

Annihilation of Caste and Democracy

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ABSTRACT

The main objective of this paper is to critically analyze and evaluate current social condition; and caste system and its impacts on democracy. This paper have another objective that; is analyze social power relation among the people and how the annihilation of caste is important for the survival of democracy. Through the conception of democracy how society will be exploitation less and more equal caste system and it's relegated consequences on the society. This paper gives closer and analytical insight on annihilation of caste and its way according to Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar. Whose relevance is felt even today's, and it also provides fundamental understanding about democracy. Democracy means liberty, equality and fraternity.

Key Word: Caste system, Social relation power, Democracy, Annihilation of caste, Equality.

Introduction:

Caste is a social institution and it is rigorous and regressive in nature and it still exists in Indian domain. After the 72 years of independence and accepting democratic form of government. Many of us better know the aftermath of caste through their daily experience of life. And some of us go through headline of news paper. All the atrocities happened against oppressed caste in all over India. When we go to the root of atrocities we found feudalistic and casteist mindset of upper caste. It shows in *Bhimakoregaon* riot and well known case of *Khairlangi*, *Unnao*. You all be the witness of this incidence; when you are in travel stranger have seated beside you and he started chatting with you asking your name and your cognomen then; he ask you about area where do you live. After this inquiry he unable to reach your caste then he asked you; how many acres land do you have. All this monkey exercise he has done because of curiosity about your caste.

Being, students of humanity we have to understand interrelationship between annihilation of caste and democracy. Democracy means empowerment of people without making any difference among the people and equal participation in the process of decision making. Caste is based on discrimination. That's why without annihilating caste democracy cannot be exists. If we want to annihilation of caste and found democracy in India really; we have to understand the basic peculiarities of caste. For that we go through some definition of caste; that are used by *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar* in his essay which is known under the title "*Caste in India*".

Mr. Senart a French authority define a caste as "A close corporation in theory at any rate rigorously hereditary; equipped with a certain traditional and independent organization, including a chief and council, meeting on occasion in assemblies of more or less plenary authority and joining together at certain festival bound together by common occupation which relate more particularly to marriage and to food and to questions. Question of ceremonial pollution and ruling its members by the exercise of jurisdiction, the extent of which varies but which succeeds in making the authority of the community more felt by the sanction of certain penalties and above all by final irrevocable exclusion from the groups".

Dr. Ketkar defines caste as "A social groups having two characteristics

- 1 Membership is confined to those are born of members and includes all persons so born
- 2 The members are forbidden by an inexorable social law to marry outside the group".

Dr. Bababasaheb Ambedkar defined caste as "A Caste is close corporation and it has religious based".

When we go through all those definition of caste we got the characteristics of caste that, are it has own tradition means controlling rules, that control entre action of caste. Second is caste has certain occupation, which is imposed

by the hierarchical caste system. Third one is food. Food is restricted within caste group only. Forth one and most important that, is marriage, inter caste marriage forbidden inexorably. *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar* said inter caste marriage be the one of the way to crack caste system. Another characteristic of caste is found in the *Ketksr's* definition of caste. That is membership of caste is got by birth only. Second one is it cannot be change after the death. Once caste decided to caste away any person from caste group his/her membership is not revocable.

Basic Conception of democracy:

Democracy began and developed in ancient *Greece* as the *500 BC*. The word Democracy comes from the Greek word *Demos* means people and *Kratos* which means rule or authority. Democracy is form of government a way of life a good and ideal political philosophy. The term also refers to country has democratic form of government. The word democracy means rule by the people. United state president *Abraham lincoln* describe such self government as "government of the people by the people, for the people." Thought out history the most important aspect of the democratic way of life have been the principles of individual equality and freedom. Accordingly citizens in a democracy should be entitle to equal protection of their person, possession and right have equal opportunity to pursue their lives and careers, and have equal rights of political participation. They should be free within the framework of law, to believe, behave, and express as they wish. Democratic societies seek to guarantee their citizen certain freedoms including freedom of speech and freedom to work and live where and how they choose. Doctrine of democracy declared, that they are endowed by their creators with certain fundamental rights, among these are life liberty and pursuit of happiness.

