



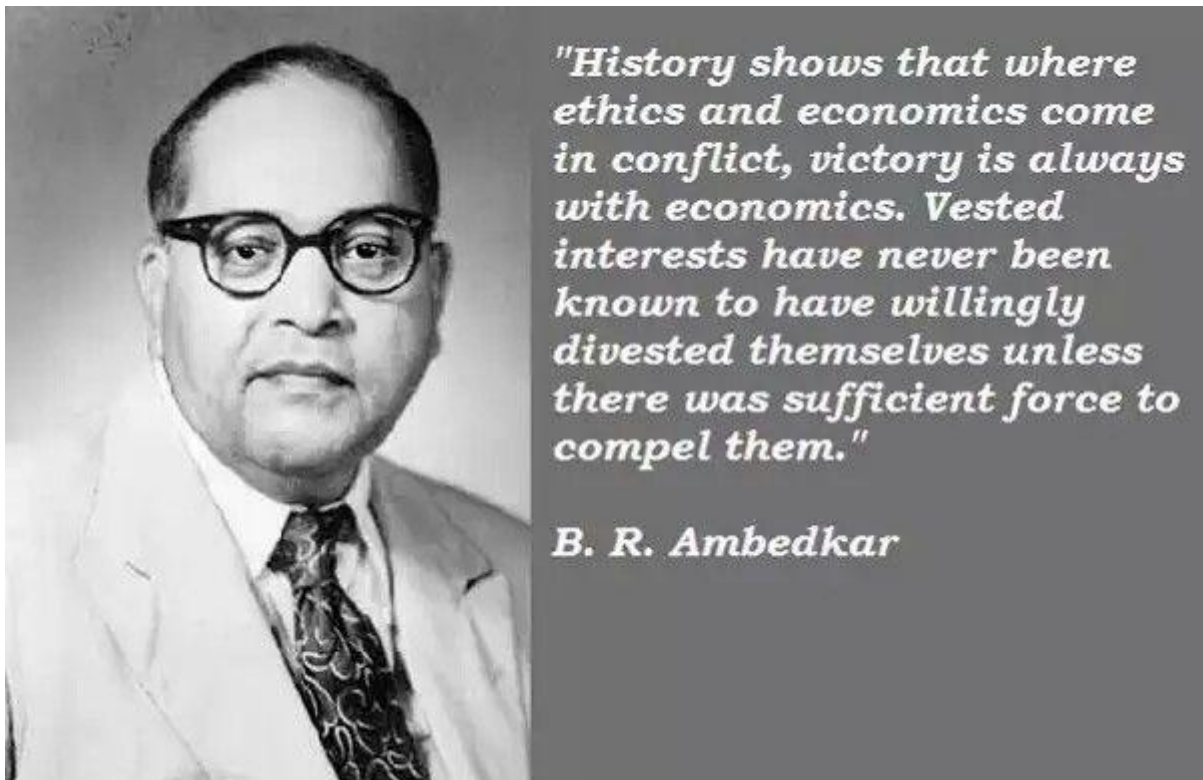
SRM
UNIVERSITY
DELHI-NCR, SONEPAT

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Chair
CALL FOR CHAPTERS

proposed Book on

Economic Justice and Public Finance for Social Change

An Appraisal in the light of Dr. Ambedkar's Vision



Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, celebrated as the principal architect of the Indian Constitution and a champion of social justice, was also a profound economist whose contributions to public finance and economic policy remain relevant today. His writings offer a roadmap for integrating economic justice into policymaking, underscoring how finance and governance can work as tools for societal transformation. His economic thought was driven by a profound commitment to uplift the marginalized sections of society, particularly the Dalits, while addressing the structural inequities inherent in India's economic framework. He viewed economic justice as an indispensable component of social justice, believing that without the former, the latter could never be realized. His vision remains relevant to contemporary discussions about equitable growth and sustainable development.

Ambedkar's understanding of economic justice was deeply rooted in his critique of the existing socio-economic structures. He saw caste-based discrimination as not only a social but also an economic handicap that curtailed opportunities for a large segment of the population. By focusing on economic empowerment, he sought to dismantle the nexus between caste and economic deprivation. For Ambedkar, the path to economic justice necessitated structural changes in land ownership, labor rights, and resource distribution.

One of his notable contributions to the economic discourse was his emphasis on land reforms. Ambedkar recognized that the agrarian economy of India was dominated by small and fragmented landholdings, which hampered productivity and perpetuated poverty among rural farmers. He advocated for the consolidation of land holdings and state management of agriculture to ensure efficient utilization of resources. Additionally, he argued for the redistribution of land to eliminate the economic hierarchy sustained by the caste system.

Industrialization was another pillar of Ambedkar's economic thought. He believed that transitioning from an agrarian economy to an industrialized one was essential for reducing dependency on agriculture and creating new avenues for employment. This shift, he argued, would not only improve economic output but also break the stranglehold of traditional caste-based occupations. Ambedkar's vision for industrialization was inclusive, prioritizing fair wages, social security, and safe working conditions for laborers. He laid the groundwork for several protective labor legislations that continue to shape India's labor policies.

Public finance and taxation were central to Ambedkar's idea of an equitable economy. He championed progressive taxation, where the rich would contribute a higher share of their income, thereby reducing wealth disparities. He was also vocal about channeling public expenditure into social welfare programs such as education, health, and housing for the marginalized communities, which he saw as investments in human capital.

