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CONSTITUTION
OF
INDIA



सत्यमेव जयते

Importance of the
Constitution of India

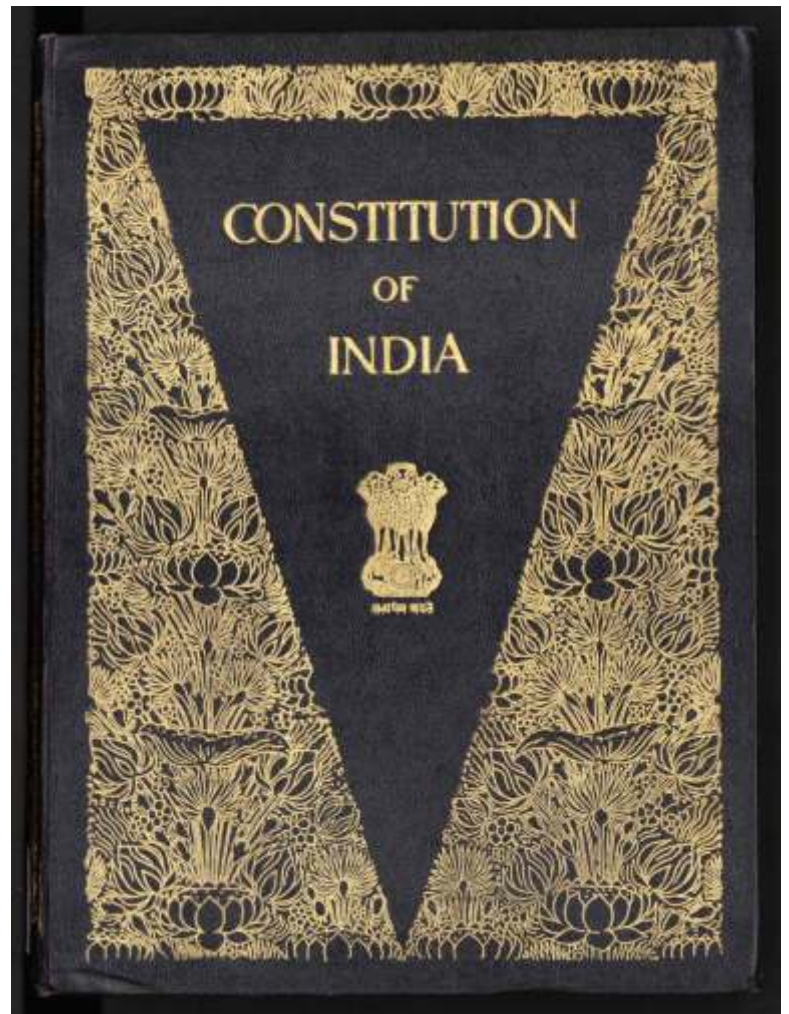
Article by: Daksh Malik, G6, SNS Noida



Volatile Uncertain Complex Ambiguous

Importance of the Constitution of India

By Daksh Malik, Grade 6, SNS Noida



*"If I find the constitution being misused, I
shall be the first to burn it."
- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar*

Republic Day has been celebrated every year in India on January 26, since 1950 to honour the date on which the Constitution of India came into effect.



India was a colony of the British for over 200 years and became independent from the rule of the British Raj following the Indian independence movement. While India became independent on August 15, 1947, it still didn't have a permanent constitution, and Indian laws were based on a modified version of the British established "Government of India Act 1935".

However, two weeks later on 29 August 1947, a Drafting Committee was appointed for the drafting of a permanent Indian Constitution, with Dr B R Ambedkar as chairman.

After a lot of hard work, the Constitution was finally drafted, and January 26 was chosen as the day to declare India as the Sovereign Republic. The significance of January 26 is that on that day in 1929, the Indian National Congress made the well-known Declaration of Indian Independence (Purna Swaraj) as opposed to British rule.

And though the Constitution came into force in 1950 with a democratic government system, it was adopted by the Indian Constituent Assembly on 26 November 1949. This completed the country's transition into becoming a Sovereign Republic.

