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B. R. AMBEDKAR, AND M. K. GANDHI ON THE FORMATION OF INTRA-IDENTITY

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ABSTRACT

Identity is the basic concept for defining an individual. Every single being carries some kind of identity with oneself. Identity plays a crucial role in the control of means of production, and reproduction. This study explores the theoretical standpoints of Ambedkar, and Gandhi on the formation of identity. They are important thinkers who extensively worked on the hindu social order. Nearly 80% of the Indian population follows the hindu social order, and it plays crucial role in their identity formations. The purpose here is not to prove any hypothesis. The effort is to discuss what identity is how it is formed, what the factors are contributing to its formation and why it is important. The whole debate of identity arises due to the prevalent inequalities in the society. An identity is not just limited to the binary oppositions forming inter-identity of privileged/under-privileged, dominant/subordinate, have/have not, and so on. Instead they also form the intra-identity which go across different inequalities such as class, gender, race, region, caste, and so on simultaneously hence, making them more intense.

KEY WORDS: Hindu social order, Identity, Ideology, Inter-identity, Intra-identity, Social structure.

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