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DALIT VOICE

The Voice of the Persecuted Nationalities Denied Human Rights

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ULTIMATUM TO SONIA : SACK MANMOHAN OR BE DAMNED

DV silver jubilee in Delhi on April 8

Vajpayee kicks blue-eyed boy George

Gandhi bid to keep Dalits as slaves :

THUS SPAKE AMBEDKAR

Thus Spake Ambedkar

Gandhi used every means to keep Dalits as slaves

It is said that there have been altogether 21 fasts to the credit of Mr. Gandhi. Some were for the sake of Hindu-Muslim unity and quite a number as atonements for the immoralities committed by the inmates of his *Ashram*. One was against the other of the Government of Bombay refusing to give the work of a scavenger in the goal to a prisoner by name Mr. Patwardan although he demanded it. In these 21 fasts there is not one undertaken for the removal of Untouchability. These are very significant facts.

In 1930 came the Round Table Conference. Mr. Gandhi joined the deliberations of the Conference in 1931. The Conference was concerned with a vital question of framing a constitution for a self-governing of India. It was unanimously held that if India was to be a self-governing country then the government must be a government of the people, by the people and for the people. Everybody agreed that only when a government is in a real sense a government by the people that could be a government of the people and for the people. The problem was how to make it a government by the people in a country rent into communities, majorities and minorities, who are charged not merely with social cleavages but also with social antagonism. Having regard to these circumstances it was agreed that in India there was no possibility of government by the people unless Legislature and the Executive were framed on the basis of communal representation.

The problem of the Untouchables loomed large at the Conference. It assumed a new aspect. The question was: Should the Untouchables be left as they were to the tender mercies of the Hindus or should they be given the means to protect themselves by extending to them the principle of communal representation? The Untouchables strongly objected to be left to the pleasure of the Hindus and demanded the same protection as was given to the other minorities. The contention of the Untouchables was accepted by all. It was just and logical. They contended that the chasm between the Hindus and Muslims, between Hindus and Sikhs, between Hindus and Christians is nothing as compared with the chasm between the Hindus and the Untouchables. It is the widest and the deepest. The chasm between the Hindus and the Muslims is religious and not social. That between the Hindus and the Untouchables is both religious and social. The antagonism arising out of the chasm existing between Hindus and Muslims cannot spell political disaster to the Muslims because the relationship between the Hindus and Muslims is not that of master and slave. It is one of mere estrangement. On the other hand, the chasm between Hindus and the Untouchables must spell political disaster for the Untouchables because the relationship between the two is that of master and slave. The Untouchables contended that the attempts to close the gap between them and the Hindus by means of social process had been tried for ages. They had all failed. There was no hope of their success. Since power is being transferred into the hands of the Hindu majority they must have political safeguards of the same sort as, if not better, than those conceded to the Muslims and other minorities.

Here was an opportunity to Mr. Gandhi to show his sympathy to the Untouchables by lending his support to their demand and thereby strengthen their power of resistance against the tyranny and oppression of the Hindus. Instead of showing his sympathy, Mr. Gandhi used every means in his power to defeat them. He made a pact with the Muslims with a view to isolate the Untouchables. Failing to win the Musalmans to his side, he went on a fast unto death to compel the British Government to withdraw their decision to give to the Untouchables the same political rights as given to the Muslims and other minority communities. When the fast failed and Mr. Gandhi was obliged to sign a pact — called the Poona Pact — which conceded the political demands of the Untouchables he took his revenge by letting the Congress employ foul electioneering tactics to make their political rights of no avail".

(To be continued)

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings & Speeches, Vol.17, Part-1 (p.205-207) 2003, Rs. 125. Maharashtra Govt., Manager, Govt. Central Book Depot, Near Charni Road Railway Station, Netaji Subhash Road, Bombay - 400 004.

DALIT VOICE
The Voice of the Persecuted Nationalities Denied Human Rights

D.V. SILVER JUBILEE

April 8, 2007 (Sunday)

PROGRAMME

10 a.m. — Welcome: Ms. Rajni Tilak and V.B. Rawat.

10.10 a.m. — Editor V.T. Rajshekar speaks on 25 years of *Dalit Voice*, converting blood into sweat.

10.20 to 1 p.m. — Felicitations by DV family members world-wide.

1 to 2 p.m. — Lunch

2 to 4 p.m. — DV family members direct interaction with the Editor.

4 to 5 p.m. — Editor speaks on the future of *Dalit Voice* & the future of India.

5 p.m. —Thanks giving.

Venue
Gandhi Peace Foundation
Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg,
Near ITO, New Delhi.

This is the first occasion for *Dalit Voice* family members to meet each other and also the Editor.

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If Sonia fails to sack Manmohan & Chidambaram mass discontent will throw Congress out

Yes. We admit we are repeating. We are forced to repeat because there is none to hear our anguished cry.

DV's all-out campaign against the three culprits trying to sell the country to the upper castes and their Western benefactors has proved right with the defeat of the Congress Party in the latest Assembly elections in Punjab and Uttarakhand. It is the pro-rich (read upper caste) policies of Manmohan Singh, Chidambaram and Montek Singh Ahluwalia that infuriated the masses who revolted against the government in Delhi.

If the three are not removed even at this late hour, the country will go back into the hands of the *Brahmana Jati Party* (BJP). We had said all this. We will not go wrong. We have never gone wrong.

Chettiar's are money-lenders: Chettiars are a hated money-lending micro-minority caste in Tamil Nadu. Chidambaram is continuing his caste philosophy as the Finance Minister. He had never disappointed his caste-class cronies. His every budget as Finance Minister was hailed as a "dream budget" by the country's drones. Manipulators who became rich by drinking the blood of the country's toiling masses were all agog expecting a similar budget for 2007. They knew the Chettiar will never disappoint them.

But they were sad because by then the series Congress defeats — following the angry protests of the starving masses whose stomach the Chettiar had kicked blessed by the pro-upper caste PM — had shocked the party which forced the PM and the FM to change the budget which neither cheered the angry masses nor the overfed *jatwalas* of the PM and FM.

Economy collapsing: We have said it repeatedly that the PM, FM and the Planning Commission chief are enemies of the masses of India. They are votaries of the market economy which is in the hands of the country's corrupt capitalists, mostly Banias. To them agriculture, health, sanitation, education, well-being of women and children are no priority. They hate the villages from where the food they eat comes. They hate Muslims. They hate the reservations (human rights) of the SC/ST/BCs. They hate anybody with dark skin.

The PM and FM have their hearts with these urban-dwelling parasites who are eating the very vitals of our country.

The big business is very much upset with the FM's budget. Does it mean he had a last-minute change of heart? No. The

heart will change only if there is a heart. What heart a money-lender can have?

If we continue to have votaries of market economy — with focus on cricket (which has become India's new religion), booze, sex, scandals, luxury, idle gossip, religion and superstition and their one foot in the shrinking America — this country will go on collapsing.

Mayawati has edge in UP: Market boom, which itself is false, is the sole interest of the urban upper castes whose number may not exceed 300 million out of India's 1,100 million. That is a mere 25% of India's population. What about the rest of the 800 millions comprising our SC/ST/BCs and Muslim/Christian/Backward Sikhs — who are the real producers of wealth?

Can we tolerate a government which kicks the producers of wealth and pampers the parasites?

As the Congress Party is weak in the caste-based state of UP, where our "caste identity" thesis has worked wonders, it hardly has any support. So also BJP. The country's largest populated state is happily divided into castes with Mulayam commanding the Yadavas and Mayawati holding on to Chamars, the two largest caste groups. The rest of the castes will align themselves with the two big parties.

"Caste identity" thesis kills BJP: How can the BJP undertake "Hindu unity" in a state divided into castes? Let the Brahmins go on "uniting" Hindus to fight and kill the Muslims but we will go on frustrating their game by dividing the "Hindus" into different castes. Our "caste identity" thesis has killed the casteist BJP.

The Congress is expected to go with Mayawati. The indications are that Mayawati will have an upper hand.

But the mass discontent is growing all over. As the country's largest circulated journal of the SC/ST/BCs and Muslim/Christian/Sikhs and as their authentic Voice we know the pulse of the people. What they say is that they are fed up with the Manmohan Singh administration. Goodbye.

If Sonia Gandhi does not remove the PM and overhaul the union cabinet by getting rid of anti-people ministers and strengthen her cabinet with people's leaders like Lalu Prasad Yadav, the Congress has no chance of winning the coming parliament election. Sonia is warned.

This market economy and the 15% "India shining"*walas* are a liability to the country. All these anti-people forces must be cut to size. There is no other way to check the mass discontent.

Man-eaters must be shot: Already this micro-minority upper caste fat cats are behaving like tigers. Their appetite for the humble, hard working Indians is growing. If these blood thirsty tigers are not tamed and cut to size they will eat all of us. The time has come to put a stop to their depredation.

These over-fed tigers have stopped eating the animals. Because they have tasted the human flesh. Yes. We know these urban-dwelling 15% upper castes have become man-eaters. How can we go on tolerating these man-eaters hunting our heads? Before they eat more humans they must be shot down.

The upper castes are furious with the FM for his last-minute shift to "rural welfare" and disappointing them by not presenting his usual "dream budget". We have read several articles and letters in the "national" toilet papers asking him to forget the havenots.

PM-FM working for BJP: The corrupt businessmen are dictating things to the government and the PM and FM are promptly surrendering. But for the boxing of their ears by Sonia they would have reverted to the "dream budget".

We are asking Sonia point-blank: The voters are angry. Your PM and FM are catering to the interests of the urban elite who will always vote for the BJP — never the Congress. That means the worst enemies of the people are made PM and FM who are pampering the cheats. In the interest of the country and the Congress, Sonia must go in for a reshuffle even at this late stage. All these are repetitions and yet as the "Voice of the Persecuted Nationalities" we will go on doing our duty.

Sonia is warned. ■

DV Edit March 1, 2007: "If Sonia Gandhi doesn't throw out Manmohan Singh angry people will throw Congress Party out" & p.4: "Manmohan Singh & Co. Secretly working for victory of BJP?".

DV Feb.1, 2007 p.5: "PM-FM conspiracy to sabotage Sachar Committee report on Muslims?"

DV Dec.1, 2006 p.12: "PM kills private sector quota?"

DV Sept.16, 2006 p.6: "Manmohan mischief kills OBC reservation Bill?"

DV Edit July 16, 2006: India grounded & refusing to take off: Manmohan Singh & Co. misleading people:.

DV Edit June 1, 2006: "It is time for Manmohan Singh to go". ■

Eating the cheating Chettiar's dog-food

AYYANKALI

French queen Marie Antoinette was not so bad. After all, she innocently told starving peasants "If you don't have bread, eat cake". In any case, it has to be granted that cake is routinely eaten by human beings all over the world. But Sonia Gandhi's pet dog Jairam Ramesh asked leaders of Left parties to eat dog food if they did not like Palaniappan Chidambaram Chettiar's bullshit budget. *Business Standard* (March 2, 2007) reported this incident in "Chinese Whispers" on page 14. We must welcome this very practical suggestion because Left (kept) parties also wag their tails and support this dog-forsaken government which believes in eliminating poverty by killing the poor systematically.

So henceforth all of us should eat dog food which we rightfully deserve. Looks like people get the food and governments they deserve. Ordinary food like bread and milk are meant only for the pet dogs of foreign pedigree residing at Pali Hill, Napean Sea Road and Malabar Hill... But let us first feed some dog biscuits to the cheating Chettiyar from Kandanur ... live on TV... After all, the Chettiyar family must lead by example... Samir Jain's *Times Now* TV must cover this grand event live just like the *Times of India* (March 2, 2007) has carried exclusive photographs of the cheating Chettiar's ancestral house in Kandanur, Sivagangai, on p.19.

Since the cheating Chettiar is also a lawyer representing Coca Cola India, the company may even start a special brand of premium dog food called *Thiruvalluvar* and *Thirukkural*. And rightly so... Because the cheating Chettiar has used Thiruvalluvar as a marketing tool and mascot for his doggone budget. Samir Jain can, of course, be expected to purchase 2% stake in the new venture and promote both the brands as usual in all *Times* Group publications. Other guys who must eat dog food and lead by example are Jairam Ramesh, Montek Singh Ahluwalia and Manmohan Singh.

A dog food carnival should be organised in a five-star hotel... Rashtrapati Bhavan should also include dog food in the menu... Talk of eating humble pie. All government bureaucrats should also eat dog food...Once they have eaten enough dog food and sodomised each other doggie-style, they are likely to become common man's best friends...

