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9008559583

m143che@gmail.com

<https://aksharasurya.com/>



A Special Issue Brought Under the Auspices of
One Day International Conference On

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Contribution's to Women's Empowerment in India

(On the occasion of 135th Birth Anniversary of Great
Humanist & Epoch Maker Babasaheb Dr. B. R. Ambedkar)

ORGANIZED BY:

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in Collaboration with

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Editor

Dr. Subhaschandra C. Natikar

Professor of Sociology and
Co-Ordinator of Dr B.R. Ambedkar Studies,
Karnatak University, Dharwad.

ಪ್ರೊ. ಎ. ಎಂ. ಖಾನ್
ಉಪವಿಶ್ವಕುಲ
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ಫೋನ್ : +91 9901752373
ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ : 0836-2747884
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್ : vc@kud.ac.in



Prof. A. M. Khan
Vice-Chancellor
Karnatak University
Pavate Nagar, Dharwad-580 003
(ಫೋನ್)-2215355 / 2215255
Ph : +91 9901752373
Fax : 0836-2747884
E-mail : vc@kud.ac.in

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MESSAGE

The Constitution of India is an embodiment of equality, freedom and fraternity and social justice, providing guarantees to all citizen of the country. It ensures individual freedom, dignity and sovereignty per se, social justice necessary for the realization of fundamental rights. Today, we are passing through the transition and critical situation in the contemporary India and there is a dire need to revisit the contributions of founders of Modern India. The chief architect of the Indian Constitution, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar is an icon of social equality and justice. It is now the time to reassess and revalidate his legacies and his relevance to the issues of contemporary India.

The Concept of social justice ensures equal opportunities and rights to all the citizens of the country irrespective of religion, caste and creed. The architects of Indian constitution including Dr. B.R. Ambedkar provided social justice and guaranteed liberty, equality and fraternity. Social Justice as envisioned by Dr B.R. Ambedkar has its roots in ensuring constitutional guarantees to all. The Constitution is a step forward to make the state accountable to the creation of an egalitarian society. Thus, in the democratic system all the citizens have been provided with social justice and rights. Social justice and the Constitution are interlinked, interdependent and inseparable. Through the strategy of ensuring social justice, the goals set in the Constitution are being effectively implemented. The Constitution of India provides guarantees and rights under the Directive Principles of State Policy to the weaker sections and marginalized group such as the SC's ST's OBC's and Women with protection against discrimination and other welfare measures to ensure their empowerment.

I am extremely happy to know that, the Department of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Studies, Karnatak University, is organizing One-Day International Conference on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Contributions to Women Empowerment in India on the occasion of the 135th Birth Anniversary of Dr.B.R. Ambedkar an icon of Social Justice and Social equality. The Academicians, Researchers, Ambedkarites and students participating in this conference have submitted their articles. I am glad to know that, these articles are being compiled into a volume entitled "AKSHARASURYA". I hope this volume will highlight the vision, work and contributions of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in ensuring a free, fair and just society. I wish that the Department of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Studies, Karnatak University will continue with many more activities that inspire the academicians, administrators, researchers and students in the coming days. I wish all the Best to the organizers of this academic event consisting of thought-provoking debates and deliberations for this conference.


(A. M. Khan)
Vice-Chancellor
Karnatak University
Dharwad

ಮನೆ ವಿಳಾಸ : "ಸಂಗಮ", ಉಪವಿಶ್ವಕುಲ ವಸತಿಗೃಹ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಆವರಣ, ಪಾವಟೆನಗರ, ಧಾರವಾಡ - 580 003
Res. Address : "Sangam", Vice-Chancellor's Bungalow, Karnatak University Campus, Dharwad 580 003

:: ಸಂದೇಶ ::

