

## Mahathma Gandhiji' Thought on Rural Reconstruction and Role of Village Development Societies

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### Abstract:

Indian rural life is far from simple. There are approximately 500,00 villages in India. Each villages connected through variety of crucial horizontal linkages with other villages. Gandhiji said that ' If the village perishes India will perish too. Our villages represent our Indian culture and Heritage. Gandhiji had told that, if anything to know about India, then should about its villages. The previous Governments had several projects for development of rural area, and to create employment to the rural people and for upliftment of their life, such as Employment guarantee scheme, pulse for cooli scheme (KooligaagiKallu) Improvement of small farmers scheme, improvement projects of drought areas. Village development is an integral part of the overall development. A policy of village development is a policy of national development. village development has been an important component of India's efforts towards betterment of living standards of the people and to this end of country has implemented a large number of village development planning's and programmes.

This paper is based on secondary sources. It focus on concepts of rural development, Gandhiji's ideas on reconstruction and role of village development societies.

**Key words:-** *Trusteeship, Constitutional provisions, Ideal village, decentralization, social transformation, reconstruction.*

### Introduction:

Rural development is an integral part of the overall development. Rural reconstruction concept relate to renovation of the villages for the total wellbeing of the ruralities. According to Gandhiji rural reconstruction is oriented to their social, economical and political development. The Firka development scheme launched by madras government in 1946 aimed at the attainment the Gandhian thought of village swaraj and Bombay government launched sarvodaya scheme. This both programmes promoting the furtherance of Gandhiji's constructive programmes. Village development societies are playing significant role in this and share a major credit in the growth of rural sector which along with government and private sectors contribute to the overall economy of India. Gandhi opposed big state system with centralized authority and instead favoured autonomous village communities because he firmly believed that as a member of the big state it is impossible for an individual to safeguard his individual identity and freedom.

# **ROLE OF PANCHAYAT RAJ INSTITUTIONS IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT-A GLANCE**

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## CONTENTS

SL. No	Title and Name	Pg. No
1	<b>Role of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Rural Development</b> Jagdeesha H	1
2	<b>Gandhian Views on Rural Development –A Study</b> Biligirirangaiah.C.	7
3	<b>Major Hurdles for Rural Development</b> Chandini. N	12
4	<b>Impact of the 73rd Amendment of the Indian Constitution on Women Empowerment: An Analysis</b> Vijay. A. N, Prof. C. B. Raju	17
5	<b>Major Hurdles of Rural Development</b> Santosh Kumar. K	21
6	<b>Expenditure on Panchayat Raj Institution And Rural Development In India</b> Prof. Basavaraj S. Benni, Basavaraja Mali Patil	26
7	<b>Role of Grama Sabha in Rural Development: A Study of Mysore District of Karnataka State</b> Dr. Ashok Kumar. H	31
8	<b>Role of Education in Rural Development</b> Arshiyatarannum Kotnal	37
9	<b>Role of Ngo's in rural Development In India</b> Dr. Mamatha.M	41
10	<b>MGNREGA - Problems and Prospects In Tumkur Taluk of Tumkur District</b> Prof. Siddagangaiah.S.G., Dr. Nagaraja.S.	46
11	<b>Role Of Rural Employment Guarantee Programme In India</b> Dr. M. D.Umesha	52
12	<b>Importance of National Employment Guarantee Scheme, In Rural Development</b> Dr. G. H. Nagaraju	56
13	<b>An Appraisal of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme</b> T. Deepak Kumar, Dr. Uddagatti Venkatesh	60
14	<b>Inclusive Development of Marginalized Groups through MGNREGA in Karnataka – Issues and Challenges</b> Dr. Siddaraju V.G., Dr. Manjuprasad.C.	65
15	<b>An Analysis of Socio Economic Condition of Women Labourers Under MNREGA - A Case Study of Mysore District</b> Dr. R. H. Pavithra	70
16	<b>Women Participation in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Grantee Act in Karnataka</b> Ramesha Naika, Rajendra Baikady	74
17	<b>Critical Analysis of Progress and Performance of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) in Karnataka</b> Dr. Channaveere Gowda B.N	79
18	<b>Women And Panchayat Raj System In India An Overview</b> Ramya.S., Ishwarya.R	84
19	<b>Education and Women Empowerment</b> Shobha. M	89
20	<b>Millennium Development Goals Sustain Women Empowerment in Rural Region</b> Praveen N M, M Vijayasimha, Dhruvi Patel	92

## WOMEN AND PANCHAYAT RAJ SYSTEM IN INDIA AN OVERVIEW

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### Abstract

*'Independence must begin at the bottom. Thus every village will be a republic or Panchayat having full powers'-*

*Mahatma Gandhi*

Panchayati Raj Institutions have always been considered as a means to good governance and 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment was effected in the hope that it would lead to better governance and provide political space to the disadvantage section of the society like schedule caste, schedule tribes and women. The present study was an effort to know the extent of participation of women elected representative in Panchayat and the problems faced by them.