After all dog is man's best friend... Once these fellows become common man's best friends, may be, they will learn to appreciate useless things like farmers committing suicide, malnutritioned children, falling water tables etc... It would also be a nice idea to make dog our national animal - 3 dogs and Ashok Chakra. After all, in India all of us quietly, loyally and faithfully obey our bosses' bullshit orders like dogs. Dogs bark once in a while, but we always wag our tails. We also backbite each other with dogged determination... So what if you have to pay too much EMI on housing loans? Who asked you to stay in flats? You can always stay in kennels.

Soon HDFC and ICICI Bank may start lending kennel loans. Others who don't get these loans can always be street dogs or stray dogs because Public Distribution System is in a very bad shape and is already being dismantled. But that need not worry you because several "saintly" women like Maneka are always busy setting up several NGOs for the welfare of street dogs and strays. So you will get to pose with nude celebs like Pamela Anderson at the local Lion's Club, for photographs which will be carried in the media... You can also complain to the Society to Prevent Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) and People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) whenever your bosses violate your animal rights, since human rights simply don't exist under our Banias, bullshitting bosses and politicians.

So simply eat whatever you are given by your masters like press barons, Banias, bullshitting bosses and politicians, just like you publish all releases handed over by corporate communications and public relations pimps without any complaints or indigestion whatsoever.

If you can digest bullshit press releases everyday, dog food should not be too difficult to digest at all. You will surely get used to it. In fact, over a period of time, you will not only enjoy it, but also prefer eating dog food. But if the Samir Jains of the world insist on feeding you dogs called PRESStitudes and WHORE-nalists with pure vegetarian food, do not run to SPCA or PETA to complain, because these are all run by rich vegetarian Gujarati, Marwadi and Jain Banias who are determined to make you eat vegetarian food, especially when they know you don't enjoy it. Bon appetite. Life's not such a bitch.

Chettiar's change of heart ?

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: Look, how the crocodile is shedding tears: Finance Minister Chidambaram told the corporate sector to think of the country. Funny.

> **New Delhi**: "Corporate India needs to take care of that half of India which has no access to water, water taps, community toilets, electricity, sanitation, education and health which currently remain neglected, instead of insisting on repeated tax concessions as effective corporate tax is not beyond 21%, he said addressing the Assocham here. (*Deccan Herald*, March 8, 2007).

Did the Chettiar have a change of heart? Why this sudden love for the starving masses of India?

No. The words did not come from his heart. He was speaking to please his boss, Sonia Gandhi, who whipped him.

Bajrang Dal owns Samjahuta train explosion

PERVEZ BARI

Bhopal: The Hindu terrorist Bajrang Dal has claimed the responsibility of the blasts in the two coaches of the Lahore-bound Samjhauta Express (the train between India and Pakistan) on Feb. 19 that killed about 67 persons.

This sensational revelation is made in the threat letter received at the Jamiat-e-Ulema-e-Hind headquarters in New Delhi as well as at its Bombay office. Bajrang Dal has claimed that the blast that ripped two coaches of the train was carried out by it. The letter is unsigned but typewritten in Marathi.

The letter threatened Jamiat's general secretary and Rashtriya Lok Dal MP from Dehradun, Maulana Mahmood Madani, of dire consequences if he continued to support the backward classes. The Jamiat's secretary-cum-spokesperson, Maulana Abdul Hameed Noamani, has confirmed the receipt of the letter. Madani said he received a threat call from +9144401 on his mobile on Feb.19 when he was returning to Delhi from Dehradun by train. On reaching Delhi, he filed a police complaint on Feb.20. The police failed to trace the caller. (March 15, 2007)

The Brahminical toilet papers have completely suppressed the above report. Any news inconvenient to the Brahminical order is blacked out in "free India's free press" — EDITOR.

A.B.Vajpayee kicks his blue-eyed boy George

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: The Mangalorean Roman Catholic, George Fernandes, is the country's most famous bogus "leader" created by the Brahminical order to deceive the innocent people of India. And he did the job very effectively and became the most loved darling prostitute of the Hindu terrorists.

The *Brahmana Jati Party* (BJP) used him to the fullest extent and finally threw him out. There are plenty of younger prostitutes in the Q.

DV is the only paper in India which has been mercilessly revealing his crimes from years and warning him. The crimes he has committed on the innocent people of India, including his own Christians, who have done so much service to the oppressed Indians, are all listed below.

He was *Vaidik* Vajpayee's errand boy to do all the ex-PM's dirty job. George did it obediently. And very effeciently. But finally Vajpayee only kicked him out.

Even as his health is failing, thrown out by every party including his own and kicked by the very BJP whose bum he continuously licked, poor George is today friendless. And sinking.

Brahminical order is expert in creating bogus leaders but none can excel "George, the giant killer".

D.V. REFERENCE TO GEORGE

DV May 1, 2006 p. 6: "George Fernandes meets his death".

DV Feb.1, 2006 p.7: "Fall of George Fernandes".

DV May 1, 2003 p. 11: "Nitish-George fight breaks Samata Party".

DV Jan.1, 2003 p.9: "George Fernandes goes to Mangalore after angry Kurmis boot him out of Bihar".

DV Dec.16, 2000 p. 10: China: George Fernandes eats his own words".

DV April 16, 1999 p. 11: "George's bogus socialism".

Hurdles & betrayals facing Dalit movement

V.T. RAJSHEKAR

I have chosen the subject of "Hurdles & betrayals facing Dr. Ambedkar mission" for my keynote address. "Independent" India has not produced a thinker, scholar, and philosopher of the stature of Dr. Ambedkar.

M.K. Gandhi, described by Brahminical people as the "Father of the Nation" was discarded by the Hindus themselves for whom he worked and died after making them rulers of India. History has finally thrown him into the waste paper basket.

Babasaheb Ambedkar has emerged as the country's tallest intellectual titan and history has given the highest place, calling him the "Father of India", meaning the father of all the castes and communities of the country. But Gandhi remains merely as the "Father of nation" — meaning just one among India's many nations. But this one ungrateful nation, the nation of Hinds, itself has rejected him.

Our considered opinion is that the Dalit community, comprising the country's single largest population of 20%, could not make use of Babasaheb's burning thoughts because of the serious failures on the part of the Dalit leadership.

For want of time we are citing only the three important "betrayals" committed by us:

(1) The greatest hurdle which our Hindu enemies put before Dalits is the Reservation in (1) education, (2) jobs and (3) elected posts. Not only the Hindu rulers of India led by Gandhi cheated us but they used this important constitutional measure to *hinduise* (enslave) the non-Hindu, if not anti-Hindu, Dalits.

Remember, Babasaheb had never asked for reservations. His demand for "separate electorate", was scuttled by the cunning Gujarati Bania (Gandhi) by going on his "epic fast" (in which he did not die). Reservations killed the very future of Dalits and made us the permanent slaves of Hindus.

As the orphaned children of Babasaheb we should have fought for "separate electorate" but we betrayed our Father and opted for reservations which produced a "creamy layer" that was co-opted by the Hindus and thus got totally alienated from the community itself. Reservations have benefited not even 5% of the community even after 60 years of "independence". Reservations helped the Hindu rulers to divide the community. More than that, the reservations made us permanent beggars before Hindus and we lost our revolutionary fervour.

Reservations also made us forget our own uneducated, poverty-stricken brothers (95%). Today, a wide gulf has developed between the two. The village-dwelling Dalit masses consider us as their enemy.

Keynote address delivered at the Centre for Ambedkar Studies, Women's University, Tirupati, AP, March 1-2, 2007

In the political field, those elected from reserved seats have committed the greatest crime on the community. So much so we have sent 120 donkeys to the Lok Sabha to carry the dirty laundry of Hindus — their mouths gagged by their Hindu bosses.

It is the failure of the educated and employed Dalits that has come as the greatest betrayal of Babasaheb. We are deeply worried over this problem.

(2) The second most serious betrayal came when we disobeyed the "final words" of Babasaheb.

We have described these "final words" as "Three Commandments" of Babasaheb, namely "Educate, Agitate, Organise". (V.T. Rajshekar, *When Dalits Disobeyed Final Words of their Father*, DSA-2005).

For about 20 years (until we corrected the order), our educated Dalits continued to subvert the order either consciously or unconsciously.

What are those "final words"? Educate, Agitate, Organise. That is the order.

This is not Babasaheb's invention. He took it from Budhist *Thri Saranas*: *Buddham*, *Dhammam*, *Sangham*. It means Educate, Agitate, Organise. But our educated Dalits twisted it out of shape and put "Organise" between the two and thereby stunted the growth of militant Dalit movement.

Dalit movement will become genuine and also revolutionary only if it is born out of "agitation" like the Andhra Dalit Mahasabha born out of the Karamchedu and Tsundur bloody violence by Khammas and Reddis. Otherwise it will be a fake Dalit movement. After our powerful campaign in *Dalit Voice*, we finally corrected the order. But by then enough damage was done. We have no time to elaborate the meaning and implication of each command. We have written a booklet itself on this — available outside.

Because of the twisting of the order, putting "Organise" before "Agitate", some Dalit leaders misguided the innocent Dalit masses, formed hundreds of rubber stamp-organisations — conveniently making a short-cut to name, fame

and quick money. Just see how many Republican Parties, Samata Sainik Dals, BAMCEFs are there. Every Dalit leader is having his own pocket organisation with hardly any followers.

Because of this, Dalit movement suffered terrible damage once for all. Even today, there are several hundreds of Dalit organisations sticking to the wrong order — even while calling themselves Budhists.

(3) The third "betrayal" of Babasaheb by us is in refusing to follow his call to quit Hinduism and embrace Budhism.

Not even 10% of India's Dalit population has taken to Budhism. This is partly because the illiterate Dalit masses are not even told anything about Budhism and its revolutionary content. Except in Maharashtra and parts of UP, we have hardly any Budhism.

In places where Dalits took to Budhism, they fell into the Brahminical trap of no beef-eating, vegetarianism, Marwadi Goenka's *Vipassana* (meditation) and idol worship. So much so Brahmins today do not consider Budhism, as practised by our people, as danger to them.

But remember, Adi Shankara's violent war against Budhism and killing thousands and thousands of Budhists and the burning of Budhist *viharas* then. The Tirupati temple was once a Budhist *vihara* which the Adi Shankara destroyed and made into a Hindu temple.

Here again our educated Dalit leadership betrayed Babasaheb.

(4) Fourth and the most important: we have committed the greatest crime against Babasaheb by converting Dalit movement into a male-dominated affair. We men should be put to shame when women academics led by Vice-Chancellor Veena Das and Sister Thummapudi Bharati put a mirror before our ugly faces.

Conclusion:

As the Editor of *Dalit Voice*, the country's largest circulated Dalit journal and an uncompromising follower of Babasaheb, we see before us total darkness all over India as far as the Ambedkarite movement is concerned. We see no signs of hope when Dalits are getting wholesale Hindu and slaves of Hindus.

Babasaheb said Untouchables are not Hindu and were never Hindu. But the constitution called us Hindu and the Brahmins have made us super Hindu by using us as the weapon to kill Muslims.

The educated and employed sections have totally betrayed Babasaheb, caught in the jaws of gandhism, marxism, naxalism, Hinduism and Goenka's Budhism.

We see all-round gloom.

But there is a silver lining: The Brahminical rulers have decided to totally scrap reservation which has already come to end. Perhaps once the fish is thrown out of the water, and the Dalits start facing mass unemployment, starvation and driven to the wall, only then they will get angry and revolt against the existing Dalit leadership. And also the Hindus.

Contradictions between Hindus and Dalits will sharpen only when the reservations are totally scrapped.

