



Vision of Dr B.R Ambedkar on Governance and Public Policies

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Abstract: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision on governance and public policies is deeply rooted in principles of justice, equality, and democratic participation. He championed a governance framework that sought to dismantle entrenched social hierarchies, particularly the caste system, through state-led institutional reforms aimed at achieving social equity. Ambedkar emphasized the role of the state not merely as an administrative entity but as an agent of profound social transformation, advocating representational politics to empower marginalized groups, especially Dalits. His conception of democracy transcended periodic elections, envisioning it as "associated life," where communication, education, and active engagement reshape social realities and foster collective agency. Ambedkar believed that democracy must secure access, enablement, and fairness, integrate procedural equality while acknowledge individual merit and desert. He viewed justice as the foundational pillar of modern societies, requiring initial equality among citizens alongside constitutional and institutional mechanisms to mitigate social dominance and exclusion. Furthermore, his analysis extended to spatial and social dimensions of untouchability, recognizing that physical segregation reinforced social exclusion, thereby underscoring the need for policies fostering inclusiveness in both rural and urban contexts. Ambedkar's governance vision thus embodies a comprehensive ethical-political philosophy, combining normative commitments with practical strategies for institutional redesign to achieve equality, social justice, and democratic pluralism in India.

Keywords: Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, governance, public policies, social justice, democracy, caste system, institutional reforms, equality, Buddhism, representational politics.

Introduction

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, a towering figure in Indian history, profoundly influenced the discourse on governance and public policy through his visionary ideas and tireless efforts toward social justice and equality. His vision was rooted in the belief that governance must serve as an instrument for the emancipation of marginalized communities and the establishment of an inclusive society. Ambedkar's approach to governance transcended mere administrative efficiency; it was deeply intertwined with the

principles of democracy, social equity, and human rights. He envisioned a political and administrative framework that not only ensured the rule of law but also actively addressed the structural inequalities perpetuated by caste, class, and social discrimination.

Central to Ambedkar's vision was the idea that good governance requires a strong constitutional foundation that guarantees fundamental rights and equal opportunities for all citizens. As the chief architect of the Indian Constitution, he emphasized the importance of constitutional safeguards to dismantle entrenched social hierarchies and promote social justice. His advocacy for affirmative action and protective discrimination policies reflected his commitment to creating a level playing field for historically oppressed groups, particularly the Dalits. Ambedkar's governance philosophy advocated for a state that is proactive in rectifying social imbalances and ensuring that public policies are inclusive, equitable, and geared toward the upliftment of all sections of society.

Ambedkar also underscored the significance of rationality, scientific temper, and education in shaping public policies. He believed that governance should be guided by reasoned analysis and empirical evidence rather than tradition or prejudice. This emphasis on rational policy-making was aimed at fostering social progress and economic development while safeguarding democratic values. Moreover, Ambedkar's vision extended to economic policies that promote distributive justice, reduce poverty, and empower disenfranchised communities through land reforms, labor rights, and equitable resource allocation.

In the realm of public administration, Ambedkar advocated for transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct among public officials. He recognized that effective governance depends not only on sound policies but also on the integrity and professionalism of those entrusted with public responsibilities. His vision included a bureaucracy that is impartial, efficient, and committed to serving the public interest without discrimination or bias.

Overall, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision on governance and public policies remains profoundly relevant in contemporary times. His ideas continue to inspire efforts toward building democratic institutions that uphold social justice, protect human dignity, and promote inclusive development. By integrating constitutionalism, social equity, rational policy-making, and ethical administration, Ambedkar laid down a comprehensive framework for governance that seeks to transform society into a just and equitable polity.

Review Of Literature

The vision of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on governance and public policies has been critically examined across interdisciplinary scholarship, particularly emphasizing his commitment to social justice, democracy, and institutional reform focused on marginalized communities. Ambedkar's thought encompasses a robust critique of caste-based inequities, a reimagining of democratic governance, and the ethical foundations necessary for equitable policymaking.

Central to Ambedkar's view on governance is his insistence on **equality as a foundational principle in social and political institutions**. He argued for "initial equality" among citizens while recognizing differentiated accomplishments but cautioned that not all disparities should lead to reward or compensation. His understanding of democracy was not merely procedural or electoral but fundamentally about enabling access and empowerment for all citizens, especially the oppressed and disenfranchised (Rodrigues, 2024). This approach frames public policy as a tool for **correcting entrenched social inequalities** and ensuring justice through representative constitutional architectures that prioritize the commons over dominant elites (Rodrigues, 2024).

