

Status of Women-the Indian Perspective

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ABSTRACT

There is a sacred saying that God created the mothers because He could not represent everywhere. The mother is called as an incarnation of God because of her sacrifices rendered for the well-being of her children, husband and all other relatives. Women play many roles in their lives that of a daughter, sister, wife, daughter-in-law, mother in addition to the responsibilities she has to handle everything in a very dignified manner. The women of the modern times are very much aware of the society around her. There is no avenue where women are not engaged today. In the present times, the government has also initiated many welfare schemes especially for their empowerment. Today, seats are reserved in local bodies, public services etc. for the women representation. Even the Indian armed forces have started to enroll the women and it is undoubtedly a matter of good sign for the nation to have great daughters enrolled for the safety of our motherland. But what is important to remember is that all these uplift of the women did not appear overnight and these bear a long, steady and gloomy history of suppression and oppression of the women in the Indian society. Thus, the present paper is an investigation to the age-old contention of women exploitation, suppression and oppression by particularly their male-counterpart in the Indian society and to find out some-means for solving the problem.

Keywords: *Bills, Dowry, Exploitation, Legislation, Oppression, Women etc.*

War and Trauma in Ernest Hemingway's A Farewell to Arms

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Abstract:

The recognition of American novelist Ernest Hemingway as a representative writer was a slow but a very explosive process. Ernest Hemingway's literary style owes greatly to his experience as a soldier, he participated in different wars like the Spanish War and World War I which eventually became the setting for his novels. In his novels, he portrays human beings having different kinds of traumatic experiences since the very beginning of time. A Farewell to Arms written in 1929 depicts war in a brutally honest manner and digs deep into the human psyche where emotions like love, courage and bravery is brought to the forefront. His novel, A Farewell to Arms demonstrates the way in which pointless and futile war brings about the death of millions but more importantly the death of the human spirit. Such experiences have become one of the issues, which can be discussed and interpreted while reading the works of Hemingway. Ernest Hemingway wrote on the horrible experiences of war and his characters participate in the war, they endure fatal and brutal events, and get badly victimized, having traumatic experiences. These experiences are brought out through the main character Henry who endures and is traumatized by the horrible consequences of war. As a hero of traumatic experiences, he remembers all the terrifying memories of wars that he wishes to forget.

Keywords: *War, Trauma, Brutal, Alienation, Flashbacks.*

Role of Higher Education in Inculcating Moral Values

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ABSTRACT:

The values of a society are moral principles and beliefs, varying from eternal ideas to behavioural procedures. The moral values are the guiding principles of life. Although important, these values are, however, being continuously eroded away today. It therefore calls for an urgent need to take serious measures for restoration of such moral values among the country's youth. In this regard, education can act as an instrument of social change. It is capable of stabilizing social order and conserving culture in the society. Higher education can indeed be an important medium for promoting life enhancing values among human beings. In this article, attempts have been made to identify the need of moral values and the role that higher education can play towards instilling these values upon the youths.

Keywords: *Moral Values, Value based Higher Education, Need and Importance, Character formation.*

Subaltern Resistance in Mahasweta Devi's Chotti Munda and His Arrow

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Abstract:

In the Pre-Independence India the subaltern study was totally absent. It was only after 1982 that Subaltern Studies emerged as an autonomous subject of discussion. A group of writers trained in the west took to reclaim their past, to retake the suppression of subaltern experiences that was often devalued by the national history. They believed that history should be a rewriting of the subaltern struggle during the Pre-British, British and Post- British period. Fiction appeared as an important literary genre that re-excavated and revised the mainstream history which has failed to voice the oppressed groups. Mahasweta Devi makes an attempt at rewriting history by depicting the struggles of the subaltern and the discrimination by the mainstream elites. By bringing the subaltern into the centre of discourse she reinscribes the subaltern history into national and postcolonial historiography. Thus the research paper is an attempt to study the subaltern resistance and struggle against dominant bourgeoisie class in Mahasweta Devi's most renowned work Chotti Munda and His Arrow.

Keywords: *Subaltern, devalue, mainstream, historiography, postcolonial, oppression, resistance.*

Comic Elements in Kiran Desai's Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard

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Abstract

Kiran Desai's debut novel Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard (1998) is a comical tale of a young man named Sampath Chawla from the fictitious village of Shahkot, born at the end of a serious drought when a ferocious monsoon swept over the region that convinced the villagers about the possibilities of Sampath's great future. Eventually, Sampath grows up to be known as "Monkey Baba" from Shahkot whose popularity attracts tourists and people from neighbouring villages in the story. In Kiran Desai's Shahkot, the atmosphere is rather comical than serious moving from a hilarious comedy to a grotesque close. The

village is a place where for once all characters are being assembled in the orchard to enact a crowded drama of action and atmosphere- the Brigadier with his marching orders to the subordinates; Sampath, the alleged hermit surrounded by devotees; Kulfī with her biling cauldron; the drunken monkeys raiding the orchard; Pinky and her new found love- the ice cream boy and the spy from the Atheist society hoping to detect some flaw in the entire set-up create a hullabaloo in the orchard from where the novel derives its title. It is a mildly satirical portrayal of the superstitious beliefs of people from rural India. With the implementation of figurative language and various literary devices such as foreshadowing, metaphors, irony, parody taking the dimensions of a Horatian satire, the novel offers a touching insight into the absurdities of life in a small rural Indian village.

Keywords: Comical, hilarious, grotesque, drama, hermit.