It is argued that women need to be 'empowered' in the realm of political decision making so as to facilitate their 'real' empowerment. About one million women entered Panchayats after 73<sup>rd</sup> constitutional Amendment Act. It is a known fact that 40 percent of the elected women represented the marginalized sections and about 70 percent women representatives were illiterate and most of them had no previous political experience. Therefore, it was but natural that there was a widespread apprehension that women will be manipulated by men. (Nupur Tiwari, Women and Panchayati Raj, YOJANA June 2012).

Suppression of women's political rights is only another manifestation of the patriarchal mindset which seeks to smother women from birth till death and contends that a woman's identity always derives from a man be it her father or husband. A Panchayat, in the traditional sense, is a body of 5 elders of the village who help resolve conflict amongst the villagers. Yet, women & lower castes were not allowed membership of this body. In pre-independence India, legal provisions made it difficult for women to participate actively in politics. For instance, the Bombay Village Panchayat Act, 1920 stipulated that no female could become an elected member. The Constitution of Independent India only spoke of local self-governing bodies in Part IV, the Directive Principles of State Policy, and did not make any provisions for specific reservation for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs). (CDHR Team, June 2009).

**Keywords:** Panchayat, women, empowerment, Policy, Patriarchal, Reservations, Suppression.

### Introduction

Panchayats have been the backbone of the Indian villages since the beginning of recorded history. In 1946, Gandhi had aptly remarked that the Indian independence must begin at the bottom and every village ought to be a Republic or a Panchayat with powers. His dream got translated into reality with the introduction of the three-tier Panchayati Raj system to ensure people's participation in rural reconstruction. The passage of the **Constitution (73<sup>rd</sup> Amendment) Act, 1992** (or simply the **Panchayati Raj Act**) marks a new era in the federal democratic set up of the country. It provided the much needed constitutional sanction to the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) for functioning as an organic and integral part of the nation's democratic process.

The Panchayati Raj Act was needed in order to streamline the functioning of the PRIs, which were marked by long delays in holding of Panchayat elections, frequent suspension / super session / dissolution of the Panchayat bodies, lack of functional and financial autonomy, inadequate representation of marginalized and weaker sections and meager, occasional and tied Government grants. This crippled the functioning of Panchayats and did not allow them to function as institutions of local Self-Government as had been envisaged in the Constitution.

The representation of women in the village administration has brought about a tactical shift in the functioning of grassroots democracy. The changing situation in power structures has created opportunities for the Indian woman

## Legal Provisions for Women Empowerment: Especially Property Rights of Hindu Women

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### Abstract

The women play a significant role in the life of every individual human being. Securing her better birthrights would mean giving better future to our own society, family and to every individual. The gender inequality facets in different forms, but the most tedious one percept relate to the effective property rights. This disparity in property right pertaining to gender, spells from ancient times.

Under ancient Hindu Society, a woman was considered to be of low in social status and treated as a dependent with barely any property rights. Under the old Mitakshara Law, on birth, the son acquires a right and interest in the family property. According to this school, a son, grandson, and a great grandson constitute a class of coparceners, based on births in family. No female is a member of the coparcenary in Mitakshara Law. (*Rakesh Kumari, 2011*)

This article has been written to highlight the Rights of women on property under the Hindu law. Women empowerment, equal rights to both men and women, equal share of property, etc., however, till today, the male still dominates society especially in regard to property matters. This article will highlight the opportunities that the constitutional design can provide to embed women's rights more securely and create an enabling framework that can subsequently be used to enhance all forms of women's rights, including property rights.

**Keywords:** Gender, Property Rights, Inequality, Women, Empowerment, Law, coparcener.

### Introduction

*The United Nation's Report in 1980 presented that: "Women constitute half the world's population, perform nearly two-thirds of its hours, and receive one-tenth of the world's income and less than one? Hundredth of the property."*

It is common knowledge that the Indian society is predominantly patriarchal and the preferential rights given to men with respect to property, both movable and immovable, are just another manifestation of the male centric societal structure. Giving women the right to inherit, own, use and dispose of property is a fairly recent phenomenon. Although this project deals specifically with the right to property of Hindu



