

**Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Society. Dishkhabhoomi, Chandrapur.**



**Dr. Ambedkar College of Arts. Commerce & Science  
Chandrapur**



**Dhammachakra Anupravartan Celebration**

**(15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022)**

**A Report**

Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Society. Dishkhabhoomi, Chandrapur  
Dr. Ambedkar College of Arts, Commerce and Science. Chandrapur.

## “Dhammachakra Aunpravartan Day Celebration”

(15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> October 2022)

### A Report

**Event: - “Dhammachakra Aunpravartan Day Celebration”**

**Date: - 15 & 16 October, 2022**

#### **Objectives of the Programme:**

1. In order to bring back the cultural historical heritage of ancient Buddhist era and To introduce the Buddha Dhamma thinking to preserve the Dr. Ambedkar’s Dhammakranti and to imbibe those thought in the present and future Generation this great event is organized every year
2. Chandrapur Deekshabhoomi has assumed the place of enlightenment. At it this place about 3 Lakh People took Deeksha of Buddhism. They freed themselves from the bondages of age-old orthodox Thinking, dogma and customs. They have become one with Buddhist thinking. The society endeavors to uphold the Historical Importance of this event
3. People are expected to come to Buddha Vihar and follow the path of Buddhism With complete faith
4. Dr. Ambedkars thoughts are spread to the masses

**Dignitaries:** Bhante Arya Nagarjun Surai Sasai, and his sangha Rev. Bhadant Dyanjoyti Mahasthvir, Rev. Bhadant Wannasami, Hon’ble cabinet minister of Mahahrastra Shri. Sudhirbhau Mungantiwar, Hon’ble Member of Parliament Shri. Balubhau Dhanorkar, Hon’ble MLA Kishorbhau Jorgewar, Hon’ble Padmshri and Former UGC Chairman Dr. Sukhdevrao Thorat, Hon’ble Padmshri and Senior Creative Writer Dr. Laxaman Mane, District Collector Shri. Vinay Gouda G.C, Distinct Superintendent of Police Shri. Arvind Salve and Eminent Ambedkarite Thinker Shri Rajesh Wankhed, MP, Shri. Chandrabhau Thakare, Nagpur, Dr. Santosh Raut, Hyderabad, Dr. Laxamaya, Hyderabad Municipal Co-operation Commissioner Shri. Vipin Paliwal, Social Welfare Officer Shri. Shri. Suresh Pendam. All the Buddhist monks. Famous Bollywood singer of India Miss. Vaishali Made, Shri. Anand Shinde and Shri. Rahul Anvikar

**Co-coordinators:-** Chairman and all the Members of the Society Principal and all the faculty members

**Committee Members: -** All the Faculty Members

**No. of Participants: -** lakh of people

**Outline of the Event: -** Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Society Deekdhabhoomi, Chandrapur was founded in the year 1967 under the chairmanship of Barrister Rajabhau Khobragade. Chandrapur Deekdhabhoomi came to be known as one of the most famous Dhammadiksha place in the world because of Dr. Ambedkar’s ordination of Buddha Dhamma to people on 16<sup>th</sup> Oct 1956 Dr. Ambedkar’s adopted son Bar. Rajabhau khobragade and Bar. Rajabhau’s father Devajibapu Khobragade made a significant contribution in inviting Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar for this Dhammachakra ceremony. Chandrapur Deekshabhoomi has over the years become a holy land, a place of enlightenment. On this holy land about three lakh people took Diksha of Buddhism and freeing themselves from clutches of orthodox mentality becomes one with Buddhism. Dr. Ambedkar’s visit to a place like Chandrapur which is tribal and backward and his Dikshadan to people is regarded as the most auspicious moment for the people of this city as well as this region. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Society, Deekdhabhoomi, Chandrapur is celebrating begging

to preserve the culture heritage of Dr. Ambedkar. The year 1991 was the birth centenary year of Dr. Ambedkar. In the same year, Hon'ble Arun Ghotekar was unanimously elected as the president of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Society, Chandrapur. Since then Hon'ble Arun Ghotekar and all the Hon'ble office bearers of the society have been organizing Dhammadiksha celebration day every year on a grand scale.

In order to spread Buddhism, Samrat Ashoka sangamitra took a branch of Bodhivriksha from Bodhgaya to Srilanka and from Anuradhapur in Srilanka a branch of same Bodhivriksha was brought to Deekshabhoomi Chandrapur. In this regard Hon'ble President Arun Ghotekar especially requested Indian High commissioner in Srilanka and the same branch of Bodhivriksha was planted on Deekshabhoomi by the Hon'ble High commissioner, His highness Mangalmungalsinghe on 16 Oct 1996. On this auspicious occasion every year Bhante Arya Nagarjun Surai Sasai, and his sangha as well as Tibetan religious leader Karmappa Lama and Sangha and several Buddhist monks from Thailand, Japan, China, Srilanka and Myanmar attend programme and impart Dhammadesana to the congregation in addition to this world renowned scholars and Ambedkarite thinkers attend this event every year.

