

m
by B N

Submission date: 24-Jul-2021 07:10AM (UTC-0400)

Submission ID: 1623427114

File name: Ants_among_Elephants_Response.edited.docx (12.39K)

Word count: 351

Character count: 1867

Ants among Elephants Response

Name

Institution

Course

Instructor

Date

Ants among Elephants Response

India is a difficult country, a seething stew of dialects, cultures, classes, and faiths erupting atop all through each other in such a bewildering mass that I would term as a "nation" for convenience's sake. However, for many Westerners, India's story starts and ends with Gandhi's anti-British movement, which was succeeded by the terrible events of Partition in 1947.

It is evident that the opportunity to experience post-independence India through the perspective of untouchables, Christian converts, and Marxist insurgents known as Naxalites is provided by the book "Ants among Elephants." Although from a foreigner's viewpoint, it's impossible to truly comprehend the caste system's power and privilege from the perspective of those so low on the system that they stand outside of its tiers, it is a captivating nightmare to witness, and the author Sujatha Gidla spares no detail (Gidla, n.d.).

I believe that this is a narrative that could have easily crumbled under its weight if it had not been narrated. "Ants among Elephants" is a story rife with revolutionary factions that divide and fragment again and rife with ideological and caste debates that will appear obscure to many Western readers. However, Gidla's compassion for her people, many of whom are her flesh and blood, saves the narrative from being bogged down. Instead, the reader is presented with finely observed life pieces seen and portrayed with a gimlet eye.

"Ants among Elephants" has a loose, occasionally meandering aspect to it, and there are points when the author's recall and mastery of long-ago discussions make it difficult to believe. But there are many exhilarating and sad moments woven into its folds, and the novel as a whole offers a window into not only the heart of India but also the universal essence of bigotry and class conflict. Lastly, the book provides a lucid combination of caste, communism, and

Christianity and further evaluates how they failed to free individuals from irrational caste standards.

Reference

Gidia, S. (n.d.). *Ants among Elephants: An Untouchable Family and the Making of Modern India*. Macmillan.

m

ORIGINALITY REPORT

0%

SIMILARITY INDEX

0%

INTERNET SOURCES

0%

PUBLICATIONS

0%

STUDENT PAPERS

PRIMARY SOURCES

Exclude quotes On

Exclude matches Off

Exclude bibliography On