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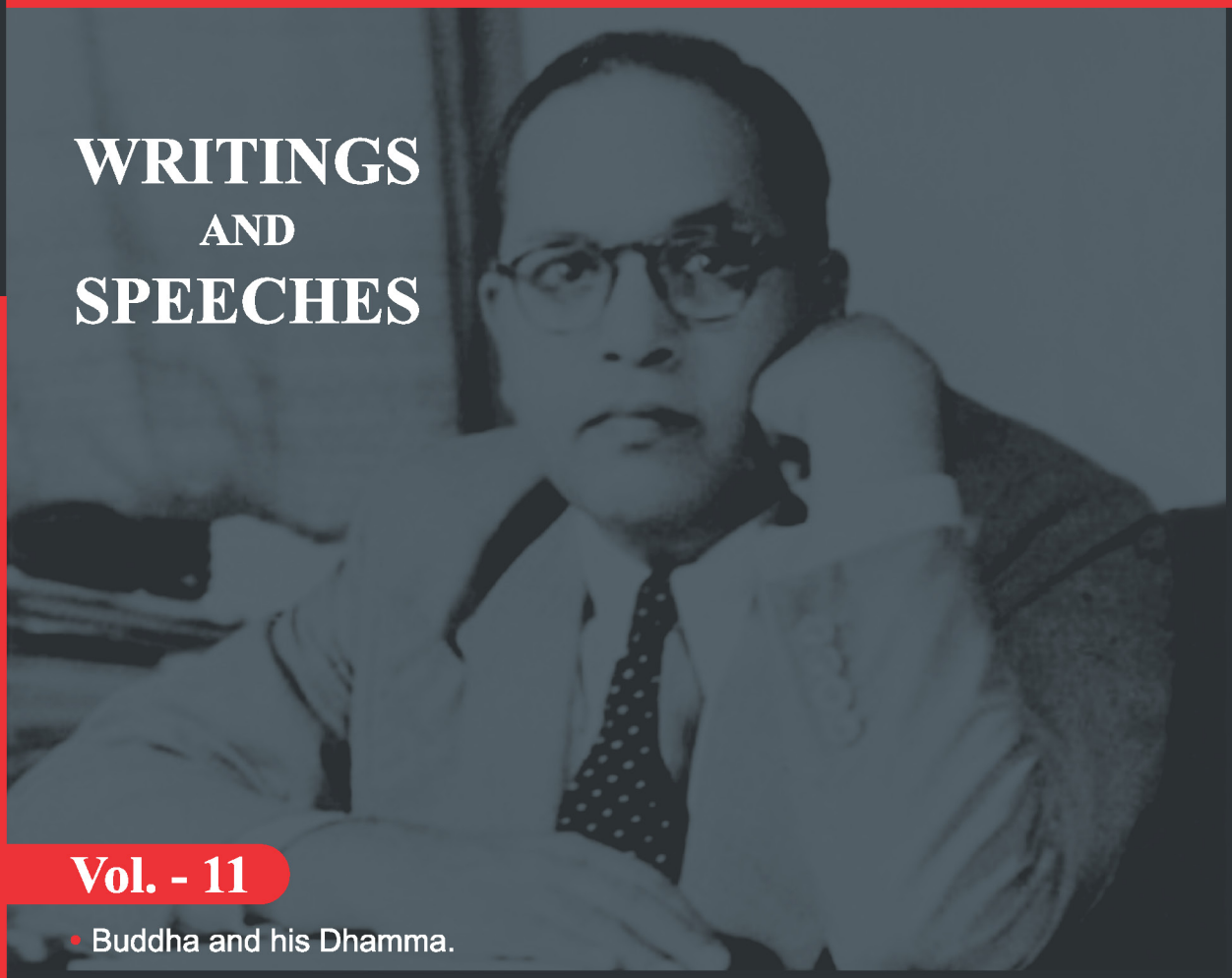
DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR

WRITINGS AND SPEECHES

DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR



WRITINGS AND SPEECHES

Vol. - 11

- Buddha and his Dhamma.

