



# Ambedkar Times

Weekly

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## THUS THE REAL SEQUENCE OF THE SLOGAN IS: EDUCATE, AGITATE AND ORGANIZE

Prem Kumar Chumber

(Editor-in-Chief: Ambedkar Times & Desh Doaba)

**Educate, Organize and Agitate** is the most mis-quoted slogan of Babasaheb Dr. Ambedkar. Its true version is: Educate Agitate and Organize. Baba Sahib uttered these precious words at the end of his historic speech delivered at the All-India Depressed Classes Conference (July 18-19, 1942 at Nagpur), convened to create an All-India organization with distinct aims and purposes in co-operation with all the inter-provincial forces. It was at this very conference that a declaration was made about the formation of the All-India Scheduled Castes Federation. Below are given the exact words of the concluding part of this historic speech of Baba Sahib, as cited in his 'fascinating biography' authored by Dhananjay Keer:

"My final words of advice to you are educate, agitate and organize; have faith in yourself. With justice on our side, I do not see how we can lose our battle. The battle to me is a matter of joy. The battle is in the fullest sense spiritual. There is nothing material or social in it. For ours is a battle, not for wealth or for power. It is a battle for freedom. It is a battle for the reclamation of human personality" (Bombay: Popular Prakashan, 3rd ed. 1971, p: 351, emphasis added).

Babasaheb's struggle for the uplift of the socially excluded was precisely spiritual in the sense that it intends to restore their lost dignity and make them equal with all the other sections of the rest of the society. For that the method he chooses was democratic-constitutional. Being educated in the oldest democracies in the world, Dr. Ambedkar imbibed the true spirit of democracy and constitutionalism. He wanted his fellow -beings and his countrymen to follow democratic ways for the peaceful resolution of all one problems including the most fatal one - the Untouchability.

In his democratic scheme of conflict resolution, education figures at the very beginning of the social struggle. Hence "educate" comes first in his three stepped slogan of educate, agitate and organize. By education Babasaheb did not mean merely certificates and degrees. For him to educate means to become aware of one's real life conditions; to be conscious of ones surroundings; to raise objection to the inhuman existence in the society; and to ask for change for the better. "Tell the slaves he is a slave and he will revolt", that is the real meaning of education.

It is such education that will stir agitation within, leading to what Babasaheb called "agitate". To "agitate" does not mean to organize guerrilla warfare, to do murda bad - murdabab. On the contrary, it means to become aware about ones social conditions and to seek viable steps for the eradications of the causes of the problems. Babasaheb told us that only real and true education could only make us to "agitate".

And it is this agitation, which is within, that would ultimately help us to "organize". The true example of which is Babasaheb himself, who after obtaining critical and rational sense through his education felt toofan within and consequently organized three political parties (Independent Labor Party, Scheduled Caste Federation and Republican Party of India) to secure Dalit human rights.

Thus the real sequence of the slogan is:  
**Educate Agitate and Organize**

## One Day with DC Toppers from Sangrur District Spend a Day with the Deputy Commissioner



**Sangrur (Daljeet Kaur)** Under the Punjab government's initiative "One Day with the DC," top-performing students from Class 10th and 12th in Sangrur district spent a day with Deputy Commissioner Sandeep Rishi. The program aimed to not only recognize the achievements of these students but also provide them with a firsthand experience of administrative processes, leadership, and public service.

The students arrived at the Deputy Commissioner's residence at 7:30 am, where they were warmly welcomed. Deputy Commissioner Sandeep Rishi interacted with the students, sharing his daily routine and disciplined lifestyle. The students were also given a tour of the Deputy Commissioner's office and home.

The students were taken on a visit to the District Administrative Complex, where they witnessed the functioning of various departments,

public grievance redressal systems, and the implementation of government schemes. They also attended meetings where district development issues were discussed.

The students had lunch with Deputy Commissioner Sandeep Rishi, Additional Deputy Commissioner Amit Bamby and Assistant Commissioner (General) Lovepreet Singh Aulakh. Later, they visited the Additional Deputy Commissioner's court and gained insight into the judicial process.

The day concluded with an open dialogue session between the students and the Deputy Commissioner, where the students shared their experiences and received inspirational advice. Deputy Commissioner Sandeep Rishi honored the students with mementos and appreciation certificates, wishing them a bright future.

The Deputy Commissioner said that the program not only fa-

miliarized the students with government administration but also instilled in them leadership, discipline, and a sense of public service. He added that initiatives like "One Day with the DC" can bring about positive changes in students' lives.

