

# Inspection of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar towards Sustainable Education in Developing Society

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**Abstract :** Education has an immense impact on the human society. One can safely assume that a person is not in the proper sense until he is educated. It trains the human mind to think and take the right decision. Dr. B.R Ambedkar was among the most outstanding intellectuals of India in the 20th century in the world. According to Ambedkar, "Education is a weapon of creation of mental and educational development, weapon of eradication of social slavery of economic development of political freedom". The basic theme of his philosophy of education is: inculcating the values of liberty, equality, fraternity, justice and moral character among the boys and girls of all shades by the way of his educational philosophy. B.R.Ambedkar's name is written in golden letters in the history of India as a creator of social justice. He was not only the man of age and builder of the constitution but is the founder of a new social order for the betterment of the downtrodden. The paper is based on secondary source and with the objective of to understand the contributions and views of Dr. B.R.Ambedkar towards education.

**Keywords:** Dr.B.R.Ambedkar, Education, views and contributions

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## **Introduction**

B.R. Ambedkar acquired deep knowledge in every field of human activity to become a founder of his own independent ideology. He was trained as a social scientist, social progress and social stability depended on equity as per Hindu caste system he adopted the principle of dynamism as in his view there is nothing fixed anything eternal, nothing sonata thus everything is changing and change is the law of life of individuals as well as for society. Ambedkar in one of his thoughts says, “If you want to develop the society then you need to spread up the education. Education eradicates the bias of people which results on to minimize the exploitation, domination, of those people who try to take the benefit of the so called illiterate people. He dedicated his entire life to the establishment of a new social order based on principles of liberty, equality and universal brotherhood. He utilized his tongue and pen to and all his actions for attainment of the objectives of occurring to the people of this great nation equality- economic, social and cultural. His ultimate achievement lay in ushering in a silent social revolution in Indian society. He stood for the social liberation, education, economic emancipation and political advancement of the downtrodden.

### **An Educational Idealistic:**

The influence of John Dewey, one of the greatest educationists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, on Ambedkar appears to be deep and permanent. Therefore, Ambedkar approached the problem of educational upliftment of the masses as a pragmatist. He says that education is one of the basic needs along with food, clothing, shelter and medicine. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar recognized the importance of education in shaping the future and cautioned the underprivileged not to lose any opportunity. He put all his efforts to guarantee the educational without any discrimination to all the citizens of independent India.

### **Ambedkar’s thoughts with the provisions in Right to Education Act 2009:**

While addressing to nation, Dr. Manmohan Singh said that “Indian government is pleading to educate every child in India.” This “Right to Free Education Act 2009” has been implemented since April 1, 2010(No.35 of 2009).” There are some provisions of this Act which shows its roots in the thoughts of Dr. Ambedkar:

- 1) The Act makes free and compulsory education to all children of India in the six to fourteen years group.
- 2) No child should be held or expelled or required to pass board examination until the completion of elementary education (up to eighth class).

- 3) It provides 25% reservation for economically disadvantaged communities in all private and minority schools. It also prohibits all unrecognized schools from practice and makes provisions for no donation or capitation fees and no interview or parents for admission.
- 4) This Act is applied to all of India except Jammu and Kashmir.
- 5) There should be combine education both for boys and girls.
- 6) The financial burden will be shared between state government and central government on the basis of 'Sarva Shikshan Abhiyan'. In April 2010 the central government agreed to share the funding for implementing the law in the ratio of 65% to 35% between the centre and the state. A ratio of 90% to 10% for north eastern states.

**Views on basic education:**

Ambedkar has been described as a philosopher, a patriot, scholar or a writer, the constitution maker, a social revolutionary, a humanistic thinker, or the socialist and he had also contributed a great deal to the cause of education. He mainly emphasized that the education as a vital force for individual development and social change. For Ambedkar, education was the main key to open the doors of light, vision and wisdom. He himself said, "Education is something which ought to be brought within the reach of every one. The object of primary education is to see that every child that enters the portals of a primary school does leave it only at a stage when it becomes literate continuous to be literate throughout the rest of his life."

**AMBEDKAR 'S VISION ON THE DALIT EDUCATION:**

Education is not only a layer for their social mobility but also opens the doors for their modernization. Education as a instrument for Dalit Education. Ambedkar was very much influenced by Dewey's ideas on scientific method, experimental approach, democracy and pragmatism in the field of education. He insisted that to the Dalit people, 'Educate to organize and to Struggle' for their own betterment using whatever educational facilities. Education could encourage the oppressed ones to fight and remove injustice and exploitation and pave ways

for the free thinking. He recognized that, lack of education was the main cause for the backwardness of poor people. Educate, agitate and organize are three final words of our savior. According to Ambedkar one must get educated before he is conducting agitated thoughts for the movement, so that people can organize with his support. A singular role that Ambedkar played in the upliftment of the untouchables in the early 20th century and the importance that he gave to modern education for their betterment deserves special emphasis. Ambedkar's ideas for the untouchables was to raise their educational standards so that they may know their own condition, have aspirations and rise to the level of highest Hindu and be in the position to use political power as a means. This is best reflected in Ambedkar's famous slogan of Educate, Agitate and Organize.