Khairlanji in Maharashtra has shown such a glimmer of hope. More such revolts will come soon. ■

COMMUNICATION

What a misfortune our 10 million Bahujan elites have failed DV

GURNAM SINGH MUKTSAR, 2 - BHAGAT SINGH NAGAR, B/H BUS STAND, MUKTSAR - 152 026

As a child I used to see a gramophone with the picture of a dog sitting and listening before the speaker. After some years I could understand the meaning of HMV written thereon. That meant His Master's Voice. Later ***Dalit Voice*** *once again told me in the 80s my master's voice that meant Babasaheb Ambedkar's voice to the Bahujans. Besides V.T. Rajshekar is a master by his own right. We read his Voice on total liberation of Dalits from the cruel* ***varna*** *system of Brahmins. Though I have learnt a lot from other scholars, DV's contribution and clear-cut ideology of VTR has enriched me and made me sharp. I have read many scholarly books but DV's guidance is unparalleled. It was not easy easy for me to write and speak in English freely. This problem was solved by DV. I could now express my opinions freely in English because of DV. I could not find a single English Dalit magzazine that is equal to DV. It is our misfortune that the 1-crore (10 million) educated and well-settled Dalit-Backwards could not support the country's only Bahujan journal which alone has the capacity to defeat the mighty Brahminical enemy. Despite all the odds, DV completed 25 years thus proving that devoted scholars like VTR can certainly bring the socio-cultural revolution. I am always at the services of DV and the great VTR.*

Holi used to burn Budhists

DR. K. JAMANADAS, "SHALIMAR", MAIN ROAD, CHANDRAPUR - 442 402

For last many years, we have been advocating that the Dalits and Bahujans as a whole should try and understand that many festivals presently being observed in India, are being designed to denigrate them. Holi is one such. For details, kindly see my article "Holi: festival of Bahujan Burning" on

www.ambedkar.org/jamanadas

It explains the idea behind Holi: that is burning of Bahujans.

It explains how Adi Shankara derived so much pleasure in seeing the Budhist *bhikkus* being burnt alive, as narrated by none other than Swami Vivekananda.

It was a pity that the Budhist youth themselves participate in the obscenities of Holi. However, at least in two important cities, Nashik and Nagpur (Maharashtra), they have been successful in giving to the masses an alternate program to Holi, so that they are dissuaded from the undesirable bouts of drinking of liquors, *bhang* and other intoxicants, and in other activities not conducive to moral behavior.

Vrutratna Samrat (March 6, 2007) reported from Nashik that a huge Budhist convention was organized on that day. Budhist monks said that "the *manuvadis* have massacred the Budhists and celebrated Holi". They asked the masses to remember that 84,000 Budhist *viharas* were destroyed by Adi Shankara and appealed all to follow the tenets of Budhism.

Another report from Nagpur said Phule-Shahu-Ambedkar Manch also organized a "*dharma mitra*" convention for "*karma-kand dahan*" i.e. burning of rituals and rites. Also high tributes were paid to great literary figure, who recently met a fatal road accident, a well known author, Dr. Kishor Kale. The speakers explained how Hiranya Kashapu and Holika were killed by treachery. They also explained on the day of Holi, how Saint Tukaram Maharaj was murdered and it was falsely propagated that he went to *Vaikuntha* with his human body, which only meant that his mortal remains were not found. (For details, see my above mentioned article on website).

Such programs should be arranged all over India every year. I consider that organizing such programs keeps the Budhist boys away from joining their friends in unholy activities of Holi. Only advising them is not sufficient; we must give them alternative programs to keep them busy for the whole day.

Divali, Dasara and Holi are the three important festivals of India. It is said Divali is the festival of Vaishyas, Dasara of Kshatriyas and Holi of *shudras*. There seems to be no festival specifically meant for Brahmins.

During all festivals, Brahmins participate to collect the *daxina* from others. As there are no other *varnas* except Brahmins and *shudras* in the Kali Yuga, all Bahujans are exploited in all these festivals. How it is done is beautifully explained by Mahatma Phule in his *Brahmana che kasab*, and those Bahujans who have not read that must do so.

Bahujans have been successful in giving alternative program to their youth on the occasion of Dasara, as they celebrate Ashok Vijaya Dashmi and anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar's Dhamma Chakka Pavattan. If suitable alternative is given for Holi, as some people are doing, it would be a great step. For last few years, the people who follow *Shiva Dharma* are already celebrating Divali by performing *Vaman Dahan* in some parts of Maharashtra. ■

How can Dalit elites who betrayed Babasaheb save Dalits ?

Hinduisation *(enslavement) of Dalits is taking place at a break-neck speed. The Hindu terrorist forces have invested billions and billions of rupees on enslaving us. A top terrorist leader, Nana Deshmukh, senior even to A.B. Vajpayee, once resigned his Union Cabinet post and went back into the Madhya Pradesh forest to* ***hinduise*** *the Adivasis — a work in which he had his heart. The foundation he is heading is worth several millions of rupees. The RSS has a cadre of dedicated souls who work without salary and in remote areas.DV has been the bitterest critic of Brahmins and their terrorist parties. But we at the same time acknowledge their dedication, self-sacrifice, patience, perseverance and deep commitment. Their entire work is no doubt destructive and anti-national. We admit it. But even to do such a work for*

decades and decades it needs tremendous energy, dedication and commitment.

Do our people have it?

The entire Hindu terrorist party programme is confined to social and cultural activities.

They do not have a single economic programme, much less a political plan.

Even as they are fully engaged in social and cultural work, the Brahmins diverted our people to economic and political work. They succeeded and we failed. We have to admit this.

It is the Dalits who were used to demolish the Babri Masjid and later kill Muslims in thousands in Gujarat (2002).

This the terrorists did so successfully after ***hinduising*** *(enslaving) us. We forgot all the Three Commandments of Babasaheb and even betrayed Babasaheb who died with great sorrow on observing this great betrayal.*

Today all over India, the Hindu terrorists are using our people to kill Muslims and destroy their properties — because we have become better Hindus than the Brahmins.

What is the point in blaming Brahmins? They are doing their duty which they are doing so perfectly in the interest of their jati.

Are we doing our duty? How can those who betrayed their own father do their duty?

Take the case of DV. We have established the country's largest circulated journal — uncompromising on Dr. Ambedkar mission. But not even 5% of the educated Dalits came to our support.

Kanshi Ram established the country's most powerful party for Dalits and proved its might. But not even 5% of the country's Dalits joined BSP.

In big cities where these elite Dalits live in hundreds, DV has hardly any readership. Our family members are mostly from semi-urban, rural areas where "thinking" Dalits live.

The failure of DV even after 26 years to make a mark is also the failure of Dalits — rather of the failure of India itself. DV is neither living nor dead. So also India. India is neither living nor dead. Shocking. We will discuss this at our April 8 silver jubilee meet in Delhi — ***EDITOR.*** ■

US may use Pakistan land to attack Iran?

AYYANKALI

Former ISI Chief, Gen (retd) Hameed Gul, has said that the Untied States is paving the way to use Pakistan's territory for its expected attack on Iran in order to shift the blame of its failure in Afghanistan to Pakistan. Talking to a private TV Channel, Gen. Gul said that NATO forces have intensified their activities on Pak-Afghan border as they are frustrated due to their failure in Afghanistan. US-backed Karzai government has completely failed in Afghanistan and the USA has now realized that they are now facing strong resistance from Taliban. Gul said that the American policy is to use different tactics to pressurize Pakistan and the main objective of recent visit of US Vice-President Dick Cheney to pressurize Pakistan as US would need Pakistan's support and Balochistan land to attack Iran. The Pakistani government may say no. Criticizing the government, he said that Pakistan presently was facing difficult time of its history due to weak politics of present government. Pakistan is a strong and nuclear capable country and has impregnable defence, he added.

http://www.paktribune.com/news/index.shtml?170916

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I, V.T. Rajshekar, hereby declare that the particular given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated: April 1, 2007 Sd/-V.T. RAJSHEKAR

Pests of Puri temple

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: The Puri Jagannath Temple, described in a DV Editorial (DV Edit April 16, 1997) as the "India's biggest mental hospital", is also noted for its notorious (Brahmin) priests who are a pest on the visiting devotees. Here is a report:

Puri priest held for pick pocketing

Police on Feb.15 arrested a priest red-handed on charges of pick pocketing inside the Puri Jagannath temple. The accused has been identified as Madhusudan Guru, police said adding, a case has been registered. Police said Guru was earlier involved in another case of pick pocketing inside the temple. This came on the heels of the arrest of another priest, Jagannath Khuntia for snatching the earrings from a devotee two weeks ago. Based on an FIR filed by a devotee, police on Saturday registered a case against another priest, Bhima Mudiratha for allegedly beating him up inside the temple. (*Times of India*, Feb.16, 2007).

Bulging belly

These *pandas* (priests), as they are called, threaten the devotees if they don't give them the money demanded and sometimes they even put their hands into your pocket and seize the purse. There are cases when the *pandas* gang up and assault not only men but even women if they are not given the money asked.

The *pandas* stink when they come near you and they present an ugly sight lying on temple floor with their bulging bellies. Some have even raped women forcing them inside the dark dungeons of the temple.

The Editor of *Dalit Voice* faced one such group of angry *pandas* pestering for money. When refused they even come to beat the Editor. Five DV members escorting the Editor drove them back.

The Brahmin priests whether in Puri or in other temples act with so much courage because they are considered the *Bhoodevatas* — gods on earth. No law of the land can touch them.

This is the wonder that is Hindu India.

Puri Jagannath temple was Budhist

NEELIMA SHARMA

Jagannath Temple, Puri, Orissa was a Budhist temple according to Swami Vivekananda.

RSS gang and other sections of the Hindu brigade have been demanding conversion of mosques into Hindu temples without proofs so sites have to be excavated.

But there are creditable proofs that many Budhist *viharas* were forcibly converted into Hindu temples. One of such temples happens to be Jagannath temple at Puri, Orissa.

And it is no other person who makes it public but Swami Vivekananda who while intervening in a debate if Jesus Christ ever visited Jagannath temple says:

> "There was a book written a year or two ago by a Russian gentleman, who claimed to have found out a very curious life of Jesus Christ, and in one part of the book he says that Christ went to the temple of Jaganath to study with the Brahmins, but became disgusted with their exclusiveness and their idols and so he went to the Lamas of Tibet instead, became prefect, and went home.
>
> To any man who knows anything about Indian history, that very statement proves that the whole thing was fraud, because the temple of Jaganath is an old Buddhistic temple. We took this and others over and re-Hinduised them. We shall have to do many things like that yet. That is Jagannath, and there was not one Brahmin there then, and yet we are told that Jesus Christ came to study with the Brahmins there.

So says our great Russian archaeologist. [Swami Vivekananda in *The Sages of India* in *The Complete Works of Swami Vivekananda*, Vol 3, p264, published by Advaita Ashram, Calcutta].

The Hindu brigade must tell us when they are going to return this Budhist temple to the Budhists?

(http://india.indymedia. org/en/2003/03/3685.shtml) ■

Foreign origin of Brahmin: German scientists research

FORUMOFINDIA@YAHOO.CO.IN

Who are the indigenous people of India, the autochthons? Best reliable means to determine this is the study of blood relations, i.e. the study of genetics. Such a study has once again been done by none other than the reputed Max Plank Institute of Germany, and the study confirms the foreign origin of Brahmins and other upper castes. But the Adivasis and the *shudra* casts are natives.

MEDIA BLACKOUT

There were several such studies before as well, but the Indian media has blacked out these studies by an international team of scientists including those from the Madurai School of Molecular Biology and one more international study and very recently another study by the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, the first two studies were posted on the website of *dalitstan.org*. The Max Plank study can be accessed at:

http://www.eva.mpg.de/genetics / pdf/cordauxcurbiol2004.pdf.

However, the most compelling evidence of Aryan invasion is in the *Rig Veda* itself which gives a graphic details of the invasion and destruction that took place under the leadership of Purandhaka (destroyer of the Indus Valley cities, Indra).

The study confirms the Central Asian origin of the Aryans with finality.

Mark Stoneking of the Max Plank Institute of Evolutionary Anthropology in Germany has proved the Aryan invasion theory. According to his paper, "Independent origins of Indian caste and tribal paternal lineages", the caste system in India is no more than 3,500 years as per Romila Thapar.

Moreover, the caste system was elaborated only within the last 3,500 years, which constitutes a rather short period of time for observing such dramatic differences in Y chromosome variation between caste and tribal people at a pooled-data level.

It therefore appears that the Indian caste and tribal paternal lineages derive from independent sources. Reference number 17 — on which the Professor bases his claim — is a paper written by people who base their ideas on the assumption that the Aryan invasion theory is true.

(Gadgil. M., and Thapar R -1990. Human ecology in India: Some historical perspectives. Interdiscipl. Sci., Rev.15, 209-223).

Thus in a display of academic brilliance, Stoneking uses Romila Thapar's claim that Aryans invaded India and introduced the caste system and goes on to prove that Aryans invaded India and introduced the caste system.

