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REMEMBERING 92nd Sri Guru Ravidass Temple Pittsburg AD DHARM DAY JUNE 11-12

Prem Kumar Chumber Editor-in-Chief: Ambedkar Times



Caste system based on the fourfold division of the Hindu society into Brahmin, Kashtriya, Vaishya and Shudra and the fifth Avarna category of Ati-Shudras has led to serious denial of Human rights of the Scheduled Castes people variously nomenclatured as Aanchamas, Achhuts, Dheds, Pariahs, Harijans and Dalits. These large number of Avarna people who were condemned

to live in segregated localities in the periphery of villages throughout India without having any rights on the natural resources and the local structures of power. They were forced to perform 'begar' hard manual labor without any remuneration. If the men folk had to work in the agricultural farms of the landlords, their women folk were pushed into an equally hard work of cleaning the cowsheds of the landlords. Scheduled Castes were not allowed to possess land, weapons, valuable metals and milch castles. They were only allowed to keep the beasts of burden to assist them in performing the hard manual labor without any payments in return.

Tathagat Gautam Buddha raised a revolutionary voice against this cruel system of extreme denial of human rights based on low birth. He welcomed the Ati-Shudras into his Sanghas and treated them equal without any prejudice whatsoever. After a long gap and with the advent of Sikh faith in Punjab, once again a serious attempt was made to remove the deadly caste boundaries from the Hindu society while spreading the message of unity of mankind. It was in Punjab, the sacred land of Gurus and Pirs that on June 11-12, 1926 the first mammoth annual function of the Ad Dharm Movement was organized in the native village of Great Freedom Fighter Babu Mangu Ram Mugowalia Ji, the founder of the Ad Dharm in Punjab in 1925 after his return from USA where he reached in 1909 and became one of the pioneers of the Gadhar Movement. It was at this mammoth Ad Dharm conference where he publicly announced the launch of tirade against the pernicious system of untouchability and the restoration of the lost glory of the indigenous people of Bharat.

Babu Mangu Ram Mugowalia exhorted his people to get organized and say definitive no to caste discrimination and social segregation. He called upon his people to live with self-respect and dignity and started the movement for equal rights of the Dalits. He approached the then British rulers to empower the Depressed Classes (at that time the term Scheduled Castes was not coined nor the term Harijan had come) while declaring their separate religion of Ad Dharm at par with other mainstream religions of the region. Consequently the British government declared Ad Dharm as a separate religion of the Dalits in Punjab 1931. About 5 lacs Ad Dharmis recorded themselves under this new religion category in the Census of 1931. Under the able and strong leadership of Babu Mangu Ram Mugowalia, the Ad Dharm movement turned party contested the 1937 Punjab Province Assembly Elections and won seven out of eight seats reserved for the S cheduled Castes.

When Ambedkar Movement for the annihilation of caste took roots in India, it was the solid groundwork prepared by the Ad Dharm Movement in Punjab which helped raise a strong support structure for Babasaheb Dr. B.R Ambedkar who visited Punjab thrice during his life. The forum of "Ambedkar Times" (www.ambedkartimes.com) takes immense pleasure and proud to congratulate all its readers, contributors and supporters on the auspicious occasion of the anniversary of the first mammoth conference of the Ad Dharm movement held at village Mugowal near Mahilpur in District Hoshiarpur on 11-12 June 1926.



Pittsburg: Sri Guru Ravidass Temple Pittsburg's 33th anniversary was celebrated on June 3rd, 2018. Akhand Path Sewa started on Friday June 1st, 2018 at 10am and concluded with Bhog ceremony on Sunday June 3rd, 2018. Gurughar committee and entire Sangat did the Akhand path and langar Sewa. Ragi Jatha Giani Ompal Singh, Giani Gurnam Singh Ji, Bibi Kamaljit

Bhatia and Jatha of Giani Bhpinder Singh Ji adorned the occasion with Shabad Kirtan. Mr. O.P Balley, founding member told Sangat how the process building this Gurughar started 33 years Chairman Mr. Ramesh ago. Suman welcomed and thanked Sangat for their continued support. Gurughar has been in CHARDI KALA ever since its inception. In last few years, new

(California)'s 33th Anniversary



Darbar Hall has been added. The original Gurughar hall in the name of Mata Kalsan has been recently renovated. Gurughar committee has a plan to build domes on the building in near future with the help of Sangat. Bhai Jagtar Sindh Bhatia and Bibi Nirmal Bhatia did the Nishan Sahib Sewa on Saturday June 2, 2018.

Report: Ramesh Suman



Supreme Court Allows Reservation In Government SC/ST Employee Promotions

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Tuesday (June 5, 2018) allowed the Union Government to provide reservation in promotion for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employee according to the law. The top court also said that the quota reservations will be allowed till the issue is disposed off by the Constitution bench. However, the court did not mention which is law exactly to be followed.

The Centre told the SC bench that after various high courts' orders, the promotions have come to a halt virtually. Additional Solicitor General Maninder Singh told the SC bench, as reported by the Times of India, "I'm government and I have to give promotions to my employees". To which, the apex court said that the promotions can be given following the process as per law. The bench said, "We can say that you can go ahead with promotion as per law and we won't mention what is the law." Yesterday, Dalit leader and Union Minister Ram Vilas Paswan discussed various issued with the Bharatiya Janata Party chief Amit Shah where he stressed on the

need to bring ordinance SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. In the meeting, he also discussed that the government should move the Supreme Court to do away with the provisions that are coming in way of giving reservation to SCs and STs in the promotion of government jobs, as reported by news agency PTI. "If required the government should bring an ordinance on this," he said. Paswan told reporters that Shah has acknowledged the stand on Dalit issues and agreed with it, assuring him of a positive reply. (TOI)

Sri Guru Ravidass Temple Pittsburg (California)'s 33th Anniversary

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ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਟੈਂਪਲ ਪਿਟਸਬਰਗ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧਕ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਦੁਆਰਾ ਸਮੂਹ ਸਾਧ ਸੰਗਤ ਦੇ ਸਹਿਯੋਗ ਨਾਲ ਮਨਾਏ ਗਏ ਉਤਰੀ ਅਮਰੀਕਾ ਦੇ ਪਹਿਲੇ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਟੈਂਪਲ ਪਿਟਸਬਰਗ ਦੇ 33ਵੇਂ ਸਥਾਪਨਾ ਦਿਵਸ ਦੀਆਂ ਸਮੂਹ ਸਾਧ ਸੰਗਤ ਨੂੰ ਲੱਖ ਲੱਖ ਵਧਾਈਆਂ

ਗੁਰਨਾਮ ਸਿੰਘ ਰੱਤੂ ਸਾਬਕਾ ਵਾਈਸ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰੂ ਰਵਿਦਾਸ ਟੈਂਪਲ ਪਿਟਸਬਰਗ, (ਕੈਲੇਫੋਰਨੀਆ)



Gurnam Singh Rattu with his wife Mrs. Satya Mati Rattu

