



Ambedkar Times

Weekly

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VOL - 11 ISSUE - 1-3 March 27, 2019

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AMBEDKAR TIMES TRIBUTE TO THE GREAT SAHIB KANSHI RAM JI

March 15th, 1934 - October 09th, 2006

Prem K. Chumber

Editor-in-Chief www.ambedkartimes.com

Sahib Kanshi




Ram Ji was born on March 15, 1934, in Khawas Pur village of Ropar District of Punjab. He belonged to the Ramdasia community (Ad Dharmi) of the Scheduled Caste group, which is the largest group in Punjab. He was named Kanshi because after his birth the

midwife placed him in a tray made of Kansa metal. His father owned some land and his uncles were in the armed forces. In Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram's own words, "I was born and brought up amongst those who sacrificed themselves but never betrayed the country..." Despite his low caste background, he earned a bachelor's degree in science from the Government College at Ropar (Punjab). Soon after, he joined the research staff of Kirki's Explosive Research and Development Laboratory (ERDL) in Pune 1957. While working in Pune, he quit his job after becoming involved in the famous Deena Bhan case. Deena Bhan, a Rajasthani Scheduled Caste employee and senior colleague of Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram was suspended. His fault was that he protested against the decision of ERDL management for the cancellation of holidays for Dr. Ambedkar and Lord Buddha Jayantis and their replacement by the Tilak Jayanti and one additional holiday for Diwali. Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram decided to fight against such a caste ridden and dictatorial behavior of the management. The fighter in Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram got the suspension orders of Deena Bhan revoked and Dr. Ambedkar and Lord Buddha Jayantis holidays were restored.

This was the beginning of the long battle for the emancipation of the Dalits in the country that Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram had to lead till his last breath. He resigned from his job and totally dedicated his entire life for the cause of the community. He never married nor visited his home since then. His struggle was not for the home and family. He devised a new strategy to regain the lost glory of the original (Adi) inhabitants of Bharat. He gave utmost importance to the culture of work and democratic method of struggle. He also expanded the circle of the Dalits by incorporating other Backward Classes and Minorities into it.

He criticized the post-Ambedkar leadership of Dalits in India. For that he declared Poona Pact as the main reason. He said that "Poona Pact made Dalits helpless. By rejecting separate electorate, Dalits were deprived of their genuine representation in legislatures. Several and various kind of Chamchas were born in the last fifty years. As and when India's high caste Hindu rulers felt the need of Chamchas and when the authority of the upper castes got endangered by real and genuine Dalit leaders, Chamchas were brought to the fore in all other fields".

In his "The Chamcha Age", a well-argued and polemical tirade against the pseudo Dalit leaders, Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram sharpen the contradiction for the legitimate acquisition of political power by the downtrodden in electoral democracy in India. In, the Chamcha Age, "he focused very much on the Poona Pact which was a point of a rather decisive Gandhian victory over Dr. Ambedkar after a long duel between the two at the Round Table Conference". Ambedkartimes.com pays tribute to The Great Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram Ji on his 85th birthday anniversary.



Dr. Ambedkar Foundation
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
www.ambedkarfoundation.nic.in

BABASAHEB DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR

APRIL 14 1891, RAMJI SAKPAL'S WIFE, BHIMABAI, GAVE BIRTH TO A SON.

LOOK AT HIS FACE! IT'S SO RADIANT. LET'S CALL HIM BHIM—A NAME BEFITTING ONE DESTINED TO BE GREAT.

YES, WE WILL GIVE HIM THE BEST UPBRINGING AND EDUCATION. IT WILL EQUIP HIM FOR GREAT DEEDS.

DESPITE HARDSHIPS, RAMJI SENT HIS CHILDREN TO SCHOOL. HE ALSO TAUGHT THEM HIMSELF.

IN HIGH SCHOOL, BHIM WAS OFTEN TREATED SHABBILY BECAUSE OF HIS CASTE. BUT HE FOUND AN OASIS OF AFFECTION IN ONE TEACHER NAMED AMBEDKAR.

