

# Dalit Women's Autobiographies

Convergences and Divergences



*Edited by*

Dr Bijender Singh

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First Published, 2021

*Published by*



Kalpaz Publications  
C-30, Satyawati Nagar,  
Delhi - 110052  
Ph.: 011-47034999, 9811692060  
www.kalpazpublications.com  
E-mail: kalpaz@hotmail.com

*Printed at:* Gyan Press, Delhi.

**Cataloging in Publication Data—DK**

Courtesy: D.K. Agencies (P) Ltd. <docinfo@dkagencies.com >

**Dalit women's autobiographies : convergences and divergences /**  
edited by Dr Bijender Singh.

pages cm

Contributed articles.

ISBN 9789353246167

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1. Indic literature—Dalit authors—History and criticism. 2. Indic literature—Women authors—History and criticism. 3. Women authors, Indic—Biography—History and criticism. 4. Autobiography. 5. Dalits in literature. 6. Women in literature. I. Singh, Bijender, editor.

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## The World of Dalit Women in Viramma's Autobiography *Viramma: The Life of an Untouchable*

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*Dr Suruchi Sharma*

Untouchability was one of the biggest problems in India and this practice has only been mitigated not eradicated even after the enforcement of legal laws by the government. Laws can be made by the government but it is very difficult to change the mentality of the people. Though many dalit women writers from India have written their autobiographies in regional languages, yet only few autobiographies are available in English. Most of these autobiographies have been translated from other languages but there are few dalit women's autobiographies which have been told by the autobiographers to someone else, and those people have recorded the life of illiterate dalit women. *Viramma: The Life of an Untouchable* by Viramma also belongs to this category.

An autobiography is an authentic record of one's life and it has all realistic depiction because all the incidents of the author's life are revealed through him/her directly. That's the reason, autobiography remains more appealing to people. Shweta Singh writes in this context:

An autobiography with its claim of genuine remembrance and retelling can also have a counter-claim of genuine

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India, USA, Canada, UK, Australia & France

Price: ₹ 1320

ISBN: 978-93-5324-616-7



9 789353 246167