DR. AMBEDKAR FOUNDATION
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
(14th April 1891 - 6th December 1956)

DR. BABASAHEB AMBEDKAR
WRITINGS AND SPEECHES

Volume No. : 11

Dr. Ambedkar Foundation
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Govt. of India

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar : Writings and Speeches

Volume No. : 11

First Edition: Education Department, Govt. of Maharashtra: 14 April, 1979
First Re-Printed by Dr. Ambedkar Foundation: Jan, 2014
Second Re-Printed by Dr. Ambedkar Foundation: August, 2019

Third Re-Printed by Dr. Ambedkar Foundation: August, 2020

ISBN: 978-93-5109-182-0

Cover Design: Dr. Debendra Prasad Majhi, Ph.D.

Monogram used on the Cover page is taken from Babasaheb
Dr. Ambedkar's Letterhead.

© Courtesy: Secretary, Education Department, Government of Maharashtra.

ISBN (Set): 978-93-5109-171-4

Discounted Price: One Set of 1 to 17 Volumes (20 Books): Rs. 2250/-
Discount Policy Annexed.

Publisher:

Dr. Ambedkar Foundation
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment,
Govt. of India
15, Janpath, New Delhi – 110 001
Phone: 011-23320571
Public Relation Officer : 011-23320588
Email: cwbadaf17@gmail.com
Website: http://drambedkarwritings.gov.in

The Education Department, Government of Maharashtra, Bombay-400032.
For Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Source Material Publication Committee

Printer:
M/s Aravali Printers & Publishers Pvt. Ltd., W-30, Okhala Phase – 2, New Delhi – 110020

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MESSAGE

Babasaheb Dr. B.R.Ambedkar, the first Law Minister of Independent India and the Chief Architect of the Indian Constitution, is also remembered and admired as a nationalist, statesman, sociologist, philosopher, anthropologist, historian, economist, jurist, a prolific writer and a powerful orator.

To celebrate Birth Centenary of Babasaheb Dr. B.R.Ambedkar in a befitting manner, a National Centenary Celebrations Committee was constituted during the year 1990-91 with the then Hon'ble Prime Minister as its Chairman. Dr. Ambedkar Foundation was established by the Government of India under the aegis of the then Ministry of Welfare (now Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment) with the objective to promote Babasaheb's ideals and also to administer some of the schemes which emanated from the Centenary Celebrations.

