martin Luther King Jr? In 1963, the great American civil rights leader led the march to Washington which brought over 2,50,000 persons to Lincoln's Monument in history's largest civil rights demonstration. Here, with the most eloquent address of his career, he brought the massive throng to its feet.

"One hundred years have passed, he said, the Negroes were not still free. One hundred years later, Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on the lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languishing in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land. One hundred years later..."

When one looks back at the plight of such great athlete as Jesse Owens, Mohammad Ali, Michael Jordan one is left with no choice but to feel that the American society has not changed much. That a Black is dragged to death in 1999 in America confirms this. Racial hatred continues.

**How come, then, the Blacks, in**

**spite of American society being racist, could create positive social identity, world over in sports, music, dance and in other disciplines of life? The Blacks have always lived their dream through pursuing excellence in sports and in various other disciplines of life. And when they regularly demonstrated their superiority over White competitors, they found the medium to highlight their social problems.**

#### **BLACKS ARE PROUD OF THEIR BLACKNESS**

Today, if a Black boy aspires to become something, he can aspire to become like Pele - the Black pearl. He can aspire to become like Magic Johnson or Michael Jordan. He can aspire to become like Carl Lewis or Mike Powell. He can aspire to become Mohammad Ali or Mike Tyson. He can aspire to become like Arthur Ash. He can aspire to become like Vivian Richards. He can aspire to become like Michael Jackson. He can aspire to become like Eddie Murphy. The list is endless. All these people and many other Blacks unlisted here are heroes not for the Blacks but even for the Whites. All these Black people have established superiority over their White counterparts. And if the racial discrimination continues, they may become like Martin Luther King Jr. All these Black people have earned credibility — social identity for the Black community world over.

The Black community can take pride in being Black because "Black is beautiful". And they have proved it. Can the Dalit community take pride in being Dalit? One needs to search the soul. If a Dalit boy aspires to become something, he should aspire to become like which Dalits?

Dalits haven't produced heroes. There is an acute need for them if

Dalits want to live with dignity in the future.

Every Dalit boy aspires to become a Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar. One Ambedkar at one time is enough; more than enough.

#### **RPI LOSES RELEVANCE**

Too many Ambedkars at one time create RPI that exists today. Earlier, the party lost its "Elephant". Now, in 1999 elections, it lost its "rising sun". Do the RPI leaders carry any shame? To me, it appears that the RPI has lost its relevance even for the Dalits.

**With few exceptions (if at all they are there?) Dalit leaders of today are like greedily hungry, barking dogs with wagging tails. They stop barking once a piece of meat (carrion) is thrown at them.**

The price of meat? The interests of their own community. Whereas they (Dalit leaders) become fat and strong; the community they represent becomes eroded and weak. As of today, the "Dalit force" has become a toothless tiger and the parthers can no more prowl. The damage done by the Gavrais, the Kawades, the Athawales, the Dhasals and the like to their own community is immense. They have succeeded in dividing the Dalit community. And in this process, they have even surpassed Manu. Why to blame the Brahmins?

#### **DALIT MOVEMENT IS ON SICK BED**

Dalit force is on sick bed, gasping. The spittoon hanging in the neck and the broom tied to the back isn't very far. Their is too much politics and the time has come to look beyond it for the betterment of the Dalits and the downtrodden.

**A Dalit of today is a half slave and half free. While he doesn't want caste and casteism on the social front; he wants caste for**

**reservation on the economic front. In this country, a Dalit needs caste much more than anybody for his survival.**

This has created a paradoxical situation. His craving for equality has remained only a half truth. Will abolition of reservation bring him social equality? It will not. It will only make him a complete slave. Because, castes and casteism in India is an eternal truth; I am more than convinced. If Mother India has to offer to her children the fruits, good or bad, let everybody have its equal share.

#### **WANTED PROPORTIONAL RESERVATION**

There is a need to modify the reservation policy. Reservation should be extended to a community in accordance with its population. The boundaries, as far as competence is concerned in open category and reserved category, are falling apart. Since there will be no open category and reserved category; all will feel equal. The problem of rich and poor will still continue to remain. But that is a global phenomenon. Because, there is no cure for the human greed.

Blacks have lived their dream through pursuing excellence and wherever/whenever they demonstrated their superiority over Whites, they took the opportunity to highlight their social problems. What dream Dalits had? If at all they had any dream, have they lived their dream through pursuing excellence? Have they demonstrated superiority over Brahmins? And if they demonstrated superiority, have those intellectuals highlighted their social problems?

What dreams Dalits had? Obviously, the first dream was to get two square meals a day and that with dignity. For that, they got

educated. They became graduates, post-graduates and even doctorates. They became doctors, engineers and lawyers. They became politicians; they became bureaucrats through reservations.

#### **DALITS DID NOT OUTSMART BRAHMINS**

And for all these, Dalit outsmarted Dalit but the Dalit did not outsmart the Brahmin. There was no need. There was a competition between Dalits and Dalits and not between Dalits and Brahmins. Reservation was a must; reservation is must. But reservation did not put the excellence to test. It kept the aim low and in this respect the reservation acted as crutches. If last year, the admission for MBBS for SCs closed on 85% marks, then, the immediate aim of a prospective doctor—12th standard student from SC—is to secure 86% of marks. His aim is limited to secure 86% of marks and not 96%. This reservation has killed that "killing instinct". And this lack of "killing instinct" did not take Dalits beyond reservation. This resulted in a vicious circle.

**If Dalits have to outsmart Brahmins, they have to choose the fields where there is no reservation. In the fields with quota system, even if a Dalit outsmarts Brahmin, that credit, I should say discredit, goes to reservation. Reservation has given us food, not fame.**

But there is another side of this. We have limited reservation to food. That is our fault. With reservation we could have achieved both, both food and fame. By fame, I mean social identity. What was missing then?

When the slavery was abolished, one thing the Blacks knew that if they had to survive in the White dominated society, they could do

only through excellence. Excellence and nothing but the excellence, they were convinced, will give them survival. And if they survived, they felt, excellence alone will give them social identity. Today, the world acknowledges "Black power" and the Black power salute. What is the origin of this Black power? This can be traced back to the efforts of Black persons like Dr. Booker T. Washington, G.W. Karver and the likes. The sense of competitive excellence originated in Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, South America. This institute was run by the Blacks and it was for the Blacks. In the formative period, Dr. Booker T. Washington and G.W. Karver were its Directors. This institute gave the doctrine of the education of the head, heart and the hand. Dr. Booker T. Washington died in 1915 and G.W. Karver died in 1942. Needless to say, Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar was very much influenced by the work of Tuskegee Institute. The pioneering work of G.W. Karver brought the agricultural revolution in America.

#### **LACK OF INTELLECTUALISM AMONG DALITS**

Dalits not only took education but also started imparting education. They started schools and colleges. I do not deny that the people behind such schools and colleges might be having noble social cause to serve. But these colleges ended in producing degree-holders with empty head, empty heart and empty hand. They ended in giving education of "stomach". Nothing wrong in that because initially jobs were available.

**The institutes run by the Blacks gave education of the head, heart and the hand — and it is this education which ultimately could realise "Black power". The institutes run by the Dalits gave**

**education of the stomach. Our education never went beyond securing a job.**

We could not imbibe "education culture". The lack of this "education culture" is successfully spreading pessimism about education among Dalits. Presently, the institutes run by Dalits are not even able to do that — the education of the stomach. How many students from the schools run by Dalits find places in merit list?

#### **WE PRODUCE ONLY SWEEPERS & PEONS**

How many students from junior colleges run by Dalits can aspire to become doctors, engineers and other professionals? How many students from the colleges run by the Dalits can successfully compete MPSC/UPSC and other competitive examinations? Do those colleges even produce bank clerks? The answer to these above questions are pathetically negative.

**The fact is that, on an average, today's education from the colleges run by Dalits can produce only sweepers and peons.**

How much education does one really needs to become a successful sweeper and a successful peon? Dalit educational institutions, now-a-days, have failed to elevate the status of Dalits. Because, before education also they were sweepers and peons. Whose purpose these institutes serve? Well, they have made many a few rich, but at large, institutes serve? Well, they have made many a few rich, but at large, they have become blot on the community. If these institutes can produce only sweepers and peons, then, they, in real sense, do not serve the Dalit community. After all, students from which community really study in these institutes? These institutes

have created negative social identity for Dalits. It is not the thing of pride, it is the thing of shame. Who is responsible?

#### **EDUCATION AS BRAHMIN BUSINESS**

Today, if I have to admit my son to nursery, leave alone school and college, I have to look to Brahmins. To educate is no business of Dalits.

**Education is the business of Brahmins, how true. We have proved Manu right. Dalit educationalists (?) have failed Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar.**

When will that day come, when Brahmin boys and girls will queue up, for admission, in front of the educational institutes run by Dalits? And when that day comes, Dalits would have earned social identity - social superiority. Can such social superiority be given by any political power on this earth? No, it cannot be.

#### **POLITICAL POWER IS NOT KEY TO ALL PROBLEMS**

Then, is the political power key to all problems? No, it is not. It is the class with social superiority which can rule for long time.

**Brahmins maintained social superiority through religious subjugation of the masses. In a way, they maintained negative superiority. And it is this negative superiority which will ultimately end their superiority.**

Now, no religion can have that privilege. Presently, in the casteless society that one dreams of, social superiority can be maintained and will be maintained through professional excellence only. Dalits should try for that. They should aim for that. Nothing less, nothing more.

