



Educational Contribution Of D. T. Rupwate (Bahujan Sikshan Sangha in Ahmednagar District of Maharashtra)

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Abstract

Dadasaheb Rupwate was the founder of the Bahujan Shikshan Sangh in Ahmednagar of Maharashtra to create an opportunity for the students of the down-trodden communities to access education. He is considered to be one of the great leaders of his time. He patronized for art, literature and education. Today the Bahujan Shikshan Sangha successfully runs a number of hostels, nursery school, primary and secondary schools, colleges and cultural centers. The present study focuses on the educational contribution of Dadasaheb Rupwate.

Keywords:- Bahujan Shikshan Sangh, Dadasaheb Rupwate.

D. T. Rupwate:

Damodar Tatyaba Rupwate alias Dadasaheb Rupwate was born on 28th February 1925 at Akole, Ahmednagar district in Maharashtra. He belonged to a Mahar community. He completed his primary education in Akole and Nashik. Around the same time, a wave of enthusiasm and optimism was created on account of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's struggle for social equality. Dadasaheb was totally engulfed by this wave! In order to be a part of it, he entered Mumbai to pursue his college education. It was instrumental in deciding the direction that his life and work would finally acquire.

Dadasaheb Rupwate was inspired by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. Gradually Dadasaheb's interaction with Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar increased. Realizing his potentials, Babasaheb entrusted the young and dynamic Rupwate with several responsibilities with immense faith. He fulfilled all his responsibilities with great dedication. From 1948 to 1951, he was the first Rector of the Siddhartha College Hostel, Mumbai. He served as Secretary of the Scheduled Caste and Tribes Students Scholarship Committee in the People's Education Society (1946). He set up Siddhartha Night School. He founded Akole Education Society which runs colleges. Secondary high schools and Technical education school. He was the chairman of the District School Board, Ahmednagar from 1953-1956. He embraced

Buddhism in 1956 itself. He worked to spread Buddhism in Maharashtra.

About Bahujan Shikshan Sangh (1948)

Bahujan Shikshan Sangh (education Trust) was founded by Dadasaheb Rupwate at Ahmednagar in 1948.

Constitution Of Bahujan Shikshan Sangh :-

A). Name of Sangh:

1. The Sangh shall be called as the 'BAHujan SHIKSHAN SANGH'
2. The office of the Sangh shall be at Ahmednagar, Maharashtra State or at any other suitable place as may be decided by the Trustee of the Sangh from time to time.

B) Aims And Objectives Of The Sangh:-

- a) to provide facilities for the Education- Pre-primary, Primary, Secondary, Technical Collegiate, Agricultural,, Physical, Cultural, Theosophical and like.
- b) To start, establish, conduct and /or to aid Educational Association, Viharas and hostels:
- c) To provided facilities for Education and Upliftment of the poor in general and of the Buddhists, Scheduled Caste and Backward Classes in particular.

Chapter:- I

Article :1: The rules and Regulations shall be called as the Rules and Regulations of the Bahujan Shikshan Sangh.

Chapter-Ii-

Life – Patrons, Patrons, Life- Members, Members Etc.

*Article:2:*The Sangh consists of Trustees, Life-Patrons, Patrons, Life-Members, and Ordinary-Members and will have power to adding to its Members according to the Rules and Regulations of the Sangh in force for the time being.

Article-3:

a) He who pays Rs. 500/-or more, once for all by ten or less consecutive annual installments shall be Life-Patron of the Sangh.

b) He who pays Rs. 25/- or more per annum shall be Pattern of the Sangh.

c) He who pays Rs. 100/- or more once for all by five or less consecutive annual installments shall be life- Members.

d) He who pays Rs. 10/- or more per annum shall be Ordinary – Member of the Sangh.

e) All Trustees, Life- Patrons, Patrons, life-Members, ordinary- Members shall be member of the General Council.

f) No person shall be admitted to the above categories unless decided by the Governing Body and the same decision approved by the Board of Trustee as per the provision in the Article 35 herein.

g) A Life- Worker is one who accepts the Aims and objectives of the Sangh and promises in writing to work in the Institutions of the Sangh for not less than Twenty years and who is thereupon nominated by the board of Trustees.

h) Any person who gives donation to the Sangh or its Institutions will be a Donor.

Chapter-III

Control And Management

Article: 4:

The Sangh shall have, 1. A Board of Trustees., 2. A Governing Body, 3. A General Council, 4. Divisional Committees. And 5. Executive Committee, for each Institutions or group of Institutions conducted by the Sangh , as the Governing Body may decide for the management of its affairs from time to time.

