



Ambedkar Times

Weekly

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VOL- 15

ISSUE- 16

June 28, 2023

California (USA)

www.ambedkartimes.com

www.deshdoaba.com

Remembering Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj on 121st year of 50 % Reservation for the Dalits and Backward Classes

Prem K. Chumber

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Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj was one of the earliest pioneer-saviours of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes who, for the first time in the history of the country, implemented 50 percent of reservation for



the Dalits and Backward Classes in government jobs and education institutions. He also facilitated the entry of the lower castes in the temples. He was of the firm view that a handful of the upper-castes of his state had monopolized all the offices of profit. All the shrines in the temples within his state, as elsewhere in rest of the country, were also monopolized by Brahmin priests. He saw to it that at least fifty percent of the shrines were to be looked after by the priests belonging to lower castes. He wanted that the lower castes should get best of the education, so that they could compete with their counterparts from the upper castes effectively. To make this a reality, he made the primary education compulsory for the lower castes in his Kingdom of the Kolhapur state.

The seminal contribution made by Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj was not limited to education and government jobs. He made concerted efforts to liberate the lower castes from the all pervasive hegemony of the Brahminical priestly class structures of socio-economic dominations by empowering them to stand on their own sources of livelihood so that they need not to depend on the evil and oppressive systems of Balutdari and Vatandari. He paved the way for the inclusion of reservation in the constitution of Independent India drafted under the Chairmanship of Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to whom Shahu Ji Maharaj encouraged and supported to come forward to cut the shackles of the centuries old slavery of the lower castes. "Desh Doaba" & "Ambedkar Times" weekly newspapers fondly remember and pay its deepest regards to Revered Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj on his great cause to the Dalits and Backward Classes.

38th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF SRI GURU RAVIDASS TEMPLE PITTSBURG (CALIFORNIA)



38th Anniversary of Shri Guru Ravidass Gurughar, Pittsburg (CA) was celebrated with a spirit of devotion and enthusiasm on June 25th, 2023 (Sunday). Three days continuous recitation of Gurbani path ended with Bhog ceremony and Ardass on Sunday. More than five hundred devotees from Sangat participated in this momentous occasion.

Gurughar Jatha led by Bhai Balwinder Singh kept the Sangat spell-bound with their melodious and soothing Shabad Kirtan based on the sacred hymns and teachings of Gurbani.

Mr. Dharampal Chonkaria, General Secretary of the temple who conducted the proceedings of the program shared his views with Sangat, paying tributes to the founder-members of the Sabha.

PIONEERS REMEMBERED: - Mr. O.P. Balley Founder Member of the Sabha and associated with the history of the congregation ever since its inception, admired all the pioneers of the Sabha, sharing his vivid memories while paying his hearty tributes especially in remembrance of those who are no more with us physically but have left an indelible imprint of their role on the minds of the future generations.

Majority of the pioneers who migrated from Fiji Islands in the early sixties brought their ancestral heritage as devoted followers of Guru Ravidass Ji Maharaj, with them and played a vital role in the establishment of this first Sri Guru Ravidass temple in North America.

The following speakers also participated in

the celebrations of this historic day, sharing their valuable thoughts relating to the foundation of this Gurughar.

Mr. Dashvinder Paul, Dr. Harmesh Kumar, Mr. Ramesh Suman, devoted Sewadars and prominently known in the community, elaborated on the history and the contributions of Gurughar

for the welfare of the community and paid their respectful homage to the pioneer members.

The Managing Committee and the entire Sangat are also grateful to all those devoted Sewadars who helped day and night in cooking food, cleaning and providing uninterrupted langar Sewa for all the three days. The Managing Committee also appreciates the services of Mr. Prem Kumar Chumber, Editor-in-Chief: Ambedkar Times (English) and Desh Doaba (Punjabi) Weeklies for his professional coverage of the entire event.

Let us all pray for continued peace, harmony, progress and prosperity of this community Gurughar which has been built so magnificently and laboriously with the collective and devoted efforts of the entire Sangat for serving the community and carrying forward the rich legacy of our forefathers.

