

Thus Spake Ambedkar

Right of Tribals to drink liquor

Sir, I beg to move:

"That at the end of article 38, the following be substituted: —

'and shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption of intoxicating drinks and drugs which are injurious to health except for medicinal purposes.'"

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: Mr. Vice-President, I accept the amendment of Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena subject to a further amendment, namely, that after the word "and" at the beginning of his amendment (86 of List IV) the words "in particular" be added.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: I really cannot understand how that amendment can be accepted by the Honourable Dr. Ambedkar. The amendment under discussion is mine.

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: Sir, I accept the amendment of Mr. Tyagi as amended by the amendment of Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena (laughter).

Mr. Vice-President: Mr. Tyagi is a great stickler for rights.

The honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: Sir, if I may say so, the right really belongs to me, because it is I who drafted the amendment he moved. (Renewed laughter).

Mr. Vice-Presidents: That puts the matter in a new light.

The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar: I do not think the House would have found any difficulty in accepting this amendment. Two points have been raised against it. One is by Prof. Khandekar who represents Kolhapur in this Assembly. I am sure that Mr. Khandekar has not sufficiently appreciated the fact that this clause is one of the clauses of an Article which enumerates what are called Directive Principles of Policy. There is therefore no compulsion on the State to act on this principle. Whether to act on this principle and when to do so are left to the State and public opinion. Therefore, if the State thinks that the time has not come for introducing prohibition or that it might be introduced gradually or partially, under these Directive Principles it has full liberty to act. I therefore do not think that we need have any compunction in this matter.

But, Sir, I was quite surprised at the speech delivered by my friend Mr. Jaipal Singh. He said that this matter ought not to be discussed at this stage, but should be postponed till we take up for consideration the report of the Advisory Committee

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings & Speeches, Vol. 13, (pages 366 - 367) 1994, Rs. 190. Govt. of Maharashtra, Bombay. The book may be had from Director, Government Printing, Stationery and Publications, Netaji Subhash Road, Bombay - 400, 004.

on Tribal areas. If he had read the Draft Constitution, particularly the Sixth Schedule, paragraph 12, he would have found that ample provision is made for safeguarding the position of the tribal people with regard to the question of prohibition. The scheme with regard to the tribal areas is that the law made by the State, whether by a province or by the Centre, does not automatically apply to that particular area. First of all, the law has to be made. Secondly, the District Councils or the Regional Councils which are established under this Constitution for the purposes of the administration of the affairs of these areas are given the power to say whether a particular law made by a province or by the Centre should be applied to that particular region inhabited by the tribal people or not, and particular mention is made with regard to the law relating to prohibition. I shall just read out sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 12 which occurs on page 184 for the Draft Constitution. It says:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in this Constitution —

(a) no Act of the legislature of the State in respect of any of the matters specified in paragraph 3 of this Schedule as matters with respect to which a District Council or a Regional Council may make laws, and no Act of the Legislature of the State prohibiting or restricting the consumption of any non-distilled alcoholic liquor shall apply to any autonomous district or autonomous region unless in either case the District Council for such district or having jurisdiction over such region by public notification so directs, and the District Council in giving such direction with respect to any Act may direct that the Act shall in its application to such district or region or any part thereof have effect subject to such exceptions or modifications as it thinks fit."

Now, I do not know what more my friend, Mr. Jaipal Singh, wants than the provision in paragraph 12 of the Sixth Schedule. My fear is that he has not read the Sixth Schedule: if he had read it, he would have realised that even though the State may apply its law regarding prohibition in any part of the country, it has no right to make it applicable to the tribal areas without the consent of the District Councils or the Regional Councils.

(To be continued)

2 simple mantras to kill Brahminism: Strengthen every ethnic identity & promote regionalism

Three powerful organisations — the Jamat-Ulma, brother Udit Raj's Confederation of SC/ST Organisations and the All-India Christian Council have launched the "Save India Front" by forging Dalit-Muslim-Christian unity. We congratulate them on their historic effort which is bound to succeed.

As pioneers in the 20-year-old Dalit-Muslim unity movement in India, we commend their sincere efforts to "Save India" from Hindu nazis who are bent upon destroying India.

As experts having had very long experience in this field, we want to place before the leaders of this movement two miracle *mantras* that can help expedite their movement to "Save India" by using the already existing two sociological wonders.

Fair-skinned devils: This great country, a subcontinent of nearly 10,000 (ten thousand) *jatis*, tribal entities and regional identities — a wonderful garden of varieties of flowers and fruits with many more fragrances and colours — once suffered the misfortune of being haunted by a fair-skinned devil from Central Asia about 3,000 years ago and since then this devil has been haunting and devouring the innocent indigenous Indians.

Great Indians like the Budha, Mahavira, Asoka and Chandra Gupta tried to save India from this devil. But only partially they succeeded.

The Kushans, Turks and Mughals coming from out of India contained this devil for a thousand years through the Turkic/Persian/Arabic/Islamic *mantras*. Then came the Westerners — the British, Portuguese and the French — who through their Western Christian *mantras* controlled the devil for 200 years.

Role of Gandhi: But M.K. Gandhi managed to destroy the effect of all these *mantras* not only by hiding the real face of the devil but by making it multi-faced. And today this devil has no single name. It is called by different persons by different names. The devil has become so treacherous and yet none in the country is capable of identifying it. It is becoming extremely difficult even to catch it, not to speak of killing it and thereby saving

India. It is differently called by different people as follows:

Its real, original and natural name is Brahminism. Earlier it was known as vedism (or *Vaidik Dharmaj*), Aryanism.

DV calls it Hindu nazism: Its followers, lovers, agents and promoters call it Arya Samaj, Parthana Samaj, Brahmo Samaj, Sanathana *Dharma*, *Vaidik Dharmaj*, Hindu Samaj. It has finally disguised itself with a new name called Hinduisim.

Gullible fools and lazy lots who do not want to learn also call it Hinduisim. So also some of its half dead victims.

Its political enemies call it *Manuvad*, *Hinduvad*, Hindu nationalism or *Hindutva*. Its critics call it Hindu racism, Hindu fascism. But *Dalit Voice* calls it Hindu nazism.

Brahminism steps out of India: All try to catch it by hand, foot or tail. To this day nobody has succeeded. They all failed.

This devil's hunger and greed has no limit. It wants to devour every Indian, including its friends and admirers. After swallowing all Indians, it now wants to go beyond India, move about the whole world and swallow some more human beings.

Because of its many faces, names, colours, complexions and confusions, it is impossible to even catch it, let alone kill it.

Nobody can even touch or go near it. Anybody doing so gets killed or swallowed. All efforts to kill this devil have failed and shall fail. Such is its proverbial capacity to survive. This is because the devil is in disguise. The brahminical "national" toilet papers have completely camouflaged it.

Time-tested mantra: But there are two modern-day *mantras* which can effortlessly confine the beast to its den, where it can kill itself or starve itself to slow death. We need not kill the devil. It will commit suicide without any effort on our part. The solution is so simple and time-tested.

One is an All-India *mantra* and the other is a

regional *mantra*. These are time-tested, self-generated, historically proved, powerful *mantras* to be recited without ever uttering the name of this devil.

(1) The all-India *mantra* is to strengthen every non-Hindu community and every ethnic **identity** (*jati*).

For details read our latest book, *Caste-A Nation Within the Nation*. (Books For Change, Bangalore - 560 025, 2002, Rs. 140, write to DV office, Bangalore).

Non-Hindus like the Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Lingayats, Parsis, Buddhists, Jains should become better Muslims, better Christians, better Sikhs and so on.

Strengthen ethnic identity: Do not go near it but polarise yourselves and go far away from it as much as possible and be away from its body, breath and smell.

All "Hindu" *jatris* like the Vokkaliga, Kuruba, Mala, Madiga, Devanga, Idiga etc. — all the 6,000-odd *jatris* — must strengthen their respective ethnic **identity**, assert their **identity** and be safe within the fortress of their respective *jati*. Caste or *jati* is the basic building brick of India and each caste is a **nation** within the nation. This *mantra* will keep every *jati* not only far away from this devil's body, breath and smell but also safe. This *mantra* is so powerful that the devil dare not come anywhere near them.

(2) At the regional level, all geographical regions, and sub-regions should identify themselves and strengthen their respective nationalities and sub-nationalities. The Tamil, Malayali, Telugu, Maratha, Kashmiri, Naga, Mizo, Tripuri, Nepali, Bojipuri, Awadh, Bengali, Konkani etc. — all must strengthen their respective national fortress and remain safe within their region.

Please note India is not a nation but a group of nations.

Sub-regional nationalities: Sub-regional nationalities like the Kodavas, Tuluvas, Konkani, Vanniars, Telangana, Saurashtra, Tribals must strengthen their subregional nationalities. So also the Maratha Kannadigas and the Hyderabad (Nizam) Kannadigas.

Already regional parties have sprung up in a big way weakening the "national" parties. This process must be speeded up so that real power gets totally decentralised and Delhi is made as weak as possible.

When these two *mantras* are recited, the devil of

Brahminism with its various faces, labels, brands and complexions dare not come anywhere near us. It will run away. Finding no Indians (Hindus) in India but finding only Tamils, Telugus, Muslims, Konkani, Malayalis, Kodavas etc., the Devil will be starved to death.

These are the two simplest *mantras* — gifts of nature — are taught to us by Mahatma Phuley, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Periyar E.V. Ramaswamy, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, Gaide Azam Jinnah in the recent past and by Basaveshwara, Kabir, Guru Nanak, Tiruvalluvar in the past and by Budha, Mahavir and Ravana in the ancient times.

These two *mantras* will cut the very root of the Enemy — Brahminism.

What is taught by generations of great teachers must be revived. This is the simple *mantra* to kill Brahminism and "Save India". (See also p. 8: "DV supports caste-based division of TN"). ■

84% of Indians read no daily paper

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: Look at the intellectual poverty of India. Daily newspapers (including language papers) are read by just 15.6 crore people in a country of over 100 crores. That means 84 out of 100 people don't read any daily.

India's Intellectual Desert, (which is also the title of our Editor's book, DSA-1999), is fast expanding making it the world's largest country of illiterates.

Bombay: Newspaper readership has grown by 20% in the country from 131 million in 1999 to 156 million in 2002 which is higher than the literacy growth (13%) in the same period, according to the National Readership Study, 2002 whose findings were released here on June 17. The reach of magazines has declined from 93.8 million in 1999 to 86.2 million in 2002, a 22% loss, taking into account the population growth during the same period. (*Hindu*, June 26, 2002).

In DV Oct. 16, 2000 p. 16: "Thank god, India still has hope", we had quoted an Asian Agerport that the combined circulation of all dailies and periodicals was just 13 crores. Just 2.5% of population read the papers.