GOOD! YOU HAVE SOLVED ALL THE SUMS CORRECTLY.

ONCE, THEY WERE EATING TOGETHER—

BHIM, I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU MY SURNAME OF AMBEDKAR.

AS YOU WISH, SIR.

AFTER SOME TIME, RAMJI MOVED WITH HIS CHILDREN TO BOMBAY. HE TOOK UP A ROOM IN A CHAWL IN THE MILL AREA AT PAREL. THE ROOM SERVED AS A KITCHEN, BEDROOM AND STUDY ROOM.

BHIM, YOU CANNOT STUDY IN ALL THIS NOISE. GO TO BED NOW. I'LL WAKE YOU UP AT TWO IN THE MORNING.

ALL RIGHT, FATHER.

BHIM STUDIED HARD WHILE THE OTHERS SLEPT.

HE USED TO GO TO THE CHARNI ROAD GARDENS TO STUDY. THERE, HE OFTEN MET K.A. KELUSKAR, A SCHOLAR AND SOCIAL REFORMER.

HOW ARE YOUR STUDIES GOING, BHIMRAO?

I AM STUDYING HARD, SIR.

Dr. Ambedkar Foundation, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, 15, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001

AMBEDKAR TIMES COMPLETES TEN YEARS

Prem K. Chumber
Editor-In-chief

www.ambedkartimes.com

Ambedkar Times completes 10 years and enters into 11th year of its continuous onward journey aimed at highlighting the most immediate and long



term concerns of our society in general and the community in particular. The paper in both of its electronic and print editions has been dedicated to the

historic struggles fought for the emancipation and empowerment of downtrodden and spearheaded Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in the memory of Sahib Shri Kanshi Ram-Founder President of BAMCEF, DS4 and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP). It is generally believed that in contemporary times that media plays a crucial role in underlining the close concerns of a society and help in building supportive public opinion to overcome its multifaceted hurdles and to pave the way to prosperity and development. Any community that does not have its own intellectual forum, public medium of inter community dialogue and regular communication is bound to be left behind in its surge for betterment in a meaningful way. "Ambedkar Times" is a small endeavor in that direction. We solicit your support in further strengthening it. We are really grateful to all who supported us and have also been doing the same against all odds. We assure you that with your active support Ambedkar Times will achieve more heights and take pride in serving the community with serious commitments!!

Heartiest congratulations on the 11th anniversary of 'Ambedkar Times'

Dear Mr. Prem K. Chumber,

Huge Congratulations on the 11th Anniversary of Ambedkar Times ... It is an amazing feat of our dear friend Prem Chumber for singlehandedly and indefatigably furling the Ambedkarite flag in North America... It is a fitting tribute to the seminal contribution of Sahib Kanshi Ram on whose anniversary it was launched as much as it is a special tribute to the legacy of Babasaheb Dr B. R. Ambedkar...



Best wishes for the continuous churning.

Dr Raj Kumar Hans

Cell.1: +91-7383352176

BHIM WAS THE FIRST IN HIS COMMUNITY TO PASS THE MATRICULATION EXAMINATION. HIS COMMUNITY CONVENED A MEETING TO HONOUR HIM. SHRI KELUSKAR WAS ALSO PRESENT TO FELICITATE HIM. SHRI S.K. BOLE, A WELL-KNOWN SOCIAL REFORMER, PRESIDED.



AS A TOKEN OF MY BLESSINGS, I PRESENT YOU WITH MY NEW BOOK ON THE LIFE OF BUDDHA.

AFTER GRADUATION, BHIMRAO WAS SELECTED BY THE STATE OF BARODA TO STUDY ABROAD. IN JULY 1913, HE JOINED COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN NEW YORK.



I FEEL SO FREE HERE. THERE ARE NO SOCIAL RESTRAINTS ON ME. I CAN STUDY AS MUCH AS I PLEASE!

