



Ambedkar Times

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VOL- 9

ISSUE- 51

February 13, 2019

www.ambedkartimes.com

www.ambedkartimes.org

DEMOCRACY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Prem K. Chumber

Editor-in-Chief: www.ambedkartimes.com

Democracy and social justice are interrelated social processes. The one is incomplete in the absence of the other. Democracy offers freedom space to realize equality and experience fraternity. Equality and fraternity are the two essential ingredients of social justice, which achieves its true form with the addition of liberty. Thus the trinity of liberty, equality and fraternity constitutes the essence of social justice and the institution of democracy provides the requisite realm for its realization. Though many scholars' boasts of ancient origins of democracy in India but it would be prudent to argue that democracy achieves its roots in the real sense of the term with the adoption of the consti-



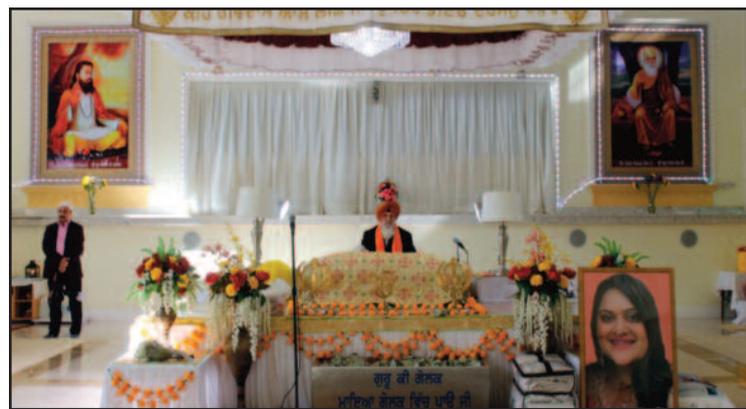
tution in independent India. Bodhisattva Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, Chairman of Constitutional Drafting Committee, worked very hard to incorporate various provisions for the realization of social justice in the Indian society. He was of the firm views that if social and economic parity remains an elusive to the multitude of poor and historically socially excluded people in the country, then the very purpose of having parliamentary democracy would not be served efficiently. He reiterated the seminal point during his engaging discussions at various important forums within and outside the Indian parliament that for social justice to prevail in the country, India needs effective participation of the downtrodden in all the different spheres of the society.

The demand for social justice was also raised at various platforms during the freedom struggle movement in colonial India. Ad-Movements in North and South India, Justice Party in South India, Babu Mangu Ram Muggowalia from Punjab, Swami Achhuta Nand Ji from Uttar Pradesh, Baba Ghasi Das Ji from Madhya Pradesh, Sri Narayana Guru from Kerala raised a consistent campaign for the prevalence of social justice in the Indian society. Babu Mangu Ram Muggowalia presented a number of resolutions to the British Government for the removal of untouchability and special provisions for the inclusion of socially excluded sections of the society in the public realm of power and social domain.

Babu Mangu Ram Muggowalia joined hands with Bodhisattva Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar in his struggle for equal rights for the socially excluded people of India. When Baba Saheb Dr. Ambedkar spreaded its movement into the political agile lands of Punjab with the formation of Punjab chapter of Scheduled Castes Federation, there was a tremendous response from the grassroots. That was precisely the contributions of Ad Dharm movement which laid the foundation stone of social justice campaign in the state in the mid 1920s. But the irony of the matter is that even after more than six decades of India's independence, Dalits in the country are still subjected to various types of atrocities and social discriminations. Though the Indian state, while making the optimum use of various anti untouchability clauses of the constitution, is doing its best to bridle the monster of caste, but still is more needed to be done at the social level where the people should come forward to internalize the values of liberty, equality and fraternity in order to realize the true sense of democracy and social justice. (Posted at www.ambedkartimes.com)

JAGDISH KAUR RAM (JACKIE RAM)

FINAL PRAYERS AT SRI GURU RAVIDASS TEMPLE PITTSBURG



Bhog ceremony of Saharan Path for peace and tranquility of the departed soul of Jagdish Kaur Ram (Jackie Ram) who bade farewell to this mortal world on January 20, 2019 was held at Sri Guru Ravidass Temple, Pittsburg CA. on February 10, 2019. Since Jackie was an iconic figure in the entire community, a large number of sympathizers, admirers, numbering more than eight hundred, participated in the religious ceremony held in her honor. Prominent members of the community paid their homage to her exceptional



qualities and a treasure of her sweet memories left behind. The list of the speakers who paid their tributes is given below:

Jagdev Ram, Ajaipaul Ram, Asha Sharma, O. P. Balley, Ramesh Suman, Sunny Dhaliwal, Harjinder Singh Dhami, Joginder Singh Dehliwale, V. K. Chumber, Ram Sewak Bhatia, Prem Kumar Chumber, Dashvinder Paul, Dilbagh Singh & Amandeep Bhatia read letter from Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, CA 11th District.

