IJARSCT



International Journal of Advanced Research in Science, Communication and Technology

International Open-Access, Double-Blind, Peer-Reviewed, Refereed, Multidisciplinary Online Journal

nher 2024 Impact Factor: 7.53

Volume 4, Issue 2, September 2024

Caste and Class Struggles: A Comparative Analysis of How the Two Film Makers Portray Systematic Oppression and Social Hierarchies

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Abstract: This paper conducts a comparative analysis of the representation of systemic oppression and entrenched social hierarchies by two filmmakers, utilizing the intersecting frameworks of caste and class. The study underscores how both filmmakers emphasize the lived experiences of marginalized groups while simultaneously critiquing prevailing power structures through an analysis of their narrative strategies, character development, and cinematic techniques. The analysis positions caste as a historically entrenched, identity-driven mechanism of exclusion, juxtaposing it with class as an economic hierarchy influenced by labor, capital, and mobility. The films use visual metaphors, symbolic spaces, and different ways of showing resistance and submission to show how people's experiences of oppression are both similar and different. This comparative framework illustrates how cinema not only records but also critiques systemic inequality, revealing the frequently obscured structures that regulate social existence. Ultimately, the study emphasizes the transformative influence of film in shaping discourse regarding justice, dignity, and social change

DOI: 10.48175/568

Keywords: Caste and Class Hierarchies, Systemic Oppression, Cinematic Representation.