The students, including Akashdeep Kaur (2nd rank in Class 12, District Sangrur), Imanat Kaur (3rd rank in Class 12, District Sangrur), and Jasdeep Kaur (3rd rank in Class 10, District Sangrur), praised the Punjab government and district administration's initiative, calling it a unique opportunity to understand administrative processes, leadership, and public service. They described the experience as unforgettable and inspiring, which will help them set future goals.

The teachers of the students also appreciated the initiative, calling it a motivating step for the students' overall development.

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# Phule Movie – A Tale of Social Empowerment

I am not a movie buff and as such is not much interested in movies. Some of my friends invited me to come and see the movie at some of the specially screened shows. I could not say no to one such show with my friend Prem Shant as we happened to be together near the venue of the film show at the GRD Cinemas after a friendly birthday breakfast hosted by one of our common friends, Amarjit Singh. It was a good experience after a long time to see a movie in a theater. Thanks to Prem.

The film Phule aimed to depict a movement in

India that called for the creation of a new social order in which no one would be subordinated on the basis of caste and sex. It also picked up the issues of social reform and education to the women folk. These issues are as relevant today as these were before during the times of the hero and heroine of the biopic film on Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule, a worthy couple and children of the soil of Bharat. The film has also brought out and rightly so yet another aspect of the Indian

society, friendship and harmony among the Hindus and Muslims. Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule were shunted out of the family because their untraditional behavior and conduct as against the Hindu ethos. It was one of their friends from the Muslim community who not only gave them shelter but also worked with them in the realization of their ideals for social reform and empowerment of dalits and women folk. It is a matter of great satisfaction that their worthy follower, Babasaheb Ambedkar picked up the threads and carried for-

ward the caravan of the Phule Couple through the Constitution of India and otherwise too.

Jyotirao Phule (1927-1890), was born in Satara District in 1827 to a family that belonged to the Hindu Mali caste, a Shudra in terms of Manu's segregation. Jyotiba Phule fought for women's rights. Believing that education was essential to bringing about social change, he established schools for girls and for children of lower castes. Mahatma Jyotirao Phule was known for his powerful and impactful slogans that promoted social reform and equality. One of his key slogans was "Edu-

itribai and Jyotiba Phule to emancipate the Indian society.

It was gratifying to note that the special screening of the film was arranged by some Phule-Ambedkar Mission activists led by Paramjit Jassal of Bulanpur among others for the school children of rural



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cation is the key to liberation". Other notable slogans included "Know your rights, stand up for them" and "Do not discriminate based on caste". He also emphasized the importance of unity and cooperation, and slogans like "If someone cooperates, don't turn your back on them" From this, one can easily make out that the Phule Couple was total dedicated to reform the society and empower the women folk and the under-privileged. No wonder, the leaders like Babasaheb Ambedkar and Babu Kanshi Ram chose to follow the footsteps of Sav-

based schools.

It was a good initiative to educate children and ward them off the social ills of the society. I was wondering as to why the governments are so oblivious of these needs and exempt such social films from the entertainment tax. Rather the educational administrators should advise all educational institution to arrange shows of the film for the benefit of the young minds, the future of India.

It is a good and motivative movie of about two hours, a worth watching. The Phule film has been directed by a known film maker, Ananth Mahadevan in which the roles of Mahatma Phule and Savitribai Phule have been played by Pratik Gandhi and Patralekha respectively.

Long live Jyotiba Phule and Savitribai Phule.

## 'The Path to Oneness' Book Released by Governor of Punjab

Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, the Governor of Punjab today released the book 'The Path to Oneness: Guru Nanak's Inclusive Vision', authored by Dr. Arvinder Singh Bhalla, Principal of Gujranwala Guru Nanak Khalsa College, Ludhiana at Punjab Raj Bhavan, Chandigarh. The release of this book signifies a deep appreciation for scholarship that promotes universal human values and spiritual wisdom drawn from the teachings of Guru Nanak. Shri Gulab Chand Kataria appreciated the academic rigour and spiritual sincerity evident in the book. He remarked that Guru Nanak's message of harmony and human dignity must be more widely understood, especially by younger generation. This book, he noted, is a step in that direction—bridging the wisdom of the past with the needs of the present.

The foreword of the book has been written by Padma Shri Dr. Harmohinder Singh Bedi, Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh, who praises the work for its scholarly depth and spiritual in-

sight. He observes that the book encourages young minds to explore the transformative wisdom of Guru Nanak in shaping a multicultural and egalitarian world order. The cover features a blurb by Dr. G.S. Chauhan, Joint Secretary, University Grants Commission, New Delhi. In his words, the book is an inspiring contribution that offers clarity of thought and depth of understanding. It invites readers to reflect deeply on how Guru Nanak's teachings can address the most urgent concerns of our time.

