



Cover Page



## NAMDEO DHASAL'S GOLPITHA: POETRY AS A VOICE OF THE DALIT

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**Abstract:** Dalit literature is primarily a literature of protest against the age – old oppression and humiliation that was suffered by Dalit in India. Dalit writing in India began to sprout in Maharashtra but in a very short time the flames of it spread to other parts of the country. Dalit writing in India has served to important functions for them. But it has documented the emotions and feelings and secondly it has mobilised the Dalit consciousness. Namdeo's first collection of poems Golpitha took Marathi literary circles by storm and broke all the rules of traditional Marathi literature in 1972. The research tries to seek how Dhasal has represented socially and economically oppressed people in his writings. This research is an attempt to study the literary representations of the margins of Mumbai through selected poems of Golpitha.

**Keywords:** Dalit, Caste, Marginalized, Women Oppression, Ambedkarism.

### 1. Introduction

Namdeo Dhasal is a well-known Marathi poet and writer. He was influenced by the ideas of Karl Marx and Dr.B.R. Ambedkar. In 1972, he established Dalit panther's movement in Maharashtra. It was a very powerful weapon for strengthening the Dalit movement. Dalit movement played important role for being construction of subaltern literature. Dhasal's first collection of poems Golpitha (1972) depicts the plights of the 'red-light areas' and speaks about the low class working people, Pimps, prostitutes, and other downtrodden people. The acclaimed collection includes “Man You Should Explode”, “Their Orthodox Pity”, “Allahu Akbar”, “Mandakini Patil: Young Prostitut”. The other volume titled **Moorkh Mhatrayane Dongar Halavile (1975)** got translated as The Stupid Old Man Moved Mountains. His next work **Khel (Play)** came in 1983. In 1986, another volume titled **Gandu Bagicha (Arsefuckers Park)** was brought out. In 1995, a volume titled **Ya Sattet Jeev Rahamat Nahi (The Soul Doesn't Find Peace in this Regime)** was written.

### Important terms and Phrases

**Caste** - Each of hereditary classes of Hindu society, distinguished by relative degrees of ritual purity or pollution and social status. There are four basic classes or Varma's in Hindu society: Brahmana (priest), Kshatriya (Warrior), Vaisya (merchant or farmer), and Sudra (labourer). The lowest Class, the scheduled caste (formerly known as untouchables), fall outside the varna system and have historically suffered extremely discrimination.

**Dalit** - A member of the lowest caste in the traditional Indian caste system.

**Oppression** - Prolonged cruel or unjust treatment or exercise of authority.

**Marginalisation** – The act of placing person in a position of lesser importance, influence, or power; state of being placed in such a position.

### 2. Research Objectives

The present research work has been carried out with specific objectives. Those objectives of the selected research topic are;

- To focus on the Dalit lives and the atrocities faced by them.
- To analyze the Various effects of oppression on Dalits.
- To study about Dalit leaders and Dalit Panther's movement.
- To find out how Dhasal has represented dalits and other socially and economically oppressed people in his writings.
- To know the condition of Dalit women.

### 3. Research Problems

The present research work have some problems listed by researcher

- What is Dalit Panther?
- What is Subaltern literature?



Cover Page



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- How Dhasal has represented dalits in his writings ?
- What was the condition of Dalit women in Indian society ?
- What is Ambedkarite and Marxist philosophy?

#### 4.Review of Literature

The research has number of articles, journals, thesis book covered on different topics related to the selected research topic.

An article by Vijayanand Bansode entitled “Awakening from Silence, A Study of Namdev Dhasal’s Golpitha” is published in October 2012. It gives knowledge about out casted and abandoned people of the society and helps in understanding social, economic and political life of Dalits.

Another article by Abu saleh entitled “Repulsive and Evocative writings: Reading Namdeo Dhasal in Translation” published in Prestige books International in 2016 gives a great insight into Dhasal language against the Social system.

The research paper “Mapping of Dalit Consciousness in the poetry of Namdeo Dhasal” by Dipankar Porui published in the Atlantic Critical Review in 2017 portrays life of dalits and It describes pathetic condition of Dalit women.

The research paper “Dalit Poetry : A Reflection of the Agony of the Marginalised” by Dr. Radhika Subhankar Mukherjee published in Research Cronieler in 2020. The paper an attempt to portray the Agony of the downtrodden in the dalit poetry.

#### 5.Hypothesis

Influenced through the thought of Mahatma Phule and Babasaheb Ambedkar, Namdeo Dhasal composed anthology and he opposes present social and economic system. It is an expression of people who oppressed by the society since many years. It is reflects the inner feelings, emotions and pains of suppressed people.

#### 6.Research Methodology

The proposed research intends to interpret and evaluate the primary text by using various perspectives and ideologies. It also studied in the light of socio economic theory proposed by Dr. Ambedkar and Karl Marx. The researcher has adopted analytical and descriptive methodology for this research.

#### 7.Chapter Scheme

##### Chapter 1: Introduction

This first chapter of the present thesis will significantly overview dalit literature. It also will throw light on caste and varna system in Indian society.

##### Chapter 2: Representation of the voice of margins

The second chapter of the thesis will deal voice of voiceless people. Subaltern literature is important in sense to understand the suppressed voice of thousands of years, which was deliberately suppressed by rigid caste system of the India.

##### Chapter 3: Annihilation of class and Caste.

The third chapter will discuss the urgency of annihilation of class and caste from Indian society. It also discuss present social and economic system.

##### Chapter 4: Conclusion

The chapter concludes the present thesis. I have discussed role of caste system in India. This chapter also emphasis on need of principle of equality and principle of humanism.

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Cover Page



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