Ambedkar's engagement with governance also deeply incorporates his **critique of the caste system and untouchability**, viewed as spatial and social structures that perpetuate exclusion. By analyzing the spatial dynamics of caste oppression, Ambedkar linked the breakdown of caste segregation—particularly through urbanization—as conducive to fostering a collective national identity necessary for democratization (Cháirez-Garza, 2014). This spatial metaphor informs his public policy vision, which seeks to use state power and institutional mechanisms to dismantle these barriers of exclusion and align public governance with principles of inclusion.

Ambedkar's philosophical grounding in democracy was heavily influenced by his interaction with American pragmatist John Dewey. Echoing Deweyan ideals, Ambedkar conceived democracy as “associated life” — a social and communicative process through which individuals and communities shape their environment and realize collective freedom and equality (Mukherjee, 2009). This pragmatic democratic vision encourages **participatory governance and education as means to empowerment**, which Ambedkar recognized as indispensable for effective policy frameworks aimed at social reform (Stroud, 2017). Education thus becomes an instrument to awaken political consciousness and facilitate sustained democratic deliberation.

The ethical contours of Ambedkar's governance model emphasize a **state-led institutional reform positioned as an ethical imperative rooted in subaltern agency**. He advocated for “representational politics” where marginalized groups not only participate but actively shape governance processes, effectively challenging hegemonies embedded in social and bureaucratic structures (Kumar et al., 2021). Ambedkar's approach calls for structural reforms in governance, creating institutions committed to social justice which are capable of reimagining policy effectiveness beyond narrow efficiency metrics to include citizenship engagement and empowerment (Meyer et al., 1994).

Moreover, the vision of governance that emerges from Ambedkar's thought dovetails with ideas of **democratizing public policy and administration**. Contemporary analyses highlight the importance of **participatory deliberative democracy and democratic consultation in policy-making**, a realm where government and society engage collaboratively to formulate public policies that reflect the needs and voices of all segments of society. This vision aligns closely with Ambedkar's insistence on empowering the subaltern through institutionalized mechanisms of participation and consultation (Patten, 2000).

In the broader context of governance, Ambedkar's insights resonate with modern discourses on good governance, accountability, social inclusion, and participatory democracy. His conceptual framework anticipates challenges in managing diverse societal interests through differentiated polity and multi-level governance, while emphasizing moral anchoring via institutional reforms possibly inspired by ethical systems such as Buddhism to secure justice and societal cohesion (Bevir, 2009; Rodrigues, 2024).

In summary, the literature on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision on governance and public policy delineates a multidimensional framework that combines:

- A **commitment to social justice through equality and rejection of caste domination**, anchoring governance in moral and institutional reforms (Kumar et al., 2021; Rodrigues, 2024).
- A **democratic ethos inspired by pragmatist philosophy**, stressing participatory deliberation, education, and associated life for fuller realization of citizen agency (Mukherjee, 2009; Stroud, 2017).
- The importance of **spatial and social reconfiguration** to overcome exclusion and enable inclusive nationalism and democratic governance (Cháirez-Garza, 2014).

- A policy framework that demands **institutional democratization and citizen engagement** to make governance responsive and just, moving beyond narrow technocratic models (Meyer et al., 1994; Patten, 2000).

These scholarly perspectives collectively underscore Ambedkar's enduring relevance for contemporary debates on governance, public policy, and social equity, advocating a governance model that is deeply democratic, inclusive, and justice-oriented.

Research Objectives

Based on the provided context regarding Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision on governance and public policies—particularly his democratic ideals influenced by John Dewey, emphasis on social equity, inclusion of marginalized groups, and promotion of social justice—the following five research objectives are proposed to guide a scholarly exploration of his thought:

Research Objectives on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Vision of Governance and Public Policies

