

**BITS PILANI, K.K. BIRLA GOA CAMPUS**  
**SECOND SEMESTER 2022-23**  
**CASTE AND GENDER IN INDIA**  
**MID SEMESTER EXAMINATION (OPEN BOOK)**

**COURSE CODE: HSS F369**  
**MAX MARKS: 30**

**TIME: 11.00 A.M. – 12.30 P.M.**  
**DATE: 18.03.2023**

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- 1. Analyze the following news text by referring to a theory which substantiates a nexus between power and ideology. (15 marks; word limit – 250 – 300 words)**

**Dalit Man Killed by In-Laws Over Inter-Caste Marriage: Uttarakhand Cops**

- September 2, 2022

A Dalit man was allegedly killed by his in-laws for marrying an upper caste woman in Uttarakhand's Almora district, an official said on Friday. Jagdish Chandra, a Dalit political activist from Panuadhokhan village, was found dead in a car in Bhikiasain town. Salt sub division tehsildar Nisha Rani said that his wife's mother, her step-father and her step-brother were caught while taking the body in the car to dispose of it, adding they were immediately placed under arrest. The couple had got married on August 21, 2022 and Chandra was kidnapped by his in-laws on September 1, 2022. On August 27, 2022 the couple wrote to the administration seeking security, citing a threat to their lives, Uttarakhand Parivartan Party leader PC Tiwari said. He said the victim had contested elections from the Salt assembly seat twice on the party's symbol. Mr Tiwari said had the administration acted on the couple's complaint, Chandra could have been saved. Calling the murder, a matter of shame for Uttarakhand, he demanded a compensation of ₹ 1 crore for the victim's wife.

- 2. Do you agree that norms and practices within a social structure can be resisted? Substantiate with a critical analysis of the following poems (15 marks; word limit -250 – 300 words)**

The earth is the same,  
for the home of untouchables and for the temple.  
Water is the same,  
for washing dirt and for ablution.  
Caste is the same,  
for one who knows the self.  
Fruit is the same,

for six darshanas of liberation.  
Stance is the same,  
for one who knows Koodalasangamadeva.

- Vachana by Basavanna

### **Parai**

Stop that noise.  
Here,  
I'm beating the Parai<sup>1</sup>  
made from the bones  
of my ancestors  
you killed.  
The sound from my Parai  
echoes  
in the sky  
in the ocean  
in the air.  
Everywhere....in all directions.  
It will hit  
your faking  
deaf ears.  
The light you lit  
Yesterday,  
will turn into  
flames today,  
Until it destroys  
your vedas and mantras.  
In those flames  
I tune my parai  
to teach  
music for your posterity.

- Dalit poet Gunasekaran

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<sup>1</sup> Parai is a drum used by Parayar, a Scheduled caste in Tamil Nadu