# **URBAN POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION**

**DINESHA P.T.**

- 11 Migration and Growth of Urban Population in Karnataka  
-Nagaraj M Muggur 90-99
- 12 Public-Private Partnership In Karnataka  
-J. L. Banashankari 100-107
- 13 NGO and Its Impact on Poverty Reduction in Karnataka:  
An Analysis  
-Ramesha H. C. and Dr.K.C. Basavaraju 108-115
- 14 Meeting Urban Environmental Challenges: A Case With  
Solid Waste Management  
-Abhay M. Patil, Prasanna B. Joshi and M.S. Kurani 116-125
- 15 Civil Society And Urban Governance Problems In India  
-Ishwarya. R and Ramya.S 126-132
- 16 Socio-Legal Issues of Female Migrants in India  
-Sridevi Krishna 133-139
- 17 An Analysis Of Socio Economic Condition Of Women In  
Slum Area - With Special Reference to Hebbal Extension Area  
of Mysore City  
-R.H.Pavithra 140-148
- 18 Urbanisation and rising urban poverty with reference to Kodagu  
district  
-Girish.H.R 149-158
- 19 A Study of Economic Condition of Slum Dwellers  
- With Special Reference to Slum of South of Kumbarkoppal  
-Prakasha.N 159-166
- 20 Corporate Social Responsibility and Urban Development -  
A Conceptual Framework  
-Mahesha, V, Siraj Basha, R and Naveen.G.V 167-170
- 21 Regional Disparities, And Social Development In Urban  
India A Study  
-G.H.Nagaraju 171-175

# 15

## **Civil Society and Urban Governance Problems In India**

**Ishwarya.R and Ramya.S**

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### **Introduction:**

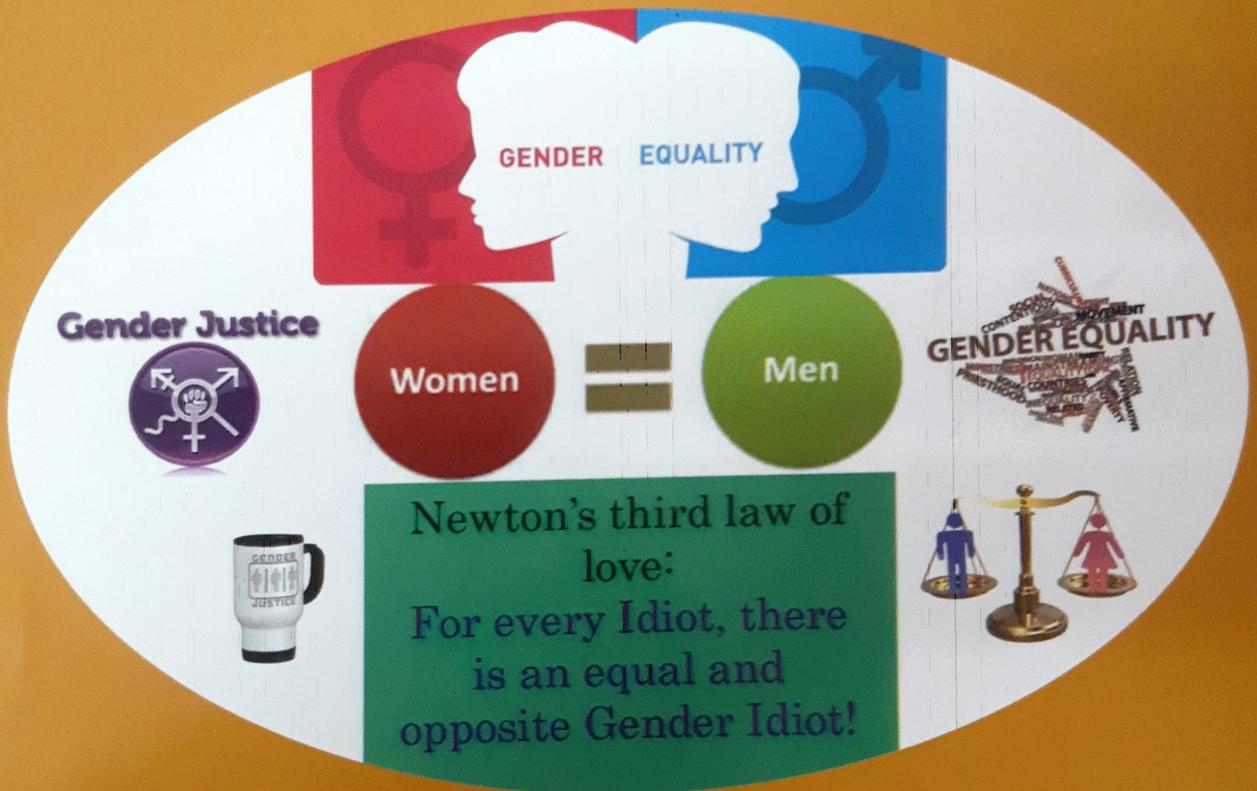
In 2011, about 357 millions persons were living in urban areas of India and it was the second largest urban population in the world. The 74th Constitution Amendment Act came into force in June, 1993 which sought to improve strengthen urban governance and management of services. The urban population is expected to rise to around 38 percent by 2026 In urban areas, people are differentiated on the basis of occupations, religion, class, living standards and social beliefs. Architects and town planners have tried to control disorganization so that cities today are properly planned. The basic needs of the people with regard to safe drinking water, housing, maintenance of public places, toilets, transport etc. Town planning has become an important aspects of urban governance.

