



Dr. Ambedkar Study Centre
Kalindi College
(University of Delhi)
NAAC Accredited with Grade "A"



In collaboration with
Dr. Ambedkar Chair in Social Justice,
Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)
(Sponsored by Dr. Ambedkar Foundation
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment)

Announces
Two-days National Seminar
On 6-7 December 2017

on

Dr. Ambedkar on Women's Rights in India: Issues and Prospects

Concept Note

Ambedkar Study Centre, Kalindi College, University of Delhi is organising a two-day National Seminar on **"Dr. Ambedkar on Women's Rights in India: Issues and Prospects"** in collaboration with Dr. Ambedkar Chair in Social Justice, Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) on 6th & 7th December, 2017.

THE SEMINAR THEME OUTLINE

Dr. Ambedkar struggled throughout his life for the liberation of Indian women from the lifelong bondage and slavery under the weight of Hindu social order. Following the Buddha's philosophy he set himself as a path shower to millennium of suppressed downtrodden and underprivileged women for social equality irrespective of their religion, caste, creed and sex. His main arguments focus on gender relations that are artificially constructed under Hindu social order which not only moulds attitude of Hindus towards women but also conditions of women to confirm to a stereotype feminine behaviour. He challenged the ideological foundation of graded system of caste hierarchy that denied equality, freedom and dignity to women in Indian society.

Dr. Ambedkar was the first Indian to break down the barriers in the way of advancement of women in India. His mission of life was to reconstruct Hindu society along with modern democratic ideas of liberty, equality and fraternity. The core political thinking of Dr. Ambedkar contains in two of his statements:

1. *"The rights are proclaimed not by law but by social and moral conscience of society"*
2. *"A democratic form of government presupposes a democratic form of society"*

Dr. Ambedkar made sincere efforts in understanding the reality about the status of women in India and advocated various practical reformist measures for the upliftment of women. Later on, these measures form the basis of legislations for providing opportunities to women so that they can occupy and can realize their potential for building an equitable and egalitarian society.

Dr. Ambedkar also studied the status of Muslim women in his famous book “Pakistan and partition of India”, he expressed his views about Muslim women and their religious traditions, about wearing veil, their marriages and so on. Muslim women were suppressed under various religious traditions. Towards all the women, irrespective of their religion, caste and class, Baba sahib had a particular humanitarian view.

He believed that strength of women and their role in the process of social reform and progress of the society can be achieved by education. He stated “we shall see better days soon and our progress will be greatly accelerated if male education is persuaded side by side with female education”.¹

With his initiative the first Maternity Benefits Act was passed in India in 1929 by the Bombay legislature. On this regard he said, “I believe that it is in the interest of the nation that the mother ought to get a certain amount of rest during the pre-natal period and also subsequently.

Today the vision of Ambedkar on emancipation of women, to remove all Social, Economic, Political and Cultural barriers for making the Women Empowerment is a reality in India. Some feminist movements are working for Women issues but they have largely ignored rich Philosophy of Dr. Ambedkar. However, it needs to be realized that any feminist discourse on gender equality in India in isolation of social institution of caste would be an exercise as women as a category undifferentiated by caste does not exist for feminists, they would be devoid of any concrete agenda that truly empowers common Women. There is, therefore, a need for Indian feminists to turn to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to understand the complex matrix of caste and gender so as to build a counter narrative that challenges the hegemony of patriarchal Hindu order.

Objectives of the Seminar

In this background, the main objective of the seminar would be to critically discuss and deliberate upon **Dr. Ambedkar on Women Rights in India: Issues and Prospects** in order to develop a comprehensive understanding of the issue involved and come out with some appropriate solutions, models, strategies and policy framework.

This Seminar will be of great interest to faculty, research scholars, and experts of Women's studies. It would debate and assess the issues of women in the present time where India claims to be a highly progressive nation.

The Ambedkar Study Centre invites scholars to participate in the seminar and present papers on any topic related to the theme of the seminar.

Sub-Themes

- Impact of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on contemporary women movements
- Ambedkar's vision on women empowerment in India.
- Role of Dr. Ambedkar in reforming laws for women empowerment.
- Constitutional and Statutory safeguards for women in India.
- Global Concern for women empowerment in India.
- Dr. Ambedkar's vision on Uniform Civil Code

The above list is only suggestive and not all-inclusive

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE SEMINAR

With this seminar we expect to deliberate and thus expand the social awareness against grave issues of sexual harassment and domestic violence. We are hopeful to come up with effective suggestions for government, educational institutions and media in relation to their role in promoting women.

NOTES:

1. The ultimate objective of the seminar is to receive papers which after due processing and refereed selection, can be published as an edited book with ISBN from a reputed publisher.
2. 300 word Abstract must be sent latest by 24th November, 2017.
3. Full Paper (5000 – 6000 words) to be submitted latest by December 1, 2017
4. Seminar Registration fee for all participants is Rs. 500/-

FOR INFORMATION:

Chair: Dr. Anula Maurya, Principal (kalindisampark.du@gmail.com, 91-11 25787604)

Seminar Convener:

Dr. Sunita (7838621078), ascnseminar@gmail.com

Seminar Co-Convener:

Ms Manisha (9899464535)

Details of Mode of Payment

1. Demand Draft

DD of any Nationalized Bank in favour of 'Principal,
Kalindi College', Payable at Canara Bank,
Kalindi College, New Delhi.

2 RTG (Electronic Transfer) :

Bank Name	:	Canara Bank,
Branch Address	:	Kalindi College
Account Number	:	8670101001407
Type of Account	:	Savings Account
IFS Code	:	CNRB0008670

3. Cash on the spot

Delegates can directly deposit fee through cash on the spot. (However, Conference kit is not guaranteed for spot registrations.)

REGISTRATION FORM

TWO-DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR

December 06-07, 2017

Dr. Ambedkar on Women's Rights in India: Issues and Prospects

Organized by

Dr. Ambedkar Study Centre

Kalindi College, University of Delhi

&

Dr. Ambedkar Chair in Social Justice

Indian Institute of Public Administration

Name:

Department/Institution of affiliation:

.....
.....

Contact No. & Address :

.....

E-Mail ID:

Title of the Paper:

.....
.....

Payment Details

- ☐ Demand draft No.: Date:
Bank:
- ☐ Online payment
Transaction Code
- ☐ Cash

Name

Signature