The rest read nothing. Hence they are saved from the brahminical muck.

Who produced Osama bin Laden?

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: If the West Asian Muslim world is so backward, autocratic, lacks human development, stifles critical thought and innovation —the favourite accusations of the West — the blame squarely rests on the White Western racist rulers who control this region comprising 22 countries with a population of 280 million people, roughly equal to the USA.

This backwardness, suffocation and encouragement given to autocratic rulers violated every *sura* in the *Quran* and also pushed down Arabs who once led the world in science and creativity. The common masses of Muslims in this oil-rich region — deliberately kept like blind-folded prisoners — have started boiling from inside and their yearning for revolution finally produced Osama bin Laden.'

If anybody wants to witness the most glaring and the blood-curdling example of Western cruelty — American in particular — come to West Asia.

The Zionist occupation of Palestine for the past over 50 years is the most naked expression of White Western racist aggression on the innocent Arabs.

US blessing: Who is encouraging this "terrorist" head-hunting in the Muslim world? It is the USA which on one side complains of Muslim backwardness, lack of democracy and at the same time encourages ruthless autocratic rule in the name of tackling terrorism.

Since the Sept. 11, 2001 "terrorist" attacks on USA, the autocratic Muslim rulers of the region with full US blessing have further bludgeoned their people into submission and total suffocation.

This is the impression we get on reading the "Arab Human Development Report -2002" just published by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The UN itself is a stooge of America. If the

stooge itself can produce such a damaging report on West Asia then the whole Truth must be much more explosive.

What must come as a shock to the West is while its people are ageing and getting fatter, the region has the world's largest population of young people. The Muslims in this region are not only young but boiling with anger against the US — increasingly getting attracted to the "**Spirit of Islam**" that produced Osama bin Laden.

Respect for justice: Not only that. The religion of Islam has made the people of this region give the highest respect to ethics, humanity, morality and justice at a time when the American homes are getting shattered with teen age sex and pregnancy, drug, no respect for elders, crime and broken homes. Pleasure-loving killings. Nothing of it has happened in this region though the Western media goes on accusing the Muslims of being anti-woman.

The UNDP report warns that Arabs, who once led the world in science, are dropping even farther behind in scientific research and information technology. This is a damaging comment and the Muslims would do well to take it seriously though once again the blame rests on their Western bosses who control every Muslim country.

What we can make out of the UNDP report is that Islam is not the cause of delaying or impeding the Arab world's advance towards intellectual renaissance but the role played by West, particularly the USA. ■

DV May 16, 2002 p.8: "US fails to catch Osama & end "terrorism"

DV Oct.16, 1999 p.4: "Islamic terrorism & bin Laden".

DV Dec.1, 1998 p.6: "Spirit of Islam produces bin Laden: Hero of revolutionary Muslims". ■

Turkey struggling to get out of Zionist embrace

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: In the whole of Muslim world, particularly West Asia, we cannot find a more shameless burn-licker of the West than Turkey. Once the centre of a great empire, seat of the Muslim caliphate, today Turkey is rolling under the feat of White Western racists begging for a seat in the European Union. But the West is simply saying no. Even after waiting for 40 long years, Turkey

is not tired, not ashamed. Such is the depth of degeneration in the Muslim world. As days pass West is becoming more and more suspicious of Muslims. Anti-Islamic hatred is boiling the Western blood. Under such circumstances, how can Turkey expect admission to EU? Turks are not Arabs. Turkey is not an "Islamic state" but ruled by a coterie of pro-Western, corrupt

army generals though the West goes on praising the Turkish democracy. The West praises Turkey because it goes to bed with zionists who control America.

Attack on Iraq: Turkey is now in the news because its US-imposed "democracy" is collapsing. But the US has high stakes in this country of 68 millions because it provides all defence facility for the US to attack the neighbouring Iraq.

Turkey's fall began with its ruthless Westernisation under Kamal Ataturk, lionised by the West but held in contempt by the Muslims.

The Turks are tired of the Western stooges manipulating the country's politics. The West dismissed the veteran Islamic democratically elected Prime Minister Erbakan in 1997, later banned his party.

But the people want Turkey's return to its Islamic roots and a good-bye to its fake honeymoon with the West.

Fall of George Bush begins ?

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: The big news is that war-monger Bush, the goofy President of US, is sinking. DV had predicted his fall long back. But now Western media, for long admirers of his anti-Muslim tantrums, itself is coming out with stories of the gradual fall of this Zionist agent.

All those who jump too high will fall and break their bones. Bush is no exception.

Zionist market manipulation: Actually Bush did not win the presidential election. The victory was that Al Gore. But the Sept. 11, 2001 "terrorist attack", engineered by the zionists who manipulated the American minds through their monopoly media, gave him the boost. Even this "boost" was the handwork of the zionists. Having established full control over the Bush Administration and even over the American Parliament, the zionists have started manipulating the market. The latest corporate scandals are part of this Zionist conspiracy to make tons of money at the cost of American investors.

Warning on Iraq: Meanwhile, Bush has failed even in his anti-terrorist operation. (DV May 16, 2002 p.8: "*US fails to catch Osama & end terrorism*").

His second failure is in his inability to stop the corporate scandals. His Afghan policy is a mess. Palestinian crisis, once again a Zionist handwork, has given Bush a very bad name. So suddenly, the Bush downturn has begun. He is fast rolling downhill.

If Bush refuses to heed all these warnings and goes ahead with his promised attack on Iraq — opposed

The new emerging leader is Tayyip Erdogan. But will the West, which talks so much of democracy, allow the Turks to democratically elect Erdogan as its new PM? ■

Reference:

DV Jan. 1, 1999 p. 9: "West refusing to allow democracy to flourish in Turkey".

DV April 1, 1998 p.7: "Democracy killed in Turkey".

DV Feb. 16, 1998 p.6: "Why Amnesty international is silent on Algeria? & "Is it possible to ban Spirit of Islam? Western blunders in Turkey".

DV Jan. 16, 1998 p.6: "Rebuffed by West, Turkey must now return to its Islamic roots".

DV May 1, 1997 p.21: "West-inspired coup to oust Erbakan".

DV Aug. 16, 1996 p.7: "DV proves right on Turkey".

DV March 16, 1996 p.23: "Western mischief in Turkey".

DV Jan. 16, 1996 p.21: "Islamic revolution in Turkey, Algeria". ■

even by his White Western allies — there will be all-round revolt against him. The Muslim world will explode. Bush is warned. (DV Edit July 16, 2002: "*EU leadership & Western intellectuals must control this mad Bush & stop this race for Third World War*"). ■

America is racist

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: A word-famous stooge of the White Western racists, Michael Jackson, has finally received the kick.

New York: "King of Pop" Michael Jackson lashed out at a "conspiracy" between the media and a "racist" recording industry to label him a deranged child-molester and wreck his career. Jackson, who is currently mired in a bitter public dispute with his recording company, Sony Music, claimed on July 9, 2002, he had been increasingly targeted as his fame grew. "The minute I started breaking the all-time record sale... overnight they called me a freak, they called me a homosexual, they called me a child molester", Jackson told a "music summit" arranged by civil rights leader Al Sharpton to fight the power of the world's top five recording majors. "They said I bleached my skin. They did everything to turn the public against me", he said. "It is all a big conspiracy". I know my race. I just look in the mirror, I know I'm Black" (AFP - *Deccan Herald*, July 11, 2002).

The American Blacks have long rejected this fellow. In spite of pouring milk to the serpent for years, the serpent has finally bit him. America is racist. ■

BCs not enemy of Dalits but blood brothers

GURNAM SINGH MUKTSAR, 12 - GURU ANGAD NAGAR, MUKTSAR - 152 026

This refers to your touching Editorial of June 1, 2002 "Who is enemy of Dalits: Brahminism or Backwards? Babasahab thoughts distorted to confuse Dalits & Muslims".

Backward Castes are never the enemy of Dalits but both are blood brothers. Together both were first called "shudras, avarnas and then Untouchables and "low castes". They were then divided into different sections on the basis of their occupations. Those who managed to do all the necessary jobs in upper caste (Hindu) homes were named Touchables — meaning those slaves who could be touched for selfish reasons. Touchables were, given the right of entrant and touchability.

Hindu supremacy: Their own Untouchable brothers were dragged to hateful occupations. Touchable sections were happy to have gained the right to enter upper caste home to touch water, cots, water pots, clothes, ornaments, animals etc. These Touchable slaves all along with their women were forced to work for the upper castes. But the Dalits who refused to acknowledge the Hindu supremacy fought against their slavery and oppression. They were made to totally depend on food, clothing, shelter on upper castes.

It is the Hindu/upper caste/Aryans who divided the blood brothers into different sections.

Backward Caste employees, who worked with me and were very close to me refused to join us in our struggle for reservations. They joined the Hindus and fought us.

In 1927-28, we had 2,940 castes of SCs. The Brahmin-Bania leadership managed to reduce the number of Untouchable castes.

Chamars in Gujarat: In Gandhi's Gujarat, Chamars have been classified under BCs till 1985. But BC castes are SCs in some other states.

What is the real problem? The Hindus have divided the blood brothers, fooled them and made them fight each other. BCs being unthinking people are doing the job of fighting us on behalf of Brahmins. Thakurs and Baniyas. This is so all over India.

But as you have rightly put it the BCs are not Aryans but Dravidians and our brothers.

Neither the SC/ST nor the BCs are ready to

understand the rule of caste and the caste contradictions. This is the problem. We have no media to impress this point to SCs and BCs.

Laloo Prasad Yadav is fighting the Brahmins but he worships their gods. Mulayam Singh has a Hindu mind. All Marathas are Hindus.

I can assure our people that in coming years we will be able to convince BC intellectuals. In Punjab, we can count 1,000 BC people. *Gurbani* written by Sant Guru Nandev, Sant Guru Saini (both BCs) and Dalit saints Kabir and Ravidass and *bani* of all gurus will help us in this direction.

I am a Dalit and a Sikh. I have also maintained that Sikhism and Ambedkarism were the product of Backward Caste movement.

Vaidik conspiracy

K.P. ANGULIA AT/PO: MATHILLI, MALKANGIRI DT. - 764 044

This is a reply to all those fascist forces misguiding our people saying that BCs are the Enemy of Dalits. But history tells us that BCs are not the enemy of Dalits but our blood brothers. BCs and Dalits are non-Aryans hence they are Dravidians and the original masters of this land. BC leader Jyoti Rao Phule sacrificed his life to liberate Dalits. So also Periyar E.V. Ramaswamy. A BC leader sent Babasahab Ambedkar to America for higher studies.

