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## UNHEARD AND IGNORED VOICES IN OMPRAKASH VALMIKI'S *JOOOTHAN*



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### **ABSTRACT**

*Dalit life is intensely painful, charred by experiences, experiences that did not manage to find room in literary creations. Dalits have grown up in a social order that is tremendously cruel and inhuman and compassionless towards Dalits. The present paper focuses on unheard and ignored voices in Omprakash Valmiki's Joothan. Joothan is Valmiki's first text in Hindi that identifies itself as a part of*

*Dalit literature. It examines a report card on the conditions of people who are now routinely called 'erstwhile untouchables' or 'ex-untouchables'. The title encapsulates the pain, humiliation and poverty of Valmiki's Chuhra's community, which not only had to rely on Joothan but also relished it.*

### **KEYWORDS**

*Dalit, Social order, Untouchable, Humiliation and Marginalized.*