

## Caste, Gender and Resistance: A Critical Study of Bama's Sangathi

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Navya. V.K \*

**ABSTRACT:** Dalit literature articulates the oppressions and exploitations faced by Dalits in a caste ridden society. Dalit writing as a political form of writing records the cultural and social lives of Dalits and ideologically the writing offers a call for resistance. Bama is a Tamil Christian Dalit writer who writes about the lives of Dalit Women in Tamil Nadu. This paper attempts a look at Bama's novel Sangathi as a site representing Dalit women and analyses how caste and gender act as tools of double oppression in their life. This critical feminist reading of the novel from a Dalit Feminist perspective focuses on how women are discriminated in the Paraiya community in their relations with different social institutions like education, marriages, electoral politics etc. Simultaneously, we see how this text through its form and theme builds up a resistance against the oppressions the women face in their everyday lives.

**Keywords:** Literature on Dalit ,Bama's novel Sangathi ,Dalit women ,Paraiya community, resistance, caste ridden society

\* Navya. V.K is Research Scholar in the Department of Cultural Studies at the English and Foreign Languages University Hyderabad India.



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