January 26 is celebrated to commemorate the Indian Constitution replacing the Government of India Act (1935) as the governing document of India. And now it is celebrated across India with a lot of fervor.

The Constitution of India is a document containing the framework of the political system, the duties, rights, limitations, and structure of the government that this nation ought to follow. It also spells out the rights and duties of the Indian citizens. Nobody in India - not even the Prime Minister or the President - has the power to do anything that violates the constitutional rule.

The Constitution of India (Bhāratīya Saṁvidhāna) is the supreme law of India. And last but not the least, it stands to protect the fundamental rights





of every Indian.

Although Dr. Ambedkar is known for his prominent role in drafting the constitution, it was the fruit of the hard work of 299 people. The Constitution of India is created by the Indians. There is no foreign hand whatsoever. Due democratic process was followed in the form of debates before enforcing the Constitution.

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was a wise constitutional expert, he had studied the constitutions of about 60 countries. Dr. B R Ambedkar proudly acclaimed that the Constitution of India has been framed after 'ransacking all the known Constitutions of the world'. He is recognised as the "Father of the Constitution of India".

Timeline of formation of the Constitution of India

➤6 December 1946: Formation of the Constitution

Assembly (in accordance with French practice).

➤9 December 1946: The first meeting was held in the constitution hall (now the Central Hall of Parliament House). The 1st person to address was J. B. Kripalani, Sachchidananda Sinha became temporary president.

➤11 December 1946: The Assembly appointed Rajendra Prasad as its president, H. C. Mukherjee as its vice-chairman and B. N. Rau as constitutional legal adviser

➤13 December 1946: An "Objective Resolution" was presented by Jawaharlal Nehru, laying down the underlying principles of the constitution. This later became the Preamble of the Constitution.

➤22 January 1947: Objective resolution unanimously adopted.

➤22 July 1947: National flag adopted.

➤15 August 1947: Achieved independence. India split into the Dominion of India and the Dominion





of Pakistan.

➤ **29 August 1947:** Drafting Committee appointed with B. R. Ambedkar as its Chairman. The other six members of committee were Munshi, Muhammed Sadulla, Alladi Krishnaswamy Iyer, N. Gopaldaswami Ayyangar, Khaitan and Mitter.

➤ **16 July 1948:** Along with Harendra Coomar Mookerjee, V. T. Krishnamachari was also elected as second vice-president of Constituent Assembly.

➤ **26 November 1949:** The Constitution of India was passed and adopted by the assembly.

➤ **24 January 1950:** Last meeting of Constituent Assembly. The Constitution was signed and accepted (with 395 Articles, 8 Schedules, and 22 Parts).

➤ **26 January 1950:** The Constitution came into force. (The process took 2 years, 11 months and 18 days —

at a total expenditure of ₹6.4 million to finish.)

Constitution of India – Major Features

1. Longest Written Constitution:

The Constitution of India has the distinction of being the longest and detailed Constitutional document the world has so far produced. In other words, the Constitution of India is the longest of all the written constitutions of the world.

It had 395 articles in 22 parts and 8 schedules at the time of commencement. Now it has 448 articles in 25 parts and 12 schedules. There are 104 amendments that have been made in the Indian Constitution so far.

2. Blend of Rigidity and Flexibility:

One of the unique features of our Constitution is that it is not as rigid as the American Constitution or as flexible as the British Constitution. It means it is partly rigid and partly flexible. Owing to this, it can easily change and grow with the change of times.





3.The Preamble:

The Constitution of India begins with a Preamble which contains the basic ideals and principles of the Constitution. It lays down the objectives of the Constitution. **The Preamble to the constitution is the soul of it. The Preamble has been added later to the Constitution of India. The original Constitution does not have preamble.**

The preamble says that:

a.India is a sovereign country - it is ruled and managed by the Indians and Indians only.

b.India is a socialist country as per the Constitution - that means that her resources are owned by the community of the people - neither by the State, nor by private corporations.

c.India is a secular country. Unlike our neighbouring

country, in India, all the citizens of the country can practice their religions without any fear.

d.Lastly, the preamble says that India is a democratic country where the citizens have the right to choose the members of the government.

