



# Ambedkar Times

Weekly

Editor-in-Chief: Prem Kumar Chumber

Contact: 001-916-947-8920

Fax: 916-238-1393

E-mail: chumbermedia@yahoo.com, editor@ambedkartimes.com

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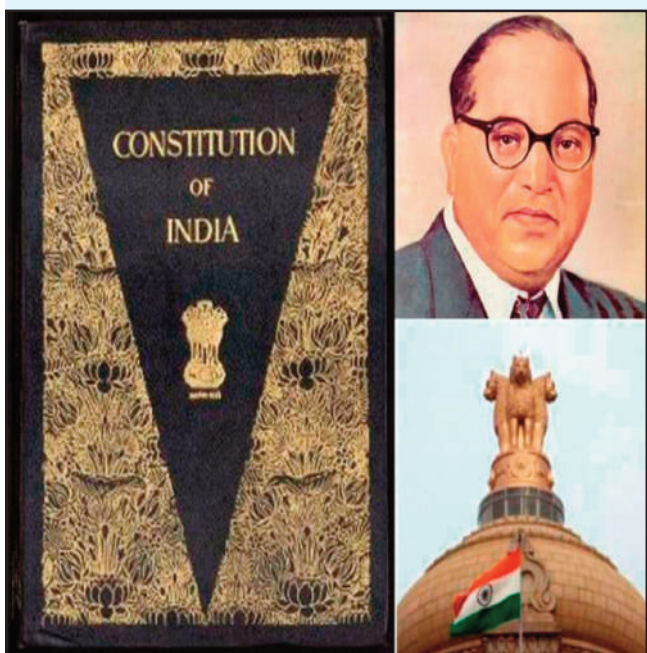
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## Remembering Bodhisattva Bharat Ratan Babasaheb Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar

Prem K. Chumber

Editor-in-Chief: www.ambedkartimes.com



Babasaheb Dr Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar (14 April 1891 – 6 December 1956) was a great humanist, liberator of downtrodden, world reputed economist, acclaimed jurist, statesman in true spirits, conscientious politician and scholar par excellence. He initiated many social reform measures and founded three political parties towards his life long struggle to annihilate caste from the soil of India. He was of the firm view that caste is the biggest hurdle on the way of India to become nation. Shortly before his Mahaparinirvan he laid the foundation of Dalit Buddhist movement in India to show a new way to the millions of socially discriminated people of the country to get rid of the centuries' old curse of caste and untouchability.

His scholarship and brilliant approach to take mankind to new heights brought him into various offices of responsibility both during the British rule and Independent India. He was the first law minister of independent India. He was Chairman of the drafting committee of the Constitution of Independent India.

Dr B. R. Ambedkar was a prolific writer who founded three well received journals during his campaign against untouchability. He earned doctorates in economic and many more academic degrees from the reputed universities of the US and UK. He has been adjudged one of the few most intelligent peoples in the world so far. In 1990, the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award, was posthumously conferred upon him. Ambedkar Times and Desh Doaba forums fondly and most respectfully remember Bodhisattva Bharat Ratan Babasaheb Dr B.R. Ambedkar on this very day of his being posthumously conferred the highest civilian award of India.

## Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Parkash Utsav



**S**angat celebrated Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji's 552nd Gurburab at Sri Guru Ravidass Temple Pittsburg (California). Akhand path started on Friday 11/19/2021, at 10:00 AM and concluded on Sunday 11/21/2021. It was a sunny day by His grace. Path and Langar Sewa was hosted by devoted family of Pt. Kewal Krishan Sudhir, Phagwara Wale. Bhai VarinderSudhir and his family have been doing this Sewa for the past few years. May Guru Sahib bless Sudhirfamily.

Bhai Gurnam Singh Rattu, Bibi Satya Mati Rattu and family hosted the Nishan Sahib Sewa on Saturday morning. Some vendors set up their shops for the convenience of Sangat.