It was very touching and pathetic to know from one of the family speakers that Jackie had bought some special flowers and dresses to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of her Dad, late Commissioner, Mr. Lahori Ram scheduled to be held on January 27, 2019 at Pittsburg temple, but who knew that these were meant not for her dad but for her own funeral.

Pittsburg Guru Ghar Kirtan Jatha and other prominent Kirtankars well versed with the teachings of Gurbani also paid their tributes to the departed soul. All the speakers and Kirtan Jathas focused on the fact that life is so uncertain and is like a bubble which disappears in an instant.

Though Jackie has left behind a vacuum which can never be filled but outpouring expression of love, support and sympathy during this difficult time vindicates how the entire community was impacted by this tragic

loss. As detailed in her biographical sketch published in Ambedkar Times dated January 30, 2019, Jackie had a passion for politics and potential for public service too, which clearly signaled her aptitude for reaching some political heights like her dad, but nature had a different planning for her. She was an exceptionally a kind soul -very selfless and always willing to go the extra mile for the happiness of others.

Though Jackie has departed physically and has gone into an eternal sleep from which no one awakens

but her achievements and helpful acumen have perpetuated her inspirational impact on others in the years and years to come. From such unexpected tragedies we learn how unpredictable and uncertain this life is and affirms the universal teachings of GURBANI (JO UPJEO SO BINAS HAI) whatever has been created shall perish. Mr. Prem Kumar Chumber, Chief Editor "Ambedkar Times" and "Desh Doaba" who covered the proceedings of the Bhog Ceremony as a professional Journalist sends his heartfelt tributes to the memory and the immortal soul of lovely Jagdish Kaur Ram (Jackie Ram). On behalf of the Sri Guru Ravidass Sabha Pittsburg (California) Managing Committee, Mr. Ramesh Suman Chairman and Kashmiri Bhatia President expressed their condolences and sympathies on this tragic loss. Mr Dilbag Singh General Secretary co-ordinated by Mr. Jack Ram conducted the proceedings of the ceremony in a very responsible manner. In the end Mr. Jack Ram and Mr. Paul Ram, elder brothers of late Ms. Jagdish Kaur Ram (Jackie Ram) thanked the entire Sangat for their emotional support for the Ram family during this difficult and painful period.

Again with prayers for Jackie Ram's soul to rest in peace in Almighty hands.

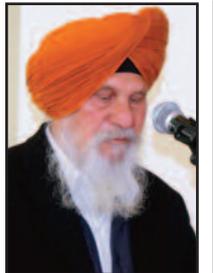
-O. P. Balley

Founder member of Sri Guru Ravidass Sabha Pittsburg (CA)

JAGDISH KAUR RAM (JACKIE RAM) FINAL PRAYERS AT SRI GURU RAVIDASS TEMPLE PITTSBURG



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In loving memory of Shri C. L. Chumber

Dear Mr. Prem K. Chumber,

Paying tribute to Shri C.L. Chumber reminds me my long engaging interactions with him during my research on Ad Dharm movement in Punjab. He was very cooperative and deeply involved in the community missionary work till his last breath.

**Ronki Ram (Dr.)
Shaheed Bhagat Singh
Professor of Political Science,
Panjab University, Chandigarh**

I fondly remember my connection and interactions with C. L. Chumber. Deeply committed Ambedkarite, he was ascerbic about the Brahminical abuse of the Indian society. We physically met at the Vadodara Railway Station as he was traveling to Saurashtra in Gujarat. Thereafter long telephonic conversations were always enriching. He was a great reservoir on the Ambedkarite movements, especially respecting Punjab

and Ad-Dharam. Thousands of Salutes

- Raj Kumar Hans (Dr.)

