



Suraj Yengde's *Caste Matters*: An Exploration in the Pre-requisites of 'Dalit Love'

Snigdha Bardhan

Abstract:

The spirit of isolation, separation, degradation, and domination of the caste system gets its water as the upper-class people's cultural and social capital is accepted as merit. Education may be one of the leading sources that we have in our hands to change this viewpoint. Casteist outlook could not be erased by being neutral to the issues. Education also starts by realizing this point. Yengde rightly points out that 'apolitical love is the mere demonstration' that makes no change; so we have to grow and love with a politically charged vision to resist inequality. Being political is being conscious of our ontology as well as our fellow beings. Yengde's 'Dalit love' shows the path to rethink the ontological exploration through Dalit identity for preparing a proper antidote to the malady of caste. Caste is not only a threat to the democratic society, in a capitalist production system it is the main threat to promote a binary social system, i.e. hetero-normative, anti-queer, and trans-phobic chambers. Rules and laws many a time could not promote equality in true sense. The sense of 'mutuality and respectability' is mostly demanded. What are the prerequisites to be free society where human beings may flourish individually and socially without negating the others? Babasaheb Ambedkar tried to make us understand these issues through different writings; however, we failed to practice his ideas again and again. This is the crucial time to face the meeting point of past and present to develop radical awareness to erase caste from our society

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