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CASTE INCLUSIVENESS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA: AN ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

The challenge to economic theory concerns the relation between marginalism and social custom. The social exclusion is not based on accepted principles and practices of fairness. There are various forms of discrimination experienced by the Dalits and other weaker sections in different spheres of national life. Scholars have expressed serious concerns about the inclusiveness of Indian growth process. Caste inclusiveness in economic development is primarily examined in this article based on an extensive review of development literature. The caste formation is an explicit system of discrimination in the service of the domination of economic resources, social power and cultural authority. The Constitution of India contains progressive measures for the inclusive development of weaker sections of Indian society. In India, there are about 85% of marginalized sections of society. These sections have no control over their lives and environment due to absence of economic resources and political power. But, the rulers have failed to create new social and economic orders by translating the constitutional provisions into realities. It is very important to address the issue of marginalization since it deprives a large majority of people across the country from participating in the development.

KEYWORDS: Caste, Dharma, Shudras, Weaker Sections, Mughal Era