



## Analyzing the Relationship Between Caste and Poverty

### **Concept Note:**

The concept of poverty is universal phenomena but root causes of poverty actually display the various dimension according to system exist in that society. The social research related to poverty endeavor to explore the various dynamic effects on the social issues around the individual and community. The various studies profoundly explained that the various issues from health to unemployment are the effect of poverty which is a position of different countries and possible that may be valid. In other word, poverty is a multi-approach sphere in which the consequence of poverty could be relates with different social domain from lack of education to unemployment but in the Indian context, the same observation has been applied to Indian society in the form of nature, causes and consequences of poverty. Although the social scientist especially scientist related to poverty explore the poverty in the context of western model without taking caste into consideration. The description of poverty often examined from the individual perspective and experiences, he/she gone through it which assisted to differentiate the poor and non-poor in the society. It has been observed that poverty proceed into the effect of the mainstream problems. It implies that the poverty has been disconnected with many subfield of study which may be able to have common themes in it. The examination of poverty mostly concentrated rural to urban areas but their dynamics often transformed in demographic sense in which, geographically, the communities associated themselves with diverse form. The theoretical orientation of studies on poverty hardly touched the structural and institutional aspect of Indian society. Although, the poverty as dynamic process is statistically explained in relation to the oppressed communities like SC, ST, OBC, etc. The poverty in India is socially constructed phenomena having roots in the graded caste inequalities. The rationality behind is that, it is

difficult to locate the poverty among the twice born (savarna) castes, even if it could found but it hardly creates any impact on the mainstream of Indian society due to their caste privileges. Such circumstances are difficult to apply on the SC, ST, and OBC.

Here the question is how the caste prejudice contributes to sustain the poverty among these lower castes which are majority in the Indian society. The caste based discrimination faced by lower castes limited their capacity to create materialistic life which omit in the form of low income and high level of poverty. In this manner, the discrimination based on the caste prejudice contributes to enforce on the so called lower castes people. Thus, the discrimination is another form of prejudice that often materializes by the upper caste to restrict the individual progress and development in every sphere of life. It is the castes of mind that people belong to lower castes people has been religious labeled being unworthy, unintelligent, average and un-productive due to their past karma. Hence, it is found that lower caste in majority are profoundly enforced by the upper dominant castes (in all sense) to involve into the mindless as well as in productive work and just to serve the upper caste in various manner. This thought process hardly changed into the Indian democratic society and still the lower castes are embedded into the low positions that the earning capacity continue like vicious cycle of poverty. Even the social categories or identities often influence the economic decisions and instigate and orient the individual behavior towards others. what if the being a higher castes achieved the higher status in the different institution of society from education to cultural and from social to political, would the upper castes behave to his lower castes in humanistic manner and do he/she would take the decision to uproot the poverty of lower castes people through policy making? Such question if deeply examine would perceive the negative answer because the individual decision often socially conceptualize and also constructed. It indicates that the behavior of individual depends on the norms and values of community. It signifies that the caste norms and values won't allow the upper caste to take an economic decision to emancipate the lower caste and such process categories into 'we' and 'others'. The caste discrimination doesn't resides in the individual but the caste groups norms and values act as external pressure on the individual to exhibits their caste prejudice towards the other member of lower caste group. Here what we indicates that collective consciousness which maintain the social system decides the role and status of individual. If the collective consciousness is based on the caste consciousness, the prejudice and caste based discrimination would be key factor not only control the material resource but also excluded and develop such

situation so that lower castes must face economic deprivation and crisis for a centuries. After endeavoring to catch the relationship between the caste and poverty, the question has to be investigated that poverty is cause or effect?

To systematically ponder over the above issues and generate critical discourses centered on caste and poverty, the proposed concept note is narrowed down to address following questions. What are the relationship between caste and poverty? How far caste contributes to maintain the poverty in India? Do really the unemployment, population, illiteracy, etc. are part causes or effect of poverty? No doubt number of studies dealt with Indian poverty, but not yet touched this issue in relation to structure of caste under the new circumstances of modernization and globalization? Hence, this concept note invites the research papers on the following themes.

- Religion, Caste and Poverty
- Politics of Poverty and Caste
- Poverty, Social Exclusion and Caste
- Impact of caste on rural and urban poverty
- Gender, Poverty and caste subjugation
- Migration, Caste and Poverty
- Policies related to Poverty and Lower castes
- Caste & Mental Health
- Caste is a social, Education, cultural Hegemony

It is a platform for social scientist, researcher and social activist, government officials and various stakeholders to send the research papers on the above identified themes along with abstract. Kindly note, the abstract should not more than 250 words. The paper must be consist of 4000 to 5000 words including abstract and paper will be accepted into English, Hindi and Marathi language.

**Submission of Abstract - Last date 20<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

**After the scrutiny and acceptance of abstract, the research scholars would be notified to submit their full paper. – Last date of submission full paper:-2<sup>nd</sup> April 2022**

**Note: - Selected paper will be published along with ISBN/ISSN number.**

Address for communication and submission of abstract on this given email id: -

[drbabasahebsamata123@gmail.com](mailto:drbabasahebsamata123@gmail.com)

**Contact number: - +91 9940229588, +91 7028041960 Whatsapp & Calling number**

**According to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Samata Pratishtan Memorandum of association in clause (A) & (B) main objects of the company comes under:-**

To organize lectures, seminars and symposia etc. on socio-economic issue, to foster academic within as well as other country through exchange of personnel and research material, to organize, undertake, conduct, encourage and promote study and research on the life and work of BharatRatna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar for welfare & development of the general public including weaker section of society.

Above the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Samata Pratishtan Company objectives shows for SC Community benefits through all welfare activities. It seems very close to socio-economic development through actively participation in the community/society.

**Brief sketch of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Samta Pratishtan Nagpur & BARTI**

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**BARTI**

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Research & Training Institute (BARTI), Pune, the Department of Social Justice and Special Assistance, Govt. of Maharashtra is committed to the cause of equality and social justice through scientific research, evaluation of schemes meant for socially disadvantaged sections, policy advocacy, training, skills development etc.

**Mithunkumar Nagwanshi  
(Project Officer)  
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Samata Pratishtan  
& Coordinator BARTI**