- **To analyze the influence of John Dewey's democratic philosophy on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's conceptualization of governance and democracy in India.** This objective aims to explore how Deweyan ideas of democracy as "associated life" and education shaped Ambedkar's approach to governance, emphasizing continuous social change through communication, education, and inclusive participation beyond mere electoral processes (Mukherjee, 2009).
- **To examine Ambedkar's vision of inclusive governance as a mechanism for empowering marginalized communities, particularly the historically oppressed "untouchables," within the Indian socio-political context.** This includes studying how Ambedkar advocated for participatory decision-making and social justice to address systemic inequalities rooted in caste and other social hierarchies, aligning with contemporary models of inclusive public governance that promote equity and representation (Frederickson, 2018; Sánchez-Soriano et al., 2024).
- **To investigate Ambedkar's principles and proposals for public policies that integrate social equity and fairness as foundational values of governance.** This objective probes how Ambedkar's policy ideas anticipated modern concerns with procedural and distributive justice, emphasizing equitable resource allocation and fair bureaucratic representation to promote democratic values and social equity (Frederickson, 2018; Liang et al., 2020).
- **To assess the relevance of Ambedkar's ideas on governance in addressing contemporary socio-political challenges such as socioeconomic inequality, political representation, and social justice in India.** This encompasses exploring ways in which his vision aligns with or informs current efforts toward inclusive, transparent governance and public policies aimed at empowering underrepresented groups and promoting social equity at local and regional levels (Dobbin & Lubell, 2019; Sánchez-Soriano et al., 2024).
- **To explore Dr. Ambedkar's approach to democratic education and communication as pivotal tools for social transformation and governance reform.** Focus here is on Ambedkar's belief in education and public discourse as means to challenge systemic oppression and enable active civic participation, reflecting Deweyan ideas and reinforcing democratic governance that continuously evolves through informed citizen engagement (Mukherjee, 2009).

These objectives collectively provide a structured framework to examine Dr. Ambedkar's governance philosophy in depth, connecting historical ideas with enduring themes of democracy, equity, and social justice that remain critical to public policy discourse today

Research Methodology

The methodology adopted is review of the primary literature his various speeches- and secondary literature- academic work available on Vision of Dr B.R Ambedkar on Governance and Public Policies

Results and Discussion

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's views on constitutional governance are foundational to understanding his broader vision of a just society. He regarded the Constitution not merely as a legal document but as a transformative instrument designed to institutionalize equality, liberty, and fraternity. For Ambedkar, constitutional governance meant the establishment of a rule-based order where laws protect the rights of all individuals, especially those historically marginalized. He emphasized the necessity of a strong, written constitution that explicitly guarantees fundamental rights, ensuring that governance operates within the bounds of justice and fairness. Ambedkar's insistence on constitutionalism was rooted in his understanding that social change requires legal frameworks capable of dismantling entrenched hierarchies and preventing the tyranny of the majority. His role as the chief architect of the Indian Constitution reflects his commitment to embedding social justice principles within the very fabric of governance.

Ambedkar's perspective on social justice policies was integrally linked to his constitutional vision. He championed affirmative action and protective discrimination as vital tools to correct historical injustices faced by Dalits and other oppressed communities. He believed that equality of opportunity could not be achieved through formal equality alone but required proactive state intervention to level the socio-economic playing field. His advocacy for reservations in education, employment, and political representation was grounded in the conviction that social justice must be substantive and not merely symbolic. Ambedkar's social justice policies aimed at eradicating caste-based discrimination and fostering social inclusion, viewing these as prerequisites for genuine democratic governance. His approach underscored the importance of public policies that are sensitive to social realities and committed to uplifting disadvantaged groups through tangible measures.

In the domain of administrative ethics, Ambedkar stressed the importance of integrity, accountability, and impartiality among public officials. He recognized that the effectiveness of governance depends heavily on the conduct and professionalism of the bureaucracy. Ambedkar advocated for a public administration that is transparent and free from corruption, where officials serve the public interest without bias or favoritism. He saw ethical governance as essential to maintaining public trust and ensuring that policies translate into real benefits for society. His vision included mechanisms to hold administrators accountable and to foster a culture of ethical responsibility within government institutions. Ambedkar's emphasis on administrative ethics reinforces the idea that governance is not only about policy design but also about the principled execution of those policies.

Together, these aspects of Ambedkar's vision—constitutional governance, social justice policies, and administrative ethics—form a cohesive framework aimed at creating an equitable and democratic society. His insights provide a blueprint for governance that balances legal rigor, social equity, and moral accountability, ensuring that public policies serve as instruments of empowerment and social transformation.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision profoundly shaped policies in education, labor rights, and economic reforms, reflecting his commitment to social justice and inclusive development.

