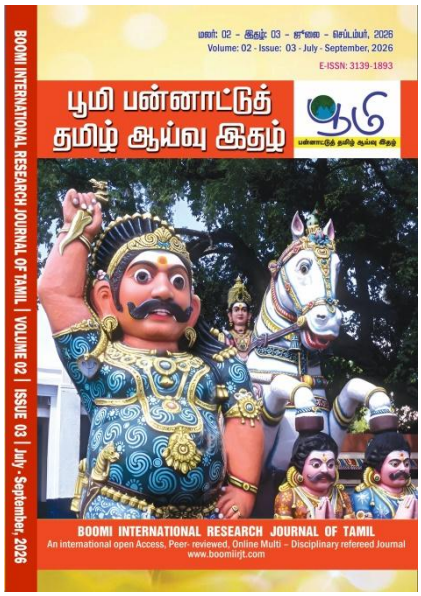
Folk Deity Worship and Literary Reflections
நாட்டார் தெய்வ வழிபாடுகள் மற்றும் இலக்கிய பிரதிபலிப்பு



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Abstract

Folk deity worship stands as a fundamental cultural symbol of Tamil society. These forms of worship are directly linked to the daily lives, social structures, fears, beliefs, health (illness and death), security, and moral codes of the Tamil people. From the era of Sangam literature to contemporary modern novels, folk deities have been reflected in literature in various forms. This study comprehensively examines through the lenses of cultural studies, anthropology, feminism, and subaltern studies how folk deity worship manifests in Tamil literature as a form of social memory, an instrument of power control, and a voice for the marginalized.

Keywords

Folk deity worship, minor deities, cultural memory, marginality, Tamil literature, rural social structure.

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