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## Annabhau Sathe

We look at Anna Bhau's life from the point of view of his literature, we will find that every episode of Sathe's life was filled with many tragedies. Annabhau was born in the Matang community on 1 August 1920, a social formation by the religious caste system, which dates back thousands of years and is prominently seen even today in our Indian Culture. The people of this community were considered criminals by the then-existing British Government. Annabhau was born in Wategaon in the Sangli district of Maharashtra. His father's name was Bhau, and his mother was Valubai. He had an elder sister Bhagubai, a brother Shankar, Madhukar, and a younger sister Jaibai.



His childhood was filled with struggles; Annabhau's family didn't have a permanent source of income to support his family. Therefore, Bhau Sathe decided to go and work in Mumbai. In the initial days, he was alone working in Mumbai. He was a hardworking man, so he chose loyalty and hardship, and as a result, he started earning money. He sent some money to his family, which he earned monthly. Bhau and his wife Valubai were both illiterate, so Bhau asked his master's son to write letters for him; Valubai used to get those letters read by a schoolmaster in their village named Deshpande. Valubai must have been inspired to send all her sons and daughters to the school from the letters Bhau Sathe wrote. At that time, there were separate schools for the children of backward classes, but the teachers belonged to the

upper caste community. Very few upper caste teachers had interested in teaching backward-class students. Annabhau Sathe could not do anything special in studies due to the treatment of backward-class children in schools, the behavior of teachers, and domestic responsibilities.

In 1931, his father, Bhau Sathe, decided to move to Mumbai with the whole family. He didn't have money to afford any means of traveling, so they decided to reach Mumbai by walking. After a lot of hardships, they safely reach Mumbai. After arriving in Mumbai, they were taken to a camp run by Christian missionaries. Because the caste community to which Annabhau belonged was considered a criminal by the then-British government. This was why these people were kept under the government's control. Also, they were prohibited from practicing their own culture and religion. The British government supported the Christian missionaries to successfully lead their work of converting people to Christianity. This place can be termed a different but special type of prison for these people. That place was more like a trap, where it was facile to get in, but when you go deeper, it becomes highly challenging. These people were forced to sacrifice their religion, country, society, culture, tradition, and self-respect. It was better to die than to live a life like this was a constant thought that came into Annabhau's mind. He made efforts to escape the place; for this, he befriended the keepers of the wall, and with their help, he was able to get himself and his family out of there.

Annabhau Sathe had some outstanding abilities since birth. He had a sharp, intelligent, and quick grasp of a task. From the beginning, he could very easily compose sentences of ironic humor and laughter; his speaking was consistent and logical. Although he was not much educated, Annabhau Sathe had created a writer inside himself by doing various works from his childhood till his youth. In 1942, when the whole country was fighting the freedom struggle with great Vigor, Annabhau composed his best works. Annabhau was entirely in opposition to casteism and class-based divisions in society. We can see Annabhau Sathe's eloquent approach to ideas like intense rationalism, equality, freedom, and universal brotherhood. In his thoughts and his literature, we can experience the views of great men like Mahatma Phule, Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj, and Dr. Ambedkar.

All the characters given in Annabhau's literature were the best examples of humanity, parity, justice, idealistic and votive personalities. They were portrayed as the ones who fought against the malpractices which existed in our society. Annabhau Sathe depicted the pain of every common person in his literature; he tried to address the sufferings and struggles of all the backward class people. It is not that everyone's commitment should be to a Mahatma, a philosopher. Responsibility comes from one's faith and loyalty. Suppose we want to see how the holy commitment of an uneducated man like Annabhau Sathe inspires everyone in the form of philosophy. In that case, we should look towards Annabhau Sathe's modern Marathi literature.

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