ಪ್ರಜ್ಞೆಪೂರ್ವಕ ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ, ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಮತ್ತು ಧಾರ್ಮಿಕ ವಿದ್ಯಮಾನಗಳ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯ ಮತ್ತು ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ ಆಶಯಗಳನ್ನು ಪುನರ್ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವ ಐತಿಹಾಸಿಕ ಆಗತ್ಯತೆ ಇದೆ. ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯ ಪರಿಕಲ್ಪನೆಯು ಸರ್ವರಿಗೂ ಸಮಾನ ಅವಕಾಶಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳನ್ನು ಖಾತರಿಪಡಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ನಂತರ ಡಾ. ಬಿ. ಆರ್. ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಇತರ ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ ರಚನಾಕಾರರು ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯವನ್ನು ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಂವಿಧಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಳವಡಿಸಿ ಸರ್ವರಿಗೂ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಸಮಾನತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಭ್ರಾತೃತ್ವವನ್ನು ಖಾತರಿಪಡಿಸಿ, ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯದ ಮೂಲಕ ಅನ್ಯಾದೇಶಗಳನ್ನು ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸಿ, ಸಮಸಮಾಜ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವ ಕನಸು ಕಂಡಿದ್ದರು. ಪ್ರಜಾಪ್ರಭುತ್ವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲ ಪ್ರಜೆಗಳಿಗೂ ಸಮಾನ ಅವಕಾಶ ಮತ್ತು ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳನ್ನು ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯದ ಮೂಲಕ ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಸಂವಿಧಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಲವಾರು ಅವಕಾಶಗಳನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂವಿಧಾನ ಪರಸ್ಪರ ಅವಲಂಬಿತವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅವುಗಳನ್ನು ಬೇರ್ಪಡಿಸಲು ಅಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯ ಕಾರ್ಯತಂತ್ರದ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ ಆಶಯಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯರೂಪಕ್ಕೆ ತರುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಸಮಾಜದ ದಮನಿತ ತಳ ಸಮುದಾಯ, ದುರ್ಬಲ ವರ್ಗಗಳು, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಅಭ್ಯುದಯಕ್ಕೆ ಒತ್ತು ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯ ಮತ್ತು ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ ಆಶಯಗಳನ್ನು ಪುನರ್ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವ ಮತ್ತು ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಪಡಿಸಿ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಬಲೀಕರಣವು ಸಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವ ದಿಕ್ಕು ದಿಶೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪುನರ್ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಭ್ಯಯನ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆ.ವಿ.ವಿ.ಯು ಡಾ. ಬಿ. ಆರ್. ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ವಿಭಾಗವು ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಬಲೀಕರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಡಾ. ಬಿ. ಆರ್. ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರರ ಕೊಡುಗೆಗಳು ಎಂಬ ವಿಷಯದ ಮೇಲೆ ಒಂದು ದಿನದ ಅಂತರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ವಿಚಾರ ಸಮ್ಮೇಳನವನ್ನು ಡಾ. ಬಿ. ಆರ್. ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರರ 135ನೇ ಜಯಂತಿಯ ಅಂಗವಾಗಿ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವುದು ನನಗೆ ಸಂತಸ ತಂದಿದೆ. ಈ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಸಮ್ಮೇಳನದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವ ಸಂಶೋಧಕರು, ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ತಜ್ಞರು, ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರಜ್ಞಾನಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ತಮ್ಮ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಪ್ರಬಂಧಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ತಾವು ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತಪಡಿಸಿದ ವಿಚಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಲೇಖನಗಳ ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು. ಅವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯ್ದ ಸಂಪ್ರಬಂಧ ಹಾಗೂ ಲೇಖನಗಳನ್ನು 'ಅಕ್ಷರ ಸೂರ್ಯ' ಎನ್ನುವ ಸಂಪುಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲು ತೀರ್ಮಾನಿಸಿರುವುದು ಸಂತಸಕರವಾದ ಸಂಗತಿ. ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಈ ವಿಭಾಗವು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿರುವ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳು ಶ್ಲಾಘನೀಯವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಮುಂಬರುವ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಕೆಲಸ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳು ನಡೆಯಲಿ ಎಂದು ಶುಭ ಹಾರೈಸುತ್ತೇನೆ.

ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಮಾಜದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ದುರ್ಬಲ ವರ್ಗಗಳನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸಿ ಐತಿಹಾಸಿಕವಾಗಿ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಅಸಮಾನತೆ ಮತ್ತು ತಾರತಮ್ಯಕ್ಕೊಳಗಾದ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತಹವರ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ, ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ, ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಉನ್ನತೀಗಾಗಿ ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ ರಾಜ್ಯನೀತಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ತತ್ವಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ಎಲ್ಲ ವರ್ಗಗಳಾದ ಪ.ಜಾತಿ/ ಪ. ಪಂಗಡ, ಇತರ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ವಿಶೇಷ ಸವಲತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ಮೀಸಲಾತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಮಾಜದ ಅಂಚಿನ ತಳ್ಳಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಮತ್ತು ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯದಡಿ ವಿಶೇಷ ರಕ್ಷಣೆಯನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಿ ಅವುಗಳ ಸಬಲೀಕರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಮಾಜದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಿಧ ಹಂತದ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ತಾರತಮ್ಯಕ್ಕೊಳಗಾಗುವ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸಬಲೀಕರಣ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಇಂದಿನ ತುರ್ತು ಆಗತ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ. ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಿಂದೂ ಕೋಡ್ ಬಿಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಾನತೆ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಿ ಅವರನ್ನು ಸಬಲೀಕರಣಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಹಿನಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆರೆಯುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳ ಮುಂಚೂಣಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಡಾ. ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ಇದ್ದರು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸಬಲೀಕರಣಕ್ಕೆ ನಾವು ಸಮಾಜದ ಆರೋಗ್ಯಯುತ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಆಧಾರಸ್ತಂಭ ಎಂದು ಮನೆಗಂಡಿದ್ದು ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರರ ಸಂವಿಧಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಹತ್ತು ಹಲವು ಅವಕಾಶಗಳನ್ನು ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಿ ಸಬಲರಾಗುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಿದರು.

