

# CRITICAL INSIGHT

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# Amrita Pritam and Her Novel *Village No. 36* A Feminist Point of View

Sandhya Jain

Her Novel *Village No. 36* gave birth to controversy due to which she faced a lot of discrimination, both as a woman and as a woman writer in Punjabi literary circle. This novel expresses the struggle of a woman to achieve the love of a man. Throughout the novel, we see various aspects of woman's power and find an opportunity to explore Amrita's stand on feminism. This novel has ample scope for the study of feminist theories and their applications to the novel. This paper is an attempt to explore various aspects of Amrita Pritam as a feminist writer.

Amrita Pritam is a famous name in the field of Indian writing of the twentieth century. She took Punjabi literature to new heights and set such standards that are hard to beat. Her career spanned over six decades during which she produced many novels, poems biographies and her autobiography. She emerged as a great feminist writer who was not affected by Western feminism but gave an Indian touch to it. Maintaining the standards of Indian culture, she raised her voice against patriarchal domination. She strongly advocated equal status and the rights of women. Some of her novels took the literary world by storm. Her novel *Village No. 36* gave birth to controversy due to which she faced a lot of discrimination, both as a woman and as a woman writer in a hierarchical society. Her novel *Village No. 36* expresses the struggle of a woman to achieve the love of a man. Throughout the novel, we see various aspects of woman's power and find an opportunity to explore Amrita's stand on feminism. This novel has ample scope for the study of feminist theories and their applications to the novel.

Kumar is a famous painter who is completely devoted to his art and does not want to commit himself to anyone. On the other hand, Alka, an aspirant painter is madly in love with Kumar. She is so serious for this relationship, that she becomes ready to be physically available for Kumar in return of petty amount of twenty rupees. This was very



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