Sahu Maharaj declared Babasahab as the hero of Bahujan Samaj. Sahu Maharaj of Kolhapur gave reservation to SC/BCs in services and education for the first time in India. Dalits played an important role in Mandal Commission agitation to secure reservation to BCs. Then how can we say that BCs are Enemy No.1? What is the evidence? This is a brahminical conspiracy. ■

THE MUSLIMS OF THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT AFTER THE SEPT. 11 ATTACKS

Editor: Frederic Grare

2002 pp. 140 Rs. 495.

Indian Research Press

B-4/22, Saldarjung Enclave
New Delhi - 110 029

DV supports caste-based division of TN

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore: We congratulate Dr. S. Ramadoss, founder chief of the Pattali Makkal Katchi (PMK), and his Vanniyar *jati* Sangham for demanding division of Tamil Nadu and creation of a separate state for his *jati* people comprising the Northern districts of the state (*Asian Age* July 20, 2002).

What is the implication of Dr. Ramadoss demand? It means that even such a strong language of Tamil, India's most ancient, did not unite the people of TN. Nor Periyar E.V. Ramaswamy's movement instilling the Dravidian pride among Tamils united

the people of TN. Nothing united the people. But caste alone united the people because caste is a **nation** in India. The entire Vanniyar *jati* people are solidly behind Dr. Ramadoss because the Vanniyars know that they can get justice only within the *jati*.

This is the thesis of our just published book, *Caste — A Nation Within the Nation*.

Caste-based parties: Caste or subcaste is the one and the only **identity** that binds people in India. Hence each caste has to strengthen its *identity* by forming caste associations, then going for caste-based political parties and then demanding their own separate **nation**.

"Caste *identity*" will non-violently

kill the "national" identity or the Hindu nation of the Hindu nazis. Brahminism, the political ideology of the Hindu nazis, can be tackled only through "caste *identity*".

Dr. Ramadoss demand is fully in conformity with our thesis that caste is a **nation**. For Dr. Ramadoss and his *jati* people, Vanniyars, are a separate **nation**. According to him Vanniyars constitute about 20% of the TN population and hence they are entitled to have their own **nation**. He is right.

Pallar statehood: Similarly the Pallars, who have taken the new

CASTE — A Nation Within The Nation

(Recipe for a Bloodless Revolution)

V.T. Rajshaker

2002

pp. 120 Rs. 140 (US\$10)

Books for Change

For copies write to *Dalit Voice* office, Bangalore.

name of Devendra Kula Vellalar (DKV) are also fully justified if they demand statehood. In the Southern districts of TN, they are a major force.

There are two other major **nations** in TN — Paraiyals and Thevars — who too have a big population strength and constitute a separate **nation**. Next comes the Nadars. TN also has a Muslim population.

Tamil Nadu, once the hope of whole South India if not the country, has plunged deep into chaos and confusion because it is ruled by two

political leaders whose *jatis* have no strength of numbers. The *Cut-Throat* belongs to the barber *jati* and the *Bangalore Papatti* a Brahmin.

That is why both the leaders denounced Dr. Ramadoss demand and the *Papatti* threatened to arrest him for "demanding secession".

A person becomes a leader in India solely on account of his *jati* strength. Politics itself has become *jati*-based. This is an entirely new development brought about by caste. The Indian

nationhood has become a myth. *Jati* has killed the "Indian nation". The emerging force is *jati*. And each *jati* is a **nation** within the nation. This is the thesis of our latest book just published. Dr.

Ramadoss must launch an agitation to divide TN on caste basis assuring other minor *jatis* full representation in proportion to their population.

DV will support the agitation. Then only the once glorious Tamil country (Elam) will re-emerge. And the LTTE, which is spearheading the Elam revolution, will have to play a leading role.

Caste will kill both the *Bangalore Papatti* and the *Cut-Throat* and help cleanse the dirty, stinking pond that is Tamil Nadu today.

DV Sept. 16, 1999 p.13: "Caste identity thesis benefits Devendras".

DV Jan. 16, 1999 p.22: "Caste identity killing TN's two oppressive DMK & AIADMK".

DV April 16, 1998 p.9: "Rise of TN's caste-based parties kills Periyar's Dravidian movement".

DV Feb. 16, 1998 p.10 "Jati identity will be deadliest Ambedkarite weapon to fight brahminism".

DV Feb. 1, 1998 p.14: "Caste as a nation of Nadars".

DV Nov. 16, 1997: "TN Dalit-wadis trying to destroy identity of Devendras".

DV Sept. 1, 1997 p.7: "TN Dalits make history: Dr. Krishnaswamy emerges as new leader".

DV July 16, 1997 p.5: "Devendra Kula Vellalar launched caste war to secure jati identity".

DV Edit June 1, 1997: "A Dalit subcaste acquires identity....".

Caste

a nation within the nation

recipe for a bloodless revolution

The author argues...

Caste is the real 'nation' in India. 'The Aryan upper castes became rulers of India by only strengthening their jati identity. We call upon the jatis among our Bahujans (SC/ST/BCs) to strengthen their identity.'

The moment each jati becomes conscious of its roots (its past history, glorious heritage, its heroes and heroines, its forefathers, its achievements) then such a jati will automatically acquire tremendous pride. All the self-hated which our people suffer will vanish the moment every Dalit becomes proud and self-confident. They will acquire new courage and new weapons.

Caste - a nation within the nation, a well-timed book, is powerful and grippingly written. ...a time has come for the rulers of India to recognise caste and allow caste to decide India's future.. Or else, even as the Asian Third World countries are galloping, India will be left alone.'

PRE-PUBLICATION OFFER
40%

Caste
a nation
within
the
nation

recipe for a bloodless revolution

VT Rajshekhar

ISBN: 81-87380-64-0
Rs 140/- in India
US\$ 10.00 outside India

Latest by
VT Rajshekhar

Please send the book to my address given below. Payment enclosed.

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

e-mail:

*Payment through DD drawn in favour of
ActionAid Karnataka Project (AKP)-Books for Change*

*(Pb: Add Rs20/- per book + Rs5/- for every additional copy
towards postage and handling)*

BOOKS FOR CHANGE
Advocating for Development

139 Richmond Road, Bangalore 560 025
Phone: +91-80-5586682 Fax: +91-80-5586284
e-mail: bfc@actionaidindia.org

To speed up unity with Dalits, Muslims must fight Brahminism

GAIL OMVEDT, KASEGAON, SANGLI DT., - 415 404

Islam is a religion of egalitarianism and brotherhood. After the defeat of Buddhism, it maintained these values in India for centuries. Not only did those who became Muslims benefit by escaping from caste restrictions, but Muslim rule also provided a social and political context for the growth of Bhakti movements. Within these, to a greater or less degree, Dalits and "low castes" sought a religious equality and expressed a devotionism which heralded a supreme deity not very different from Allah. Syncretic cults also emerged, large and small, and the masses sought to memorialize holy men of whatever faith. The larger of the new cults, such as Sikhism and the Kabir Panth, probably never saw themselves as separate religions or as part of Hinduism or Muslims' until recently.

During the pre-colonial period, there was no all-India "Muslim community" or "Hindu community" as such. Indian culture was complex, syncretic, pluralistic. It was this that changed radically during British rule. Making self-interested use of modern scholarship, the "Aryan theory" and the British tendency to identify all who were not Muslims or Christians as "Hindus", the brahminic elite formulated what we now call "Hinduism" a religion that was said to be the "national" one of the people of India, but taking the Vedas as its source and privileging the Sanskrit tradition.

Dalits "called" Hindus: Previously the word "Hindu" had referred to India as a region. It was "al-Hind" to the Islamic world. Now religion and nation were identified. During this period a process began in which gradually the Bahujan majority began to identify themselves as "Hindus" — and in opposition to these others began to see themselves as "Muslims" within which an orthodox Islamic identity was emphasized. In this process, the syncretistic and bridging, often local, spiritual traditions that had been created were drawn into the vortex of identifying with one of the two "large" religious communities.

Dalits were caught in this process. They were defined, by the elite, as "Hindus" — though they had few rights within orthodox Hinduism and were not allowed even into the temples of the Bhakti cults. Almost all elite nationalists, including Gandhi, argued that Dalits should not identify with an alien religion but instead seek to reform their own religion. Yet it was only by a strange, imposed definition that Dalits could be said to be part of the Vedic-identified Hinduism which had never given

them religious or social rights. During much of the colonial period also Muslims and Dalits were allies. They had in common a fear — often a hatred — of the dominant Brahminism. As Dr. Ambedkar pointed out in his book, *Thoughts on Pakistan*, between 1920 and 1937 it was Muslims, Dalits and non-Brahmins who had worked the reforms, holding office in provincial assemblies and working in alliance on issues involving constructing the nation — on programmes which included opening up water tanks, roads, schools to Untouchables.

In areas such as Bengal, a strong political alliance was formed between the Namasudra (Dalit) movement and the Muslims which gained strength because both were predominantly tenants fighting anti-landlord struggles.

Muslim failure: However, these alliances did not gain a strong philosophical basis. Most Dalits, even today, do not want to identify either as Hindu or Muslim. But Muslims did not appreciate this and failed to articulate an understanding of the oppressiveness of the caste system. As Muslims divided into more orthodox and more liberal, it was the gandhian policies that provided the framework for the more "liberal" approach, that is for those who associated with the Congress Party. (The left was on the whole irrelevant during this process since it did not deal with issues of culture).

Gandhi sought unity between Hindus and Muslims as a major plank of the Congress—but it was a unity based on accepting Brahminism within Hindu society.

Ram was casteist: In the phrase, "Ram-Rahim", whatever "Rahim" may have symbolized, Ram represented a feudal, casteist patriarchal king who had killed the Shudra Shambuk for attempting *tapascharya*. "Ram Raj" had nothing to offer to Dalits. Gandhi was insistent in taking them as part of the "Hindu community" and thus opposed separate electorates for Dalits with a fervor that he never felt with Hindus. In other words, the conditions implicitly put forward by Gandhi for Hindu-Muslim unity included an acceptance of the framework of the caste system as it was imposed on Dalits and other lower castes. Muslims were not to interfere in "Hindu" religion.