Have Dalits proved superiority over Brahmins? I think, yes; though not always. Reservation is meant for

admission and not for passing. Many Dalits passed, only few excelled.

### ASHAMED OF "CASTE IDENTITY"

Are these Dalit intellectuals available for the society? Answer is likely to be negative. They are lost to reservation, defending their jobs.

**Almost all Dalits ran away from the society. Few were so much ashamed that they even changed their surnames. They alienated their society. But that did not make them any better. They tried to hide their caste.**

But this couldn't be permanent social security for them. Dalits could/can hide their caste, though, for sometime. Blacks can't/couldn't hide their colour. Blacks, even if they wish (ed), they can/could not hide their colour. This colour consciousness became the unifying force. Among Dalits there was nothing common, common unifying force. It is the common unifying thing which brings solidarity.

### "SACRED THREAD" UNITES BRAHMINS

Among Brahmins, it is the "sacred thread". Under the circumstances of distress, they can reveal it and prove their identity. Among Sikhs, it is "5 Ks" which is the common unifying thing. Among Muslims it is overall appearance, costume and in distressing situations e.g. riots, even circumcision can be the common unifying thing. There wasn't/isn't such a common unifying thing among Dalits. The name of "Ambedkar" could be the common unifying thing among Dalits. Experience has shown that "Ambedkar" cannot be unifying thing. Now-a-days, even arch rivals are using the "Ambedkar" card.

**"Ambedkar" has become a commodity; anybody can come and sell it. How sad.**

As it seems, only a common social cause can bring these Dalit intellectuals together. BSP alone has successfully shown as to what is this common social cause and this cause alone will be able to draw Dalit intellectuals in the fold of BSP. Let us hope, this common social cause becomes the unifying thing. Like Blacks, have the Dalit intellectuals highlighted their social problems? They haven't.

**Dalit intellectuals remained aloof from political and social movements.**

### DALITSTAN

There are many reasons. Most of these political and social movements lacked the cause. They had only interests. Most of the intellectuals were/are in government service and they feel absolutely secure. I think, it is the feeling of insecurity which brings people together. I think it is insecurity, insecurity of fulfilling the aspirations, will bring Dalit intellectuals together.

What did Dalit intellectuals do? They erected statues of Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar and Buddha in every village. Nothing bad in that so far they are not desecrated. I have not given back anything to the society I belong. I feel ashamed. But I carry an urge in my heart to repay the debt of Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar. How? As I can see, some good work is going on around. But it is patchy and disorganized. Right hand doesn't know what the left hand is doing. Moreover, they are personal enterprises without much social relevance. The ego is sky-high and the enmity deep. The biggest challenge is to bring and then bind them together.

In Maharashtra, RPI and its allies are spending their whole strength to rename Marathwada University after Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar. I

am not against renaming. Actually, I am for that. In Bihar, they have renamed one university after Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar. In UP, they are going to start one University after Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar. Is this a constructive social activity? Have these namings and renamings solved or going to solve the problems of Dalits?

**If tomorrow, the Congress and BJP agrees to rename Hindustan as Dalitstan, is that going to change the fate of Dalits? Will the condition of Dalits in Dalitstan be any better than the Dalits in the present Hindustan? If the answer is likely to be negative, then why such competition to name and rename?**

### DR. AMBEDKAR FILM

Can a mere change in the name better somebody's lot? Could a change of name from Untouchables to *Harjjan* change the lot of Dalits? The answer will be in negative. Then have we learned any lesson from Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar? What was, then, that fight between Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar and Mahatma Gandhi all about? Is naming and renaming of institutions after Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar a fitting honour to him? I feel, if a school or a college after the name of Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar produces only sweepers and peons, then it is a dishonour to him. Yes, we need institutions after the name of Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar and we need such institutions which will produce intellectuals like Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar. Any takers? This will be a fitting tribute to him.

Now, they are going to produce a movie on the life of Dr. Babasahb Ambedkar. They are going to spend Rs.6 crores. Is this a constructive activity? I am not against such an activity; I am bothered about constructive in such an activity. This is akin to the situation in a village

wherein there is TV in grampanchayat but there is no black-board in primary school. If there is black-board, there is no teacher. If there is a teacher, there is only one teacher who is the lone teacher for the whole primary school. If there is a teacher, there is no school building. If at all it is there, it is dilapidated. At places, there is no building also, students have to sit under the tree. But, there is TV in village grampanchayat. Great, what an intellectual activity? Just because there is a movie on Gandhi there should be a movie on Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar. What for? Isn't Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar immortal? If he is, then what is that movie going to do? There was a TV serial on Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar on national telecast. Has that TV serial done justice to Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar and Ambedkarites? No. Rs. 6 crores would have been spent in a better way. They could have started an Institute in the line of Tusgee Institute. They could have started sports complex where Dalits would have been initiated in competitive sports. They could have started a hospital for the most difficult speciality in medicine e.g. heart surgery. All these things could have earned a name for the community and would have served people. May the Lord Buddha save us from such a leadership.

### FAILURE OF DALIT LITERATURE

Dalit literary people have highlighted the social problems. They depicted hardship, humiliations, discriminations. But most of them haven't gone beyond that. Dalit literature has failed to imbibe the concept of social superiority among Dalits. *Aamacha Baap Aani Aamhi* is certainly an exception.

Kanshi Ram wants to capture Delhi through social awakening. Let us

live that dream through excellence vis-a-vis social superiority. I know, it will take a long time to achieve this social superiority in all walks of life. I feel, for the sustained political power in hand, social superiority is must.

**Social superiority is maintained not by the horizontal growth (numbers-quantity) but by the vertical growth (quality).**

### SPORTS FIELD

The views of Dr Babasahab Ambedkar about higher education are worth remembering at this juncture. Since Kanshi Ram is leading such a massive movement and that too successfully, he knows what social superiority is. It will be foolhardy on my part to make any suggestions. But I feel, BSP should take initiatives in the following fields

(a) Dalits need to run schools and colleges wherein education of the head, heart and the hand will be given. We need schools and colleges which will reach excellence and nothing but excellence. We need to produce Dalit students which will enter the fields which are now closed for them - closed for reservation (Supreme Court judgment). If we do not capture the fields which are otherwise closed for reservations, then Dalits will remain mediocre. A mediocre cannot lead, cannot govern. It is high-time that we have to disprove Manu. We need schools and colleges before which Brahmin students will queue up to get admission. There cannot be any better way than this to kill their superiority complex. This will be a psychological win over them. After this, other wins are easy.

(b) Dalits need to run sports institutes where likes of Eklawyas and Karnas will be produced. Through competitive sports, not only they will earn name for themselves, for their community, for their nation but in addition they will

earn their livelihood. Through such an activity, many Braacks have turned millionaires. See, what happened to Indian hockey when there is no Dhyan Chand on the scene? Major Dhyan Chand was a Harijan Dalit, have to look beyond Arjuna and Arjuna Award. As compared to Karnaa and Eklawya, Arjuna was a mediocre. But he was the blue-eyed boy of Dronacharya. This mediocrity has been systematically maintained and the whole world is aware of the drubbing we get at the world sports meet. Will Dalits take up this challenge and increase the ranking of India in medal tally in world sports meets?

### SOCIAL IDENTITY

(C) Dalits need to prove excellence in the most difficult fields/subjects. Dalits need to run the hospitals which will deal with the most difficult speciality in medicine e.g. heart surgery. I (not necessarily Dr. Kamble and necessarily Cardiac Surgery) being a cardiac surgeon, have a dream to create a place after Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar where quality cardiac surgery with rational approach, in a reasonable amount and in a homely atmosphere will be done. I intend to create a place which will set the standards of quality cardiac surgical care. What selfish motives do I have behind such a scheme? None. I will be a loser financially. I will be making my life more difficult. If at all, I have any selfish motives, then, they are - one, to create credibility (superiority) for Dalits in the most difficult medical speciality, and another to serve masses.

Dalits have to create social identity through social equality and social superiority through social identity. Social superiority is our dream and let us live it through excellence and not through subjugation as Brahmins did.

# ONE MILLION DALITS TO QUIT HINDUISM

## India's Second Biggest Conversion Drive in Delhi on OCTOBER 14, 2001

History-making event in Delhi to prove India is not a "Hindu nation."

And that the Untouchables are not Hindus and were never Hindus.

Start booking rail, bus and other transport to Delhi. The entire city of Delhi must be jammied and the Aryan *vaidiks* who rule Delhi must be immobilised.

Don't believe any Hindu nazi

rumours about postponement of the conversion event.

The All-India Confederation of SC/ST Organisations under the leadership of

**RAM RAJ**

pledges to establish

**BHEEM RAJ**

in India.

India's biggest Dalit organisation of govt. employees, which fought against the Hindu Nazi Govt. led by Vaidik Vajpayee, wants to

show the world that the Aryan brahminical races are a micro-minority and we the indigenous people are a big majority.

Oct. 14 is the day on which the Father of India, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, shattered the peace of the brahminical rule by quitting Hinduism at Nagpur. The Delhi event on Oct 14, 2001 will continue the mission of Babasaheb and proclaim to the world that India belongs to its original Indians.

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# Growing Hindu nazi-zionist-US gang-up is against Indian interests

OUR CORRESPONDENT

**Bangalore:** The growing bond between the world's three principal racist groups — the White Western American rulers, zionists and India's ruling Aryan brahminical forces — is a matter of serious worry not only to India's original inhabitants but all progressive forces outside.

