Beat: News

Symbolic Shifts Or Substantive Changes?

Illusion of political transformation

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USPA NEWS - Independence is not about political rhetoric, but about pursuing justice and equality.
Pingali Venkaiah and Dr B R Ambedkar symbolize resilience in India's history.
Commemoration of sacrifices and legacy is important.

In honoring the selfless dedication of noble individuals who sacrificed for society, it is essential to recognize their struggles as their true rewards and their industry as their legacy. As we reap the benefits of the endeavors of countless remarkable individuals, it is our solemn duty to honor their toil. However, the lives of marginalized communities like the Badugu (downtrodden) people show little improvement, while corporate powers continue to flourish. With 90% of the nation's wealth concentrated in the hands of 10% of the population, the question arises: where does our journey truly lead? Can we expect genuine change when political flags change while agendas remain static?

Pingali Venkaiah's life story reflects a journey marked by defiance and dedication. His commitment to the independence movement is undeniable, and his model remains central to the design of the national flag. Gandhi's endorsement of Venkaiah's flag design in his Young India magazine underscores its significance in the struggle for independence. Despite controversies surrounding the flag's origins, Venkaiah's meticulous craftsmanship, with 30 models before the final design, is a testament to his ingenuity. The evolution of the flag's colors and symbols, from red to amber and Ashoka Chakra to Charka, reflects a complex tapestry of ideologies and influences.

As political agendas intersect with historical narratives, the media plays a pivotal role in shaping public discourse. However, the selective retelling of history undermines the contributions of figures like Pingali Venkaiah and Dr B R Ambedkar. Their stories remind us that true independence lies not in political rhetoric but in the pursuit of justice and equality for all. As the nation commemorates 75 years of independence, let us not forget the sacrifices of those who toiled in obscurity, their legacy immortalized in the fabric of our nation's flag.

(The opinions presented in this article belong exclusively to Samuel Raj, a fervent proponent of Dr B R Ambedkar’s Ideology)

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UPA United Press Agency LTD

483 Green Lanes
UK, London N13NV 4BS
contact (at) unitedpressagency.com
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