

Representing Gendered Experience of Partition in Amrita Pritam's *Pinjar*

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Abstract :

The present paper analyzes Amrita Pritam's novel, *Pinjar* from gender aspects of Partition. It depicts that in any situation of conflict, the whole community suffers, but the impact on women is especially complex. Their sufferings first come from the hands of their abductor and then the real sufferings come to their life when they are rescued from their hands by their own family members. There is a social norm that if a woman is being touched by other person, she becomes polluted and hence the condition of the abducted women during Partition is mostly pathetic. Men have always used rape as an instrument and all their anger, frustration, fears and insecurities about an unknown future in a strange land was avenged on women of both the communities. It was a strange and dark psychological period when men stopped behaving like human beings and revealed their darkest and most heinous and demonic selves.

Keywords: *Pinjar*, Partition, gendered experience, victims and survivors.