Democracy can only take on a more useful meaning when qualified by one of the other word with which it is associated, for example, liberal democracy, representative democracy, participatory democracy or direct democracy. Although all free societies are democratic, democracies can fail to protect individual freedom. Countries are generally considered democratic to the extent that they have fair and frequent elections in which nearly all adults have the right to vote, citizens have the right to form and join organizations and to express themselves in alternative sources of information existed. Architects of democracy must determine the constitutional structure that best suits the needs of a particular country, alternative forms of constitutional democracy include parliamentary versus presidential forms of government, plurality versus proportional representation system and federal versus unitary systems.

According to *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar*, democracy means fundamental changes in the social and economic life of people and the acceptance of those changes by the people without resorting to disputes and bloodshed. "A political democracy without an economic and social democracy is an invitation to trouble and danger". Social democracy alone can assure to the masses the right to liberty, equality and fraternity. So, democracy is not only a form of government but a way of life through which social justice can be established. Social justice ensures that society should promote the welfare of all. Democracy is a dynamic attitude towards human life. It attaches a great importance to virtues like tolerance and peaceful methods. Thus, parliamentary democracy involves non-violent methods of action, peaceful ways of discussion and acceptance of decision with faith and dignity, There are two other pillars on the which parliament system rests. This system needs an opposition and free and fair elections. *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar* says, "In a Parliamentary democracy, there should be at least two sides. Both should know each other well. Hence a 'financial opposition' is needed opposition which is the key to a free political life. No democracy can be without it." In modern times, *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar* appears to educate and enlighten people to adopt the fair means for a change of government. "Election must be completely free and fair. People must be left themselves to choose whom they want to send to the legislatures."

Annihilation of Caste:

The term caste used to describe a system of social relation that is considered to be uniquely Indian, and that presumably distinguishes the traditional Indian society from the West, is ironically not of Indian origin. As is well known, the term comes from the Spanish word '*Casta*' meaning race. The Portuguese seafarer who arrived on the west coast of India for trade in the fifteenth century, were the first ones to use it in Indian context. We saw the hazardous form and characteristics of caste in the introductory part of this paper.

According to *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar* "Caste is the close corporation." It has religious base and this religious support made caste divine. Divineness of caste became the greatest obstacle in the way of annihilating caste. Caste is social system which based on discrimination or inequality. Caste denies fundamental rights to the person and it segregate to the people according to their caste and gives the rights caste wise. In Indian context society segregate into four Varna that is *Brahamin, Kshatriya, Vaishya and shudra*. These known as *Sawarna*

Untouchable and women did not include in this *Varna* system. These all are thousands of miles away from basic right of life. There for I Stated that “Caste and Democracy are the two opposite pole of magnet, without annihilating caste democracy could not be exists.” Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar suggest three way of annihilation of caste one is inter caste marriage second one is food with inter caste community, and third one is denied the superiority of religious text. New way of annihilating to the caste that is rational or logical way of thinking we called *it Phule Shahu Ambedkar* school of thought.

According to *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar*, democracy means no slavery, no caste, no coercion. He wants free thoughts that choice and capacity to live and let live, which his conscience, would be the right path to democracy If you give education to the lower strata of the Indian society which is interested in blowing up the caste systems, the caste system will be blown up. I think is a condition precedent for the successful working of democracy is that there must be no glaring inequities in the society. There must not be an oppressed class. There must not be a suppressed class. There must not be a class which has got the entire privileges ad a class which has got all the burdens to carry. Such a thing, such a division, such an organization of society has within itself the germs of a bloody revolution and perhaps it would be impossible for democracy to cure them.

Conclusion:

Analyzing the idea of annihilation of caste and democracy this paper focus on origin of democracy and how it survival in Indian context. In Indian society caste structure is a positive danger to democracy. This caste structure made a distinction of high caste and lower caste and pure and impure. Practically speaking in caste structure there is tyranny, vanity, pride, arrogance, greed, selfishness, poverty, degradation of scientific and rational thinking also degradation in dignity of human life. According to *Dr Babasaheb Ambrdkar* religious foundation of caste as the greatest obstacle to the democracy. Liberty, equality and fraternity are the essential to the democracy.

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