Gandhi and Ambedkar:

Taking Responsibility for the Rights of the Untouchables

Kamaniya Sathish and Sahana Deo

Junior Division Group Website
NHD 2014
Annotated Bibliography


This was a very helpful and informative document written by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar himself. It was a golden source that we found because it dealt with the history of the caste system as well with its influences on Indian societies. Knowing about Ambedkar’s views on the caste system and the responsibilities prevailing with it helped us connect to the NHD theme of Rights and Responsibilities.


[http://www.worldfuturefund.org/wffmaster/Reading/Germany/Caste%20Quotes.htm](http://www.worldfuturefund.org/wffmaster/Reading/Germany/Caste%20Quotes.htm)

This was an organizational website that provided us with direct quotes from the Rig Veda, a sacred Indian text, regarding matters of caste. We placed these quotes on our page describing the origins and backgrounds of caste. It was a great analytical opposition as Untouchables were never mentioned in the texts; societies had to do with this discrimination which we later described on our other page.


[http://gandhicreationhss.org/image/big/Poona-pact.jpg](http://gandhicreationhss.org/image/big/Poona-pact.jpg)

We consider this a rather golden source because it was the original image of the Poona Pact, published in 1932. It was the complete Pact with the complete articles. It went along with our Poona Pact quotes as evidence of the Pact.

http://www.symbiosis-ambedkarmemorial.com/Photo/punepact.jpg

This source was an image of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar and other people (unknown) the day the Pact was signed. Details of the picture are not shown, but it seems that he was part of a group where he would be a leader for the Untouchables. It was excellent addition to our overall image amount on the website.


http://www.ambedkar.org/impdocs/ poonapact.htm

This was a very important primary source because it was the entire (not original) Poona Pact document with the original texts describing the Pact and what it aimed to achieve. It impacted our website with direct quotes and information on exactly what the Pact was. The document, published in 1932, was a direct-hand account of the Pact.


Another paper written by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, this source was extremely valuable to our project because it provided our project with Ambedkar’s views on Untouchables and how MK. Gandhi felt about them. Understanding the world of caste rights through Ambedkar’s points of view and opinions was an overall enrichment to the whole connection to the rights theme.


This has multiple pictures of Gandhi himself also giving an understanding to the viewer how Gandhi looked. We used this picture in the homepage.

Dr. Ambedkar delivering a speech. Web. 25 Nov. 2013

This was an image of Ambedkar giving a speech. He had given many speeches on the rights of the untouchables and finding an image of one of the speeches he had given throughout his life was of great value to the overall project.

This has small album has many primary source pictures of a just Ambedkar himself, the kinds used as a profile picture. This we used to help the viewers of the website get to know how he looks.

Gandhi, Mohandas K. *Young India* 8 Oct. 1919, 1 ed. Print.

[https://www.gandhiheritageportal.org/journals-by-gandhiji/young-india](https://www.gandhiheritageportal.org/journals-by-gandhiji/young-india)

An amazing source, we used an image of another journal that Gandhi himself edited to showcase his various political and social activities that influenced Indian societies and the caste-system. We used the image on our “For the Harijans” page.


This was an important image of the people of the castes. We wanted to have images of varied castes, and while we were able to find those of the lower castes, this source provided us with pictures of the higher castes as well. The source proved to be a valuable addition to our pages dealing with caste discrimination and opposition.


A good source for varying images, we used this source to find pictures of the people from the lower castes to add into our slideshow. The photo collection was well made with labelled caste pictures, so that we could analyze them further on.


Like our other photo collections, this collection had pictures of more individuals from the lower castes. It was valuable in adding more to our slideshows.


We used this website to obtain an image of the Rig Veda, the book which contains quotations regarding the caste system. It was good image to imply the backgrounds of caste.

https://www.gandhiiheritageportal.org/journals-by-gandhiji/harijan

The Harijan was a fabulous primary source as it was a journal written by Gandhi himself with multiple retellings of the caste system and its influences at the time. We used images of the journal and used quotes from the journal on our “For the Harijans” page.


https://www.gandhiiheritageportal.org/photos-of-mahatma-gandhi

This was a magnificent source because it contained an entire photo gallery and collection comprised of Mahatma Gandhi. The source was divided by time periods, making it easier for us to find special images of Gandhi supporting the Harijans, making this source one of the most valuable sources of our project.