India's Hindu nazi rulers headed by Vaidik Vajpayee have not made any secret of their friendship with the other two White Western forces. The zionist-led Israel has started supplying dangerous weapons to India's brahminical govt. This govt. boasts of its "Hindu non-violence" and "tolerance". If so, why all these dangerous weapons? And against whom?

**Who cares for Muslims:** India's rulers were the first to prostrate before President Bush's hated National Missile Defence (NMD) system. The whole world including the United Nations expressed reservations about NMD. But India's rulers, who want to exhibit their sycophancy, were the first in the world to back the NMD.

So much so, India is getting isolated from all its neighbours — particularly China and Pakistan.

Indian rulers are not even worried about Indian Muslims. India has the world's largest Muslim population which is deeply worried about India's growing axis with zionists who committed aggression on Palestine and indulging in daily killing of Muslims there.

**This growing US-Israeli-Indian axis is not in the interest of India and its vast persecuted nationalities.**

A report in the June 2 issue of the *New York Times* by Dean E. Murphy received from an overseas reader is reproduced to further reconfirm the budding friendship between the ruling class of these countries.

## Anti-Muslim groups unite through internet

Web site run by militant Hindus in Queens and Long Island was recently shut down by its service provider because of complaints that it advocated hatred and violence toward Muslims. But a few days later, the site was back on the Internet. The unlikely rescuers were some radical Jews in Brooklyn who are under investigation for possible ties to anti-Arab terrorist organizations in Israel.

The unusual alliance brings together two extreme religious philosophies from different parts of the world

that, at first glance, have little in common. But living elbow-to-elbow in the ethnic mix of New York, the small groups of Hindus and Jews have discovered that sharing a distant enemy is sufficient basis for friendship.

So tight is their anti-Muslim bond that some of the Hindus marched alongside the Jews in the annual salute to Israel parade on Fifth Avenue last month. Yesterday, several of the Jews joined a protest outside the United Nations against the treatment of Hindus in Afghanistan by the Taliban regime.

**Islam as common enemy:** "We are fighting the same war", said Rohit Vasmaan, who helps run the Hindu Web Site, HinduUnity.org, from his home in Flushing, Queens. "Whether you call them Palestinians, Afghans or Pakistanis, the root of the problem for Hindus and Jews is Islam".

Mr. Vasmaan, who is 30 and came to New York from New Delhi when he was 13, said matter-of-factly that he had many others expect to die in the battle for Hindu supremacy. Nonetheless, he is protective of the identities of some of HinduUnity.org's biggest financial backers.

Some of them have been implicated in Hindu nationalist acts in India and are only in the US biding their time, he said. One of the site's major supporters on Long Island was involved in destroying an ancient mosque at Ayodhya in northern India in 1992, Vasmaan said.

HinduUnity.org advertises itself as the official site of Bajrang Dal, a fundamentalist Hindu movement in India that has chapters throughout that country and has frequently clashed with Muslims and was among the groups blamed for the 1992 attack. The Web Site also goes by the names of soldiers of Hindutva, a term that refers to the primacy of Hindu religion and culture. Vasmaan said the Web Site has 500 people affiliated with it. The Jews in Brooklyn, meanwhile, are followers of Rabbi Meir David Kahane, the assassinated Israeli politician whose teachings advocated the expulsion from Israel of all Arabs, most of whom are Muslims.

Inside India, the over 85% of the indigenous people are being treated as slaves by the 15% upper caste rulers. They call their party as "India's only Hindu nationalist party". But its words and actions prove that these Hindu nazis are indeed anti-national. We don't know why Western writers go on describing the nazis as "Hindu nationalists".

# DV findings on Hindu nazis & zionists get international acceptance

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

**Bangalore:** *Dalit Voice* was perhaps the first to reveal to the world that Adolf Hitler and his German Nazis were inspired by the hate philosophy of India's Aryan brahminical Hindu nazis. *Dalit Voice* was also the first to reveal that India's Hindu nazis after causing the killings of millions of Jews and the world's worst holocaust quickly joined hands with the very Jews and instigated them against Muslims.

The *Impact International* (May 2001), London, writing under the heading, "Cloning of RSS jingoism", has the following story to confirm our findings:

### Warning to Muslims

Paradoxically, the RSS had started off as an admirer of Hitler and of what he had done to the Jews and sought to rationalise its ideology of "Hindu nationhood" by citing approvingly the example of Hitler, even if it had shocked the rest of the world. Writing to define their idea of "Hindu nationhood", the RSS guru, Guru Golwalkar, said in his *Our Nationhood Defined* (Nagpur, 1939) that:

'Germany shocked the world by purging the country of the semitic Races - the Jews' but it is a good lesson for us in Hindusthan (India) to learn and profit by.'

Accordingly, his edict for the foreign races in Hindustan, i.e. Muslim, Christians and other non-Aryan nationalities, was that they must either adopt the Hindu language and

culture, must learn to respect and hold in reverence Hindu religion, must entertain no idea but those of the glorification of the Hindu race. But if they don't, they may stay in the country, wholly subordinated to the Hindu Nation, claiming nothing, deserving no privileges, far less any preferential treatment not even citizen's right.

Vajpayee's true "soul" (BJP philosophy: The Sangh is My soul", *Organiser*, May 7, 1995) which he was to bare 56 years later was rooted in the teachings of Golwalkar.

What is interesting though is the expert job that transformed an admittedly anti-semitic party into the closest ally of Israel in India. The RSS and BJP are today the Indian equivalent of Gush Emunim and Likud.

**New triumvirate:** Hindu nazi rulers have become the closest friends of the zionists. A new triumvirate is emerging on the world scene. A dangerous combination of White Western US racist rulers, zionists and India's Hindu nazis is out to establish a New World Order as outlined by the American Jewish writer, Samuel P. Huntington: *The Clash of Civilisations & the Remaking of the World Order* (1996, Penguin).

Every prediction made by DV is coming true.

**DV Edit April 16, 2000: "American seal on Aryan move for second partition of India".**

p.5: "DV warning on global gang-up"

### "Nationalists" not interested in defending 'nation'

**Dehradun:** With the advent of multinational companies and flourishing corporate set-up in the country, the Indian youth now prefer joining white collar jobs and earn easy money.

These apprehensions are of none other than the Commandant of the prestigious 79-year-old Indian Military Academy, Lt. Gen. Yuvraj Mehta, who feels that the "olive green" uniform of the Indian Army was not

able to attract the cream of today's youths as it earlier used to. Every Army in the world had a shortfall of 3 to 5%. "But in the Indian Army, of the total vacancy for 43,000 officers, we have a shortfall of 13,000 officers which is great by any standards", he says.

(*Hindu* June 11, 2001).

**DV Aug 16, 2000 p.19: "To stop all wars force Aryan youth to join Army".**

**Vasant T. Sande**, Box 251388, Glendale, CA 91225, USA: We celebrated here Dr. Ambedkar's birth anniversary at the Sequoia Club, Buena Park suburb of Los Angeles. Suresh Kamble, a young millionaire, and myself shared all expenses. We both come from the same area in India. Each and every Dalit should be proud of Suresh, a hardworking, simple-looking, yet an extraordinary from Dr. Ambedkar's own caste, who has achieved a lot in his young life. How strange, other elderly Ambedkarites in US from Maharashtra, to whom I've great deal of respect no matter what, even didn't return our phone calls. Media and public didn't bother to attend the event. A TV show, "Namaste America", and anchor woman didn't bother to air our news despite airtime fee confirmation. We must be aware of the Indians abroad. Last January 2001, these upper caste Indians abroad celebrated Republic Day without the picture of Dr. Ambedkar. At the same time in UCLA these folks were telling America that the Constitution of India was drafted by Gandhi-Nehru and Patel and not Dr. Ambedkar. Please remember that America is not relief for caste system. They will never change their life-style of these No.1 blabbermouth braggarts. Anyway, because of not much audience, we were emotional but happy to celebrate Dr. Ambedkar Day. Gurbachan, an elderly Ambedkarite from Punjab complemented our work.

**Dr. Laxmi Berwa**, 1215 - Kensington Road, Mc Lean, VA 22101 - 2921, USA: I will be going to Durban as an IHRAAM (International Human Rights Association of American Minorities) delegate to the World Conference on Racism and Casteism ( Aug 26 - Sept 6) called to consider caste as a form of racism (Apartheid). I will appeal to Martin Macwan, Paul Divakar, Henry Tiphagne to guide me how we can have a UN resolution on India's casteism which is the founding father of racism. We must network all over the world and give a befitting response to the Indian Govt. reticence to allow Dalit issue to be discussed at the world body like UN. We must press on, as they say in military, to defeat our enemy.

**Raju Thomas**, 30 - Somasundaram 1st Street, Madras - 600 023. Just arrived from the Oxford, glad to share with you that the registration is over and I will have to work hard for one full year and then again go to the Oxford. I will have to travel a lot, visit Babasaheb's house, Nagpur, Bombay (Dadar). In my second trip I will have to visit Bonn University in Germany where Babasaheb did his research. Then in the third trip I will have to go to Columbia University where Babashheb did his first Ph.D. in 1913 and then go to the University of London. It is

extremely a difficult job, research is not so easy. The Oxford people did not want me to mix up with many issues, asked me to concentrate on only one issue and that is: *Babasaheb and the Jews*. The title is again revised like this: "Dr. Ambedkar and Religion: Why did he choose the Jews as a model for religion?" This also may change after some time. This is the way the British mind works. I came to know about a book, *Theories of Nationalism* by Antony D. Smith who is a legend and another book on Aryans by Thomas Trauceman published in the US but not available in UK. I met Christophe Jefferlot who wrote the book, *Hindu Nationalism*, here in Queen Elizabeth House. He spoke on the "Silent Revolution: The Rise of the OBCs and the Dalits in India". After a few weeks experience at the Oxford, I am now convinced that you must immediately stop wasting your precious time on *Dalit Voice* and start writing books. Let the DV be run by somebody and you can just be behind it as its Editor but henceforth please devote your time for writing books and that only will remain as the most precious wealth for the Dalits in the coming days. We must produce a lot of literature, think of identifying the Best Brains all over India, bring them together, spend one or two months, think of establishing a foundation for the future generation. This is my humble request. I visited the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, George Street, Oxford. A very wonderful institution indeed, yes, it can face the challenges but as it was a bank holiday I could not meet any Indian there.

