

Twitter Thread by SonaliRanade

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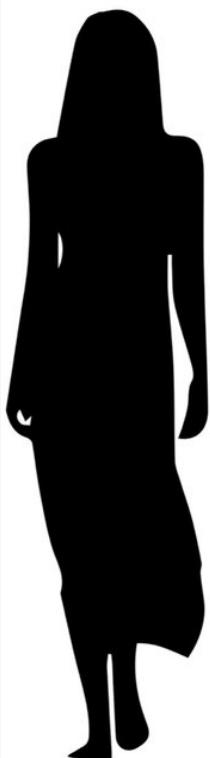
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Why are some Hindu RW handles praising Gandhi? Read following 3 slides.

They are offered mainly 2 my liberal friends, who do not yet realise, how Gandhi will be deified again, as an exemplar of Hindu thought, to annihilate Dr B R Ambedkar, & bring back a redefined secularism.

<https://t.co/uMs33oOu2E>

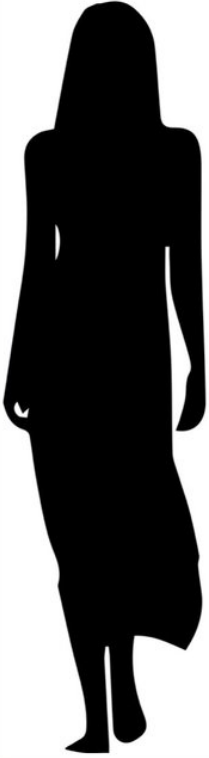


The most famous Indian in the world, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, disagreed. He believed that caste represented the genius of Indian society. At a speech at a missionary conference in Madras in 1916, he said:

“The vast organisation of caste answered not only the religious wants of the community, but it answered to its political needs. The villagers managed their internal affairs through the caste system, and through it they dealt with any oppression from the ruling power or powers. It is not possible to deny the organising capability of a nation that was capable of producing the caste system its wonderful power of organisation.”

-- Arundhati Roy, *The Doctor and the Saint*.

<https://t.co/ADv9gvxSJK>



In 1921, in his Gujarati journal Navajivan he Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi wrote:

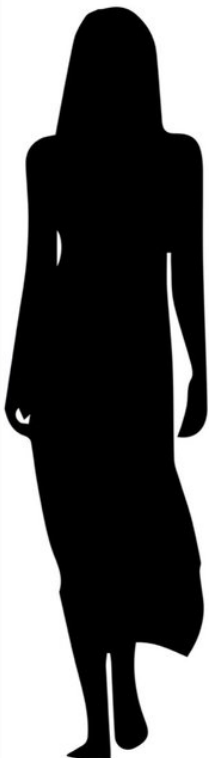
“I believe that if Hindu Society has been able to stand, it is because it is founded on the caste system . . . To destroy the caste system and adopt the Western European social system means that Hindus must give up the principle of hereditary occupation which is the soul of the caste system. Hereditary principle is an eternal principle. To change it is to create disorder. I have no use for a Brahmin if I cannot call him a Brahmin for my life. It will be chaos if every day a Brahmin is changed into a Shudra and a Shudra is to be changed into a Brahmin.”

-- Arundhati Roy, The Doctor and the Saint.

India's Right Wing intellectuals, both on the economic right & left, liberal or orthodox, secular or Hindutvawadi, have long sought to discredit Arundhati Roy, as an outdated Marxist.

So the third slide is addressed to these denizens. I will let her speak 4 herself.

<https://t.co/IEUrqlJ54n>



In Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)—which is regarded as a bastion of progressive social scientists and historians—only 3.29 per cent of the faculty is Dalit and 1.44 per cent Adivasi,39 while the quotas are meant to be 15 per cent and 7.5 per cent respectively.

This, despite having supposedly implemented reservation for twenty-seven years.

In 2010, when the subject was raised, some of its Professors Emeritus said that implementing the constitutionally mandated reservation policy would ‘prevent JNU from remaining one of the premier centres of excellence’.40

They argued that if reservation was implemented in faculty positions at JNU, ‘the well-to-do will move to foreign and private universities, and the disadvantaged will no longer be able to get world class education which JNU has been so proud to offer them so far’.

B.N. Mallick, a professor of life sciences, was less shy: ‘Some castes are genetically malnourished and so very little can be achieved in raising them up; and if they are, it would be undoing excellence and merit.’

42 Year after year, privileged-caste students have staged mass protests against reservation across India.

-- Roy, Arundhati. The Doctor and the Saint

Ambedkar in his life time never trusted the communists. In a famous quip on Mumbai's communists, he held they were mostly Brahmins from Konkan, more bothered about Brahmin wages in the textile mills, than the plight of Dalits. One couldn't expect anything better from them.

Trust me, the most credible defence of the caste system comes from Gandhi, who was forced to think deep about it, after being challenged by Ambedkar. It was Gandhi, who scuttled a separate electorate for Dalits with a fast-unto-death in Pune, which culminated in the Poona Pact.