You can contact Mark Stoneking at *stoneking ATeva.mgp*.

Max Planck Institute email ids can be found here: http://www.eva.mpg.de/english/profil.htm, feedback@sabha.info

HYDERABAD STUDY

Sher Singh adds from Calcutta: "Caste in the genes" is the title of the report published in the *Telegraph* (Jan.1, 2007). It is based on the genetic findings of K. Thangaraj, a scientist at the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, and its Director Lalji Singh. Its main findings are: Aryans began to arrive in India only after 1,500 BC from Central Asia. Caste system emerged some 8,000 years ago when there was a shift in the way of life from hunting-gathering to the rudimentary farming and the first settlements.

Two tribes in the Andamans — the Onges and the great Andamanese — are the direct descendants of men from Africa, who moved out some 70,000 years ago. Modern humans out of Africa had arrived in India about 45,000 years ago.

The Indo-Europeans or Aryans arrived about 3,500 years earlier.

In 2001, Michael Bamshad, a University of Utah researcher's study showed "upper caste are genetically closer to Europeans having a high proportion of Eurasian genes, while the lower castes are more similar to Asians.

AFRICAN ORIGIN OF DALITS

Richard Cordaux showed in 2004 that "India's castes are closer to Central Asians than to its tribes". These findings are published in BMC Genetics journal. "Our findings point to a tribal origin of the lower castes", says Thangaraj. Thus it is clear that the Dalits are the descendants of African parents, dark in complexion. The upper castes are the direct descendants of White-Europeans. They also admit that there are 4,600 ethnic groups and communities in Indian subcontinent. These are the submerged Dalit nations, kept under perpetual racial subjugation by the upper castes. They have been even using religion to perpetuate this racial discrimination, *Purusha Sukta* in the *Rig Veda* is a classical example of this racial discrimination. The jargon used by the authors have been kept out to make it a bit more intelligible to the laymen. ■

Mayawati uses "caste identity"

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: Caste has proved to be India's trump-card to fight the casteists (upper castes). See how Mayawati is using it in UP where the coming Assembly election will be fought only on the basis of caste.

What happened to "ideology" then? No. There is nothing like ideology in "Hindu India". What we have is only the "casteology". Each caste has its ideology and the Brahminical order presents the best example of its "casteology" through its party of BJP:

> **Lucknow:** BSP chief Mahawati on March 13 released the list of party candidates favouring Brahmin-Dalit combination. Of the 403 seats, 139 have been given to upper castes. Brahmins have been fielded in 86 seats, Thakurs in 38 and Vaishyas in 14 while one seat has been allotted to a Kayasth. OBCs get 110, Dalits 93 and Muslims 61. (*Hindu* March 14, 2007).

Our "caste identity" thesis is now universally accepted as the only panacea to cure the cancer of Brahminism (casteism). Use caste to kill casteists. Since our "national" parties have failed, the only hope is in caste-based or regional parties. ■

Cong Govt. also goes Hindu in Himachal

New Delhi: When the Himachal Pradesh Assembly passed the anti-conversion Freedom of Religion Act 2006 last December, the Congress party could not have imagined the adverse reactions it would bring from minority groups, especially Christians, even from outside the state.

They say the law, the first ever to have been passed by a Congress government in recent years, goes against the party's commitment to allow Indians freedom to "practise, profess and propagate" their faith. Usually seen at the forefront for defending the party, the groups now say the law amounts to a breach of faith.Several Christian clerics, heads of Christian organisations and even the Vice-Chairman of a State Minorities Commission have written to UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi in the past few weeks in this regard.Other four states (Gujarat, MP, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan), had also passed similar anti-conversion laws despite the Congress Party opposition.There are about 10,000 Christians in Himachal out of a total population of 64 lakh. (*Indian Express*, March 9, 2007). ■

India Shining

Neglected children adopted by foreigners

New Delhi: Over the last two years, foreigners have adopted over 6,000 children from India. That is an annual adoption rate of 3,000 as compared to under 2,000 by Indians. For a country that sees parenthood as the ultimate state of bliss, those are skewed figures. The woman and child development ministry has now asked the Central Adoption Resource Agency— which had issued the existing guidelines on adoption — to revise its guidelines to ensure that more Indians adopt children and there is a mechanism to monitor children adopted by foreigners. The Centre is now planning stringent child adoption laws for foreigners after some MPs raised their concern over the growing number of foreigners adopting Indian children. Why aren't Indians adopting when roughly 12 million children in country are without parents?

—(*Hindustan Times*, March 12, 2007).

*****

Delhi has largest no. of prostitutes

New Delhi: Delhi had the largest number of sex workers with a minimum of 200 girls spread over 17 kothas. Other states with large numbers of girls were Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Bihar. Despite all the hype by the government about ensuring that children are not part of the sex trade, the brothel owners are quite candid about admitting they had over 245 girls below the age of 16 and another 615 girls between 16-18 years of age. This works out to a minimum of six children per brothel. Bihar had the largest number of girls followed by Maharashtra and UP.

—(*Asian Age*, March 12, 2007)

****

Tamil Muslim show in Delhi

RUBY.NAUSHAD@REDIFFMAIL.COM

New Delhi: Thousands of Muslims on March 7 marched to Parliament from Ramlila grounds to demand exclusive reservation for Muslims in jobs and educational opportunities in the Central, state governments and private sector. They also demanded the implementation of certain recommendation of Sachar Committee. This march was facilitated by Tamil Nadu Muslim Munnetra Kazhagam, a socio-political advocacy and social work organisation of the Muslims of Tamil Nadu. Apart from thousands of TMMK volunteers from Tamil Nadu, thousands of Muslims from various Muslim organizations from different parts of the country joined the March. ■

Letters to Editor

Ignacio Sanchez Perez, Badajoz, Spain: I am currently taking a MSc on "Poverty reduction and development management" taught by International Development Department at the University of Birmingham. I would like to do the dissertation about Dalits in India. I have read the programmes that you are carrying out in India with Dalit's and I am very interested in doing a fieldwork with you. I want to study the failure of the Indian state to acknowledge Dalit human rights which has directly led to a rise of Dalit resistance.

Usman Khalid, 3 - Blacklands Drive, Hayes, MDDX, UB4 8EU, UK: In his landmark book on *Sikhs & Indian Secularism*, Sardar Gurtej Singh, Professor of Sikhism, writes:

> " In the Brahminic principles of foreign policy, pride of place has always been given to establishment of hegemony over neighbours. This has been so throughout Indian history but has become more pronounced since 1947.... In August 1995, the *Los Angles Times* published an article by Henry Kissinger in which he stated that in the future India's foreign policy is likely to be overbearing, primarily governed by hegemonic aspirations.... India will be aggressive and seek an influential, if not a dominant role in area from Aden to Singapore."

The Muslims of South Asia were fortunate in having M.A. Jinnah as a leader during their struggle for freedom from British and Brahmin Imperialism. He understood the Hindu well. Among the post partition leaders of Pakistan, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto was the only one who understood India well. Remember, he spelled out his foreign policy that was founded on the principle of 'bilateralism'. He was followed by political pygmies and we know the result. General Zia took us into multilateral SAARC on the request of General Ershard. Gen. Musharraf sponsored the membership of Afghanistan. India gained on us every time, as Benazir, Nawaz Sharif and Musharraf lost respect in eyes of the people being so eager to please India. Gen. Musharraf, being a soldier, was expected to restore a modicum of honour in Indo-Pakistan relations. But he has been infinitely worse than his two civilian predecessors. The nation is aghast that he had the temerity of declaring that Pakistan never had a claim on Jammu and Kashmir. What is even more shocking is that there was no outcry from any of the political parties. Whatever little protest that was voiced came from those decried daily by no less than the 'Army Chief for life' himself as extremists and obscurantist. There is no other word for it; the foreign policy of Musharraf can only be described as 'treachery'. He made Pakistan the door mat for India and America. Our stock was not so low even in the aftermath of the defeat in East Pakistan in 1971. Lord Wavell, describing the negotiating technique of M.K. Gandhi wrote in Viceroy's Journal:

> "He was always the lawyer and the Bania who would drive a hard bargain and then find some legal quibble to deprive his opponent of what he seemed to gain."

Pakistan's experience of negotiating with India has been the same. India agreed to hold a plebiscite in Kashmir when it was close to losing the war and thought that Sheikh Abdullah would deliver a vote in favour of India. When the situation ceased to be dire, India readily found a 'legal quibble' (since Pakistan did not withdraw its forces) to go back on its agreement to hold the plebiscite. Late Bhutto also knew India well. He knew that imperialism can be pursued only on 'multi-lateral' forums. India is very active at the UN and in WTO but it is SAARC that is its principal instrument for hegemony in South Asia; it is the largest member country and bilateral issues are barred from consideration. But what does India gain from hegemony? What is often ignored is that caste-based Indian society is much more viciously exploitative internally. India has to keep winning triumphs and trophies, often at the cost of its neighbours, to keep its very disparate population united in 'pride' for its victories and achievements. Defeat of Pakistan in 1971 underpinned India's unity for two decades. Musharraf has given three trophies in a row to India during his eight years in power. Afghanistan, friendly to India and hostile to Pakistan, is one trophy. His pleading guilty to 'cross border terrorism' is another. Giving up on Kashmir is the third. All its successes in foreign policy have been earned at the cost of Pakistan; only one at the cost of America. The nuclear deal with America that provided the basis for its purchase of seven nuclear power plants from Russia, was indeed a triumph that showed India has changed little since the remarks of Lord Wavell on Gandhian negotiating techniques. Gen. Musharraf is not shy of employing the Gandhian techniques. The MMA thought that for all the concessions it made to let the LFO become law, it got a promise from Musharraf to retire as COAS within a year. But he found more than a quibble to deny them the satisfaction of a gain. Sharfuddin Pirzada and Sher Afghan have discovered a legal loophole by which a General can be President as long

as he wishes. In Hindu (or Hindustani) statecraft surely, promises are made to be broken. But what is the objective of all this jiggery pokery and deceit? The aim is to tell the slaves — the Untouchables and religious minorities in India, and non-Urdu-speaking and Non Qadiani in Pakistan — that they have no way of breaking the chains that shackle them. Lest the point not be driven home poignantly enough, the slaves are killed wantonly from time to time and then given generous compensation. The Hindus are partial to using fire rather than firearms to kill. The Sikhs in Delhi and other cities of India in the wake of the assassination of Indira Gandhi in 1984, the Muslims in Bombay and other cities of India in the wake of the destruction of Babri Masjid, the genocide of Muslims in Gujrat, the victims were burnt alive rather than shot or stabbed. The burning of the Samjhota Express at Panipat on Feb. 18 makes the point very effectively. After India having been defeated four times at Panipat by Muslim armies, in this fifth battle, the Muslims – whether from India or Pakistan – alone were the target and fire was the weapon. History of India has gone full circle; the period of the *Ramayan* and *Mahabharat* is back. There is no fight; there is only fire. The enemies of Brahma are not defeated; the merciless gods unleash miracles and forces of treachery to consume their enemies by fear and fire. As long as Musharraf revels in power, Pakistanis are condemned to life in fear of calamitous tragedies.

Dr. Awatar Singh Sekhon, Box-60246, University of Alberta Postal Outlet, Edmonton, AB T6G 2S5, Canada: Please note the *kesri* or saffron colour belongs to the "national flag" of the Brahmins. The Rashtriya Swamsewak Sangh (RSS), the mother of all evils, uses this flag shouting *Kesaria zulayenge, Hindutva Falayenge*. This statement about *kesaria* was discussed by the Darbara Sahib's *granthi* and International Sikh Missionary of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabhandak Committee, the Darbar Sahib, Amritsar while briefing the news media. The Sikh missionary, Jagtar Singh Jachak, expressed his concerns that it is the time that the "supreme seat of Sikh polity, the Akal takht Sahib and its administration make an announcement on the Sikh flag.

(Sikh colours by Jagtar Singh Jachak (www.rozana spokesman.com)

Sarat Chandra Panda, 1/2-HIG, BDA Colony, Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar - 751 016: I have few questions regarding your beliefs and ideology.

Political:-

1. Are you a nationalist or internationalist? (2) Why do you support Osama bin Laden — an acknowledged terrorist? (3) Do you subscribe to the well being of India's present geographical entity? In other words, do you want it to be swamped by Islamists, missionary and maoist-instigated terrorism and get disintegrated. More explicitly do you want Kashmir, Punjab and North-East should secede?

