

Notice of Motion 204: Caste Discrimination

(To be considered Thursday 09:15)

The Conference notes that:

- a) caste discrimination is a vast international injustice occurring within the United Kingdom, where, it is estimated, between 50,000 and 250,000 Dalits live;
- b) it was finally agreed in April 2013 that caste be included as an aspect of race in the Equality Act 2010;
- c) the continued persistence of the Churches Dalit Support Group in keeping the subject of UK-based caste discrimination before the government;
- d) memorials 46 and 47 invite the Conference to encourage the Her Majesty's Government "to move with all speed" in the implementation of this clause, which appears to be subject to delays and postponements at every stage;
- e) caste discrimination continues to be the focus of Methodist Women in Britain so as to stimulate prayer and action and to engage in partnership with the Church of North India.

The Conference therefore:

- 1) directs the Secretary of the Conference to write to Her Majesty's Government concerning the ongoing delay in implementing the law, passed in April 2013, which would include caste as an aspect of race.
- 2) encourages the Methodist people to:
 - a) take similar action in writing to their Member of Parliament;
 - b) raise awareness of caste discrimination;
 - c) pray for justice;
 - d) express solidarity with victims of discrimination in whatever ways they can.

Proposed: Mrs Linda Crossley

Seconded: Mrs Jill Baker

(Signed by 8 other members of the Conference)

1. Mrs Wendy Ince
2. The Revd Alison F Tomlin
3. Dr Margaret Williams
4. The Revd D Paul C Smith
5. Mrs Kathleen Curtis
6. The Revd Olufemi Cole-Njie
7. Mrs Mary Williams
8. Ms Eleanor Jane Allin

Budgetary Implications

The Connexional Treasurer considers this Notice of Motion has no budgetary implications.