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**Topic of Research:** “Revisiting Dalithood in the works of Meena Kandasamy and Sujatha Gidla”

### **Findings**

Dalit literature has evolved to represent the Dalit consciousness, both personally and collectively. Modern dalit literature has, despite being marginalized or demonized, flourished since 1970s, first in the footsteps of democratic activists and philosophers like B.r Ambedkar, Jyotirao Phule and Poykayil Yohannan, and many others. In recent years, a new generation of Dalit writers is emerging who are taking up the pen to present their stand articulating themselves directly in English language. Meena Kandasamy, Sujatha Gidla, Shilpa Anthony Raj, Roja Singh, Yashica Dutt, Suraj Yengde, and to name a few. With the arrival of these new writers Dalit literature has gone global now. Their work and voice are reaching a greater audience nationally and internationally.

Through a close analysis of the works of two notable Dalit writers, Meena Kandasamy and Sujatha Gidla, the current study demonstrates the journey of oppressed or untouchables in india from socioeconomic -political exploitations to developments. The study also helps in acquiring a better understanding of the Dalits situation in india, particularly the pervasive bias and discrimination they face due to casteism. The findings of such an inquiry might provide the means through which broken identities can be restored and revitalized. The authors of this study hope to shed light on a variety of issues by the end of their investigation, including the

evolution of Dalit identity in the modern era, a re-examination of the concept of “Dalithood” in light of the writings of Meena Kandasamy and Sujatha Gidla, and the part that English language plays in this dynamic transition.

According to the findings from this study, despite the fact that we are now firmly established in the twenty-first century and many caste groups are attempting to mobilize around new identities, there is still a pressing need for equality. Caste, social rank, and political authority continue to shape the community’s self-perception. The boundaries are still interpreted as according to the ‘traditional’ caste system’s standards. This thesis contends that social marginalization based on one’s caste has a significant impact on individual’s thought processes, motivations, and sense of self. The research work not only presents the transformation in Dalit Literature, but it also navigates the trajectory of Dalit identity. In doing so, it incorporates a wide range of definitions from the earliest Dalit writers to the most recent one. The thesis is enriched with real-life caste atrocities and discrimination episodes, voices of not only Dalit authors but dalit activists to connect the dots between the literary and physical world.