As the author, Dr. Arvinder Singh said that this book is a humble tribute to Guru Nanak's eternal message of oneness, compassion, and justice. His teachings are not limited to any one community; they are a beacon for all of humanity. He also said that through this work, I have sought to

analyse Guru Nanak's socio-spiritual vision in a way that speaks to our contemporary moral and civilisational crisis. His inclusive worldview offers us not only a theological perspective but a roadmap for peaceful coexistence in an increasingly divided world. He further shares that in writing this book, my intent has been to reclaim and re-present Guru Nanak's voice as a powerful advocate of interfaith dialogue, gender equality, social equity, and ethical governance. His concept of Ik Onkar—the Oneness of the Creator and the creation—is perhaps the most compelling spiritual truth that can guide our modern world toward unity.

The book is an earnest academic exploration of Guru Nanak's vision of a just, harmonious and inclusive society. At a time when the world is facing increasing reli-

gious intolerance, identity-based conflicts, and social fragmentation, this book reiterates the timeless relevance of Guru Nanak's message—one that transcends the boundaries of caste, creed, and culture. 'The Path to Oneness' is expected to be a valuable resource for students, scholars, spiritual seekers, and anyone who aspires to understand and practice the principles of peace, equality, and inclusive coexistence. On this occasion Dr. Arvinder Singh Bhalla expressed his gratitude to Dr. S. P. Singh, President of Gujranwala Khalsa Educational Council, Ludhiana and the former Vice-Chancellor of Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar for his support and guidance. Here it is an especially noteworthy fact that Dr. Arvinder Singh Bhalla is fully dedicated to his research work in addition to fulfilling his administrative responsibilities. So far, he has written twenty one books and more than eighty research papers. He has also completed two research projects sponsored by the ICSSR, New Delhi.



Dr. Paramjit S Takhar, MD

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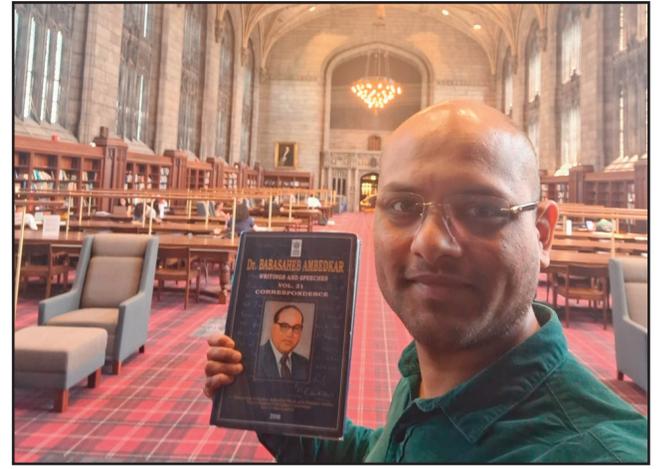
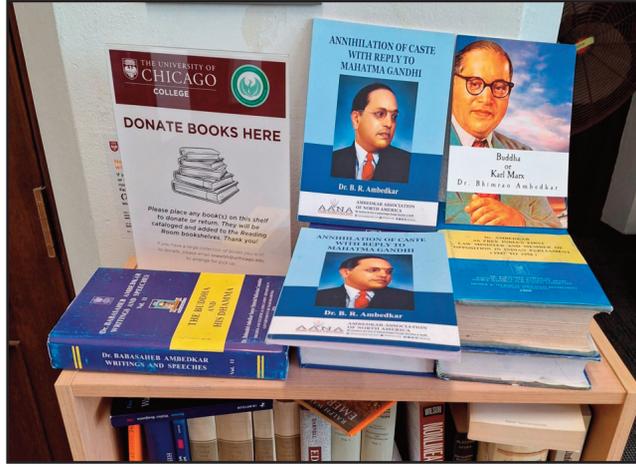


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# Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Caravan Marching Globally through his Writings and Speeches



The University of Chicago accepted 20 volumes of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's Writings and Speeches (BAWS) at the Harper Library at Uchicago 1116 E 59th St, Chicago, IL 60637 on May 15th, 2025. University students and the librarian participated in this event to handover BAWS sets to the main Library and its available for circulation.

