

# The Quest

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# Unveiling the Sensibility of the Marginalized: A Journey through Jayan K Cherian's *Papilio Buddha* and its Rich Visual Imagery

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"Unlike a drop of water which loses its identity when it joins the ocean, man does not lose his being in the society in which he lives. Man's life is independent." B R Ambedkar (qtd. in *Writings and Speeches*).

The socio-religious practice of untouchability, commonly associated with the Dalit communities, is still a pestering issue in many of the Indian states. It is even more baffling to think that this segregation based on caste or class to which one belongs, is still prevalent even in a socially progressive state like Kerala. The issues of Dalits are plaintively captured in the so-called controversial movie *Papilio Buddha* by the American based director Jayan K. Cherian, underlining that caste oppression is still a reality. The question of identity, the undeniable fact of their displacement, destruction of the environment, the role of industrialization and globalization that aggravate their issues, the mental and physical torture they suffer from the so-called upper class and the