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**TITLE - POLITICAL CHANGE IN TERMS OF MOBILISATION AND ISSUE
ARTICULATION: A STUDY OF THE BAHUJAN SAMAJ PARTY
IN UP 2007 ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS**

ABSTRACT

BSP AS AN OASIS IN DESERT

The arrival of the BSP on Indian political spectrum has not been less than an oasis in desert for the marginalised and the dispossessed. The policies of self respect, empowerment and proportional representation to all as per the numbers in the population have been remarkable attributes of BSP for deepening democracy in India.

BSP has made meaningful inroads into social harmony and integration. First it tried to establish the Bahujan Samaj consisting of more than 6000 sub-castes, and once it was able to have a credible and viable consolidation of the Bahujan Samaj, the party tried to engulf the historical animosity between the victims and beneficiaries of the caste system. BSP has assiduously created amicable social enlivenment where hatred and contempt against the hitherto marginalised sections is paving way for greater accommodation and adjustment.

ACCEPTING DALIT LEADERSHIP

Democracy is gaining roots, as society appears to accept the Dalit leadership essentially in undemocratic socio-economic cultural environment. Politics in UP has tried to put Manu upside down. This political change has been path breaking and has put the democratic aspirations of marginalised segments on fire.

TOWARDS SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

Initially noticed and scorned by entrenched elite as a sign of declining quality of the leaders and the idiom of politics, the second democratic upsurge had the potential of transforming the character of democracy by admitting new sets of demands as legitimate claims on the democratic enterprises. . The victory of BSP and the social character of its leadership have been an enriching and enabling moment for social democracy. One man one vote must get translated into one vote one value and the 2007 assembly elections have seemingly achieved that goal. Dalit as the natural leaders who have suffered most in the traditional schemes of arrangements have requisite need, desire and moral conviction to bring glory to the democracy. The Dalit leadership lend organic credibility and political legitimacy to the democratic institutions functioning in India.

NATION BUILDING AND ITS INITIATION

The mandate of UP has an ideological element that will usher an era of nation building in this cauldron of innumerable identities. The implementation of Indian constitution with its socio-economic provisions will not take long for the emergence of a stronger and genuine nation to flourish in India. As the 2007 elections of the UP state assembly have demonstrated, the poor of all castes and the progressive groups are ready to accept and experiment with the BSP, with the greater politicisation of the people at large, this democratic upsurge in Indian politics will enhance its cohesiveness and the BSP as an instrument of identity, assertion, empowerment and enlightenment of marginalised sections, may immortalise its role in Indian politics for time to come.