

OSTRACISM DEPICTED IN THE WORKS OF MULK RAJ ANAND

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ABSTRACT

The present paper would discuss the issues of Dalit writings with reference to Mulk Raj Anand's Untouchable and her short stories. Dalit (oppressed or broken) is not a new word. It was used in the 1930s as a Hindi and Marathi translation of depressed classes. Britishers used this term for Scheduled Caste. The word was also used by B.R Ambedkar in his Marathi speeches. It is a literature and a term for marginal classes. The term Dalit is first used in journalistic writing in around 1931 to denote Untouchability. It implies a condition of being underprivileged and deprived of basic rights and refers to the people who are suppressed on account of their lowly birth. To be a 'Dalit' in an Indian caste system is to be very low in and partially excluded from an absolute hierarchal social order. They have called by various names, such as Untouchables, Harijans, Exterior Classes, Depressed Classes, Outcastes, and Pariahs. In ancient times the terms Mlechha, Paulkasa, Chandala and also Panchama, Avarna, Nishada, Antyaja, Atishudra, etc were used for depressed classes.

KEYWORDS: *Dalit Movement, Dalit Literature, Untouchability, Ostracization, Catesim*