

PREFACE

The great British thinker, Prof. Carlyle has defined history as nothing but the biography of great men and as the record of human accomplishment, particularly of great souls. His definition is completely applicable to history of movement of liberation of Indian women. After the establishment of Indian National Congress, Freedom Movement got spread. After the death of Lokmanya Tilak, M.K. Gandhi became the leader of Freedom Movement. But it could not succeed in it.

In the movement of Liberation of Indian women, social reformers played a great role. Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Mahatma Jyotiba Phule, Savitribai Phule, Iravati Karve, Dr. Anny Besant, Maharshi Dhondo Keshav Karve, M.K. Gandhi etc. were some of them. These social reformers tried to remove the social evils and bad practices like untouchability, slavery, injustice with women, Sati system, child marriage, Johar, child sacrifice, Devasasi, Purdah system, prevention of widow-marriages etc.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was one of those who worked for the liberation of Indian women. He, through his speeches and writings, awakened the women and downtrodden masses in the Indian society. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar occupies a place of pride among the great leaders, who

acted in a historically given Indian social milieu. The development of his social thought must be viewed from these angles. This study has made an attempt to trace development of his social, political thoughts, i.e., the changes and continuities in his political and social ideas in his life-time, i.e., from 1916 to 1956.

According to Hindu Code Bill, daughter also was made the heir along with son. This was a great blow to the Indian tradition that thought male alone as important and daughter was made to occupy the secondary position. This part of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's work has not yet been properly studied in Historical perspective. Therefore, this is a vital topic which I selected for my study and research.

Here an attempt has been made to study and give the survey of "DR. AMBEKAR AND LIBERATION OF INDIAN WOMEN" with the help of original as well as secondary sources which are available to us. In course of preparing this work I have received help and co-operation from many and I deem it my duty to express my deep sense of gratitude to all of them.

I must express my deep sense of gratitude to my Research Guide, Dr. B.R. Kamble, who guided me at

dedicated their lives for establishing social and economic equality in our nation. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar became a pioneer of social awakening among Indian women and the depressed classes by his work which aroused selfrespect and dignity in them.

Dr. Ambedkar was the foremost philosopher and strategist of the movement of Liberation of Indian women and downtrodden. He viewed the problem of emancipation of humanity in general and the untouchables and women in particular in terms of historical and contemporary context. According to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar the root cause of Indian untouchability and women's slavery lies in the Hindu religious philosophy and the Hindu way of life.

As a solution to this Dr. B.R. Ambedkar challenged the historically existing Hindu social order and counter-developed his own social model in the process of developing his movement. In doing so he had to work out his strategy from time to time. Development of political action is a process of shifts and turns in views congruent with basic goals and objectives of the movement. Dr. Ambedkar had to frame his thinking in the process of giving response to the views expressed, and the ideal propounded and put forth, by the existing movements of his time. He

every step of this work until its completion. Without his guidance and help this M.Phil. dissertation would have been absolutely impossible.

I am also grateful to my respected mother Mrs. Karabai Gorakh Jadhav for encouragement and economic and psychological support given to me in this work.

Kolhapur:

Date:

(SADHU GORAKH JADHAV)

oOo