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ADJUDICATOR'S REPORT

Title of the Thesis : Women as Doubly Dispossessed in the Writings of Toni Morrison and Bama: A Comparative Study

Name of the Candidate : Ms. A. Aruna Devi
Regn. No : P 8451
Name of the Guide : Dr. P.Jeyappriya
Name of the University : Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodaikanal.

At the outset, after a careful scrutiny of the thesis **Women as Doubly Dispossessed in the Writings of Toni Morrison and Bama: A Comparative Study** submitted by **Ms. A. Aruna Devi**, I commend the researcher for the award of Doctoral Degree in English by Mother Teresa Women's University, Kodaikanal. .

In total, as far as my point of view and careful examination of the thesis in all its dimension taking into mind the title chosen for scrutiny and evaluating the works of African and Tamil Dalit Women writers, I feel happy to say that it is really an innovative, useful and socially relevant thesis made on African and Tamil Dalit writers. It is neatly executed with critical insights and supplemented with arguments taken from the chosen texts and texts written on the chosen texts.

The Thesis is segmented to five chapters,

Chapter I: Introduction
Chapter II: Subjugation of Afro-American Women by Both Black and White Men
Chapter III: Predicament of Dalit Women amidst Masculine and Caste Hierarchies
Chapter IV: Delineation of the Sad Plight of Women Using Stylistic Devices
Chapter V: Conclusion

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The first chapter "Introduction" draws similarities between the politics of Caste and Race among the Indian Dalits and American Blacks. Here are some grounds to compare and contrast. Both are marginalized literatures - one arising out of the 'literature of Slaves' and the other from the 'literature of Untouchables'. Dalits and African Americans are recognizably the others in their respective societies. It is important to examine how the other women negotiate their identities inside and outside their groups in the context of sexism within patriarchal society. The historical subjugation of peoples based on their race and caste assume a further paradigm of gender discrimination when the women struggle for identity and respect not only against the respective masters who have historically exploited them sexually but also against the men of their own groups who often fail to acknowledge their rights and contributions in the struggle against oppression.

In "Subjugation of Afro-American Women by Both Black and White Men", the researcher has embarked on a journey to scrutinize the quest and need for establishing one's own identity. *Beloved*, *The Bluest Eye* and *Sula* are the works taken for an in-depth analysis. It establishes the fact that transformation is wrought by the Afro American and Tamil Dalit writers. Racism, Sexism and Classism signify the traumatic conditions under which African-Americans live in white America. These are systems of societal and psychological oppression that have adversely affected the lives of blacks in general and African-American women in particular. The class issue is an important one as it is linked to Capitalism, the system which divides society into two classes: 'master' and 'slaves.' The whites have been the Monopoly Class under this system while the blacks have been the Marginal Class. The blacks have suffered due to their status in society, as a poor, marginal group. The scholar has brought out this very clearly.

1221

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“Predicament of Dalit Women amidst Masculine and Caste Hierarchies” examines Bama's three novels *Karukku*, *Sangathi* and *Vanmam*. In this chapter the researcher has made an earnest attempt to examine the voice(s) of Afro American native writers and Tamil Dalit Writers to make the world hear the voices of their people, who have been for years silenced/muted/strangled. It is a study on subaltern voices. *Karukku*, *Sangathi* and *Vanmam* are the works used as tools for this social research. Inequality, Injustice, Exploitation, Marginality and Insecurity were well analysed by the researcher. This chapter expresses a powerful feminist narrative.

“Delineation of the Sad Plight of Women Using Stylistic Devices” discusses the stylistic devices of Morrison's three novels *Beloved*, *The Bluest Eye*, and *Sula* and Bama's three novels *Karukku*, *Sangathi* and *Vanmam*. This chapter valorizes the sad plight of women in all the novels taken for study. Also, this chapter highlights the narrative techniques used by the African native women writers and Tamil Dalit women writers. It is a style study.

The final Chapter “Conclusion” concludes by saying that the Comparative literature can be studied profitably in the Indian context under the following heads: sources, themes, myths, forms, movements and trends. It also examines and analyses the literatures of two marginalized groups, African Americans in the United States and Dalits in India. It demonstrates how two disparate societies, USA and India, are constituted by comparable hegemonic socioeconomic- cultural and political structures of oppression that define and delimit the identities of the subalterns in the respective societies.

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Overall, it is a carefully and meticulously executed research. Hence, based on the merits of the thesis and the thesis writer, I once again strongly recommend the thesis **Women as Doubly Dispossessed in the Writings of Toni Morrison and Bama: A Comparative Study** submitted by Ms. **A. Aruna Devi**, for the award of Doctoral Degree in English.

The following questions may be raised during the public Viva-voce.

1. How do you differentiate Afro American first nations' women and the Tamil Dalit women (usually of third world/subaltern) in your thesis?
2. What are the common issues you find in these women writers and how do you think that your study has some social relevance?
3. What are the various identities you find among all these women writers?

Congratulations!!!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A.L. Katonis'.

(Dr.A.L.Katonis)

2nd. Sept. 2015