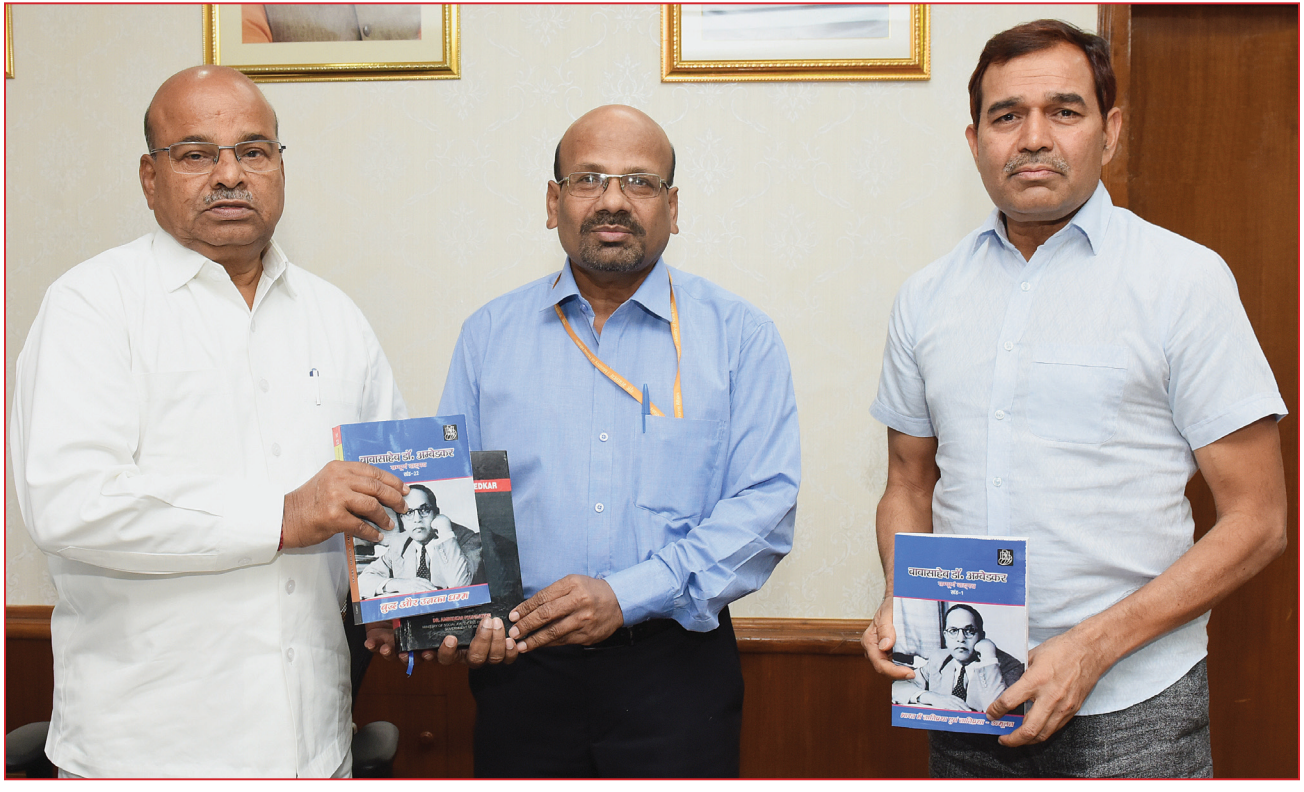
During these Celebrations, the Ministries and Departments of Government of India and State and Union Territory Governments had organized number of Programmes and had announced various Schemes. The Government of Maharashtra had also organized number of Programmes/Schemes and gave fillip to its project on compilation of Dr. Ambedkar Works viz. 'Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Writings and Speeches'. Dr. Ambedkar Foundation was also entrusted with the project of translation and publication of Dr. Ambedkar's Works by Government of Maharashtra, into Hindi and various regional languages. The Foundation also brought English versions of CWBA Volumes and keeping in view the demand for these Volumes (English), they have now been re-printed.

Dr. Ambedkar's writings are relevant today also as they were at the time these were penned. I am sure, the readers would be enriched by his thoughts. The Foundation would be thankful for any inputs or suggestions about these Volumes.

6-8-19

(Dr. Thaawarchand Gehlot)

CWBA VOLUMES RELEASE



The Complete Sets of Collected Works of Babasaheb Dr. Ambedkar, popularly known as CWBA / सम्पूर्ण वाङ्मय, in Hindi and English, being released by Dr. Thaawarchand Gehlot, Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India and Chairman, Dr. Ambedkar Foundation at New Delhi. Dr. Debendra Prasad Majhi, Director of the Foundation and Sh. Surendra Singh, Member Secretary were also present on the occasion. The Volumes in Hindi (Vol. 22 to Vol. 40) have been published for the first time in 2019.

सत्यमेव जयते

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Dr. Debendra P. Majhi
निदेशक
Director

PREFACE

Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was an erudite personality, a symbol of knowledge and a great son of India. He was a public intellectual, social revolutionary and a prolific communicator. He has left behind thought provoking writings and speeches bearing interdisciplinary perspectives, with insightful analysis of socio-political situations which evoke intellectual reasons and emotions. His writings are having profound sense of justice manifested in emancipation of marginalized masses. He not only dedicated his life for ameliorating the conditions of deprived sections of the society, but his views on inclusiveness and *"Samajik Samrasta"* continue inspiring national endeavor. It is expected that these Volumes may provide contemporary relevance of his thought and open up the possibilities of rethinking Dr. Ambedkar in the present day context.