Urban local governments are governed by the provisions of the State municipal Acts. Every State has its own municipal Act. The State legislature is stronger by the central government to decide on the structure, functions and powers to be entrusted to the local governments. Although the content and format of various State municipal Acts is more or less uniform, there are important differences in the provisions for devolution of powers, functions and funds to local governments since this is determined by the condition of both the State and the local government. The 74th Constitutional Amendment Act 1993 facilitated state-civil society partnership in provisioning of services (Subha and Bhargava 1999; Sekhar, 2005). This arrangement has given legitimacy to the civic groups and improved the credibility urban areas. This has facilitated efficient delivery of services and empowered the urban local bodies. Civic groups like 'Jaanagraha', 'Civic' and 'Proof' are involved in participatory budgeting practices at grassroots level.

The term urban government in India signifies the governance of an area by the people Though their elected representatives. There are eight types of urban governments in India, municipal Corporation, Municipality, notified area committee, town area committee, cantonment board, township, port trust

Chintanalekha

# GENDER JUSTICE AND EMERGING TRENDS : EXPECTATIONS CHALLENGES AHEAD



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14. Women Education in India- a Historical Perspective 54-56  
- **Dr. H.S Basavegowda**
15. Women Autobiographies - An Agency for Reforms: With Reference to Tehmina Durrani's my Feudal Lord 57-59  
- **Gaana .M. N**
16. Women Entrepreneurship in Karnataka – An Overview 60-63  
- **Dr.Ramesha.M.C**
17. Gender Discrimination in Achebe's Novels 64-65  
- **S. K. Lavanya**  
**Dr.Karunakaran B Shaji**
18. Gender Roles: A Sociological Analysis 66-68  
- **Swarna .B**
19. Psychological Correlates of Biological Consequences in Gender 69-73  
- **Rekha. M.S**
20. Women Empowerment in Panchayath Raj System in India 74-80  
- **Bhagyashree.N**
21. Women Participation in Politics 81-86  
- **Ravindra. R**
22. Shakespeare and Gender Conflict – A Squint Analysis 87-89  
- **Dr. M.K.Gayathri Devi**
23. Women Empowerment in India 90-92  
- **Dr. V.V.Jagadish**
24. Ambedkar's Views on Women and Social Justice 93-97  
- **Ishwarya . R**
25. Women Empowerment: An Indian Perspective 98-101  
- **S.N.Kumar**  
- **Dr. GundappaYaijappa**
26. The Nuance of Gender Inequality in the Poetry of Kamala Das 102-105  
- **Deepak. T. R**
27. The Third Gender : Socio - Legal Status in India 106-109  
- **Dr.A.N.Gayathri**

# WOMEN EMPOWERMENT: AN INDIAN PERSPECTIVE

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## Introduction

The concept of empowerment has various dimensions and scope. But the question of women empowerment has a common objective. Empowerment allows individuals to reach their full potential to improve their political and social participation and to believe in their own capabilities. Empowerment enables the person to gain insight and have awareness of what is undesirable and unfavorable about her current situation, perceive a better situation, the possibilities of attaining it and realizing what is within her reach and what she could do to get to a better situation. We can infer from the commitment made by the governments of the world for the women empowerment on the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing 1995 where Governments committed themselves to the "empowerment and advancement of women, including the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief, thus contributing to the moral, ethical, spiritual and intellectual needs of women and men, individually or in community with others and thereby guaranteeing them the possibility of realizing their full potential in society and shaping their lives in accordance with their own aspirations." In simpler term empowerment of women may be women's abilities to take control over their lives, their perceptions about their own value and capabilities, their competence to determine a goal and work towards this goal.

## Concept of Women Empowerment

Empowerment is a multi-faced, multi-dimensional and multi-layered concept. As such, it is not this or that, but is the action and interaction of various factors-physical, socioeconomic, political, mental, psychological, and attitudinal and so on. Women's

empowerment could be described as a process in which women gain greater share of control over resources-material, human and intellectual like knowledge, information, ideas, and financial resources like money and access to money and control over decision making in the home, community, social organization, and to gain power'.

