

CASTE VERSUS MY COUNTRY- A DEADLY BATTLE

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India, my high school history textbook read,
is a land which finds unity in diversity.
That very India, said my grandpa in his death-bed
has been killing multitudes in our city.

My school days were so peaceful and humane
The faces and phases in my life changed
Now the reality of my country makes me pain
I somehow stand here encaged.

My nation has had this brutal system,
the term for which has been coined ‘caste’
I feel that it has to be cut by its stem
so that we do not repent our past.

Ever since the days of Manu, the lawmaker
We have had this Chatur-varna system
that made woman the homemaker
and assigned lower castes filthier jobs as a custom.

The country has seen many figures rising
Ambedkar, Narayana Guru, Gandhi and more
as heroes whom we have been praising
Still we have to change a lot more.

Bharatmata has been engulfed by this deadly poison
which since ages has killed a million,
by making my country appear a prison.
Here, annihilation of caste remains the only solution.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Anakha Ajith is a full-time Ph.D. Research Scholar from the Department of Anthropology, University of Hyderabad. She holds an Integrated Master’s degree in Anthropology and has qualified UGC-JRF in the same subject. Her area of specialization is Medical Anthropology and her interest lies in areas such as Women’s Health, Ethno-medicine, Health and Globalization, Medical tourism etc. Apart from her involvement in the academic discipline, she finds joy in reading and writing poems and considers poetry writing as one of her best-loved pastimes.