THE FREEDOM AND EQUALITY IN THE USA WAS A NOVEL EXPERIENCE FOR BHIMRAO.

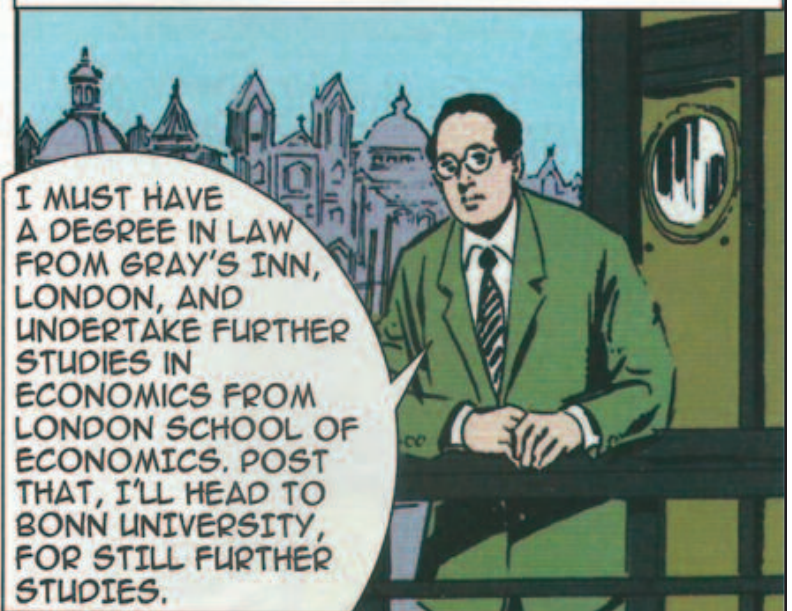
HE WORKED ALMOST 18 HOURS A DAY.



I WILL SAVE MONEY TO BUY BOOKS AND TAKE BACK TO INDIA.

IN 1915, HE ATTAINED HIS M.A. DEGREE AND LATER WAS AWARDED HIS PH.D.

HAVING COMPLETED HIS STUDIES IN THE USA IN LESS THAN THE STIPULATED TIME, HE PROCEEDED TO LONDON.



I MUST HAVE A DEGREE IN LAW FROM GRAY'S INN, LONDON, AND UNDERTAKE FURTHER STUDIES IN ECONOMICS FROM LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS. POST THAT, I'LL HEAD TO BONN UNIVERSITY, FOR STILL FURTHER STUDIES.

Dr. Ambedkar Foundation, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, 15, Janpath, New Delhi - 110001

Ambedkartimes.com proudly presents with thanks Dr. Ambedkar Foundation Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.

AMBEDKAR TIMES COMPLETES 10 YEARS- HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS

Dear Mr. Prem Chumber,
"Ambedkar Times", a weekly Newspaper published under your Editorial guidance, completes 10 years of its existence and I, as its regular reader



and a patron, convey my hearty congratulations on its 11th anniversary and for the invaluable services it has rendered to the entire Indian diaspora as well as the mainstream American life, during all these years. Ambedkar Times has stood the test of time and has been growing in its readership and patronage for which your hard work, devotion and journalistic ethics have been very instrumental.

An objective and unbiased press plays a very vital, effective and a constructive role in the successful functioning of a democracy and "Ambedkar Times" and "Desh Doaba" have always been observed, living upto these valuable ideals. "Ambedkar Times" deserves full support and encouragement from the community at large in its efforts for future expansion.