Women Characters in Thomas Hardy's The Wessex Tales: A Study of Hardy's The Withered Arm and The Distracted Preacher

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Abstract:

Thomas Hardy, a Victorian novelist and an exponent of regional novel in English literature has portrayed the plight of women both in his novels and short stories. Hardy's stories have rural setting and he paints the class divisions, superstitious beliefs, customs and traditions of rural people. During the time of Hardy, the fate of women was determined by the male dominated patriarchal society where women belonging to lower class were maltreated and education was confined only to a privileged few. Hardy in his short stories delineates the rural women with their economic backwardness, their struggle for peaceful survival and their obsession for emancipation from dependence on males. In Hardy's stories, though women fall victims of sexual and economic exploitation, Hardy portrays them in different light. Hardy portrays women with sympathetic zeal. Unlike the Victorian women, Hardy's women characters try to be self-reliant, courageous, hardworking and intelligent. This paper tries to make a penetrating insight into Hardy's portrayal of women in some of his short stories.

Keywords: Woman, plight, patriarchy, exploitation, obsession.

Partition in Bangla Short Stories: A study

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Abstract:

The wound of partition on the eve of independence of India is hard to heal. The division of country into India and Pakistan was not immediate or an accident, the germ of it was sown in 1874 A.D when Assam was separated from Bengal. After this the country was partitioned in many ways, the culmination reached in 1947 with Indian sub-continent being divided into India and Pakistan. The partition not only divided the sub-continent but also the heart of the Bengalis. The spectre of partition fell on the social, political, cultural and economic life of Bengalis, on art and literature as well. The paper aims to study how some short stories in Bengali literature have portrayed the affect of partition on the life of Bengalis.

Keywords: Partition, sub-continent, Bengali, art and literature, refugee problem.

Inner Conflict, Communal Riots and Partition in Hasan Azizul Hoque's Aagun Pakhi (Wings of Fire)

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Abstract:

Hasan Azizul Hoque's "Aagunpakhi" (Wings of fire) portrays life of a village girl belonging to Muslim society caught in the web of political disturbance. The girl was married off to an aristocratic and rich family. However, she was not happy as her husband, much older, about twice her age, and she had to work hard, from dawn to dusk, bearing whole burden of the family. Despite drudgery and hardships she continued her study, became a mother. Her trouble increased with the advent of feminine, war and communal disturbance. All the members of the family left India and migrated to Pakistan; however the girl remained in India refusing to leave her motherland. The novel portrays how war, riot and partition have brought tragedy in the life of an ordinary village girl and to what extent.

Keywords : *Partition, war, famine, communalism, migration.*

Subaltern Voice in Abul Bashar's Novel "Aakashleena"

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Abstract:

One of the brightest stars in modern Bengali literature is Abul Bashar (1951-). In his novels issues and problems arising in the life and society of subalterns have been discussed thread bare. Among his novels centering around the life of subalterns mention may be made of 'Bhorer Prasuti', 'Sporsher Baire', 'Aakashleena', 'Agnibalaka' etc. . The paper aims to discuss social and economic status of Muslims in Bengal as found in Basha's novel "Aakashleena". The novel highlights the discrimination between "high" and "low", "high caste" and "low caste", "high culture" and "low culture" prevalent in Muslim society and resultant effects.

Keywords: *Subaltern, ashraf, atraf, baul, fakir*

Trauma and Anguish in Satinath Bhaduri's "Jagari"

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Abstract :

Under political circumstances man has been ruled and oppressed by state power since hoary past. The First World War struck heavily on political foundations of nations and caused history to be re-written. Change came to human heart, society, economy and politics. Man lost his finer, softer feelings. He felt rootless, became decentred. Sense of equality, fraternity and liberty turned to multitractured lot. During the war period Quit

India Movement started. And taking this movement as his back ground Satinath Bhaduri created his 'Jagari' (1945). The novel followed stream of consciousness technique where charecters are shown to their deepest level. Through this technique the author has highlighted inner recess of protagonists' mind and thereby has been successful in portraying man's inner self caught in the whirlwind of politics.

Keywords : Political whirlwind, background, Quit India Movement, world war.

"Mudrabhanga": A Testimony of Artistic Excellence of Samaresh Majumder

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Abstract:

Samaresh Majumder's novel 'Mudrabhanga' was first published in Desh magazine in 1418 Bangabda. The novel tells multifarious perspectives of art resorted by an artist. The author has built his plot weaving various incidents and events happened around the dream of Sanhita, a world-class artist whose fame spreads to far off places. However, she suffers from occasional approaches Bob to discuss the Sanhita ramifications of her nightmares. Her marriage was solemnised in an aristocratic family though she does not feel happy here. Her art is neglected. She feels stifled. In the novel under discussion, the novelist has drawn on a colourful canvas the colourful life of Sanhita, how Sanhita breaking the shackles of surrounding life succeeded as a great artist.

Keywords: Ups and downs, artist, canvas, nightmare, colourful.

Subodh Ghosh's ' Fossil' : A Naked Picture of Human Civilization

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Abstract:

Subodh Ghosh was once least known among lovers of Bengali literature as he started his literary career at a later stage. But with the maturity that he got in the course of his writing career his came spread widely. Subodh Ghosh is widely known as a successful short story writer who through his writings revolted against oppression, exploitation prevalent in society. His 'Fossil' is such a Short Story where we find how the dominant sections in social exploit the poor, down trodden. The short story depicts, too, unstable mentality of the middle class who prefer status quo. The aim of the paper is to study significance of the short story 'Fossil' in Ghosh's literary oeuvre.

Keywords: Exploitation, oppression, marginal, middle class, conflict.