## The Original Author of the Indian Constitution and the Regressive Politics of Protecting the Constitution

## - Arun Prakash

In 1947, when the British rulers / imperialists announced the independence of India, the communist party of India termed this independence as pseudo independence. The party raised a slogan - This freedom is pseudo and the people of the country are hungry. Shaheed Bhagat Singh, while evaluating the struggle for freedombeing run by the congress had said that the way in which the Congress is running the movement leads it to an end inevitably with a compromise. If instead of Lord Reading, Purushottam Das and Tej Bahadur Sapru come in place of Lord Irwin; it will make no difference to the people of the country and the exploitation, oppression on them will continue.

To run the Governance system of Independent India, a constituent Assembly was entrusted with two functions – 1. To frame a constitution for India and 2. To act as Parliament until parliament is constituted. The participation of the representatives of the general public in this Constituent Assembly was negligible. It's first meeting was held in December, 1946; which was presided over by Dr. Sachchidanand Sinha. The representatives of the Muslim League are not included in this meeting. Its second meeting was held on 11, December 1946 under the Chairman-ship of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, in which representatives of the Muslim League demanded the formation of separate constituent Assembly for Pakistan, this assembly has to be reconstituted on 6th November, 1949. Out of 299 members, 284 members were present and signed the constitution of Independent India. After this it was partially implemented. By the way, in text book, the date of formation of the constitution as told as 26th November 1949 and the date of its implementation as 26th January, 1950.

Most of the people of India have been informed that Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar framed the constitution. But the fact is that prem Narayan Raizaaada Vurf Prem Bihari wrote it in English with his own hand. This work took him total 6 months time and while writing 432 Pen nibs worn out. This manuscript is of 233 pages weighing 13 kilograms. The artists of Shanti Niketan decorated every page of the constitution including the cover with their beautiful art.

The Hindi Translation of the constitution was prepared by Vasanth Krishna Vaidya; which is 264 pages and weighs 14 kilograms. Its handmade paper is made from Pune research center. Vasanth Krishna Vaidya is a calligrapher. Prem Bihari did not take any salary in lieu of writing the constitution. But he kept a condition that he would write his signature on every page and his name and his grandfather's name on the last page.

Jawaharlal Nehru himself had given Prem Bihare the responsibility of writing the constitution.

The manuscript of the constitution is in black leather cover, on which gold workmanship has been done. The English and Hindi manuscripts are kept in two special boxes in the Parliament Library. Nitrogen gas is filled in both these boxes so that the manuscripts will not be damaged. These two Special boxes of transparent glass were ordered and brought from a Company in California, USA.

In this Constitution, the president gave a flag bearing the emblems of the Lion Pillar and Lotus urn of Sarnath, the Elephant of the Ajantha Caves and the (Balance) scales of the Red Fort. Lion Pillar, Lotus urn, Elephant and Scales are the Symbols of Unity, Prosperity, Bravery and Power and Economy and Justice respectively. This flag was hoisted on 6<sup>th</sup> January 1950 at the president's Darbar Bhawan by taking down the Governor General's flag ie. Independence was achieved on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1947 but the British Governor General's flag continued to be hoisted till 26<sup>th</sup> January 1950 at Rashtrapathi Bawan.

The room where the Constitution was drawn up became the Constitution Club. Lord Mountbatten, the last viceroy of India, (From 12 February 1947 to 15 August 1947) served as the first Governor General of Independent India from 15th August 1947 to 21st June 1948. After this, C. Rajagopala Chari became the Governor General from 22nd June 1948 to 1950. He also became the founder of the Swatantra Party in 1959. The constitutional appointment of Dr. Rajendra Prasad as the first president of India. after C. Rajagopala chari, he was then elected on 13 May 1952 as president after the first general election (which was held on 25th October 1951 to 21st February 1952) the oath of office of the president was administered.