The mandate of Dr. Ambedkar Foundation, inter-alia, include implementation of programmes and furthering the ideology and message of Babasaheb Dr. Ambedkar among the masses in India as well as abroad. It is a matter of great happiness that consequent upon a decision by the Governing Body of the Foundation Chaired by Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, the Foundation is getting the third edition of Collected Works of Babasaheb Ambedkar (CWBA) Volumes, reprinted on popular demand of the readers.

It is informed for the benefit of all concerned that the Foundation always endeavors to make the Volumes available to the readers at an affordable price, and accordingly, it has also been decided to continue with the discount policy as per the past practices on Sale of Volumes. The discount policy of the Foundation has been annexed with each Volume. It is hoped that the Volumes will continue to be source of inspirations for the readers.

15, Janpath,
New Delhi

(Dr. Debendra Prasad Majhi)

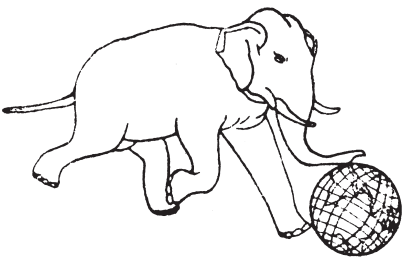
THE BUDDHA
AND
HIS DHAMMA

By

B. R. AMBEDKAR

M.A., Ph.D., D.Sc., LL.D., D. Litt., Barrister-at-Law

SIDDHARTH COLLEGE PUBLICATION: I
1957



THE BUDDHA
AND
HIS DHAMMA

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DISCOUNT POLICY ON SALE OF VOLUMES

PROLOGUE

"FROM time to time men find themselves forced to reconsider current and inherited beliefs and ideas, to gain some harmony between present and past experience, and to reach a position which shall satisfy the demands of feeling and reflexion and give confidence for facing the future. If, at the present day, religion, as a subject of critical or scientific inquiry, of both practical and theoretical significance has attracted increasing attention, this can be ascribed to (*a*) the rapid progress of scientific knowledge and thought; (*b*) the deeper intellectual interest in the subject; (*c*) the widespread tendencies in all parts of the world to reform or reconstruct religion, or even to replace it by some body of thought, more 'rational' and 'scientific' or less 'superstitious'; and (*d*) the effect of social, political, and international events of a sort which, in the past, have both influenced and been influenced by religion. Whenever the ethical or moral value of activities or conditions is questioned, the value of religion is involved; and all deep-stirring experiences invariably compel a reconsideration of the most fundamental ideas, whether they are explicitly religious or not. Ultimately there arise problems of justice, human destiny, God, and the universe; and these in turn involve problems of the relation between 'religious' and other ideas, the validity of ordinary knowledge, and practicable conceptions of 'experience' and 'reality.'

—From "Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics," Vol. X, p. 669.

BOOK I

Siddharth Gautama—How a Bodhisatta became the Buddha

Part I—From Birth to Parivraja
Part II—Renunciation for Ever
Part III—In Search of New Light
Part IV—Enlightenment and the Vision of a New Way
Part V—The Buddha and His Predecessors
Part VI—The Buddha and His Contemporaries
Part VII—Comparison and Contrast

PART I

From Birth to Parivraja

1. His Kula
2. His Ancestry
3. His Birth
4. Visit by Asita
5. Death of Mahamaya
6. Childhood and Education
7. Early Traits
8. Marriage
9. Father's Plans to Save His Son
10. The Failure of the Women to Win the Prince
11. The Prime Minister's Admonition to the Prince
12. The Prince's Reply to the Prime Minister
13. Initiation into the Sakya Sangh
14. Conflict with the Sangh
15. Offer of Exile
16. Parivraja—the Way Out
17. Parting Words
18. Leaving His Home
19. The Prince and the Servant
20. The Return of Channa
21. The Family in Mourning