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Coordinator, Mahatma Jyothirao Phule Centre

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UGC Sponsored  
Two Day National Seminar  
on

**ABROGATION OF CLASS AND  
CASTE OPPRESSION IN INDIA:  
CONTRIBUTIONS OF MAHATMA  
JYOTHIRAO PHULE**  
10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## Registration Form

### Participant's Details

Name : .....

Institution/Org: .....

Designation: .....

Address : .....

.....

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Mobile : .....

Email : .....

Payment:

Payment should be made Online/Bank before  
& Cash at the spot Registration.

Date:..... Signature

Contact:

**Prof. M. Trimurthi Rao**  
Coordinator, Mahatma Jyothirao Phule Centre  
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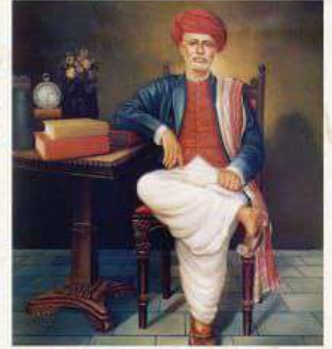


Mahatma Jyothirao Phule Centre for  
Studies in Social Philosophy and Social Action  
Acharya Nagarjuna University



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Organized by

Mahatma Jyothirao Phule Centre for  
Studies in Social Philosophy and Social Action  
Acharya Nagarjuna University

Nagarjuna Nagar - 522 510  
Guntur, Andhra Pradesh, India  
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Venue

Prof. L. Venugopal Reddy Seminar Hall  
Dr. H. H. Deichmann & Dr. S. John David Auditorium  
Acharya Nagarjuna University Campus



## About Acharya Nagarjuna University

Acharya Nagarjuna University, is quite significant in that the greatest Buddhist preceptor and philosopher Acharya Nagarjuna founded University on the banks of river Krishna some centuries ago. In 1967, Andhra University started a Post Graduate Centre in Nallapadu, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh, as an Extension Center to cater the needs of higher education of the people of this region. It is in the fitness of things that a University should grow from this Center to fulfill the desires of the people of this belt. Accordingly, Nagarjuna University came into being in September 1976.

Acharya Nagarjuna University since then has grown into a large University with Academic Departments having over 400 affiliated colleges offering Under- Graduate, Post-Graduate, Engineering, Education, Law, Pharmacy and Oriental Languages courses. Now it has 55 Post Graduate teaching cum research courses on the campus, while around 70 affiliated colleges offer P.G. Courses.

## About the Centre

Mahatma Jyothirao Phule Centre for Studies in Social Philosophy and Social Action was established in 2014, by the then Vice-Chancellor Prof. K. Viyyanna Rao, Registrar, Prof. Raja Sekhar, P and founder Director, Prof. Noor Basha Abdul, with support and financial assistance by Acharya Nagarjuna University. Mahatma Jyothirao Phule was the father of social reformation in India during the nineteenth century. The objective of the research center is included to study, research and propagate the philosophy of Mahatma Jyothirao Phule in society, to encourage the research scholars Ph. D course had been offered. The Centre is organizing seminars, symposia, workshops, and lectures on Mahatma Jyothirao Phule's thoughts, philosophy and ideology.

## About the Seminar

Jyothirao Phule was a bright young man who had to give up on his education at a young age due to his family's financial situation. He began by working on the family farm and assisting his father. A neighbour who saw the little prodigy's talent encouraged his father to enroll him in school.

A social revolution in Indian society began in 1848 as a result of an incident that motivated Jyothiba to fight against the social injustice of caste discrimination. Jyothirao Phule received an invitation to one of his friends' wedding who was for an upper caste Brahmin family. But when the bridegroom's family learned about Jyothiba's roots, they humiliated and tortured him at the wedding. Mahatma Jyothirao Phule fled the ceremony because he was determined to oppose the existing caste system and social constraints. He made it his life's mission to relentlessly push against social majoritarian dominance and worked toward the emancipation of all people who were affected by this social injustice.

Thomas Paine's beliefs had a big impact on Jyothirao Phule after reading his well-known book, "The Rights of Man." He thought that the only way to tackle social ills was to educate women and members of lower castes.

Savitribai Phule, Jyothiba's wife, backed his efforts to guarantee women and girls the right to an education. Savitribai, one of the few literate women of her day, learned to read and write from her husband Jyothirao Phule. Jyothiba founded a ladies' school in 1851 and invited his wife to instruct the students there. Later, he established two additional schools for girls as well as an indigenous school for people from lower castes, namely the Mahars and Mangs.

