

LONELINESS IN THE POEMS OF KAMALA DAS

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ABSTRACT

Kamala Das is one of the most prolific and controversial poets and writers of the post-colonial era in Indian English Literature. Her writings have been viewed more in terms of sexual connotations than for their literary merits. Most of the studies on Kamala Das have been centered round on her love poems and man-woman relationships as love has been considered as the most dominant theme of her poetry. Since she writes with the feelings, emotions and sensitivity of a woman and her world and voices her anger against the patriarchal design of the subjugation of women, she has been branded as a Feminist Poet. No woman poet ever before penned her feelings so candidly, intensely and intimately of her subjective experiences as she did in the creative genres. It led her to stand in the category of Confessional poets. However, these are merely the tips of the iceberg. Very few attempts have been made to understand the 'loneliness' of the woman in her writings which unfortunately form the big mass of the iceberg that has remained unexplored. Loneliness is a pre-dominant theme in the poetry of Kamala Das. The present paper explores it alongside her own explorative female consciousness. She raises her consciousness and seeks to live intensely and honestly on her own terms.

KEYWORDS: *Loneliness, Search for Love, Man-Woman Relationship*

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