Ambedkar's foresight extended to monetary policy and financial governance. His work on the problem of the Indian currency, particularly his critique of the gold standard, highlighted his analytical prowess. His advocacy for a central banking institution led to the establishment of the Reserve Bank of India, underscoring his role in shaping the country's monetary systems. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's *The Problem of the Rupee: Its Origin and Its Solution* is a seminal work that established his stature as a formidable economist. Published in 1923 as part of his doctoral thesis at the London School of Economics, the book critically examines India's monetary system and offers solutions for stabilizing the rupee while fostering economic growth.

At the core of Ambedkar's economic vision was his belief in equality of opportunity. He sought an India where economic hierarchies based on birth would be dismantled, enabling individuals to rise on the basis of merit and effort. Ambedkar's vision of economic and social justice remains a guiding light for policymakers striving for inclusive growth and equality in the modern era.

This book aims to explore his vision, translating his ideas into actionable insights for modern challenges like wealth inequality, agrarian distress, economic marginalization, etc. *Volume 6 of the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar: Writings and Speeches* explores his pioneering insights into the economic and financial policies vital for India's development. Ambedkar's scholarship in this domain is rooted in his formal education in economics and reflects a deep commitment to addressing economic inequality and empowering marginalized sections of society.

Target Audience:

- Academics and researchers in economics, public policy, history, and social justice.
- Policymakers and public finance practitioners.
- Readers interested in Indian history, Ambedkar's legacy, and socio-economic development.

Objectives of the Book:

1. To present Dr. Ambedkar's ideas on economy and public finance in a comprehensive and accessible format.
2. To analyze their relevance and application in addressing contemporary economic and social challenges.
3. To provide a multi-disciplinary perspective on his contributions, combining history, economics, and political theory.

Contributions from eminent scholars in economics, law, history, and public policy can be invited for specific chapters or sections.

PROPOSED THEMES OF THE CHAPTERS: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, a towering intellectual and visionary leader, made profound contributions to shaping the discourse on economic justice and public finance in India. This edited volume invites contributions that analyze his enduring vision and its relevance to contemporary challenges in achieving social change.

We welcome submissions addressing themes that connect Ambedkar's philosophy to public finance, economic structures, and pathways for social transformation. Proposed topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

I. Economic Justice: Theoretical and Historical Perspectives

1. Ambedkar's Idea of Economic Justice: Bridging Theory and Practice
2. Caste, Class, and Economic Inequalities: Historical Reflections
3. Colonial Economic Policies and Ambedkar's Critique
4. Economic Democracy: Dr. Ambedkar's Blueprint for India

II. Ambedkar's Vision of Public Finance

5. State and Fiscal Responsibility in Dr. Ambedkar's Writings
 6. Taxation as a Tool for Economic Redistribution
 7. Role of Budgets in Advancing Social Welfare
 8. Public Expenditure for Inclusive Development: An Ambedkarite Perspective
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III. Caste and Economy

9. The Economic Costs of Caste: Analysis of Systemic Discrimination
 10. Economic Reforms to Address Caste-Based Inequalities
 11. Labor, Occupations, and Caste: The Path to Economic Dignity
 12. Gender and Economic Justice in Ambedkar's Vision
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IV. Natural Resources and Economic Development

13. Ambedkar's Insights on Land Reform and Agrarian Policy
 14. Mineral Resources, Taxation, and Revenue Sharing
 15. Public Ownership vs. Privatization: Ambedkar's Views on Resource Management
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V. Global and Contemporary Relevance

16. Global Perspectives on Ambedkar's Economic Vision
 17. Achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Ambedkarite Policies
 18. Economic Justice in the Digital Age: Opportunities and Challenges
 19. Ambedkar's Legacy in the Era of Globalization
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VI. Policies, Institutions, and Reforms

20. The Role of the Constitution in Achieving Economic Justice
21. Social Security Systems and Ambedkar's Vision of Equity
22. Financial Inclusion and Economic Upliftment: Policy Challenges
23. Challenges in Implementing Ambedkar's Vision for Public Finance Today

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Original contributions are invited which has not been submitted elsewhere for publication.

Send the contributions in a word document typed in Times New Roman 12-point font, and up to 6,000-8,000 words per chapter. Citation style – APA (<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/references/examples>)

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Abstract Submission Deadline: **1st March 2025**
- Notification of Acceptance: 15th March 2025
- Full Chapter Submission Deadline: 12th April 2025
- Symposium (Hybrid Mode) on Accepted Chapters – **April 14th 2025**

(Book is proposed to be published and released on the occasion of Mahaparinirvan Diwas 2025)

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Dr. Vijay Kumar Singh, Professor and Dean at Faculty of Law, SRM University, Delhi-NCR Sonapat Haryana is the Professor in-charge of *Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Chair* of the SRM University. Dr. Singh is a doctorate in law with degrees in science and management. He has worked with the Government of India (CCI and IICA) for about eight years. He has authored several articles and works on contemporary areas of law and policy.

Book with ISBN Number shall be published with a reputed publisher. Authors of accepted chapters will be invited for a symposium to be held in hybrid mode.

If you have any queries, please reach out to us at

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