Famous Jatha of Bhai Subeg Singh delighted the Sangat with melodious Kirtan in addition to Giani Ompal /Giani Gurnam Singh. Bibi Kamaljeet Bhatia and Mannat Kaur, young daughter of Baljit Singh, recited Shabads also. It was great to see younger generation participating in Gurbani Shabad Kirtan. We hope to see more participation from our young Sikhs.

Founding member Bhai O.P. Balley and Dr. Harmesh Kumar congratulated Sangat and shared

information about life of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji and His message.

We are thankful to Prem Chumber Editor-In-Chief, Desh Doaba & Ambedkar Times for coverage of the Gurburab. This program was shown live in its entirety.

We thank Sangat for their participation and contributions. We are also thankful to Sewadars for helping with cooking, serving, cleaning and various other tasks. May Guru Sahib shower His blessings on His Sangat.

**ਜੋ ਮਾਗਹਿ ਠਾਕੁਰ ਅਪੁਨੇ ਤੇ ਸੋਈ ਸੋਈ ਦੇਵੈ ॥  
ਨਾਨਕ ਦਾਸੁ ਮੁਖ ਤੇ ਜੋ ਬੋਲੈ ਈਹਾ ਉਹਾ ਸਚੁ ਹੋਵੈ**

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TERE BHANE SARBAT DA BHALA"  
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Report- Ramesh Suman

Related pictures see on pages 2 to 6

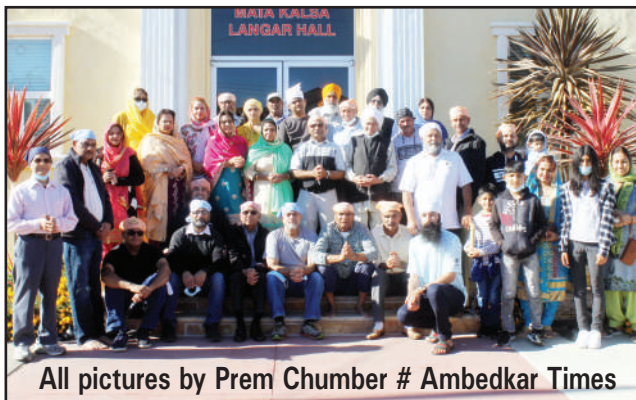
## Mata Bishan Kaur Chumber Passed Away

It is with deep sorrow and grief that we inform you of the sudden demise of our immensely beloved mother Mrs. Bishan Kaur Chumber W/o late Mr Punjab Rai Chumber on the early morning of November 29, 2021.

Santosh Kumari Chumber  
Prem Kumar Chumber  
Tarsem Lal Chumber



# Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Parkash Utsav



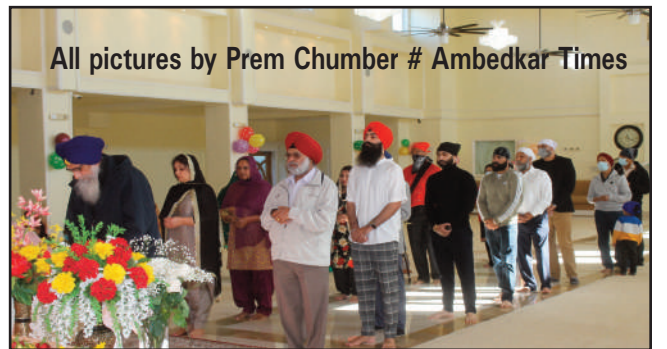
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# Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Parkash Utsav



# Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Parkash Utsav



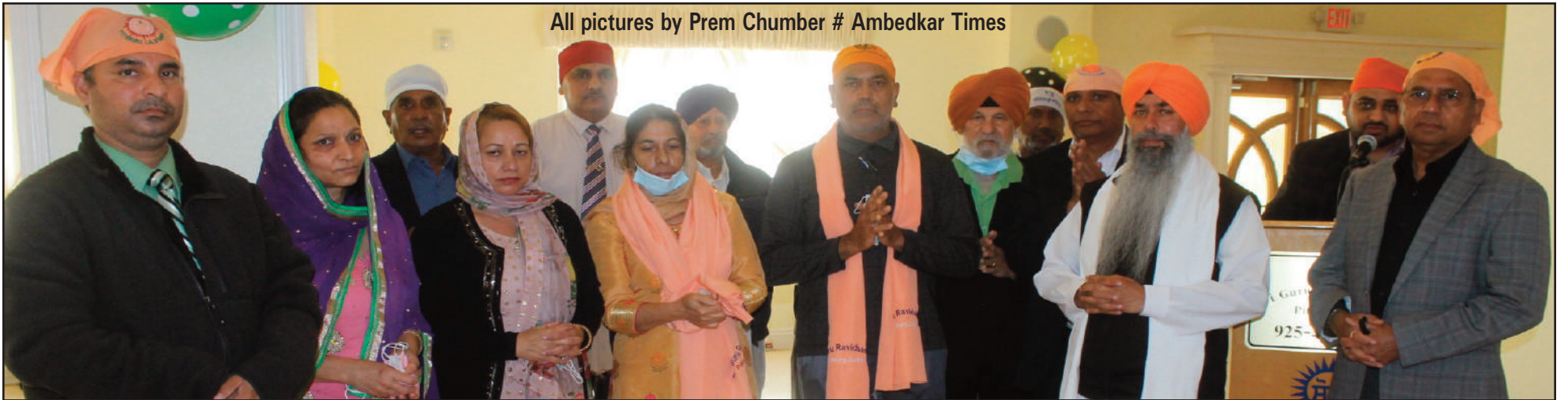
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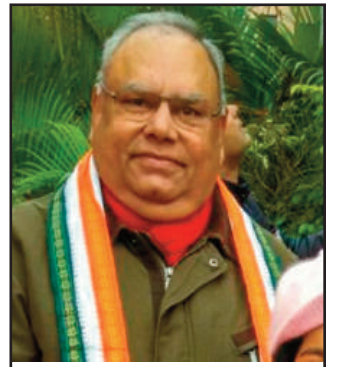
# November 26 – Constitution Day

We observe November 26 as the Constitution Day, the day on which our Constitution was finally “adopted, enacted and given to ourselves” by the Constituent Assembly in 1949. The Constitution Day is an important milestone in the journey of India which “We the people of India” embarked on with Independence from the British colonial rule on 15 August, 1947 which is observed as the Independence Day. The new Constitution came into operation on January 26, 1950 which we observe as the Republic Day. Long seven decades have passed ever since we had a robust

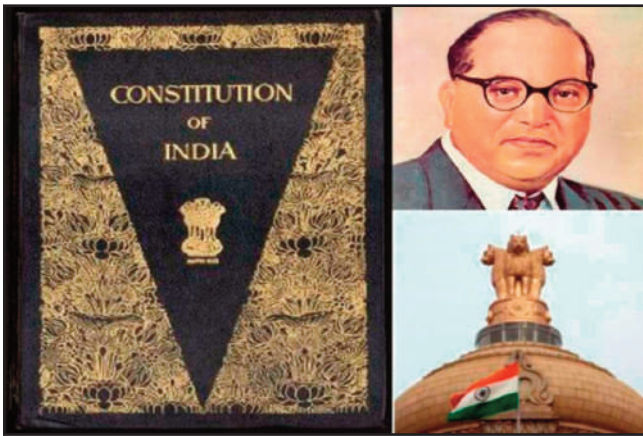
passed. He, referring to historical facts, said, “...not only India has once before lost her independence, but she lost it by the infidelity and treachery of some of her own people.” In this context, he further said “Will history repeat itself? It is this thought which fills me with anxiety. This anxiety is deepened by the realization of the fact that in addition to our old enemies in the form of castes and creeds we are going to have many political parties with diverse and opposing political creeds. Will Indian place the country above their creed or will they place creed above country? I do not