Article: 5:- The Board Of Trustee

1. There shall be a Board of Trustee of the Sangh consisting of not more than Nine Trustees. The Trustee shall choose from amongst themselves a MANAGING TRUSTEE from time to time who shall preside over the meetings of the Board of Trustees and shall manage the work of the Board of Trustees with

suitable administrative arrangement and shall be the Final Arbiter in the conduct of the affairs of the Sangh subject to the Sub-Article 3 of this article.

2. Six Trustees out of Nine shall be for the Life-Time and the remaining Three shall be co-opted by them by annually Vacancies caused either by death or incapacity or resignation or removal shall be idled by co-option by the remaining Life- time Trustee. The power to remove a Trustee vests in the Life time Trustees.

3. The Board of Trustees will be the supreme authority in the administration and Management of the Sangh.

4. The Board of Trustee shall have charge of all the properties and funds of the Sangh.

5. They shall be bound to submit their accounts to the auditors for inspection.

6. The Trustees shall invest or cause to b invested all the sums of the Sangh in approved Banks.

7. The Board of Trustees shall manage and administrate the affairs of the Sangh and Institutions conducted by it with the help of Governing Body, Divisional Committees, other Requisite Committees, Sub-Committees, Office Bearers and Staff Members.

8. the Board of Trustees shall have powers,

i) To purchase, take on lease or otherwise acquire properties for the Sangh and to Invest and to deal with the money of the Sangh in such a manner as may from time to time be determined.

ii) to construct, maintain, rebuild, repair alter, replace or reinstate House Buildings or Works for the purpose of the Sangh.

iii) to sale, dispose off, improve, mange, develop, exchanged, lease, mortgage or otherwise alienate or deal with all or any property of the Sangh.

iv) To co-operate, amalgamate or affiliate the Sangh and / or any Institution run by or belonging to the Sangh with any other Institutions or Sangh with a view of securing further advancement of the aims and objectives of the Sangh.

v) to raise funds for the Sangh, for the Institutions of the Sangh by way of subscriptions, donations, grants, loans, fees, gifts or by any other legal means

9. the board of Trustees shall intervene in the conduct of affairs by the Governing Body and shall have the authority to supersede the

Governing Body and other bodies mentioned in this article, whenever it deems it fit to do so in the interest of the Sangh and its Institutions.

Article: 6: The governing Body.

1. The Governing Body shall consists of Fifteen members chosen by the Board of Trustees from amongst the members of the General Council in the bi-annual meetings of the latter. The term of the Governing Body shall be 4 years

2. The Governing Body so constituted shall have its Six Office Bearers,

- i) One President,
- ii) Two vice- Presidents,
- iii) Two Joint-Secretaries,
- iv) One Treasurer,

Nominated by the Board of Trustees.

3. The term of the office of these office-bearers shall co-exist with that of the governing Body.

4. He same person shall be eligible for re-election

5. A vacancy in the Governing Body shall be filled by the Board of Trustees from amongst the member of the Sangh.

6. Subject to the Control of the Board of Trustees the Governing Body,

i) Shall appoint necessary staff for carrying on the affairs of the Sangh and also for running its Institutions, fix the scale of pay and service conditions, frame standing orders for the guidance and directions of the staff, authorities and bodies of the Sangh and make regulations defining their functions and duties.

ii) Shall use the authority and powers delegated to it by the Board of Trustees from time to time in the interest of the Sangh and in accordance with these rules.

Article : 7: The General Council

1. The general counsel of the Sangh shall consists of Trustees, Life-Patrons, Life members, Patrons and ordinary members All these constituents are herein termed as members for the matter of conveniences.

2. The Governing Body shall convene a Bi-Annual General meeting of the General Council and submit therein the audited statement of accounts and report of works and activities of the Sangh.

3. The bi-annual General Meeting of the General Council shall transact general business; consider annual report of the working of the Sangh and its Institutions.

4. for being entitled to participate in the proceedings of annual or special meeting of the

General Council, a member shall have Three months standing.

5. Subscriptions shall ordinarily be payable in advance on or before 14th April of every year. If the subscription of a members of the Sangh be in arrears for a period exceeding three months from the date when it is due (i.e. 14th April of the subject year), he will not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Governing Body or General Council unless his arrears is fully paid at least one day before such meeting.

6. If the subscription of a member of the Sangh be in arrears for a period exceeding one year and if he does not pay the arrears within a fortnight of an intimation to that effect given to him, his Membership of the Sangh shall stands cancelled and his name shall be admitted as a member again unless he pays his arrears of subscription.

Article: 8: Divisional Committees:-

1. The Governing Body shall constitute Divisional Committees from time to time to help it in the conduct of the administration of its Institutions.

2. The members of the Divisional Committees shall not necessarily be the Member of the Sangh.

Article:9:- Executive Committee

1. There shall be an Executive Committee for an Institution or group of Institutions conducted by the Sangh, to be appointed by the Governing Body.