Lakshmi, daughter of C. Rajagopala Chari was married to Devdas Gandhi, the youngest son of Mahatma Gandhi. In this way, he was the co-father-in-law of Mahatma Gandhi.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the Chairman of this Constitutional Assembly and Dr.Bhimrao Ambedkar was made the Chairman of its drafting Committee. Apart from Ambedkar, 6 other members were also included in the drafting Committee. Its preamble was started with "We, the people of India". The main points of this preamble are as follows:-

- a. Justice, Equality, Liberty and Fraternity were included in it.
- b. India was declared as a full sovereign and Democratic Republic.
- c. During the Emergency in 1976, through 42<sup>nd</sup> amendment, Socialist and secular terms were added in the Preamble; thus making India Socialist Country.

In Part III of the Constitution, some fundamental rights were provided to the common citizens of the country. The first amendment of the constitution was done during the Nehru government on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1951. Through this amendment, fundamental rights like "right of expression" and "Equality before Law" were made limited. So far more than one hundred amendments have been made to this constitution.

Dr. Ambedkar is considered as the writer of this constitution and his lifesize statues are installed at many cross roads and junctions with the book of this constitution in his hand. But, the fact is that Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar himself talked about burning of this constitution on the occasions in Rajya Sabha in 1953 and 1955.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1953, about three and half years after the constitution, came into force, he said - "My friends! Tell me that I made the constitution. But I am quite prepared to say that I shall be the first person to burn it. I do not want it. It does not suit any body. But whatever that may be if our people want to carry on, that there are majorities and minorities; and they simply cannot ignore the minorities by saying: 'Oh no. To recognize you is to harm democracy". After this, on March 19th 1955, in the Rajya Sabha Dr. Anoop Singh highlighted his statement when the fourth amendment of the Constitution was being discussed. Through this amendment the Constitution protects citizens against unreasonable searches and siezures. No search of a person's home or personal effects may be conducted without a written search a warrant issued a probable cause. Then Ambedkar replied, "Do you want a reply to that? I would give it to you right here. My friend says that the last time when I spoke, I said that I wanted to burnt the constitution. Well, in a hurry I did not explain the reason. Now that my friend has given the opportunity, I think I shall give the reason. The reason is this: We built a temple for a god to come in and reside, but before the god could be installed if the devil had taken possesion of it, what else could we do except detroy the temple? We did not intend that it should be occupied by the Asuras. We intended it to be occupied by the Devas. That is the reason why I said I would rather like to burn it".

In fact, the bourgeois democracy which was formed in our country under this constitution has been captured by the imperialist exploiting class. They have been looting the hard earned money of the working people of the country from the time the constitution came into force to till today. Whether it is the rule of Congress or Janata Party, UPA, NDA any joint coalition, common people have been looted of their hard earned money. They have been forced to live in poverty and torn apart, on the other hand, the looters like Tata, Birla, Ambani and Adani become rich. "Today poverty and hunger are at peak in India and on the other side the number of billionaires are also increasing rapidly.

But it is surprising that in recent years slogans of "Jai Bhim, Lal Salam" are being raised while making Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar equal to Karl Marx. It was started by the leftist student's organizations of JNU. Today this slogan is being raised by most of the Naxalite groups in the country. Right now an unprecedented and historical farmers movement is going on in our country. The leadership group of this movement includes many leaders of the Leftist and Naxalbari streams. They also celebrated on 14th April the birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar as save the constitution day".

Raising slogans of Jai Bhim, Lal Salam, Celebrating Constitution, Save the Constitution Day" is definitely a retrograde step of Indian Leftism and Revolutionary Politics. It is the misfortune of the country that today most of the revolutionary forces are trying to Save the ruling classes by saying "Save the Country" and "Save India" in the name of Saving

the Constitution and Democracy. In this scenario, Communists of the revolutionary stream of India should popularize the slogans of Lal Salam, Inquilab Zindabad and make a strong demand for the formation of a new Constituent Assembly to make a people's constitution.