

# Article-Why India Today Shouldn't Forget the Legacy of Ambedkar?

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## **Full Name:** Dr. Babasaheb Bhimji Rao Ambedkar

Ambedkar was born into an "untouchable" family in **Mhow on 1891** as **14th child and last child** of poor **Mahar subedar, or non-commissioned officer**, in an Army cantonment  
He passed away at age of 65 in 1956



## **Many people questioned the author why article on him and why at this time?**

1. There are more statues of BR Ambedkar in India than almost anyone else, except maybe Mahatma Gandhi
  2. In 2012, two important tv channels asked people to vote for who they thought was the greatest Indian. Out of over **20 million voters, a majority chose Ambedkar** as the greatest Indian
- BR Ambedkar is the most important figure in India after Mahatma Gandhi
  - When he was alive, some people didn't like him but some people looked up to him
  - But now when he is not alive, people respect him and hardly anyone says bad things about him.
  - A lot of political groups in India wanted to be connected to his legacy
  - But even if he is famous in India a lot of people outside India don't know about him
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- Ambedkar was born into an "untouchable" family in 1891 as 14th child and last child of poor Mahar subedar, or non-commissioned officer, in an Army cantonment
  - He was one of the first "untouchable" who entered Indian College he became a **professor (at the prestigious Sydenham College)** and a Principal (of no less an institution than Bombay's Government Law College, then the top law college in the country).
  - He earned multiple **doctorates** from **Columbia University and the University of London**, earning advanced qualifications in economics, politics, and law
  - He managed to become a **lawyer in London** and later played a crucial **role in making India's Constitution**.
  - His family had history of not being able to read, but still he wrote many impressive books
  - But in **1947, he became the first Law Minister of India** when the country became independent
  - He **successfully fought against the long-standing unfair treatment of Dalits** (previously known as "untouchables" or "depressed classes"), ensured that it became a part of the Constitution
  - encouraged the idea of having a fair and balanced set of laws in a society that wasn't used to such ideas.
  - **He wasn't even allowed to sit at a proper desk in school like his classmates, and he had to learn from a sack on the floor.**
  - **He was even punished for trying to get water from a tap because people thought he would pollute it**
  - **he did really well in his studies, got scholarships to study abroad, and earned many advanced degrees**
  - **When he came back to work for Maharaja, he couldn't find a place to live because of his low caste. He tried to hide his identity, but he was discovered and thrown out of his home.**
  - **There was a moment when he sat in a park at night, surrounded by his important papers, crying, and he even gave up a prestigious job he had earned.**
  - He was not only a highly skilled economist and legal expert, but also a trailblazing social scientist
  - He studied and analyzed caste system in India
  - He's considered the "father" of certain economic ideas by Nobel Prize-winning economist Amartya Sen.
  - He was pioneer in promoting women rights