ಡಾ. ಶಂಕರ ವೆಂಕಟೇಶ್ ಕೆ.ಎಂ.ಎ.

ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು

ಕೆ.ವಿ.ವಿ.ಧಾರವಾಡ.

ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ
ಧಾರವಾಡ

Editor's Note

We are immensely proud to organise a one-day International Conference on “Dr. B. R. Ambedkar’s Contributions to Women Empowerment in India” on 25th April 2026, on the occasion of the 135th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

Karnatak University is the pioneering institution of higher education in India to establish the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Chair in the Department of Political Science in 1988. This department was initially headed by the late Prof. A.M. Rajashekhariah, who obtained his PhD on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. He was instrumental in establishing the Ambedkar Chair with support from UGC Grants.

The department has achieved remarkable academic growth over the years. With the unwavering support of the Government of Karnataka and the authorities of Karnatak University, the department embarked on a significant endeavour to honour the great legacy of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. The decision to compile this volume was met with a positive response, reflecting the widespread interest in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar’s ideas and contributions to make India a vibrant democratic country with parliamentary democracy.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar’s life was marked by profound challenges, yet he emerged as a towering figure in the fight against social injustice. Born into a marginalised community, he faced discrimination and adversity from an early age. However, through his resilience, intellect, and determination, he overcame these obstacles to become a beacon of hope for millions. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar’s journey from facing caste-based discrimination to a leading role in drafting the Indian Constitution is a testament to his indomitable commitment to social equality and justice. His struggles and triumphs continue to inspire countless individuals worldwide, underscoring the transformative power of perseverance and courage in the face of adversity.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar’s vision and principles continue to hold immense relevance in today’s world, marked by persistent challenges of social justice and equality. As we navigate through

complex societal issues, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's insights offer a ray of hope, advocating for inclusive policies and practices that uphold the dignity and rights of all individuals. His profound understanding of the Constitution of India and its role in ensuring social justice serves as a guiding light for scholars, policymakers, and activists striving for a more equitable society.

The conference aims to revisit Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision in the light of contemporary challenges such as intolerance, communalism, and religious extremism, with a focus on fostering harmonious social orders. It is also noteworthy that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar initiated a number of reformative measures to ensure the empowerment of women and he is also known as a feminist who made relentless efforts to bring radical changes in the social system by providing equal access to property, widow remarriage, divorce, prohibition of polygamy, etc., through the Hindu Code Bill. Following the failure of this Bill, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar resigned as law minister in the Nehru Cabinet. He strongly believed that 'I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved'. In view of this, the empowerment of women assumes great importance as such a kaleidoscopic attempt must be made to understand the prospects and problems of Indian Women. An attempt is made to reassess and re-examine the need for the contribution of Dr. B. Ambedkar for the empowerment of Women. The response to our initiative underscores the enduring significance of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's legacy. Scholars, researchers, and academicians have enthusiastically contributed to this volume, demonstrating a collective commitment to furthering Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision of a just and egalitarian society. We are grateful for the overwhelming support received from the Government of Karnataka, the University authorities, faculty members, and participants.