2. The member to be appointed on such a committee may not necessarily be the member of the Sangh.

3. The Executive Committee shall act subject to the directions from the Governing Body.

4. It shall have one Chairman, One Vice-Chairman, one Treasurer, and one secretary.

Chapter Iv

Funds Of The Sangh

*Article:10:*Funds of the Sangh shall consists of Grants, Donations, Subscriptions, Gifts received from time to time, Loans, Deposits etc. raised by the Sangh.

*Article: 11:*Joint Secretaries shall maintain proper Books of Accounts and other Documents of the Income and Expenditure of the Sangh. The accounts of the Sangh shall be periodically audited by the auditors recognized under the Indian Companies Act and appointed by the Board of Trustees.

*Article : 12:*An annual statement of receipts and expenditure shall be drawn up by the Joint

secretaries of the Sangh and consolidated statement shall be kept at the office of the Sangh and shall be open at all times for inspection of the members of the Board of Trustees, Governing Body, General Council, Divisional Committees, Executive Committees and other donors.

*Article : 13:*All properties and funds of the Sangh belong to the Sangh collectively and no individual member shall have any proprietary right over them.

Chapter V

Miscellaneous

*Article : 14 :*All bodies of the Sangh shall discharge their duties and exercise their powers, authorities and functions in accordance with these rules.

*Article : 15 :*The board of Trustees shall have powers alter and or modify the memorandum, Rules and Regulations as may be required by circumstances, provided always.

1. that alterations, amendments do not alter the Aims and objectives of the Bahujan Shikhan Sangh.

2. that three fourth of the members of the Board of Trustees present at the meeting, specially called for the purpose by the Managing Trustee, vote in favor of such alterations, amendments, additions or modifications.

Article : 16; Members of the Board of Trustees, Governing Body, General Council, Divisional Committees and Executive Committees shall stand terminated either in case of death or incapacity or removal or resignation.

Article; 17:

The Board of Trustees shall have power to remove any member of the General Council, Governing Body, Divisional Committees and Executive Committees from their respective bodies.

*Article : 18 :*The Managing Trustee shall act on behalf of the Board of Trustees when the latter is not in session.

*Article : 19 :*The Governing body shall meet every three months to receive and consider reports of all the Institutions and bodies under its control. The Board of Trustees and divisional Committees, Executive Committees of the Institutions shall meet every quarter and all often as may from time to time be necessary for the transaction of the business of the Sangh and its Institutions etc. as the case may be.

*Article: 20:*Ten days before the biannual general meeting of the General Council and seven days before a special meeting of it, the Joint-Secretaries shall be bound to send to each member of the Sangh a notice in writing specifying the time and the place at which such meeting is to be held and the business to be transacted thereat.

*Article : 21:-*The Governing body shall be constituted at the biannual General Meeting of the General Council of the Sangh to be held ordinarily in the month of May of that year. The Joint Secretaries shall submit the annual statements of accounts and report of the work and activities of the Sangh and its Institutions in this meeting.

*Article: 22:*The new Governing Body shall hold the first meeting within fortnight (15 days) of its formations and a special address shall be delivered to it by the Managing Trustee for its guidance. In addition usual business may be transacted by the Governing Body in this meeting.

*Article : 23 :*All decisions shall be by majority of votes and in case of equality, by the casting vote of the presiding authority of the meeting.

*Article : 24 :*The president of the Sangh in his discretion or on requisition on any five members of the Governing Body at any time may summon a special meeting of the Governing Body for any cause that seems to him sufficient.

*Article : 25 :*The number of members required to constitute quorum shall be five (Twenty five in the case of General Council) or One third of the total number of members of the respective bodies whichever is less.

*Article : 26:*No quorum shall be required for an adjourned meeting,

*Article: 27 :*If a quorum shall not have assembled within half an hour after the time appointed for any meeting of any body of the Sangh, the members present may adjourn the meeting A meeting may be adjourned by the person presiding on the adoption of a resolution to that effect.

Article : 28 : Any resolution passed by a body of the Sangh may be re-screened or verified by the same body at its later meeting.

Article : 29 : The Governing Body may at any meeting appoint a person or committees for making an inquiry or for the transaction of any business, but every act of proceeding of the person or the committee shall be submitted to

the Governing Body for approval and shall not be binding on the Sangh until approved by the Governing Body.

Article : 30 : Each body shall maintain a Minute Book. Record of proceedings of the bodies shall be entered in their respective Minute Book and shall be signed by the president of the meeting either at the conclusion thereof or at some further date if they have been confirmed.

Article : 31: Full Accounts shall be kept in proper Books of Accounts that are provided for the purpose of recording of all money received and paid respectively in all the accounts of the Sangh and its Institutions. Such books of accounts shall be made up for each year and shall be audited by qualified auditors and shall be examined and passed by the Board of Trustees at their ordinary meeting in the ensuing year or at some other meeting meant for the purpose and shall thereupon be signed by the Managing Trustee. Audited accounts of the Sangh and its Institutions shall also be presented to the General Council in their biannual General Meeting for information.

