

## Fraternity

The word 'Fraternity' is derived from the French to mean brotherhood, friendship & cooperation. It is the principle which provides unity & solidarity in social life;

### Fraternity for Us;

- \* It was Dr. B.R. Ambedkar who injected the concept of 'fraternity' into India's constitutional course through his powerful 1936 text 'Annihilation of Caste'.
- \* Though the Objectives Resolution had omitted the word, the draft Constitution included it in its preamble to strengthen the spirit of human bonding in the Indian society.
- \* The Preamble describes fraternity as a source affirming dignity of the individual & the unity of the nation.
- \* This is possible by recognising the moral equality of individuals, upheld on the basis of respect to all religions, beliefs, languages, castes, ethnicity, class & gender. (to achieve dignity of individual).
- \* Unity of the nation is assured by strengthening social solidarity, sense of mutual belonging, cooperation, inclusion & respecting the minorities.
- \* Fraternity today remains the least understood, least discussed & least practiced of the 4 pillars of constitutional morality found in our Preamble - Justice, Liberty, Equality & Fraternity.
- \* There needs to be a rethink in everybody's attitude towards all others. Mahatma in his last months showed the power of radical & fearless love, & cemented the foundations of India as a humane, inclusive & secular nation.

## Conclusion

India cannot afford to lose 'fraternity' as the missing link of Democracy. Ambedkar had even said that without fraternity, liberty & equality couldn't become natural course of things. It is high time that everybody should voluntarily adhere to the social fabric concept of brotherhood to reap the fruits of the nation.