

AMBEDKAR IN PARLIAMENT: ANALYSING HIS PERSPECTIVES FOR DALITS, MINORITIES AND WOMEN

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Key findings:

This thesis builds up a critical narrative on Ambedkar views and perspectives not just as a thinker, a philosopher or a theorist, but as a parliamentarian, an elected representative and a policy-maker. It explains how Ambedkar practiced his activism in the Parliament to secure the rights of three sections of the society: Dalits, Minorities, and Women. More than what Ambedkar spoke at the Parliament; the study is about the nature and ideological content of Ambedkar's articulation of the issues he devoted his life to. Ambedkar emphasised on what he considered structural issues that oppress these sections, and attempted to legislatively reform aspects of the society that needed attention the most. The debate over Dalit, Minorities, and women in subsequent years has enormously benefited both inside and outside Parliament owing to many of the arguments and ideas that Ambedkar presented in the Parliament. His interventions have theoretically and morally enriched the notion of rights and dignity and constitute the cornerstone of the present-day discourse on these themes. He made substantive contributions in advancing the understanding of these three sections and their issues in modern India. He has sharpened the moral component of the discourses, and presented the evidence that interventions at the level of institutions are equally important as is the case with political movements outside the institutions like Parliament.