

Addressing the Fallacy of Non-Hindus Generalizing Hindus as Practitioners of Caste Racism

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Abstract: Worldwide Non-Hindus have a narrative that Hindus are as practitioners of racism of one caste towards the other. But this is far from the truth; it was a practice in old India but has mostly been eradicated over the past 75 years since independence from the British. This paper explains the caste system and how it got corrupted over the last 2500 years to become an avenue for racism; most Hindus have already accepted that this was wrong and have corrected themselves. The original caste system was a division of labor with equal rights for all the four castes. Such a system produces professionals in the four major fields which all countries must have namely, instruction followers (Shudras), producers (Vaishyas), warriors (Kshatriyas) and spiritual guides (Brahmins). The original concept was that some traits of professions can be passed down via physical instructions from parents or even biologically. Thereby over generations very good professionals were created for the country to excel. But each of the four castes has a period when they are more sought after and thereby develops ego; just as when a beautiful girl develops ego. Today, the Vaishyas are sought after and soon the Shudras will be sought after on account of their better ability to follow instructions of computer systems.

Keywords: Caste system, Indian culture, Hinduism.

INTRODUCTION

There is a growing trend especially in Western World to brand Hindus as practitioners of Caste racism and discrimination [Paleri, D, 2022]. Though Caste racism and discrimination was practiced in India in the past, it has been mostly eradicated over the last 75 years since India got her independence from Britain via legislated affirmative actions [Rao, D. N, 2022]. The current president of India, Droupadi Murmu is from what was categorized as a discriminated caste and so is the current Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi [Sharma, S, 2022].

The British enhanced the caste system as much as possible to exert power over the colonized Indians. They needed to accentuate any fault lines found in territories they colonized to keep their power over them; this is the Divide and Rule technique [Duncan, I, 2022].

The best rebuttal to Westerners who bring up the caste racism and discrimination among Indians is to highlight the atrocities committed during the Black slavery era and the killing or intoxication of Native Americans and Aborigines of Australia [Darity Jr, W. *et al.*, 2022][Strang, C. B, 2022][Nettelbeck, A, 2022].

The natives of Sarawak, Malaysia where this author lives have a high tendency to get intoxicated but are still not able to see the bigger picture that it was a policy of the British all over the world to intoxicate people who could potentially cause harm to them [Cheah, Y. K, *et al.*, 2023][Jernigan, D. H. *et al.*, 1999]. This

can be seen in North America, Australia, and all regions they controlled.

The killing the British did in India via outright murder or orchestrated famines, will make Hitler and his men look like angels by comparison. A historian, Mike Davis did research and published that there were 31 serious famines in the 120 years of British rule compared with 17 famines in the 2,000 years prior to the British rule [Davis, M, 1999]. With a proper enumeration of all the Indians murdered by the British, the number will be much more than killed by Hitler, Stalin and Mao put together [Davis, M, 2002]. It is as simple as $2+2=4$. British ruling India = famine. British left = no famine. An Indian can today explain that in any system there will be historically recorded defects, especially considering the much longer time Indians were living in civilized societies compared to most other humans.

This author was once confronted by an Iban (a race in Sarawak, Malaysia) who once said something negative about Indians. This author rebutted, "You, lousy son of a head-hunter." He is a very modern Iban, Christian but the shock in his face and deep thoughts within him can be perceived. He will definitely not bring back whatever perceived defects Indians had. The learning from this episode is that Indians need to take a stand and not just let others abuse them.

FINDINGS AND ROOT CAUSE

Caste has no superior or inferior. Ego of some caste came into the picture in India about 2500 years ago which resulted in the starting of

Buddhism and Jainism to fight this trend [Rajan, V, 2014][Dwivedi, D, 2023]. We need to get back to the original caste system where all are equal in rights but have different professions. The ultimate aim of humanity is to realize we are God ourselves; a Shudra can achieve it by being an ultimate Shudra just as a Brahmin can.

Prior to the advent of Parashurama, the Caste System was practiced as advised by the great sages. The four castes are as follows and are termed in the scriptures as the different portions of the body of society namely the: 1) Legs, 2) Stomach, 3) Shoulder, 4) Head [Deshpande, M. S, 2010].

Shudras (Leg) who are adept in following instructions from others, including computers. They will be the most sought after and wealthy people soon when computers do most work and need their skills of following instructions and thereby providing consciousness to computers.

Vaishya (Stomach) who produced for the country (farmers, artisans, engineers, doctors, businesspeople). They are the most powerful today as businesspeople decide the fate of the earth today.

Kshatriyas (Shoulder) who protected the country with their warrior skills.

Brahmins (Head) who got involved in spirituality.

