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Delination Of Marganlized Society In The Works Of Munshi Premchand And Its Impact On Contemporary India

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Abstract:

Society plays an important role in the life of an every individual. Every individual has same value in the society, but unfortunately the people start discriminating against each other. Everyone is living under one umbrella, divided into many classes, groups, castes and different communities. Upper-class tried to suppress the middle class and middle class suppressed the downtrodden class, in both ways downtrodden class became the victim of society. They were neglected everywhere in the society. One can be born poor but can't die poor. Humanity is no more that is why discrimination is increased day by day on basis of colour, caste and creed. Humanity is not based on these things.

In the Indian societies people suppressed the voice of the poor and downtrodden people. Marginalized people did not have power, so that they can protect themselves. Across the globe people are marginalized by different ways. Marginalization is based on exploitation, miseries, sufferings and pain. On the other hand people were Marginalized on behalf of religion, ethnic as well as culture.

So, the concept of marginalization is concern with the cultural issues and issues related to human beings of different sections of the society like Poverty, downtrodden class or Dalits, slave Africans, pariah and other minority religions and feministic issues in a male dominated society.

In literature authors raised the voice of voiceless sections of society, who were suppressed in different ways. In Indian Writing in English, the writers depicted the issues of marginalized people very boldly. Munshi Premchand was such a great author who became the

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voice of the voiceless society, because he himself became the victim. He was such a great and courageous person who denied writing to in favor of autocratic society. His own practice of subordination led him to recognize the agony, pain and sufferings of submissive people. He tried his best to highlight the issues of deprived section of society.

Keywords: Marginalization, Status, Society, Exploitation and Victim.

Introduction

Munshi Premchand was very prolific author in Indian writing in English, who achieved name and fame across the globe. He started his carrier through Urdu literature and wrote Hindi and English as well. His short- stories and novel are very famous, because he presented the social milieu. He did not stuck his writing his writing on single issue, but he covered all most all issues of the society. The aim of his writing was not only to display the picture of voiceless society, but his idea was to project the issues and gape between have and have- not.

Kafan the Representation of the Marginalized society:

Munshi Premchand was became the voice of voiceless marginalized society. He himself looked the conditions of the people which compelled him to take pen and start writing against the social evils. A writer can use the power of pen in order to represent the problems of society. In the *Kafan* he highlighted the issues of Delit family who were suppressed by upper class society. (Ghisu (father), his son, Madhav and daughter-in-law, (Budhia), are deprived by poverty, in this piece of writing; his aim was only to show the conditions of downtrodden family. The story begins with the discussion between father and son about his daughter-in-law, who is in labor pain. Both son and father are not worrying about her. They don't have money o that they can admit her in hospital. They both are represented notoriously lethargic who do not want to do any work at all, fearing nothing and

> "Living at a sub-human level they are outside all normal mores of social behaviour. While Madhav's wife is writhing in labour pain inside the hut, Madhav and his father sit outside, greedily devouring stolen potatoes, unwilling to go and

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> help her because the other person might grab a larger share. Ghisu recounts in detail a feast to which he had been invited twenty years ago and Madhav listens to the vivid account of food with vicarious pleasure. The wife lies dying inside" (Meenakshi 146)

They both slept as there was nothing and everything was safe. As they both woke up in the morning they found Budhia died. Except mourn they don't have anything, neighbours came and expressed the condolence. There house was empty like an open field, they don't have a single penny so, that they can purchase Kafan. The neighbours asked to Zamindar, who gave them two rupees with disrespect. It shows that poor people have no place on earth and no respect and status in the society.

It is the beauty of Indian culture where *Sanskarati* is still alive and there were other people who collected some money in order to fulfill the religious cremation. They collected some bucks in order to purchase very cheap shroud but they did not get anywhere. They both entered in a bar where they drink and ate and forget the responsibilities. In intoxicous condition they both praised to daughter-in-law "who even in death provided them food and drink." (Kafan 138)

Mulk Raj Anand also highlighted the issue related untouchbality. Untouchables are very honest in their works, though they are very low in their status but they never deny their duty. Through the character of Bakha, Anand depicted the condition of downtrodden society. Bakha was a young boy of eighteen years old. By profession he was toilet cleaner but he was much attracted with the western culture. Due to his caste he has to clean the toilets of upper class society, he wish to live his life in a well mannered a way. The upper class society never think positive about down class society, they always suppressed them by their power. They think untouchables are not humans as western think that eastern are not civilized and it is our duty to civilize the uncivilized people, similarly the upper class society thought about low class society. Even they don't have right to enter in a temple or live in any Hindu colony. Bakha faced the

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same in his society where he was working. Upper class society needs the untouchable class for their work but they did not give them right touch with anything.