**Anand Parmar**, Gen. Secretary, Municipal Kamdar Karnachari Union (CITU), P.Kastia's Chawl, Rajpur, Gomitpur, Ahmedabad - 380 021: This refers to a Letter in DV May 16, 2001, p.17 carrying my name and address. I have not written any such mischievous and misguiding Letter to you. I have nothing to do with the subject discussed therein. How did you publish a Letter which was not written by me? Why did you publish the bogus Letter in my name? This is highly illegal. I did not know the name of your magazine before I got a copy. Please supply me a photocopy of the original letter along with the envelope, so that I can take necessary action. I am a responsible leader of the Communist Party (Marxist) here and a noted person as a political activist and trade unionist. How harmful it is to me if without my knowledge a Letter is published by my name. Dr. Rameshchandra Parmar, against who allegations were made in the letter, is my friend from my childhood. We are mature persons understanding each other. He is my closest friend. I do not agree with the contents written against him. Nor do I know Bapurao Pakhriddey and Mrs. Mira Kumar, both from Delhi. The letter is written

with the intention to harm the clean and honest image of Dr. Rameshchandra Parmar, founder leader of the Dalit Panthers.

**Dr. Rameshchandra Parmar**, 8 - Manharnagar, Rajpur, Zulta Mandira Road, Ahmedabad - 380 021: Anand Parmar's Letter, which he never wrote making allegations against me, has done the greatest harm to my reputation. Because thousands of photocopies of the Letter are circulated by some local Dalit leaders who are constantly working against the Dalit Panthers headed by me. So much so, no man has ever disturbed me as you have done.

**Gama Ram**, A-2/4, Paper Mill Colony, Lucknow - 226 006: Why all efforts to unite Dalits and Backward Castes have failed? Periyar E. V. Ramaswamy throughout his life tried unity among the various castes among BCs, particularly the Thevars, Vanniyars and Dalits in Tamil Nadu but failed. He also waged a crusade against Hindu gods and their religion but failed to convince the BCs. The BCs, Dalits and minorities started agitation against Brahmin domination in TN around 1920. The Brahmins constituted just 3% of the TN but dominated all spheres of life. Their agitation under his leadership could oust the Brahmins from power and since 1967 the BCs were dominating the TN politics. But the unfortunate aspect was that the BC Thevars and Vanniyars continued atrocities against Dalits. Dr. Tulsi Ram, Professor, JNU, New Delhi, in his article dated 6.11.1999 and Chandra Bhan, a Dalit writer in an article dated 19.5.2001 of *Rashtriya Sahara*, a Hindu daily of Lucknow, have analysed this situation. Chandra Bhan said 64 out of 100 Dalits were landless labour and only 15 had their own holdings in TN. The "secular front" of AIDMK, led by the *Bangalore Papathi* had two powerful communities — Thevars and Vanniyars—who constituted 36% of the total population in TN. Dr. Krishnaswami, a Dalit political leader, said that the Thevar-dominated Hindu communal forces led by AIDMK was worse than the RSS. Ex-Chief Minister *Cur Throat's* DMK joined hands with the two Dalit parties of TN but the parties of the traditional enemies of Dalits joined with AIDMK. The Thevars and Vanniyars had earlier got support of Dalit parties by projecting the Brahmin as the common enemy. But this time they managed to get support of the Muslims by warning them about the Brahmin-dominated communal policies of NDA. Dr. Tulsi Ram said BC leaders had been busy building their political base since 1960. Their main objective was to break the Dalit base of the Congress Party. The RSS waged a country-wide anti-Mandal agitation in 1990 but recently the NDA Govt. gave reservation to the Jat community who are a well to do people. In the Jat-dominated areas of Western

UP, Haryana etc. Dalits were not being allowed to vote freely. The time has come to forge unity among various castes of Dalits, BCs and Muslims.

*Brother Gama Ram quoting two articles in the brahminical media cites the caste contradictions between the BCs and Dalits. This is true of TN and UP and every part of India. Caste contradiction is a fact of life because India itself is a collection of castes. Mulayam Singh-Kanshi Ram unity cannot take place in UP because of this contradiction. It is not in the interest of the upper caste rulers to allow such a unity because the moment the two unite, their rulership will go. So they go on creating all sorts of differences (some imaginary) and the brahminical media will go on highlighting these differences so that the two brothers keep on fighting and the upper caste rule remains undisturbed. The **valdiks** rule India only by sharpening such caste contradictions. If we the oppressed people (SC/ST/BCs and Muslims) want to dethrone the **valdiks** we too have to deeply study the same law of (caste) contradictions and use the contradictions to defect the rulers. Kanshi Ram has studied caste contradictions but his problem is he has no media to use these contradictions against the ruling castes of UP. The articles of the above two cited Dalit writers are published by the brahminical media because they simply bring out the contradictions between the BCs and SCs. If the same writers were to write on the need for Dalit-BC-Muslim unity to fight the common enemy oppressor, the **valdiks**, their articles would never be published. When the brahminical media encourages our writers, they have an ulterior motive: that is to see these writers keep the Dalit-BC pot boiling — EDITOR*

**Gurnamsingh Muktsar**, 10 - Guru Angad Nagar, Muktsar, Punjab - 152 026: This refers to the criticism of my article, "*Tragedy of Backward Castes*", by B.P. Chandel in the DV June 1, 2001 p.13. Brother Chandel did not correctly understand my article. I received a letter from another BC reader of DV from Bihar fully supporting my views on BCs. Our Editor too agrees with me. My point is that our BC brothers are victims of upper caste-created prejudice against Dalits. The Brahmins declared some Dalit castes as touchables for their own selfish reasons. They were allowed to enter upper caste houses. They wanted Laagi and Vagari slaves to work for them. The rule of untouchability serves as a barricade dividing some into high and the low. They break this barricade whenever they need slaves to work for them. The oppressors divide India's largest family of Dalits into Untouchables and touchables. That is how some are called Scheduled Castes (Dalits) and some others

Backward Castes. The division is artificial and man-made though both the SCs and BCs are Untouchables and original inhabitants of India. Untouchability is a mental disease which divided the blood brothers of Indus Valley. I am fully aware that BCs are socially, educationally, economically and physically backward even to this day. On the other hand, the SC/ST Untouchables have been the second line rulers after Brahmins. They are about 30 lakhs in govt. services. They are also about 20 to 25% in State Assemblies as well as in Parliament. But even the Most Backward Castes, all over India, hate the SC/STs much more than the upper castes do. The upper castes instigate the BCs to attack the SCs. The BCs rarely join hands with the SC/STs. They even fought the Dalits who were agitating for the Mandal rights. However, it is true that some BCs are poorer than SCs. But even these poorer BCs display the same hatred against the SC/ST brothers. This is a fact all over India and the cause of Bahujan tragedy and upper caste hegemony. The Bahujans are divided into touchable and Untouchable. Then they are divided into 6,000 subcastes.

**Milind K. Rathod**, D/22, Sukhniwas Colony, Amreli - 365 601: I am a Dalit and DV reader since three years. I have read a number of your books published by the Dalit Sahitya Akademy. I have also read many other books on Dalits and Ambedkarite philosophy. But among all the literature I am very much impressed by your books and convinced by the line of your arguments. I also want to write some articles on Dalits. I also want to translate your books, *Merit My Foot, India's Intellectual Desert, Why Godse Killed Gandhi?* and publish them in Gujarati. I need your permission.

**S.P. Singh**, Takiapar, Danapur, PO Digha, Patna - 800 012: A question that has often cropped up in my mind is has the contribution of Babasaheb been properly assessed? Was he a leader of the Dalits alone or was he a "national" leader better than Gandhi and Nehru? Has any of the so-called Ambedkarites, Budhists cared to go through his *Writings and Speeches*? If yes, I want to know their names and addresses so that I may correspond with them. For want of proper training in English literature, many of our class-I officers and doctors and engineers, cannot go into the depth of Babasaheb's level of thought. Language alone is not the barrier - the question is also of understanding the course of human history — social, religious, economic and political. There is no realm of human thought — Eastern or Western — which has escaped Babasaheb's notice. His examination of the vedic, brahminic, upanishadic and Budhist literature is complete. India to be a nation has to destroy brahminism first. I shall justify this statement by citing quotations

from Babasaheb's writings. I was totally ignorant of his writings until 1990 when I read his book, *Riddles in Hinduism*. That was the beginning. Now I have decided to write only from his *Writings and Speeches* for the next one year. It is immaterial if they are published in DV or not. I shall get them computer-typed and send them to any admirer of Babasaheb. In my humble opinion he alone was a "national" leader - the real *Bharat Ratna*. We are pygmies before his tall stature. He is perhaps greater than Budha himself because Babasaheb writes on p. 23 of his Vol.7:

"The social order prescribed by the *Purusha Sukta* has never been questioned by anyone except Buddha. Even Buddha was not able to shake it, for the simple reason that both after the fall of Buddhism and even during the period of Buddhism there were enough law-givers, who made it their business not only to defend the ideal of the *Purusha Sukta* but to propagate it and to elaborate it."

