
Report of National Seminar on “Ambedkar’s Vision for Social and Economic Democracy” organized by the Department of Humanities & Social Sciences

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Thu, Dec 18, 2025 at 9:21 AM

**REPORT OF NATIONAL SEMINAR
ON
“AMBEDKAR’S VISION FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY”**
Organized by
Department of Humanities & Social Sciences
Integral University, Lucknow
April 21–22, 2025 (Online Mode)

The Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, Integral University, Lucknow, organized a **two-day National Seminar on “Ambedkar’s Vision for Social and Economic Democracy”** in online mode on **April 21–22, 2025**, to commemorate the **135th Birth Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. B. R. Ambedkar**.

The seminar aimed to revisit Dr. Ambedkar’s philosophy of justice, equality, and democracy, analyzing its relevance in addressing the socio-economic and political challenges of contemporary India. It provided a vibrant academic platform for scholars, faculty, and students to engage with Ambedkarite thought from interdisciplinary perspectives.

Day 1: April 21, 2025**Session 1: Inaugural Session (11:00 AM)**

The inaugural session commenced with a welcome address by **Prof. (Dr.) Zeba Aqil**, Head, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences. She highlighted the seminar’s theme, emphasizing the relevance of Ambedkar’s vision for building an inclusive and equitable society in the 21st century.

Keynote/Inaugural Address

Prof. Y. S. Alone (Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi) delivered the keynote lecture. His thought-provoking address engaged with Ambedkar’s philosophy of aesthetics, emancipation, and radical democracy. Prof. Alone argued that Ambedkar’s intellectual legacy provides a powerful framework for dismantling caste hierarchies and advancing social equity.

Guest Lecture

Prof. Muneesh Kumar Verma (University of Lucknow) presented the guest lecture, focusing on education as a liberating force in Ambedkar’s vision. He underlined Ambedkar’s belief that education is the foundation of empowerment, equality, and social mobility.

The session concluded with a **vote of thanks** by **Dr. Anshal Ali Tiger** (Assistant Professor, History & Co-convener).

Session 2: Technical Session I (1:30 PM – 3:30 PM)

The post-lunch technical session witnessed **paper presentations by research scholars and faculty** from diverse institutions across India. The presentations covered themes such as caste and class in India, Ambedkar's critique of capitalism, gender and democracy, constitutional morality, and grassroots movements inspired by Ambedkarite philosophy. The session generated rich dialogue and critical engagement with contemporary interpretations of Ambedkar's ideas.

Day 2: April 22, 2025

Session 1:

Day 2 began with an invited lecture by **Dr. Ayaz Ahmad**, Associate Professor and **Fulbright Visiting Scholar at Columbia University, New York (USA)**. His talk located Ambedkar's vision within a global framework of justice and human rights. Dr. Ahmad highlighted Ambedkar's universal relevance, drawing connections between his anti-caste struggle and worldwide movements for equality, democracy, and dignity.

Valedictory Session

The valedictory session began with **Welcome Remarks by Dr. Anshal Ali Tiger**. A **brief report of the two-day seminar** was presented by **Dr. Anas Jameel**, who summarized the major sessions, lectures, and contributions. This was followed by **Reflections from Participants**, who shared their learning experiences and praised the seminar's successful conduct. Finally, **Dr. Zeeshan Warsi** delivered the **Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks**, acknowledging the contributions of the Vice-Chancellor, Registrar, speakers, participants, organizing team, and technical support staff. He emphasized that Ambedkar's vision of liberty, equality, and fraternity must continue to guide scholars and policymakers.

The Department of Humanities & Social Sciences expresses sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Chancellor, Integral University, **Prof. S. W. Akhtar**, for his constant support and guidance; Hon'ble Pro-Chancellor, Prof. **Syed Nadeem Akhtar**, for his encouragement; Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, **Prof. Javed Musarrat**, for his continued motivation; and Registrar, **Prof. (Dr.) Mohd Haris Siddiqui**, for his support. The Department also extends heartfelt thanks to the distinguished speakers—**Prof. Y. S. Alone, Prof. Muneesh Kumar Verma, and Dr. Ayaz Ahmad**—for their valuable contributions, as well as to **Prof. Zeba Aqil**, Head of Department, for her leadership and inspiration. Special appreciation is conveyed to the **Convenors—Dr. Zeeshan Warsi, Dr. Anshal Ali Tiger, and Dr. Anas Jameel**—for their dedicated efforts, along with the technical staff, volunteers, and all participants for their enthusiastic involvement, which contributed immensely to the success of the event.





Regards
Prof. Zeba Aqil,
Head,
Humanities and Social Sciences,
Integral University, Lucknow