Article : 32: A list of Life- patrons, Patrons, Life-members, Ordinary Members shall be maintained. A list of Donors of the Sangh and its Institutions shall also be maintained.

Article : 33: Bank accounts of the Sangh and its Institutions shall be opened and kept with Bankers selected by the Board of Trustees. Every sum of money received by the Sangh or its institutions shall without any undue delay be paid into concerned account with the bank.

Article : 34 : All Cheques and orders for Payments of money shall signed by a person or persons appointed in that behalf by the Board of Trustees.

Article : 35: When one member of the Governing Body propose the name of a person for enrollment as a member (i. e. Life- Patron, Patron, Life- Members or ordinary members as the case may be) of the Sangh and another member of the Governing Body seconds the proposal and such proposal is passed by the majority votes at the meeting of the Governing Body, then and only the name of such a person may be entered in the list of the members of the Sangh: provided however that the decision shall become effective on the approval obtained from the Board of Trustees.

Article : 36 : In urgent matters the Bodies of the Sangh may transact business through Circular meetings.

Article : 37 : No proposition shall be considered by differed bodies of the Sangh at any of their meetings unless it has been duly proposed by a member and seconded by another.

Article : 38 : Any propositions sent in writing and signed by any two members of the respective bodies shall be entered in their of business.

Article : 39; The Joint – Secretaries of the Governing Body shall distribute work among themselves for convenient functioning with the consent of Governing body.

Article: 40 :- The Governing Body shall continue to hold office till its reconstitution by the Board of Trustees. (Memorandum of Association, Rules & Regulations, Bahujan Shikshan Sangh, Founder: Dadasaheb Rupwate, Regn. No. F/57, Ahmednagar)

Characteristics of 'Bahujan Shikshan Sangh:

Students of 'BSS' after completing their studies joined the "BSS." They give service to other branches of the Sangha. They join the movement of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. They spread the political, religious, social, educational thoughts of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar entire region. 32.

The present scenario: Bahujan Shikshan Sangh runs a number of colleges, institutions, schools, hostels and culture centers. ***Names are as follows:***

Hostels

1. Siddhartha Hostel- 6th June 1948 (Sangamner)
2. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Hostel- 1st June 1955 (Kopargaon)
3. Siddhartha Students Hostel- 1st June 1955 (Parner)
4. Mahatma Jotiba Phule Hostel- 1st June 1955 (Jamkhed)
5. Bahujan Students Hostel – 1st June 1960 Shendi, Akole
6. Margadata Student Hostel- 1st June 1960 Akole
7. Rama Yashodhara Girls Hermitage – 1st June 1960 (Asharam) (Sangamner))
8. Sangamitra Student Hermitage (Ashram) – 1st June 1960 (Rahuri)
9. Rama Yashodhara Girls Hermitage – 1st June 1960 (Asharam) (Sangamner))

10. Sambodhi Students Hostel- 1st June 1960 (Ahmednagar)
11. Bhima- Gautami Girls Hermitage (Ashram)- 1st June 1960 (Bhingar, Ahmednagar)
12. Milind Students Hostel- 1st June 1960 (Pathardi)
13. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Student Hostel- 1st June 1960 (Karjat)
14. Shambuk Student Hostel-1st June 1961 (Shrirampur)
15. Nagsen Student Hostel-1st June 1961 (Nevasa)
16. Rahul Student Hostel- 1st June 1962 (Shrigonda)
17. Adarsha Hostel- 1st June 1962 (Paithan)
18. Mahindra Student Hostel-1st June 1962 (Pune)
19. Mahatma Phule Hostel 1st June 1975 (Ghulewadi)

Schools and Colleges:

1. Dadasaheb Rupwate High School - 1st June 1962 (Ahmednagar)
2. Siddhartha High School- 10th August 1965 (Sangamner)
3. Sajanabai Bhandari Vidyalay- 10th August 1967 (Pune)
4. Siddhartha Night High School- 24th April 1970 (Sangamner).
5. Mahatma Phule High School- 1st June 1975 (Gulwadi) (Sangamner).
6. Dadasaheb Rupwate Junior College – 1st June 1983 Ahmednagar.
7. Mahatma Phule Junior College, 1st June 2008 . (Pamphlet, Bahujan Shikshan Sangha)

Conclusion:

He spent his remaining life by devoting himself to running various education institutions. He proved himself the great follower of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. At present, Bahujan Shikshan Sangha operates several educational institutions and hostels from schools to colleges. The Sangha played an important role to spread education in entire district. Therefore, today, we see the appreciable change in the backward community.

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