## Evolution of Women Empowerment in India

From the eighteenth century onwards, we find besides Indian sources, western evidence on the condition of women. This century, in political terms, saw a major break from the past with the decline of the Mughal Empire after the death of Aurangzeb in 1707. Powerful political forces were released with the emergence of the Sikhs in Punjab, strong Rajput states in Rajasthan, Muslim independent states in Oudh and Bengal, but most importantly with the rise of the Marathas. The Marathas were to become the dominant force of the eighteenth century until they were overshadowed by East India Company in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century. In the nineteenth century the position of women suffered in a big way with their share of education declining to almost nothing. The existence of widespread network of elementary schools and higher educational institutions is mentioned upon the foreign observers but girls' attendance in them is not mentioned. It is possible that due to constant internecine warfare, it was not safe to send girls to schools. Contemporary European writers have commented upon the piety, chastity and modesty of Indian women and also mentioned the absence of insecurity in their movement. Purdah was observed in the north, very widely among

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24.	Onkarappa, A.P.	THE ELECTORAL REFORMS IN INDIA	87 - 90
25.	Gangadhar Bhat	ELECTORAL REFORMS IN INDIA: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	91 - 94
26.	R.I. Goudar	ELECTORAL REFORMS	95 - 98
27.	Vishu Kumar	ELECTORAL REFORMS IN INDIA: CHALLENGES AND THE WAYS AHEAD	99 - 102
28.	Basalingappa Y. Aravalad Sagar Y. Patil.	DEMOCRACY AND ELECTIONS IN INDIA: AN CRITICAL ANALYSIS	103 - 105
29.	Jayaramaiah Umapati K.L.	ELECTORAL REFORMS IN INDIA - ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	106 - 109
30.	Heggade N.U.R.	ELECTORAL REFORMS IN INDIA - ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	110 - 113
31.	Prakash S. Kattimani	CONTEMPORARY ISSUES AND CHALLENGES OF INDIAN PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY	114 - 117
32.	Thomas G.M.	POLITICS OF RENAMING THE CITIES AND PLACES IN INDIA AFTER INDEPENDENCE	118 - 122
33.	N. Ananda Gowda	IMPACT OF SIMULTANEOUS ELECTIONS ON FEDERAL SYSTEM IN INDIA	123 - 124
34.	Ishwarya. R.	PROS AND CONS OF SIMULTANEOUS ELECTION AT THE CENTRE AND STATE	125 - 127
35.	Vijayakumar B. Honnur Ali I.	WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN INDIA: AN OVERVIEW	128 - 131
36.	Santhoshi S. Meenakshi Khandimath	WOMEN IN POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES	132 - 133
37.	Satish Kumar K. K. Chandrappa	THE PARLIAMENT OF INDIA AND ITS DECLINING TRENDS	134 - 136
38.	Suresh K.C., Kumar Naik	STATE AND RELIGION: A SECULARISM PERSPECTIVE	137 - 139
39.	ಪ್ರವೀಣ ಟಿ. ಎಲ್., ಸದಾನಂದ ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.	ಸೆಕ್ಯೂಲರ್ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳಿಗೂ ರಿಲಿಜನ್ಸಿನ ರಾಜಕಾರಣ ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯವೇ?	140 - 144
40.	ಉಷಾ ಎನ್.	ಗಾಂಧೀಜಿಯವರ ದೃಷ್ಟಿಕೋನದಲ್ಲಿ ಧರ್ಮ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜಕೀಯ: ಸವಾಲುಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳು.	145 - 147
41.	ವೀಣಾ ಈ., ಎ. ಷಣ್ಮುಖ	ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಸ್ಮಿತೆ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಪರಿಣಾಮಗಳು	148 - 152
42.	ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ ಪಿ. ವಿ.	ದಲಿತ ಚಳವಳಿಯ ವಿಫಲತೆಯ ಚರ್ಚೆ ಮತ್ತು 'ದಲಿತ ಐಡೆಂಟಿಟಿ'	153 - 157
43.	ಹರೀಶ್ .ಡಿ. ವೀಣಾ ಈ.	ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾತಿನಿಧಿಕ ಪ್ರಜಾಪ್ರಭುತ್ವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ವಿಫಲತೆಯ ಕುರಿತಾದ ಚರ್ಚೆ ಮತ್ತು ಗೊಂದಲಗಳು	158 - 161
44.	ವೀರಭದ್ರಪ್ಪ ಎ.	ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಸ್ಮಿತೆ ರಾಜಕೀಯದ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿಗಳು	162 - 165
45.	ಅಮೂಲ್ಯ ಎನ್. ಎಸ್. ಎಸ್. ಎ. ಜಾವೀದ್.	'ಜಾತ್ಯತೀತ' ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳ ಜಾತಿಯ ನೆಲೆಗಳು	166 - 169
46.	ಶ್ರೀಧರ ಬಾರ್ಕಿ.	ಅಸ್ಪೃಶ್ಯತೆಯ ನಿರ್ಮೂಲನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂವಿಧಾನಿಕ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು: ಮಿತಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಪರ್ಯಾಯ ಮಾರ್ಗ	170 - 174
47.	ರಘು ಎಸ್., ಎ. ಷಣ್ಮುಖ	ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ಮತಪರಿವರ್ತನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಕಾಲೀನ ಸವಾಲುಗಳು	175 - 179
48.	ರಹಮತ್ ಈ.	ಭಾರತದ ರಾಜಕಾರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾತಿ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ	180 - 184
49.	ಭಾಯಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಕೆ. ಚಂದ್ರಪ್ಪ	ಭಾರತದ ರಾಜಕೀಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾತಿವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಪಾತ್ರ	185 - 187