olence and unconstitutional means resulting in ‘Grammar of Anarchy’ as cautioned by him, “If we wish to maintain democracy not merely in form, but also in fact, what must we do? The first thing in my judgment we must do is to hold fast to constitutional methods of achieving our social and economic objectives. It means we must abandon the bloody methods of revolution. It means that we must abandon the method of civil disobedience, non-cooperation and satyagraha. When there was no way left for constitutional methods for achieving economic and social objec-

w i s d o m which we would ignore at our own peril. The third thing he w a r n e d a g a i n s t was ‘hero worship’ in democracy and said, ““There is nothing wrong in being grateful to great men who have rendered life-long services to the coun-




**Ramesh Chander**  
Ambassador - I.F.S. (Retired)  
91-99885-10940






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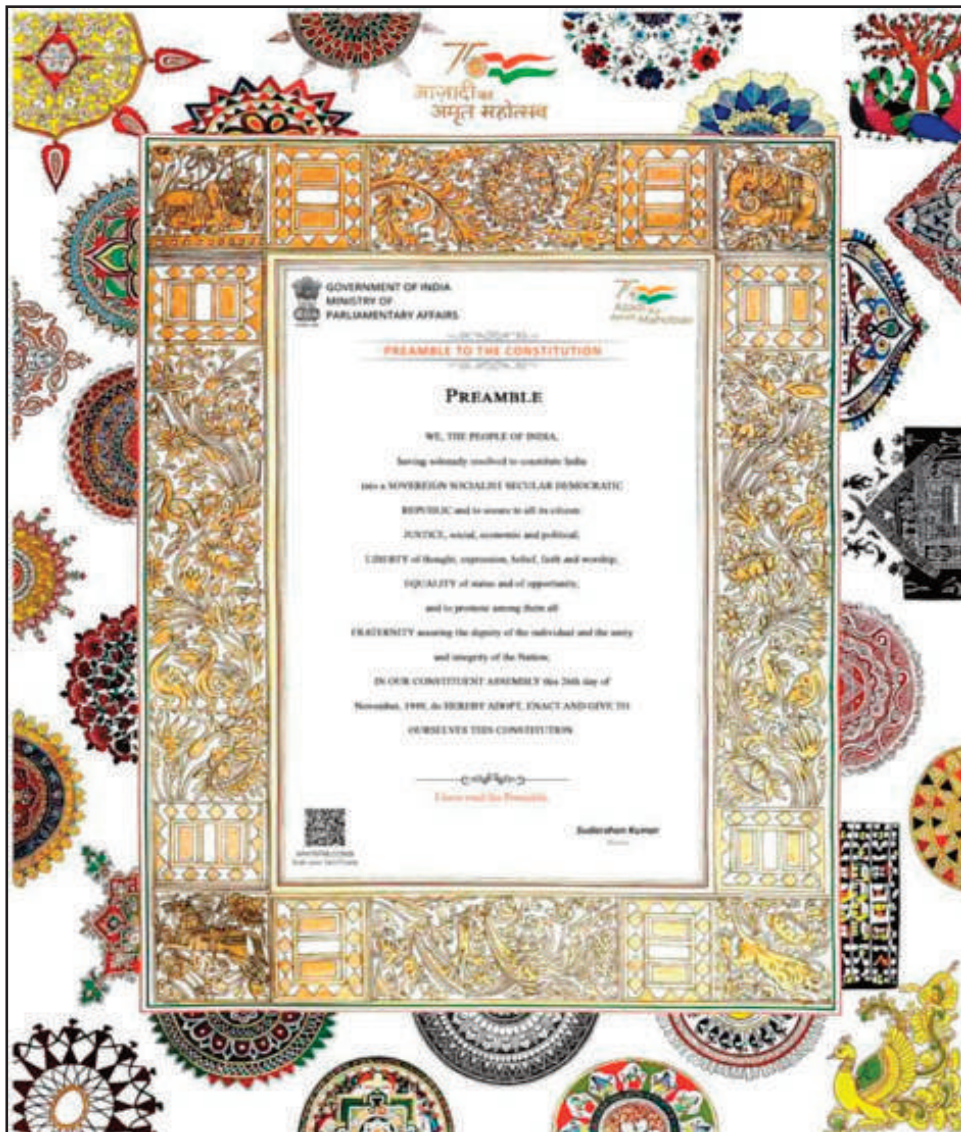
As the Nation Celebrates  
**THE CONSTITUTION DAY**

