

Contextualising Dalit Literature as the Discourse of Resistance

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Today Dalit discourse is a widely accepted discipline in India and its popularity is being concretized through the discussion, debate, its inclusiveness in the University syllabus and publications at national and international level. In fact Dalit discourse is the literature produced by the Dalit consciousness and human freedom is the main inspiration behind it. The nature of this literature consists in rebellion against suppression and humiliation suffered by the Dalits in the past and even at the present in the frame Varna system. It carries a long history of pain and burden of being a Dalit right from the Vedic time in India. Their lives full of sufferings, oppression, massacre and burning of villages and severe punishment without any valid reasons by Brahminical forces have not been written properly in the history of this nation and they have been legalised Untouchable by Manusmiriti that has not been yet declared unjust by the masses or the accepted notions of the people. Arjun Dangle states that “Dalit is not a caste, but a realisation and is related to the experience of Joys and sorrows and struggles of those in the lowest stratum of the society.”(Dangle 23)Now there has been paradigm shift in the history and Dalits are able to narrate their painful lives to the world. They can tell all those horrible lives what they have experienced from generation to generation.