GLOSSARY

Caste:
Any of the Hindu hereditary classes, distinguished by relative degrees of purity or pollution, whose members have no social contract with other classes but are socially equal with one another and often follow the same occupations.

Untouchable:
That may not or cannot be touched. (Adj.)
A member of a hereditary Hindu group held to defile members of higher castes on contract. (Noun)

Untouchability:
The use of the term untouchable and the social restrictions accompanying it were declared illegal under the Indian Constitution in 1949. (Usage).

Brahmin:
A socially or culturally superior person.

Vedas:
The most ancient Hindu scriptures. [Sanskrit, Literally (sacred) knowledge].

Atrocitiy:
An extremely wicked or cruel act.

Dharma:
Hinduism the eternal law of the cosmos, moral, social custom and right behaviour.

Buddhism:
A widespread Asian religion or philosophy, founded by Gautama Buddha in India in the 5th Century BC, which teaches that elimination of the self and earthy desires is the highest goal.
Offspring:
A person's child or children or descendents.

Hindu:
A follower of Hinduism.

Hinduism:
The main religious and social system of India, including belief in reincarnation, the worship of several Gods and a caste system.

Universal:
Belonging to, or done etc., by all persons or things in the world or in the class concerned.

Soul:
The spiritual or immaterial part of a human being or animal, often regarded as immortal.

Scripture:
Sacred writings – the Bible as a collection of sacred writings in Christianity.

Anno Domini:
In the year of our Lord, in the year of Christian era.

Constitution:
The body of fundamental principles according to which a State or other organization is governed.

Bibliography:
A list of books referred to in a scholary work.