**"NANAK NAAM CHARDI KALA
TERE BHANE SARBAT KA BHALA"**



O.P. Balley
Founder Member
Sri Guru Ravidass Temple, Pittsburg (CA)

One Hundred Years of DAV College Jalandhar – Book Review

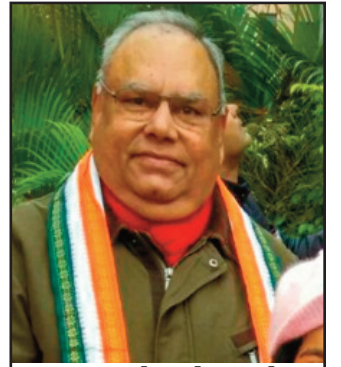
A fully researched and documented book of historical and reference value – One Hundred Year of DAV College (1918 – 2018) written by a renowned teacher, academician, poet and historian, Principal Jagdish Chander Joshi was released on June 6, 2023 at a solemn function at the DAV College itself by an illustrious alumnus of the College, Former Chief Secretary of

lege’ and rightly so. It is written and presented with the lofty ideals of ‘inclusive and enlightened society’ of Swami Dayanand and the Arya Samaj Movement. The ‘DAV College is an off-spring of the DAV Movement’ as asserted by the author.

It - a Centenary Commemorative Volume - has been thoughtfully divided into nine chapters with a view

begin with and donation of land for the College by a student of Principal Pandit Mehr Chand, Mohhammad Anwar Khan, problems in the aftermath of partition of India etc. The author has duly acknowledged the

and sports, distinguished visitors like; President Rajen-



Ramesh Chander
Ambassador - I.F.S. (Retired)
91-99885-10940



der Prasad and Babasaheb Ambedkar among others, illustrious alumni, cultural and artistic personalities and so on. It makes it a really presentable, as a sort of ‘Coffee Table’ book to adorn the central tables in the drawing rooms of one and all. In totality, the book clearly passes the test of finding a place in the shelves of good libraries too.

Punjab, IAS Sarvesh Kaushal. The book is a labour of love by one the distinguished alumnus of the great ‘temple of learning’ the DAV College Jalandhar.

The contents and the purpose of the book fully justify the Vedic spirit of the Mantra ‘Tamsa Ma Jyotir Ganya’ prayer to ‘enlighten and illuminate our minds’ inscribed on the very Emblem of the College. The author himself described the book as ‘Comprehensive History of DAV Col-

to do full justice to the various aspect of DAV College, its development and progress. Underlining the role of the DAV Movement, it gives all the necessary details with references of the role and contribution of all the Principals from Pandit Mehr Chand to Principal S.K. Arora in making DAV College a premier educational institution of the region. The book reveals some unknown facets of the journey in making the College a ‘Mirror of Excellence’ – financial difficulties to

excellent job done by his intelligent Aides namely; Prof Sharad Manocha, Prof. Dinesh Arora and others who helped in sourcing the rare and voluminous material for the book.

The second part of the book – History of 100 Years of Journey – Through the Lens Eye - is the pictorial depiction of the educational laurels, activities in the field of co-curricular

While releasing the book the management and personalities on the high table of the release function, rightly appreciated the yeomen’s service of its author, Principal Jagdish Chander Joshi. He was, obviously, touched and got emotional and concluded his speech with his usual poetic demeanor:-

मेरी तस्वीर के नक़्श जरा गौर से देखो;
इसमें एक दौर की तस्वीर नज़र आएगी।

Punjab Governor writes to Union External Affairs Minister Seeks US Consulate in Chandigarh

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 16: Making a strong case in favour of a Consulate of the United States of America (USA) at Chandigarh, against the background of growing demand of people from Punjab in India as well as in the US, Shri Banwari Lal Purohit, Governor of Punjab and Administrator, UT, Chandigarh has written a letter to the External Affairs Minister, Government of India.

The Governor mentioned that

Punjabis are adventurous people who travel all over the world. They also form a sizeable segment of the Indian diaspora in the US. The speciality of this segment is that its members are conscious of their roots and are in constant touch with their people back at home in India. This makes a good case for a



US Consulate in Chandigarh which is the nerve centre of Punjabi culture.

He referred to the demand for an additional Consulate in India which is being pressed for even in the United States by influential Congressmen, which further bolsters the de-

mand. The letter mentions that India has as many as five Consulates in the United States, while the US has only four in India.

The Governor said that if a US Consulate is opened in Chandigarh, it will serve purposes to touch social, economic and cultural dimensions of the State and requested Ministry of External Affairs to pursue this matter with appropriate American authorities.

