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The Unfinished Annihilation: A Sociological Study of Caste, Untouchability, and the Indian Constitutional Policies

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Introduction:

The concept of Republic India itself clears rights of citizens against of rights of religious law or prince law. The democratic India means the state of citizens of India means not a state of any single person or any family or any group. The socialist state has argued the equal distribution of resources which rights denied by the caste system. The present study focusses on the Indian Constitution and practices of Untouchability and caste system. The study discusses the on the sociological perspectives related to caste system and Indian Caste system.

Objectives of the Study:

1. To Sociological Study of Caste, Untouchability and constitutional Policies.
2. To understand the interpretation of Indian Constitution and realities of Annihilation of Caste.

Hypothesis:

1. The policies of social, economic and political Justice is able to destroy the graded inequality of caste system and its operation.
2. Indian Constitution provides strict legal interpretations for the abolition of untouchability but the practices are different.

Theoretical Approach:

The study is heavily relied upon the theoretical approaches developed by Joytiba Phule, and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar in understanding the various caste realities in India.

Research Design:

The Study is Historical and Content Analysis Design in nature; appropriate qualitative data have gathered to investigate the extent of eradication of operative aspects of the caste system.

Primarily and secondary documentary sources has been used to prove the research statement.

Perspectives of Phule and Dr. Ambedkar:

Joytiba Phule was the first revolutionary person who said without destroying semi-feudal class relation and semi- feudal caste system not possible to achieve the democracy revolution in India. Phule attacked Hinduism at every field. He challenged its legitimacy and questioned its existence. He argued the 'Hinduism' is not a legitimate religion but superstition, a bag of tricks, a weapon of domination. (Omvedt: 2008/22)

It has perfectly cleared the perspective of Dr. Ambedkar on caste issues in his book '*Annihilation of Caste*.' He expressed that, 'What is your ideal society if you do not want caste is a question that is bound to be asked of you. If you ask me, my ideal would be a society based on Liberty, Equality and Fraternity'. (Ambedkar:1936-rep.2005/43) He had explored and run activity related to ways of annihilation caste. He stated in the letter sent to Mr.Har Bhagwan on 27 April 1936 "The real method of breaking up the caste system was not to be bring about inter-caste dinners and inter-caste marriages but to destroy the religious notions on which caste was founded." (Ambedkar: 1936-rep.2005/II)

Independent India and the Indian Constitution:

Independent India has been made own Constitution for the welfare and development of India; therefore, we can say the Indian Constitution is one of the best Constitution in the world with provisions and laws for protection and development of citizens.

The system of *Asharma* (Living nature by age) and *Sanskar (Socialization)* have also the stabilized Hindu laws based on Varna and Castes through traditions, customs, values, and norms and cultural. After the Independence of India, 26th January 1950 is a revolutionary day for Indian which was Prince's India has been converted in to republic India. 395 articles of Indian Constitution have been made the laws of India for establish of Indian Nation. Some articles have directly expressed about denied caste-based system.

Policies Related to Eradication of Caste system by Indian Government and Maharashtra:

The Indian constitution is great one in the world. The Articles and Acts of Constitution of India have ability to eradicate the caste system. The policies

and programmes have been made based on the constitution to make the nation. Indian Government has made some policies which are protect to process of eradication of castes. Some policies like below:

1. Reservation Policy:

The reservation policy is the important policy to mobilize the process of eradication of castes. The idea of representation/ reservation has been constricted by the Joytiba Phule in the memorandum of Hunter commission (1882). The Shahu Maharaja has declared reservation in the Kolhapur state; this type of notification has published first time in India. The notification has stated, 'His Highness has decided that is described to reserve for those classes a larger share of employment in the state service than his hitherto been the case. In pursuance of this policy His Highness is pleased to direct that from the date of this order 50% of the vacancies that may occur shall be filled by recruits from among the proportion of officers of the backward classes is at present less than 50 p.c. the next appointment shall be given to member of those classes……For the purpose of these orders the backward classes shall be understood to mean all castes other than Brahmins, Prabhus, Shenwis, Parsees and other advanced classes. (Karveer Gazette-26 July 1902, cited from Pawar: 2001/950-51)

The notification of Shahu maharaja has clearly shown the facts and importance of reservation policy for the development of backward classes. The policy of reservation against the values and norms of Hindu caste system; it means its supporter to the process of eradication of castes.

Dr. Ambedkar has been demanded for the equal representation from his emerging social movement. The round table conference (1932) was the extreme efforts made by Dr. Ambedkar for the equal representation of scheduled castes. The Poona Pact was the representation has been converted into 'representation through reservation'

The Indian Constitution made special provisions for the victims of caste system. Article 16 the Fundamental right has clearly indicated the reservation policy is related to the equal opportunity in the employments. Such as, Article 46, Article 243, Article 340,341, 342 have been providing special provision under the reservation policy.

The policy has in-depth provisions to annihilate the caste system. The policy has been converted castes into class. The polarization of various castes has been stimulating to the process of eradicate of

caste. It is cleared that, the policy is not matter of 'Brede and Butter' it is a fundamental right for making the nation which will be the casteless.

2. Inclusive policy of Government of India:

The 12th five-year plan (2012-2017) has taken initiative for the inclusive growth of exclusive people of India. The caste system of Hindu religion has been excluded based on the birth and purity. The lower castes have always outside of this system. There were fought for the equality in the history of India; but the Indian constitution has been made equal through the laws. The reservation policy is also the inclusive policy of Indian government. It has observed the growth rate become high but most of the persons have out of the boundary. The government of India has been tried to reduce the gaps between poor and rich people.

The 12th five-year plan stated that, "The progress towards inclusiveness is more difficult to assess, because inclusiveness is a multidimensional concept. Inclusive growth should result in lower incidence of poverty, broad-based and significant improvement in health outcomes, universal access for children to school, increased access to higher education and improved standards of education, including skill development. It should also be reflected in better opportunities for both wage employment and livelihood, and in improvement in provision of basic amenities like water, electricity, roads, sanitation and housing. Particular attention needs to be paid to the needs of the SC/ST and OBC population. (http://www.in.undp.org)

It shows that the government of India has been tried to participate backward classes in the main stream of development. The empowerment of weaker section/ backward classes has become important to the UNDP (United Nation Development Programme). They have also concentrated on this policy for the implementation.

3. Cultural Policy of Maharashtra:

The cultural policy of Maharashtra has been declared in the year of 2012. Dr. A. H. Salunkhe was the chairperson of this drafting committee. He suggested several plans to government of Maharashtra and Government has also accepted these suggestions. The policy has concentrated on the great history of folk culture, folk languages, which are belonging to the backward classes those ignored by Hindu caste system. The cultural policy also pointed out the universal important of reformers of Maharashtra who devoted themselves in the movement of annihilation of castes. He suggested the

study centers of those reformers should be established in the foreign universities and institutes. These things are inspiring to the process of eradication of castes.

Conclusion:

The Indian Constitution is fundamental document to establish equality, brotherhood, liberty and justice who denied by the caste system in India. The preamble of Indian Constitution theories the frame works of eradication of caste system in India.

The Articles of constitution of India have able to annihilate the caste system in India. The laws and acts have also supported to the process of eradication of castes system. The policy of reservation has strongly supported to this process. The polarization of various castes and castes converted in to the castes is indicated impacts on the society. The national impacts have also seen; but, as concern to the part of implementation all governments have failure in this process. The governing class has been not strongly performing in to annihilate the caste system; which is the duty given by constitution.

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