Human rights:-

(4) You are a champion of even the minutest minorities in the world. But I did not find your sympathy for the Kashmiri Hindus rendered refugees in their own country. Why? (5) I did not find your sympathy for the non-Muslim minorities of East Pakistan/Bangladesh. Its percentage came down from 29 in 1947 to about 8 now. In Pakistan the corresponding figures are 22 and 3 respectively. Why the trials and tribulations of minorities in Pakistan and Bangladesh are not published in DV? (6) I did not find your sympathy for the peace-loving Tibetans whose country the Chinese overran about 50 years ago. Similarly any comment on separate existence of Taiwan (ROC) without interference from China (PRC).

Religion:-

(7) You call yourself atheist. You are very hard on Hinduism but such attitude is not shown in case of Christianity and Islam. Why?

Caste:-

(8) I have been reading DV for almost three years. It is replete with Hindu bashing in general and Brahminism (if not Brahmins) bashing in particular. This kind of bashing becomes stale and counter productive after a point. Do you agree?

You brand Brahmins as nazis and terrorists and conspirators. May I know how many Brahmin terrorists got caught or killed by security forces or how many of them killed others and got themselves killed? Are they real or imaginary? According to DV, Brahmins constitute about 3% of the Indian population. Do you mean the rest are fools?

(1) The first question is put from an upper caste (ruling class) point of view. Being a Brahmin, Osama and Islamists, might have troubled you but we Dalits, the original inhabitants of India, are not. (4,5,6) Again reflects the fear of the same class who are our oppressors. (7) We are victims of Hinduism. Islam, Christianity, Sikhism liberated our people. (8) There is no difference between Hinduism and Brahminism which is hiding under the new name of Hindu to deceive our people. We write for our people who never said our criticisms are becoming stale. Since the Indian state itself is Brahminical

and media is their monopoly how can truth come out? The upper castes live in a fool's paradise and made a mess of India. Though a Brahmin, we like you because you had the honesty to open your heart. Others hide their ugly face — EDITOR.

Gopinath Meppayil, Meppayil PO, Vatakara, Kerala - 673 109: I appreciate your apology for having hitherto used the combined term "Hindu nazis" all these years in the light of new facts (of which I am not fully clear) provided by the veteran German historians (DV March 1, 2007 p.23. It displays your moral courage, presence of mind and above all your intellectual honesty — unique and unparalleled in modern India where all sorts of intellectual corruption and prostitution are rampant without a bit of prick of conscience especially in respect of marxian ideology: On reading about Manmohan Singh and the playboy minister (DV March 1, 2007) I am at a loss to know these fickle-minded persons becoming ministers. I want you to write about your 30-year old struggle as an autobiographical sketch. It will be an asset to our people.

M. Ali (yesteryear Dalit), Varanasi, UP: I read with interest your article, "*Ugly display of female flesh..*" (DV Nov.16, 2006 p.10) and the reaction by Sister Nazneen O Sheherwala (DV Jan.16, 2007 p.20). How much *burqa* or *hijab* commands respect and empowers women can be gauged by an incident that happened before me. A decade ago, I was occupying a bed in dormitory at the Kanpur (UP) railway station when a mid-aged woman came to meet the attendant who offered her a seat. It was about 2 a.m. in the night and the attendant was a bearded elderly Muslim with whom the woman confided that she was searching for her husband whom she expected to be in some hotel as he had left the home in anger over some family feud. She pleaded she would sit there a few hours and leave after dawn. The woman wore a black *burqa*. Being a Muslim, I also joined them in discussion. She took off her *burqa,* wrapped and kept it in her brief. I asked her, "Are you a Muslim"? She said "no". Then why the *burqa* and now removed it? She said:

> There are a lot of bad elements on the way and a lone woman is never safe. So I asked a Muslim friend to give her *burqa*.
>
> The *burqa* protects a woman from bad elements and all people respect a woman in *burqa* and give her way in crowds. So it helps me when I travel alone particularly in the night".

In Dubai, I have seen women car drivers with *hijab* are given preference by all motorists. A woman with *hijab* in Germany is given great respect and allowed better and first preference in crowd or in a Q. You have to se and experience it yourself how much empowerment the woman gets because of *hijab*. I have met many people saying *hijab* is a hurdle in discharging duties. But I testify, I have seen *burqa*-clad women in New York working in post offices, on computer, and also playing volleyball. Similarly in Bombay, *burqa*-clad women drive scooters, take children to school and do practically all things they are expected to do. Recently it has become a fashion to criticise anything Muslim. Like I narrated the story in the beginning, many women Muslim and non-Muslim who do not observe *purdah* take refuge in *purdah, hijab* or *burqa* when they want to do things which otherwise they can't do and when they need protection and empowerment.

Kuldip, 1269, Urban Estate-II, Hissar, Haryana - 125 005: I am a law graduate (50) from Punjab University, Chandigarh, served in a bank as an officer for 19 years then thrown out for assisting Dalit borrowers. My father was fortunate to meet Babasaheb in the 40s. He then adopted Ambedkarism. So, Ambedkarism is in our blood. When I was 14, I got Babasaheb's book, *Who Were the Shudras* (Hindi). Since then I read all available books on our mission. Today, we (I and my younger brother) have a "Dr. Ambedkar Mission Library" with about a thousand books including Arun Shouri's nonsense book, *Worshipping False Gods*. I wrote many articles in the Punjabi Daily, *Jantak Lehar*, in the late 80s. Some of my articles were on Guru Ravidas. As I was thrown out of the Bank I had to work as a taxi driver. Today with the grace of Babasaheb, my son is an HCS officer. I did my graduation with philosophy and my brother did his PG in philosophy. We fought with all principles, systems of Hinduism. Hinduism is hollow and baseless — rather nonsense and immoral. No Brahminic scripture says be moral or do good. Then how could it be called a *dharma* or even a religion? We found only filth in it and wrote a book, *Thoo Brahmanvad* (spit on Brahminism). We wish to meet you in person. We have a brain-load of research material with us. I wish to open it before you. Why we say Mahatma Ravana was great? Our research says:

> He was the first historical person who reigned over India from Lanka to Himalayas and Afghanistan to Burma. No king had such a vast territory under his control. He started the system

of marriage i.e. marital relationship of one woman with one man. Aryans would either put the bride on stake, lift the bow and take Sita, hit the fish eye and take Draupadi or simply they would get their sisters abducted like Krishna did to his sister Subhadra. There is not a single example where an Aryan solemnized marriage. Open and unrestricted sex was the *dharma* of Aryans. Right from Brahma or Krishna every god, every *rishi* had illicit relationship. Most Aryans were begotten through illicit relationship. Even Hanuman's mother (wife of Kesari) had adulterous sex with a stranger, Pavan. She got pregnant due to this and gave birth to Hanuman. Mahatma Ravana forcibly stopped all such illicit relationship. That Aryan *yagna* had three things: (i) open, illicit sex, (ii) butchering of animals, roasting them in *yag*'s fire, and (iii) eating their meat with wine called *soma*. Mahatma Ravana banned such *yags* in his kingdom. He ordered the killing of *rishis* then and there, who used to do such things with innocent animals. Every Aryan *yag* was performed by at least 16 Brahman *ritviks* (*rishi* who does an *yag*). Mahatma Ravana instead laid down a rule that only one person (of any caste or *varna*) could and would perform a *havan*. He replaced the system of *yag* with *havan*.

No other person has contributed this much to Indian society. In fact today's Indian society is one made by Mahatma Ravana. I have done lot of research work like this. I wish to meet you to discuss on my research work. I have met Dalit scholars. Some say only Ambedkarism can save us. But most of them say Ambedkarism alone cannot solve all problems. Some believe also in Gandhi, Dayanand, Vivekanand and Ramakrishna or *Gita* etc. All sorts of confusion. But we are strict Ambedkarites. I read your Editorials, articles and I was convinced that you are like us or vice versa. So, I just want to have a meeting with you.

S. Madhava Rao, 10-2-8/218, Metro Classique Apts., A.C. Guards, Hyderabad - 500 004: I visited America and participated in a seminar organised by Dalit Feedom Network (DFN) on Oct.6, 2005 at Washington DC. The subject was "racism and caste-based discrimination". In the afternoon, a public hearing was convened by the US Congress Subcommittee on International Relations in Raybon building. The details were covered in DV Nov.2005. I attended this public hearing. The report was also published in the *Financial Express* (North American edition) dated 21.10.05.

Nazneen O. Saherwala, 8B, Sangam Apts., Somnath Mahadev Road, Umra, Surat - 395 007: I have been hearing about Devadasis for years but the evil system of prostitution sanctioned by the Hindu religion continues despite all the laws of the land. Why don't we fight for Devadasis? Why don't we teach a lesson to these pimp-priests. They never touch their own "Dalit Hindus" yet they don't mind having sex with Devadasis who are Dalits. Foreigners do not know about Devadasis. It is a social system that existed right from the vedic period. It is part of Hindu temple rituals. Devadasis have to sing and dance for gods — meaning the godmen. Dalit families are induced to gift their girl child to the temple. They were used for sex by the temple priests and its feudal controllers. Instead of having sex with their wives, these "holy men" have devised a social system of holy prostitution called Devadasis, meaning maid servants of god. The child born to *Devadasi* is called *Harijan* meaning children of god *Hari*. *Devadasi* system is nothing but sex slavery of Hindu religious class.

Ravikaant (ravikaant99@yahoo.co.in): Here is a forceful defence of the caste system. Just read a blog:

> The metropolitan elite and rootless experts have concluded that caste is bad. They have made it so that every Indian is expected to feel guilty at the mention of caste. .... caste system is undeniably a valuable social capital, which provides a cushion for individuals and families to deal with society and the state. The Western model of atomising every individual to a single element in a right-based system and forcing the individual to have a direct link with the state has destroyed families and erased communities. Every person stands alone, stark naked, with only rights as his imaginary clothes to deal directly with the state. "

This is an excerpt from one IIM Banglore Faculty. Please log on to the link:

http://indiareacts.com/columns/full_column22.htm

Sudhanshu Sekhar Sethy, Qr. No. E-L/70/A, Railway Colony, PO/dt: Puri - 752 002: I have read so many articles of different people in DV. But I am extremely impressed by the article of Brother M.Ali of Varanasi. He always gives the history of Hindu religion. In the Feb 1, 2007 DV, he writes on *Sanatan Dharma* meaning a never-changing faith. This statement is absolutely correct. Caste discrimination exists as it was thousands of years back from panchayat to parliament, from lower judiciary to Supreme Court. The basic principle of Hindu religion is intact everywhere. Hindu terrorist organisaitons

like BJP, RSS, VHP shed crocodile tears for Dalit. That doesn't mean they have started loving us. The fast growing Islam has compelled them to behave like this. They are not sleeping at night in peace for fear of Islamic conversion of Dalits. If Dalits accept Islam, *manuvadis* will surrender before Dalits within 24 hrs./ then the *Manuwadis* will ask for reservation for their survival in India.

Palash Chandra Biswas, C/o Ms. Arati Roy, Gosto Kanan, Sodepur, Calcutta - 700 110: Your books and *Dalit Voice* enhance my references as well as vision to fight Brahminism, zionism and imperialism which enslaved us. We have no option but to mobilise all constituents of that 85% enslaved underclasses (Bahujan Samaj) to launch a global movement to end the rule of terror and exploitation. DV sets the guidelines very well.

Sanjay Kumar Choudhary (sanjay_llb@yahoo.com) : I was at the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, New Delhi, as part of my academic course.

1. I met Udit Raj. He is critical of your "caste identity" thesis. This is because he has been a victim of "caste identity". He is very critical of Mayawati and other Dalit politicians like Ram Vilas Paswan. But I know you have always supported him in his social and cultural activities.

2. I came to know from Dr. Satinath Chaudhary about the victims of Nithari massacre. I met and talked to many of them. Most of the victims were Dalits. Even CBI is not listening to them. Most of the families didn't get the compensation announced by the UP Government. The Nithari killings have a caste character. It needs a deeper study.

3. I also met some Dalit and Bahujan students of AIIMS, New Delhi. They said the upper caste faculty and students were hostile to Dalit students. Even Dalit teachers and doctors did not support their cause. One Dalit student was mentally tortured by an upper caste professor that he took medicine to write his paper. He secured 70% in first year but was failed in all five papers and thus lost one year. Most of the Dalit students face acute discrimination at the AIIMS but helpless to launch a strong resistance. I tried my best to organize a meeting of AIIMS and JNU students but could not because of the internal contradictions. Educated Dalits are very much divided on various issues and thus causing harm to poor and village Dalit. If they are not united history will not forgive us.