I can now see it that the Budhists and Ambedkarites shall throw away the *Purusha Sukta* into the dust bin when they apply their mind and do not indulge in criticism of non-Brahmin gods and goddesses. I have already declared the *Rig Veda Samhita* to be a "devil's voice". No Brahmin or non-Brahmin scholar has come forward to refute it. I have done it in my own way on the basis of writings of Vyasa and Vashishtha. Babasaheb says on p. 31-32 (Vol.7):

In propounding the doctrine of *Chaturvarnya*, the *Purush sukta* plays a double game. It proceeds first to raise the real, namely, the existence of the four classes in the Indo-Aryan Society, to the status of an ideal. This is a deception because the ideal is no way different from facts as they exist. After raising the real to the status of the ideal, it proceeds to make a show of giving effect to what it regards as an ideal. This again is a deception because the ideal already exists in fact. This attempt of the *Purusha Sukta* to idealize the real and to realize the ideal, is a kind of political jugglery, the like of which, I am sure, is not to be found in any other book of religion. What else is it if not a fraud and a deception?... To proceed to make such an ideal real is nothing short of criminal. It means perpetuating inequality on the ground that whatever is once settled is settled for all times. Such a view is opposed to all morality."

In Vol.1 p. 68, Babasaheb writes:

"The real remedy is to destroy the belief in the sanctity of the shastras".

I have fulfilled this wish of Babasaheb by writing my two booklets, *Rig Veda Satyanvani* and *Gayatri Mantra - Useless*. The anti-Muslim propaganda of the Brahmins

has settled permanently in the mind of the Dalits of India and the upper castes — Rajputs, Bhumihars and Kayasths. Baniyas are not free from it. It has even percolated down and I am sorry to say that the Namasudras whom the Brahmins called Chandals are anti-Muslim in their thought and deed. About "Hindu-Muslim problem" it is high time that we take note of Babasaheb's own views (Vol. 1 p. 50):

"The first and foremost thing that must be recognized is that Hindu society is a myth. The name Hindu is itself a foreign name. It was given by the Mohammedans to the natives for the purpose of distinguishing themselves. It does not occur in any Sanskrit work prior to the Mohammedan invasion. They did not feel the necessity of a common name because they had no conception of their having constituted a community. Hindu society as such does not exist. It is only a collection of castes. Each caste is conscious of its existence. Its survival is the be all and end all of its existence. Castes do not even form a federation. A caste has no feeling that it is affiliated to other castes except when there is a Hindu-Muslim riot".

P. 54:

"I have no hesitation in saying that if the Mohammedan has been cruel, the Hindu has been mean and meanness is worse than cruelty".

Myself becoming a Muslim has not been liked by my own men (Kurmi or Other BC) nor by the Buddhists, who took it as a loss to their own new faith, by the Muslims because I do not go to the mosque with them for a mass prayer. I have not been regularly initiated by a Mullah. The reason is very simple. I embraced Islam only after going through a few pages of the Holy Koran. After reading Al-Bernuni's book, *India*, I feel that he was the only competent Mullah who could initiate me. Babasaheb's greatness cannot be assessed in single article of this kind, nor in any single book. His writings are to be studied in minutest detail. His thoughts are to be made public, and when I look at his great stature I am filled with a sense of dismay. How could one person read so much, write so much. While making an assessment of Ramade he writes at pages 215-261 of Vol. 1:

"Indeed it would be difficult to find in the history of India any man who could come up to Ranade in the width of his learning, the breadth of his wisdom and the length of his vision. There was no subject which he did not touch and in which he did not acquire profundity. His reading was on the scale of the colossal and every inch he was a scholar."

These very epithets I want to apply to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in trying to assess his worth while he was alive and now when he is no more. We shall begin with in-depth study

of Vol. I, II, III, IV, V, VII and IX. I leave alone his *Buddha and His Dhamma* Vol. XI because there are many other books on the topic covering the entire history of Buddhism as a religion. Our difficulty is, we cannot get all the books that Babasaheb read and to which he has made a reference in his writings. The second difficulty is that there are no well read Indians, specially those who belong to the SC/ST category who have read the works of Plato, Nietzsche, Bertrand Russel etc. Through this Letter I draw the attention of all Buddhists, Ambedkarites, who are interested in presenting a correct picture of this greatman to the world at large. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was positively the only "national" leader who thought of the good of the country. Shall such a great man remain in the pages of history a mere champion of Dalits, Untouchables and Chamars?

**L.K. Suryawanshi**, D-240, LIG, Pratap Vihar, Ghaziabad, UP - 201 009: I had appeared in the All-India Awareness Test on Feb.18, 2001 on the "Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar - Life & Mission and Present Status of the Society" subject (Delhi region) after reading about in the DV of Feb.1, 2001. There were about 30 participants. JNU and Pusa Institute students were the main participants. I am glad to inform you that I secured the highest marks in the Delhi region though I did not get any prize but it encouraged my writing power. It is you who encouraged me to write and told me that only one among 100 subscribers of DV write to you.

**K. Somkuwar**, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Vichar Manthan Samiti, Nagpur, c/o S.K. Enterprises, Kamal Chowk, Nagpur - 440017: After successfully conducting the All-India Awareness Test in nine states of India, we have decided to conduct an essay competition on the following subject: "How to take ahead the Ambedkarite movement". Hindi or English, maximum 25 pages. The last date for submission of the essay is Nov.30, 2001. The best essay prize is Rs. 5,000.

**Suresh Jadhav**, Muktidham, CHS No. 2, R. No.1, Konkan Nagar, Jogeshwari (E), Bombay - 400 060: Many Dalit magazines are being published from Bombay: *Yugprabodhan*, *Amrapali*, *Prabudha Bharat*, *Prabudha Manav*, *Ambedkar Bharat*, *Dharmalipi* etc. I used to read all these magazines. All of them are now closed except *Ambedkar Bharat* which is published privately. But I am not sure if it is coming out. During the Mandal Commission agitation *Yugprabodhan*'s 5,000 copies were thrown out in a godown near the Dadar railway station. The railway stall owners also don't encourage Dalit journals. The only hope is that if every DV family member brings five new members your circulation will go up. I have done it. When I get time from my

autoricshaw *chakkar*. I am always in search of a new DV family member. Prakash Ambedkar, Raja Dhale have manpower. But they too could not continue their magazines.

**Francis and Mary Ann D**, 310 - Raheja Arcade, Koramangala, Bangalore -560 095: We remember you and it was a great pleasure to hear your lecture on caste system at the Ecumenical Christian Centre, Whitefield, on June 1. You spoke with such passion and understanding for the Dalits. The whole institute went very well and it was very interesting and informative.

**K. Karuppiah**, 63 - Thirunagar, Karumandapam, Trichy -620 001: This refers to your speech delivered at Cochin: "*Defects of Dalit Christian movement*", DV May 16, 2001 p.8. In India, Christianity is practiced only as a ritual. Nothing more. If the noble principles of Jesus Christ is followed sincerely where is the question of Dalit Christians, untouchability and casteism among the Christians? This brahminical tragedy started from the beginning of Christianity in India. Otherwise, Christianity would have revolutionised the Indian social setup and brahminism would have suffered a blow. The *Dalit Voice* Editor has repeatedly pointed out the crimes committed by the Christian leadership. Instead of rectifying this mistake, this leadership is demanding reservations for Dalit Christians. What a hypocrisy? Why the Christian missionaries are demanding reservations for Dalit Christians while refusing to treat them as equals within the church? Dalit Christians are allotted separate cemetery, separate services and even separate church. The church leaders should have established justice and equality within the church before asking for justice outside the church. The Roman Catholic missionaries have started *indianising* their church in the name of adopting Indian culture. What do they mean by the Indian culture? In the name of "Indian culture" they are introducing brahminical culture. In the educational field, they have committed a blunder from the very beginning. In the name of "merit" they have given preference to Brahmin and other upper castes and appointed Brahmin teachers. The result is almost all Hindu nazi leaders have become the products of Christian institutions. These Hindus who studied in Christian colleges are in the forefront of attacking churches and masjids raping the sisters, murdering the priests. In spite of all these atrocities, the Christian institutions go on keeping their doors open to mainly Hindu nazis. Even their own Dalit Christian students are kept out. The purpose of missionary work to serve the "poor" and the downtrodden is defeated. In his book, *Christians & Dalit Liberation*,

(DSA 2000), our Editor had given all the warning to the church leadership but their leadership is not bothered.

**J.S. Karkhal**, VPO Rajowala, Faridkot teh & dt. Punjab: Your efforts to alert the Bahujan of this country will surely make a success. A silent revolution is on. The basic hidden concepts being dug by various Dalit writers are reaching to educated Dalits. The very idea of caste solidarity or "*caste identity*," is enough to strengthen the Dalits, provided all are able to understand your thesis as explained again and again in DV. With your relent efforts many new Dalit organisations and papers are coming into existence to enlighten the depressed classes about systematic exploitation of BSO. I wish you all the success your crusaders.