Dr. Ambedkar and other anti-caste reformers offered a different basis for unity, a common opposition to Brahminism and caste. But this was ignored by liberal

Muslims. The orthodox Muslims, in contrast, simply emphasized conversion. This left a situation again, where Dalits seemed to be forced into the "Hindu" framework. Finally to discourage a Dalit-Muslim alliance those Dalits in Bengal and Hyderabad who had been particular supporters of independent Muslim states had very bad experiences. In Hyderabad, rural Dalits found themselves caught between two pincers of violence, atrocities committed against them both by the Razakars and then by the returning Hindus. In East Pakistan, though Dalits had supported he Muslims many were attacked as "Hindus" and leaders like Jogendranath Mandal eventually fled back to India. A solid Dalit-Muslim alliance for the future should be directed to building a prosperous, equalitarian, caste and patriarchy-free India. Muslims can make their contributions in three major ways:

(1) By rebuilding a Muslim culture that regains the artistic and scientific accomplishments of the past, that stands for modernism and an understanding of

Islam that brings forth its egalitarianism as well as cultural-artistic achievements. Islam directed to maintaining its identity within a genuinely pluralistic society can be a powerful force for reconstructing the bases of an Indian national community.

(2) By recognizing that within the Indian society, there is a special task of fighting Brahminism that has become dominant, that maintains casteism and feudal attitudes. Freeing Indian culture from the stranglehold of Brahminism will provide the basis for a genuine national development. This cannot be done with an acceptance of gandhism as the framework for "Hindu-Muslim unity". It can only be done by listening to the *Dalit Voice*, to Dr. Ambedkar, Phule, Periyar, Iyothee Thass and Mayawati, Kanshi Ram and others today.

(3) As Dalits search for a new faith, Islam will participate in this process. Dalits must be respected as an autonomous community; as they themselves break more and more decisively with Brahminism, they will go diverse ways, and in the process some will turn to Islam.

COMMUNICATION

Bleak future for Indian Muslims

SHAMSUL HUDA, DEPT. OF LITERATURE, JAMIA MILLIA, NEW DELHI - 110 025

For sometime I have been thinking to have an extensive discussion with you regarding the Indian Muslims in particular.

Actually I have begun to feel suffocated being a Muslim first and then an Indian - (Indian Muslim). I have lost every hope that Indian Muslims are going to improve themselves anyway. You believe it or not but this is my steely belief that they are finished now. To expect any change, any betterment in them is nothing else but a complete waste of time and energy. Rather, as I see, the situation will worsen further.

Sometime when I see Muslims' especially Indian Muslims' cowardice, difunctional, stillness, ignorance and unreasonable religious belief, I become so despondent and heavy-hearted. Moreover every Muslim has become so presumptuous and self-important that he is not ready to accept and recognize any one, not even his own brother, a Muslim. Every Muslim is considering oneself next to Allah.

Muslims have misunderstood the religion, Islam. They are badly in need of reformation or they are certainly going to meet death and destruction. There are several nonsense that are mistakenly being practised by Muslims in the name of Islam.

But first of all Muslims will have to reject their conservative and block-headed religious leaders (*ulema*) outright if they want any reform for the life of Islam and themselves. Because these leaders (*ulema*) are misrepresenting Islam to the Muslim mass. And that is only because either they (*ulema*) themselves have misunderstood Islam and so they are misrepresenting it or they are intentionally doing so just to keep the mass backward for their (*ulema*) domination of the community.

Many communities and religions came and disappeared from the world. Muslims should remove their misconception that they will not. Rather, my analysis says they are the next to become lost.

Palaka Dasa, <palakad@hotmail.com>: I am an African-American who has been studying the Dalit Panthers, it's origins and goals. I was wondering if there are any institutions I could contact in America that could give me more information about what is going on and how I could help. Or when I go to India what places I could visit to see some of the other activities and goals of the Dalit people.

Akhil Hussain, c/o Ismail Sahab, 3945 - Blackburnway, Duluth, GA - 360 096, USA: I know you from your day in the *Indian Express*, Bombay, and I am also a great admirer of your cause. I am also a avid reader of *Dalit Voice*. You are carrying out a relentless battle against casteist and oppressive system in our country.

Kaukab Siddique, PO Box - 356, Kingsville, MD 21087, USA: The Jews occupied Palestine. They drove out the people and tried to make servants and slaves out of the people they did not drive out. The Palestinians tried to resist but were disarmed. The only option left to the Palestinians (if they do not accept slavery) is the martyrdom operation. Now Israel under Sharon indicates that it will kill the leaders of resistance even if it means killing children. Sharon is under the illusion that by killing Islamic resistance leaders, it can snuff out the ability to fight back and force the people to get down on their knees. The July 23 "demonstration by hundreds of thousands of people at Salah Shehadeh's funeral" showed clearly that Sharon's move has backfired. Even Bush is worried. Does Islam have any scope for peace with Israel which has taken over the land of Palestine by force. The quran has the following answer:

"And slay them wherever you catch them, and turn them out from where they have turned you out: for oppression is worse than slaughter. But fight them not at the Sacred Mosque unless they fight you there. But if they fight you, slay them. Such is the reward of those who suppress faith". (2:191).

India's dependence on Muslims: (1) India imported almost \$2 billion of oil and chemicals from Saudi Arabia and \$2.27 billion of oil and kerosene from Iran in 2000. In total 38% of the crude that India needs is imported from OPEC countries of the Gulf i.e. Iran, Saudi Arabia, Dubai, Abu-Dhabi. (2) There are over 3.5 million Indians working in the Gulf countries, they contribute substantially to India's foreign exchange reserves through their remittances, which is officially over \$4 billions annually (unofficially it may be double or triple this figure). Considering that 300 million people live below

the poverty line (i.e. \$1 a day), the number of Indian working abroad and the remittance they send home is a significant factor in the Indian economy. (3) Also India's exports to Muslim countries amounted to 22% of its total (\$19 billion) exports and its imports from Muslim countries amounted to 40% of its total (\$24 billion) imports. Muslim countries are a major trading partner with India and hence can exert a considerable economic pressure upon India. The geographical location of India is such that it needs to utilize the waterways and the air space of Muslim countries for its trade as it is almost surrounded by Muslim countries. Also the combined military strength of the Muslim world cannot be matched by any nation, it has an available military man power exceeding 320 million and a defense budget of over \$54 billion. (4) Considering that Indian has a coalition govt. and with almost 25% of its population being Muslims, the Islamic world could exert immense economic and political pressure on India to change its policies towards the Kashmir issue, not to mention the general treatment of Indian Muslim population within the other Indian states. The rulers of Pakistan have made the Kashmir issue a bilateral matter involving only India and Pakistan. However it should be an issue for the whole Muslim *ummah*. (5) Likewise no ruler in the Islamic lands has taken up the cause of the Muslims of India.

C. Perianayagam, Headmaster (Retd.) Main Road, Ayandur PO, Tirukoilur, Villupuram, TN - 605 755: Our workshop on the "Role of Dalit intellectuals and activists making the Dalit leadership work in the interest of the ordinary Dalit" was very interesting and fruitful. Participants from all over Tamil Nadu attended. Two participants from Kerala and one from Karnataka also participated. Dr. Bharat Jhunjhunwala from Delhi gave valuable suggestions and made the workshop very interesting and lively. The whole proceedings of the workshop will be published in the form of a small booklet very soon. The responsibility is entrusted to Dr. Bharat.

V.C. Munuswamy, 13/7 - Vigneshwar Nagar 1st Street, Madipakkam PO, Madras - 600 091: I have the pleasure of going through your latest book, *Brahminism* (Dalit Sahitya Akademy, 2002). I hope you will appreciate my comments and criticisms on your monumental work. The impression I get on reading the book is that Brahminism is so powerful that it animates, motivates and dominates everything, national and international. You lionise Brahminism, which is nothing but Brahmin orthodoxy — *Sanatana Dharma*, a Brahmin way of living. You even seem to imply that this demon of Brahminism is ever growing by leaps and bounds and the fight against it is

quite unrewarding and unsuccessful and may fail ultimately. Is that the way to organise, motivate and lead any onslaught on this bastion of orthodoxy, obscurantism and oppression of mankind? The fight against Brahminism is not so easy, anyone may agree but should it be given up on that account? Should one despair and get demoralised or disheartened? The fight must go on at any cost, it may take even generations to accomplish it successfully and yet, it should not be given up. Brahminism conquered Dravidianism and like any other conqueror imposed its own culture to enslave the defeated. And hence the only way for emancipation of the enslaved is revolt and rebellion. And that is the way shown by Mahavira and Budha. When you free yourself

Bharuch Dalit-Muslim meet will create history

LYAS PATEL, KHANPUR DEH, BHARUCH DT. - 392 150

from the faith in god, soul, *karma* and *dharma*, you become free, independent and invincible. Go back to your past. It was glorious indeed. In a desperate fight, one should never underestimate the power or potency of the enemy and similarly it should not be overestimated and become overawed either. I hope you agree. Brahminism has allied itself with zionism (Israel) and World Capitalism (the USA) and is consolidating itself within this country to wipe out all resistance to it, in any form or in any hue. Then, as you

suggest, it is becoming indomitable, invincible and incorrigible. So what? Should we succumb? We must pursue the goal with redoubled vigour and indomitable spirit and determination. For, we have nothing to lose in this historic fight: we have everything to gain. We may lose our chains and gain a world, free from oppression, exploitation and discrimination. By perusing the book one gets the impression that Brahminism is an octopus, superhuman, omnipotent and hence invincible or immortal. That is not true. It may collapse like the former Soviet Union and what is needed is a good, sustained strategy and leadership. We need Periyarism (rationalism, atheism and humanism) to demolish Brahminism. You have stated that Periyar was the foremost and the most successful fighter against the dark force (*sanatanism*). It is therefore necessary to revive and revitalise and regroup these forces under the banner of Periyarism to

carry on the crusade. Can you see? The enemy looks powerful because we are weak. How to weaken the enemy? And how to improve our own strength? If you grow strong, the enemy could be challenged without any fear or fright. Go back to your own culture and draw inspiration. As you say "the core elite group" or "the strategic minority" or the "ruling class" is just 3%, a microscopic minority. But they oppress, enslave and exploit the rest of 97%. What a disgrace and a shame. This small minority is able to divide and rule by sowing seeds of suspicion and hatred and jealousy among the majority. It employs various ruses, ploys and stratagems according to the needs of the situation and succeeds in its game. Why should the victims get themselves cheated, defrauded and defeated? As in the fable, the lion separated the bulls and killed them one after the other but it could not take on them when they gave resistance unitedly. Each stick could be easily broken but as a bundle it cannot be. We thus forget the elementary truth. Let us unite and offer a united front that is invincible or irresistible. That should be our endeavour. How to achieve this unity among this scattered, dispirited opposition? You attack the *shudras* (landed), who sometimes fight the Dalits or the Untouchables by calling them bum-lickers. You know

