



MODERN LITERATURE AND ITS HORIZON

MADHANALA SHAILA PRASAD

Lecturer in English department
Badruka College of Commerce and Arts
Shailaenglish@gmail.com

Abstract:

Literature always tries to capture the mode of living from time to time, though the events and happenings of each period recorded by the history man, but the real-time emotions and struggle for survival will be much witnessed. The perception would become possible only through literary insight and knowing its horizons. In this regard Shakespeare proclaimed and highlight saying "All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players". Then he was credited as great writer by many great critics like Samuel Johnson for many reasons, if we immerse ourselves with literature then literature can be a great tool. Many individuals like literature; some wore it as hat and other as vehicle to convey individuals emotions either sadness or happiness. Going with the same lines the literature provides view of each one's from genesis to present, even a case where it travels too beyond the scope of one's mind. For the all above responses, Modern Literature is not an exceptional.

Key words: Literature, Genesis of literature, Modern literature, Emotions

Introduction:

The paper aims at presenting how modern literature does possess the great credentials, that helps to carry forward the Shakespeare's approach and capacity to witness literary works, as real-time replica of day-to-day lives and issues that one encounters in the socio-living. Vast areas of issues were addressed in modern literature, for instance impacts of industrialization, racism and untouchables etc.

Discussion:

Many of the Shakespeare writings stood as replica of his time, those writings have focused on love, conspiracy, lust, ambitions and so on. His characters presented how the people use to think about socio servings. He presented Antony as true friend, Caesar as true king, Brutus a Patriot, in his Julius Ceasor. In *The Merchant of Venice* he presented shylock as Jewish money-lender, who tries to take revenge on Antonio, in hard times he underwent with a loan agreement which puts his life at the cost, but the act and test of true love by Portia, and her intervention has saved Antonio in the court. Shakespeare was credited by Johnson in his master piece of criticism work i.e. Preface to Shakespeare, he defends Shakespeare on the ground of unities of drama; time, place, action (beginning, middle and an end).the flow of plots were logically and emotionally connected with situations. Though literature finds its roots in 'Beowulf' to present it has seen many of the literary periods



Each period shined by the great works.

Modernist literature: Its origins found in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, mainly in Europe and North America. Following same principle of mirroring lives, the literary works characterized by a very self-conscious break with traditional ways of writings. On par justifying Shakespeare's "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players". The century saw the horrors of World wars, scientific advancement, and exploitation of people, colonial governance, national movements, and birth of independent countries. In some cases the decolonization in Ireland (1919), India (1947) and Palestine (1948). The literary period saw some literary work based on partition, the work was coined as partition literature. Modern Literary works comprises of many literary movements and themes; one such is Realism started in Late-19th-century based on a simplification of style and image and an interest in poverty and everyday concerns. stream of consciousness is a narrative mode that attempts to present the multitudinous thoughts and feelings which pass through the mind. These literary works also advance to think about the term 'American dream'

Early days of Indian literature was contributed by great writer by Mulk Raj Anand, his masterpiece of work 'Untouchable', showed how the survival was struggle and at what price one has to pay to get a social acceptance. The novel is all about humiliations and thirst for identity. A hope that rebelling against and being educated would only fetch equality.

An exploited son Bakha

An exploited daughter Sohini

A victimized father Lakha

Bakha a sweeper whose day starts with his father Lakha yelling for his work, he gets humiliated by many, for being born in untouchable. his sister Sohini became victim of being born in untouchable in the hands of Pundit Kali Nath, the priest who sexually assaulted her. At the end when Bakha gets the words '... flushing toilet in India, a machine that eradicates the need for humans to handle refuse. This machine could mean the end of untouchables.'

Anita Desai's Fire on Mountain in which the innocent girl presented her emotions of being annoyed by the prevailed situations, at her budding age she tried to burst out her emotions by setting fire to mountain. On the other end Nanda as a lady who shouldered all responsibilities throughout her life, and at a point of time she wants to get relieved from her parenting responsibilities. The sudden responsibility drives her into emotions. More or less similar kind of characterization is noticed the Ila Das lady, an officer gives away her life against to the odd situations, at last even she became victimized for her right doing, who held self-respect in the form of not seeking any help with closed acquainted.

A burdened lady Nanda

A courageous lady Ila Das



An innocent girl Raka

The old woman, Nanda , who lived an isolate life alone in a colonial house on a hill. She had spent many years caring family. Now she had great-grandchild, the child who lives in her own world. Nanda wanted to live a life for herself, but those many years she took care for family, as an result all her attempts went in vain. The child, Raka was fond of stories. Ila Das, who is a friend of Nanda from her childhood. She worked as a welfare officer in a village in Kasauli. She was a poor lady. Who was raped and killed after she protests against child marriage.

A man victimized by racial comment; keeping oneself under the dark, being threaten to have no name, where in felt comfortable by hiding himself, wish to combat for equality. A collection of all emotions were present in Ralph Ellison's Invisible man.

A suppressed man

An underground man

A representative of his race

A person with no name

When aspirations are high and believes in 'make it new', life throws chance to defeat the suppression in the form , as an opened door. Such new doors have credited with modern thoughts i.e. moving away form traditional ways of writings.

One of such Literary work , much acclaimed by many critics and the man Booker prize 2008 winner Aravind Adiga , his literary work 'The White Tiger', all about a character, who resists the humiliations and learns new way to cope with challenges and grabbing opportunity. The voice against to exploitations, which transformed from Bhaka of untouchable early 19th century to end of 19th century in the form of Balram Halwai in The White Tiger.

A man as modern entrepreneur, Balram Halwai

A man against to exploitation, Balram Halwai

Balram Halwai, a village boy. Tells about his journey from Delhi to Bangalore. In Delhi he worked as a chauffeur to a rich landlord, then to flew to Bangalore after killing his master, with his master's wealth he excelled himself as and entrepreneur. White elephant is all about issues like religion, loyalty, corruption and ambitions of an individual.

Literature perception may vary from time to time with respect to work but the transformation from genesis to present, i.e. from Shakespeare to Aravind Adiga strongly believes literary horizons need to be studied.



Conclusion:

Literature always remains as replica of each period that tries to cover the events and conditions of living, such works will enlighten many generations. A better understanding of historical aspects will help to know socio-emotions. Literature that stimulates ones emotions and strengthens to cope challenges and setbacks. One such major aspect of learning is modern literature , the aspirants appreciate the literary work under the maxim of Ezra Pound's "Make it new.", the woks of this era dealt World wars, scientific advancement, exploitation of people , colonial governance, national movements, and newly born independent countries etc.

For the purpose of understanding and appreciating Modern literature, teaching fraternity do need to apply new methods and approaches.

Bibliography

1. *Desai, Anita, and Fire on the Mountain, London: William Heinemann, New Delhi: allied publishers, 1977.*
2. *Ellison, Ralph Waldo. Invisible New York: Random House, 1952*
3. *Mulk Raj Anand. Untouchable . London: Wishart, 1935.*
4. *Stephen Greenblatt, The Norton Shakespeare :W.W. Norton and Company, inc. 1997*
5. *Singh, khushwant. A Train to Pakistan. New Delhi: Ravi Dayal publishers, 1956*
6. *Ed. Wain,John,Johnson as Critic,London Routledge, ISBN 0-7100-7564-2.,1973*
7. *Book review: The White Tiger By Aravind Adiga (winner of the man booker prize 2008) stories in moments. Retrieved 22 march 2014.*