This author is officially characterized as an OBC (other backward caste) Indian who was born and brought up in Malaysia. But this author's ancestors were leaders of their region in Kerala, India and the reason for this is that about 300 years ago there were five brothers who were grazing cows near an ashram and listened to the teaching of a sage whose voice traveled far outside the ashram in the quiet jungle. That sage eventually found out that these five were absorbing his teachings and took them inside the ashram. The five brothers focused mostly on Ayurvedic medicine knowledge. One day the king of the region was severely ill, and help was sought from all the Brahmin Ayurvedic doctors who failed in their attempts to cure him. Out of no other choice, the supposedly low caste ancestor was called in at the last minute and the king was cured immediately. Thus, this ancestor was gifted with lots of wealth which made the whole gene pool wealthy. But this author's line was not wealthy because a granddad gambled away his wealth in Burma. That was on dad's side. This author's mom's side was also heavily in

Ayurveda. This author went to India for the first time at the age of 31 and his mom took him to her dad's home and said, "See all the surrounding mountains, all the coconut plantations below those mountains belonged to my father." This vindicates what PT. Satish Sharma said, which is that Shudras had quite a lot of power prior to the arrival of the British. What the British did wherever they ruled was to find existing divisions and enhance it since their policy was to Divide and Rule [2]. But some OBCs like the ones described above managed to fight off the transfer of wealth from the Leg & Stomach castes to the Shoulder & Head castes. But this author's immediate family struggled from nothing in Malaysia since dad was a WW2 soldier on the Burma Front (on the British side) was later transferred to Singapore and then to Sarawak, Malaysia.

A similar case of the Divide and Rule policy of the British in Sarawak, Malaysia was that the two races named Iban and Bidayuh. The people of the two races look the same and have the same traditions but hate each other and will try their best not to marry each other. When asked why? They replied that their ancestors were enemies; this must have been the work of the British who ruled this region for 150 years. The British were scared if all the locals united and kicked them out [Jawan, J. A, 2016].

Wherever the British ruled, they found a small community and gave them wealth and used them as an extension of themselves. In India, they transferred much wealth from the more numerous Leg & Stomach castes to the less numerous Head & Shoulder castes. The Moplah rebellion of Kerala in 1921 is considered by most as a Hindu-Muslim conflict but if you really study what happened, it was a case of the British doing a massive transfer of wealth from the Leg & Stomach castes to the Shoulder & Head castes which caused the conflict [Babu, K. S].

The caste system went into a disarray about 2500 years ago which necessitated the conversion of Indians to Buddhism and Jainism and later the attack by the Muslim Mughal hordes and even later by the Christian British. The same caste disarray happened very long ago in history and Vishnu had to incarnate as Parashurama to kill off 21 generations of the Shoulder castes. Intuitively one can conclude that India is a sacred land and whenever there are caste abuses, God will send retribution: the latest retribution being the Mughal and British conquest [Karunakaran, P, 2005].

One of the justifications of the AIT (Aryan invasion theory) is that Brahmins are on average whiter in skin color compared to other castes but when your ancestors were meditating and teaching in shades of homes or ashrams for millenniums you will be lighter skinned than if your great ancestors were farming in the sun with little to no clothes (it was too hot to wear much clothes in India), and thus the melanin production of their bodies increased as a protection from the ultraviolet rays of the sun. But occasionally one can find Brahmins who have a very dark skin tone; as dark as an African [Patrika, V.K][Frawley, D, 1994].

Profession classification and segregation was practiced in many countries. You can observe it even in Western countries where people have names like Smiths, Bakers, Cook, Fisher, Hunter and Knight [Clark, G. *et al.*, 2014]. Doctors have their children being doctors, priests have their children being priests and engineers have their children being engineers. This author's dad was an electrical technician who was trained to fight the Japanese in Burma. But he was still doing a Vaishya job even during the war, because his main job was to parachute down from planes carrying heavy Morse Code equipment on his back into the battlefield and communicate with central command. Later when he had children, he had electrical books, parts, and tools in his home so all five of his children got interested in that field and became electrical engineers. Similarly, this author has lots of electrical engineering books, parts, and tools at home so two of the children are currently working as electrical engineers and the third one is studying in university to be one. Family members can go astray away from electrical engineering because Vaishyas/Shudras (not sure, but my findings suggest this author's family are Vaishyas) range from being electrical, mechanical, civil engineers, businesspeople, farmers, or artisans. The family will try not to be priests, police, lawyers, or soldiers. But of course, if someone attacks the family we need to get out of our nature and give severe retribution as Parashurama did, where he killed all warriors in his path despite being born of the Head caste. If professions continue over many generations, there will be perfection at professions which is what the country needs.

