

# RESONANCES OF DALITS IN LITERATURE

Dr. Reshma S





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**Mr. Mohammed Shan K. S.**

Assistant Professor of English  
M.E.S Asmabi College, P Vemballur, Kodungallur  
Thrissur, Kerala

*In recognition of the publication of a Chapter*

“ BOUND BY OPPRESSION: A COMPARATIVE DALIT MARXIST READING OF CASTE AND CLASS IN  
CYRUS MISTRY’S *CHRONICLE OF A CORPSE BEARER AND THAKAZHI*  
SIVASANKARA PILLAI’S *SCAVENGER’S SON* ”

*in Edited Book*

RESONANCES OF DALITS IN LITERATURE

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Editor: Dr. Reshma S

# **Resonances of Dalits in Literature**

**A Peer Reviewed Book**

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**Taran Publication  
New Delhi**

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### Abstract

India's complex social hierarchy has long marginalized certain communities, excluding them from mainstream social structure and perpetuating cycles of oppression. This paper attempts a comparative analysis of casteism and classism in the two Indian novels — Cyrus Mistry's *Chronicle of a Corpse Bearer* and Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai's *Scavenger's Son* through the critical framework of Dalit Marxism. Cyrus Mistry's *Chronicle of a Corpse Bearer* offers a stark portrayal of the marginalized existence of Khandias, a subcaste within the Parsi community. Reinforced by religion and customs, Khandias were pushed to the margins as 'corpse bearers' s traditional role performed by the community and were ostracized for the same reason. Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai's *Scavenger's Son* reverberates with the hitherto unheard voices of the scavengers' community in Alappuzha, Kerala. By examining the ways in which these novels portray the intersections of caste and class, this study aims to unearth the mechanisms by which dominant ideologies maintain power and control over marginalized communities. Through the juxtaposition of experiences of two communities in the selected novels, the paper tries to dissect the intricate relationship between occupation and untouchability shedding lights on the ways in which it marginalises and excludes. Ultimately, this research paper hopes to make a deeper understanding of the social and economic inequalities that persist in India.

**Key Words:** Caste System, Dalit Marxism, Intersectionality, Social Exclusion, Untouchability