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## *Indian Constitution and Democracy*

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### **Abstract:**

***"Democracy is the theory that the common people know what they want, and deserve to get it good and hard."***

- **H.L. Mencken**

*Constitution is a set of rules and regulations guiding the administration of a country. The Constitution is the backbone of every democratic and secular fabric of the nation. The Constitution of India is the longest Constitution in the world, which describes the framework for political principles, procedures and powers of the government. Most noteworthy, Indian democracy since independence is infused with the spirit of Justice, Liberty, and Equality.*

*Indian Constitution and Democracy is the true path to achieve the goal of self-reliant India. The philosophy of Indian constitution focuses upon terms like secularism, socialism, republic, democracy and values describe Indian state which believes in justice, equality, fraternity and liberty which ultimately strengthen the constitutional democracy. World look towards India's Democracy because the concepts like multicultural, multilingual, unity in diversity are truly preserve with the umbrella of secularism. M. K. Gandhi Father of Nation has elaborated the significance of self sufficient unit which is also coined now as Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan through which the rural India should equally develop as well as prosper. Gandhi's concepts of economy distribution, small scale industries, decentralization of power, importance of democracy, swadeshi, ramrajya, ...which are incorporated in supreme law of the land i.e. the 'Indian Constitution' which was formulated under guidance of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.*

*Indian Constitution guarantees equal status & opportunity, abolish discrimination, safeguard the fundamental rights, imposes fundamental duties where the Democracy the essential element cannot function without help of Indian Constitution. Hence with effective Indian Constitution and Democracy, Indian Government can foster the progress, developed self sufficient units, march towards excellence, comprise the gap between urban and rural India, strengthen the spirit of diversity which will be boost the dream of "Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan or Self-Reliant India".*

**Keyword:** India, Indian Constitution, Democracy, Secularism, Justice, Liberty, Equality.

India is the biggest democracy in the world, with a population of over one billion. India, a union of states, is a sovereign socialist, secular, democratic, republic, with a parliamentary system of government. The republic is governed in terms of the Constitution, which was adopted on 26 November, 1949 and came into force on 26 January, 1950. During the past fifty-three years there have been regular elections to the Parliament and state legislatures. This reflects the maturity and wisdom of the Indian electorate, in whom the ultimate power and sovereignty rests. With the passage of time, Indian voters have become more assertive and active as regards their participation in the process of democracy. Growing political awareness and maturity of the Indian masses, which, in turn, has made the various political parties more conscious of their responsibility and accountability to the people.

Indian democracy has very deep and strong foundations. The credit for this strong democratic foundation rightly belongs to our leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Indira Gandhi and many more. Their contributions to the success of Indian democracy have been immeasurable. Indian democracy is based on adult franchise and a healthy and competitive party-system. Its multi-party system which itself denote the soul of democracy, peoples rule and choices. These parties play a significant role in the elections from local to national level for the smooth functioning of democracy. These political parties are the very life-blood of Indian democracy because the whole Government system is operated by the ruling party as well as keeping check by opposition party.

Mahtama Gandhi truly believe in concept of Democracy which focuses upon terms like secularism, socialism, republic, democracy and values describe Indian state which believes in justice, equality, fraternity and liberty which ultimately strengthen the Indian Constitution and create equivalent society. Gandhi's concepts of economy distribution, small scale industries, decentralization of power, importance of democracy, swadeshi, ramrajya, ...which are incorporated in supreme law of the land i.e. the 'Indian Constitution' which was formulated under guidance of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar. This concepts mainly depends on decentralization system which help the village to became more self sufficient unit. We can say pioneer in India for Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

Liberty, equality, justice and fraternity are the very cornerstones of democracy. They are not available under dictatorship and utilitarian forms of government. Without freedom of speech, expression of faith, profession, association, etc. democracy is meaningless. Similarly, right to own property is one of the fundamental rights which is eradicate under democracy. The Indian Constitution offers all the Indian citizens, individually and collectively, these basic freedoms and rights. They are guaranteed in the Constitution in the form of six broad categories of Fundamental Rights and are justifiable. It means that each and every Indian citizen has the right to Constitutional remedies for the enforcement of these rights. There is free, independent and separate judiciary to see that these rights are not violated and tampered with. All are equal before law, right from the Prime Minister to a peon. This is the very spirit and essence of our democracy. An independent, strong and incorruptible judiciary is one of the main pillars of democracy.

The Constitution not only made the people the ultimate masters of their destiny, but it also made them equal. The traditional Indian social system, fragmented by religious and ethnic differences and stratified by caste, lost its legitimacy. Individual human beings became the fundamental units of polity. All political and economic rights were granted to the individuals. At the same time, some cultural rights were granted to the minority groups.

Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan or Self-reliant India campaign is the vision of new India envisaged by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. On 12 May 2020, our PM raised a clarion call to the nation giving a kick start to the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan (Self-reliant India campaign)

India's self-reliance will be based on five pillars. Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission have majorly 5 pillar on which it is based:

1. Economy
2. Infrastructure
3. Technology driven system
4. Vibrant demography
5. Demand

The above 5 pillars raised the standard of the mission Atmanirbhar Bharat . From dependency to self-reliant which coined the greater success of self development in every walk of life. The economy which to accelerate and for that good infrastructure is required without good infrastructure investor can not be attracted for investment in India. The imbalance geography and sub regional mostly affects the developmental activities , with this to fulfill the criteria of Atmanirbhar Bharat liberal-democracy ideology is most needed.

India has faced the COVID-19 situation with fortitude and a spirit of self-reliance, that is evident in the fact that from zero production of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) before March 2020.

India, while celebrating Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary, couldn't have given a better tribute than the launch and success of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', based on Babu's vision of swadeshi and self-reliance. Let's all pledge for "aatmanirbharata". "Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light."

## CONCLUSION

The Democracy in India is something very precious. Furthermore, it is a gift of the patriotic national leaders to the citizens of India. Most noteworthy, the citizens of this country must realize and appreciate the great value of democracy. The democracy in India is certainly unique in the world.

The Constitution serves as guidelines for every citizen. It helped India to attain the status of a Republic in the world. Once Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that "governments would come and go, political parties would be formed and dissolved, but the country should survive, and democracy should remain there forever".

To sum up everything that has been stated so far,

**"Fabric of India's democracy is woven with the golden thread of the Constitution".**

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