In The God of Small Things, Roy depicted the same thing which Munshi Premchand and Mulk. Raj Anand depicted in their respective works. She exhibited how the untouchables are treated during her days to Rahel:

> "Papachi would not allow Paravans into the house. Nobody would. They were not allowed to touch anything that Touchables touched. Caste Hindus and Caste Christians. Mammachi told Estha and Rahel that she could remember a time, in her girlhood, when Paravans were expected to crawl backwards with a broom, sweeping away their footprints (TGST, pp. 73-74)

***Karmabhumi* as a mirror of Marginalized society:**

As in Kafan, Munshi Premchand exhibited the social ills similarly in Karmabhumi he portrayed the same issue as well as. he highlighted the political issue. In social concern he raised the issues related untouchability, relief for land tax the march of poor people demanding the land for their houses and through political issue the national movement to get India free from the slavery of English government with Gandhian approach.

He was very much influenced by the concepts of Gandhi and his movements particularly Satyagrah movement. His writing clearly shows the sympathy towards deprived people as well as struggle of Indian freedom movement. We find a clear and strong influence of Gandhi on Munshi Premchand *Gaban, Karmabhumi, Rangabhum*i. But he created new social image of women with their selfhood in his novels.

> “Premchand’s creative efforts were strongly imbued with this social commitment, which perhaps found its best expression in the manner in which he treated the problems of women in his fiction. In doing so he marked a definite break with the earlier literary tradition which placed women within the parameters of romantic chronicles. In contrast to the earlier tradition, Premchand conceived a new image

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> of woman in the context of the changes taking place in Indian society in the nineteenth and twentieth century. In the process, the 'persecuted maiden emerged as a social being, a living critique of the male world, with a new dignity, a new confidence, a new self-view and with a vision of a new destiny". (Dawar 121)

Munshi Premchand highlighted the struggle of his female leading characters to preserve the self-respect through Sukhda, Naina, Renuka Devi, Munni and Saloni Kaki in Karmabhumi. All these characters made every effort in order to maintain the decorum. They all are very firm in their decesion to choose their own way. Sukhda a daughter of a window mother, physically she was very beautiful as well as brilliant. She got married with Amarkant. She was much interested in luxurious life. In general case every women remains under the control of husband but here Sukhda dominated her husband by her tricky mind. She ordered him to take care of his father's business and live like a son of great business man. Sukhda says:

> "You may not care for money but great thinkers and warriors have always worshipped goddess Laxmi. Only the brave appreciate the world and they will always enjoy it. Renunciation is for ascetics, not for householders. If you wanted renunciation, why did you marry me? You could have shaved your head and become a disciple of some sadhu or saint. Then I wouldn't have been around to quarrel with you. You can't escape the consequences of your deeds. After all, the responsibilities of family life have made many great men waver from their principles." (Premchand 41-42)

Sukhda was very bold and she starts fighting with the family members because she does not like the slavery of her husband inside or outside. She was aware that how to maintain the identity. She was willing to do everything for the happiness of her husband. She replied to Sakina "

> "He has betrayed me. I cannot humble myself before a man who has betrayed me. If today I ran away with some other man, do you think that he would come to plead with me? He would probably cut my throat. I am a woman, and a woman's

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heart is not that hard but I wouldn't sweet talk him even while breathing my last." (Ibid 170)

She was so bold she starts revolt against the government in order to manage land for the meek peoples. Police put her behind the bars but she does not want to come out on bail. When Lala Samarkant give her suggestion of bail, she replied very harshly, "No, absolutely not. Why should I post bail? So I'll keep my eyes blindfolded, so I'll gag my mouth? It would be much better to have my eyes gouged out and my tongue cut off." (Premchand 234)

Concluding Remark:

The author depicted the description of characters very beautifully. He depicted how the characters were subjugated on behalf of caste or sex. So Premchand frankly shows the evils of society in different ways. He became the representative of voiceless and meek people who are far from society without any bias. Munshi Premchand showed the determination of the characters thought they are suppressed by some or other way but they cannot bow their head in front of any one. In his works, we did not find that he supported any particular sex or class. For him every one is same and depicted the hard facts of society.

Munshi premchand's writings have had a worldwide impact. His writing is considered as one of the modern classics at par with monks of his Tolstoy and Marquez and other writers. There has always been and always will have strong influence of Munshi premchand over thinking minds as he is the voice of the Subaltern, the farmer's ,the Dalits, the tribal's and the females all are still being subjugated in some form or the other. Therefore what Munshi Premchand wrote so many years ago stands relevant to this day as human nature ,human greed and materialism and desire to dominate does not change. So today Munshi Premchand works have even greater relevance as Modern world .the farmer who grows the food ,the person who supplies the milk and the India of today needs to make up to their needs as predicted and shown by Mushi Premchand so many years back .

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