**Dr. V.D. Chandashive**, Cottage Vaishali, Shahu Nagar, Nanded - 431 605: Thank you for publishing my article, "*Kanshi Ram's cultural fronts sabotaged by Maharashtra Dalits*", (DV June 16, 2001 p.18). I am a Ph.D. in English, the subject being "Dalit and American Black Poetry: A Comparative Study". I am also a law graduate and now working as a Reader and Head of the Dept. of English, Yeshwant College, but physically handicapped. I have been associated with Phule-Ambedkarite movement and particularly Kanshi Ram's Bahujan movement for the last 20 years. I can write in English, Marathi and Hindi and published a collection of Dalit poetry in English, *The Vulture* (1986). I translated a Marathi collection of Dalit poetry, *Nakebandi*, into English. The English version is rendered as *Blockade*, contributed articles to various journals and newspapers. After retiring in 2004, I propose publishing books on Ambedkarite movement and a critique on a Hindu nazi leader maligning Babasaheb. My book will be titled "Worshipping False Nations". I am in search of publishers. Please guide. Wishing grand success to you and the indomitable DV.

*Surprised to note how a Dalit intellectual like Dr. Chandanshive has remained unnoticed by us so long. This is because though you have been a member of our family, you have been silent. This is exactly our problem. Not even 10% of our family members write to us. The rest are sleeping beauties. Even among the 10% of the frequent writers only a handful have the intellectual attainments like you. The Dalit community has produced hundreds of reservationwals and politicians. They have contributed hardly anything to the Dalit movement which today is virtually dead. This is mainly because the Dalit movement has not produced honest intellectuals. And if there are some like you, they are silent spectators. Now that DV has discovered a brilliant intellectual, we want to make full use of your talents to the starving community — EDITOR*

# Question marks over Nepal massacre

OUR CORRESPONDENT

**Bangalore:** Who killed King Birendra of Nepal? And why? Why Nepali editors were arrested for publishing an underground marxist leader's charge that Birendra was murdered as part of a conspiracy hatched by the Indian Govt. killing wing, RAW, and its American elder brother CIA? Was Birendra pro-China and anti-India?

**Why Birendra was killed:** Who shot Dipendra, son of Birendra. In the back? Would a person who is fumingly mad to kill his mother and father, first change his dress and get into military uniform?

How can a person commit suicide with an automatic rifle of Kalashnikov type? If its muzzle is put against the head, the finger would not reach the trigger, if the finger is kept on the trigger, the muzzle would go above the head. The Crown Prince was surely shot in the head; it had to be done by someone else. Did that person also shoot the rest of the royal family of Nepal? So many questions.

**Internet report:** Was the person who killed the Royal Family of Nepal an Indian army commando? It would not have been difficult to find a soldier in India resembling the Crown Prince and the uniform served two purposes—one, to do away with the need to provide the exact copy of the outfit the Crown Prince would have been wearing at the time of the intended murders, two, to avoid attention being focussed on the detailed facial features of the murderer that could have revealed that he was indeed not the Crown Prince, said an Internet Report.

**Conspiracy theory:** The conspiracy theory is given credence by the fact that no autopsies (post-mortem examinations) were carried that could have revealed the nature of wounds and the cause of death in each case. The laws of Nepal surely require autopsy in murder cases. Who dispensed with the

autopsies? That person is holding high office. Nepal surely has fine pathologists and experts could have been called from anywhere in the world.

**Who is hiding Devayani:** Was the Indian girl Devayani the Crown Prince wanted to marry, not a part of the plan to provide a credible story of "parental refusal" as the reason for the "madness" of the "murdering prince"? Where is she now? Who is hiding her? Why no "investigative" journalist has caught her? Why the brahminical press is mum? Is it because she knows the truth that Indian rulers want to hide?

Why was no detailed photography and video filming of the dead bodies carried out? That would have helped solve the mystery, but the bodies were quickly cremated and prospects of subsequent examination to reveal the nature and place of the wounds to help the inquiry and to confirm or discredit press reports.

Did not Indian rulers annex the two Himalayan kingdoms—Sikkim and Bhutan—by treaty? In both countries, the situation was very similar to that of Nepal under the assassinated King Birendra. The rulers of Sikkim and Bhutan were friendly with countries India disapproved (ironically, Sikkim was occupied because of its King marrying an American) and there was internal unrest. India sent its troops to ward off "threat to its security" and the peoples of both countries have ever since been put into forced international isolation, a virtual quarantine. Nepal has been friendly with Pakistan and China. Is it a move to annex Nepal? So many star questions.

**Reference:**—

DV June 16, 2001 p.4: "Nepal no longer Hindu kingdom"

DV July 16, 2000 p. 10: "Hindus of Nepal don't trust Hindu nazis of India".

## Nagpur seminar on Aggression

NAGESH CHOUDHARY, EDITOR, *BAHUVAN SANGHARSH*, UDHOLI BLDG., RAHATE COLONY, JAIL ROAD, NAGPUR - 440023

A seminar on the latest book of V.T. Rajshekar, Editor, *Dalit Voice*, titled *Aggression on Indian Culture*. (DSA 2001) will be held here on July 15 (Sunday).

J.S. Patil (phone: 0712 261 974) of the Maharashtra Electricity Board Dalit Employees Union and myself (phone: 533 086) are jointly organising the seminar. DV readers may take this as our invitation. ■

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## Over 75,000 Kashmiris killed

**Islamabad:** The Pakistan Foreign Minister, Abdul Sattar has said a solution to the Kashmir problem has to be responsive to the aspirations of the Kashmiri people. They have sacrificed over 75,000 lives in the struggle for freedom.

(Hindu June 6, 2001).

*On the eve of Pakistani chief Musharraf's visit the Indian rulers are recklessly killing more Kashmiris — EDITOR.*

# Dalits & BCs defeat nairisation of Kerala via brahminical marxism

PROF. T.B. VIJAYAKUMAR, THEKKEMPEPILLY HOUSE, PO PERINCHERY, THRISSUR - 680 306

The just concluded Assembly election is a great watershed in Kerala's political history. Unlike in the past, Dalit-Bahujan masses played a decisive role in defeating the Left Democratic Front (LDF) led by a notorious *shudra* (Nair) leader E.K. Nayanar.

The Communist Party Marxist (CPM) in Kerala can be called a Nair party.

Kerala politics has been a seesaw game between the LDF and UDF (United Democratic Front) led by the Congress. Usually the margin between the LDF and UDF is around 1.5%. This time it is as big as 5%.

**Role of Madani:** The PDP, the party of poor Muslims, headed by Abdul Nasser Madani and inaugurated by the Editor of DV some years ago at Calicut, also played an important role in defeating the brahminical LDF which was actually punished for falsely implicating Madani Sahab, the popular Muslim leader, in the Coimbatore bomb explosion, actually a conspiracy of the Hindu nazis.

In 1996, a sizable section of Muslims supported the LDF but in this election the Muslim masses voted en bloc against the LDF. The UDF received the mandate only because of this negative vote.

**Hinduisation of Ezhavas:** Both UDF and LDF are *savarna* outfits, opposed to Dalit-Bahujan masses. As far as Dalit-Bahujan masses are concerned the situation is really pathetic. The total political enslavement of BCs is a major problem facing the Dalit-Bahujan consolidation. The problem is really not political. Rather it is religious and cultural.

The Ezhava community is the single largest BC group in Kerala. Under the influence of brahminical marxism, the Ezhavas got *hinduised* and became the stooges of the upper caste leaders like E.M.S. Namboodiripad, Nayanar, Achutha Menon, P.K.V. etc. EMS, described by DV as the "Modern Shankara", is the real villain behind this process.

Another positive feature of this election is the emergence of a powerful Ezhava leader, Vellappilly Natesan, General Secretary of SNDDP Yogam, the powerful social organisation of the Ezhavas. In the Travancore-Cochin area, Natesan's efforts led to the defeat of LDF. Though V.S. Achuthanandan (CPM) is

also a powerful Ezhava leader, he yielded to the reactionary Nair Service Society (NSS) led by P.K. Narayana Parrikar just to please the *savarnas*.

**Creamy layer theory:** The LDF implemented the hated "creamy layer policy" in public appointments. Nayanar, Sivadasa Menon, Chandra Sekharan Nair, P.J. Joseph (LDF ministers) scuttled the SC/ST/BC reservation in professional college admissions. So, the Dalit-Bahujan masses delivered a death blow to the LDF. In traditional Ezhava centers like Yarkala, Kottayam, Chertala etc., UDF registered spectacular success.

Though Antony, a Syrian Christian leader, is now the new Chief Minister of Kerala, it seems he is a bit changed man. In his 20-member cabinet there are 5 Muslims and 5 Ezhavas including the Speaker. The noted Ezhava leader, Mrs. K.R. Gowri Amma, is a cabinet minister now. And there is one Latin Catholic Minister and a Nadar (BC) as Deputy Speaker. Though the representation is not adequate for Dalit-Bahujan communities such a representation is unusual.

**Sins of EMS:** The Kerala society has to develop Dalit-Bahujan politics. The brahminical influence has destroyed Kerala agriculture, industry, science and technology and intellectualism. Brahminical marxism initiated by the "Modern Shankara" destroyed Kerala. After the Adi Shankara, "Modern Shankara" (EMS) was the most powerful preacher of brahminism in the name of marxism.

The retardation and stagnation of Kerala society is mainly due to the overbearing dominance of unthinking *shudras* (Nairs) and *hinduised* Syrian Christians. The Dalit-Bahujan population in Kerala comes to 80% but they are totally enslaved religiously, socially, culturally, politically and intellectually.

Though Vellappilly Natesan is a railway contractor, he is branded as an *abkari* contractor. Such is the character assassination capacity of Kerala's brahminical media.

