

# Women Beyond the Doorstep

A collection of Research Papers



Editors :

Leena Borah Kalita  
Dr. Sajmina Akhtar

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# Mahasweta Devi's Draupadi: A theoretical framework

Jintu Hazarika  
Shamsul Haque

## Abstract

*Mahasweta Devi's short story titled Draupadi, a brilliant exploration of resisting typical violence draws its connection from a tribal woman's point of view. It examines the human degradation in the consequences of the First World War. Draupadi's capture by the army and the unexplainable physical as well as mental torture upon her nicely incorporate both feminist and psychological framework into it. Also, the mood of resistance against the typical structure of the society invites poststructuralist and deconstructive reading of the text. Towards the final scene of the story it is Draupadi who is able to overcome all abuses and her 'mind' rises above all. Even being a male, the Senanayak is highly frightened by the attitude of powerful and determined Draupadi where she has succeeded the conventional periphery of the 'mind' of a woman against her 'body'.*

**Key Words:** *Feminism, Resistance, Psychology, Deconstruction, Post-Structuralism*

Most probably the most widely translated Indian writer, Mahasweta Devi has left behind her story Draupadi and it is a brilliant exploration of resisting typical violence against women beyond her doorsteps. The story is translated by Gayatri Chakravartty Spivak, a renowned name in English literature. It