Systems work if there is love for each human being for another. In the good times, the Brahmins will be so happy and filled with so much love for a

Shudra lady who served him food because he was engaged in spiritual activities and could not take time off to make food for himself. And all castes will have so much love for the Kshatriya for defending the country against a ferocious enemy who would have killed and maimed most of the country's population. And the Vaishyas and Shudras will be filled with great love for the Brahmins for educating their children about the soul and even other sciences. It is when love disappeared over the last 2500 years and hatred moved in, that suffering among Indians became a norm. Such disarrays had to occur because this is the Kali age [Karunakaran, P, 2005].

There was no superiority in the castes, all four are totally equal parts of the body of society. A Shudra can attain God realization by performing his or her duties perfectly just as a Brahmin can. Some say they must go through the chain of castes to attain self-realization which is totally not according to the original Vedas. Just as some words in the Bible have been tampered with, some Hindu writings have been changed especially in this Kali Yuga; the real knowledge (Vedas) is not in books but within the heart of each human [Karunakaran, P, 2005]. Can you say your hands or legs are less important than your head? Will you chop off your legs because you feel it is inferior?

When foreigners first came to India, they were surprised by the skill levels which the caste system brought about [Subrahmanyam, S, 2017]. Caste racism developed as a corruption of the caste system, just as any system can get corrupted over time if proper safeguarding is not done by the citizens. This can be compared to liberals introducing totalitarian rules in the USA because there are insufficient Americans safeguarding the tenets of the constitution and especially the First and Second Amendment. The ideas of politically incorrect speech and the attempt to take away arms from Americans are directly against the very foundation of the USA. The founding fathers of the USA were the first to think deeply about how to achieve a sustainable free society which was a revolutionary concept at that time when only Kings and Emperors ruled countries. The equations they came up with required the right to bear arms as a prerequisite [Karunakaran, P, 2022]. Some point to the school shootings as a defect of the right to bear arms but such shooting will not happen if the Second Amendment was followed strictly, and every adult in the schools carry guns. This is practiced diligently in South

Dakota, USA where this author studied. Here adults carry guns even while shopping in supermarkets. Guns and bullets are placed on shop racks next to shirts and socks. There was no murder in the six years this author lived there. Another observation from the six-year stay in the SD, USA, (which also relates to caste discrimination) was that nobody was proud because everyone is just one bullet away from death from all the gun-wielding people around them. Some Americans state that the Founding Fathers of the USA were wrong because some of them owned slaves [Karunakaran, P, 2022]. Using that logic, all old science and other learning should be abolished (book burning) because the culture of the last few hundred years was different and there must have been things they did which are not acceptable to humans of today. It must be noted that even White slavery was a thing in the last few hundred years and women were given the right to vote in Switzerland only in 1971! while Hindus were praying to Goddesses since time immemorial [Bendix, J, 1994].

Hinduism teaches that not only every human being should be revered as God but even animals, plants and rocks are basically forms of the supreme God and therefore deserve respect [Karunakaran, P, 2005]. Any form of government like democracy, socialism or communism can seem optimum on paper but are empirically always corrupted over time. India has solved the problem of caste discrimination with proactive laws and whatever remnants of the discrimination among castes will disappear in a short time.

There are no practicing Hindu who can say they don't recognize the Ramayana. The Ramayana was written by the worst character in India, Valmiki. His name was Ratnakara who was a person who murders people at whim, just to steal their belongings. He was finally approached by a great Sage named Narada. Narada realized this criminal cannot say any mantra, so he asked him to just chant, "Rama." But he was so stoned, he couldn't even say that word and decided to chant, "mara " (kill) which is the word he shouts as he kills people. Having chanted, "Mara" over many years. The continuous chanting of "Mara, Mara, Mara" eventually became "Rama." By this time, ants built an anthill over his body which is how he was renamed, Valmiki, meaning anthill. Valmiki is considered among the greatest sages in all of Hinduism. There are two morals of the story here, one is that the absolute trash of humanity, for

whom not a single human being on earth can respect, can be the greatest Sage and the second is that whatever religion of path you take, even the religion of, "Mara" or killing, if done with dedication and love will lead you to God. Hindus do not proclaim that they are following a particular path; Hindus are a group of people who accept any path to God as legitimate. Actually, if you study the backgrounds of the 1000 greatest sages of Hinduism, a huge majority are Shudras; even Narada mentioned earlier in this paragraph was a Shudra. The reason is simple, the rich simply do not put sufficient spiritual efforts to achieve greatness. This is why Bill Gates and Warren Buffet are giving only small sums of money to their children [Karunakaran, P, 2005].

Untouchability was never part of the Vedic literature. It is one of the abuses of the system which required God himself to come to solve. How can the Supreme Being's head or hand refuse to touch his legs? Each of the various castes can mingle as much as they can, knowing the profession most suited to their bodies so they can excel in their profession to the maximum which is a spiritual exercise itself, "work is worship." Together they can create an orchestra where the members mingle and perform a beautiful melody together. The violin player cannot suddenly insist on playing the drum just because he feels it is a more prestigious instrument to play. He has been playing the violin all his life and cannot compete with a drum player who has been practicing on the drum all his life. In the caste system analogy, a startup fisherman cannot compete with a fisherman who hailed from a community of fishermen who has been practicing that trade over untold millennia; the new fisherman may not be able to compete even in the small sub activity of fishermen of swimming. Some may say technology can overcome some of these deficiencies but give that technology to the fishermen community and they will excel even higher [Karunakaran, P, 2005].

