

THE UNTOUCHABLES

WHO WERE THEY ?
AND WHY THEY ?
BECAME UNTOUCHABLES :

BY
DR. B. R. AMBEDKAR

AMRIT BOOK CO.,
CONNAUGHT CIRCUS
NEW DELHI

Serialized by
DECCAN BOOK STALL,
PUNE 4

FIRST PUBLISHED, OCTOBER 1948

PRINTED BY AMAR CHANDRA AT RAJHANS PRESS, DELHI, AND PUBLISHED
BY AMRIT DHAR NULLAY, MG. PROPRIETOR, AMRIT BOOK CO., NEW DELHI.

THE UNTOUCHABLES

Inscribed to the memory of

NANDNAR

RAVIDAS

CHOKHAMELA

THREE RENOWNED SAINTS WHO WERE BORN
AMONG THE UNTOUCHABLES AND WHO
BY THEIR PIETY AND VIRTUE WON THE ESTEEM OF ALL

CONTENTS

PREFACE i—viii

PART I

A Comparative Survey

Chapter	Page
I. Untouchability Among Non-Hindus.	1
II. Untouchability Among Hindus.	11

PART II

Problem of Habitat,

III. Why do the Untouchables live outside the Village ?	25
IV. Are the Untouchables Broken Men ?	32
V. Are there Parallel cases ?	35
VI. How did Separate Settlements for Broken Men disappear elsewhere ?	39

PART III

Old Theories of the Origin of Untouchability.

VII. Racial Difference as the Origin of Untouchability.	43
VIII. Occupational Origin of Untouchability.	65

PART IV

New Theories of the Origin of Untouchability.

IX. Contempt for Buddhism as the Root of Untouchability.	71
X. Beef-eating as the Root of Untouchability.	80

PART V

The New Theories and some Hard Questions.

XI.	Did the Hindus never Eat Beef?	...	86
XII.	Why did Non-Brahmins give up Beef-eating?	94
XIII.	What made the Brahmins become Vegetarians?	100
XIV.	Why should Beef-eating make Broken Men Untouchables?	122

PART VI

Untouchability and the Date of its Birth.

XV.	The Impure and The Untouchables.	...	131
XVI.	When did Broken Men Become Untouchables?	143
INDEX	156

INDEX

- | A | D |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Abbe Dubois 75 | Damila and Damilla 58 |
| Aghnya, definition and meaning 86 | Dasas 47 |
| Annals of Rajasthan 54 f.n. | Dasyus 57 |
| Antyaja 32, 33 | Defilement |
| -communities included in the | -causes of 1, 4, 7, 10-11 |
| term 81, 133, 136 | Notional and physical 13 |
| Antyas 136, 137 | Dom 60 f.n. |
| Antyavasin 137 | Dravidians -51 |
| Apararka 77 | |
| Ashvalayam-Grahya Sutra 91 | E |
| Asoka, edicts 95, 94, 110 | Egypt 8 |
| Asuras, language of 56 | |
| Atreya Brahmana, directions on | F |
| the animal sacrifice in Yajna | Fah-Hian 148 |
| 100-110 | Fuidhirs 36, 38 |
| | |
| B | G |
| Balakrishna Nair 53 | Ghurey 59 |
| Bahyas 135 | Goethe- |
| Bana 149, 153 | on historian's duty Pref. v. vi. |
| Bhandarkar, D. R. 120 | Gorky, Pref. viii. |
| Beef-eating and untouchability | Gotra and Kula 63, 64 |
| 80-128, 155 | Greeks - |
| Brahmans and Beef-eating 99, 121 | conception of causes of impurity 8 |
| Brahmi 57 | |
| Broken Men | H |
| -problem of 29 | Hebrews 10 |
| -among settled tribes 32-34 | Hemingsway 75 |
| -evolution into untouchables | Hereditary Untouchables |
| 76-82, 122 | -schedule of 14-20 |
| Brihadratha 146-47 | Hinas 136 |
| Buhler 146 | Holiar 75 |
| | |
| C | K |
| Caldwell 57 | Kadambari 149 |
| Chandalas 138, 145, 148, 149, | -description of Chandala settle- |
| 153, 154 | ment and Chandala girl 149-153 |
| Chaturvarna 66, 135, 147 | |
| Cow-killing 88, 89, 92, 119-121 | |

Kāne
—history of Dharmasastra 81 f.n.
87, 115 f.n.

Kaupoia
—purificatory ceremony of
Greeks 8

Kielhorn 54

Kirate
—origin and application 54

L

Lichavis 53

Lustratio pagi 9

M

Mahapataka
—moral sin 120

Mahapataka
—Gupta inscriptions on evolu-
tion into 121

Mahars 15, 33-34, 60, 64, 126, 128

Madhuparaka
—use and composition of 88-89

Manu
—on Chandalas 25-26, 139
—Smṛiti-date of 146-147, recog-
nition of pollution 11, 76, 97,
110, 11-115, 135, 139

Mansabari 94

Mlecha 56

Mukerjee, R. K. 98

Mricchakatika
—scenes depicting hatred of
Buddhists by Hindus 77-78

Muir 56

Mundas 4

N

Narada, Smṛiti 65

Nagas 47-53

Newars 53

New Zealand, untouchability in 8

O

Oldham, C. F.

—on Dravidians 52, 55

Orders-in-Council

—Schedule of hereditary untou-
chables in India attached to
the Government of India Act
of 1935, 14-20

P

Paisachi, language and countries 56

Panchagavya 13

Panchasaradiya Seva
—a kind of sacrifice 88

Pollution 5-8, 10

—territorial and communal 13

Prayaschit Mayukha 76

Pushyamitra Sunga 146

R

Rama Tarkavagisa 57

Rice, Mr Stanley 43 45

Risley 63

Roman, notion of pollution 9

S

Saivites 94

Salindra 53

Sarya 54

Scavenging, among Aryans 66

Scheduled Castes, Government of
India List,

—Madras 14-15

—Bombay 15

—Bengal 15-16

—U. P. 16-17

—Punjab 17

—Bihar 17

—C. P. & Berar 17-19

—Assam 19

—Orissa 20

Savarnas 145

Segregation, period and range 7

Shakabari 94

Slavery, among Aryans 65-68, 63
f. n. 1.

Smith (Vincent) 98, 120

Societies—

—Untouchability in primitive
3-10, 21-22

—Evolution of 29-30

T

- Tamil castes, according to nasal index 61, 62
 Takhya, identification of 54
 Thurston, order of castes 61
 Todas 5
 Tarde (Gabriel) 99
 Totem
 —Equivalent to Gotra in prim. societies 63
 Tribes, nomadic and settled 28-29

U

- Untouchability
 —occupational theory 145
 —racial theory 43-64

V

- Vaishnavites. 94
 Vedanta Sutra 115
 Vedavyasa Smriti 81
 Vegetarianism and Brahmins 100-121

W

- Walters (Thomas) 118

Y

- Yajnavalkya 92
 Yuan Chwang 118, 154
 Yupa, its descriptions 101