Assemblyman Hoover's Representative Report

Bipartisan Support to Protect our Delta Communities

This week I signed onto a bipartisan letter to oppose the inclusion of the Delta Conveyance Project (also known as the Delta Tunnel) in the Governor’s proposed infrastructure package.

I remain concerned with any efforts that may fast track this highly controversial project, as the effects of this construction and the water diversions would be felt throughout Northern California, including here in Sacramento County. There must be adequate time for the public to vet this proposal, but the current process does not allow for that.

Tour of Western Electrical Contractors Association

Recently I had a wonderful opportunity to go visit the Western Electrical Contractors Association (WECA) California headquarters, located in Mather. During the tour, we discussed workforce development and apprenticeship programs. I loved seeing the opportunities WECA’s apprenticeship and training programs provide to Sacramento County residents.

Orangevale Summer Palooza

I had an amazing time this past weekend at Orangevale Summer Palooza, a three-day community cel-

ebration at Orangevale Park on 36 beautiful acres.

It consisted of all the traditional festival entertainment including a carnival, live music, and a variety of vendors and food. Can’t wait to join again next year!

New Podcast Episode

This week Assemblyman Joe Patterson returns to the podcast to discuss a number of topics with me including the recently passed state budget, struggles in our major cities, the incoming Assembly Speaker, their first jobs, and a newly proposed constitutional amendment. You can watch, listen, and follow the

podcast here.

Rancho Cordova Business Expo &



Job Fair

I had a great time at Rancho Cordova’s Business Expo & Job Fair yesterday. It was wonderful to see hundreds of job seekers talking to potential employers with resumes in hand, ready to interview on the spot! I also enjoyed seeing the businesses interact with each other to see how they could work together going forward.

Prioritizing Your Safety

My Pledge to Support Law Enforcement and Protect Our Neighborhoods

Recently, I received a distressing phone call from a constituent who was very upset and understandably so. She described how two individuals unlawfully entered the retail store, armed with large bags to loot the store's merchandise.

The shattering of glass echoed through the air, led her to shout in frustration, questioning whether anyone would step up and intervene. The gravity of this situation deeply disturbed me. She had just experienced a distressing incident that

Act, reduced penalties for specific offenses from felonies to misdemeanors. Among other inexplicable changes, it reduced penalties for stealing a gun.

Prop 57 was billed as another "justice reform" that would make us safer. But in truth, it reclassified many violent crimes as "non-violent," thus making these violent offenders eligible for early release from prison or transfer to County jail. These "reforms" include classifying the rape of an unconscious person as a "non-vi-

community.

This has had a severe impact on our communities in the region and across the state. Prop 47 has directly contributed to the rise of retail shoplifting. Many retail stores have been forced to implement extra security measures to safeguard their cosmetic and toiletry products. A recent report published by the National Retail Federation underscored the staggering economic loss incurred due to retail theft, amounting to nearly \$30 billion annually.

crease pay to boost recruitment and fill empty positions.

For me, the paramount duty of government



Sue Frost

is to ensure the safety and well-being of the public. As a result, I have consistently focused on public safety in my policy agenda and budget priorities.

I do believe in reform, redemption, and rehabilitation. But simply not prosecuting criminals, or allowing their crimes to go unpunished,

accomplishes none of that.

By strengthening our law enforcement agencies, we can better equip them to tackle the challenges we are facing today. Moving forward, it is crucial for policymakers, community leaders, and law enforcement agencies to work collaboratively in refining strategies and implementing measures that effectively address the failures of AB 109, and Propositions 47 and 57. I will be working with our Sheriff, District Attorney, and State Legislatures to do just that.

Through this concerted effort, we can strive towards a safer community that upholds the principles of justice, protection, and public safety.

Thank you for reading – and as always, if you want to contact me, call me at 916-874-5491, or e-mail me at SupervisorFrost@saccounty.net. Sacramento County Supervisor Sue Frost represents the 4th District, which includes the communities of Citrus Heights, Folsom, Orangevale, Antelope, North Highlands, Rio Linda, Elverta, and Rancho Murieta.



has sadly become all too common in our society: a brazen daylight burglary.

The "decarceration" and "defund police" movements have made our neighborhoods less safe, eroded the morale of our law enforcement agencies, and hurt small businesses that power our economy. These dangerous ideologies prioritize criminals over community - and even the real victims of crime. And they aren't done yet.