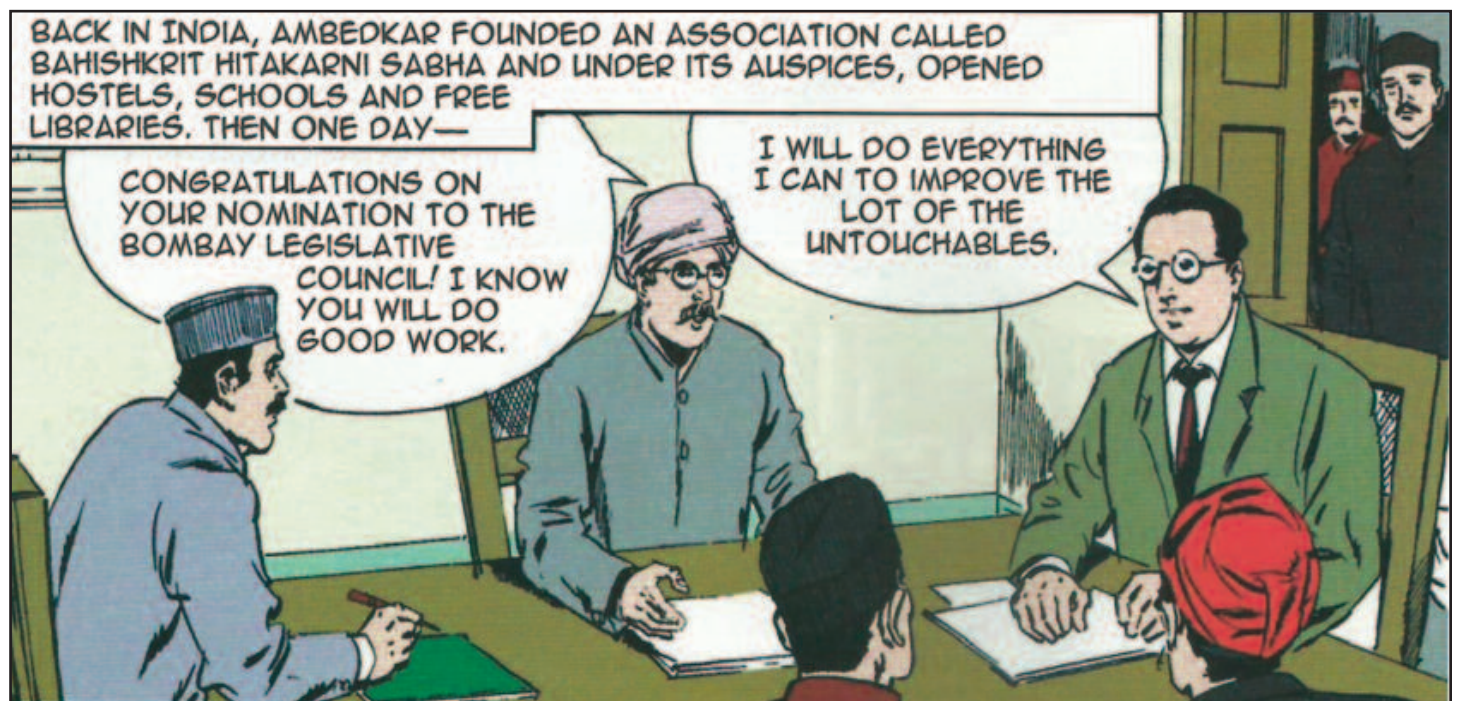
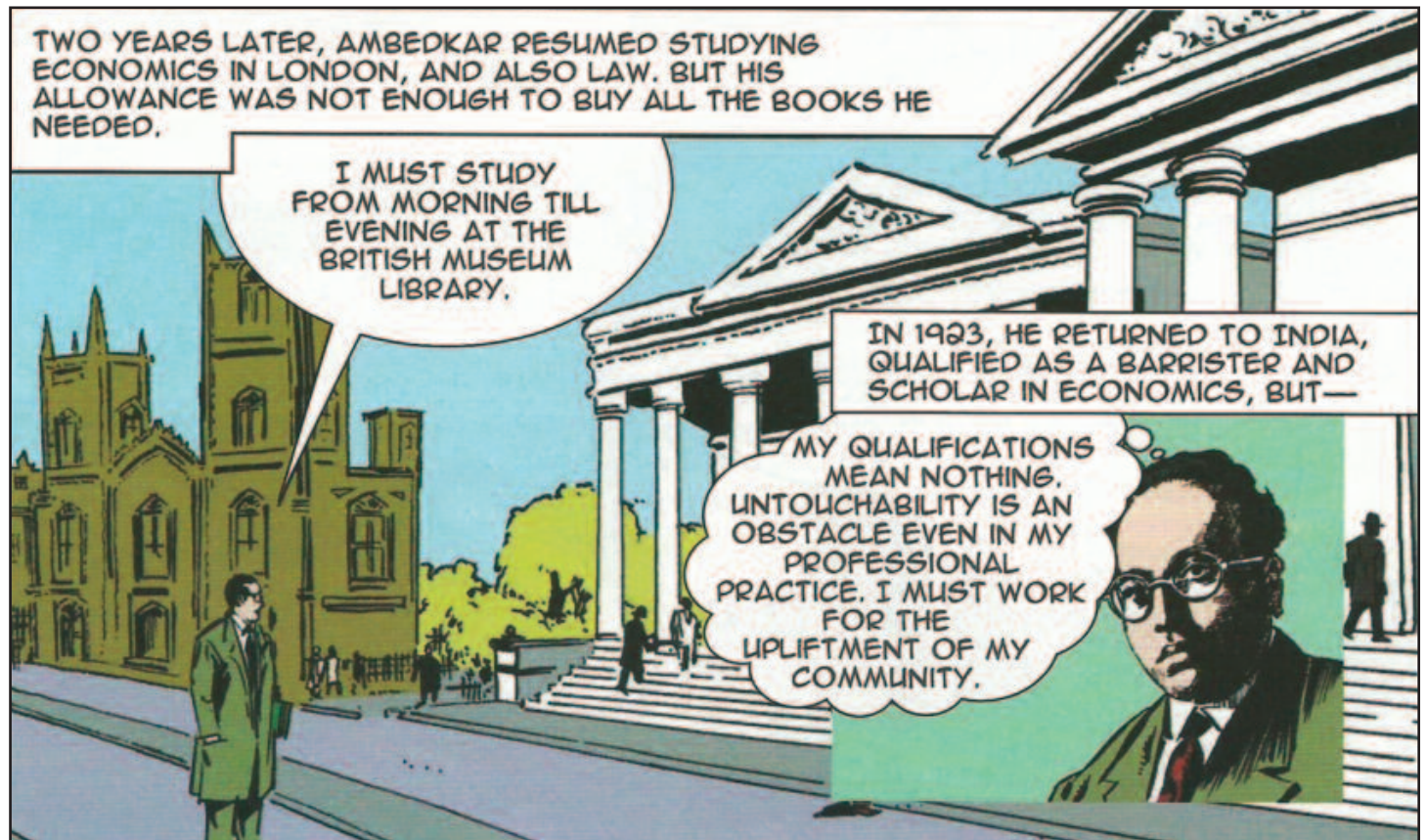
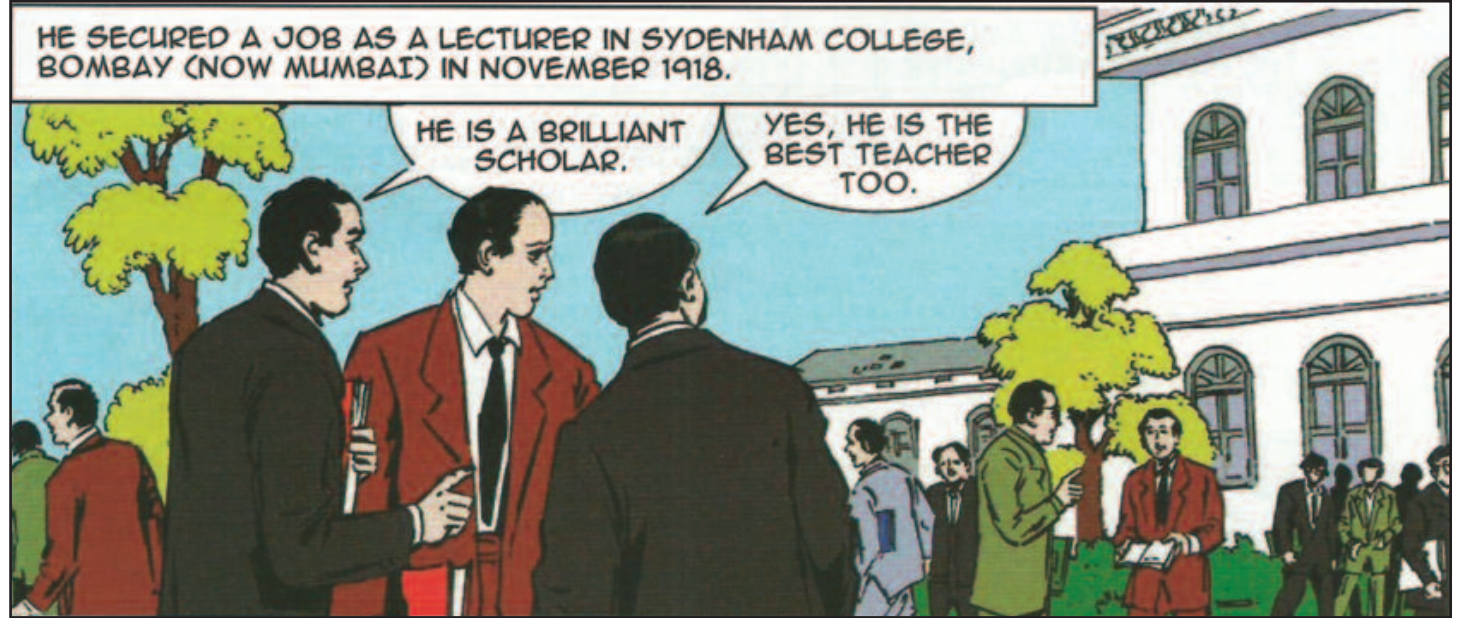
With best wishes for it's continued growth and a healthy readership in the years to come. Keep up the good work for the welfare of the entire community.