After realizing the miserable conditions faced by widows, Jyothiba founded an ashram for young widows and finally came to support the concept of widow remarriage. His era's society was patriarchal, and women's status was especially appalling. Female infanticide and child marriage were both common occurrences, with minors occasionally becoming married to men who were much older. Before they reached adolescence, these ladies frequently lost their husbands, leaving them without any familial support. Jyothiba, who was distressed by their situation, founded an orphanage in 1854 to protect these poor children from dying at the brutal hands of society.

The traditional Brahmins and other upper castes were attacked by Mahatma Jyothirao Phule and labelled as "hypocrites." He ran an anti-authoritarian campaign and exhorted the "peasants" and "proletariat" to resist the limitations placed on them.

He welcomed guests of different backgrounds and castes into his home. He supported gender equality, and he put his views into practice by including his wife in all of his social reform initiatives. He thought that religious figures like Rama were used by the Brahmin to oppress the lower caste.

The society's traditional Brahmins were incensed by Jyothirao's actions. They accused him of corrupting societal rules and regulations. He was charged with representing the Christian Missionaries by many. However, Jyothirao Phule was adamant and chose to carry on the movement. It's interesting to note that Jyothirao Phule had several Brahmin acquaintances who lent their support to the movement's success.

Jyothiba Phule founded the Satya Shodhak Samaj in the year 1873. (Society of Seekers of Truth). He conducted a methodical deconstruction of historical ideas and beliefs before rebuilding one that promoted equality. The Hindus' ancient holy texts, the Vedas, were harshly denounced by Jyothirao Phule. He used a number of other ancient writings to trace the origins of Brahmanism and accused the Brahmins of creating cruel and exploitative regulations in an effort to preserve their social supremacy by repressing the "shudras" and "atishudras" in society. The Satya Shodhak Samaj's mission was to rid society of caste prejudice and free the disadvantaged lower caste people from the stigmatization brought on by the Brahmins.

The word "Dalits" was initially used by Jyothirao Phule to refer to everyone whom the Brahmins regarded as belonging to a lower caste and being untouchable. Everyone was welcome to join the Samaj, regardless of caste or class. According to some documented accounts, they even encouraged Jews to join the Samaj. By 1876, the "Satya Shodhak Samaj" had 316 members. Jyothirao Phule made the decision to build a communal bathing tank outside his home in 1868 to demonstrate his tolerant attitude toward all people and his desire to eat with anyone, regardless of caste.

Against this background a two day national seminar was proposed on "Abrogation of Class and Caste Oppression in India: Contributions of Mahatma Jyothirao Phule". The theme of the seminar will provide a platform and an opportunity to exchange views and identify priority areas of future research.

## Seminar Objectives

The Seminar has three main Objectives for outreach:

- To discuss and disseminate the Class and Caste Oppression in India and the Role of Mahatma Jyothirao Phule and his Ideology
- To discuss the contributions of Mahatma Jyothirao Phule on the annihilation of Class & Caste in India
- To discuss and identify the ways to reduce caste interventions in civil life/society.

## Sub Themes

- Mahatma Jyothirao's views on the abrogation of class and caste in India.
- Revolutions of Mahatma Jyothirao Phule on casteism.
- Phule's philosophy and ideology on social philosophy and social action.
- Contributions of Savitribai Phule.

## Submission of Papers

Participants are requested to submit research articles on the themes listed above. All papers must be original and should not have been copied/published or accepted in a journal or conference proceedings or presented at any conference. The abstract of the paper should not exceed 300 words and full papers not exceeding 10 pages should be submitted in soft copy to Email: Phulecentre14anu@gmail.com

(MS Word, Times New Roman, 12 pt, 1.5 space, including tables, references and annexure)

## Registration Fee

There is a provision for the publication of research papers in the National Seminar Volume/Souvenir. The registration fee should be paid in the form of a demand draft drawn in favour of Union Bank of India, A/c. 150812010000399, IFSC Code: UBIN0815080, ANU Branch: Nagarjuna Nagar in favor of "Director, UGC National Seminar on ACC-CMJP", Mahatma Jyothirao Phule Centre, Acharya Nagarjuna University.

### Registration Fee:

Permanent Faculty & Representatives of Industry / NGOs.	Rs. 800/-
Contract/ Guest Faculty	Rs. 500/-
Research Scholars	Rs. 400/-
Students	Rs. 300/-

### Last date for Submission Articles : 24-02-2023

Note: i) Registration fee includes Seminar kit, Two day's lunch, and Certificate. ii) Book Cost will be charged on publication of selected Articles with ISBN No.

## How To Reach ANU

Acharya Nagarjuna University is located beside Chennai-Kolkata, NH 5 at a distance of 12 km from Guntur and 19 km from Vijayawada, A.P. both the cities are well connected by rail and road. Buses ply round the clock between these two cities. The nearest Air Port is at Gannavaram.