

MOZHI (2007): REDEFINING DISABILITY THROUGH LANGUAGE AND EMOTION

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Received: 25 Jun 2026

Accepted: 28 Jun 2026

Published: 30 Jun 2026

ABSTRACT

Radha Mohan's Mozhi (2007) stands as a landmark in Tamil cinema for its progressive portrayal of physical disability. The film reimagines hearing impairment not as a limitation but as a distinct mode of communication and emotional expression. Through Jyothika's portrayal of Archana, a deaf and mute woman, Mozhi challenges traditional cinematic tropes of pity and redemption, presenting disability as identity and agency. This paper examines how Mozhi contributes to disability literature by transforming silence into dialogue, integrating feminist perspectives, and redefining empathy through visual and emotional accessibility.

KEYWORDS: *Disability Studies; Tamil Cinema; Mozhi; Hearing Impairment; Representation; Feminist Disability Theory; Visual Communication; Inclusion; Empathy; Identity.*