



Ambedkar and Women Rights

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Abstract: This paper highlights Dr. Ambedkar's views on women rights and problems in pre and post Independent India and the relevancy of his ideas in present political and social scenario of India.

Ambedkar is one of the greatest personality of 20th century in India. He worked for the upliftment of woman and their rights. He started his movement in 1920 and he raised his voice on issues like gender equality, women education and exposed the problems related to women and other depressed classes. He builds up awareness among poor, illiterate women and inspired them to fight against social practices like child marriages and devadasi system. Ambedkar worked hard to improve the status of women by granting the fundamental rights to all the citizens irrespective of caste, creed, race and sex. Ambedkar strongly believed that women is educated then total family is educated.

It may undoubtedly be mentioned here that B.R. Ambedkar was a path-maker of all the women irrespective of religion, caste, creed, gender etc. He brought a new trend for uprising the women through his thoughts and beliefs. Not only women all the people of India should thankful to him because of his tremendous and everlasting steps of developmental works.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was not only the father of Indian constitution, he was a freedom fighter, political leader, philosopher, thinker, economist, editor, social reformer, revivalist of Bushism and he was the pioneer of backward classes. He stated women of Indian society should be given equal opportunity and equal share with their male counterpart. I conclude my paper by quoting Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's slogan that unity is meaningless without the support of women, Education is fruit-less without educated women and Agitation is incomplete without the strength of women.

Introduction:

This paper highlights Dr. Ambedkar's views on women rights and problems in pre and post Independent India and the relevancy of his ideas in present political and social scenario of India.

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awareness among poor, illiterate women and inspired them to fight against social practices like child marriages and devadasi system. Ambedkar worked hard to improve the status of women by granting the fundamental rights to all the citizens irrespective of caste, creed, race and sex. Ambedkar strongly believed that women is educated then total family is educated.

Women Rights:

Being Indian's first law minister and chairman of drafting committee of the constituency assembly Dr Ambedkar tried an adequate inclusion of women's



rights in the political vocabulary and constitution of India are as follows

- Women labour welfare fund
- ESI
- Provident fund act
- Women labour protection act
- Maternity benefit for women labour bill
- Divorce act
- No marriage before age of 18 years
- Widow can adopt a child
- Equal pay for equal work irrespective of the sex
- Maintenance allowance from husband on getting legally separation Article 15 prohibits discrimination on the ground of sex
- Article 39 Equal means of livelihood and equal pay for equal work
- Article 51(A)(c) Fundamental duties to renounce practices, safe guard the dignity of women
- Article 46 The state to promote with special case the educational and economic interests of weaker section of people and to protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation
- Article 47 The state to raise the level of nutrition and standard of living of its people and the improvement of public health
- Article 243 provides for allocation of seats in the Panchayati raj system

But unfortunately, in the present times despite the various Constitutional safeguards and various laws claiming equality to all

citizens, women are denied rights enjoyed by a citizen of this country; in fact she is denied even the basic right to live. She may bring the man into the world by carrying him in her womb for nine months yet she is not allowed to live another day once it is known that it is 'she' and not 'he' there in the womb. It is found that though advances are being made in the field of science and technology, worldwide literacy rates have risen yet old societal norms seem to govern the day. On account of this the cases of violence against women, are on a rise. According to one World Report 70% of women had experienced physical or sexual violence at some point in life.

Conclusion:

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