they are misled or misguided missiles. How to bring them to your fold? How to put sense into their blockheads? That should be our endeavour. You scare them and scold them away. This is neither prudence nor wisdom. Please think over. Ram killed Ravan by weaning away Vibishana, he also killed Wali by putting Sugriva in the front but himself hiding from behind a tree and aiming the deadly arrow. That is the strategy of Brahminism, as you know. Our own people are used as pawns in the game. Dalits are the most oppressed by Brahminism and hence they must be the most uncompromising in their fight against the oppressor. But what do we see in India today? The Bahujans (Mayavatis) are making a common cause with *Manuvadis* (BJP) in UP. They think that fighting Mulayam Singh is more urgent than fighting the *Hindutva* forces. Is it correct? Agan, look at Bihar. Laloo Prasad is the proclaimed enemy of *Hindutva* forces

in Bihar and India also. But Ramvilas Paswan and his cohorts join with the *Hindutva* forces to finish him off, politically. Is it wise? Why not *Dalit Voice* Educate these Bahujans who are enticed and engaged and entrapped by the *Hindutva* forces? Similarly, as you had admitted, Brahmins are using the Dalits, Advaitasis and *sudras* to fight for them and their narrow ends. Why not the *Dalit Voice* Educate these poor people and wean them off? As you rightly pointed out the non-Brahmin movement was clearly split by the Brahmin conspiracy. The Dravidian parties weaken themselves by their internal and personal feuds and they also vie with one another in swearing allegiance to the forces of *Hindutva* - a common enemy and age-old oppressor. Why not the *Dalit Voice* Educate them and enlighten them? In my considered opinion the *Dalit Voice* seems to commit the same blunder as the great Jewish scholar, Pojidakov, did in his *Aryan Myth* by only diagnosing but not suggesting a cure for the raging malady or scourge called Brahminism. And further, today the Dalits of Tamil Nadu are pitted against the Most Backwards like the Yaminnyars and Thevars. They are dead set against each other and the enemy thrives on their quarrels. Why not the *Dalit Voice* bring them to their senses and make them offer the united front? Finally, you also suggested that even the Ambedkar movement is getting weaker and may be "swallowed up" by Brahminism. Why not *Dalit Voice* prevent this disaster? Here I am anguished and also amused to read your kind reference to "Sister" Uma Bharati in the enemy camp. Has she not led the vandalism on the Babri Masjid? Has she not praised the role of Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister, during his mayhem, pogrom, carnage and mass murder? Of late, no less a person than our President, K.R. Narayanan, is a victim of Brahminism. He was deprived of his second term for the simple reason that he expressed some opinion unpalatable like the need for a quota for the SCs and STs in the higher judiciary of the land. Having become a victim, will he come out openly against this vicious *Hindutva*? Will he carry on a crusade? He must and the *Dalit Voice* should urge him to take up the gauntlet. The need of the hour is unity, sanity and solidarity among the 85% of the non-Hindu population first. Then they should bridge their differences with the *sudras* whom the *Dalit Voice* derides as bum-flickers.

K. Prakash, TGT (M), Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Chikkajogihalli - 583 126: A common Brahmin of today who sticks on to rituals prescribed by his forefathers often has the following three myths or assumptions:

(1) Brahmins have preserved the glorious heritage of India over centuries. (2) Brahmins have made

significant contributions to the native society. (3) Brahmins are victimised by reverse discrimination occurring due to constitutional reservations for weaker sections.

Such a Brahmin will be altogether shocked to see the deep criticism on the ideology of Brahminism which he confuses for an attack on the Brahmin community itself. In a way V.T. Rajshekar proves correct when he says that the Brahmin-controlled media has been brainwashing the common man in the name of glorious past. The author begins his attack on Brahminism by asking the question, "Is social justice possible without destroying Brahminism?" Indeed his view is that Brahminism cannot ensure social justice. He quotes the opinion of eminent Brahmins itself to support his view. Next, the author very well exposes the contradictions in "sacred scriptures" and Max Muller's contribution to promote "Aryan myth". Further, he moves a step ahead when Brahmins and Jews get equated. However, the author has failed to highlight the important aspects of zionism and how it is harmful to mankind. In chapters further he very well discusses to depth how Brahminism is harming the mankind and crushing human rights. He notes that Brahminism has indeed preserved for centuries the techniques of human exploitation and Max Muller's work has made it available to the West, especially the Germans. Thus the author becomes very much successful in establishing Brahminism as "Father of Racism, Nazism, Fascism and Zionism". The defect in author's approach is that in an eagerness to equate zionism and Brahminism he doesn't highlight the important aspects of zionism that is harmful to mankind. Another area where the author has failed is in establishing Brahminism as a harmful philosophy to Brahmins themselves whose economic conditions are dependent upon the mercy of their employers. He could have highlighted the fact that lack of industriousness among Brahmins has made them to manufacture the ideology of Brahminism using which they make their living. It is very much clear that a Brahmin usually makes his livelihood by his literary ability i.e. to read, write and memorise. This alone has made them to align with all the invaders of our land and leave the natives to exploitation. It is not clear what is an actual Brahmin in the author's opinion. In fact priestly class exists in all religions and how Indian priestly class has turned to such a shameful level is not made clear. The main area which the author has neglected is the plight of Untouchables under Brahminism. He could have incorporated a few chapters of the book, (*Black Untouchables of India*, Clarity Press, 1995-Third

Edition) written by him, showing that the practice of untouchability is a direct consequence of discriminations nurtured by Brahminism. No doubt a common Brahmin is altogether shocked to see the reality. The author could have tried to convince such readers that it is the consequence of Brahmin-controlled media which brainwashes the people in the name of glorious past. The author could have added a chapter on the North-Eastern hilly regions whose residents are far away from the influence of Brahminism. The Brahmins should welcome this book because it makes everyone to think upon our foolishness and go for an alternative. To say altogether, Brahminism is a good beginning but not the logical end.

Gurnam Singh Muktsar, 12 - Guru Angad Nagar, Muktsar - 152 026: The different Gurus are quoted again and again by Sikh scholars to prove that Sikhs have a separate **identity** and belong to a separate society. A Sikh's outward appearance is different from that of a Hindu, Muslim and also Christian. Each belong to different religions which have shaped them into different societies. The separate identity and existence of Sikhs was created by Sant Nam Dev, Sant Kabir, Sant Ravidass and two other Gurus. It is they who perfected the separate identity of Sikhs. Sikhs love every human being. They love both man and woman equally and being part of this universe all men and women on earth are equally respected by the sants and gurus. The saying "*Na ham Hindu na Musلمان*" reflects the philosophy of love as against the cult of hate among Hindus. All those Muslims who sacrificed and devoted their lives to implement the Sikh social philosophy were better Sikhs. Mardana, the first Sikh of Guru Nanak, was a Muslim. Guru Nanak learnt social ideology not from Pandha — a Brahmin — but from a Kazi (Muslim) and got enlightened with the social philosophy of Untouchable saints like Namdev, Kabir, Ravidass and Saini who were hailed by Guru Nanak as Bhagats, meaning supermen. The saying "*Na ham hindu na Musلمان*" comes from Namdev, Kabir and Ravidass. If some Sikhs don't understand and accept this Supreme Truth of love and brotherhood, they can't be accepted as true Sikhs. If we study the struggle of Guru Gobind Singh from Mashiwara to Talwandi Sabo and even at Anand Pur he was fully protected by Muslims everywhere. So when we say that we are neither Hindu nor Muslim but we are Sikhs and assert that we have a separate identity and existence, we are echoing the supreme message of the *Gurbani*. Readers of *Dalit Voice* world-wide must note this point of importance that the Sikh ideology totally aims at common brotherhood, love, human equality, social, political and economic justice

for the welfare of humanity. It demolishes all walls between the different societies of the world. In 1934-35, Dalit leader, Dr. Ambedkar came from Maharashtra to embrace Sikhism. The Sikhs turned him away. Babashab returned disappointed. Can we call those Sikhs who disappointed Babashab as real Sikhs?

Neerav Patel, 4 - Hemang Park, Vejalpur, Ahmedabad - 380 051: On 17th July you turned 70. We are lucky to have you around, all hale, hearty, bubbling with benevolent activism, never ever accepting defeat and fighting against all odds, even at the risk of your life. Few septuagenarian could match your might and militancy in combating the casteist and the communalist. With such a frail frame, only the indomitable spirit like yours could withstand and overcome adversities. My only wish, let your faculties never fail you. May you have a very, very long life. Dalits can never afford to lose you, at least not till the new star is born in the firmament. You are our priceless possession, we must guard you as god.

Dr. Ram Nath, Sector A-708, Hanspuram, Navbasta, Kanpur - 208 021: I will join the Dalit-Muslim unity meeting on Aug. 25 (Sunday) at Bharuch. My book on Dalit-Muslim unity requires a lot of revision as it was written in hurry and in reaction to demolition of Babri Masjid. The revision work will be completed within one month because now I have a lot of time after my retirement.

R.L. Chandapuri, National President, All-India Backward Classes Federation, Saraswati Bhawan, North Mandir, Patna - 800 001: I am extremely happy to know from your birthday celebration committee's chairman, Dr. D. Yadaliah, that your birthday is being observed at Hyderabad on July 17. I wish and hope that your 70th birthday will mark a new turning point in Indian history heralding new era for indigenous people constituting over 90% of the total population of India comprising Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, converted Bakard and Dalit minorities and other Backward Castes. I have firm faith and conviction that only Dalits can lead Bharat to freedom as they are the people who were declared as Untouchables after putting up life and death fight against foreign Indo-Aryan invaders as far back as about 3,500 years ago. As I am counting my last days of life, I bless you on behalf of Dravid Bharat for your long life and health for honest and dedicated writings to awaken the Bahunjans and lead them to their complete freedom.

A.R. Gautam, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights State Council Delhi, Budh Kuter 284/C-1, Street No.8, Nehru Nagar, Anand Parwat, New Delhi - 110 008:

Justice Dr. K. Ramaswamy who retired from the National Human Rights Commission on July 13, 2002 was given a send off in the Dy. Speaker's Hall of the Constitution Club, New Delhi, by NCDHR, Delhi state. Advocate P.L. Mirotth, presided.

M.S. Shaikh, Indian Muslim Social Organisation, 49 - Tawakkal Society-1, Sanand Road, Sarkhej, Ahmedabad - 382 210; Your literature shows that you are a brilliant thinker and minute observer of the present happenings of killing Dalits in "anarnat" Andolan against the so-called upper class (otherwise there is no lower or upper among human beings) and the massacre of Muslims, rapes, cuttings the wombs of Muslim women and burning alive the children and families together. May such Editors live long for good services to the humanity. Your latest book, *Brahminism*,

must be full of ghastly behaviour of nazi Brahmins towards others and measures to combat it, as it is written by a bold perceiver, without fear or favour of any. Looking to the thinking power, perception and art of presentation, it will surely prove to be effective and impressive.

