

**Gujarat Vidyapith, Sadra**

**Department of English**

**B.A. (English)**

**Semester V**

**MJRENG 503: Dalit Literature in India**

**Credit: 4**

**No. of Hours: 60**

**Internal Evaluation: 40**

**Semester-End Examination: 60**

**Objective:** The paper aims to introduce students to the emerging field of Dalit literature in India in the last fifty years. It aims to make students understand the historical develop of Dalit literature over a period of time. It also aims to strengthen the students' understanding of caste system in India and its impact on society and literature.

**Learning Outcomes:**

After completing the course, the students will have:

1. understanding of the development of Dalit literature.
2. understanding of the literary characteristics of Dalit literature.
3. analytical skills to read given autobiography and drama in terms of its plot, themes, and characterization.

<b>Unit No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Teaching Methodology</b>	<b>Weightage and Duration</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Studying the Dalit Literature</b> 1.1 Historical development of the Dalit literature 1.2 Major Genres –Poetry, Prose, Drama 1.3 Literary Characteristics 1.4 Detailed Study of “Introduction” to <i>Poisoned Bread</i>	1. Classroom lectures 2. YouTube videos on Dalit literature	25%; 15 Hours
<b>2</b>	<b>Poetry</b> 2.1 Characteristics of Dalit Poetry 2.2 Samples of Poetry 2.2.1 Namdeo Dhasal: 1. “Poverty as My Own Independent Piece of Land” 2. “Ambedkar: 1980” 2.2.2 Hira Bansode: “Slave” 2.2.3 Arun Kamble: “The Life We Live” 2.2.4 Neerav Patel: “Exiled Flowers”, “Kaliyo” 2.2.5 Praveen Gadhvi: “Om Shanti	1. Classroom lectures 2. YouTube videos on Dalit poetry	25%; 15 Hours

	Om” 2.2.6 Sahil Parmar: “Conversation with Wife” 2.2.7 Usha Parmar: “Try to be a Harijan”		
3	<b>Autobiography</b> 3.1 Omprakash Valmiki: <i>Joothan</i> (Translated from Hindi)	1. Classroom lectures 2. YouTube videos on <i>Joothan</i>	25%; 15 Hours
4	<b>Drama</b> Mohan Parmar: <i>A True Saga of Satyanarayana</i> (Translated from Gujarati)	1. Classroom lectures	25%; 15 Hours

### Recommended Texts:

- Dangle, Arjun, ed. *Poisoned Bread*. Bombay: Orient Longman, 1992.
- Dasan, M. et al, eds. *The Oxford India Anthology of Malayalam Dalit Writing*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- Gadhavi, Praveen. *Poet's Voice*. Trans. Atulkumar Parmar. New Delhi: Himalayan Publishers and Distributors, 2012.
- Limbale, Sharankumar. *Towards an Aesthetic of Dalit Literature*. Trans. Alok Mukherjee. New Delhi: Orient Longman, 2004.
- Mishra, D.S., ed. *An Anthology of Gujarati Dalit Literature*. New Delhi: Standard Publishers, 2011.
- Ravikumar and Azhagarasan. *The Oxford India Anthology of Tamil Dalit Writing*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- Satyanarayana K. and Susie Tharu, eds. *No Alphabet in Sight: New Dalit Writing from South India*. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2011.
- Shrimali, Chandrabhen. *Gujarati Dalit Short Stories*. Trans. Atulkumar Parmar. New Delhi: Shanti Prakashan, 2014.
- Valmiki, Om Prakash. *Joothan*. Trans. Arun Prabha Mukherjee. Kolkata: Samya, 2004.

### Unit Wise Essential Reading List

#### Unit 1: Studying the Dalit Literature

- Dangle, Arjun, ed. *Poisoned Bread*. Bombay: Orient Longman, 1992.
- Dasan M. et al eds. *The Oxford India Anthology of Malayalam Dalit Writing*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- Limbale, Sharankumar. *Towards an Aesthetic of Dalit Literature*. Trans. Alok Mukherjee. New Delhi: Orient Longman, 2004.
- Ravikumar and Azhagarasan. *The Oxford India Anthology of Tamil Dalit Writing*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- Satyanarayana K. and Susie Tharu, eds. *No Alphabet in Sight: New Dalit Writing from South India*. New Delhi: Penguin Books, 2011.

### Internet Resources

Dalit Writings and 'New' Literatures

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O0mQo4UCwHQ>

Dalit Movement and Backward Class Assertions in India

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S62ude0q4T8>

Dalit Feminism

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZzd43OZdRk>

Dalit Feminism: Caste, Power and Hierarchy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JmI2ffncW1g>

Dalit Aesthetics

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xTe63G5Y0I>

Dalit and Tribal Literature in English Translations

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTQasUR2Vws>

### Unit 2: Poetry

Gadhavi, Praveen. *Poet's Voice*. Trans. Atulkumar Parmar. New Delhi: Himalayan Publishers and Distributors, 2012.

### Internet Resources

Namdeo Dhasal <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wD3R-DoCIqg>

### Unit 3: Autobiography

Omprakash Valmiki: *Joothan*

### Internet Resources

*Joothan*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TfKziwIzKX0>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yrSv4y\\_UmxY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yrSv4y_UmxY)

### Unit 4: Drama

Mohan Parmar: *A True Saga of Satyanarayana*

### Internet Resources

[https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/131061/9/09\\_chapter3.pdf](https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/131061/9/09_chapter3.pdf)

## Examination Pattern

### Continuous Evaluation:

**Total Marks: 20**

#### Components

1. Student's Presentation from all units
  - a. Understanding of the subject matter
  - b. Command over the language
  - c. Confidence
  - d. Answering questions

Marks: 10

## 2. Assignment

Marks: 10

- a. Understanding of the question
- b. Use of multiple textual material
- c. Grammatical accuracy

**Internal Examination****Total Marks: 20**

Total internal examinations of 20 marks each will be conducted and the higher marks from either of the examinations will be considered.

**Semester End Examination****Total Marks: 60**

This will have equal representation from each unit. Following is a sample from each unit:

**Unit 1: Studying the Dalit Literature**

1. One long question of 15 marks with internal options.  
For example: Critically examine major features of Dalit literature.

**Unit 2: Poetry**

1. One long question of 15 marks with internal options.  
For example: Critically examine poems of Namdeo Dhasal that you have studied.

**Unit 3: Autobiography**

1. One long question of 15 marks with internal options.  
For example: Critically examine Om Prakash Valmiki's autobiography *Joothan*.

**Unit 4: Drama**

1. One long question of 15 marks with internal options.  
For example: Mohan Parmar's *True Saga of Satyanarayana* is a representative text of Dalit culture. Discuss.