Three of the worst manifestations of these ideologies are AB 109 and Propositions 47 and 57 - and they have a direct impact on our safety that the Board of Supervisors must address.

AB109, which was passed in 2011, transferred thousands of felons from State Prisons to our local county jails. Our jails were never designed to hold long-term prisoners and the influx of felons meant thousands of jail inmates were simply released into our neighborhoods.

Prop 47, inaccurately called the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools

olent" crime.

The result of these three "laws" is more criminals in our neighborhoods and more victims of their crimes in our communities, schools, and hospitals. That's not acceptable.

My recent Community Survey outlined the scope of the problem – nearly 25% of the residents that took my survey reported that they have been the victim of a crime. The vast majority are property crimes, like the rash of catalytic converter thefts, but many are person crimes as well - from home invasions to rape, robbery, and murder.

Let me be perfectly clear - there is no such thing as a "victimless crime." Criminals who invade our cars, homes, and businesses rob us of our sense of security, retail thefts drive up costs for food and other necessities, and violent crimes harm too many of our citizens. All crimes create victims.

Sadly, some politicians and their activist allies are far more concerned with the needs and desires of criminals than their victims or the

Elections have consequences. The rise of "decarceration" ballot measures and politicians who support their agenda has only emboldened criminals and hindered our law enforcement officers, our retail stores, small businesses, and our law-abiding citizens!

County Supervisors can't change state law, but we can take action to ensure the public is still protected by investing in our public safety systems and personnel.

That is why I am supporting additional funding for the Sacramento Sheriff's Department, Probation, and District Attorney's office. Ensuring the safety of our citizens is the government's most sacred responsibility. Our budget should reflect that.

The recently proposed budget for Sacramento County is a step in the right direction. Notably, this budget includes an increase of \$35 million allocated to the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office to improve enforcement and outreach related to homelessness, purchase needed equipment like body cameras, and in-

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Path Bhog Held at Gurdwara Janam Asthan to Mark Maharaja Ranjit Singh's Death Anniversary

Nankana Sahib- Hundreds of Sikh pilgrims from India and Pakistan gathered at Gurdwara Janam Asthan on

Leader Gurdev Singh International Bhai Mardana Yadgari Kirtan Darbar Society Ferozpur.

Ranjit Singh, who they described as a great warrior, statesman, and patron of the Sikh faith. They also

praised the Sikh community for their commitment to peace and harmony. They also said that the Pakistani gov-



Saturday to mark the 184th death anniversary of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. The main event of the day was the Sri Akhand Path Bhog, a Sikh religious ceremony that marks the completion of a period of recitation of sacred texts.

The Path Bhog was led by a team of Sikh Granthi Singhs, who chanted hymns from the Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh holy book. The ceremony was attended by a number of Sikh leaders including Sardar Amir Singh, President (PSGPC) including Party leader Bhopinder Singh Pehlwan, Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), Deputy Party Leader Ravinder Singh Khalsa, Party Leader Gurjinder Singh Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee and Party

A number of ETPB officials, including Additional Secretary Shrines Rana Shahid Salim, Deputy Secretary Shrines Saif Ullah, Care Taker M o h a m m a d Imran Nabi also present. The Path Bhog was followed by a Kirtan in Gurdwara Janam



Asthan, Nankana Sahib. Pilgrims offered prayers. In their speeches, the Sikh leaders paid tribute to Maharaja

day for the Sikh community, and we are proud to be here." Additional Secretary Shrines Rana Shahid Salim

thanked the Pakistani government for its cooperation in facilitating the pilgrimage.

"We are grateful to the Pakistani government for providing us with the opportunity to pay homage to Maharaja Ranjit Singh," said SGPC Party leader Bhopinder Singh Pehlwan. "This is a historic

government is committed to protecting the rights of all minorities, including Sikhs. "We are proud to host the Sikh community in Pakistan," he said. "We will continue to facilitate pilgrimages to Sikh holy sites in Pakistan, and we will work to promote interfaith harmony." "The death anniversary of Maharaja Ranjit Singh is a significant event for the Sikh community, and it is a time for Sikhs to come together to remember their great leader," said President Amir Singh. The Akhand Path Bhog, Kirtan-Katha and Gatka were a way for Sikhs to pay tribute to Maharaja Ranjit Singh and to reaffirm their commitment to the Sikh faith. The Pakistani government provided foolproof security for this event.

- Babar Jalalandhari



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