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The Status of Dalit Women in India's Varna System

Waseem Shoukat^{1*}, Shahid Ahmad Malik²

¹Department of History, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

²Department of Education, University of Kashmir (South campus), J&K.

ABSTRACT

Throughout history, Dalit women in India have been surrounded by a culture of silence. They have remained oblivious to the exploitation, persecution, and barbarism perpetrated against them. They have no control over their bodies, their wages, or their lives. Hunger, malnutrition, sickness, physical and mental torture, rape; illiteracy, ill-health, unemployment, insecurity, and inhuman treatment are all examples of extreme kinds of violence, exploitation, and oppression directed at them. Feudalism, casteism, and patriarchy have combined to make their lives a living misery. The vast majority of them live in the most perilous of circumstances. They are still living in a deeper age of cruelty in this age of modernism and postmodernism.