The entire programme on Deekshabhoomi was conducted by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Society Deekshabhoomi, Chandrapur. Every year on 15 and 16 Oct the Dhammadiksha Anniversary programme "Dhammachakra Anupravartan Day" is celebrated on a grand scale. Still people consider Deekshabhoomi as a source of inspiration of Ambedkarite movement. Everyday people from the nook and corner of the world visit this holy place.

This year also on 15 and 16 Oct, 66<sup>th</sup> Dhammachakra Anuvavartan day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on a grand scale by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Society Deekshabhoomi, Chandrapur. In this two days programme world renowned Buddhist scholars, monks and Ambedkarite thinkers attended the event. For this grand event preparation started almost three months before. Several stalls were set up in Deekshabhoomi area books stalls, food stalls, drinking water. Several social organizations as well as government employees' organization make arrangement for the pilgrims. District Administration, Police Department, Zilla Parishad, Municipal Corporation, Social Welfare Department extended their whole hearted Co-operation for this event.

On 15 Oct 2022 the programme went on between 4:00 to 8:00 pm. The programme began with paying tribute to the statue of Vishvaratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar located in the heart of the city. A huge vehicle rally was taken out from the statue of Dr. Ambedkar to Deekshabhoomi spreading the message of universal peace and brotherhood. On reaching Deekshabhoomi, Dhammajyoti was lighted and Dhammaflag was hoisted at the hands of Hon'ble Shri. Arunji Ghotekar President of the Society. Rev. Bhadant Dyanjoyti Mahasthvir and Vice President Hon'ble Ashok Ghotekar. On the occasion as chief guests Chandrapur District Collector Shri. Vinay Gouda G.C, District Superintendent of Police Shri. Arvind Salve, Municipal Co-operation Commissioner Mr. Vipin Paliwal was prominently present. All the Buddhist monks from various places were also present. The programme was concluded with common prayer "Buddhavandana" and Dhamma teaching.

In the evening at 8:00 to 10:00 pm a social enlightening musical cultural programme based on Dr. Ambedkar life was presented by famous Singer Shri. Rahul Anvikar, Nanded. About one lakh people gathered to witness the cultural programme. Inspired by Dr. Ambedkar's message on conversion the congregation spent the whole night on Deekshabhoomi.

On 16 October under the guidance of Hon'ble Arunji Ghotekar and the office bearers of the society, Buddhist monk Arya Nagarjuna Bhante Surai Sasai, Nagpur and his Sangha in the presence of Principal, Dr. Ambedkar college, Chandrapur, Teaching and non-teaching staff Dhammadiksha Anniversary Celebration began. Since morning, followers of Buddha across the world started gathering on Deekshabhoomi. 66<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Conversion to Buddhism was a

day of freedom to them. To witness that great moment, all of gratitude through their eyes a deep sense of gratitude to their torch bearer, savior. All these people seemed to be giving outlet to their deep feelings.

At 10:00 a.m. after paying tribute to the statue of Dr. Ambedkar, located the heart of the city and taking the holy pot containing (ashes) Asthi of Dr. Ambedkar Rev. Buddhist Monks, Samata Sainik Dal, which is created then by Dr. Ambedkar, made a march past towards Deekshabhoomi. Slogan's emphasizing the victory of Buddhism and Dr. Ambedkar and everlasting continuity of Dhammachakra were shouted on the way. Along its way, people were thronging on the both sides of the roads to have a glimpse of Dr. Ambedkar's Asthikalash (a pot containing holy remains of Dr. Ambedkar). The rally moved in a much disciplined way and followed all the safety norms. At 11:00 a.m. under the chairmanship of Eminent Ambedkarite Thinker Shri Rajesh Wankhed, MP, a seminar on "Dhammakranti and its Relevance," was conducted. Renowned Ambedkarite thinker Shri. Chandrabhau Thakare, Nagpur, Dr. Santosh Raut, Hyderabad, Dr. Laxamaya, Hyderabad were prominently present as a chief guest.

After covering the distance of about 3 km. the rally reached Deekshabhoomi at around 1:30 p.m. Dr. Ambedkar's Asthikalash was put on display for all the people to have darshan and to pay their respects to it. The common prayer Buddhavandana was taken and the programme was commenced under the chairmanship of Bhante Arya Nagarjuna Surai Sasai. Bhante Arya Nagarjuna Surai Sasai preached on the life Dr. Ambedkar and Buddha Dhamma. On this occasion Hon'ble Shri. Arunji Ghotekar and all the members of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Society, Deekshabhoomi, Chandrapur were present.

