



**LOYOLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI – 600 034**

**M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION - ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**THIRD SEMESTER – NOVEMBER 2011**

**EL 3875 - HUMAN RIGHTS AND SUBALTERN LITERATURE**

Date : 12-11-2011  
Time : 9:00 - 11:00

Dept. No.

Max. : 50 Marks

**Answer ANY FIVE of the following questions in about 200 words each:**

**(5 x 10 = 50)**

1. “Amidst the commotion I could still hear Grandpa’s last words: ‘The poisonous bread will finally kill the very humanness of man...’ The recollection of these words put a stop to my sorrow in the loss of my beloved Grandpa”. Critically analyze the story from a subaltern viewpoint.
2. Comment on the significance of the title ‘The Grip of Change’.
3. “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.” Thus says the Article 1. How does Dalit literature reinforce the importance of understanding Human Rights? Give examples.
4. Discuss the autobiographical element in Bama’s ‘Karukku’.
5. Explain the following terms: a) Untouchability      b) Black Identity
6. “Dry latrines, which are cleaned by manual scavengers, still exist in public establishments and private houses in many parts of India, defying the mandatory provisions of law and morality. While the schemes and policies of the state have had some impact, they have failed to liberate and rehabilitate all the manual scavengers.” Write a poem or a prose passage on the plight of manual scavengers to create awareness among people.
7. Enumerate themes and techniques in Langston Hughes’ poetry.

8. Analyse the given poem from human rights standpoint and subaltern perspective.

That dark day was a blessing  
The blessing which was cursed  
Silent wounds were inflicted  
That could never be nursed  
The day you were discovered  
Your father was delighted  
And your grandma too  
Was never more excited...  
I curse the machine till date  
That told them you were my girl  
They didn't want your rosy cheeks  
And honey golden curls  
Immortal Shame I carry in my heart  
That I couldn't save you  
My loved ones turned into beasts  
I couldn't take the horrific rue...  
It was painless laser  
And In a minute you were dead...  
I was numb and my ears burnt  
"We will have a son now" your living father said  
I miss you my child each and every day  
And curse my own soul.

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