Preface

I am proud of my country because, my country is the land of Lord Buddha, who taught us rationalism and the liberated thinking of his followers unlike other great personalities who taught that their words were the Supreme Truth. Buddha’s philosophy has been attracting the people of all the corners in the world. In India also his philosophy was liked by almost all the leaders of the freedom struggle. Gandhiji chose the path of Ahimsa, Dr. Ambedkar chose equality, liberty, fraternity and justice out of Buddhism to bring social-cultural change in Indian society.

Buddhism is a religion of kindness, humanity and equality. While the religion of the Vedas allowed animal sacrifice to propitiate the gods, Buddhism set its face against such sacrifices; on the contrary, it waged a merciless campaign against this practice.

Buddha preached the principle of Ahimsa and kindness to living animals. Buddhism denounced all claims to superiority on the ground of birth as the Brahmins claimed. It denounced all social distinctions between man and man, and declared that it was Karma, the actions of man, that determined the eminence of lowness of an individual. It ushered an organized religious life to men and women. These special features attracted me towards the deep study of Buddhism. I like history because it has preserved great personalities like Buddha, Ashoka, Harsha and Akbar.

Ashoka’s Dhamma inspired me to join a government job which could enable me to use the guidelines of Ashoka to provide immediate relief to the people from the point of view of administration.
For deeper study of Buddhism I tried to prepare a synopsis for research work on Buddhism in Meerut University, but my teachers underestimated my sincerity. Prof. A.Lal of Lucknow University blessed me and I did Ph.D. on "Buddhist Religion and Culture from 700 A.D. to 1200 A.D." After Ph.D. I started fieldwork to collect material regarding modern development in Buddhism. It was very interesting to visit every district from this point of view. Ambedkarite movement has been facilitating the spread of Buddhism since his conversion.

My father Dr. D.S. Ashok and father-in-Law Shri. K.M.Sant, who are dedicated to social-cultural change, strengthened my hands. My wife allowed to cut the time of her share for studies.

On 14th July, 1997 I joined Dr. B.R.Ambedkar U.P. Police Academy, Moradabad for training. During training, it was very difficult to continue research work even then I collected paper cuttings and material, wherever I went for training. My first posting was at Rampur. I found it more difficult to continue research work for D.Litt as C.O. City Rampur. It was a challenge for me to complete the work. Many times, I had to discontinue the work but inspiration from my relatives and friends made me stronger to meet the challenge. The arrival of Shri A.K. Rai, I.P.S. Supdt. of Police and Shri Prem Prakash I.P.S., S.P. Rampur of Rampur and the company of Shri Rakesh Shankar, Addl. S.P.; Shri Krishna Kumar City Magistrate; C.L. Chanchal; Shri Pramod Ahuja; Neeraj Arora; Shri Anil Tiwari; Shri Deshveer Singh; Shri Nitin Mehra; Shri Sarvajeet Ram S.D.M.; Harswarup Singh Ex. Engineer P.W.D. provided pleasant atmosphere to complete this work. The people of Rampur have been very conducive to my efforts. They have appreciated my works always. At last I thank my daughters Avalokita and Prashasti also who have been
very helpful.

I request you to excuse me for any mistake in my efforts to complete this research work.

Thank You

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