Let us read Preamble to the Constitution with Hon'ble President from Central Hall of the Parliament  
**26 NOVEMBER, 2021 at 11:00A.M.**



To Read the Preamble and Participate in Online Quiz, visit [www.mpa.gov.in/constitution-day](http://www.mpa.gov.in/constitution-day) link or scan the QR code to get your Certificate

constitutional frame work given to us by our founding fathers to redeem our pledge of ‘tryst with destiny’ as visualized by PM Jawaharlal Nehru in his Independence Day address to the nation on the midnight of August 14, 1947. The Objectives Resolution of the Constituent Assembly to make the constitution and above all the role and contribution of Babasaheb B.R. Ambedkar as Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly could deliver in giving us one of the best constitutions of the world which met the challenges before the country like ‘India that is Bharat’ - a diversified and multi racial and multi-cultural society. It kept us on rails. It is a matter of great satisfaction that, with these constitutional arrangements, India has come a long way in its development and progress. One may say that It has arrived but still to reach. Still a long way to go in this interesting but challenging journey before we fully realize and redeem the solemn pledges which we voluntarily took on our Independence. It could be done ‘substantially’ in the words of PM Jawaharlal Nehru, if we could transform our ‘political democracy, stipulated in the constitution, into a social and economic democracy’ as rightly visualized by none other than the father of the Constitution of India, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.



As I said that because of the constitution, India is on rails. But we cannot afford the luxury of lowering our guard as yet. Of late, fissiparous elements with divisive agenda appear to be raising their head which is posing a real danger to the very edifice – ‘sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic’ of our polity could come under threat. It would be a serious threat against which Babasaheb Ambedkar spoke very candidly in his last speech in the Constituent Assembly on November 25, 1949 before the constitution was finally

know. But this much is certain that if the parties place creed above country, our independence will be put in jeopardy a second time and probably be lost forever. This eventuality we must all resolutely guard against. We must be determined to defend our independence with the last drop of our blood.” Dr. Ambedkar was a visionary. His warnings, given 70 years ago, are as true and relevant as these were then, if we look at the Kisan Andolan, many movements opposing the duly formulated administration through vi-

tives, there was a great deal of justification for unconstitutional methods. But where constitutional methods are open, there can be no justification for these unconstitutional methods. These methods are nothing but the Grammar of Anarchy and the sooner they are abandoned, the better for us.” I am not oblivious of the fact that I have succumbed to the temptation of quoting Dr. Ambedkar excessively to make my point. But it made my job easy as the utterances coming from the horse’s mouth are gems of

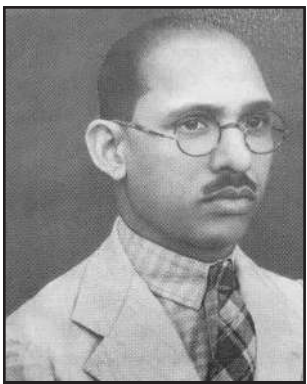
try. But there are limits to gratefulness, as has been well said by the Irish Patriot Daniel O’Connell, no man can be grateful at the cost of his honour, no woman can be grateful at the cost of her chastity and no nation can be grateful at the cost of its liberty.

This caution is far more necessary in the case of India than in the case of any other country. For in India, Bhakti or what may be called the path of devotion or hero-worship, plays a part in its politics unequalled in magnitude by the part it plays in the politics of any other country in the world. Bhakti in religion may be a road to the salvation of the soul. But in politics, Bhakti or hero-worship is a sure road to degradation and to eventual dictatorship.”