This book donation was supported by the Ambedkar Association of North America (AANA) and this is historic moment for AANA and the local Ambedkarite communities across the USA and Canada, furthering their mission to promote Ambedkar's legacy and provide educational resources to institutions and empowering educational institutions with critical resources.

The University of Chicago librarian expressed profound appreciation for this donation, highlighting the immense value of Dr. Ambedkar's writings for students in various fields, including Humanities, Religious Studies, Economics, Anthropology, and Indian History. The comprehensive nature of Ambedkar's work, covering topics like social justice, economics, world religions, and constitutional law, makes these volumes a vital academic resource.

The University of Chicago is a private research university established in 1890 which ranked as one of the top U.S. and global research universities with over 10,870 students, 1-1 noble laureates affiliated and #11 U.S. news & world report best college ranking. The University of Chicago has its main campus on Chicago's South Side and seven international campuses and centers throughout the world. Students can choose from 53 majors and 47 minors in the undergraduate College, with four divisions and seven professional schools for

graduate study. The addition of Dr. Ambedkar's Writings and Speeches enriches its library collection, ensuring future scholars access to his profound insights and ideas.

Our heartfelt thanks to Anand Kshirsagar Founding Co-President, Anti Caste Student Policy Forum (ACPF), Candidate MPP'25, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago for supporting this noble endeavor. Thus by bringing Dr. Ambedkar's visionary work to The University of Chicago, AANA continues its mission of advancing education and social justice.

### Expanding Ambedkar's Vision Across North America

AANA, alongside organizations like AIC, AIM, ABAT and BSG, has been instrumental in donating Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's Writings and Speeches to numerous esteemed universities and libraries across the USA and Canada. These contributions amplify awareness of Ambedkar's work and its relevance to modern discourses on equality, human rights, and social reform. Institutions that have benefited from these donations include:

- Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- University of Texas, Austin, TX
- York University, Toronto, Canada
- Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
- Pacific University Oregon, Forest Grove, OR
- University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
- Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA

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- University of Delaware, Newark, DE
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
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- Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- Columbia University, New York, NY
- Franklin University, Ohio
- Adelphi University, New York
- University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC
- University of Texas, Austin, TX
- Indiana University, Bloomington, IN

Additionally, donations to local libraries have increased public accessibility to the critical literature on Indian History, economics, caste discrimination, Buddhist philosophy, and Ambedkar's vision of a just society.

### About AANA

Founded in 2008, the Ambedkar Association of North America (AANA) strives to fulfill Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision of uplifting marginalized communities through education. By spreading Buddha's message of peace and kindness, AANA fosters cultural, educational, and social initiatives that empower the South Asian diaspora in North America.

For more information:

Website: [www.aanausa.org](http://www.aanausa.org), <https://linktr.ee/aanausa>;

Email: [aanausa@gmail.com](mailto:aanausa@gmail.com)

Digital books available: <https://baws.in>;

Report by:

M. Wasnik and Anand Kshirsagar - Ambedkar Association of North America (AANA)

# Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Caravan Marching Globally through his Writings and Speeches

Emory University accepted 20 volumes of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's Writings and Speeches (BAWS) at the Goodrich C White Hall, 301 Dowman Dr, Atlanta, GA 30307 on April 13th, 2025, during Mahatma Jotirao Phule & Dr Babasaheb B. R. Ambedkar Birth Anniversary celebrations. University students, professors, local Ambedkarites and the librarian participated in this event to handover BAWS sets to the University Library and its available for circulation.

The books were donated by Jaibhim Atlanta Team whose members work closely with Ambedkar International Center (AIC) and Ambedkar Association of North America (AANA) on Babasaheb's Books Donation Drive, and this is a historic moment for local Ambedkarite communities across the USA and Canada, furthering their mission to promote Ambedkar's legacy and provide educational resources to institutions and empowering educational institutions with critical resources.

Emory University librarian expressed profound appreciation for this donation, highlighting the immense value of Dr. Ambedkar's writings & speeches for students in various fields, including Humanities, Religious Studies, Economics, Anthropology, and Indian History.

The comprehensive nature of Dr Ambedkar's work, covering topics like social justice, economics, world religions, and constitutional law, makes these volumes a vital academic resource.

Emory University is a private university based in Atlanta, Georgia, United States founded in 1836. It has a total undergraduate enrollment of 7,359 (fall 2023), its setting is city, and the campus size is 631 acres. Emory

University's ranking in the 2025 edition of Best Colleges is National Universities, #24. Emory University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Com-



mission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate, baccalaureate, master's, doctorate, and professional degrees. The addition of Dr. Ambedkar's Writings and Speeches enriches its library collection, ensuring future scholars access to his profound insights and ideas.