The response we received when the papers were invited for publication and presentation was overwhelming within such a short span of time. There were a good number of papers, and we have been highly judicious in selecting them. Curating this edition was really a challenging task, balancing time constraints and thematic diversity. The editorial board, comprised of language and subject

experts, played a pivotal role in shaping this endeavour. It is our hope that this volume, bearing the name “AKSHARASURYA”, will serve as a befitting tribute to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar’s enduring intellectual legacy and continue to ignite meaningful discussions on social justice and equality.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed to the success of this conference. Firstly, we express our gratitude to the Government of Karnataka and authorities of Karnatak University, Dharwad, for their unwavering support in publishing this volume. We are deeply appreciative of the dedication and hard work of all the academicians, scholars, researchers, and participants who have contributed their valuable insights and perspectives to this publication. Special thanks to the faculty members, staff, and students of the Department of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Studies for their tireless efforts in organising and coordinating the conference. Finally, we thank our readers for their interest and engagement with the ideas presented in this volume. It is through the collective efforts of all involved that we have been able to honour the legacy of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and advance the discourse on social justice and equality, especially for women.

We acknowledge and extend our sincere appreciation to everyone involved and look forward for their continued support in our academic endeavours.

Editor

Dr. SubhaschanDr.a C. Natikar

Professor of Sociology

Co-ordinator, Department of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Studies

Karnatak University, Dharwad

CONTENTS

1. **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and Nelson Mandela's
Humanistic Activism: A Comparative Study** **01-05**
~ Aezaz Ahamed
2. **Empowerment of Women in Pastoral Communities:
Revisiting Ambedkar Thought** **06-17**
~ Basavaraj Sogalad & Dr. Dhruva B. Jyothi
3. **Educational Inequality: An Ambedkarite Perspective** **18-23**
~ Bharathkumar & Dr. Hanamagouda C.
4. **Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and Women's Rights:
A Critical and Analytical Study** **24-31**
~ Dr. Meharunnisa H. Hullur
5. **The Role of Education in Promoting Social Justice
and Women Empowerment** **32-38**
~ Dr. Prashant Hulakunda & Dr. Mahadev F. Wadekar
6. **Quintessential Ambedkar's Contribution to
Women Empowerment** **39-43**
~ Dr. Shamala M. Ratnakar
7. **Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's Contribution to Women
Empowerment in India: A Study of Legal Reforms** **44-50**
~ Dr. Shilpa L. Hirekerur
8. **Democracy, Rights, and Social Transformation:
Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's Enduring Influence** **51-55**
~ Dr. Virupaksha
9. **Clothing, Caste, and the Politics of Dignity:
Re-reading the Upper Cloth Revolt through the
Radical Thought of B. R. Ambedkar
and E. V. Ramasamy (Periyar)** **56-62**
~ Dr. Anji A.
10. **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Contribution to
Women Empowerment in India** **63-74**
~ Dr. Sarojini N. Hosakeri

-
- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 11. Muslim Women and Madrasa Education: Problems, Challenges, and an Unfulfilled Dream of Equality | 75–80 |
| ~ Fatima Mannasaheb & Dr. Shaukath Azim | |
| 12. Between Rights and Realities: Insecurity, Stigma and Marginalization Among Irani Women in the Light of Ambedkar's Vision | 81–88 |
| ~ Ghazaala Parveen & Dr. Shaukath Azim | |
| 13. Social Reforms in India: Pathways to Equality and Inclusion | 89–93 |
| ~ Dr. Mahadev F. Wadekar & Dr. Prashant Hulakunda | |
| 14. Revisiting Ambedkar's States and Minorities (1947): A Textual Analysis of State Socialism, Land Nationalisation, and Collective Farming | 94–104 |
| ~ Mahendra Dodamani & Dr. Subhaschandra C. Natikar | |
| 15. Role of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in Women Empowerment | 105–112 |
| ~ Maktumhusein Agadi & Dr. Subhaschandra C. Natikar | |
| 16. Women's Rights in the Hindu Code Bill | 113–118 |
| ~ Manjunath Hasatti | |
| 17. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Buddhism and Global Philosophies in the 21st Century | 119–125 |
| ~ Nagaraja Chaluvadi Itigi, Anant Hanumanta Pujari & Dr. H.L. Patil | |
| 18. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's Feminist Vision in Women's Empowerment and Its Contemporary Relevance | 126–131 |
| ~ Prof. Sangeetha R. Mane & Shaheen J. Danasur | |
| 19. An Analytical Study of Women Empowerment in the Economy of Karnataka from the Perspective of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar | 132–141 |
| ~ Rekha Kittur & Dr. Kannakappa Pujar | |
| 20. Educational History of Muslims in India: A Sociological Study | 142–162 |
| ~ Shameena R. Nadaf | |
| 21. The Intersection of Caste and Gender: How Endogamy Restricts Women's Autonomy and Triggers Honour Killings in India | 163–169 |
| ~ Santosh Shankar Santavvagol & Dr. Shaukath Azim | |
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