

Report on Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Birth Anniversary Celebration

On the 14th of April, 2024, Gautam Buddha University reverberated with fervor and enthusiasm as it paid homage to the birth anniversary of Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. The event, organized to honor the enduring legacy of Babasaheb, drew the participation of esteemed panel members, guests, scholars, and activists. The commemorative proceedings commenced with a floral tribute at the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. This poignant gesture symbolized the reverence and respect accorded to Babasaheb's memory. Following the floral tribute, the formal inauguration of the program was marked by a ceremonial ritual.



Guests and attendees engaged in the symbolic act of lighting candles and offering flowers to Lord Buddha and Dr. Ambedkar, signifying homage to their teachings of compassion, equality, and justice. The event embraced the spiritual essence of Babasaheb's teachings with a soulful rendition of 'buddha chanting' by students from the School of Buddha Studies. Their melodious invocation echoed the timeless wisdom of Buddhism, resonating with the ethos of inclusivity and harmony championed by Babasaheb. The celebration was hosted by Ms. Manjri Suman and Dr. Vibhavari.





Dr. Chandrabhanu Bharas introduced the event's theme, "Impact and Relevance of Ambedkar in Contemporary Times," emphasizing Babasaheb's multifaceted influence. He cited statements by notable figures, highlighting Babasaheb's contributions beyond India's domestic policies, including foreign policy and institutional establishment.

Professor Bandana Pandey expressed gratitude to all attendees for their presence. She credited Vice Chancellor Prof. R.K. Sinha for establishing the Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Centre for the Studies of Human Rights. Professor Pandey then delved into Babasaheb's ideology, stressing his advocacy for universal equality irrespective of caste, gender, or religion. She underscored Babasaheb's pivotal role in shaping the Indian Constitution and providing a progressive path for the nation's advancement.



Professor Ravindra Kumar, IGNOU, the keynote speaker, commenced his address by extending warm greetings on Babasaheb's birth anniversary. He explored the foundational principles of the Indian Constitution, attributing its essence to Buddhist texts rather than the French Revolution. Delving into Babasaheb's visionary ideals, Professor Kumar elucidated his advocacy for adult franchise and confrontations with institutions like

the Simon Commission. He highlighted pivotal moments such as the 1923 Mumbai Assembly resolution against discrimination, underscoring Babasaheb's leadership in transformative movements like the Mahad and Kalaram Temple movements. The discourse expanded to Babasaheb's representation at the Round Table Conference, emphasizing his push for separate electorates and double voting rights. Professor Kumar examined Babasaheb's influential writings, particularly "Annihilation of Caste," and his proposals for societal development, women's rights, and economic equality. In essence, Professor Kumar summarized Babasaheb's multifaceted contributions to nation-building and social transformation, portraying him as a beacon of social justice and equality whose legacy continues to inspire generations.

Dr. Raja Sekhar Vundru, the Chief Guest and Additional Chief Secretary of the Government of Haryana, commenced his address by expressing gratitude to the organizing team for the invitation to this auspicious occasion celebrating the birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar. Transitioning to the life of Babasaheb, Dr. Raj Sekhar emphasized Babasaheb's journey as a leader, tracing his political beginnings and the evolution of his ideas. Notably, he highlighted a significant event in 1911 when the British census revealed 9% of the population as untouchables, marking Babasaheb's initial advocacy for their representation. Continuing, Dr. Raj Sekhar discussed Babasaheb's representation before the Simon Commission and at the Round Table Conference, emphasizing his efforts to uplift depressed classes and secure equal rights for them.



In his address, the Honorable Vice Chancellor, embarked on an insightful journey into the life of Babasaheb, emphasizing his tireless efforts to cultivate an inclusive society. He recounted Babasaheb's upbringing, highlighting the adversities he faced due to social discrimination, yet underscored his unwavering determination to surmount these challenges. Despite myriad obstacles, Babasaheb

pursued education ardently, emerging as one of India's most influential figures. Delving deeper, the Vice Chancellor discussed Babasaheb's pivotal role in championing social justice and equality for all, transcending barriers of caste, creed, and gender. He lauded Babasaheb's visionary leadership in crafting the Indian Constitution, which embodies principles of liberty, equality, and fraternity. Furthermore, the Vice Chancellor emphasized Babasaheb's enduring legacy and the continued relevance of his teachings in contemporary times. He urged the audience to uphold Babasaheb's ideals and perpetuate the struggle for social justice and empowerment of marginalized communities.



Dr. Pankaj Deep, Head of the Dr. Ambedkar Centre for the Studies of Human Rights, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Gautam Buddha University, concluded the event with a heartfelt vote of thanks. Dr. Deep expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Honorable Vice Chancellor, Prof R. K. Sinha, for establishing the Dr. Ambedkar Centre for Human Rights and thanked all participants, organizers, and guests for their invaluable contributions to the commemoration of Dr. Ambedkar’s birth anniversary.

Following the vote of thanks, a captivating cultural program unfolded under the guidance of Dr. J.P. Moyal, NSS Coordinator, along with Naveen Kumar. The highlight of the program was a Nukkad Drama portraying the life and legacy of Dr. Ambedkar, showcasing his indomitable spirit and dedication to social justice. Subsequently, a mesmerizing group dance performance was presented by students from Yashodhara Shiksha Shiver, skillfully coordinated by Dr. Neeta Singh. The event concluded with a sumptuous lunch, providing an opportunity for participants to further engage in discussions and reflections on Dr. Ambedkar's teachings and contributions. With this, the program drew to a close, leaving a lasting impact on all attendees.