4. Some girl students of DU are making a documentary film on Dalit students and their discrimination. They shot in JNU, AIIMS and Jamia and took interviews of many of Dalit students.

5. Dalit students of Patna and Gaya told me they were working to strengthen "caste identity". Students of BHU said that birth anniversary of Guru Ravidas was celebrated and over 1,000 students and teachers attended the meeting.

6. An international NGO, "the International Movement Against all forms of Discrimination and Racism" has invited me to attend a meeting at Madras on March 13, 2007.

Paul Divakar, NCDHR, New Delhi: It was both frustrating and elating to see the Indian delegation, especially Dipankar Gupta ranting on the "castelessness" of the Indian body politic and on the other hand all the CERD committee members with one voice challenging the stale position and half truths and untruths of Gupta. We need to raise the campaign in Delhi challenging the position of the Indian Govt which is refusing tooth and nail to allow the Dalit issue to be debated and addressed in the UN and all international fora. We need to strategise this and it will be good to raise the level of the campaign on this to an intense level.

Ms. Thummapudi Bharathi, Ph.D., Associate Professor in English & Coordinator, Centre for Ambedkar Studies; S.P. Mahila University, Tirupati-517 502: India as a nation had gained nothing worthwhile in the past including its nationhood. Nationhood itself had to be imposed on the Indian subcontinent as a political gift of colonialism, orientalism and imperialism. The main political reason for this unenviable condition was the lack of unity between the Maharajas of the *Samasthanas*. But a major contributing factor to this condition, according to Dr. Ambedkar, was also sociological — caste factor sanctified by the Brahminical scriptures. Our whole social fabric was infected with the cancer of casteism, which was the foundation of Hindu religion. Under the name of caste a majority of India's people were castigated and prevented from contributing to the growth of their country. We have alienated our own people. Let us rehabilitate them, empower them and confer full citizenship on them. India never had a participatory sociology, which could lead to sociological collaboration in the uplifting of our community. The *Varnashrama* system was not lateral but vertical and hierarchic. A large number of India's citizen's did not enjoy dignified citizenship and they were like the slaves in the United States and in Greece. None of the social responsibilities were shared with them and they were

not allowed to enjoy any of the rights of the respected citizens of our country. This pathetic condition was not only imposed on them: but more pathetic, these oppressed people even submitted, and submitted voluntarily because of the fear, which had socio-religious dimensions. Now, like Marx, Dr. Ambedkar had to change the common currency of understanding of the society. It was not sufficient to simply understand and interpret: what mattered was to **change** it. When all the *shastras* are 'caste-discourses' and all the scriptures are cast in the mould of the caste system, a new discovery had to be made. Our social science has to make that discovery: and the first social scientist who made the discovery was Dr. Ambedkar. But what was discovered had to be implemented: politics and law had to be brought under its service. Luckily the social scientist was also a legal luminary. And he was able to win political recognition as a member of the Constituent Assembly and this gave him the vantage position of changing the currency of our social understanding. Our country, which had no chance of undergoing the experience of Renaissance, Industrial and Agrarian Revolutions and had very little experience of the Enlightenment and Exploration of even imperialistic expansion worth the name had to be taught all these only through the colonial experience. Unifying concepts like humanism in the Western style, and universal concepts like sex-transcendent, caste-transcendent consciousness was unreachable and unavailable to the Indian mind. Our oriental mind that could penetrate seven oceans and seven *yugas* and seven worlds could not penetrate the religion-locked social structure. Unremunerated work of the *shudra* became the foundation of our economy. *Arthashastra* had to win the struggle for survival in the conspiracy of the upper castes. The domination of Brahminical fake "spirituality" had to be broken by Western secularism and recognition of the respectability of materialism. The economic base of the society had to be newly laid in the place of empty spirituality. Secular education, secular employment and secular empowerment of the Dalits had to be done against a stiff opposition and/or sly alarmism from upper castes. Colonialist and imperialistic burden became necessary in the generation of the dialectic of sociology. Under the guise of liberating the country from the clutches of the British the empire had to strike even local caste imperialism of the upper castes and liberate the Dalits from our own oppressors. Dr. Ambedkar skillfully steered the course of this subterfuge and submerged war and successfully concluded it through enshrining it in our constitution. Has Dr. Ambedkar succeeded in achieving his objectives? Has he failed somewhere? Who were his enemies? How did they work? How to defeat them? It is time for every Dalit intellectual to think and decide to convert our Indian sociological scenario, so that our future can be better than our past. We have alienated a huge section of our people; let us rehabilitate them, empower them and confer full citizenship rights and status on them so that our **future** can be better than our **past**. I am very much pleased and impressed by the Editor's statement that "Dalit woman had the pain of the woman plus the fire of the Dalit". We will try to do justice in your hope in Dalit women's active and committed participation. Thanks for inviting us to the DV silver jubilee in Delhi. Certainly you are the source of inspiration in all our activities. Hope you will guide us in our future activities.

C.R. Marawi, M.M. Wing, Bacheli, Dantewada Bastar dt. - 494 553: I have been your family members since nine years. Your journal is indeed revolutionary. I and my colleagues are also sharing and discussing the thoughts generated by *Dalit Voice*. The local Adivasis are badly suffering at the hands of the naxals as well as the govt. machinery. The Chhattisgarh Govt. has launched *Salwa Judum* to create social revolution and weaken the naxal movement. The govt. is using too many forces (Mizos, Nagas, CRF and local police etc.) but nothing could be done till now. So much so, this place has become the battlefield between govt. forces and naxals. Due to dense forest and geographical situations, the local Adivasis are being killed unnecessarily and targeted from both sides. In sensitive areas, Adivasis have been placed in front as shield so that they alone are killed by naxals as well as by the police. One or two or even more Adivasis are killed daily. Due to this, the Adivasis are migrating to "shelter camps" areas being run by the govt. The condition of the local Adivasis is pathetic. The conditions of their women is miserable. The children are not going to schools. *Salwa Zudum* is going on for the last three years. Over 60 schools are closed. I belong to a Dalit caste hailing from a very backward, remote area of Bilaspur District (CG). I studied in Hindi medium and working in the National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd., Bailadila Iron Ore Project Deposit No.5,10/11A Project, Bacheli, Dantewada dt. (CG) (schedule A company) I do not have expertise in English. ■

Sex & caste used by Hindus to enslave Devadasis, bar-dancers

MS. JOOPAKA SUBHADRA, 13-6-462/A/27, BHAGAVANDAS BAGH, THALLAGADDA, HYDERABAD - 500 267

A conference of women's movements from Sept.9 to 12, 2006 held at Calcutta brought out new questions, issues and perspectives.

The first such conference of autonomous women's groups was held in Bombay in 1980 — to share opinions, build friendship, to support each other's struggles, to formulate future plans and strategies for strengthening the movement. At the fifth conference held at Tirupati, issues of "lower caste" women came into the agenda. Similarly, issues of lesbian women humanized the politics of sexuality.

DALITS TO LEAD DALIT

The Calcutta conference was attended by several new, hitherto not seen, women's groups mobilized along their professions and work — thus making new sessions necessary. Sessions were held along the following lines — caste, gender, marginalized sexualities, women of religious minorities, women under state violence, sex workers, migrant women, problems of agricultural labour, violence against women in the family and outside, disabled women etc.

It was good to see the large-scale mobilization of Dalit women's groups. One can imagine the size of this group by the space allotted to them — that is the plenary space. Among the people who attended the session were: sanitary workers, fourth class municipality workers, domestic workers, *joginis*, *maatammas*, sex workers, *devadasis*, agricultural labour, bar-dancers, construction workers, migrant workers. These women, who were in large numbers, are engaged in labour which is forced on them and looked down upon by the society.

Till now, one only saw Dalit women being organized by upper caste women. Now, with the rise of Dalit women leaders, such a situation seems to be on the decline. In such a context, it has become necessary to search for new questions, new discussions and new meanings.

In the session on Dalit women, many spoke about the relations between the Dalit movements, caste and gender movements and caste relations in the women's groups were discussed. More importantly, the questions raised by sex workers, *devadasis* and bar dancers led to new discussions and a different perspective.

SEX WORKERS DEMAND

The sex workers demanded recognition to their profession as a work.

> "We are selling only the sexual service but not our bodies, our rights should figure in the realm of human rights as we live and work in violent conditions, we should be given all the rights that the other workers have, even if society as a whole may take its time to recognize us, women's movements should at least recognize these rights".

They asserted that they have established their organization to resist and oppose the violence, harassment of the police and the other goons in the society. They noted that their struggle is not easy but complex. These were some of the issues placed before the conference.

The session on caste and gender was attended by over 50 *devadasis*. The leader of the *devadasi sangham* spoke in defence of their profession:

> "We are able to eat three meals a day, wear good clothes because of this profession, we don't think that this profession is demeaning. We are happy. Some people want to destroy this profession thinking that it is a social evil. If we found this profession difficult and intolerable, we would have begun the struggle to destroy it".

This led to a long discussion.

BAR-DANCERS PLEA

The bar-dancers attended the conference under the banner of Bar Dal. There are 75,000 bar dancers in Maharashtra alone. Speaking about their problems, they said their profession is looked down upon, treated with disrespect in the society. The government has also banned their work. They won the case against the government ban in the Bombay High Court with the support of the bar owners and that the government has now appealed to the Supreme Court.

During the evening cultural programmes, the bar-dancers gave a performance. Some of the women went up the stage to give money to the performing bar-dancers. Dalit women raised an objection to this performance questioning the culture that was being reinforced on the stage. Their

objections were:

> Why Dalit women alone should sacrifice their lives to this culture of pleasing others? This profession of bar-dancers, aimed at pleasing people flush with money is an instrument of the new global market, and this work is insecure and demeaning which will obstruct the progress of Dalit women.

In fact, almost all the women in the Bar-Dal were Dalits. To this argument the bar-dancers retorted:

> Are we not human beings? Can't we choose the profession that we like? Who are you to call this profession demeaning and disrespectful? Don't we have individual freedom?

With this, even the issues of sex workers and *devadasis* also exploded.

POLITICS OF CASTE

The opinion of the bar-dancers may appear democratic. But before they became bar-dancers, they were Dalit women. Why Dalits alone chose this profession? One should understand the politics of caste involved here. Every issue in our society is built on the foundations of caste. Whereas the practices of *jogins* and *devadasis* are built on the rural caste practices, in the cities it is influenced by values of global consumerism and markets.

Here, Dalit women are being used as instruments of pleasure and entertainment. One should question how only women of lower caste enter this profession.

While all the privileges of respect, security and opportunity in society are reseved for the upper castes, Dalits and Dalit women get pushed into the dangerous, insecure and disrespectful areas of work. Adding insult to injury, these professions are glamourised to keep the Dalits from coming out.

How can we defend the politics that glamourises these areas of work in the name of individual freedom? Such a glamour and glamourisation prevents the Dalits from recognizing their own true identity.

Some upper caste feminists support the "Bar Dal" issues. Such a support is surprising considering that they also pressed for rehabilitation packages for sex workers in the past, arguing that such a work is demeaning for women. Do these women's groups now think that their earlier stand was a mistake?

HINDU FEMINIST DEMAND

Dalit women do recognize the importance of individual freedom. But we argue that political awareness should be developed about those "freedoms" that hinder our progress and self-respect. We are demanding creation of secure conditions of work for Dalit women even while questioning the conditions that are pushing Dalit women into such insecure and dangerous areas of work.

But the upper caste fashionable feminists are defending/ encouraging this work of Dalit women without taking cognisance of their background. This is not a correct perspective. One should be able to see behind this veneer of truth.

CHOICE OF PROFESSION

If the *Devadasis* and bar-dancers articulated their freedom to choose their work while enjoying all other rights in the society, Dalit women would not have any objections to such a position. But Dalit women are oppressed, we remain hungry despite our hard labour, we are pushed into practices of *jogini*, *maatamma* and *Devadasi* against our will, subjected to atrocities and exploitation.

If Dalit women chose bar-dancing as a profession in the context of equal opportunities to employment, absence of caste and gender oppressions and where everyone enjoyed all the rights, then one can accept the choice of bar- dancing as a democratic right.