With all my sympathies I share this sad day with you and the family in remembering your elder brother Mr. C.L. Chumber who left for his heavenly abode on this day a few years ago. He will be missed and long remembered for his valiant fight to safeguard the rights and interests of the down trodden, through his various writings as a journalist. He was a staunch supporter of Ad-Dharam movement founded by Ghadri Baba Babu Mangu Ram Mugowalia Ji for which Mr. Chumber will remain as a lasting inspiration for years to come. With prayers for C. L. Chumber's soul to rest in peace in Almighty hands.

Sincerely,

**O.P. Balley
Founder Member of the
Sri Guru Ravidass Sabha Pittsburg (California)**



Shri C. L. Chumber

Ambedkar Times and Desh Doaba fondly remember Mr. C.L. Chumber on his 3rd anniversary

We deeply remember Mr C.L. Chumber on his 3rd anniversary. His valuable contribution towards highlighting the importance of the Ad Dharm movement for developing Dalit consciousness in Punjab has generated a lot of interest in that regard both at the general public and academic levels. Qaumi Udarian and a well-documented Babu Mangu Ram Muggowalia Souvenir on the Ad Dharm and the role of Babu Mangu Ram Mugowalia Ji in the awakening of Dalit consciousness in pre-partition Punjab became very popular in Punjab. Ambedkartimes.com and www.deshdoaba.com (Ambedkar Times & Desh Doaba weekly newspapers) pay floral tribute to Mr. C.L. Chumber Sahib on his 3rd Anniversary.

**Prem K. Chumber
Editor-In-Chief
Ambedkar Times & Desh Doaba weekly newspaper**

ਸ੍ਰੀ. ਐਲ. ਚੁੰਬਰ ਭਾਜੀ ਦੇ ਖਜਾਨੇ ਨੂੰ ਛਾਪ ਕੇ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਤੱਕ ਪੁਚਾਉਣ ਦੀ ਤਮੰਨਾ ਹੈ

ਕਿਸੇ ਨੇ ਮੈਨੂੰ ਦੱਸਿਆ ਸੀ ਕਿ ਸੀ ਐਲ ਚੁੰਬਰ ਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਸ਼ਖਸ ਨੇ ਬਹੁਤ ਸਾਰਾ ਅਨਮੋਲ ਖਜਾਨਾ ਇਕੱਠਾ ਕੀਤਾ ਹੋਇਆ ਏ ਜਿਸ ਵਿੱਚ ਆਦਿ ਧਰਮ ਲਹਿਰ ਤੇ ਬਾਬਾ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਡਾਕਟਰ ਅੰਬੇਡਕਰ ਬਾਰੇ ਇਤਿਹਾਸਕ ਸਮੱਗਰੀ ਹੈ। ਮੈਂ ਮਿਲਣ ਦੀ ਵਿਉਂਤ ਬਣਾ ਰਿਹਾ ਸੀ ਕਿ ਇੱਕ ਦਿਨ ਅਚਾਨਕ ਦੇਸ਼ ਭਗਤ ਯਾਦਗਾਰ ਹਾਲ ਚ ਮੁਲਾਕਾਤ ਹੋ ਗਈ। ਬਿਨਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਭੂਮਿਕਾ, ਝਿਜਕ ਦੇ ਗੱਲਾਂ ਕਰਨ ਲੱਗ ਪਏ। ਉਸਤੋਂ ਬਾਅਦ ਤਿੰਨ ਚਾਰ ਮਿਲਣੀਆਂ ਚ ਮੇਰੇ ਅੰਦਰੋਂ ਡਰ ਨਿੱਕਲ ਗਿਆ। ਬਾਬਾ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਦੀਆਂ ਚਾਰ ਕਿਤਾਬਾਂ ਪੜ੍ਹ ਕੇ ਮੈਨੂੰ ਚਾਨਣ ਹੋ ਗਿਆ।