While we observe the Constitution Day, we must do self-introspection, keeping the above warnings of the chief architect of the constitution, if we intend to remain on track. My humble suggestion in this regard is that the epoch making November 25, 1949 speech of Babasaheb Ambedkar should be included in college curricula for students so that younger generation understands the constitution and challenges before the country. Our political parties and politicians should learn and understand the situation in its right perspective rather than pursuing narrow agendas for short term gains.

With this while I take this opportunity to greet my countrymen on the Constitution Day of India, I would recall the poetic warning of Allma Iqbal:

Chupa Kar Asteen Mein Bijliyan  
Rakhi Hain Gardoon Ne  
Anadil Bagh Ke Ghafil Na Baithen  
Ashiyon Mein  
(The sky has kept thunderbolts concealed up its sleeve  
Garden’s nightingales should not slumber in their nests)



Ishwar Das Pawar  
District and Sessions Judge (Retd.)

# My Struggle in Life

## To Light through Darkness

**T**he Brahmanical civilization and culture are based on the ignorance of all except the Brahmans. Ignorance brought about and kept alive by dubious, dishonest means. Caste system is the outstanding example of how people were robbed of their status, dignity, talent, and knowledge. This system envisages and aims at a lopsided social system, and in this hierarchical order, Brahman is supreme while on the other end the Sudra stands deprived of all that can make him an honorable member of society and humanity. Knowledge was the precious thing that was kept by the Brahman to himself so that no other person got the true light to realize himself. The masters of the society had no faith in the integrity, intelligence, and good sense of the common man; and he was not allowed to grow and unfold his personality.

He was told the truth by leading him by the nose through the long, dark tunnel of superstition and falsehood. Deceptive social and religious philosophy, mysticism garbed in a mystifying language and spreading of the net of ignorance are the sure ways of the exploitation of the masses. The Brahman thinks that he would lose his perch if the common man is allowed to become enlightened. Here are some of the revealing examples of the numerous techniques of keeping the common man ignorant by denying him access to true knowledge. How do the solar and lunar eclipses occur? The answer is simple. The sun god and moon god owe debts to their creditors Rahu and Ketu (Astronomically, they denote the points of intersection of the paths of the Sun and the Moon as they move on the celestial sphere). They demand repayment of the debts, and when the debtor-gods fail to clear the debts, the creditors catch hold of them by the throats as a coercive method of getting back the loans advanced in the bona fide belief that the debtors were good and honest paymasters. As the debtor-gods' throats are strangled with a tightened grip, a part of their bodies loses luster under the stress of pain and suffocation. To relieve them of the distress, people are required to make donations to be placed outside their houses as part payment of their debts. On this the creditors loosen their grip on the throats of their bad debtors, and gradually the victims regain their faded luster. This is how the phenomenon of eclipses occurs and then disappears. These gods have not so far been able to clear off their debt liabilities,

and they will never be able to do so, and therefore, eclipses have been occurring and shall continue to occur when demands are made periodically for the same reason and purpose. The above explanation is not so simple and innocuous as it may seem to be. It has its far-reaching ramifications and repercussions. By this technique, debt (incurring liability) and, as a corollary, dire poverty is not only justified but is also sanctified. Poor people say especially on such occasions, "What are we small creatures? Even the great gods such as the sun and the moon are not free from debt?" Debts are incurred due to poverty. So poverty should be accepted as an essential and integral part of the natural and normal way of life. The people thus lose the sharp edge of their ambitions for a prosperous and better life out of sheer ignorance. The truth is withheld from them by the custodians of knowledge. Otherwise, how can they exploit the general masses?

Another offshoot: People are taught to have a dip in holy waters at the specified places during eclipses as these are extremely important occasions from religious point of view. And what is the reward of holy baths? All sins accumulated through long years of life are washed off. A very easy and simple way of complete absolution from the heinous crimes and sins! Why be afraid of bad and sinful deeds?