Instead, if one simply stressed on the "choice of profession" and "individual freedom" keeping aside the issues that deprive Dalits and Dalit women of their rights, it would amount to encouraging Dalit women to join these insecure and demeaning professions. It would also amount to supporting bar owners, global markets and its attendant cultures.

CULTURE & CASTE

We are not unaware of how global culture and even Hindu culture feeds on the blood and flesh of Dalit women. The very fact that the bar owners appealed to the court in support of bar dancing establishes this connection. One should understand the stand of bar dancers by locating them in the context of how the global culture, modernity, market values create insecurity and lack of opportunities among Dalits.

ROLE OF DALIT WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

If the bar-dancers had been aware of their own **identity**, they would not have taken such a stand. If only one understood concepts in their specific, regional caste contexts as opposed to the stereotypical arguments spouted by the upper caste feminists, such confusion about this issue would not have risen. Women's movements should foreground the demand of the sex workers' union that sex work should also be recognized as labour thereby raising discussions about the accepted definitions and meanings of labour and build a large-scale movement on this issue. We should recognize that the freedoms given to the Dalit women

are oppressive if they impede their progress and self-respect. The women's movements, especially Dalit women's movements have the responsibility to raise the consciousness of women especially Dalit women, who are living in the shadow of layered illusions.

(subadrajoopaka@yahoo.com) ■

Fashionable feminist conspiracy

There is yet another angle to our Hindu "fashionable feminist" defence of the right of the sex workers, ***devadasis*** *and bar-dancers. As of today these three categories of professions are reserved mainly to Dalits. But once these professions start attracting very high salary, Dalits will be pushed out and Brahmin and other upper caste women will monopolise these professions.*

We have the famous precedent of ***Bharatanatyam*** *in Tamil Nadu where temple dancing and singing were once reserved for Dalit women. As the dance attracted attention and gained popularity, the Dalit women are quietly edged out and the Brahmins took over the job of singing and dancing. M.S. Subbulakshmi, Vyjayantimala, the two famous* ***Devadasi*** *women, were co-opted and made famous. A Brahmin married MS.* ***Bharatanatyam*** *is today an upper caste monopoly. So also Lata Mangeshkar and her sisters belonged to the same profession attached to the Mangeshkar temple in Goa.*

Whether it is the Bombay Red Light Area prostitutes, bar dancers or ***devadasis*** *— now despised being a Dalit profession— will overnight attract Brahmin women once it becomes a lucrative profession. If a bar-dancer gets Rs. 20,000 for a night's show, there will be no room for Dalits in the profession.*

That is why our upper caste fashionable feminists are supporting the bar-dancers "right" to choose their profession and thus gradually prepare the ground for their daughters, nieces to take over. Beware of the fashionable feminists and their time ***passala*** *women's organisations — EDITOR.*

Hindu leaders' critique of Hindu religion

SULTANOFPEACE@YAHOO.COM

Perhaps this is a good time to open an informed debate on India's **caste apartheid** — once prevalent even in South Africa. Your books could be used as powerful weapons to expose the Hindu apartheid system. The following from *rediffmail.com* is a protests against an anti-Hindu book in South Africa:-

Hindu groups in South Africa on March 4 protested against the distribution of an "anti-Hindu" book by a man who recently accused M.K. Gandhi of being a "racist." Ram Maharaj, president of the South African Hindu Dharma Sabha, and Rugbeer Kalideen, its secretary-general, have accused Yousuf Deedat of Durban of "violating the rights" of Hindus and called on the Human Rights Commission to investigate the matter.

Gandhi as Hindu stooge : Deedat, who was recently lambasted by both Muslims and Hindus for distributing another book titled, *Gandhi: A Stooge of the White South African Government*, is now circulating a book that claims Hinduism is fraught with "immorality and indecency." The book titled ***Oh You Hindu Awake*** is reportedly authored by one Dr. Chatterjee. Maharaj said he felt "physically sick" after reading the book.

"Deedat Junior has broken a promise his father made to us 12 years ago to stop the circulation of the book," he said. He's done it too many times. We are going to the Human Rights Commission with this book. It has to be banned, Maharaj said. Kalideen said: "It is a shocking, vile piece of writing. Deedat seems ignorant of the fact that it is unconstitutional to denigrate any religion".

But Deedat claimed that the information in the book was factual. "I fear nothing, because the information contained in the book is factual. The book was withdrawn in 1995 because we didn't know the new system very well. People are powerless to stop this now," he said.

Brahmin author

DV correspondent adds: Over a decade or so back, *Dalit Voice* too had received several copies of this book but all sold out now. We have just one copy which may be photo-copied and supplied to those interested in this important book. It is written by a Bengali Brahmin, Dr. Radha Kamal Chatterji, and the foreword is also by an upper caste (Hindu) Kayasth, a doctorate from London, Dr. G. Srivatsava. It has eight sections dealing with every aspect of Brahminism which today hides under the name of Hinduism.

Vivekananda, Hinduism's most famous monk, Periyar E.V. Ramasamy, who remained a Hindu till his death, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, whom the Hindu terrorist party, RSS, has described as one of the pillars of Hinduism have all made similar if not more trenchant criticisms of Hinduism.

As all these are called "Hindus" by the Hindu terrorist leaders, they have every right to criticise their religion.

Arun Shourie criticism: Even a Hindu terrorist leader Arun Shourie, ex-union minister, has come out with a devastating attack on Hinduism in his book, *Hinduism — Essence & Consequence*, the photocopy of which is available with DV.

For photocopies of the book, *Oh! You Hindu Awake*, write to DV (pp.70, Rs. 50).

Cultural revolution via proportonal representation

DR.SAINATH CHOUDHARY

From time immemorial various cultures and religions have goaded people to be benevolent in the service of people, particularly the disadvantaged. They have been promised the heaven in return for their service. However, we all know how successful such preachings have been in motivating bulk of the people towards service to the society. Today, if those in a positions of power in India do not take bribes for doing what is expected of then, they are considered to be fools, and are belittled. Worth of people is measured in terms of how much money he or she rakes up, not what they have done for the society.

If all positions of power in the society were made to depend upon helpfulness towards the society, we will find an abundance of kindness and compassion in the society as opposed to current glut of loathsomeness and arrogance. Such a change of heart will be a true revolution indeed. Apparently, to measure one's helpfulness towards the society we will have to ask the society itself regarding goodwill of person interested in getting positions of power, i.e. take society's vote.

Whole state as one consituency: However, under our current electoral mode, known as plurality system or first-past-the-post (FPTP), people elect a single person as a winner of the election, with the rest declared losers. Under our current system of election with single seat constituencies, relatively small parties even with the support of as many as 10-15% voters may end up winning very few seats of power. It does not have to be that way. This unfair situation can be changed via what we call "Towards Total Democracy" (TTD).

It is an extended and modified form of open-party-list-Proportional-Representation (opl-PR) system of election. It should be noted that at present nearly half of the democratic countries in the world, including all of Europe, with exception of England and France, use one or the other form of PR or semi-PR.

Whole states will be considered to constitute single constituencies. Each of the voters will be asked to cast votes in favor of, say, a total of ten individaul candidates from one or more parties. Candidates' votes would be added to the candidates' respective party-votes. The voters can vote by collecting fliers of the candidates they like best, carrying their top ten choices to the polling booth and stuffing the fliers of their ten favorites (or any other paper identifying the names voter's favorite candidates) into an envelope supplied to them at the booth and casting the same into a ballot-box. Seats of various level legislative bodies like Parliament, its Assembly, Zila Parishad, Block Council and Panchayat, may all be filled in a single electoral process, as described below. Not only that, even various bureaucratic, police and judicial positions can be filled from the same vote, as described underneath.

After voting, each of the parties may be allocated a party-quota of seats in proportion to the votes obtained by them. Parties would be supposed to fill their party-quotas of seats for Lok Sabha with their top vote-getting candidates. All such party-quotas (of various parties) may be put together in a master-list and serialized in descending order of votes obtained by various candidates. Rest of candidates may also be serialized in descending order of votes. We will call such a list as an auxiliary-list.

Master list: Off the top of the master-list each of the candidates will be declared eligible to a seat in Lok Sabha. However, they would be given option of taking charge of one of bureaucratic or police or judial positions that may have fallen vacant, provided the candidate has appropriate qualifications and experience. If someone does choose to become a bureaucrat or a judge, all of those below him/her in the master-list will be pushed up a notch. At the bottom of the master-list a candidate close to the top of the auxiliary-list will be pushed up into the battom of the master-list. This candidate from the auxiliary-list will be of the same party as the one who chose to become something other than an MP, subject to the constraints of various segmental quotas for women, SC/ST/OBCs, etc.

After all of the Lok Sabha seats are filled, from the remaining candidates a new master-list can be created for filling the Assembly seats. Again, the leftover candidates may be serialized in a new auxiliary-list. Filling of Assembly seats will be done just the way the state's share of Parliament seats were filled. Many of the bureaucratic, police and judicial positions too will be filled off the same master-list. The process may be continued to fill the seats in: Zila Parishad, Block Council and Panchayat.

It would not be difficult to satisfy various min-quotas

for various segments of the society. Suppose we need to fill 50 of the seats by women. Suppose in the master-list for Lok Sabha, there happen to be only 30 women. We would have to pull in 20 female candidates having largest number of votes in the auxiliary list (close to the top of the auxiliary-list but below the master-list) into the master-list at the expense of 20 male candidates close to the bottom of the master-list.

Suppose among these 20 female candidates close to the top of the auxiliary list there are 8 party-A candidates, 6 party-B candidates, 4 party-C candidates and 2 party-D candidates among the women candidates with most votes, adding to 20. From within party-lists of A, B, C and D parties, male members will have to make room for 8, 6, 4 and 2 women in their respective parties.

Those who had the misfortune of being forced to make room for women should have consolation that they would be able to win seats in the Assembly. Likewise those who would just have missed an Assembly seat may rest assured for seats in the next level below the Assembly (i.e., in the Zila Parishad).

Thus all of those in legislative or non-legislative positions will owe their positions, fully or partially, to public's votes for them. This will make all of them obedient to the public sentiment and prevent them from stepping over public's toes, as opposed to current practice of arrogant and conceited government servants.

Even in the private sector, the employers may be strongly encouraged to take popularity of their employees in the public's eyes by taking into account votes obtained by them. This may be done by giving suitable tax-break for high popularity of their employees. The government can even encourage diversity ensuring apropriate mix of various segments of the population among its employees by giving tax-break for diversity as well. In this fashion, for getting any position of power, helpfulness to the public will be helpful. It will promote benevolence, compassion and good behavior towards all. Helpfulness may also be promoted in schools and colleges by making a course in "practical social work" compulsary at all levels of education, inculcating a habit of social work and benevolence among them from ealy childhood.

Such a new system will cause a change in our culture from one of corruption, conceit and arrogance to one of politeness and goodwill towards all. This will be the true revolution. The new systemwill have many other benefits. (satichou2@yahoo.com). ■

Do you know US Federal Reserve is a private bank owned by Jews ?

KAJ KRINSMØE ABILDGADE 15, 1.TH. 8200 AARHUS N DENMARK

Do you know that the American Federal Reserve (Fed), which prints dollar currency notes and controls the entire finances of the super power, is privately owned?

America's central bank is a private corporation with 300 owners, all international financiers who use zionism to cause strife and confusion. In fact, Americans work and fight for an international finance that has no allegiance to any nation, not even Israel.

Jews have financed "revolutions" and wars in over 200 years. This is the reason they financed the Bolshevik revolution in Russia. Had Trotsky come to power, instead of Stalin (not a Jew), the international financiers would today be running the Russias like they are running USA through the Fed.

USA can just print dollars to pay for its imports. This is the reason that increasingly the rest of the world is doing the work and Americans are doing the consuming, on loans from their private bankers, as Jefferson said 198 years ago. But the threat to the dollar value is imminent. It is the military tyranny of Washington that is sustaining the value of the dollar. If both Japan and China started to sell dollars it would precipitate an international rush to dump dollars, and this would have dire consequences in USA, much more so than in Japan and China. Especially China can easily adjust to consume what it is now exporting for dollars.

This situation is partly the reason for the planned war on Iran. It is to sustain the value of the dollar. But it is also to gratify the very powerful lobby of Jews, who are the most astute corrupters in Washington. To destroy Iraq and Iran is good for Israel.