With regards,

O.P. Balley

Founder Member:

Sri Guru Ravidass Sabha, Pittsburg
General Secretary,
Supreme Council
Sri Guru Ravidass Sabhas, USA



Congratulations on the 11th Anniversary of Ambedkar Times!

Dear Mr. Chumber,
It is vitally important that the message of Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar reach as wide an American audience as humanly possible. Prem Chumber Ji has taken on this responsibility and has met this challenge with remarkable effectiveness.

The work of Prem Chumber and the Ambedkar times make it possible that, even years after the passing of Dr Ambedkar, his impact and legacy will

grow to a scale far surpassing even his living image.

The timeless ideas and social observations shared by Babasaheb reflect a foundation of love for all humanity. A struggle to raise the welfare of the most downtrodden souls amongst us was a struggle that Dr Ambedkar devoted his life; his was a life of a saint. I am so thankful every time I receive an electronic copy of the "Ambedkar Times" because I know that the profoundly important

message shared by Dr Ambedkar lives on in these pages.

Once again, I thank Mr Prem Chumber Ji for his tireless devotion to the message of equality and oneness of us all. May the next 10 years see Mr Prem Chumber and the "Ambedkar Times" bring a further awareness of the ideas of this great man to all of us.

Thank you.

Clay Johnston

Rio Linda (Sacramento) California



NEETU S. BADHAN
JUDGE SUPREME COURT (CALIFORNIA)
SPECIAL NOTE OF CONGRATULATIONS

It was my honor and privilege to participate in 642nd Birth Anniversary celebrations of Sri Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj at Sri Guru Ravidass temple, Fresno on March 3rd, 2019. A distinctive feature of this auspicious occasion was the presence of Judge Neetu S. Badhan-Smith who was honored with a Siropa and awarded a plaque of honor on her appointment as a Supreme Court Judge (California).

