

Seminar
On
Ambedkar's Annihilation of Caste and Its Relevance in Contemporary India
Organised by
Ambedkar Centre for Social and Cultural Studies, Gour Mahavidyalaya
On
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Speaker: Shiveshwar Kundu, Assistant Professor, Jangipur College, University of Kalyani

Concept Note and Objective of the Seminar

Ambedkar's Annihilation of Caste is a seminal document on the discourse on social justice and empowerment of marginalised social groups in India. It invited heated debate and exchanges since its publication and it is brought into any discussion on the question of caste in contemporary India. This seminar proposes to discuss the text and its arguments and analyse their relevance in contemporary India. The objective of the seminar can be summarised as follows-

1. To acquaint the students with the ideas of B R Ambedkar on social justice
2. To make the students aware of the relevance of *Ambedkar's Annihilation of Caste* in contemporary India.
3. To generate discussion among the students about the annihilation of caste in contemporary India.

Outcome of the seminar

The seminar on *Ambedkar's Annihilation of Caste* was a huge success as the students listened to the deliberation by Dr Kundu attentively and enthusiastically participated in the discussion after the talk. There were many students sitting on the floor and this speaks volume about their enthusiasm to understand Ambedkar's ideas on caste. The students asked questions and through the interactions had a clear idea about Ambedkar's views on the ways to annihilate caste. They also got to know about the Ambedkar-Gandhi debate surrounding this text and the different views of Gandhi and Ambedkar on fighting the menace of caste in Indian society. The seminar, we can boldly say, achieved its stated objective of raising consciousness about social justice and elimination of caste in India.