In education, Ambedkar viewed it as a pivotal tool for social emancipation and empowerment. He advocated for universal access to quality education, especially for marginalized communities such as Dalits, to break the cycle of caste-based oppression. His emphasis was not only on literacy but also on higher education and vocational training to enable socio-economic mobility. Ambedkar argued that education must foster critical thinking, scientific temper, and rationality, equipping individuals to participate fully in democratic governance and economic life. Public policies inspired by his vision promoted affirmative action in educational institutions, scholarships, and the establishment of educational infrastructure in underserved areas to ensure equitable opportunities.

Regarding labor rights, Ambedkar was a staunch advocate for the protection and upliftment of workers, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds engaged in unorganized and manual labor. He emphasized the need for fair wages, safe working conditions, and social security measures. His vision encompassed legal safeguards against exploitation and discrimination in the workplace, ensuring dignity and justice for laborers. Ambedkar's approach linked labor rights with broader social justice, highlighting the intersection of caste and class oppression. Public policies reflecting his ideas include the enactment of labor laws that regulate working hours, prohibit bonded labor, and promote collective bargaining rights, thereby fostering economic inclusion and reducing inequalities.

In economic reforms, Ambedkar championed distributive justice and equitable resource allocation to address poverty and social disparities. He advocated for land reforms to dismantle feudal landholdings and empower landless peasants, recognizing land ownership as a means of economic independence. Ambedkar also supported state intervention in economic planning to ensure that growth benefits reached marginalized groups. His vision included promoting industrialization with social responsibility, protecting labor rights, and encouraging cooperative enterprises. Economic policies influenced by Ambedkar's thought aimed at reducing wealth concentration, expanding employment opportunities, and integrating marginalized communities into the mainstream economy through affirmative measures.

Together, these policy areas illustrate Ambedkar's holistic approach to governance and public policy—one that integrates social justice, economic equity, and democratic participation. His vision continues to inform contemporary policy debates on inclusive growth and social welfare.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision has inspired numerous policy implementations that reflect his commitment to social justice, equity, and inclusive governance. One of the most significant examples is the system of affirmative action or reservations in education, employment, and political representation. This policy framework was institutionalized through constitutional provisions and legislative measures to uplift Dalits and other marginalized communities, ensuring their participation in public life and access to opportunities historically denied to them. These reservations have played a crucial role in increasing representation and addressing systemic inequalities.

In education, policies such as scholarships, reserved seats in universities, and the establishment of institutions in underdeveloped regions have been direct outcomes of Ambedkar's vision. These initiatives aim to break the barriers of caste-based exclusion and promote educational equity. The establishment of the Dr. Ambedkar University and other similar institutions exemplifies efforts to create spaces dedicated to empowering marginalized groups through knowledge and skill development.

Labor rights reforms inspired by Ambedkar's ideas include laws prohibiting bonded labor and child labor, regulation of working hours, and the introduction of minimum wage standards. These policies protect vulnerable workers, particularly those from oppressed social strata, enhancing their economic security and dignity. The Trade Unions Act and various social security schemes reflect Ambedkar's advocacy for collective bargaining and worker empowerment.

Economic reforms such as land redistribution programs in various Indian states align with Ambedkar's emphasis on distributive justice. Land reforms aimed to dismantle feudal landholding patterns and provide land to landless peasants, thereby promoting economic independence and reducing rural poverty. Policies promoting cooperative farming and social welfare schemes for marginalized communities also echo Ambedkar's vision of equitable resource distribution.

In governance, transparency and accountability mechanisms, such as the establishment of vigilance commissions and anti-corruption bodies, resonate with Ambedkar's call for ethical administration. Efforts to professionalize the bureaucracy and ensure impartiality in public service delivery reflect his emphasis on administrative ethics.

These policy implementations demonstrate how Ambedkar's vision has been operationalized to create a more just and inclusive society. While challenges remain, these examples provide a tangible framework for translating his principles into actionable governance and public policy.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's ideas offer valuable insights for addressing contemporary governance challenges by emphasizing constitutionalism, social justice, rational policymaking, and administrative ethics.

