



**Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ANCIENT INDIAN CULTURE**

**Organizes
National Seminar
On**

POLITICS OF NAXALISM

TRIBALS, DALITS AND VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT IN POST-COLONIAL INDIA

*Supported by
Bhumkal Sanghatan, Nagpur*

With



Rural South Asian Studies Network

&



Aurangabad History Society

Date: 7th & 8th October, 2017

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 06:00 p.m.

**Venue: Seminar Hall, Department of Political Science,
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University,
Aurangabad**

**Chairperson of Seminar
Prof. Pushpa M. Gaikwad
Head, Department of History and AIC
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad**

Convener

Dr. Bina Sengar

*Asst. Prof. Department of History and AIC
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar
Marathwada University, Aurangabad*

Co-Convener

Mr. Shrikant Bhowate

*Asst. Prof. Department of Political Science
College- Salekasa
(convener-Bhumkal Sanghatan,) Nagpur*

CONCEPT NOTE

“Without taking up the responsibility of organizing the class struggle, if you launch an armed struggle, it will inevitably become terrorism. It degenerated into a terrorist campaign. I’ve given it a name; it’s an exercise in socialism in words, and terrorism in deeds.”

– Ashim Chatterjee¹

The Naxalite movements are a serious threat for the Indian State: They are now active in 223 districts in 20 states and the strength of their armed cadres is estimated between 10,000 and 20,000². The Naxal movement finds its origin from the Naxalbari incident that happened on 25 May 1967 at *Bengai-Jote* village in Naxalbari, located in the Siliguri subdivision of the Darjeeling district of West Bengal. Here, a tribal youth, who had a judicial order to plough his land, was attacked by the goons of local landlords. The tribals retaliated and refused to part with the land owner’s share of their produce and lifted the entire stock from his granary. It ignited a violent movement.

On April 21 2010 Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh repeated his message that estimated Left-wing Extremism as the gravest internal security threat for the country (Indian Express 2010). This was said two weeks after the worst Maoist attack, where 76 security men were killed in an ambush in the Dantewada District of Chhattisgarh. This recent event is the culminating point of a long persistent escalation process. In the light of China’s emerging markets and its gradual turning away from communist ideology, it seems surprising that after the end of the Cold War a Maoist movement is challenging the Indian state. Indeed, it is actually deeply rooted in the Indian context and not a new phenomenon, as the Indian state faces the problem of left revolutionary violence since more than past four decades.

Due to the Naxalite’s control over certain areas and their armed fight against the state security forces, they are challenging the inherent ideals of the state, namely sovereignty and monopoly on the use of force. In order to correspond with its ideal, the state focuses on the re-establishment of law and order by encountering the Naxalites violently. However, the conflict has obtained a new quality over the recent years. Even though India is challenged by several conflicts, the Maoist insurgency can be regarded as one of the most serious threats, in terms of the level of violence, the amount of embattled territory as well as its complexity. Thus, since the times when Naxalism began in the beginning of the second half of the 20th century there are several changes and ideological schism which emerged within its nature of actions, strategies of political interventions and public engagement activities.

To have academic discussions and understand the intricacies, rhetoric’s and parallel theories and movements for Tribal and Dalit empowerment and for Rural Development in South Asia, Department of History and Ancient Indian Culture has organized the Two Days National

¹ Tabu Aggarwal, What ‘Ignited The Fire’ To What Is Believed To Be India’s Biggest Law And Order Problem?, *Youth Ki Awaz*, 9th October, 2015

² Lennart Bendfeldt, ‘Naxalism: The Maoist Challenge to the Indian State’, Heinrich Boell Stiftung-India, Berlin, July, 2010

Seminar on 'Politics Of Naxalism: Tribals, Dalits And Village Development In Post-Colonial India'. The seminar invites eminent scholars from different parts of Western and Central India who are actively engaged in Tribals, Dalits, and Rural History and development issues. For the seminar supporting agencies are 'Bhumkal-Group' a tribal welfare organisation working in the heart of Tribal areas of Nagpur, Gondia and Gadchiroli district, Rural South Asia Studies Network and Aurangabad History Society. The Seminar is supported by:

- 'Bhumkal Sanghatan'; an organization based in Vidarbha which challenges the Naxalite rhetoric and works for the betterment of tribals in Naxal hinterland.
- *Rural South Asia Studies Network* and *Aurangabad History Society*.

***The interested participants for seminar, kindly contact persons as follows:**

Dr. Bina Sengar

Convener of Seminar

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Mr. Shrikant Bhowate

Co-Convener of Seminar

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PROGRAM SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	SPEAKERS & THEME
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DAY-1: 07/10/2017

INAUGURAL SESSION-I

07/10/2017	10:00 to 11.00 a.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Inauguration, Welcome of Guests & Introduction</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Session Chairperson: Prof. Pushpa M. Gaikwad Chief Guest: Prof. S. Nikam Convener: Dr. Bina Sengar Co-Convener: Prof. Shrikant Bhowate</p>
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-Do-	11:00 to 11.15 a.m.	Tea Break
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PLENARY SESSION-I

Naxalism: Issues and Challenges in Post-Colonial India

-Do-	11.15 a.m. to 02:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: right;">Panel Chair: Prof. U. Bagade</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1. Speaker: Dr. Vijay Diwan, Theme: _____</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2. Speaker: Prof. P.N. Sahare, Theme: 'Tribals Vs Non-Tribal: Who gains their share'</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3. Speaker: Dr. Arvind Sovani, Theme: <i>From Myths to Reality: Understanding Naxalism</i></p>
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-Do-	02:00 to 2.30 p.m.	Lunch Break
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PLENARY SESSION-II

Naxalism Movement: History and Contemporary Challenges

-Do-	03:00 to 05:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: right;">Panel Chair: Prof. Pushpa M. Gaikwad</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1. Speaker: Prof. Shuja Shakir, Theme: 'Peasant Struggle's and Ambedkarite Approach'</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2. Speaker: Dr. Shrikant Bhowate, Theme: An Alternative History of Naxal Movement and its Mass Mobilization Politics</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3. Speaker: Dr. Bina Sengar, Theme: 'Sardar Sarovar Dam- Tribal Rehabilitation in Gujarat Protests and Prospects in Post-Colonial India'</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4. Speaker: Dr. Ramesh Suryavanshi, Theme: 'Causes Analysis of Naxalism in Aurangabad-Marathwada'</p>
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-Do-	5.00 to 5.30 pm 05:30 p.m.	<p style="text-align: right;">Open discussion on Naxalism ,Tribals and Dalits Dr. Gitanjali Borade</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Vote of Thanks</p>
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DAY-1: 08/10/2017

DATE	TIME	SPEAKERS & THEME
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08/10/2017	07:00 to 10:00 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Heritage Walk at Down-Town Aurangabad</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Supported by</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Aurangabad History Society-AHS</p>
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-Do-	10:00 to 10.35 a.m.	Tea Break (Sponsored by AHS)
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-Do-	11:00 a.m. to 01.35 p.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Movie Show and Discussion</p> <p style="text-align: center;">'Newton'/'Buddha In Traffic Jam'/'Chhakravyuh'</p> <p style="text-align: center;">By</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Prashant Vighe, Amravati & Prof. Milind Tulse, Nandurbar</p>
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