The objectives stated by the Preamble are to secure to all citizens of India:

- ❖justice,
- ❖liberty,
- ❖equality and
- ❖promote fraternity to maintain unity and integrity of the nation.

4.Parliamentary Form of Government:

The Constitution of India has opted for the British Parliamentary System of Government rather than the American Presidential system of government.

5.Fundamental Rights:





Part III of the Indian Constitution guarantees six fundamental rights to all Citizens : the right to equality (Articles 14-18), the right to freedom (Articles 19-22), the right against exploitation (Articles 23-24), the right to freedom of religion (Articles 25-28), cultural and educational rights (Articles 29-30) and the right to constitutional remedies (Article 32 and 226).

❖Fundamental Rights are one of the important features of the Indian Constitution.

❖The Constitution contains the basic principle that every individual is entitled to enjoy certain rights as a human being and the enjoyment of such rights does not depend upon the will of any majority or minority.

❖Fundamental rights for Indians have also been aimed at overturning the inequalities of traditional aryan practices. Specifically, they have also been used to abolish untouchability and thus prohibit

discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, gender or place of birth.

❖They are justifiable in nature, that is, enforceable by the courts for their violation.

6.Fundamental Duties:

The Constitution also provides a list of 11 duties of the citizens, known as the Fundamental Duties. The Fundamental Duties are defined as the moral obligations of all citizens to help promote a spirit of patriotism and to uphold the unity of India.

Some of these duties include respect of the national flag and national anthem, integrity and unity of the country and safeguard of public property.

7.Republic:

India is a republic which means that a dictator or monarch does not rule the country. The government is of the people, by the people and for the people. Citizens nominate and elect its





head after every five years.

8. Single Citizenship:

In a federal state usually, the citizens enjoy double citizenship as is the case in the USA. In India, there is only single citizenship.

It means that every Indian is a citizen of India, irrespective of the place of his/her residence or place of birth. He/she is not a citizen of the Constituent State like Jharkhand, Uttaranchal or Chattisgarh to which he/she may belong but remains a citizen of India.

All the citizens of India can secure employment anywhere in the country and enjoy all the rights equally in all the parts of India.

The Constitution makers deliberately opted for single citizenship to eliminate regionalism. Single

citizenship has undoubtedly forged a sense of unity among the people of India.

Political parties come and go; what remains largely unchanged is the constitution of India. It is the holy book of the Indian Republic.

The Constitution serves as guidelines for every citizen. It helped India to attain the status of a Republic in the world.

Once Shri 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”.



Protests and crackdown in Kazakhstan

By Samarth Kalra, Grade 6, SNS Noida



Kazakhstan was established in 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union. It is located in Central Asia. It also identifies Christians as their population is 26 to 35%. Christianity is the 2nd most populated religion after Islam. There are almost 1 million Christians in Kazakhstan according to the 2009 census. The majority of Christian citizens are mostly Russians. The ethnic Kazaks are primarily Sunni Muslims.

Kazakistan is a huge country the size of Western Europe situated in Central Asia and bordering Russia, China, and Afghanistan. In the 2020 Global Peace Index, Kazakhstan ranked 70 out of 163 countries when



it comes to safety and peace in the country. Islam is the largest religion in Kazakhstan (almost 72% Muslims). It's an upper-middle-income country and central Asia's largest economy, It has been enjoying increased prosperity over the last decade.

From 2018 to 2020, the Kazak protests was a series of civil protests that took place across Kazakhstan with relation to corruption, inflation, political repression & electoral fraud.

Protests in Kazakhstan incited by anger over surging fuel prices have intensified into something more bloody, the violence continued with dozens of protesters killed and many more injured.

Security forces appeared to have reclaimed the streets of Kazakhstan's main city and the Russian-backed president said he had ordered his troops to shoot and kill.

Later, Moscow sent paratroopers to help crush the insurrection, police were patrolling the debris from the streets of Almaty although some gunfire could still be heard. Security forces in Kazakhstan killed over 225 protesters.