Our heartfelt thanks to Jaibhim Atlanta Team and Local Atlanta members for supporting this noble endeavor. Thus, by bringing Dr. Ambedkar's visionary work to Emory University, Jaibhim Atlanta, AIC and AANA continue its mission of advancing education and social justice.

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courses on equality, human rights, and social reform.

Institutions that have benefited from these donations include:

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- Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- University of Texas, Austin, TX
- York University, Toronto, Canada
- Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
- Pacific University Oregon, Forest Grove, OR
- University of Georgia, Athens, GA
- Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
- Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA
- University of Delaware, Newark, DE
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
- Brandeis University, Waltham, MA
- Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
- Columbia University, New York, NY
- Franklin University, Ohio
- Adelphi University, New York
- University of North Carolina, Greensboro, NC
- University of Texas, Austin, TX
- Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
- University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Additionally, donations to local libraries have increased public accessibility to the critical literature on Indian History, economics, caste discrimination, Buddhist philosophy, and Ambedkar's vision of a just society. Digital books available: <https://baws.in>;

# Ambedkar Association of North America (AANA) proudly announced the recipients of the 2025 AANA Awards

The Ambedkar Association of North America (AANA) proudly announced the recipients of the 2025 AANA Awards during its Annual Retreat held from May 23–26, 2025, at Laurelville Retreat Center in Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania.

AANA Annual Retreat brought together over 200 participants from North America and India for four days of Dhamma-centered learning, meditation, panel discussions, cultural events, outdoor activities, and the symbolic "Run for Equality."

## Award Recipients – 2025

### Savitrimai Phule International Award

**Recipient: Shahira Shital Sathe**

A celebrated folk artist, poet, and Bahujan

work in promoting the teachings of Phule and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar."

Mrs. Sujata Wahane accepted the award on Shital Sathe's behalf.

### "Mooknayak" Excellence in Journalism Award Recipient: Awaaz India TV

This year's Mooknayak Excellence in Journalism Award was conferred to Awaaz India TV, a leading Hindi-language digital and cable news platform with over 2.5 million subscribers. Since its inception, Awaaz India TV has played a vital role in advocating for social justice, amplifying marginalized voices, and promoting Buddhist values through powerful storytelling and in-

Kumar, was recognized for his pathbreaking contributions to caste studies, Indian diaspora scholarship, and Ambedkarite social thought. A professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi, Dr. Kumar is the author of *Caste and Democracy in India* (2014) and has served in esteemed academic positions, including as Visiting Professor at Columbia University and Humboldt University.

Dr. Kumar has also delivered the prestigious Ambedkar Memorial Lectures at several institutions across Canada, continuing to promote social reform, equality, and intellectual inquiry inspired by Dr. Ambedkar.

Dr. Kumar was able to attend the event and he



rights activist from Pune, Maharashtra, Shahira Shital Sathe was honored for her pioneering efforts in blending traditional musical forms with bold, socially conscious messages. As the co-founder and lead performer of NavayanMahajalsa, she has used her artistic platform to amplify voices from marginalized communities and raise awareness on caste discrimination and gender justice.

Although unable to attend in person, Shital Sathe ji shared a heartfelt video message, in which she expressed her deep gratitude to AANA and dedicated the award to Savitrimai Phule, saying, "I feel proud and happy to accept this award in the name of Savitrimai Phule. I thank AANA for recognizing and supporting my

depth reporting.

Vijay Bagade and Vishwanath Meshram accepted the award on behalf of the Awaaz India team. In a brief acceptance message, the team shared, "After 12 years of relentless work, we are honored to receive this recognition. Awaaz India remains committed to upholding the values of equality, humanity, and nationality while deepening our relationship with our viewers by sharing stories rooted in history, Buddhist philosophy, and regional realities."

### Dr. B. R. Ambedkar International Award

**Recipient: Dr. Vivek Kumar**

Renowned sociologist and author, Dr. Vivek

dedicated this award to his mother.

During the ceremony, Dr. Kumar addressed the audience and guided them with his valuable insights on contemporary caste dynamics, social movements, and the enduring relevance of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's philosophy in modern society. His thought-provoking reflections deeply resonated with attendees and provided a powerful intellectual anchor for the retreat.

These honors reaffirm AANA's commitment to recognizing and supporting the tireless efforts of individuals and organizations working to uphold the vision and legacy of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Mahatma Jyotiba Phule, Savitrimai Phule, and other pioneers of social transformation.



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