Waseem Irfani, Gayri Mohalla, Nimbhahera, Chittor Garh dt., Rajasthan - 312 601: I am a social activist working in Southern Rajasthan called Mewar, a well known Hindu-Rajput dynasty before "freedom". So many tribes are living here. Particularly the Bhils are living like animals. Rajputs are exploiting them. No roads, no health services, no drinking water, no schools. Baniyas, Dhakers, Jats, Jains are looting them. Dalits don't know about Babasaheb. I was working in a NGO. I want to work among Bhils. I saw DV in Bombay. ■

World Council of Churches supports Palestinian struggle

Solidary through active presence, advocacy to bring about public policy change, witnessing non-violent resistance to the occupation of Palestine, protection and deterrence of violence: these are the four priorities of an Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI) which will be operational as of August. The programme is based on a framework developed last February by a working group of 41 participants from World Council of Churches (WCC) member churches and ecumenical partners in Jerusalem, Europe, North America and South Africa. As preparations continue on the recruitment and training procedures for participants, an EAPPI pilot project, the Christian Accompaniment Programme, has been underway on the ground since March. Eight participants, seconded by Danchurchaid and Icelandic Church Aid, have been regularly reporting on human-rights violations, facilitating access for health teams crossing military checkpoints, and escorting humanitarian convoys to the Occupied Palestinian territories. Participation



in the EAPPI is proof that the church responses to the conflict have moved up one level, says Salpy Eskidjian of the WCC International Relations team. "The programme signals a shift from strong statements of principle to tangible solidarity on the ground: physically helping and giving hope to local Christian and Muslim Palestinian and Israeli peace activists in their non-violent struggle to resist the military occupation".

The EAPPI is a central element of the Ecumenical Campaign to End the Illegal Occupation of Palestine: Support a Just Peace in the Middle East, through which the WCC has invited member churches and partners to join in advocating an end to the occupation as a means of addressing the root causes of the conflict, helping create a viable Palestinian state, and working for a negotiated, secure and just peace in the Holy Land.

Only postage charges. Send Rs. 5.

Dalit Voice

109, 7th Cross, Palace Lower Orchards,
Bangalore - 560 003.

Brahminism book creates history

A CORRESPONDENT

Hyderabad: *Brahminism* — V.T. Rajshekar's latest book described as the "**hottest book of the century**" — released by the legendary Dalit poet, Gaddar, leader of the revolutionary Peoples War Group (PWG), here on July 17, 2002 has created history.

Already, over 800 copies of the book have been sold out in and out of India despite the best efforts of the brahminical toilet papers not to give any publicity to the book. DSA may have to go in for a reprint of the book within one year.

Birthday bash: All the 100 copies of the *Brahminism* book brought from Bangalore by its publishers, Dalit Sahitya Akademy, was sold out even before the book release function began at 6 p.m. Another 30 books have been ordered from Bangalore.

Several hundred people went away disappointed.

The Indira Priyadarshini Auditorium in the Public Gardens was packed to capacity even before the function began. Several senior Dalit IAS officers of the AP Govt. were present and people were standing for want of seats.

Dr. D. Yadaliah, *Dalit Voice* Hyderabad representative and also the chairman of the reception committee, said he had attended innumerable functions in the same hall but never had seen the hall

overflowing, that too with such enthusiastic crowds. DV readers had come from different districts of the state and even from Nagpur, Bhopal, Madras, Vijayawada etc.

The Editor was also felicitated on his 70th birthday. He was presented with a gorgeously printed and framed felicitation address, hailing him as "an original thinker, prolific writer, powerful

Citation refers to Editor as philosophical genius

DR. D. YADALIAH, H.NO. B2-24, MIG, HUDA, CHANDANAGAR, HYDERABAD - 500 050

The Citation presented to our Editor, V.T. Rajshekar, on the occasion of his 70th birthday celebrations here on July 17, 2002 refers to him as an "original thinker, prolific writer, powerful orator, philosophical genius and the champion of the unprivileged". DV family members may get a copy of the citation, read out by Bhoosi Ramadass, from the DV office, Bangalore.

orator, a philosophical genius and the champion of the under privileged".

Muslim presence: A large number of Muslims, representing the Jamate-Islami, Muslim Personal Law Board, Tamire-Millat and many other Muslim youth organisations were present. Nanakchand Nishtar, a Sikh intellectual and an old friend of the Editor, presented a shawl.

Dr. Madhava Rao, one of the first DV family members from Hyderabad from its very inception, presented 70 new subscriptions for

DV on the editor's 70th birthday.

Secret of love: As life has become extremely commercialised in recent years, it is only those with power or money (both temporary) who are worshipped and their birthdays celebrated. The Editor of DV possesses neither money nor power. Not only that. The Editor is in the bad books of both the sections who have tried their best to close down *Dalit Voice* and harm him to the maximum extent. The ruling class always keeps him away and the brahminical bum-lickers try to avoid him.

What then is the secret of the spontaneous love and respect showered upon our Editor here on July 17, 2002? Gaddar answered the question: It is the Editor's 23-year-long selfless service to the Dalits and other oppressed nationalities, his sufferings, sacrifices and

uncompromising stand. That means honest intellectuals with a clean record of service and sacrifices have still a place in society. The July 17 function — of which V.T. Rajshekar was the star attraction — offers hope.

Eminent Dalit leaders like Bojja Tarakam, wondered how DV was coming out without a break even once for the past 23 years — creating a record in the history of journalism.

All the newspapers both English and Telugu gave some coverage to the event.

Theoretical bulldozer to demolish Brahminism

A CORRESPONDENT

Hyderabad: Our Editor's 70th birthday and the release of his latest book, *Brahminism*, was held here at a crowded function on July 17, 2002. The revolutionary Dalit poet and singer, Gaddar, was the chief guest.

Dr. Kancha Ilaiah, Professor at Osmania University and the emerging Backward Caste genius, spoke on the book and described it as a "theoretical bulldozer capable of demolishing Brahminism". Though many books have come on Brahmins and their Brahminism, it is a pity that no Brahmin has so far written a book on themselves. This proves the intellectual poverty of Brahmins, he said. Referring to

the presence of a large number of Muslims in the audience, he said Muslims must start writing and speaking on Brahminism like V.T. Rajshekar. The real fight will begin only then.

AK-47 rifle: M. T. Khan, a noted Muslim intellectual of Hyderabad, shocked the audience by his forthright attack on Brahminism, a subject which the Muslims usually avoid.

"Dalits are embodiment of love but Brahmins are the embodiment of hate. Unless we understand the intensity of their hatred we can make no progress. This brahminical mesmerism must be exposed. Arun Shourie is being honoured with a cabinet ministership because he is the most poisonous enemy of the people", he said.

Hottest book of the century also becomes the fastest selling book

BRAHMINISM

V.T. Rajshekar

Despite the best efforts of the brahminical toilet papers to block out the book, already about 1,000 copies have been sold inside and outside India. The book deals with the different faces of India's principal enemy.

2002. pp:160 Rs.50

Write to *Dalit Voice* office, Bangalore.

Boija Tarakam, the most popular Dalit leader of the state, congratulated the Editor for presenting to the people an AK-47 rifle to annihilate Brahminism. People's War Group leader Gaddar released the book and honoured the Editor.

Intellectual desert: V.T. Rajshekar, replying to the fallicitations, expressed his deep agony over the intellectual vacuum developing in India. "Though Brahminism is India's principal enemy, oppressing every section of the population, including the Brahmin women, no discussion is taking place on this subject anywhere in the country.

The latest Gujarat genocide of Muslims was also caused by Brahminism. But no inquiry commission or individual report pointed out Brahminism as the cause though the entire Muslim mayhem was caused by this hate philosophy. Just imagine, 3% of the population controlling the brains of the

whole country", he said. The Editor, who is considered an authority on Brahminism and India's caste system, disclosed that in the past 15 years not a single book has come out on this subject. No publisher or writer had the courage to write on this subject which was the cause of India's fall and slow death. To that extent Truth was suppressed by this tiny ruling class, he said. ■

Hindu nazis may demand ban on Brahminism book

RAJU THOMAS, PO BOX 22996, MADRAS - 600 023

I just finished reading your latest and the "hottest book of the century", *Brahminism*. I do not know what to say. I am simply shocked.

Out of your deep-rooted commitment and dedication to the mission of Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar, you do not realize how precious your life is for the whole country and the entire humanity. You do not realize the dangerous

consequences because of your forceful writings. One of our life-

members from Mundakkayam, Dr. P.C. Rajan Babu, phoned me the other day to say that the Hindu nazis will use POTO against you. This pains me lot. Are we in a position to do anything against our Enemy? We are just like ants and flies. We have none, we have no money, no army and no weapon, no

friends inside India. What do we have?

Remember, the Hindu nazis will lay their hands upon us not to hurt but to finish us once for all. The things you have written in the book are extremely unbearable and intolerable to the Aryans in India. They and their religion. (?) are brutally exposed.

You are writing with all your heart,

with all your mind and with all your soul and so your writings pierce the heart of the Enemy. Your speeches are more powerful. How long our enemy will tolerate us. Don't mistake me that I am talking like a coward. Being your disciple, how can I be a coward? Never. I have acquired enough courage. It is not that we are afraid of life. One day we will have to die but why should we die an unwise death?

You are crying for the Muslims, Christians, Sikhs along with the Dalits. The Tribals, the BCs and the Blacks all over the world. Your love for all these people is unconditional. You do not expect anything from them.

I will stop asking you to bring about a change in your writings because your words are naturally coming right from the bottom of your heart and nobody can alter your thinking. Babasahab was also like you. Anything Babasahab spoke or wrote, he did it with all his heart, mind and soul. That was the reason he could not and did not compromise with anybody till his death. Compromise means dishonesty and betrayal.

The philosophy of martyrdom is unique but that concept is only in Judaism, Christianity and Islam but later on Christians gave up the concept of martyrdom. Islam offers a far superior and better theology and philosophy for martyrdom with which no religion or ideology in the

whole world can compete. So both Christians and Jews are jealous of Islam. So, they hate Islam and the Muslims. What inspiration have we got to develop a culture of martyrdom among our people? Nothing. If one among us dies at the hands of our enemy, the maximum we do is just to weep and cry for a few hours and then we forget the whole event.

But if we are brought up in a culture of martyrdom then each drop of blood of the martyr will give birth to hundreds of new martyrs. This is the psychology of martyrdom.