At 5:00 p.m. the major event of Dhammachakra Anupravartan Day Celebrating over the function. On this occasion the, Rev. Bhadant Wannasami, Hon'ble cabinet minister of Maharashtra Shri. Sudhirbhau Mungantiwar, Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri. Balubhau Dhanorkar, Hon'ble MLA Kishorbhau Jorgewar, Hon'ble Padmshri and Former UGC Chairman Dr. Sukhdevrao Thorat, Hon'ble Padmshri and Senior Creative Writer Dr. Laxaman Mane Social Welfare Officer Shri. Suresh Pendam. Principal of the college were present on the dais. All the dignitaries extent their wishes on the 66<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Dhammadiksha and appealed the gathering to emulate Buddhist teaching to the life Hon'ble Arunji Ghotekar delivered his presidential speech and extended wishes to all and appealed to buy at least one book on Ambedkar's life from the book stalls. Hon'ble Wamanrao Modak, Secretary of the Society extended vote of thanks.

In the late evening between 10:00 to 12:00 pm a cultural event was organized, Famous bollywood singer of India Viashali Made and Anand Shinde presented delightful Buddha Bhim songs. The songs expressed Dr. Ambedkar's journey of life, his struggle and his success story till Dhammadiksha. The programme was concluded with the shouting of slogan "Jai Bhim". The whole environment was echoed with only one voice 'Jai Bhim'.

## **Outcomes of the Programme:-**

On this Deekshabhoomi in 1970 Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Society, founded Dr. Ambedkar College of Arts, Commerce and Science for the poor, oppressed students of the Tribal District of Chandrapur. Today this college is known as one of the leading educational institutions for U.G. and P.G. courses in Nagpur and Gondwana University. Along with education this institute inculcates human values in students

1. New form of Buddhism taught by Babasaheb Ambedkar was pursued. It reinterpreted the Buddha's religion in terms of social equality and class struggle
2. This program is celebrated under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Arun Ghotekar Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Society. All the office bearers of the Society, Principal and all the staff Member of Dr. Ambedkar College of Arts, Commerce and Science devote themselves to make this event successfully
3. Students participate in a great number. In this way along with education they are taught Religious and cultural values
4. Being inspired, Students decide their way of the life. Through such programs students are encouraged to emulate the values of great people in their life
5. People get opportunity to interact with one another
6. People get opportunity to refer the books on the stalls installed in the premises
7. The society takes this programme as a medium to spread the message of Lord Buddha and Dr. Ambedkar to millions of people
8. Dr. Ambedkar's thoughts are spread to the masses
9. People are expected to come to Buddha Vihar and follow the path of Buddhism with complete Faith
10. All the Buddhist disciples of the Chandrapur District participate in this mega even and this number is increasing day by day
11. Deekshabhoomi is famous for its historical importance. It is one of the main centers of Chandrapur. Every year, thousands of tourists visit Deekshabhoomi, especially on the anniversary of the conversion ceremony. On Dhamma Chakra Anupravartan Din, thousands of compact Cassettes of Dr. Ambedkar, Dr. Ambedkar movement and Buddha songs are sold at Deekshabhoomi. The books of few lakh rupees in different languages are sold in a single day this makes Deekshabhoomi a unique place in the world. Foreign tourists come mainly from the Buddhist countries such as Japan, Shrilanka, Thailand etc.

**Name & sign of the co-coordinator  
& Committee members**



# Photo Gallery



Hon'ble Shri., Arun Ghotekar, Vive-President Ashok Ghotekar, Secretary of the Society Wamanrao Modak, Joint secretary Kunal Ghotekar Chandrapur District Collector Shri. Vinay Gouda G.C, Distinct Superintendent of Police Shri. Arvind Salve, Municipal Co-operation Commissioner Mr. Vipin Paliwal



Bike rally taken out from the statue of statue of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar to the Deekshabhoomi, in the presence of Shradey Bhadant Dyanjyoti Mahasthavir, Shradey Bhadant Krupasharan And Hon'ble Shri., Arun Ghotekar, Vive-President Ashok Ghotekar, Secretary of the Society Wamanrao Modak, Kunal Ghotekar Chandrapur District Collector Shri. Vinay gouda G.C, Distinct Superintendent of Police Shri. Arvind Salve, Municipal Co-operation Commissioner Mr. Vipin Paliwal



A huge gathering of people and Books Stall

A huge gathering of people witnessing historic moment.





Astikalash Rally & Buddhist monk taking Trisharan



Shraddheya Bhante Arya Nagarjun Surai Sasai Mahastvir addressing the people.



Samta sainik Dal Rally



Shraddheya Bhante Dr. Wannasami addressing the people. Padmshri Dr. Sukhdevrao Thorat addressing the people. Member of Parliament Shri. Bahlubau Dhanorkar addressing the people. Felicitated to abinet Minister of Maharashtra Hon'ble Sudhirbhai Mungantiwar



"Dhamma Diksha" Programe was commenced under the guidance of President Hon'ble Shri. Arunji Ghotekar and monk . Felicitated to Padmshri Dr. Sukhdevrao Thorat. A huge gathering of people witnessing historic moment.



Famous Bollywood singer of India Miss. Vaishali Madea , Anand Shind and Rahul Anvikar delightful Buddha Bhim songs. The songs expressed Dr. Ambedkar's journey of life, his struggle and his success story till Dhammadiksha.