19 security force members died in the clash. Almaty was in chaos, city hall was burning as were cars and buses, stores were looted and many gunshots were heard in the street.

Even the internet was blacked out and the airport was briefly seized, news also comes that attempts were made to storm on Kazakhstan's President.

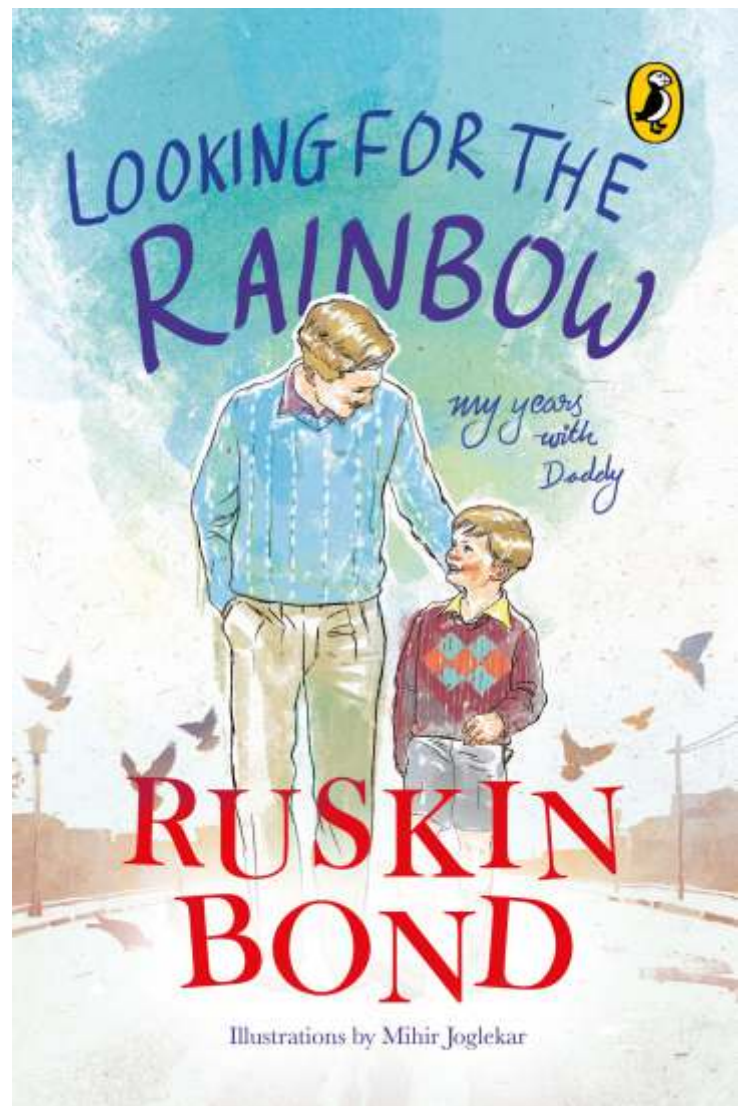
President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has blamed the unrest on "terrorists" who received foreign training and support.

Now it's our duty to wish for peace for them.



Book Review: Looking for the Rainbow

By Armaan Sen Dave, Grade 6, SNS Noida



Looking for the Rainbow is a book about Ruskin Bond's childhood. The book is definitely recommended for readers who are six to seven years old. I would say it's absolutely amazing as it keeps you endorsed and

tone, and their spelling.

That is it for my book review. I have kept it short as it was meant to be concise and informative.



helped me gain a passion for reading. **This book will absolutely endorse the reader helping them improve their imagination and will be very fun to read rather than the reader getting distracted.** I read the book when I was eight. It is very short so the reader should have no problem finishing it in around two hours.

The book will give you a small glimpse into Ruskin Bond's childhood when his father left him to fight in the world war. This can be seen in some of his other works as well. **At the start of the book, he escapes his jail-like boarding school to go stay with his father in prosperous Delhi!**

After that, it's all about this curious and imaginative boy going to the cinema with his father and it soon turns to sorrow.

I would highly recommend this book. The target audience of this book are kids of the age of six to seven and I am sure it will improve their vocabulary,





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