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Name of the Department/Center: Department of History and Culture

Topic of Research: Untouchability and Indian Nationalism: 1885-1947.

Finding

The following conclusion may be drawn on the basis of the exploration of the changing perception of untouchability during the national movement in India.

The main focus of this research work is to critically review the caste system and 'untouchability in the late 19th and early 20th century. This is when various other important social and political changes are happening in the Indian subcontinent. The birth of the Indian National Congress in 1885 and the aftermath is an interesting subject of study when it comes to understanding the internal dissensions within the Indian society, juxtaposed to the need for all sections of the society to be together in the grave conditions against colonial rule. The historiographical reconstruction of the topic of untouchability is significant. Thus two distinct and seemingly unrelated themes of nationalism and untouchability have been taken up to discuss the politics of the caste system and untouchability in the wake of the National movement.