

Dr.Ambedkar's Prescription to achieve effective democracy in India**¹K.M. Anitha Shery, ²Rev.Sr.(Dr). Rajakumari P**¹Research Scholar, Department of History, Tiruchirappalli.²Head, Department of History, Tiruchirappalli.**ABSTRACT**

The term Democracy refers to the 'power or rule of the people' but Dr.Ambedkar, who approached not only the mechanical concept of the word but also extended its scope beyond the political concept and provided social & economical spheres of the people. Dr.Ambedkar stated that Democracy as way of life to ensure the dignity of man. The need for educating every citizen to know more about democracy is essential to achieve the effective democracy in India. The study had approached the problem in two broad ideas of Ambedkar on Democracy. The one which is purely Political and the other is Socio-economic perspective of Democracy. Therefore, it brings Dr.Ambedkar's new dimension to democracy which were based on Social, Political and Economic principles.

KEYWORDS

Democracy, Social Justice, Equality, Morality, Two-Party System, Just Society,

INTRODUCTION

Bharat Ratna Dr.B.R.Ambedkar as social reformer, economist, jurist, orator, author, scholar of comparative religions, the main architect of Indian Constitution and India's first law minister after independence was a multi-faceted person who remapped the frontiers of achievement by his persistence and the determination to stand out against all discrimination. Ambedkar ideology was based on the goal of attaining equity and liberty in Indian society. The philosophy of John Dewey and the ideology of liberalism had influenced a lot on his thinking. Ambedkar ideology on society, morality and religion were deeply influenced by Buddha and JothiRaoPhule. In the opinion of Ambedkar, Dictatorship form of government may produce the result quickly. In same way it will be helpful to maintaining discipline in the society but it should not be a permanent form of government. Therefore, Ambedkar prescribed democracy as a permanent form of government which will enhance liberty in the society. In democracy form of government, people

have an upper hand on rulers. Democratic government have different forms among that Ambedkar had chosen Parliamentary form of Government.

Democracy is an instrument which brings changes in a peaceful manner. Ambedkar thought on democracy is not just scheme of government but to bring drastic changes in the social and economic spheres of society. So, he emphasizes democracy in political social and economic spheres of society which brings all round development in the nation. Democracy in political Sphere means 'one man one vote' which implies political equality among citizens in the nation. Democratic government should bring a democratic society. But as long as caste-based qualities exist, real democracy cannot be achieved. Democracy is the soul of fraternity and equality and not just a political arrangement. The success of democracy in India should be measured only by establishing a real democratic society. Ambedkar extended the aspect of democracy with the economic factor. The parliamentary form of democracy ignored economic inequalities cannot concentrated problems of downtrodden. In the Western type of parliamentary democracy never concentrated on the issues of source and economic equality but it provides liberty whereas true democracy should provide both equality and liberty. Establishing democracy in India should eradicate hereditary inequality to bring democratic society. Therefore, Ambedkar prescribed the idea of all round democracy.

CONCEPT OF DEMOCRACY IN INDIA

Democracy means rule by the people. The term democracy is derived from the Greek word 'Demokratia'. The word demokratia coined from demos (people) and Kratos (rule) to denote the political systems that existing in few Greek city-states namely Athens in the 5th century BCE. Democracy is not only a political concept but also the way of people's life in the society. Democracy in true sense denotes the opportunity of all the people in the society to participate equally in decisions which affect their lives individually and collectively. In a narrow sense democracy denotes the opportunity of all the people in the society to participate equally in political decisions. Democracy helps to setup an equalitarian Society. Democracy can be broadly divided into three kinds namely political democracy, social and economic democracy and Moral democracy. Political democracy aims to provide equal opportunity for every citizen to choose their political leader. That's why the voting rights limited by adult franchise. Social democracy is to bring casteless and classless society. The major aim of social democracy is to eradicate the social inequality among citizens. Economic democracy is to remove economic disparities to

provide welfare state for the citizens. Moral democracy deals with the philosophy of right and wrong conduct to bring brotherhood fellow- feeling among citizens.

DEMOCRACY IN MODERN INDIA

The British rule in India was not a favour of democracy. The Government of India Act 1935 made the founding stone for democratic rule in India but the Congress remained in power only for two years till 1937. After that the British government was completely occupied with World War II 1940 to 1945. From 1946, India was getting ready for political freedom and it got independence in 1947. The Constitution of independent India had accepted democracy as the form of government. The democracy in modern India was written on the below mentioned principles:

- 1) Every citizen in India has his/her dignity, Potentialities and worth
- 2) Each citizen has their own capacity to learn and manage his/her life with others
- 3) The individual should accept the decision of the majority
- 4) In same way, every individual has a right to take part in making decisions
- 5) The direction and control of the democratic action must lie in the situation and not outside it.
- 6) Each individual should live together without any disparity
- 7) the democracy is not only based on individual opportunity but also the individual responsibility.