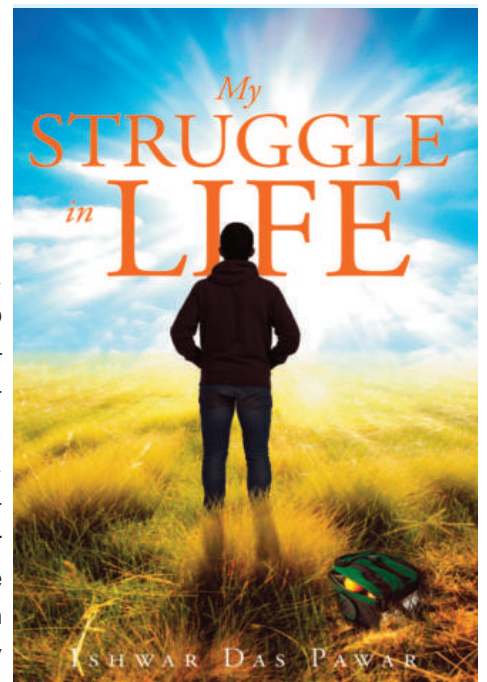
The Brahman gurus of mundane life and the custodians of true religion have shown the way to salvation so easily attainable. The methods of tapas (deep meditation) adopted by rishis and munis (saints and sages) over long periods was a wrong notion entertained by them out of ignorance! The real path to salvation is short and simple, i.e., to have a dip in holy waters especially on occasions and at places declared auspicious and sacred. The poser is how and why earthquakes occur occasionally is also not difficult to answer. It is very simple. This huge earth of ours is resting on one horn of a bulky white bull named Dhaula-Bail. When the burden-carrying horn gets tired of the weight, the bull transfers the earth to the other horn. In this shifting process, the earth quakes, trembles. As the process has to be undertaken periodically as a matter of necessity, so the earthquakes. Eruption of lava, especially in the mountainous regions, has nothing to do with the seemingly mysterious phenomenon of earthquakes, which come about without giving a notice or warning. Scientific explanation is no good. The master of religion is the only oracle of truth. Why do the masters keep the people in stark ignorance? Knowledge gives the masters the supremacy

and power, so they keep it as their exclusive preserve. Therefore, neither supremacy nor power can be shared with the people by sharing with

them true knowledge. They must be kept ignorant so that the masters prosper not on truth but on untruth—falsehood willfully propagated and kept alive.

One more interesting example of the kind: how is it known that solar or lunar eclipse would occur on such and such day and at a particular time? Astronomical calculations are irrelevant. This knowledge comes from the invisible divine. What happens is like this: The manuscript of a slim volume booklet known as jantri (almanac, an annual calendar containing important dates and statistical information such as astronomical data and tide tables) is prepared by the invisible in the heavens and got printed in a press there. Copies of the booklet are then rained down over the earth round about Kashi (Varanasi) which, under the divine rule, are to be collected by the Brahmans living there and then sold out to the people for a good price. This volume shows the days and timings of the solar and lunar eclipses, also other important days and months of the year, and the fortune-teller's tables for the advantage and knowledge of the people through the Lord's agents. But strange as it may look, it does not give any indication about the happening of earthquakes or the coming of rains. It is very likely that these are considered to be unimportant matters for man. While the mortals on this earth were engaged in these explanations and discussions, the angels in the heavens were listening intently in the pin-drop silence. They were greatly amused to hear all these stories and gossip. They were so bewildered and amazed at the ingenuity of man that they danced, they laughed and laughed boisterously, and were doubled up in laughter. Then they burst out in a chorus:

'Har shaakh pe ullu baithe hain, Anjaam-gulistan kaya hoga!' (O Lord Almighty, what fate is in store for this beautiful garden where each and every branch of the flowering and fruit-bearing plants and trees is occupied and usurped by a pack of owls?)



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