In her short speech to the congregation expressing her thanks for the



honor, she traced her humble beginnings and appreciated the hard work, support and the vision of her parents who were present with her, which made it possible for her to reach where she is today. She represented herself as an alienable part of the community which she has never forgotten and urged others for that.

In her humble but proud submission she did not hesitate in saying that a picture of a SHOE on her wall was a reminiscence of her ancestral heritage and the hard work, where she is from. She specially urged upon the youngsters and especially the women to recognize their potential and their determination as the strongest weapon they have to defend against all odds or barriers.

In my speech on this auspicious occasion I acknowledged and admired her academic accomplishments which were not due to any affirmative action but because of her penetrating intellect, wisdom, determination and hard work which helped her to reach this prestigious position. She will be an inspiration to the future aspirants of distinctions in any field, profession or career.

She has exploded the false myth that education is the birth right of only a special section of society. It is the worth, not the birth which is the true recognition of a person.

As Dr. B.R Ambedkar, Chief Architect of the constitution of India had once said that "the importance of Education to a person has the same significance as the importance of eyes to a blind person".

I, alongwith Mr. Ramesh Suman, Chairman, Sri Guru Ravidass Sabha, Pittsburg had a few moments to introduce ourselves to her in person and wished her an illustrious career in years to come and told her that she not only brightened up the name of her family but has become a badge of honor and pride for the whole community.

I also thank Mr. Prem Kumar Chumber, Chief Editor, "Desh Doaba" and "Ambedkar Times" for sharing with me the video of her speech and for encouraging me to write up a few lines about her for publication in his esteemed Newspaper.

O.P. Balley
 General Secretary,
 Supreme Council
 Sri Guru Ravidass Sabhas, USA

ON 24 SEPTEMBER 1932, AMBEDKAR SIGNED THE POONA PACT, UNDER WHICH, INSTEAD OF SEPARATE ELECTORATES, MORE REPRESENTATION WAS TO BE GIVEN TO THE DEPRESSED CLASSES.

IN 1939, THE SECOND WORLD WAR BROKE OUT. THE CONGRESS MINISTRIES RESIGNED. IN JULY 1942, THE VICEROY APPOINTED AMBEDKAR AS LABOUR MINISTER IN THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. AT A RECEPTION GIVEN IN HIS HONOUR—

I WAS BORN OF THE POOR. I WAS BROUGHT UP AMONG THEM, HAVE LIVED AMONG THEM. I HAVE SLEPT LIKE THEM ON DAMP FLOORS COVERED WITH SACK-CLOTH, AND SHARED THE SORROWS OF MY PEOPLE. I WILL REMAIN ABSOLUTELY UNCHANGED IN MY ATTITUDE TO MY PEOPLE AND TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.

THE DIVISION OF THE PEOPLE ON CASTE LINES HAS BEEN AVERTED.

HE FORMED THE ALL INDIA SCHEDULED CASTES FEDERATION IN 1942.

WHEN INDIA BECAME INDEPENDENT IN AUGUST 1947, AMBEDKAR BECAME THE FIRST LAW MINISTER OF INDEPENDENT INDIA.

THIS MAN WILL BRING HONOUR TO HIS COMMUNITY AND PROVE TO BE A GREAT NATION-BUILDER.

THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY APPOINTED DR. AMBEDKAR AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE FORMED TO DRAFT THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA. AND THE BURDEN OF PREPARING A CONSTITUTION FOR THE WORLD'S LARGEST DEMOCRACY FELL UPON HIS SHOULDERS.

ON 4 NOVEMBER 1948, DR. AMBEDKAR PRESENTED THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION TO THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

...AND I APPEAL TO ALL INDIANS TO BE A NATION BY DISCARDING CASTES WHICH HAVE BROUGHT ABOUT SEPARATION IN SOCIAL LIFE AND CREATED JEALOUSY AND HATRED.

ON 26 NOVEMBER 1949, THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ADOPTED THE CONSTITUTION IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE OF INDIA.