## PROS AND CONS OF SIMULTANEOUS ELECTION AT THE CENTRE AND STATE

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### Introduction

In the system of democracy, the elections are more important. The elections are to be held in a manner supporting to the development of the country. The concept of simultaneous elections to central and to the states are not new to our India. After implementation of constitution year, the assembly elections of the states and parliamentary elections have been conducted from 1951 to 1967 at a time. Later on, in order manner in respect central and state elections at a time. From 1951 when the first parliamentary elections, in our country the central and state elections have been held at a time.

### Pros and cons of simultaneous election at the centre and state

In a democracy, periodically conducted elections given an opportunity to the voters to elect the government. Simultaneous elections impacting electorates behavior gets influenced and electorates may vote for the same political party, which in most cases may be larger national parties.

### Advantages of simultaneous election:

1. Opportunity will be provided to an independent person to win. 2. Un-necessary expenses will be reduced. 3. Strength of regulation parties will increase. 4. Can be concentrated towards economic growth. 5. Reduce party election expenses. 6. More time for development work. 7. Better utilization of security forces.

### Disadvantages of simultaneous election:

1. Lack of staff. 2. Lack of Security 3. obstruction of Law and Order. 3. Economic development backwardness. 4. Back step in rural development projects. 5. Damage to federal system 6. In one continuous election season the leaders cannot follow the economic policies 7. Due to national problems the local problems un-discovered. 8. Time wasted due to imposition of model code of conduct. In the year 2017, Pranav Mukherjee, the President of India, in his speech has spoken about the simultaneous election, as here under 'time has come to have discussion creatively about the election reforms. It the elections are held at a time, then, we have to return the practice of the decades after Independence. Since this act has included constitutional amendments, the election commission should have to initiate action after having discussion with the political parties'".

### Analysis of simultaneous election

The term of the election of central and state are depending on the status of the system of the respective assembly. As per the sub-sec 83(2) of Indian Constitution, the duration of the powers of parliament is 5 years. As per the sub-sec 172(1) of the Constitution, the state legislative Assembly power is also of 5 years. Prior to the completion of the duration of the parliament, the President can

## The Role of Political and Bureaucrat Elites in Implementing Rural Development Programmes - A Study

Ishwarya R

The Indian villages are still in existence as very important democratic institutions, which in lower level of the administration system. The important role played by the political and bureaucratic elites in renaissancing the social, financial and political life of the rural people. In achieving the goal of development adopted in the preamble of the Indian constitution and it is a satisfactory matter that now also the democratic and constitutional efforts in large extent are going on. As a result, now the Panchayat Raj has strengthened and it is very much appreciable that this system has been passing towards article 40 of the constitution and amended articles 73 and 74 of the constitution.

This paper is based on secondary sources. It focus on concepts of Political and bureaucrat elites and Analyse the role of the political and bureaucrat elites in implementing the development programmes. Explain the system of decentralization how will respond with the development concept and what are the obstacles in responding to the development and Understand the how democratic decentralization as a tool and will achieve the welfare.

Key words :- *Decentralization Elites, Bureaucratic elite, Constitutional provisions, Ideal village, Renaissance.*

### INTRODUCTION

The villagers who are majority in population are not only the citizens but, they are all kings in the present political system. The government will come into power only if they cast their votes. It can be said that, the rural people are in forefront in creating awareness and encouraging to implement good administration by the governments by eradicating the system of saluting to the govt. officials, slavery system and giving bribes. The role of the political and officers are different. They enlighten the people. And here we can remember that, they will be the powerful and incurable powers and will be the link between the state and rural level.