This source provided us with a brief but selective piece from the Indian Constitution that relevantly stated what rights would be granted to the lower castes. Ambedkar himself was part of the group that composed the first drafts of the constitution, so finding a relevant part of the constitution proved to be helpful for our website. We used it on the “Drafting of the Constitution” page.


For our historiography page, we felt it necessary to include images of our selected historians. This source provided us with an image of Ramachandra Guha, the author of one of our most valuable sources, “Makers of Modern India.”


A marvelous book with large excerpts written by Gandhi himself, it provided our project with to-the-point quotes on the caste system and the higher caste Hindus that discredited the Untouchables. We used several quotes from this source on our pages in which we explained how Gandhi criticized the upper-castes and higher authorities.

We wanted our website to include topic-related music which would involve us using an Indian classical music file. We decided to use a beautiful Sitar file rendered by late maestro Pandit Ravi Shankar as the intro music to our website, as it was a traditional and cultural aspect of our India-related topic.


This is a portrait picture of the historian Christophe Jaffrelot. We used this picture on our Historiography page to show who exactly one of our experts was.


http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/quotes/b/brambedk408663.html

We used this source to obtain a wonderful quote written by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, which we used on our home page. It was quote which analyzed human societies and the discriminations they can impose on other human beings. The quote talked about social revolutions, relating to our NHD theme this year.


https://www.gandhiheritageportal.org/journals-by-gandhiji/harijan-sevak

This was a wonderful primary source, a journal edited by Gandhi himself having to do with the Harijans. We used an image of the journal on our “For the Harijans” page.


Another fabulous essay written by Ambedkar himself, we obtained some quotes that related to our topic. These quotes were highly informative and added a great sense of analysis to our website.


This website describes what was in the Constitution of India that is part of the Scheduled Castes. This quote was used in the Changes of Untouchability page.

This was glorious primary source speech written by Mahatma Gandhi that contained valuable quotes and analysis of the caste system, its problems, and the way to go about fixing it. It gave Gandhi’s opinions on the issue which enriched our website greatly.


One of Ambedkar’s speeches, this speech contained extensive views and opinions of the caste system that Ambedkar had. It was a speech that contained quite a bit of excellent quotes regarding Ambedkar’s plan for caste removal and the problems regarding it. We used several quotes from this source.


This was a magnificent source because it was an actual compilation of letters between Ambedkar and Gandhi themselves. It provided us with immense insight onto the Poona Pact and valuable quotes for the Poona Pact page.


Web.

This was an email interview to a University of Washington Professor by the name of Dr. Anand A. Yang. We emailed him questions about both Gandhi and Ambedkar and embedded the answers in our website.


This is a profile picture of the college professor we interviewed.

Secondary Sources:

Deshpande, Manali S. The History of the Indian Caste System and Its Impacts on India Today.


This source was a very well written paper analyzing the history of caste and how it impacted and continues to impact Indian societies. It was valuable in giving us
information on the caste system as a separate concept, as well as its relations with societies.


This was an excellent academic resource with trustworthy information on the origins of caste. It provided us with interesting background information on the creation of caste as well as the purposes of the entire system. The website provided us with a direct quote of a sacred text of India.


This was another fabulous paper in the sense that it provided us with background information on the caste system so that we could understand the reason for its upbringing. Written by a direct expert on the genes of caste, the paper was helpful in giving us the preface, or history on the caste system.


This was a portrait drawing of Dr. Ambedkar that we used on our homepage along with other images of Ambedkar and Gandhi. We wanted to use images of these revolutionaries where we wrote our thesis.


This was used as our background throughout our website.