Dr AMBEDKAR'S VIEW ON INDIAN DEMOCRACY

Dr.Ambedkar has clearly stated the most important five conditions which are necessary to attain of effective Democracy in India.

1. Equality:Dr Ambedkar states that equality is the key to achieve effective democracy in India. The Ideal society should be based on equality, Liberty and fraternity. Once the society gets an idea of equality will automatically derive the idea of fraternity and liberty because the real ideal society is developing in the roots of equality and its reflection is nothing but fraternity and liberty. Therefore if equality is denied, everything will be denied in the society. To attain equality we should remove discrimination under the pretext of religion, culture and norms in the society. In India the idea of equality is referred to social equality in the society. Due to Chaturvarnva system in India, the society was split into many fractions of castes. In Indian society the legal norms and the social norms were based on inequality. Therefore Dr Ambedkar prescribed equality is the essential condition for the success of democracy in India.

2. Two party system: The existence of strong opposition to the ruling majority is considered to be the second condition to attain effective democracy. There should be an effective veto power against the authority of the ruling power in the country. In Aristocracy rule, the veto power cannot be used against the king, but in Democracy it should be exercised against the ruling power. Only the two-party system which contains one is to rule and other is to oppose will pave the way for effective democracy. The People those who are in power should seek a fresh mandate from the people at every five years. People should have an option to choose the people to be in power. The temporary of the authority will bring the accountability to the people those who are in power. Dr. Ambedkar stated that like a king has no divine power to rule, the majority also not having a divine power to rule. The rule of political majority is tolerated only because it is for limited period. Dr. Ambedkar mentioned that there should be a political majority and a political minority rather than a communal majority and a communal minority. The difference between a communal majority and a political majority is that the political majority is not a fixed or a permanent majority. It is a majority which is always made, unmade and remade but the communal majority is a permanent majority fixed in its attitude. It will destroy it, but never transform it". In simple words, "two parties are necessary to keep Government away from despotism".

3. Equality in law and administration:

Due to the Vedic culture, the inequality is prevailed in law and administration in the Indian society. According to the Hindu system law and administration people by their castes. There was no Uniform Civil Code in Hindu Vedic law. The Hindu judicial system based on inequality and injustice. An ideal society must be treat people equality before law and administration. Personnel in administration should be more sincere and efficient. The administration should have an authority to take legal action against any culprits in the society without the interference of the ruling party. Therefore, the officials in the administration should be permanent, incorrupt and efficient. The power of the administration should be above the political power and should not allow the interference in the decisions of the administration. The well responsive, impartial and responsible administration is highly needed to build an ideal society.

4. Moral order:

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar explained that the existence of a moral order in the society is an invisible tyre to drive democracy safely in Indian society. The success of the administration is not only implementing the law but also the society should have a morality to handle the laws effectively for the betterment of the society. Politics is not about the game of power but it's a mission to bring an ideal society for the people. The politician should put welfare of the people at first. The politician is a person who belongs to us, he is not an alien so if the society should have a morality and treat people equally irrespective of the caste, class and creed. The politician also be more sincere to his duty.

5. Public conscience:

The public is a hero of the Indian Constitution So they should be more attentive towards the social happenings which will be essential ingredients of the effective democracy. According to Ambedkar, public conscience means "conscience which becomes agitated at every wrong, no matter who is the sufferer, and it means that everybody whether he suffers that particular wrong or not, is prepared to join him in order to get him relieved." The Public should take a stand for the truth and righteous of the society not for the community they belong. This attitude of the public will definitely bring changes and pave a way to build a democratic society for all Indians.

CONCLUSION

India has adopted a new Constitution in 1950 and the citizens of India have pledged to constitute India into a sovereign socialistic secular democratic republic and to secure to all its citizens' justice, liberty, equality and fraternity. The citizens have a responsibility to make India in to a democratic land for all. It may look difficult to bring it in reality but if we remove all inherent inequalities in the society will be possible to create a just society to build democratic India. The prescriptions of Babasaheb Ambedkar for the effective Democracy are most relevant to the Indian society in the present scenario.

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