

Social Justice and Minority Welfare in India
A Uttar Pradesh Perspective

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Sandpiper 

Sandpiper Publishers

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ISBN 978-93-48567-64-2

First Published by Sandpiper Publishers 2025

Printed & Bound in India by Global Printing Services, Delhi

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FOREWORD

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Foreword

A welfare state is a state of a certain kind, distinguished from earlier kinds by the addition of a new set of objectives and institutions. Its history must be sought within the wider context of the history of the state. It presupposes the unification of law across the state territory, the establishment of bureaucracies, and the elimination or control of intermediate forms of authority.

A social service state, on the other hand, is a government that creates laws and rules to help its citizens with basic needs like healthcare, education, and other needs. The government's goal is to ensure that everyone is treated fairly and has what they need to live a good life.

Social services are public services that provide support and assistance to specific groups, often the disadvantaged. Social services can be provided by the government, private organizations, or individuals.

It is, therefore, important from the point of view of public administration students, that we understand the facets and sideview of welfare state that also dons the responsibility of social service.

Khursheed, my past student, has attempted to write a book on "Social Justice and Minority Welfare in India: A Uttar Pradesh Perspective". The book is a culmination of his extensive research undertaken for doctoral study. The central theme of the thesis, "Social Justice in India: Evaluation of Minorities Welfare Programme 'Enhancing Opportunities for Education' in Uttar Pradesh," provides the foundation for this work. The success of National Education Policy (NEP) depends on the spread of education among all sections of society; particularly of Muslim community because the GER of this community is lower than average.

Uttar Pradesh, being the largest state and having highest number of minority community, is important from this standpoint.

This book provides deep insight to various dimensions of social justice and the socio-economic and educational status and various issues of Muslim minority in India and particular in Uttar Pradesh.

I know Khurshed Alam for over 15 years now and his deep understanding of the subject is reflected in the book.

(Prof. Manoj Dixit)

PREFACE

The concept of social justice is a revolutionary concept which provides meaning and significance to life and makes the rule of law dynamic. When Indian society seeks to meet the challenge of socio-economic inequality by its legislation and with the assistance of the rule of law, it seeks to achieve economic justice without any violent conflict. The idea of a welfare state postulates unceasing pursuit of the doctrine of social justice. That is the “significance and importance of the concept of social justice in the Indian context today”. The term social justice is a blanket term so as to include both social justice and economic justice.

The concept of social justice is a very comprehensive and wide term covering within its fold everything pertaining to the norm of general interest, ranging from the protection of the interests of all weaker sections of the society including minorities from poverty to the eradication of poverty and illiteracy. It also relates to the eradication of gigantic social evils like those of pauperism, disease, unemployment and starvation. All this also relates to the liquidation of vested interests that obstruct the achievement of common good. In the backward countries of the world, the idea of social justice enjoins upon the state to make concerted efforts for the improvement of the lot of the down-trodden and weaker sections of the community. Its area widens itself to cover the economic domain of a people’s life because it demands non-exploitation of the working class. Social justice has been defined “as a concept which requires elimination of all kind of discriminations and privileges based on birth, race, caste, religion, creed or sex”. Social Justice is based upon the belief that each individual and group within a given society has a right to civil liberties, equal opportunity, fairness and participation

in the educational, economic, institutional, social and moral freedoms and responsibilities valued by the community. It's the process through which society attains a more equitable distribution of power in the political, economic and social realms.

The determination of social justice is inclined towards all social development. It is an identifier of public welfare. Its aim is the protection and prosperity of general interest. Therefore, in a rightful social system, everyone should get a chance to progress and every citizen should get contentment of probable developments. Liberty, equity, protection of honour of humanity and social justice are key elements in modern perspective. Equity is the most important and liberty is a secondary element.

The Indian Constitution is committed to the equality of the citizens and the responsibility of the state to preserve, protect and assure the rights of minorities in matters of language, religion and culture. Since Independence, India has achieved significant growth and development. It has also been successful in reducing poverty and improving human development indicators. However, the benefits of development have not percolated among all the social groups and religious communities. The Muslims, being the largest minority community in the country, constituting 14 per cent of the population are seriously lagging behind in terms of human development indicators. While the perception of deprivation is wide spread among Muslims and even there has been no serious efforts to analyze the conditions of religious minorities in the country, except the Formation of Sachar Committee. Muslims carry a double burden of being labeled as anti-national and as being appeased by the government at the same time. They face identity related crisis while on the other hand, their participation in development process has shown

deprivation and backwardness. Muslims live with an inferiority complex are being discriminated. The social boycott of Muslims in certain parts of the country has forced them to migrate from places where they lived for centuries. Even the communal tension in certain parts of the country has forced Muslims to migrate. Even the communal conflicts in certain regions have totally destroyed the economy of the Muslim minority and it has resulted in marginalization of the community. Despite the economic boom, the Muslims have to bear the brunt of so called competitive forces unleashed by economic liberalization. Muslims also could not avail the economic opportunities unleashed by the globalization and liberalization due to their poor educational background and entrepreneurial skills. The traditional educational system among the Muslim community appears to be more culturally rooted rather than providing modern education to them. The poor representation of Muslims in the public sector has caused a concern while the displacement from the traditional occupations has contributed to Muslims being deprived of their means of livelihood.

The book "Social Justice and Minority Welfare in India: A Uttar Pradesh Perspective" is a culmination of extensive research undertaken for a doctoral study. The central theme of the thesis, "Social Justice in India: Evaluation of Minorities Welfare Programme 'Enhancing Opportunities for Education' in Uttar Pradesh," provides the foundation for this work. The study was carried out to examine the socio-economic and educational status of the Muslim minority community, evaluate the effectiveness of minority welfare programs, and offering recommendations for their empowerment, particularly during the period from 2012 to 2017. This book is organized into eleven chapters, each contributing to a deeper understanding of the intricate relationship between social justice and minority welfare in

India, with a specific focus on Uttar Pradesh. **Chapter 1: Introduction** provides an overview of the concept of justice, outlining its philosophical foundations and highlighting its relevance to the study. **Chapter 2: Concept of Social Justice** explores the concept of social justice, its theoretical foundations, and its various dimensions, establishing its relevance to the study. **Chapter 3: Social Justice and the Constitution of India** highlights the constitutional provisions and legal frameworks that uphold social justice, particularly for minority communities. **Chapter 4: Minority** examines the concept of minority, its definitions, and the challenges faced by minority communities in India. **Chapter 5: Review of Literature** provides a comprehensive overview of existing studies and research, highlighting the gaps and the need for further investigation. **Chapter 6: Research Methodology** outlines the methods, tools, and approaches employed in conducting the study, ensuring rigor and reliability. **Chapter 7: Welfare Programme for Minority in Uttar Pradesh** provides analysis of the performance of minority welfare programmes in Uttar Pradesh. **Chapter 8: Status of Muslim Minority in Uttar Pradesh** focuses on the current status of the Muslim minority in the state. **Chapter 9: Socio-economic and Educational Status of Muslim Minority in Uttar Pradesh** presents the socio-economic, and educational status of Muslim minority. **Chapter 10: Evaluation of Educational Programme 'Enhancing Opportunities for Education'** focuses on assessing the effectiveness of the programme aimed at enhancing educational opportunities for minority communities. **Chapter 11: Conclusion and Recommendations** serves as the concluding chapter, summarizing the key research findings and offering actionable suggestions for addressing the identified issues.

This book provides deep insight to various dimensions of social justice and the socio-economic and educational

status and various issues of Muslim minority in India and particular in Uttar Pradesh.

Khurshed Alam

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