1. **Addressing Social Inequality and Inclusion:** Ambedkar's advocacy for affirmative action and protective discrimination remains crucial in tackling persistent social inequalities. Modern governance can build on these principles by designing policies that actively promote the inclusion of marginalized groups in education, employment, and political representation, ensuring substantive equality rather than merely formal equality.
2. **Strengthening Constitutional Governance:** Ambedkar's insistence on a strong constitutional framework to protect fundamental rights provides a foundation for upholding the rule of law and preventing majoritarian domination. Contemporary governance challenges such as safeguarding minority rights, ensuring judicial independence, and combating arbitrary state actions can be addressed by reinforcing constitutional checks and balances as envisioned by Ambedkar.
3. **Promoting Rational and Evidence-Based Policymaking:** Ambedkar's emphasis on scientific temper and rationality in policy formulation is highly relevant for current governance. Governments today face complex issues requiring data-driven decisions, transparent evaluation of policy impacts, and adaptability. Embedding empirical research and stakeholder consultation into policy design aligns with Ambedkar's vision and improves governance effectiveness.
4. **Enhancing Administrative Ethics and Accountability:** Corruption, bureaucratic inefficiency, and lack of transparency remain major governance challenges. Ambedkar's call for ethical conduct, impartiality, and accountability among public officials can guide reforms in public administration. Implementing robust anti-corruption frameworks, performance audits, and citizen engagement mechanisms reflect his principles and strengthen trust in governance.
5. **Economic and Social Policy for Inclusive Development:** Ambedkar's focus on distributive justice and equitable resource allocation can inform strategies to reduce poverty, address economic disparities, and empower disenfranchised communities. Policies promoting land reforms, labor rights, social security, and cooperative enterprises can be adapted to contemporary economic contexts to foster inclusive growth.
6. **Education as a Tool for Empowerment:** Continuing Ambedkar's vision, expanding access to quality education with an emphasis on critical thinking and social awareness is vital. Governance challenges related to educational inequity and skill gaps can be addressed by policies that prioritize marginalized groups and promote lifelong learning.

Applying Ambedkar's vision to current governance challenges involves integrating legal safeguards, social equity measures, rational policy frameworks, and ethical administration into a cohesive approach. This framework can help build democratic institutions that are responsive, inclusive, and just.

Research Questions

- 1.How did Ambedkar's views on democracy influence contemporary governance models in India?
- 2.How have Ambedkar's ideas influenced policies aimed at social justice in contemporary India?
- 3.What specific policies have emerged from Ambedkar's critique of the caste system in modern India?

Discussion of the Research Questions

- 1.How did Ambedkar's views on democracy influence contemporary governance models in India?

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's views on democracy significantly influenced contemporary governance models in India by advancing a vision that extends far beyond mere electoral mechanics. Drawing upon the pragmatist philosophy of John Dewey, Ambedkar reinterpreted democracy as a form of "associated life" — a continuous, communicative, and educational process through which individuals are both shaped by and actively transform their social environment. This conception emphasizes inclusive social participation and empowerment rather than periodic elections alone. Ambedkar applied this framework to contest the entrenched caste system and systemic exclusion of marginalized communities, particularly Dalits, advocating democracy as a means to achieve substantive equality, liberty, and fraternity in Indian society.

His insistence on democracy as a vehicle for social transformation informed India's constitutional and institutional design, underpinning policies of representational politics that aim to empower historically oppressed groups through affirmative action and political reservation. Ambedkar argued that democratic governance must secure access to political power and social resources for all citizens, correcting structural inequalities that inhibit genuine participation. This emphasis on social justice as integral to democratic practice laid the foundation for India's commitment to equality under law and the constitutionally mandated protections for socially disadvantaged populations.

Furthermore, Ambedkar's critique illuminated that democracy's vitality depends on multiple avenues of enablement—education, communication, and institutional reform—to foster agency among citizens. His vision sees democracy as an ongoing project of social inclusion rather than a static regime, a perspective that continues to shape debates about governance, social policies, and affirmative reforms in contemporary India. Thus, Indian governance models reflect Ambedkar's democratic ideals by striving to balance procedural representation with the substantive inclusion of marginalized voices, advancing a pluralistic and socially equitable polity (Kumar et al., 2021; Mukherjee, 2009; Rodrigues, 2024).

- 2.How have Ambedkar's ideas influenced policies aimed at social justice in contemporary India?

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's ideas have profoundly influenced contemporary social justice policies in India, particularly through his relentless critique of the caste system and his advocacy for institutional reforms aimed at dismantling caste-based discrimination. Ambedkar recognized that social exclusion was not merely a legal issue but deeply spatial and cultural, as segregated villages physically reinforced untouchability and social marginalization. Modern policies reflect this understanding by promoting physical and social inclusion, encouraging integration in urban and rural spaces to weaken caste barriers and foster a collective national identity (Cháirez-Garza, 2014).