The term elite is derived from latin word 'Eligere' which means to choose. According to Harper's English dictionary it means 'cream of working class'. Aristotle said that 'some persons are fit to rule while others are fit to be ruled over'. According to T.S. Eliot 'No society without a governing elite can hope to transmit the culture it has inherited.

### OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this study are;

To Analyse the role of the political and bureaucrat elites in implementing the development programmes.

To Explain the system of decentralization how will respond with the development concept.

# A POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

LATHA .C V.



IJCTI PUBLICATION

# Contents

SL.N O.	Particulars	Page No.
01	<b>A study on Contributions of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in consolidating Social Elements in New India after independence</b>	1-16
02	<b>Globalisation and Human Rights: An Overview of its Impact</b>	17-30
03	<b>Communalism – Meaning and Issues in present political Sinario</b>	31-38
04	<b>E-GOVERNANCE IN INDIA: CONCEPT, INITIATIVES AND ISSUES</b>	39-45
05	<b>Urbanization and Regional Imbalance and Regional Imbalance in India: challenges and current Issues</b>	46-52
06	<b>ROLE OF NGOS IN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS IN INDIA</b>	53-59
07	<b>Coalitions politics in India: challenges and impacts</b>	60-65
08	<b>Local Government in India: present perspectives</b>	66-73
09	<b>Urbanization in India: challenges and current Issues</b>	74-80
10	<b>Federalism and regionalism in india Social Accommodation of Identity</b>	81-90
11	<b>Globalization and Indian women : An overview</b>	91-101
12	<b>Caste, Religion and Ethnicity in Indian Politics</b>	102-109
13	<b>Globalization and Human Rights: Helps or Hindrance</b>	110-122
14	<b>The Gandhian Approach to Social and Rural Development</b>	123-136
15	<b>REGIONALISM IN INDIA: SOCIAL ACCOMMODATION OF IDENTITY</b>	137-148

# "Urbanization in India: challenges and current Issues"

Ishwarya.R. Asst Professor of Political Science, Karnataka State Open University, Mukthagangotri, Mysore.

## Abstract:

Urban areas have been recognized as "engines of inclusive economic growth". Of the 121 crore Indians, 83.3 crore live in rural areas while 37.7 crore stay in urban areas, i.e approx 32 % of the population. The census of India, 2011 defines urban. All the places which have municipality, corporation, cantonment board or notified town area committee. All the other places which satisfy following criteria :

- a. A minimum population of 5000 persons ;
- b. At least 75 % of male main working population engaged in non-agricultural pursuits ; and
- c. A density of population of at least 400 persons per square kilometer

The first category of urban units are known as **Statutory town**. These town are notified under law by respective State/UT government and have local bodies like municipal corporation, municipality, etc, irrespective of demographic characteristics.

Similarly Census of India defines:-

**Urban Agglomeration (UA):** An urban agglomeration is a continuous urban spread constituting a town and its adjoining outgrowths (OGs), or two or more physically contiguous towns together with or without outgrowths of such towns. An Urban Agglomeration must consist of at least a statutory town and its total population (i.e. all the constituents put together) should not be less than 20,000 as per the 2001 Census. In varying local conditions, there were similar other combinations which have been treated as urban agglomerations satisfying the basic condition of contiguity.

Examples : Greater Mumbai



**Socio - Economic And Political  
Vision of  
Dr. B. R. Ambedkar  
- A Revisit**

Editor : **Dr. Shivakumaraswamy**



# Dr.B.R AMBEDKAR'S VIEWS ON DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM IN INDIA – A STUDY

**Smt.Ishwarya R**

Assistant Professor,  
Department of Studies and Research  
in Political Science,  
Karnataka State Open University,  
Mukta gangothri, Mysore-06

## **Abstract:-**

*Dr.B.R.Ambedkar concept of democracy and socialism ideas are still very relevant. Dr.B.R.Ambedkar did not agree with the Philosophical theory series proved by the Karl Marx. The grievances of this country people are not only due to economic harassment but also by the social harassment and due to the down-trodden situation, accordingly he had the opinion different from the Karl Marx. According to him. The person of Indian Society cannot be relieved from the harassment only by the model policy of economic harassment of Karl Marx. He has argued the National Society undertaking policy, national undertaking policy extracted from the foundation of the democracy. In his view, till there are no social democracy and*