### **Ambedkar's Thought and Dalit Women's Perspectives**

Despite the phenomenal impact that it has had in transforming the lives of dalits and its continuing contemporary relevance, Ambedkar's social and educational thought remains surprisingly neglected in Indian educational discourse. Education was assigned a revolutionary role in Ambedkar's conception of social progress and in his vision of a just and equal society. It was identified as a key instrument of liberation from oppressive structures of Hindu caste-patriarchy as well as of reconstruction of a new social order. Women were integral to this visionary egalitarianism and were consciously mobilised as political actors in the dalit liberation movement led by Ambedkar in the early decades of the twentieth century. Ambedkar's thought and participation in his movement constituted the bedrock of dalit women's political education. The arena of formal education was a significant focus of women's political involvement, and they played foundational roles as political educators and educational activists. Dalit women redefined ideals of both womanhood and educational purpose in terms of counter-hegemonic reconstructions of nation, society and community, and articulated new subject positions grounded in them.

### **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Philosophy on Higher Education and its Relevance to the present society:**

Education is the fountain head for the advancement of any society. An individual is empowered with creative thinking, knowledge, reasoning and compassion for fellow being through education, closing the avenues of education from ones reach is nothing but blinding the person. Dr. Ambedkar said, "Higher education, in my opinion, means that education, which can enable you to occupy the strategically important places in State administration. Brahmins had to face a

lot of opposition and obstacles, but they are overcoming these and progressing ahead.”

### **Gender Equality and It's Relevance in Contemporary Education System**

Dr. B.R.Ambedkar was a great champion of gender equality is clear from his various writings on Hindu social order. In order to find out the root cause of degraded status of women in the society. Dr.B. R. Ambedkar's approach to women's empowerment is entirely different from other social reformers like Mahatma JyotibaPhule, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar and Mahatma Gandhi who tried to reform the Hindu society of certain outdated customs and practices without questioning the hierarchical social order. Women were free and equal status along with men in matters of education. Dr.B. R.Ambedkar's mission in life was to challenge the ideological foundations of graded system of caste hierarchy that denied equality, freedom and human dignity to women in the society. He laid the foundations for gradual transformation of Indian social consciousness and gender justice in India.

### **Social work practice with the view of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar**

Ambedkar in most relevant disciplines like social work. 'Ambedkarism' is the indigenous human rights and social justice frameworks to inspire human service professions like Social Work to flourish and accomplish meet its mission. who left his mark in worthy causes but neglected in the history. Reciting such incredible contributions in the academics will inspire and guide future citizens. But it is unfortunate for having meager discussions on Ambedkar in most relevant disciplines like social work. 'Ambedkarism' is the indigenous human rights and social justice frameworks to inspire human service professions like Social Work to flourish and accomplish meet its mission. Social Work is a profession whose purpose is to bring about social changes in society and social functioning of individuals towards social & sustainable development.

Social work is an international profession and similarly social work education internationally has always embraced both academic and practical components. Social work education comprises of a theoretical component taught in the classroom and field- based education involving integration of the academic aspect and practice. Fieldwork, which is also known as field instruction, field placement, field education, practicum or internship is therefore an integral component of social work education. According to the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), "the primary mission of the social work profession is to enhance human well-being and help

meet the basic human needs of all people with particular attention to the needs and empowerment of people who are vulnerable, oppressed and living in poverty”. Every provision in the constitution that seeks to bring about social change and ensure social justice reflects Ambedkarism.

### **Discussion and Suggestions**

Ambedkar wanted the people to cultivate the values of freedom and equality among themselves; it is possible only through education. He regarded education as a means to reach the doors of light and perception to remove the regions of darkness and ignorance. Dr. Ambedkar believed in peaceful methods of social change. He was supported to constitutional lines in the evolutionary process of social transformation. He thought the factors like law and order which are indispensable for social life. It also strives to sustain institutions that will make better ‘social order’. Should Create more special courts to try cases of atrocities against sc’s/st’s and need to encourage NGO’s which are working for the upliftment of sc’s/st’ education awareness.

### **Conclusion**

Ambedkar wished social reformers to create public opinion to fight the gross inequalities in the society. Dr. Ambedkar emphasized on practical value of the things. His ideas and educational doctrines have been successfully demonstrated through the age, sex, through the best educational system of the world and their cherished ideals have already been incorporated directly or indirectly into educational system of modern India. Dr. Ambedkar philosophy has great ideas for practical fulfillment and these ideas have the relevance to modern society.

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