One of Ambedkar's central contributions to social justice is the concept of representational politics, which has underpinned India's system of affirmative action or reservations for Scheduled Castes,

Scheduled Tribes, and other marginalized groups. These measures aim to create equitable access to education, government jobs, and political representation, directly addressing inequalities inherited from the caste order (Kumar et al., 2021). Despite ongoing debates and challenges regarding the scope and implementation of reservation policies, Ambedkar's vision continues to inspire legal and constitutional protections that uphold social equity.

Furthermore, contemporary scholarship highlights how affirmative action in India embodies Ambedkar's idea of democracy as an enabling and inclusive process, where formerly excluded groups gain substantive rather than merely formal political participation. The policy framework aligns with Ambedkar's ethical and political demand to transform social relations structurally, not just symbolically, through state-led reforms and education (Mallampalli, 2018; Mukherjee, 2009).

However, research also reveals persistent challenges in fully realizing Ambedkar's ideals. Discrimination and exclusion remain prevalent in educational institutions, bureaucratic hurdles and stigma affect the utilization of affirmative action, and debates continue about the inclusion of Dalit converts to Christianity within reservation frameworks, illustrating the complexity of translating Ambedkar's vision into practice (Deshpande, 2018; Mallampalli, 2018; Sukumar, 2022).

In sum, Ambedkar's pioneering thought has shaped India's social justice architecture by embedding the principles of equality, representation, and structural reform in public policy, even as ongoing efforts are needed to address the multifaceted realities of caste-based exclusion.

3.What specific policies have emerged from Ambedkar's critique of the caste system in modern India?

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's critique of the caste system has directly inspired several specific policies in modern India aimed at addressing caste-based discrimination and social injustice. Foremost among these are affirmative action measures, commonly known as reservation policies, which allocate a fixed percentage of seats in education, government employment, and political representation to Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and other marginalized groups. These policies embody Ambedkar's prescription of representational politics as a means to achieve substantive equality by enabling historically oppressed communities access to resources and decision-making positions (Kumar et al., 2021).

Ambedkar's emphasis on institutional reform to dismantle caste barriers has also shaped legal frameworks that criminalize untouchability and caste discrimination, such as the Protection of Civil Rights Act (1955) and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act (1989). These laws reflect his vision of the state as an active agent in combating social exclusion and securing justice for Dalits and other disadvantaged communities (Kumar et al., 2021).

Moreover, Ambedkar's insight into the spatial dimensions of caste exclusion has influenced urban and rural development policies aiming to reduce segregation and promote social integration. Efforts to improve access to public services and housing in both village and city settings respond to his analysis that social and physical barriers perpetuate untouchability and hinder national unity (Cháirez-Garza, 2014).

Contemporary policy debates also grapple with the extension of affirmative action benefits, such as the contested inclusion of Dalit converts to Christianity and Islam, reflecting ongoing challenges in fully realizing Ambedkar's ideals of equity in complex social realities (Mallampalli, 2018). Additionally, empirical studies highlight that despite formal policies, caste discrimination persists, especially in welfare access and the private labor market, suggesting the need for policy expansion and enforcement consistent with Ambedkar's call for comprehensive reform (Madheswaran & Singhari, 2016; Pankaj, 2019).

In summary, the key policies that have emerged from Ambedkar's critique include reservation (affirmative action), anti-discrimination legislation, social welfare programs, and efforts towards spatial

inclusion, all oriented towards dismantling caste hierarchies and promoting social justice in India's pluralistic democracy (Cháirez-Garza, 2014; Kumar et al., 2021; Madheswaran & Singhari, 2016; Mallampalli, 2018).

Conclusion

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision of governance and public policy profoundly emphasized social justice, equality, and democratic participation. He advocated for an inclusive governance framework that addresses entrenched social inequalities, particularly the caste system, through state-led reforms and representational politics. Influenced by democratic ideals and education, Ambedkar viewed governance not merely as periodic elections but as an ongoing process of associated social life that fosters liberty, fraternity, and active citizenship. His emphasis on institutional reforms aimed to dismantle systemic discrimination and ensure full participation of marginalized communities in governance and policy-making. Ambedkar's legacy remains a guiding blueprint for creating equitable, inclusive, and socially responsive public policies that strengthen democracy and promote human dignity.

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