

INVITATION
Swaraj Panchayat

7-8-9 October 2025
Vidya Ashram, Sarnath

Building Swaraj with Bahujan Initiative

A debate on the ideas of ‘the nation’ and ‘the state’ has been shaping up at the global level for a while now. The context in which the debate has arisen is two-fold: the rise of a new politics of the indigenous peoples in the South American continent, and coming into power by neo-conservative political parties in several countries of the world. The debate has centered around the **ideas of the plurinational state, the civilizational state, the nation state, liberal democracy and cultural nationalism. Where and how may the idea of ‘swaraj’ be located in this debate? Is it possible that the idea of ‘Swaraj’ inspires the inauguration of a new politics? Can the Bahujan Samaj take initiative to bring the values of nyaya, tyaga and bhaichara to this global debate?**

This is a proposal for organizing a multi-faceted knowledge dialogue on ‘Bahujan’ and ‘Swaraj’ in the context provided by the above questions and from various points of view.

Day 1: Bahujan Knowledge Dialogue

- The Bahujan identity
- Philosophical thought of Bahujan Samaj – Traditions of nyaya, tyaga and bhaichara
- Economic and political legacy of Bahujan Samaj
- Role of Reservations in Bahujan empowerment
- The knowledge basis of Bahujan strength - Lokavidya

Day 2: Swaraj Gyan Panchayat

- Should the socialjustice movement have Swaraj as its goal?
- Can values of Amarpuri, Begumpura, ... be realized in Swaraj?
- Is the broad bahujan consciousness Swaraj-consciousness?
- The role of literature and art in advancing Swaraj
- The place of autonomy, local market, local self-governance, bahujan initiative and lokavidya in Swaraj

Day 3: Resolutions

Presentation of a Statement capturing the debate over the Day 1 and Day 2. Discussion over the Statement. Address the question: Does the dialogue on **Bahujan** and **Swaraj** over the

two days provide a basis to move forward as Swaraj Panchayat? If so, then discuss the process and try to reach a definite outcome.

Likely Speakers

Rahul Rajbhar, Ramji Yadav, Sunil Kashyap, Ramjanam, Fazalurrahman Ansari, Parmita, Harshchandra, Lakshman Prasad, Anup Shramic, Dhananjay, Ali Anwar, Lotan Ram Nishad, Muniza Khan, Suresh Pratap Singh, Yuddhavir Singh, Anand Kumar (Swaraj Abhiyan), Srishti Vajpayee (Vikalp Sangam), Neeraj (Lokayat), Speaker fro Khap Panchayat, Krishnaswarup Anadi (Swaraj Vidyapeeth), Ramagya Shashidhar (Hidi literateure), Samta Pariwar B.H.U., Chhedilal Nirala, Rjeev Yadav, Ekta Shekhar, Chitra, Sunil, Krishnarajulu, Krishna Gandhi, Girish