

Vaazhai: Value of 1 Rupee

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Abstract

Research background: Present research study is about the 'Reflection of deprived and exploited in the Indian cinema' and the movie studied under the topic is 'Vaazhai' which is Tamil movie under the title of **Vaazhai: Value of 1 Rupee**. The movie is the best example of presentation of deprivation and exploitation with the excellent cinematic brilliance.

Procedure: For present research study qualitative research method (content analysis) has used. The primary and secondary both type sources have used for research. Which included Vaazhai movie, interviews, articles in the e-newspaper and review done by critics were the sources of the content analysis of the movie.

Objectives: For the present research, objectives were to understand the reflection of deprived and exploited in the 'Vaazhai' movie and to study the psychological perspective of the 'Vaazhai'.

Assumption: The reflection of deprived and exploited in **Vaazhai** movie will give the introspective perspective to the society and people will understand that how their behaviour will ruin the someone's childhood. Psychological perspective about the movie will help to understand the social behaviour of people and help them to make good human being.

Implementation: Present study will useful for the literature students, professors, research scholars, social activists. It will useful to understand relationship between movie and the society as well as how movie become the mirror of society.

Key words: Deprivation, Exploitation, Vaazhai movie, Psychological perspective

➤ Introduction

The theme 'Reflection of deprived and exploited in the Indian cinema' is remember us the era of cinema when the movie was not only made for entertainment but also for addressing social issues. Art is the medium for expressing the emotions which can not express directly in society it gives the right way to express it. Same about the thoughts which we stored in our unconscious mind which include socially unaccepted desires of people. If

that desires can't be solved or convert it in socially accepted ways that will become the mental disorders. One of the socially accepted ways is the Cinema. Also, it is the medium to show the hard-hitting reality of society and the human behaviour.

Director Mari Selvaraj gives the movie which is based on true events of his life. The story is based on the Karungulam, southern Tamil Nadu, village in mid-1998. The themes of this rural drama are caste, capitalism,

exploitation and oppression, deprivation. The movie has the power of make us laugh, cry and most importantly, think. The movie shows us the intensifying conflict of boy. the layers of the movie just brilliantly handled by actors.

The title of the research paper 'Vaazhai: Value of 1 Rupee' is the symbolically representation of the struggle and mental trauma of the protagonist. 1 Rs. is the price for the per bunch of bananas. It is not only the price of work done by him but the price of scarifying his the most basic level of happiness.

The research paper is about the 'Reflection of deprived and exploited in the Vaazhai'.

➤ Objectives

1. To understand the reflection of deprived and exploited in the 'Vaazhai'.
2. To study the psychological perspective of the 'Vaazhai'.

➤ Research Method

For present research study qualitative research method (content analysis) has used. The primary and secondary both type sources have used for research. Which included Vaazhai movie, interviews, articles in the e-newspaper and review done by critics were the sources of the content analysis of the movie.

➤ Importance of Research

The present research is about the masterpiece named Vaazhai. How the form of art like movie excellently presents the reality of society and psychology of people. The research will give broader perspective to society and frame of people looking at movie will definitely change. It will help to express our emotions with the arts and the

perspective toward art like it is only for entertainment will change and make the medium of mind. The research will encourage to study the movie in the artistic way basically in the view of literature.

➤ Objective 1: To understand the reflection of deprived and exploited in the 'Vaazhai'

At the start of the movie, there is a funeral of someone, dancing at that moment Symbolically signifying that the deceased has completed their life cycle and is now moving on to the next stage. But the protagonist (Sivanaindhan) and his friend (Sekar) dance with joy because they don't have to go to work of harvesting raw banana bunches and transporting them to lorries, that day. The scene is a depiction of how much the labour-intensive work will affect the mentality of a child. It is that poverty to force them to do the work and become the reason for their mentality to want someone to die each day and they escape from the work.

Sivanaindhan's mother takes advanced money from a broker to pay the debt pledging her son's labor. To avoid the work Sivanaindhan faking a thorn injury, and he gets the responsibility to take care of their cow that day. However, he abandons the cow and goes with his teacher Poonkodi to the rice mill. After returning from the mill, he realised that the cow enters the Muthuraj's farm. Because of this Muthuraj humiliates Sivanaindhan's mother. This incident hits very hard and reflects the child's innocence in the responsible person. He promised that he would work without any complaint during the ten-day half-yearly exam holidays to pay off debts.

Sivanaindhan can't confront his mother about going to dance practice as he is selected for annual day dance performance, and unwillingly has to go work with his sister, but he convinces his sister and manages to escape from work and attends the dance practice with an empty stomach. Because of hunger he takes one banana from the farm but the caretaker brutally beats him (This shows that whoever planted that banana and work there can't take one banana even for hunger) and after that he goes to home but there he is caught by mother, because he didn't go to work, he thought his mother would beat him, he ran away from home and fainted near the pond.

When he wakes up, he finds the entire village in mourning, and comes to know that in a lorry accident the village lost 19 people among them one was his sister Vembu. Sivanaindhan, runs to his house where his mother is mourning, but because of hunger enters in the house and takes some food but caught by mother he runs away and falls unconscious in the banana field. His mother blamed herself that she is responsible for the suffering and hunger of his son, when outside the house there is the corpse of her daughter. Guilt for hunger and suffering of her son overpassed the loss of her daughter.

➔ **Objective 2: To study the psychological perspective of the 'Vaazhai' movie.**

Social psychology studies the human behaviour in the term of interaction with society and how social norms affect the human behaviour and emotions. The story of the movie narrated through the perspective of protagonist who is school going boy and at the starting stage of his

adolescence. The conflict occurs at this stage is known as the identity versus role confusion. The protagonist tries to find his identity at the same time because of responsibilities he confused about his role.

Friendship, is the medicine for him. All of the trouble his friendship and the school teacher are the relief point of his life. He is the fan of Rajanikant and also perform well in his study. His crush on his teacher also one of the characteristics of adolescence stage. But in one dialogue, his purity of love about his teacher well described, at the dance practice his teacher wears formal dress and he compliment her with saying "teacher you are looking so beautiful today" when teacher asked him that, "other day I don't look beautiful" the answer given by protagonist is that "Other day you look beautiful as my mother but today you look beautiful as my sister."

Another psychological perspective is that how inferiority suffers. The moment of humiliation of protagonist's mother, that humiliation is not only about the loss due to cow, but also about the inferiority in terms of socio-economic status. In another scene where 19 people die in lorry accident the reason behind that is the contractor didn't allow other vehicle for workers to return them home. And worker travel by sitting over the loaded truck of bananas and because of that accident happened. The value of their life is nothing Infront of money. They are merely workers and treat them like inferior. Social injustice still it is the problem of our society.

How the basic need affects the emotion of the person brilliantly shown in the climax scene. At the end,

protagonist can't feel the pain of losing his sister because he is far too hungry. And the mother blames herself. The poverty makes deprived them about everything. Deprivation and exploitation are the main themes and their effect on the family of protagonist and on him is the core of the movie.

➤ **Assumption:**

1. The reflection of deprived and exploited in **Vaazhai** movie will give the introspective perspective to the society and people will understand that how their behaviour will ruin the someone's life.

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2. Psychological perspective about the movie will help to understand the social behaviour of people and help them to make good human being.

➤ **Implementation:**

Present study will useful for the literature students, professors, research scholars, social activists. It will useful to understand relationship between movie and the society as well as how movie become the mirror of society. It will useful for further researches about the art.