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Feminism in *The Tigress* by Prathiba Nandakumar

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ABSTRACT

The concept of feminism differs from country to country, from religion to religion, and from caste to caste. Anyhow, Feminism plays a vital role in the thoughts of poets, writers and thinkers of the present world. The status of women in a society reveals its civilization. In a cultural society women enjoy almost equal rights with men. Equality prevails between the genders. This article studies feministic views expressed in the poem *The Tigress*, has written by Prathiba Nandakumar..

Keywords: Feminism, Rights, Duties, Affection, Domestication, Wild animals.

Justice is the main objectives of any community and constitution of any country. There are three basic justices essential for well culture society. They are social justice, Economical justice, and Political justice. Only the cultured society is able to provide free peaceful and secured life. Among these “social justice denotes the equal treatment of all citizens without any social distinction based on caste, color, race, religion sex and so on” (1).

In this article, the poem *The Tigress* written by Prathiba Nandakumar is analyzed to understand the importance of feminism in India. The Feminism taught in Indian society is a peculiar in characters.

Our Indian society consists of many organized religion and unorganized Hindu religion. Organised religion provide equal treatment rights to their women on the basis of the words of their holy books like holy bible, holy Kuran etc. The unorganized Hindu religion is followed by number of caste. Kulumas. The Hindu society is naturally divided into four divisions of castes or Varna. ‘The caste system also known as Varna system is a hierarchical social structure prevalent in the Hindu nations of India and Nepal’(2).

They are Bramins, Sathriyas, Visiyas, Suthras. Besides these four divisions of caste Hindus, another one, Avarna system exists in Hindu society. This Avarna system is also known as untouchable caste

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through they are different in different caste structure, each caste division is invariably divided into two on the basis of sex as men and women.

It is generally believed that Indian women aren't free to enjoy equal rights with men. But if any one analysis the relationship between men and women with available famous literary sources it may be understood that women are enjoying free peaceful secured and happy life because of their family and caste culture.

Each stanza in this poem aptly beautifully resembles the life of women in her family life. The poetess Prathiba Nandakumar bring before our eyes life of typical Indian women in her domestic life by the life of tigress in a circus. First stanza explains the activate of animal trainer and the animal tigress "crawl, jump, stand on hind legs"(3).

Though the tigress is fiercest of fierce animals in the forest by taming, the animal tigress became obedience and cultured to the trainer. Similarly, women are with good behavior and obedient to their elders in the family. Especially, she becomes part and parcel of the life of her husband.

Second stanza interprets the nature of affections and love exists between the tigress and the trainer put his head between the dangerous teeth of the tigress, and pats, waits in anticipation of applause from the public. This may be compared with the hopeful, peaceful, loveable, affectionate life of men, her husband in economically, socially dangerous marriage domestic life, just like, the trainer waits for applause from the public, keeping his head with in the dangerous teeth of mouth of tigress; husband is in the hands of his life partner waiting for successful marriage domestic life. As animal is harmless due to tameness women are not only harmless but also affectionate to help their life partner for their successful domestic life. Using their

characters reserved from their family and educational institution to the satisfaction of their life partners. This is not slavery but, slavery to cultures and religions life.

Third stanza expresses the astonishment of poetess about cultural behavior of the tigress. Tameness has convened the wild animal into domestic obedient animal at command. Similarly, women are obedient, well behaved in the Indian domestic life only because of the effective training and tameness in their family.

The last stanza illustrate that the animals tigress preforms all the activities to the satisfaction of its trainer at the crack of his whip with affection without any grievances. Similarly, Indian women are very happy in their family life behaving affectionately with their life partner without any dissatisfaction in their family life.

In this poem, The Tigress poetess Prathiba Nandakumar has allegorically explained the life with that of fierce animal tigress-life in circus. In short, this is the best explanation about shout able feminism to Indian soil.

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