

Acharya Nagarjuna University

Centre for Women's Studies

U.G.C National Seminar on

Gender, Caste, Religion and Region - Gleanings from Women's Writing

On 8-9 March 2017

Women's movement in India has a long history, inter-linked with the other social movements of the soil right from the ancient periods. Similarly women's literature in India has a glorious past. It is interesting to note that women with very low education also have entered into the field of creative writing in India. As women have got an admission into Buddhist church, there are evidences of producing literature by the women writers of Buddhist organization during sixth century B.C. *Theri Gadha* is a collection of the stories and poetry written by the Buddhist nuns, belong to Buddhist era in ancient India.

The concepts of 'women's education and empowerment', 'women's rights', 'women's liberation' etc. are seen to have been discussed with the introduction of English education by the British colonizers. Women education was also initiated with the western education. Impact of western ideology on Indian social life particularly on women can be seen during the colonial period in India. Women are seen to have played an active role in all social movements of modern India. Simultaneously they have produced abundant literature and portrayed the situation of Indian women. Women's literature gradually occupied a key position in academic disciplines also.

Women's literature in several aspects has been achieved positive results in intellectual sphere. Their literature in different regional languages have brought many interesting and useful debates into forefront. The male dominant perceptions regarding usage of male oriented language are subjected to thorough criticism. Women writers challenged patriarchic value system in all aspects of social living.

As Indian society is combination of different castes, religions and regions, naturally women are also divided accordingly and their identities are also different. Women from each section of the

society have their own specific social values and again they are subjected to patriarchic oppression in their own community. As women from upper strata are subjected to patriarchic oppression, Dalit, Bahujan and Adivasi women are subjected to triple burdens of caste, class and gender. Muslim minority women are deprived of freedom, education and other prospects due their customs and traditions. Religion is an important criteria to determine the status of women in Indian society. Every religion has its own paradigms regarding women. Similarly region determines the stature of women in its dominion. Women, belong the economically backward and drought prone regions are highly effected with lack of amenities and sufficient livelihood.

Objectives of the Seminar

The present seminar is intended to focus on the reflections of the realities of caste, religion and region in contemporary women's writing in Telugu. It is also intended to examine that how far women writers respond of certain major issues of the society.

Sub- Themes

- Gender and Caste
- Gender and Religion
- Gender and Region
- Women's Literature on Caste, Gender, Religion and Region
- Contemporary Women's Novels
- Women's Short Story
- Women's Poetry
- Women's Essay
- Women's Journalism

Submission of Papers

Abstract of the Paper should reach the Seminar organizers on or before 31st Dec 2016. Full length Papers should reach the organizers during the seminar.

Guidelines for Contributors

The contributors are requested to follow the guidelines given while sending their manuscript.

Fonts	: Arial, Times New Roman
Font Size	: 12pt
Margins	: 2.6 cm
Pages	: Abstract – 300 words
Full Length Paper	: 5-10 pages of A4 size

Soft copy of the paper along with one hard copy of the paper mentioning the name, surname, organization represented, address, telephone number, e-mail address of contributor (s) at the end of the text should be sent to the Director of the Seminar.

Registration Fee

Rs. 1000/ for employees

Rs. 500/ for students/ research scholars

Registration fee may be paid in favor of Director, National Seminar on *Gender, Caste, Religion and Region - Gleanings from Women's Writing*, Centre for Women's Studies, Acharya Nagarjuna University, Nagarjuna Nagar, Guntur

We will provide accommodation and hospitality for out station delegates on first come and first serve basis. No T.A/ D.A will be paid.

About the University

The Name, Nagarjuna University, is quite significant in that the greatest Buddhist preceptor and philosopher Acharya Nagarjuna founded a University on the banks of river Krishna some centuries ago, and made it great of center learning, attracting a large number of teachers and students from distant parts of the world. The present Acharya Nagarjuna University is not very far from the hallowed spot, as it derives its moral and intellectual sustenance from Acharya Nagarjuna.

In 1967, Andhra University started a Post-graduate centre in Nallapadu, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh, as an Extension Center to cater to the needs of higher education of the people of this region. It is in the fitness of things that a university should grow from this Center to fulfill the desire of the people of this belt. Accordingly, Nagarjuna University came into being in August 1976.

Acharya Nagarjuna University since then has grown into a large University with 37 Academic Departments. Its jurisdictions was extended to three districts now having over 400 affiliated colleges offering Under-Graduate, Post – Graduate, engineering, Education, Law, Pharmacy and oriental Languages courses. Now it has 55 Post- graduate teaching – cum – research courses on the campus, while around 70affiliated colleges offer P.G. Courses.