SUICIDE BOMB

Look at the Indian situation. Why there is no movement of Hamas from among the Indian Muslims? It is because the religious leadership of Indian Muslims never cultivated the "Spirit of Islam" but had been engaged with a spiritual prostitution of Islam. Had the Indian Muslims imbibed the "Spirit of Islam", by this time hundreds of Hamas-type suicide bombers would have been born in Gujarat. But not one single Muslim came forward in Gujarat. Had it been anywhere else the head of Modi would have been rolling on the road. But nothing happened in India. Why? That shows that India's Muslim religious leadership is dishonest, corrupt and co-opted. The elite Muslims do not want to hurt their cousins who are their blood relatives. Though religion is

different identity is same. Identity is more important. Blood is thicker than water.

India's Muslim religious leadership totally betrayed the Quran and the Prophet. It is they who are the real enemies of Islam and the Muslim masses. Unless this internal enemy is eliminated, I say eliminated, nothing is possible in India.

On page 115 of the book, there is a serious historical mistake. You say Dr. Ambedkar was the first man to say that Untouchables are not Hindu but a separate element. Dr. Babasahab Ambedkar was not the first man who said that Dalits are not Hindu. It was in 1945 that Babasahab said about the identity of the Untouchables as non-Hindu. But on January 27, 1910 Muslims had submitted a memorandum to the government in which they had said that Dalits were not Hindu and so their representation should be separate from the Hindus. Both Babasahab and he Dalits must be grateful to the Muslims. But today's Indian Muslim leadership is Brahmin burn-licking fellows. What to do?

The book is going to be explosive. If the Brahmin Hindu nazis put up a demand asking to ban the book then it is better. I got lot of materials for my intellectual thinking from this book. Thank you for quoting my article on Nietzsche on p. 148. ■

We welcome ban on our book

We don't think the Hindu nazis will ban our book. They know that such a ban will simply increase the book's popularity and there will be world-wide inquiries for the book. This is what we want. That is why we welcome the ban. We want it. If Hindu nazis are bloody fools, they will ban it. Earlier, the nazis were managing to get us arrested. Since 10-15 years we stopped this also as every arrest simply made us and Dalit Voice more and more popular. The credit for making DV as the country's largest

circulated journal of the Dalits and all other persecuted nationalities goes to Hindu nazis. See, how helpful the Enemy is. A book is a storehouse of thoughts. A thought can never be banned. We have never demanded ban on even the most poisonous thoughts of the Hindu nazis. A thought has to be fought only by a more powerful counter-thought. But weak people, who have no rational argument or no scientific proof go in for use of force and ban — EDITOR.

A Sudra holocaust museum

DR. SAMAR ABBAS, BHUBANESWAR

Only recently I started taking interest in Dalit issues, but have noticed some peculiar facts. I was shocked to find from your works that the genocide of Dalits which started in 1500 BC has continued right up to the present. But was still more stupefied to find that no memorial exists on the same to provide basic education about this. The Afro-Americans have set up several "African-American Holocaust museums" (<http://www.maafa.org>, <http://www.blackholocaustmuseum.com>) in various cities across the world (eg. Milwaukee, Wisconsin) to depict for all the world to see the Holocaust of more than 20 million Africans. There is likewise an "Arab Holocaust Museum" (<http://www.hoffman-info.com/palestine.html>) depicting the brutal genocide of Arabs at the hands of Israeli Jews and a "Native American Holocaust Museum" (<http://www.nativeamericanembassy.net/Holocaust.html>).

hands of the nazis, despite the fact that reputed historians have questioned the existence of any genocide (<http://abbc.com>, <http://zundelsite.org>).
Black demand at Durban: These and many other similar museums were set up by patriots to ensure that the world and their own communities never forget the plight and historical sufferings of their peoples, and to obtain possible financial compensation from those who perpetrated these terrible crimes against humanity. The Africans recently demanded compensation for the "African Holocaust" at the Durban conference on racism. (DV April 16, 2002 p. 16: "**US Blacks seek compensation**").

I was ashamed to find that the Dalits did not demand any similar compensation for the Dalit Holocaust.

Moreover, I was surprised to find that there is no museum for the greatest holocaust of them all, the "Sudra Holocaust" spanning an incredible 4,000 years from the Aryan invasions of ca. 2,000 BC continuing to the present, far longer

than any of the other genocides in human history. Ironic indeed. **1 million dead:** The modern phase of the "Sudra Holocaust", ie the "Dalit Holocaust", alone numbers more than 1 million dead in fifty years:

"The religion based on caste system has annihilated millions of Dalits over the centuries. About 3 million Dalit women have been raped and around one million Dalits killed from the time of independence." - [Dr. Tulsiram, *The Pioneer*, 30 Jan. 2000]

I would like to request you to enlighten the younger readership of DV regarding the details of this Holocaust. Kindly help in establishing a "**Sudra Holocaust Day**" as a national holiday, and engage your efforts towards the establishment of one or more "Sudra Holocaust Museums" in the large cities of India so that those ignorant of historical facts (like me) can quickly learn the truth.

We will be publishing material on the Sudra and Dalit holocaust shortly in DV. Stay tuned — EDITOR.

Neerav insult to DV ?

S.M. MIR, NAI BLDG, SHOP NO.1 - FALKLAND ROAD, BOMBAY - 400 004

Brother Neerav Patel's article in DV June 16, 2002 p.4: "**Dalit-Muslim unity not possible even if we are blood brothers**", is nothing but an insult to *Dalit Voice* which pioneered the Dalit-Muslim unity movement. Sometime I wonder if Neerav is a friend or foe of DV. Neerav says:

"Islam as is practised would hardly attract a humanitarian who happens to be inherently rational".

An inherently rational person's approach towards any religion would be to judge the followers by the religion and not to judge the religion by the followers. Today, even after the Sept. 11 incident, report from all over the world

says that Islam is the fastest growing religion even in America. In India too, it has the topmost attraction. I do agree that some Muslims ill-treat Dalits. And Neerav will be astonished to know that most of them are from very socio-economic background (don't tell that it is because of petrodollars). Many Hindu historians have said that the Ramayan and Mahabharat are cook and bull stories. In the Babri Masjid case, historians have said that when Ram and Krishna are imaginary characters, how can there be *janma bhoomis*? Such a fabrication of history will ruin the Hindus. We should not fall into the same trap.

Editor's fears on future of Buddhism

ANIL RANGARI, G-104, BHARATI APARTMENT, GURUNANAK NAGAR, DURG - 491 001

The Editor of *Dalit Voice* told the bitter truth about the future of Buddhism but nobody paid any attention. He said:

"Buddhism is dying even in its homeland. Brahminical forces famous for its missionary zeal have *hinduised* Buddhism also. Introducing and popularising Buddhism is a missionary job but our educated elite Dalits have no interest in such a missionary job. They are busy enjoying their slavery". (DV May 16, 2002 p.7).

Prophetic words: I am giving few examples to prove this. (1) The *Voice of Budha*, (Delhi, June 1, 2002 of Udit Raj), published a Hindi translation memorandum submitted by Babasaheb Ambedkar to the Buddhist Sasan Council of Burma in 1954. But these *Vipassanawadis* translated a version that is totally opposed to Babasaheb's original thoughts. Babasaheb said: "In regard to the preparation of Budha's gospel, care must be taken to emphasize the social and moral teachings of the Buddha. I have to emphasize this. What is emphasized is meditation, contemplation and *abhidhamma*. This way of presenting Buddhism to Indians would be fatal to our cause."

But the *vipassanawadi* translation in Hindi says: "This way of presenting Buddhism to Indians would not be harmful."

Why this distortion of Babasaheb's original thoughts?

(2) Babasaheb has given a perfect explanation of Budha's *Astangmarg* in his book, *Buddha and His Dhamma*. But S. Krishna (Anand) has wrongly explained this in his book, *Bhagwan Buddha — Dhamma Sar and Dhamma Charya*.

Every preacher (Sankrityayan, Kaushalyayan, Kosambi, Babasaheb etc.) started from *Samma Ditti* and had given importance to *Samma Ditti*, the first and foremost element in the *Astang Marg* and *Samma Samadhi* last. But S. Krishna has put *samma vacca* first and *Samma Ditti* last in his explanation of *Astang Marg* as *shil, samadhi, prajna* as against Babasaheb's *Prajna shil, karuna*.

How can those who do not understand the *Astang Marg* properly save Buddhism? Even the price of his book is three times higher than the normal price of other books.

(3) A *bhikkhu*, Karuna Shastri, the International Brotherhood Mission, Mahabodhi Vihar, Diburgarh, Assam, says that:

There is oneness of Budha and Hindu philosophy. The Vedant philosophy is the foundation of Buddhism. Both Buddhism and Hinduism preaches the same truth".

Is this correct? Is this not *hinduisation* of Buddhism? (4) Shaligram Dhore, editor of the weekly, *Mazi Janata*, Nagpur, (7-13 April 2002) says:

"India needs Gandhism. The only party, Congress, shall defend India. So, without defending the Congress the welfare of Bahujan Samaj in India will never be possible".

How can such Buddhists save Buddhism? They are misleading the Buddhist Ambedkarites and biting Babasaheb and Buddhism.

The Editor's fears are fully proved. His prophetic words should be taken seriously. ■

In defence of Vipassana

C.D. NARNWARE, 288 - SHREE NAGAR, EMPRESS MILL COLONY, RING ROAD, NAGPUR - 440 015

The Debate on *Vipassana* is placing the advantages and disadvantages before the DV readers. There is no harm in attending the 10-day course. Education is always helpful to human being. *Vipassana* is also a kind of education. It is nothing but the *samma samadhi* which is the last element of eighth-fold path.

We must thank Satyanarayan Goenka for reintroducing the *Vipassana* in India. I have already attended the course at Igatpuri and Hyderabad.

Of the 22 vows given by Dr. Ambedkar at Nagpur on Oct.14, 1956, 1 to 5 vows are about the rejection of god created by Brahminism. Others are about the rejection of Brahmin culture, rituals, ceremony, customs. The Indian history is the struggle between Brahminism and Buddhism. Brahminism is the enemy of Buddhism.

Dr. Ambedkar has defined Brahminism. It is not a person belong to any caste. Brahminism refers to those who oppose equality, independence, fraternity. Please arrange a convention of active workers at Nagpur. ■

Support to Hyderabad meet

DR. VAMANANAND, EDITOR, MAHANAGA, ELURU - 534 002

I know you since a very long time and I met you and heard you at Vijayawada. I am one of your fans. I am ready to participate in the Hyderabad meet on Sept.22. I know you are the right person to guide the Bahujanas who are suppressed and depressed. I am with you in your efforts of propagating Budha Dhamma. ■

Crisis in Buddhism: Hyderabad meeting on Sept.22

DR. VINOD WANJARI, 63 - VIKRAMA SHEELA, JYOTIBA PHULE COLONY, RAMESHWARI RING ROAD, NAGPUR - 440 027

The furious Debate that is going on in *Dalit Voice* for the past over one year has brought out the supreme truth that brahminical forces have once again defeated Dr. Babasaheb's efforts to revive Buddhism. What is worrying is that the Hindu nazis have corrupted and co-opted our own people, Ambedkarite Buddhists themselves, to sabotage Babasaheb's revolutionary Buddhism from inside.