ਸੀ ਐਲ ਚੁੰਬਰ ਭਾਜੀ ਦਾ ਮੈਂ ਬਹੁਤ ਮਸ਼ਕੂਰ ਹਾਂ ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੇ ਮੇਰਾ ਨਜ਼ਰੀਆ ਸਾਫ ਕੀਤਾ, ਪੜ੍ਹਨ, ਸੋਚਣ, ਵਿਚਾਰਨ ਲਾਇਆ। ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਸੰਪਾਦਨਾ ਹੇਠ ਛਪੇ ਬਾਬਾ ਮੰਗੂ ਰਾਮ ਮੁੱਗੋਵਾਲੀਆ ਜੀ ਬਾਰੇ ਸੋਵੀਨਰ ਨੇ ਆਦਿ ਧਰਮ, ਸਾਨੂੰ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਦੁਆਉਣ ਲਈ ਸਾਡੇ ਬਜ਼ਰਗਾਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਕੀਤੇ ਸੰਘਰਸ਼ ਬਾਰੇ ਪਤਾ ਲੱਗਾ। ਚੁੰਬਰ ਭਾਜੀ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਮੱਤ ਅਤੇ ਸਮਝ ਸੋਝੀ ਨਾਲ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਸੰਗ੍ਰਹਿ ਕੀਤੇ ਖਜਾਨੇ ਨੂੰ ਛਾਪ ਕੇ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਤੱਕ ਪੁਚਾਉਣ ਦੀ ਤਮੰਨਾ ਹੈ।

- ਸੀਤਾ ਰਾਮ ਮਾਧੋਪੁਰੀ

ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸੀ. ਐਲ ਚੁੰਬਰ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਨੂੰ ਸਲਾਮ ਹੈ ਸਾਡਾ!!!
ਮੈਂ ਆਪਣੀ ਤਰਫ ਅਤੇ ਅਦਾਰਾ "ਅੰਬੇਡਕਰ ਟਾਈਮਜ਼" ਅਤੇ "ਦੇਸ਼ ਦੁਆਬਾ" ਵੱਲੋਂ ਆਪ ਸਭ ਦਾ ਫੇਸਬੁੱਕ ਉਪਰ ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸੀ. ਐਲ. ਚੁੰਬਰ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਜੀ ਦੀ ਤੀਸਰੀ ਅਨਵਰਸਰੀ ਮੌਕੇ, ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪੋ-ਆਪਣੇ ਬੜੇ ਹੀ ਨਿੱਘੇ ਦਿਲੀ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਦਸਤਕ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਹੈ, ਆਪਣੇ ਸਾਥੀ ਨੂੰ ਯਾਦ ਕੀਤਾ, ਆਪਣੇ ਹਰਮਨ ਪਿਆਰੇ ਸੰਘਰਸ਼ਵਾਦੀ ਅਗਾਂਹਵਧੂ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਂ ਦੇ ਧਨੀ ਨੂੰ ਸਲਾਮ ਕੀਤਾ ਹੈ, ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਆਪ ਸਭ ਦੇ ਪਿਆਰ ਅਤੇ ਸਤਿਕਾਰ ਨੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਸਭ ਨੂੰ ਆਪਸ ਵਿਚ ਇਕ ਨਵੀਂ ਰੌਸ਼ਨੀ ਦਿਖਾਈ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਕਦੇ ਵੀ ਆਪਣੇ ਦਿਲੋਂ ਚਾਹੁਣ ਵਾਲਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਮਨੋ ਨਾ ਵਿਸਾਰੀਏ।

ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸੀ. ਐਲ. ਚੁੰਬਰ ਹੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਬਲਕਿ ਉਹ ਸਾਡਾ ਆਪਣਾ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਸਾਡਾ ਹਮਖਿਆਲੀ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਂ ਦਾ ਹੈ ਜਾਂ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੇ ਅਗਾਂਹਵਧੂ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਂ ਦੇ ਹਾਣ ਦਾ ਬਣਾਉਣ ਦਾ ਯਤਨ ਕਰਦਾ ਹੈ। ਬੜੇ ਹੀ ਨਿੱਘੇ ਦਿਲੀ, ਦਿਲੀ ਸਲਾਮ ਹੈ ਸਾਡਾ ਤੇ ਉਸ ਦੇ ਵਿਚਾਰਾਂ ਤੇ ਦਰਸਾਏ ਮਾਰਗ ਨੂੰ ਸਲਾਮ ਹੈ ਸਾਡਾ। ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸੀ. ਐਲ ਚੁੰਬਰ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਜੀ ਨੂੰ ਸਲਾਮ ਹੈ ਸਾਡਾ

- ਪ੍ਰੇਮ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਚੁੰਬਰ