

A Presentation of Muslim Society in Novels of Women Writers

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ABSTRACT : *The purpose of this research paper is an attempt to prove that the Muslim women writers have depicted the issues like the restriction on education, purdah system, violence, freedom of expression, love, social, political, economic equality and justice in the society and they all have seriously noted the crises of women in urban and rural life of society in their own countries. The writers have experienced throughout the society these issues which are textualised in the form of characters, stories, and plot settings. The reason behind their literature is the same as the themes discussed by all these writers in their works. This paper is an attempt to give the readers new study of search about the thematic writings of the muslim women and their literary contribution to the literature. The study is intended to prove the relevancies prevailing in the muslim world and the summary of all these novels in the supposed conceptuality and these realities written by women.*

KEYWORDS: *Muslim, women, society, writers, literary, research, issues and theme.*

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I. INTRODUCTION

Women novelists from India in English literature and in other vernaculars endeavor to deal with the feeble dilemma of abandoned women who are intended to suffer from birth to death. Now the important question is: why is it that woman novelists represent mainly the unhappy life of an average Indian woman? Why is it that a woman has to bear insult and abuse, domination, and injustice without any rhyme and reason in this male-dominated society? (Dr Purohit 1)

The writers of twentieth century have contextualized the themes of their works regarding the social, economic, political, cultural justices in the society. The content of their writings have depicted concerns about the theme of education, the theme of freedom of the women, the theme of self expression in the society, the theme of violence against the women at different levels among the muslim communities. The contemporary issues and current literature of women is full of reality and funny chose which continuously present the ups and downs in the world of literary genres. The women have portrayed through characterization and through the presentation of different literary genres. They all have presented the real and ground actuality of social issues and the exploiting aspects prevailing in the muslim community. The present age is witness about the researched writing on women and this is important requirement writing on women. They feel hostility against it because it presents the real truth and the real face of the concerned society and other attached factors.

Unveiling India by Jung

Today, voices are raised without fear, and are heard outside the walls of homes that once kept a women protected, also isolated. Some of the women who speak here have stepped out. Others, who have not, are beginning to be aware, eager to find expression. (Jung 109)

The text of Jung Unveiling India is about the status of women and their different stories regarding the violence against women, their economic instability, social injustice and other sort of inequalities. Anees Jung was an Indian women author, journalist and columnist for major newspapers in India and abroad. In her most famous work Unveiling India she has depicted the ironical lives of women in India especially the ironies of Muslim women. Jung came into limelight with this publication, she has written several other books as well, in which she has talked about different issues of women in the society. This book brings to limelight various issues that are present in muslim society like marriage issues, widowhood, unfair work practices, sexual servitude, the problems of bearing and rearing children in poverty, religion, discrimination and other forms of exploitation. It also talks about the fulfilling relationships, the joys of marriage and children rearing, the exhilaration of breaking free from the bonds of tradition, ritual, caste and religion.

The Life of Kashmiri Woman by Khan

Khan has constructed the character of Jehan in the life of Kashmiri Woman. She also highlighted the serious issues of the women in the valley. Nyla Ali Khan is a Kashmiri woman writer. She was born in 1972 in

New Delhi but she is raised in the Kashmir valley. She has portrayed the real picture of Kashmiri women in her works their hidden and unspoken issues in the Muslim society. In *The Life of Kashmiri Women: Dialectical of Resistance and Accommodation*, she has portrayed the life experiences of Akber Jehan famous Kashmiri woman and other women of Muslim society in Kashmir. She has captured the history of Kashmir and its cultural and social evolution, Nyla Ali Khan deconstructs the life of her grandmother and other women of her generation to reconceptualise woman's identity in a politically militarized zone. She has portrayed the social political and economic life of women in the valley. Nyla Ali has depicted the past position of women through the characterization and she has also shown the current status of women in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. Apart from the political career of Akber Jehan she has brought forward the molestation of women by the state men, insurgency and the counterinsurgency.

Blasphemy by Tehmina Durrani

Tehmina Durrani a Pakistani women writer she became very famous among women of the Muslim society by her publications and her work like the *Blasphemy* in which she had depicted the real and hidden hypocrisies imposed on the women still in the present situation. The autobiographical truth and fictional aspects combined bravely by Tehmina Durrani in her writings to bring forth the unknown realities and unspoken plight of suppressed women in the male hegemonic society. She has presented the actual face of the Pakistani bureaucrats and the male dominant society in her novels and also in the other writings. The novel of Durrani has depicted the social, economic and political circumstances and over all traditional position of women in the Pakistan society. This novel is all about the discrimination followed by the pirs and who so called the religious man, there are various things in the story in which the central character the Heer has revealed throughout the completion of the story.

The Hours Past Midnight by Salma

The literary career of the Salma starts from her writing in Tamil language and the first genre in which she has contributed was the Tamil poetry. Rajathi Salma is now a celebrated Tamil writer, her novel *The Hours Past Midnight* has been long-listed for the Man Asian Booker Prize. Salma has described her childhood memories in her book. She expresses her anguish at the treatments like the matter of marriage, the matter of schooling, purdah system, and restrictions on the education and the freedom of expression of the muslim women and girls belonging to Muslim communities. The novel tells the story of a community of Muslim women and men living in a Tamil village, from the perspectives of the women. The novel by salma presents the same theme which the Rokeya and Durrani have illustrated in their works. The characterizations in all the novels like in *The Hours Past Midnight* the characters like Zohura, Rahima and Wahida, in *Blasphemy* the Heer and in *Sultana's Dreams* the Sister Sara suffer the same circumstances in the same manners in the dominant society of male counter parts. It is the vision and hope that arguments made and the insights gained in this research paper will effectively contribute to the vigorous debates on the realization of human and the status of women in the social sections of the women world.

Sultatna's Dream by Rokeya

Begum Rokeya is pre independent women writer now belong to Bangladesh. Her writings advocated that both men and women should be treated equally as rational beings. Her works *Sultana's Dream* and *Padmarag* is boldly provocative works, particularly in the context of the era that spawned them. Written in English in 1905, *Sultana's Dream* is a delightful satirical work set in Lady land, where men are in purdah and women firmly in charge of home and government. Resonant with autobiographical undertones, the novella is both a powerful indictment of male oppression and a celebration of Rokeya's faith in a Universalist society where women, regardless of race, class, creed and religion, reject the diktat of a tyrannical patriarchal society in favors of a life devoted to improving their lot. Rokeya tirelessly fight for the freedom of women their education and their status in the society. By analyzing her text we come to know that she had down a lot for the betterment and empowerment of the Muslim women. Rokeya's phase of inspiration and joy came from her husband Sakhawat Hossain. He always inspired her and opened a wider world to apply her dream with courageous steps and he has trusted her to be in front for the cause of women.

The society in the context of problems arisen by male counter parts has been expressed by the literate women in the form of literature. They all have presented the social, economic, cultural and political issues in their texts through the real characterization in all these novels. The characters in all these novels have depicted the social circumstances prevailing in the traditional muslim societies. These issues have been addressed to some extent as per the present scenario of the women is concerned. All these writers have inserted in their texts their own ideological and utopian stories to present the actual face of the society and happenings prevailed among the muslim communities in the dominant populated areas.

Problems presented in the novels by these writers have now been removed and the women of the current generation have demanded to be with the shoulder to shoulder with men in every field of life. The Unveiling India by Jun is the total image of the Indian muslim women, Blasphemy by Durrani is the actual position of religious men that how they are Utilizing them as commodities for their benefits by defaming the status of religion. The Hour Past Midnight by Salma is the correct image of the fundamentalist society and their violence against women in different ways. The Life of Kashmiri Woman by Nyla Ali Khan is the political interpretation of the valley and the reconstruction of the career of the Akber Jehan the central character in the book. All these writers have tried to highlight the prevailing problems and happenings with the women in the muslim world and their circumstance among the muslim communities.

II. METHODOLOGY

In this research paper the methodology is thorough analyses of primary sources in order to come on the result and prove the study true. Apart from the primary sources, secondary sources have been utilized to deal with the main issues of the women, whether all these issues existing in the society or are sort of elusions made to publish the famousity and gain the benefits in the world of literature. The mythology applied is the through reading of the primary sources and the secondary sources of the concerned writers taken for the proof and for the convinced results of the article.

III. CONCLUSION

“Our good queen liked science very much. She circulated an order that all the women in her country should be educated. Accordingly a number of girls’ schools were founded and supported by the government. Education was spread far and wide among women.” (Rokeya 11)

In the conclusion we can say that today in the twentieth century the women have realized their status and have stood against the injustice by the males structured society. They have not even voicing out their demands but along with the resistant they contributed to the literature. The literature presented by the women in the form of novels, short stories, prose and poems have fill the gap of space. The women are aware enough and can defend their position in the world today. Besides there are other Muslim women writers as well whose themes and critical stand is also against the prevailing old and orthodoxy traditions in the society. These writers are like Anees Jung, Tehmina Anam, Tasleema Nasreen not only Muslim women but there are non Muslim writer who have broke their silence against the male dominance society. The need of an hour is to educate the present generation and empower their entitled trust towards the progress and development in the society. The present scenario of the women is something different and women are stable, they are fight for their rights and their shares in the society. They are demanding their equal status and equality of political participation, equality of social justice, equality in cultural activities and the equal opportunities in all spheres of life. The women should be given equal rights regarding progress and development and the rights for the empowerment of women, the current generation need the right to education, right of self expression, right to freedom and other shares in the society. The education has been made fundamental right in the Indian constitution in 2009 under article (21A) and the rest of the countries of the world have also given same value to the women education. The present position of women is stable and they are empowering themselves and they want to go with the shoulder to shoulder with men. The current scenario demands the equal space and equal status to women in all walks of life. The writers through their novels have clearly given the message to the male structured society that they should be every sort of equality and the traditional cultures and traditional imposed ethos and the restrictions must be removed. All these superstitions regarding the muslim women in the traditional society must be eradicated from very grassroots level of the muslim society.

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