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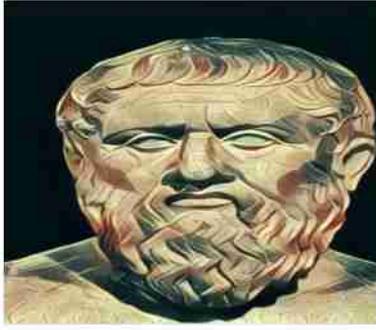


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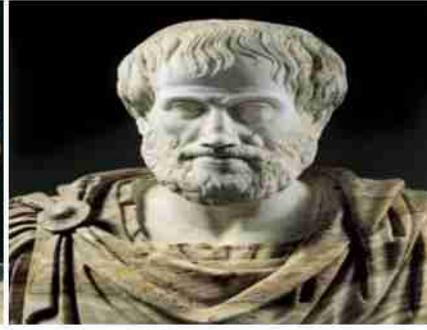
# POLITICAL SCIENCE

**M. A. (First Semester)**

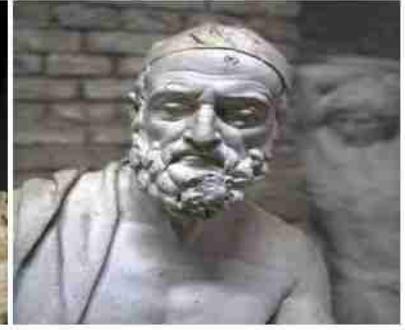
## ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL WESTERN POLITICAL THOUGHT



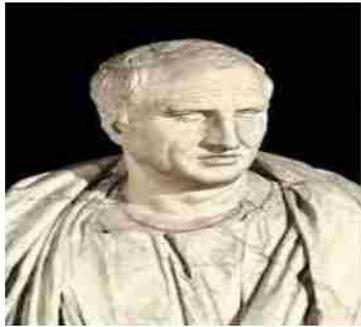
Plato



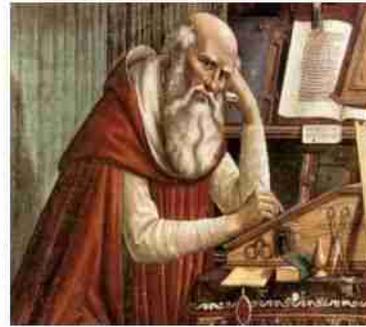
Aristotle



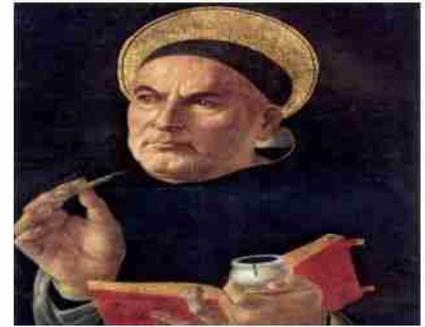
Polybius



Cicero



St. Augustine



St. Thomas Aquinas

**PHC-1.1**

**BLOCK - 1 to 4**

**First Semester: Paper-1.1**  
**(HC, 4 Credits)**  
**Ancient and Medieval western political thought**

<b>Unit No.</b>	<b>Index</b>	<b>Page. No.</b>
<b>Block-I</b>		
Unit:1	Greek Political Thought : Nature, Characteristics and Importance.	1-11
Unit:2	Plato: Life and Works, Theory of Justice and Ideal State.	12-27
Unit:3	Plato's Views on Education and Communism.	28-39
Unit:4	Aristotle : Life and Works, Family and State, Citizenship.	40-54
<b>Block-II</b>		
Unit:5	Aristotle views on Slavery, Property, Best State, Theory of Revolution and Classification of Government.	55-66
Unit:6	Greek Contributions to Political Thought.	67-80
Unit:7	Epicureans and Cynics.	81-91
Unit:8	The Sophists.	92-99
<b>Block-III</b>		
Unit:9	Roman Political Thought: Nature and Importance.	100-110
Unit:10	Polybius : Life and Works, Origin of State, Cyclical theory of Government and Mixed form of the Government.	111-121
Unit:11	Cicero: Life, State, Natural law, Equality, Liberty and forms of the Government.	122-134
Unit:12	Medieval Political Thought: Nature, Characteristics and Importance, church v/s State	135-153
<b>Block-IV</b>		
Unit:13	Saint Augustine : Life, Justice, Peace, State, Property and Slavery.	154-161
Unit:14	Saint Thomas Aquinas : Life, State, Government, Supremacy of the Pope, Forms of Law.	162-170
Unit:15	Conciliar Movement : meaning, objects, failures and significance.	171-182
Unit:16	Feudalism : Meaning, Development, Characteristics, failures and importance.	183-191