SNDDP Yogam leaders and other Dalit-Bahujan organization leaders are planning to form a Dalit-Bahujan political party to liberate the people of Kerala from brahminical clutches. ■

# Manuwadi marxists go & brahminical Syrian Govt. enters

SAJI K. CHERAMAN, PO BOX 2210, COCHIN - 682 022

The five-year old *manuwadi* marxist (CPM) rule has come to an end and the equally oppressive Syrian Christian-led regime has just begun. A.K. Antohy is a Syrian who claim Brahmin descent.

**The defeat of the CPM front (LDF) was the result of a total consolidation of the Dalit/Backward Caste/Muslim votes against the *manuwadi* Nair marxists.**

This inconvenient fact may not have been admitted by the upper caste "national" media of Kerala. Dalits of Kerala for the first time turned against the marxists. Even this fact has not been properly discussed in Kerala. The BCs and Muslims in Kerala, unlike other states, are strongly placed here. They have due representation in the various economic and political activities of the state.

**Dalit consolidation:** The Christians here have more number of educational institutions than the state itself. The Muslims though educationally very backward own their own educational institutions. So also the BC Ezhavas.

These three major communities in Kerala are fully represented in the political field too. Whether it is UDF or LDF, they are represented though not in proportion to their population.

But Dalits are in a very pathetic state. They continue to be beggars. Despite all this humiliation, the Dalits of Kerala continue to be with the marxists. But this time they changed their course. Dalit retaliation against the marxist rule was total. This is proved from the defeat of Revenue Minister K.E. Ismail and that of Speaker M. Vijayakumar. The former had become notorious for his stand on the tribal land issue and the other ate dust due to his stand on the Dr. Ambedkar statue issue. The latter publicly declared that the statue of Dr. Ambedkar would not be erected before the Assembly complex, and asked the Dalits to take it to their Dalit colony which alone was the proper place for the statue.

**Only one Dalit Minister:** It is a welcome sign that the Dalits have started realising their strength in Kerala.

The Syrian Christian Antony Govt. has started its pro-Hindu rule. The appointment of Gopal K. Pillai, a Joint Secretary under the Union Home Ministry looking after the North-Eastern States, as Antony's private

secretary has given rise to the fear of Hindu nazi infiltration.

The total number of Ministers in Kerala is 20 but only one Dalit has found place. Appeal for a second minister was turned down by the Chief Minister.

The Dalit population in Kerala is above 14%. The total Dalit Christian population is almost 8%. But when four ministers were appointed from the upper caste Christian community not even a single Dalit Christian was chosen because there is no Dalit Christian in the new Assembly. The 8% Dalit Christians in Kerala have to think that unless they discard the "Syrian Theology" and accept Babasaneb as their liberator they will continue to be neglected.

## Hinduism a permanent aggression on India?

SAJI K. CHERAMAN, PO BOX 2210, COCHIN - 682 022

The June 3 seminar on our Editor's latest book, *Aggression on Indian Culture*, was inaugurated by a former minister and present MLA, Neelalohita Dasan Nadar. The other speakers were Adv. P.K. Rajan, president of the Kerala unit of the Bahujan Samaj Party, K. Ramankutty, the leader of the Sambhava Maha Sabha, N. Murali representing the T.K. Narayanan Foundation, Surendran Karipuzha, general secretary of the Kerala Dalit Panthers. Other Dalit Panther leaders like Unnikrishnan Thakazhy, Sabu Charuvila, P.S. Anirudhan, Joy. R. Thomas, Kanchiyar Peethambaran spoke at the function.

The afternoon seminar was attended by Prof. Ninan Koshy, Mukundan C. Menon, Rev. Moses Swami Das, Dr. P. Sivandan, J. Reghu, A.D. Mustafa participated in the seminar curt discussion. Almost all the speakers highlighted the ongoing cultural aggression by the Hindu nazi forces. The speakers opined that Hinduism itself was a permanent aggression on the Indian culture.

We have decided to conduct a similar seminar-cum-discussion on the same topic in the last week of July for which we need your date.

The Editor of *Dalit Voice* and the author of the book could not attend the Trivandrum function. ■

# 9 non-vaidik children "converted" Brahmins

SAJI K. CHERAMAN, PO BOX 2210, COCHIN - 682 022

A community *upanayanam* (thread ceremony) was held at Trivandrum on May 25 when nine non-Brahmin children were "converted" to Brahmin caste. The "thread ceremony" was organised by a Hindu nazi organisation, Kshetra Samrakshana Samiti, an RSS outfit, and held at the Padmanabha Temple, a noted brahminical racist centre run by the Travancore royal family. The temple encourages all Hindu nazi organizations.

Vedic scholars (read Brahmins) met on May 24. The Maharaja of Travancore, Uthradom Thirunal presided. They asserted that *brahmanayam* could be attained

through performance of duty and not through birth. The RSS local chief Krishnappaji also spoke.

"Holy water" was sprinkled to "purify" the nine "dirty", dark-looking children thus proving that the *vaidiks* consider them impure and unholy. It was earlier announced that 14 children would be converted but only six children could be found.

By this ceremony the *vaidiks* deceived the Backward Caste Ezhava SNDP which has been demanding that non-Brahmins be made temple priests.

There was no protest from the "intellectuals" of Kerala against this *vaidik* stunt. The silence of

Vellappally Natesan, the SNDP leader, could be noted. The lone protest came from Adv. Saji K. Cheraman, chairman of Kerala Dalit Panthers (KDP) and the editor of Malayalam *Dalit Voice*.

The real intention of the *vaidiks* was to spread an impression that one had to become Brahmin and then only he would get social recognition and acceptability and, thereby, to impose the brahminical supremacy on the society. All the ills of the existing Indian society stems from the Hinduva-brahminical culture. Dalits must maintain utmost vigilance over such attempts to destroy our Dalit identity.

## Conversion stunt deceives Bahujans

*A Brahmin is one who is a born Brahmin. There is neither demotion nor promotion under the caste order. The Hindu nazis periodically stage such conversion stunts to deceive the Bahujans who easily fall prey to such stunts. The brahminical media plays a prominent role in promoting such gimmicks. If the vaidiks insist that jati is decided on the basis of guna-karma (merit) and not birth*

*(jati), why the same vaidiks have not made even one Untouchable as Shankaracharya in the whole of India? Whom are they fooling? Our Hindu nazi leaders thrive only on falsehood and the media spreads this falsehood. We have no media to fight such a forest of falsehood except DV. And that is how the vaidiks succeed and we go on falling — EDITOR.*

## Racists drowned: Hindu rulers facing defeat at Durban?

OUR CORRESPONDENT

**Bangalore:** A Hindu nazi govt. stage-managed show at Hyderabad on June 4, to counter the rising tide of public opinion that casteism is the founding father of racism, became a total flop in the face of Dalit fury.

**Hyderabad:** The Govt. of India's stand on caste came in for criticism by a large number of Dalit and voluntary organisations in the context of the UN-sponsored Durban world conference against racial discrimination. They expressed their views at the public hearing held here on June 4 by the National Preparatory Committee of the conference headed by Justice Jagannatha Mishra. In their petitions, the SC/ST/BC organisations insisted that caste and race were "one and the same" in India, citing bonded labour and practice of untouchability as the manifestations of caste discrimination. The venue, Jubilee Hall, had banners and placards filled with

anti-govt. slogans. The Union Minister of State for External Affairs, U.V. Krishnam Raju, had the inaugural function advanced by two hours and left the place soon after making a speech which, according to leaders of these organisations, was to avoid any possible gherao. John Dayal, Sec.-General of All-India Christian Council, argued that "caste is worse than racism", Prof. K. Ilaiah of Osmania University and Paturu Ramalah of CPI(M) who heads the Committee for Struggle Against Caste Discrimination, spoke. (*Hindu*, June 5, 2001).

It is learnt at this Hyderabad meeting that the Hindu rulers have drafted the services of Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, who is running a Dalit NGO in Bangalore and Japhet, a Dalit Christian leader, to defend the Govt. of India's stand that casteism is not racism. Devanoor Mahadeva has dropped out fearing Dalit fury. ■

# Guru Granth no where advocates vegetarianism or meat-eating

GURNAM SINGH MUKTSAR, 10 - GURU ANGAD NAGAR, MUKTSAR, PUNJAB - 152 026

I deliberately did not join the meat-eating controversy in Sikh society and religion. The latest to join this controversy is Dr. I Singh of Madras (DV March 16, 2001). If Dr. I. Singh is a medical doctor his view on meat-eating cannot be supported. Thousands of animals are vegetarians. But equally big number of birds and animals eat meat. Goat, sheep, deer, elephant are vegetarian but all these animals are eaten by lions, dogs and eagles etc.

**Beef-eaters are strong:** The entire Western world eats beef. So also the Islamic world. Can any Indian say that beef-eaters are weak? The best of scientific and technological research has come from the beef-eating part of the world.

However, I appreciate that meat or beef is not a must for good living. Both vegetarian and meat are for us to live. Brahminical religious scriptures tell us that Brahmins are meat-eaters.

**Guru Nanak on meat-eating:** On this subject what does Guru Nanak say:

*Jiney daney ann ke jian baj na koe.*

It means that any vegetarian food is not without a life in it. You eat grain, or dhal or a leaf. It has life.

The Guru said it because he wanted to kill the superstition that vegetarianism is good. He said:

"Fools keep on fighting on meat-eating whereas every foodgrain keeps meat in it. The fools do not know the universal truth and its knowledge".

