



Honourable Chief Guest, Respected Principal Sir, beloved teachers and all my dear friends, a very good morning to all of you. It is a moment of pride for me to share my views on the topic - 'Pillars of Democracy'.

First of all, what do you mean by democracy? A system of government which is elected and ruled by the people is called democracy. Sir Abraham Lincoln have explained democracy in a very short and beautiful way - 'Government of the people, by the people, for the people'.

What is it? which makes a building strong? It's strong foundation right? Similarly, metaphorically speaking, in democracy, it is the fundamental principles which also forms the trinity of democracy. It comprises of - Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Moreover, the democracy is balanced by the three pillars of democracy namely the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary. But now in this 21st century democracy is supported by a fourth pillar which is mass media which comprises of T.V, radios, newspapers and many more.

In November, 1949, as the Constituent Assembly stood on the verge of adopting the draft constitution, its chairperson Dr. B.R. Ambedkar offered a few words of caution. I propose to recount it in the words of Dr. Ambedkar himself - For India to maintain democracy not only in form but also in fact, we must abandon the Grammar of Anarchy, shun hero-worship and remember that social democracy - a value which recognises 'liberty, equality and fraternity as principles of life' must always walk hand in hand with political democracy.

Though today, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar are not physically present he is still among us in the form of the constitution guiding the nation for a better future. It is our duty to accomplish his dream and of many others who have rendered life-long services to the nation, of India becoming a democratic nation not only in form but also in fact.

I would like to ask each one of us present here - Are we following the moral values and the fundamental principles of liberty, equality and fraternity? If the answer is negative we need to change ourselves.

Lastly, I believe we as students, the younger generation are the modern pillars of democracy. Now it is our responsibility to safeguard our constitution and to achieve new heights. We must strive hard to achieve this goal and I also pray to God to bless all of us with his blessings and as Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam said - 'God is with each one of us, And if he is with us, who can be against us?'

I am of the solid hope that we will not only maintain but also flourish the democratic ideologies in our nation as dreamt by Dr. Ambedkar.

I once again thank our Principal sir and our English teacher Mr. Sandip sir for giving me an opportunity to express my view and to the students for patient listening.

Thank you!