

A Study on the Image of Women Representation in the French Novels Une si Longue Lettre and Le Voile de Draupadi

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There is a strong connection between the role of women and French literature. Writers focus on the image of women represented in their literary texts. Among French-speaking writers, Mariama Bâ and Ananda Devi are recognized as feminist writers. This research does an in-depth analysis of the two books, *Une si longue lettre* by Mariama Bâ and *Le Voile de Draupadi* by Ananda Devi. The research question of the study is to identify how the image of women is being treated in the two novels. The main objectives of the analysis are to identify the situation of women in the two societies presented and to find out how they succeed in facing the obstacles of the society. The research hypothesis is that the woman is portrayed as a victim. The research is based on the deep analysis of the two novels and the analysis of the qualitative data collected by different sources and interviews. The study is carried out thematically focusing on different themes tackled by the two writers. According to the analysis, it turns out that the two writers highlight two images of the woman: the victimized woman and the stoic woman by highlighting the evolution that happens within the woman. Taking the results into account, it turned out that the situation of women in both societies is rather tragic and despite the struggles, the woman remains strong owing to her perseverance which is supported by their education, friendship and understanding.

Keywords: French literature, stoicism, victimization, women