The DV Debate began with the guest editorial by B. Ramaswamy, chairman of the Andhra Pradesh Buddhist Trust (DV March 1, 2001: "*Buddhism nowhere speaks of ahimsa or asks us to be vegetarians*").

The Debate is continuing and is becoming more and more heated. Our Editor, V.T. Rajshekar, disclosed that some top Dalit leaders and some DV family members themselves are pressing upon him to stop the Debate. He, however, refused to oblige.

Subjects for discussion: To review the whole development since the Debate began, over a dozen concerned Ambedkarite Buddhists met in Hyderabad during the 70th birthday celebrations of the Editor of DV and decided to hold a meeting at Hyderabad on Sept.22, 2002 (Sunday) to prepare for a day-long seminar at Hyderabad on the different brahminical

onslaughts on Babasaheb's Buddhism. The seminar will be hosted by the AP Buddhist Trust. The seminar will discuss the following 12 subjects that are seriously worrying the Buddhists. The seminar will be followed by a conference of Ambedkarite Buddhists from different parts of India at Nagpur: The seminar subjects are:

- (1) Rites and rituals in Buddhism, (2) Identity as a Buddhist, (3) meditation in Buddhism — merits and demerits, (4) agitation for liberation of Bodhi Gaya, (5) redefining the role of Budha Viharas, (6) role of Budha Viharas, (7) obstacles in propagating Buddhism as interpreted by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, (8) role of journals on Buddhists, (9) the need to kill & the will to kill, (10) invasion of foreign Buddhist organisations, (11) identifying the enemy, (12) role of *bhikkus*.

All the participants in DV Debate will be invited.

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar gave a perfect shape and content to his Buddhism in his book, *Buddha & His Dhamma* (W&S, Vol. 11) but within ten years of his historic conversion many perversions have set in putting the Ambedkarite Buddhists to serious worry.

Since DV is leading the battle to restore Buddhism, we call upon its family members world-wide to support our forthcoming programme. Please write to me or to the Editor. ■

Buddhism can't destroy Brahminism

S.P. SINGH, TAKIAPAR, DANAPUR, PO DIGHA, PATINA - 800 012

This refers to your Debate on Buddhism. It is true that the Brahminical Social Order's (BSO) hypocrisy is being exposed by the Editor as well as some of its readers but the whole truth has not yet come out. Brahminism in India has deep roots. There was no priestly class during the Vedic days. No Brahmins, no priestly class. The earliest Aryans were beef-eaters. Their only religion was sacrifice in which large number of animals were killed. Today, we are so poor in knowledge that we are not able to bring out what Babasaheb has already written in his so many volumes. The Brahmins became vegetarians to kill Buddhism. Budha used to accept cooked meat in his begging bowl, but he or his followers did not accept raw meat.

Growth of Brahminism has a definite history. A class of people who were merely poets or bards were engaged on these occasions by the ruling princes and other rich nobles to recite *mantras* during such occasions. They developed a new literature known as *Brahmanas*. Writing was then not known. A class of Brahmin families were then engaged in memorising these *mantras*. They made it their monopoly. There was a Kshatriya reaction. Some of the ruling princes like Pravabay, Ajat Shatru etc. were also great *rishies*. Kapilamuni, who gave us *Sankhya Darshan*, was a Kshatriya of the same tribe (saka) to which Budha belonged. The Budha gave it a missionary shape. The exact words in which the Budha challenged the Brahmins are available in his own volume (*Buddha &*

Thus Spake Ambedkar

Right of Tribals to drink liquor

Sir, I beg to move:

"That at the end of article 38, the following be substituted: —
'and shall endeavour to bring about prohibition of the consumption of intoxicating drinks and drugs which are injurious to health except for medicinal purposes'."

The Honourable Dr. B.R. Ambedkar: Mr. Vice-President, I accept the amendment of Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena subject to a further amendment, namely, that after the word "and" at the beginning of his amendment (86 of List IV) the words "in particular" be added.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi: I really cannot understand how that amendment can be accepted by the Honourable Dr. Ambedkar. The amendment under discussion is mine.

The Honourable Dr. B.R. Ambedkar: Sir, I accept the amendment of Mr. Tyagi as amended by the amendment of Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena (laughter).

Mr. Vice-President: Mr. Tyagi is a great stickler for rights.

The honourable Dr. B.R. Ambedkar: Sir, if I may say so, the right really belongs to me, because it is I who drafted the amendment he moved. (Renewed laughter).

Mr. Vice-Presidents: That puts the matter in a new light.

The Honourable Dr. B.R. Ambedkar: I do not think the House would have found any difficulty in accepting this amendment. Two points have been raised against it. One is by Prof. Khandekar who represents Kolhapur in this Assembly. I am sure that Mr. Khandekar has not sufficiently appreciated the fact that this clause is one of the clauses of an Article which enumerates what are called Directive Principles of Policy. There is therefore no compulsion on the State to act on this principle. Whether to act on this principle and when to do so are left to the State and public opinion. Therefore, if the State thinks that the time has not come for introducing prohibition or that it might be introduced gradually or partially, under these Directive Principles it has full liberty to act. I therefore do not think that we need have any compunction in this matter.

But, Sir, I was quite surprised at the speech delivered by my friend Mr. Jaipal Singh. He said that this matter ought not to be discussed at this stage, but should be postponed till we take up for consideration the report of the Advisory Committee

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings & Speeches, Vol. 13, (pages 366 - 367) 1994, Rs. 190. Govt. of Maharashtra, Bombay. The book may be had from Director, Government Printing, Stationery and Publications, Netaji Subhash Road, Bombay - 400 004.

on Tribal areas. If he had read the Draft Constitution, particularly the Sixth Schedule, paragraph 12, he would have found that ample provision is made for safeguarding the position of the tribal people with regard to the question of prohibition. The scheme with regard to the tribal areas is that the law made by the State, whether by a province or by the Centre, does not automatically apply to that particular area. First of all, the law has to be made. Secondly, the District Councils or the Regional Councils which are established under this Constitution for the purposes of the administration of the affairs of these areas are given the power to say whether a particular law made by a province or by the Centre should be applied to that particular region inhabited by the tribal people or not, and particular mention is made with regard to the law relating to prohibition. I shall just read out sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 12 which occurs on page 184 for the Draft Constitution. It says:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in this Constitution —

(a) no Act of the legislature of the State in respect of any of the matters specified in paragraph 3 of this Schedule as matters with respect to which a District Council or a Regional Council may make laws, and no Act of the Legislature of the State prohibiting or restricting the consumption of any non-distilled alcoholic liquor shall apply to any autonomous district or autonomous region unless in either case the District Council for such district or having jurisdiction over such region by public notification so directs, and the District Council in giving such direction with respect to any Act may direct that the Act shall in its application to such district or region or any part thereof have effect subject to such exceptions or modifications as it thinks fit."

Now, I do not know what more my friend, Mr. Jaipal Singh, wants than the provision in paragraph 12 of the Sixth Schedule. My fear is that he has not read the Sixth Schedule: if he had read it, he would have realised that even though the State may apply its law regarding prohibition in any part of the country, it has no right to make it applicable to the tribal areas without the consent of the District Councils or the Regional Councils.

(To be continued)

Gujarat's 1st Dalit-Muslim unity conference after the Muslim genocide of 2002

ANJUMAN-E-IMDADUL MUSLIMIN

Fuja Road, Bharuch - 392 001, Gujarat, India. Phone: (026642) 65954, 66518, 421 22

The historic conference will be addressed by

V.T. Rajshekar

Editor of *Dalit Voice* and architect of India's 20-year-old Dalit-Muslim unity movement.

Dalits & Muslims all over Gujarat and India will attend the conference
at Bharuch, between Surat and Baroda

Aug.25, 2002 Time: 10 a.m.

The venue: IGRA III, Beside Dahaj By-Pass Road, Dahegam (Bharuch), Gujarat.

LOHIA & AMERICA MEET

Harris Wofford Jr.

Described by the Brahminical press as a bathroom,
Dr. R.M. Lohia (1910 - 1967) was a very angry
man but he was also a
very humane person.

The book is a report on his visit to USA
in 1951 and press reports of
his talks there.

2002 pp.250 Rs. 225

B.R. Publishers

3779 - 1st Floor, Kanhaiya Nagar
Tri Nagar, Delhi - 110 035

Hindi books by S.L. Sagar

(1) **ISLAM ME BRAHMANYAD**

1999 pp.96 Rs. 30

(2) **SAMAJIT NYAY**

(*Social Justice*)

1999 pp.160 Rs. 60

(3) **DHARM NERAPEKSHATA BANAM**

SAMPRADAYIKATA

1998 pp.124 Rs. 40

Sagar Prakashan

223 - Dariba, Mounpuri

UP - 205 001

Brahminism & Zionism have selected

Islam as their target

VISION OF PAKISTAN

Brig. Usman Khalid

(A brilliant intellectual settled in London)
speaks of the BJP onslaught on Muslims, killing of
over 70,000 Muslims in Kashmir, Hindu nazis
promoting stooges inside Pakistan like
Altaf Hussain (Sindh), Prof. Akbar S. Ahmed,
criticises Rafiq Zakaria, warns of
brahminical tyranny on Dalits, Backward
Castes, Christians and Sikhs. Says there
are only two peoples in the world
today who pursue war as an instrument of policy:
Vaidiks and Zionists. Both are the
closest allies of US. India's upper caste rulers
want to impose Brahminism in the name of
secularism.

Brahminism is the worst kind
of racism in the world.

Hindu nazis did not hesitate to kill even
M.K. Gandhi despite the Mahatma's
life-long service to Brahminism.

2002 pp.76 Rs. 40

For copies write to

Dalit Voice

107, 7th Cross, Palace Lower Orchards,
Bangalore - 560 003.

DV subscription rates

Annual Subscription : Rs. 225

Life Membership (LM) : Rs. 2,000

Foreign Airmail (Annual) : US 75 dollars

Payable in MO or DD to "Dalit Voice"

When corresponding, please quote your label number.

Fax-Phone: 091-080-33 66 771
Email:vt@ndf.vsnl.net.in

EDITOR: V.T. RAJSHEKAR

Published from:

**109/7th Cross,
Palace Lower Orchards,
Bangalore - 560 003, INDIA.**