

CONTENTS

<i>List of figures</i>	<i>x</i>
<i>Notes on contributors</i>	<i>xi</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>xv</i>
 Introduction: theorising Dalit feminism <i>Sunaina Arya and Aakash Singh Rathore</i>	 1
 PART I	
Indian feminism vs Dalit feminism	23
 1 A critical view on intersectionality <i>Nivedita Menon</i>	 25
 2 Problems for a contemporary theory of gender <i>Susie Tharu and Tejaswini Niranjana</i>	 40
 3 Indian feminism and 'Dalit patriarchy' <i>Gopal Guru; Uma Chakravarti; V. Geetha</i>	 60
 PART II	
Predecessors of Dalit feminism	63
 4 Dalit women's agency and Phule–Ambedkarite feminism <i>Shailaja Paik</i>	 65

5	Ambedkarite women <i>Wandana Sonalkar</i>	88
---	--	----

6	Ramabai and Ambedkar <i>Sharmila Rege</i>	94
---	--	----

PART III

Lived experience as 'difference' 101

7	Brahmanical nature of violence against women <i>Sharmila Rege</i>	103
---	--	-----

8	Vilifying Dalit women: epics and aesthetics <i>Vizia Bharati; Y. S. Alone</i>	117
---	--	-----

9	Dalit women's autobiographies <i>Sharmila Rege</i>	131
---	---	-----

PART IV

What difference does 'difference' make? 137

10	'Difference' through intersectionality <i>Kimberlé Crenshaw</i>	139
----	--	-----

11	Dalit women talk differently <i>Gopal Guru</i>	150
----	---	-----

12	Debating Dalit difference <i>Sharmila Rege</i>	154
----	---	-----

PART V

Intersectionality in India 171

13	Why intersectionality is necessary <i>S. J. Aloysius, J. P. Mangubhai and J. G. Lee</i>	173
----	--	-----

14	The Dalit woman question <i>Susie Tharu</i>	182
----	--	-----

15	Responses to Indian feminists' objections <i>Mary E. John; Meena Gopal</i>	188
----	---	-----

PART VI**Toward a Dalit feminist theory 199**

- 16 Feminist fictions: a critique of Indian feminism 201
Julie Stephens

- 17 Revitalising Dalit feminism 211
Smita M. Patil

- 18 Dalit women's experience: toward a Dalit feminist theory 223
Kanchana Mahadevan

- Index* 237