The caste system is similar to the argument of equality of the sexes. This author is a full supporter of equality in status as a human being whether male or female. Being a Hindu, this author reveres powerful female Gods with great love. It is simply not possible to discriminate against a woman when one of the powerful Gods you revere is female. A famous story in India reflecting this is of a great sage who went to a simple home asking for food. Because the work of

Brahmins is selfless spirituality, all provide food for them such that they do not have to deviate their activities away from spirituality. So, the sages ask other householders to feed them. This sage was walking, and a bird's excrement dropped on his head. He got angry and looked at the bird and it got burned. Then he went to a house and shouted out for food. The lady of the home said, "You wait, I have to serve my husband and then I will come and serve you." The sage got angry and said, "You know who I am, you know how powerful I am, how can you make me wait, you have no respect for me." She replied, "Don't try to show off to me, I am not a bird to get burnt by your anger." The sage was shocked and said, "How did you know that I just burnt a bird?" She said, "What is there to know, it is natural for me to know." She was doing her job properly, so she had acquired more spiritual powers than the sage. This sage who was struggling to climb up his hierarchy by sitting under trees to meditate for years did not realize that performing duties as a householder diligently can take a person to even higher spiritual levels than him. This story indicates there are a variety of pathways to reach the ultimate goal of realization that we are God ourselves, just as many rivers (paths) reach the same ocean (God). [Karunakaran, P, 2005].

Over historic times, one can observe various castes being more influential, the Brahmins had the most influence in the early days when mantras did everything for humans; bringing rain, helping crops flourish, helping in winning battles against enemies etc. Later as the Brahmins gradually forgot much of the mantras, the Kshatriyas became the leaders of society with their fighting skills. Today the Vaishyas are the most powerful on earth because the rich business leaders of today determine the fate of the world. When computers take over, the Shudras who can best follow instructions from computer systems will be the leaders of the world. This author just submitted a paper and the journal had numerous instructions. It took a whole morning to follow every step of their instructions, this is a job for a Shudra and being a Vaishya, it was very difficult. You simply cannot make a mistake because a computer is receiving the answers and computers are not like humans who may forgive mistakes a little. In future, a Shudra will have a good life following all these instructions from computers [Karunakaran, P, 2005].

A military person in Hindu culture will know that

their main spiritual duty is to be the ultimate warrior. With that aim in their mind, they may not get engaged in any spiritual activities. He will have the awareness in the back of his mind that the religious rituals will be properly done by the Brahmins for the good of the country and the production of food and other necessities will be taken care of by the Vaishyas and Shudras.

The justification for the caste system is like the justification for democracy, in that it has problems, but it is better than the alternative. In a democracy, certain segments of the population go to poverty and others become filthy rich, and there is associated corruption. The right to fail and face the consequences and thereby gain in character is its greatest advantage. This has made an elected-leadership-system statistically much better than totalitarianism (communism, fascism, or Kingdoms). Statistically totalitarianism has meant economic disaster or human genocide each time it has been implemented; most often due to the requirement for totalitarian leaders to inculcate fear among citizens. Similarly, the power abuse of one caste over the others will happen from time to time. Sometimes it may even get bad enough for God himself to correct it, but the caste system is the best way to ensure excellence is maintained in the various professions. It is just like Darwin's theory of evolution, where animals get specialized in acquiring a certain set of foods. In this case, humans get specialized in their job functions so that they excel in it over time; thereby increasing their spiritual levels [Karunakaran, P, 2005].

CONCLUSIONS

India had a caste-based racism but is today mostly free from it due to the affirmative actions taken by the Government since her independence from the British in 1947. There was a time in very ancient history when the caste system got astray, and God had to come as Parashurama to solve it by killing off 21 generations of the Shoulder caste. Similarly, over the last 1000 years India was attacked brutally by the Muslim and Christians and thereby this modern disarray of the caste system has also been solved by force.

In the very ancient times, the Head castes had the most power because their mantras provided food, shelter, and education for humanity. When they forgot many of the mantras, the Shoulder castes became the most powerful because their fighting ability safeguarded the needs of humanity. Today the Stomach caste are leaders of society (Ratan Tata, Mukesh Ambani, Gautam Adani, Elon Musk,

Jeff Bezos, Bill Gates etc) and in the near future, the Leg caste will be the leaders of society when their superior instruction following ability provides consciousness to computer systems that run the earth.

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