Both vegetarian food and meat are products of one single nature but in different forms. The Guru asks how any one can prove sin in meat-eating. He says that:

"At first there was only water on earth. It is also a living being which created total vegetarian and non-vegetarian wealth. We humans are also products of flesh. Whatever is eaten by the mother is eaten by the baby in the womb. A man marries a woman. Both are made of flesh. Both give birth to another flesh.

This flesh continues to another flesh. But the fools are fighting on meat-eating. Where is the sin? Nowhere we can prove that vegetable is flesh and flesh is vegetable. An egg and meat keeps all qualities of foodgrain and milk etc."

If we overeat vegetables and foodgrains but do not do physical work it will surely harm our body. It will definitely disturb our mental abilities. Excess eating of vegetarian

food will create illness. The same is case with excess meat-eating.

**This is how our Guru Nanak explains the whole thing about meat-eating and vegetarianism. He supported none but explained the bodily needs for healthy living. He never said meat-eating or beef-eating was a sin. Anything which suits to our mind and body can be consumed.**

**Vaidik vultures:** The Guru tells the Brahmin that he does not know the origin of meat. Earth and water are the common sources of both vegetarian and meat. Where then is the sin in eating meat?

Guru Nanak like Kabir and Ravidas had criticised consumption of alcohol and intoxicants like opium.

There is a sect of Brahman sadhus who live naked, eat flesh, take wine and opium and commit all sorts of sins. All Sikh gurus had criticised such *vaidik* vultures.

No where in the *Guru Granth*, any particular variety of food is favoured or denounced. A man is advised to eat any food to meet bodily needs and mental peace.

**Cruelty of vegetarians:** We know the people who regularly take alcohol and eat meat. But they never create any trouble to others or to themselves. We also know crores of people who never take alcohol and meat and yet are extremely cruel, cunning and sinful. They are a danger to the entire society like the parasites.

White Western beef-eaters have allowed 25 lakh Sikhs to live in Europe and America and lead a much better life than the average Indians in India.

**Sikh religion is interested only in making a good person — good to self and good to others. Vegetarianism and meating do not make any man good or bad.**

The so-called vegetarians of India have produced *ghor-narak* on this earth. They have kicked, killed, burnt, raped, insulted, beaten, looted, exploited, oppressed and degraded the Indian masses. But the beef-eating British people transformed the lives of the oppressed Indians.

All vegetarian sadhus of India are humbugs. But our wise Sikhs are fighting on vegetarianism and meat-eating.

DV Jan. 16, 2000 p. 21: "Sikhs & meat".

DV March 1, 1999 p.7: "Cow stands between Hindus & Sikhs".

# Why Dalits still stick to Sikhism when they are sent out of gurdwaras ?

HARMESH LAI, VPO MEHSAM PUR, TEH PHILLAUR, JALANDHAR DT., PUNJAB

I have been a reader of DV for quite some time. When I first received the magazine I could not understand how it reached me. After scratching my brain, I came to know that my name might have been recommended to you by Sardar Gurnam Singh Muktsar, editor, *Begampure Da Bassi*. For sometime I was reading his Punjabi-magazine but at a point of time some glaring differences arose concerning theories of religion and god. Both god and religion have been created by the ruling elites for their selfish purposes and the reality is quite the contrary.

The reality is that the god never came to the help of the needy and the oppressed even once from the times immemorial and he is not supposed to come. All the great minds in the world like Karl Marx, Russel, Budha, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar etc. have denied the existence of

god and supported the morality theory. This is the result which I have retrieved from the writings and speeches of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. (I have read 3-4 volumes in original though not his *Buddha & His Dhamma*). But the Editor did not like my utterances against god and religion. He said I was unable to understand the theory of god under Sikhism. When he could not give satisfactory reply to my questions, he gave me your magazine, *Dalit Voice*, for further reading. I could not understand why a man of his status (he has written many books) is addicted to god in spite of the fact that even Sikhism has failed us.

When Dalit Sikhs are made to leave the *langar* from certain *gurdwaras* and not allowed entry in *gurdwaras* and temples, why they go on clinging to Sikhism and pronounce it as the greatest religion of the 21st century?

## Brahmin monopoly over corporate sector

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

**Bangalore:** India's upper caste rulers have been pushing privatisation and globalisation down our throats not in the interest of the country but their own *jati* interests. (V.T. Rajshekar: "Privatisation, globalisation are Aryan weapons to further enslave Dalits", DV June 16, 2001 p.10).

Sister Gail Omvedt, a distinguished American social scientist, has exposed the real face of this Aryan conspiracy.

Those industrialists who have talked about a "level playing field" for Indians in the sphere of international business competition, who have wanted support to compete with multinationals, have rarely publicly discussed the issue of how company ownership and company employment works in India. While the sociological data on caste and economic achievement is rather minimal, what studies we have show a heavy domination of upper castes. Strikingly, Brahmins seem to be outdoing even the traditional "bania" groups in industry today. Not only are people such as Gurudas Deshpande and his brother-in-law Narayan Murthy among the richest of Indians but

a study by Santosh Goyal of the caste composition of top corporate officers in 1979-80 showed that out of 2,082 whose caste could be identified (of a total of 3,129), 858 or 41.2% were Brahmins, Khatis and Vaishyas were a poor second and third with 18.5% and 17.9%. Only 4.2% were *shudra* of any type. It is doubtful if this situation has changed significantly. (Hindu, June 1, 2001).

**Darling "Bangalore Papatti":** Narayan Murthy, a Bangalore Brahmin heading a big IT enterprise, has been advocating the right to hire and fire employees. And India's upper caste-led trade unions did not protest.

When it comes to *jati*, anything is permissible. The twice convicted **Bangalore Papatti** can become Chief Minister of TN and the **Mount Road Maha Vishnu**, an Iyengar daily, is spearheading the campaign to cover its *jatwali's* mountains of corruption.

All upper castes want *jati* identity and *jati* consolidation but Dalits want *jati vinasha*. How funny.

# Telugu Brahmins in US lament loss of vaidik culture

BALRAM SAMPLA, 63 - GORDON ROAD, STROOD, ROCHESTER, KENT, ME2 3HG, UK

**Chicago:** A small group of Indian Americans flew in from all over the country to Elmhurst, a small town near here, to discuss issues that concern them. It was a motley group, comprising physicians, engineers, scientists and students, the youngest being in their teens, while the oldest was in his nineties.

The event was organized by the American Association of Telugu Brahmins, which took birth in Pittsburgh in 1999 and claims about 150 members. Although there are over 20,000 Telugu Brahmins in the US, many apparently shied from the association because they do not want to be seen as 'casteist'.

**Marriage plans:** Others, more cosmopolitan, have moved away, either by choice or through an inter-cultural or interracial marriage, from the orthodox Brahmin culture and all that it entails.

**But the organizers took pains to explain that they were not 'casteist'.** "Traditionally, Brahmins have been known as the well-wishers of society. We only want to preserve our culture. The Vedas are getting lost. Our duty is to revive them," said C M Prasad, association president.

"Brahmin," said Dr. Sriram Sonty, who has done considerable work for the preservation of Telugu arts and culture in the US, "was a profession and became a caste much later," adding, "one can become a Brahmin by birth as well as by belief."

**Vegetarianism:** While some lamented the gradual dilution of Brahmin culture, others spoke of the discrimination Brahmins faced in several states in India, notably Tamil Nadu. The association, many felt, would lead to a "support system" which would encourage the second-generation Telugu Brahmin in the US.

"The Brahmin system encourages stability and respect for the institution of marriage," said Sonty. A network of Telugu Brahmins would also achieve another objective --a meeting of eligible men and women, which would hopefully end in marriage. Several second-generation Telugu Brahmins said they had married another Brahmin on grounds of compatibility. "Except for the language everything else is common," said Keerthana Saradananda. "Our beliefs and food habits are similar."

Saradananda met her husband Anikit Sidhaye, a

Maharashtrian Brahmin, while they were both doing medical residency at Northwestern University. Another girl, Divya Vinjamuri joked that a marriage between Brahmins would be ideal because "our practices at home are so orthodox, it is very hard for other people to put up with us".

Elaborating on what appealed to her as a Brahmin, she said, "Vegetarianism and respect for elders are the primary values. Here [in the US] respect for parents is minimal."

On an intellectual level, she said she was attracted to the brahminical "concept of duty, which is absent from Western philosophy. We have been taught that if one does one's duty, all else follows." Arun Sankisa, a young software engineer at Lucent, said his American colleagues and friends were "very understanding" when he explained why he was vegetarian. "When we go out to eat, they even check out first if the restaurant has vegetarian dishes," he said. (*India Abroad*, June 4, 2001).

*Those Dalits advocating annihilation of caste may learn from the "highly educated" Brahmins living in US —EDITOR.*

## Bhindranwale hailed martyr

**Amritsar:** Even as a congregation of radical Sikh organisations performed religious services to confer "martyrdom" on the slain militant, Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale on June 6 the Akal Takht Jathedar, Giani Joginder Singh Vedanti; directed the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee to constitute a committee to probe his death.

While different organisations held functions to observe *Ghailughara Divas* (genocide day) to mark the 17th anniversary of Operation Blustar, the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) stayed away.

The SAD, headed by the Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal, had moved a resolution in the budget session of the Assembly this year condemning "Operation Bluestar". (*Hindu*, June 7, 2001).

Read: *Birth Pangs of Khalistan*, Dalit Sahitya Akademy, 1985. Dedicated to Sant Bhindranwale. (pp.42 only photocopies available. Rs. 40 including postage).

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