

# S a m b h ā ṣ a ṇ

A Free Open Access Peer-Reviewed Interdisciplinary Quarterly Journal

Sambhāṣaṇ, a free open access online journal was launched on the occasion of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's 129th birth anniversary on 14th April 2020 by Dr Rajesh Kharat the Office of the Dean, Faculty of Humanities, University of Mumbai. This interdisciplinary journal carries the vision of bringing diverse disciplines in dialogue with each other through critical reflections on contemporary themes. Since its inception, the journal has been responding to contemporary issues, the first year focussing on myriad of discourses around the pandemic and its reshaping of the world into a new order. It also carried a special issue on Gandhi's philosophy and relevance in contemporary times. Subsequently, the journal carried volumes on the theme of syncretic traditions of India, special issues on John Rawls, volumes on the theme of environment and sustainability, mental health, art, technology and Indian society and disability and Indian society. In its initial phase there were guest lectures organised too. The journal continues to evolve in content and bring to conversations new themes of contemporary relevance.

*Note on part of the image on the cover:  
illustration provided*

**Sambhāṣaṇ** or conversation as an art of dialogue has been crucial to the development of both national and world philosophies. Thinkers such as Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore, Sarojini Naidu, David Bohm, Hans Georg Gadamer, Anthony Appiah and Martha Nussbaum have projected shared dialogue as a way of understanding the relationship between the individual and society. While Jyotiba Phule, Savitribai Phule, Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, Pandita Ramabai, Jürgen Habermas, Paul Ricoeur, Patricia Hill Collins and Judith Butler, to name a few, have started out a new through ruptures in conversations. The inevitability of conversation in academic life emerges from its centrality to human development and ecology. Conversations are not restricted to any single territory, but are enacted between global and the local topographies. This online English Journal aims at continuing and renewing plural conversations across cultures that have sustained and invigorated academic activities.

**In this spirit, Sambhāṣaṇ an open access interdisciplinary peer-reviewed online quarterly journal endeavours to:**

- be an open platform, where scholars can freely enter into a discussion to speak, be heard and listen. In this spirit, this journal aims at generating open conversations between diverse disciplines in social sciences, humanities and law.
- preserve and cultivate pluralism as a normative ideal. Hence, it attempts to articulate a plurality of points of view for any theme, wherein there is both a need to listen and to speak, while engaging with another's perspective.
- act as a springboard for briefly expressing points of view on a relevant subject with originality, evidence, argument, experience, imagination and the power of texts. It hopes that these points of view can be shaped towards full-fledged research papers and projects in the future.

## Framework

- This journal is open to contributions from established academics, young teachers, research students and writers from diverse institutional and geographical locations.
- Papers can be empirical, analytical or hermeneutic following the scholarly culture of critique and creativity, while adhering to academic norms.
- Commentaries and reviews can also be submitted. Submissions will be peer-reviewed anonymously.
- Some of the issues will publish invited papers and reviews, though there will be a call for papers for most issues.
- There would be an occasional thematic focus.

## Guidelines for Submission

- Original, scholarly, creative and critical papers with adequate references.
- All references to the author should be removed from the submission to enable the anonymous review process.
- There can be a limit of approximately 3500-4000 words (for papers) and 1500-2000 words (for commentaries) and 1000-1200 words (for reviews).
- Essays should follow the Times New Roman font in size 12 with double space, submitted in MS Word format.
- All contributions should follow the author-date referencing system detailed in chapter 15 of The Chicago Manual of Style (17th Edition). The style guidelines in this journal can be consulted for quick reference.
- Authors should submit a statement that their contribution is original without any plagiarism. They can also, in addition, submit a plagiarism check certificate.
- The publication of research papers, commentaries and book reviews is subject to timely positive feedback from anonymous referees.

## Publisher

***Office of the Dean of Humanities, University of Mumbai,  
Ambedkar Bhavan, Kalina Campus, Vidyanagari,  
Mumbai-400098***

This journal accepts original essays that critically address contemporary issues related to social sciences, humanities and law from an interdisciplinary perspective.

“In an ideal society there should be many interests consciously communicated and shared... In other words there must be social endosmosis.”

***Dr. B.R. Ambedkar***