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# Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar an Architect of India

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## Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar and Women Empowerment In India

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Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar the father and architect of Indian Constitution was the opinion that until and unless we defy. The Hindu Dharmashastra nothing much can be changed. In the name of Sanskaras, women are tied to bondages of superstition, which they carry till their Death. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar was perhaps one of the biggest champion of women empowerment to have existed in India. For Indian women's movement Babasaheb provides powerful source of inspiration to formulate a feminist political agenda which simultaneously address issues of class, caste and gender in the contemporary Socio Political set up which still keep conservative and and reactionary value in many respects Being the first law minister of independent India and chairman of the Constitution drafting committee Dr. Ambedkar left no stone unturned in insurance that each value and vision found space in the constitutional framework of the nation. One of his most important introduction towards the cause was the Hindu code Bill. Dr. Ambedkar major concern for the status of women was reflected in this Bill. Dr Babasaheb spend his life for betterment of women. They created awareness among poor illiterate women and inspired them to fight against unjust and social factors like child marriage and Devdasi system. This his deep concern and feeling for all round development of women is expressed from his lifetime.

Keywords - Women Empowerment, Equality, Hindu Code Bill, Child Marriage.

**Introduction**

"I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved" Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

"We shall see better days soon and our progress will be greatly accelerate if male is persuaded side-by-side with female education." Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar popularly known as "Babasaheb" was among the most outstanding intellectual of India in the 20th century who made the efforts to lead the society in the path of Equality, Liberty and Fraternity. He attempted to find the root cause of decline in the status of women in social order Dr. Ambedkar had played various roles through the course of his life. He remains connected to people as an Indian Jurist, Politician, Social Reformer, Economist, Hydrologist, Agricultural Expert, Great philosopher. A True Patriotic. He is also known as the architect of Indian constitution. He inspired the social movement against the social discrimination for untouchables Dr. Ambedkar was have one of the biggest champion of women empowerment who strongly for women empowerment in this research paper try to focus on Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar contribution of women empowerment.

**Objective of The Study**

1. To study the concept of Women Empowerment.
2. To study the Dr. Ambedkar contribution in Women Empowerment
3. To understand the Social, Economic and Political rights of women in Pilot of women Empowerment.

**Methodology**

This study is based on secondary data. The data collected from various books, newspaper, research articles, journals, internet

### Concept Of Women Empowerment

Women's Empowerment is the process of empowering women. Empowerment can be defined in many ways however when talking about women's empowerment, "Empowerment" means accepting and including people women who are on the outside of the decision-making process into it. The term "Empowerment" is multidimensional social process and it help people gain control over their own lives. Empowerment of women is not only imperative but also crucial for all round development of the society and the nation as a whole definition of Empowerment

- 1) According to Sushma Sahay (1998) "Empowerment is an multi-dimensional process which enable women to realize their full identity and power in all spares of life."
- 2) According to Arundhati Chattopadhyay (2005) "Empowerment is multi-dimensional and refers to the expansion of freedom of choice and action in all sphere (Social, Economics and Political )to sphere one's life. It also implies control over resources and decisions."

### Dr. B.R. Ambedkar the Champion of the Women's Right

Dr Ambedkar has made significant effort to leave the society of the part of Liberty, Equality, Fraternity and Justice. He rendered great service to all the women by his emphasis on Idea of egalitarian society. Through his writing and speeches he discussed on number of problems of Indian women and sought for their solution in Bombay legislative council in the viceroy's Assembly as the chairman of the drafting committee and also in the Parliament as the first Law Minister of Independent India.

**Maternity Benefit Bill :** Maternity Benefit Bill was legally introduced in India for the first time in the Bombay Legislative Council Dr. Ambedkar supported and defended it. It is instructive to revisit his arguments in the Bombay legislative council in 1928. His argument on the Maternity Benefit bill and on birth critical were quite relevant to recognize the dignity of women He vehemently supported the Maternity Bill.

His argument was, "It is the interest of the Nation that the mother ought to get certain amount of rest during the prenatal period and also subsequently and the principle of the Bill is based entirely on that principle."

**Dr Ambedkar and women's Association for Socio -Political equality :** Dr. Ambedkar provides a powerful source inspiration to formulate a females political agenda, which simultaneously address the issues of class, caste, and gender in the contemporary sociopolitical set up. Ambedkar's movement launched from 1920 onward women actively participated and acquired the confidence to voice their issues on various platforms. Venbai Bhatkar and Renubai work for the socio- political equality of depressed people and promoting their economic interests. Women started Participation in satyagrahs and also launched Association for untouchable women for spreading education and awareness among them. In 1927 Dr. Ambedkar decided to launched a Mahad Satyagrah to a assert their right to use water in the public places. Shantabai Shinde was one such participant. In the Satyagrah it was decided to burn the "Mansmruti" which humiliated women. In the demonstration after the bonfire the "Manusmruti" more than fifty women to participated.

**Depressed Classes Women's Conference :** At all India Depressed classes romance conference held at Nagpur on 20th July 1940. Dr. Ambedkar emphasized that there could not be any progress without women. He spoke, "I am a great believer in women's organization. I know that what they can do to improve the condition of the Society if they are convinced. They should educate their children and install high ambition in them.

**Drafting Committee Meetings :** When Ambedkar returned to India after attending the round table conference in 1932 hundreds of woman were present for the committee meeting. Since Ambedkar was well convinced about the status of woman, as the chairman of the Drafting Committee he tried and adequate inclusion of women's right in the political vocabulary and constitution of India. Therefore by

considering women's quality both in formal and substantial sense he included special provisions for women while all other general provisions are applicable to them as man constitutional provisions.

### The Hindu Code Bill :

Dr Ambedkar major concern women's status has been reflected in the Hindu code Bill. The Hindu code bill further proposed to wipe out discrimination Ambedkar placed at the widow, daughter and the widow of predeceased son on the equal standing. In order to restore equality of gender daughter's share as equal to restore equality of gender. share as equal to the son on proposed in the father as well as in her husband

The principal future of the Hindu code bill illustrate Dr Ambedkar passion towards the very value of laboratory equality and fraternity. It was the reform challenging the basic patriarchal Foundation to ensure equality of women true to essence of improvement.

Dr Ambedkar ideas ideas however did influence the enactment of number of subsequent pro-women acts such as-

1. The Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929
2. Immoral Traffic Prevention Act 1956
3. Dowry Prohibition Act 1961
4. The Maternity Benefit Act 1961
5. The Equal Remuneration Act 1976
6. The Family Court Act 1984
7. The Sati Provision Act 1987
8. The National Commission For Women Act 1990
9. Protection Of Human Right Act 1993
10. Protection Of Women From Domestic Violence Act 2005 Among Other

### Conclusion

Dr. Ambedkar was not only the father of Indian constitution, he was a great Freedom Fighter, Political Leader, Philosopher, Thinker Economic, Editor Social Reformer, Revivalist of Buddhism and also first Indian to unlock the barriers in the way of advancement of women in India. He lead down the foundation of concert and sincere efforts by codifying by the common Civil Code for Hindus and other section of the Indian society. He stated that women should be given all round development more importantly social education, their well-being and socio-cultural rights. He emphasized that each and every section of Indian women be given their due share and it is must to maintain and protect dignity and modesty of woman.

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