



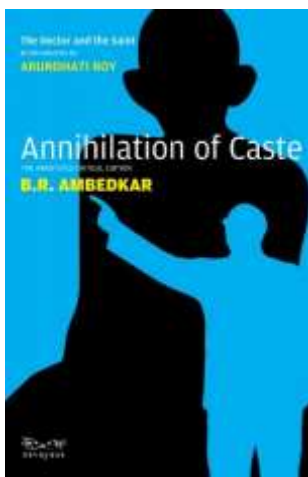
Book review: Annihilation of Caste by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

About the reviewer:



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Details of Book:



Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, Annihilation of Caste The Annotated Critical Edition. New Delhi: Navayana Publishing Pvt. Ltd.: Printed Pages: 415. Price: Rs. 499 (Paperback). ISBN 9788189059675.

Annihilation Of Caste, written by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar is his one of the most legendary books. This book was a speech prepared by Ambedkar for the annual conference in 1936, as he was the president of the Jat-Pat Todal Mandal, this group was an anti-caste reformist group. When the book was released, there was a clash between the thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi and Ambedkar. Both of these men were the greatest of their times. The famous debate between the philosophies of Ambedkar and Gandhi also known as '*The Ambedkar-Gandhi Debate*', was the differences between their philosophies, which till now has never come to an end. In that speech, Ambedkar would freely and frankly discuss the horrors perpetrated against Dalits and untouchables, as well as attack Hindus and urge that the caste discriminatory system be abolished, deconstructed, and obliterated. The Mandal members considered the wording of his speech to be exceedingly caustic and sought to prevent his ideas from reaching the public, fearing that they might inspire the Dalits to band together and fight for their rights.

Ambedkar was born in 1881 in an untouchable family. He grew up into the one of the most radical thinkers in India. Through his book, '*The Annihilation of Caste*' he promoted the idea that texts should not be taken seriously and should be destroyed. Many of the things he expressed about Hinduism in this book are accurate, but an ordinary high caste Hindu will find it blasphemous and difficult to accept, which is why some people despise his courage in writing it. He has provided a detailed description of centuries of brutal oppression of Dalits. The situation of India's low caste people outraged him. He wrote in this book that he believed in contemporary democracy founded on equality, liberty, and fraternity. Concluding, in this book Ambedkar has boldly spoken for the upliftment of the lower-caste Hindus, he has also criticized the evil myths of the Hindu religion. He has promoted the philosophies for Buddhism, also in 1935, he publicly declared that he was a born Hindu but he won't die as a Hindu.