An illustration depicting different types of caste doing their daily routines, this image was important on our page where we discussed the origins of caste, as well as describing the roles of each caste. It was important addition to the overall page where we showed several images representing the caste system.


[http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/southasia/History/Gandhi/gandhi.html](http://www.sscnet.ucla.edu/southasia/History/Gandhi/gandhi.html)
Although not very impactful, this source provided us with brief biographical information on Mahatma Gandhi including his birth and death, which we used to give a placing of the era in which he lived in, on the M.K. Gandhi page.


[http://gardenofpraise.com/ibdgandhi.htm](http://gardenofpraise.com/ibdgandhi.htm)

This was a website that provided our project with a quote spoken by Mahatma Gandhi regarding the caste system and the need for caste rights. It influenced our project in a positive way as it added a perspective and primary analysis on our topic.


This proved to be a fantastic perspective on Gandhi’s humanitarian efforts on a pre-independence India, and his efforts to abolish the caste system. It provided us with quotes as well as an opposing statements and standpoints to Gandhi’s ways of abolishing the system. Ambedkar’s opinions are expressed throughout this book, and the author was a valuable historian to include in our “Historiography” page.


We obtained a brief but informative summary on the Poona Pact through his online encyclopedia article. It provided us with background facts as well as the reasons for the Pact to form, and its effects on the society. It also provided us with Ambedkar’s opinions on the inauguration of the Pact. This was not used in our website as it was more of a guide to greater understanding.


[http://www.kamat.com/mmgandhi/gandhi.htm](http://www.kamat.com/mmgandhi/gandhi.htm)

Our project benefitted through this resource, which was a compilation of images, quotes, facts, and historical retellings of Mahatma Gandhi. It was composed of photo galleries, speeches, and an autobiography.


This website was helpful to our website as it explained us some background on how Ambedkar was treated. It gave some insight into and narrated that in the
earlier stages he was humiliated and got a lot of harsh comments from people from the upper castes.

http://berkleycenter.georgetown.edu/essays/religion-in-the-indian-constitution

This is a website was useful in the way that it helped confirm what laws were placed after the drafting of the constitution. It describes how Ambedkar was appointed a position in the committee and thereby was able to confirm his act to remove untouchability.


This source is a very thorough and informative source that provided us with information on Ambedkar’s political and social journey in helping the Untouchables attain basic human rights.


A good resource for our project, this source was a well-written book on Ambedkar’s efforts to abolish the discrimination of the caste system. The source includes to-the-point facts as well as quotes which were important to our overall website. The author who wrote the book was also the author we happened to choose for our Historiography.


We found it rare to come across a book that generally outlined the larger picture of our topic. In this book, the caste system was placed in relation to the societies and politics of India, potentially being a valuable source.

This was probably the most valuable and most intelligently written and analyzed source for us to come across upon. The book was filled with speeches, letters, replies, and quotes from Gandhi and Ambedkar. Unlike other sources, large majorities of the book focused on caste rights, which proved to be very helpful.


Although not highly significant, this source provided us with brief background information about one of historians Christophe Jaffrelot. We wanted to include some academic background information for the historian so that we could give a sense of his expertise.


We were able to find an image of the book “Gandhi and His Critics” by Bal Ram Nanda which we used on our Historiography page when we talked about the author and his work.


This Website had an Essay about Abolition of Untouchability written by Arvind Kumar. This was really useful on one of our web pages titled Changes in Untouchability.


http://www.faqs.org/minorities/South-Asia/Scheduled-Castes-of-India.html

This is yet another website which was really helpful forgiving information on what occurred during Untouchability. Also we were able to use some quotes from this.


This was a wonderful IBN documentary that depicted Ambedkar’s life and political and social influences on Indian societies. It provided us with a wonderful quote by Shreya Dhoundial that analyzed Ambedkar’s Mahad event and explained its impact on the “Inauguration” page.
This is the cover of one of the books used throughout the website. It holds many speeches by Dr. Ambedkar and Gandhi.

Although not the most important source, this book provided with us with a little historical insight on the political and social eras in Indian history. We used a quote from this book on our home page.