Washington's pursuit of zion's interests divulge a moral primitivity, the barbary of which is already amply evident in Palestine.

Israel knew of 9/11 WTC attack ?

CHRISTOPHER KETCHAM

On the afternoon of Sept. 11, 2001, an FBI bulletin known as a **bolo** — "be on lookout" — was issued with regard to three suspicious men who that morning were seen leaving the New Jersey waterfront minutes after the first plane hit World Trade Center 1. Law enforcement officers across the New York-New Jersey area were warned in the radio dispatch to watch for a "vehicle possibly related to New York terrorist attack":

White 2000 Chevrolet van with "Urban Moving Systems" sign on back seen at Liberty State Park, Jersey City, NJ, at the time of first impact of jetliner into WTC, three individuals with van were seen celebrating after initial impact and subsequent explosion. FBI Newark Field Office requests that, if the van is located, hold for prints and detain individuals.

At 3:56 p.m., 25 minutes after issuing the **bolo**, officers with the East Rutherford Police Department stopped the commercial moving van through a trace on the plates. According to the police report, Officer Scott DeCarlo and Sgt. Dennis Rivelli approached the stopped van, demanding that the driver exit the vehicle. The driver, Sivan Kurzberg, refused and "was asked several more times [but] appeared to be fumbling with a black leather fanny pouch type of bag". With guns drawn, the police then "physically removed" Kurzberg, while four other men -- two more men had apparently joined the group since the morning -- were also removed from the van, handcuffed, placed on the grass median and read their Miranda rights.

They had not been told the reasons for their arrest. Yet, according to DeCarlo's report, "this officer was told without question by the driver [Sivan Kurzberg], 'We are Israeli. We are not your problem. Your problems are our problems. The Palestinians are the problem.'" Another of the five Israelis, again without prompting, told Officer DeCarlo -- falsely -- that "we were on the West Side Highway in New York City during the incident". From inside the vehicle the officers, who were quickly joined by agents from the FBI, retrieved multiple passports and $4,700 in cash stuffed in a sock. According to New Jersey's Bergen Record, which on Sept. 12 reported the arrest of the five Israelis, an investigator high up in the Bergen County law enforcement hierarchy stated that officers had also discovered in the vehicle "maps of the city with certain places highlighted. It looked like they're hooked in with this", the source told the Record, referring to the 9/11 attacks. "It looked like they knew what was going to happen when they were at Liberty State Park."

The five men were indeed Israeli citizens. They claimed to be in the country working as movers for Urban Moving Systems Inc., which maintained a warehouse and office in Weehawken, New Jersey. They were held for 71 days in a federal detention center in Brooklyn, New York, during which time they were repeatedly interrogated by FBI and CIA counter terrorism teams, who referred to the men as the "high-fivers" for their celebratory behavior on the New Jersey waterfront. Some were placed in solitary confinement for at least 40 days; some were given as many as seven lie detector tests. One of the Israelis, Paul Kurzberg, brother of Sivan, refused to take a lie-detector test for ten weeks. Then he failed it.

Meanwhile, two days after the men were picked up, the owner of Urban Moving Systems, Dominik Suter, a 31- year-old Israeli national, abandoned his business and fled the USA for Israel. Suter's departure was abrupt, leaving behind coffee cups, sandwiches, cell phones and computers strewn on office tables and thousands of dollars of goods in storage. Suter was later placed on the same FBI suspect list as 9/11 lead hijacker Mohammed Atta and other hijackers and suspected al-Qaeda sympathizers, suggesting that U.S. authorities felt Suter may have known something about the attacks.

The suspicion, as the investigation unfolded, was that the men working for Urban Moving Systems were spies. Who exactly was handling them, and who or what they were targeting, was as yet uncertain.

http://www.counterpunch.com/ketcham03072007.html

DV had said all these immediately after the 9/11/2001 — six years ago. Later we published several reports confirming that the WTC attack had connections with the zionists — EDITOR.

DV Feb.1, 2007 p.19: "DV report on Israeli hand in 9/11 finally proves right".

DV June 1, 2004 p. 13: "US Govt. knew of WTC attack? ".

DV Nov.16, 20003 p.6: "DV proves right on Jews".

Dalit as victim of "Hindu mind"

A. XAVIER, DEPT. OF ENGLISH, ST. MARY'S HR. SEC. SCHOOL, DINDIGUL - 624 001

The power of "Hindu thought" is oppressive if not destructive. It is also suicidal if a victim tries to cultivate a "Hindu mind". A Hindu imagines to think according to his need and his need is an "emotional need" to have someone oppressed by him.

What we mean by "Hinduism" is Brahminism which is hiding behind this newly popularised name.

Hindu impulses inflict mental suffering to others. Hinduism gives him plenty of opportunities. Hindus gain their Hindu kingdom of sadists by powerful Hindu thought. Every Hindu with "Hindu mind" has his Hind ideology to buttress his Hindu mental make-up. To possess a "Hindu mind" is to be mentally deranged. All those mentally deranged find it quite normal in the Hindu kingdom. But the Hindu new thought is neither a creative thought nor an energetic thought. New thought of a Hindu sage will inspire him to strengthen the Brahminical Social Order. Meditative detachment of a Hindu never results in the union with Dalits or with the other oppressed people but results only in the contempt for them.

HINDUS WITHIN CHRISTIANITY

Fruitful thought on social affairs and the woes of Dalits is never cultivated by a "Hindu mind". The "Hindu mind" in the people of other faiths can't even imagine to have a creative and fruitful thought. The "Hindu mind" in the best Christian theologians make them sterile and impotent. Christian Dalits suffer worse than "Hindu Dalits" mainly because of the oppressive theology of these theologians and the oppressive ideas of the powerful priests who never bother to cultivate energetic Christian thought in the place of Hindu thought. Hindu thought will never energize any person as it is psychologically oppressive, emotionally perverse, intellectually impotent and unproductive.

The "Hindu mind" never wishes to bring new hope into this world of death, division and despair. Productive thought always becomes a force that directs and guides the unthinking mass and motivates and inspires men from their historic slumber. Every man has an infinite energy of intellect. Mass has accumulated strength of thought. An energetic thought will never dry the intellectual vitality of the mass. When intellectual vitality of an individual is enervated the collection of such individuals feels drained of its collective energy.

AS A DESTRUCTIVE FORCE

The "Hindu mind" is well trained to prey on others to grow strong. At the expense of the intellectual vitality of another man, "Hindu mind" grows strong and robust. It doesn't have any basic requisites to grow strong by itself. It knows not the basic law of growing strong. Growing strong at the expense of the vitality of others is transgressing against the basic principles of growth.

The "Hindu mind" knows not the principle of reverence which promotes the vitality of a motivated individual as well as the dormant vitality of a dull man. Hinduism stands for self-centredness and selfishness. Intellectual growth of another man is never tolerated by the followers of Hinduism. A Hindu wants to preserve his life at the expense of another man. "To grow, another must grow smaller. To be liked, another must be disliked. To be important, others must be little and ordinary". So, the "Hindu mind" is a destructive force.

A reverent being considers another equally reverent. An irreverent being holds another as an object and expects others to hold him a reverent being. An irreverent being holds irreverent beings as reverent beings and reverent beings as irreverent beings. The "Hindu mind" holds itself as a symbol of reverence while it holds a Dalit as a symbol of aversion and ungodliness. Showing reverence to others means considering others as important. The "Hindu mind" never shows reverence to others while it considers itself as important. This exaggerated self importance of "Hindu mind" makes a Hindu suffer from paranoia. A paranoiac never allows liberty to others. An irreverent being feels that its liberty is at stake when it gives liberty to another being.

DALITS MUST NOT FIGHT

The "Hindu mind" takes liberty to tell Dalits what is good for a Hindu and what is bad for Dalits and what is bad for Dalits is to fight for liberty, equality and fraternity. The "Hindu mind" has great courage to deny any freedom of thought and freedom of speech. The Hindu courage never dares to think independently and never allows others to think independently.

The "Hindu mind" never respects the principles of growth and development. The growth and vitality of a man depends upon enormous opportunities for his hidden talent to be exploited. External motivational forces should be motivating the individual by creating conducive environment. No hostile force should be allowed to suppress the individual by preventing him from

taking individual efforts. But the "Hindu mind" knows not this principle. Only at the expense of Dalits and *shudras* can it grow and it is growth.

LAND OF IDIOCY

The "Hindu mind" periodically spends its time, mind, energy to oppress others. All its energy is expended in oppressing the weak. Hinduism never teaches the "Hindu mind" to expend its energy for nobler purposes. The Hindu ways are tyrannical and so its energy runs into oppressive channels. Extraordinary energy of India is negatively used. The Hindu philosophy never civilizes Hindus and a civilized man is one who develops his own vital force while encouraging the vital force of another man.

India is a land of idiocy mainly because of this sorry state.

The Hindus have tremendous energy. But they keep using it to gain the energy of Dalits. Dalits are the most vital force on this earth. But their psychological energy has been systematically drained to serve Hinduism by Hindu force. Dalits are forced to liberate themselves from the yoke of Brahminism. The creative purpose for a Dalit is to liberate himself from Brahminism. Immense creative abilities and potentialities will be realized if a Dalit starts realizing this creative purpose of life and takes consistent and relentless efforts to realize his ambition.

BRAHMINISM AS OCTOPUS

Every Dalit will have an extraordinary strength of thought and mind if he is determined to fight against Brahminism. Brahminism is an octopus. Fighting against this octopus one needs enormous intellectual strength and communicative power. If requires enormous independent thought-exercise to comprehend the mysterious and myriad ways of this monster.

This dominant object or dominant ambition or aim of a Dalit is to annihilate caste and to create a casteless society. A Dalit intellectual like Dr. Ambedkar has to take immense efforts to make himself a genius. He should not squander his energy by leading a fragmentary life by engaging himself doing little and odd things in life. There is no unity of his life if he does little things. There is no individuality. Creativity is not possible without taking efforts to assert one's own individuality.

DALIT SELF-HATRED

Repeated blows, constant failure and defeat in life down the centuries have killed all creative impulses of Dalits and also the sense of protest. Dalits are conditioned to lead a life of defeat and failure. Frustration is a psychological negative energy. Negative energy makes Dalits kill themselves as it saps the life impulses of Dalits. A man who is crushed by his own negative energy enjoys immense pleasure by punishing himself for what he is and what his life is and for the reason he is born. He enjoys self-pity. Reveling in self-pity is nothing less than self-rejection.

Dalit has learnt to long for pain and suffering. It is not a blow for him when he gets the news of the death of the most beloved. As he is already resigned to his miserable plight, he becomes a passive creature of failure. Failure acts on him. Fighting impulses are checked and abortive. He seeks companions of despair. He finds his group support of the frustrated. This group deadens all his vital force. The collection of frustrated Dalits form a community without any creative energy.

BROKEN INTO FRAGMENTS

The dehumanizing labour activity kills all his creative energy. Dalit hereditary division of labour inflicts pain on Dalit and so inflicts defeat on him. He has to do his labour activities which he dislikes. He never chooses his profession but is made to choose his hereditary labour activity. Inward freedom is killed. He has no reason to have pride in his labour activity. Though he does not do it to please his caste superiors, he is forced to please them. A scientist can produce a scientific creation as his sense of independence is respected and recognized. When his sense of pride is killed, he never feels himself. He is not himself. Dalit is a person an upper caste wanted him to be. He lives a fragmentary life. Fragmentary life never makes one a whole man. He is broken into fragments when he is made to lead a fragmentary life. A Dalit is forced to lead a life of bondage. His will is conditioned to assent to this demand of spiritual slavery.

CONVERSION

Spiritual freedom gives life to creative impulses. Freedom to choose one's profession, freedom to question the beliefs and ideas that crush a Dalit, freedom to do things that give him a sense of pride — all are spiritual aspects of the spiritual freedom. "Spiritual slavery" is enjoyed by Dalits. He is conditioned to enjoy it. Spiritual freedom gives a man enormous opportunities to grow. Hinduism rejects the spiritual freedom.

Conversion from Hinduism will make him feel that he is free from hell. Conversion will help him find himself.

His mind gets ignited. For centuries a cave might be knowing no light of the sun and of the moon. The light of the torch dispels the gloom in a fraction of second. The light of Budhism will dispel the gloom of the psychological and intellectual cave of a Dalit. Hence all movements should aim at banishing the centuries of Hindu darkness in the psychological and intellectual cave of Dalits by the light of Budha. ■

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