



MULK RAJ ANAND AS A SPOKEPERSON OF THE DOWNTRODDEN AND UNTOUCHABLES IN THE CONTEXT OF HIS NOVEL 'UNTOUCHABLE'

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ABSTRACT : Mulk Raj Anand is an eminent Indian writer and called as the vocal advocate for the society of downtrodden people . His major novels 'Untouchable' & 'Coolie' portray the figures who belong to the community of backward and downtrodden people. He writes for society which actually lays an impression on Indian Society to be ruled by another community. He has focused the rough words used by people over the downtrodden people. Not only for the readers but also for such communities who belongs from the pathetic condition, We feel strange while reading in the context of outcasts, peasants, pathetic people. He portrays the theme of laborers, peasants and extremely poor people . His most of novels, we have being seen by the Indian society as the realistic pictures of pathetic situations of the characters that the awakening of the Indian society. It had less intension at that time. So the present research paper is an effort to elaborate the harsh realities & predicaments in 'Untouchable'.

Keywords : untouchability, cleanliness, sufferings, society

Mulk Raj Anand has often been treated as an undisguised apologist of the left, a propagandist forever willing to provide statements of intention to ward off critical onslaughts. William Walsh, "his furious, and one must say well grounded, indignation, and his habit of undue implicitness, together with a deficiency in self criticism make him a writer whose works has to be severely

sieved". Anand took the theme of struggle and fight against caste & class system, poverty, superstition, the psychology state of downtrodden society in his novels. Mulk Raj Anand's novel "untouchable" illustrates the politics representation. Mulk Raj Anand's theme in the context of narration of Dalits' is struggled for equality and justice and instead perpetuate the hegemony of Gandhian reformism. The Dalits who became victims of Brahmanical regimes of representation.

Untouchable, Anand describes Bakha's morning duty with a pain staking particularity. His father, Lakha, the Jamadar of the sweepers, gets wake up Bakha With a rude call, taking a word applied himself to clean latrines.

“Get up, Oye Bakhya, you son of a pig ! – P.23

Anand Clearly portrays the treatment so called the words on Bakha and Sohini are undoubtedly lively manner. Bakha's morning duty serves the worst treatment in the Indian downtrodden community. Lakha's voice is clearly in a clumsy cough The bully clearly tells readers about the locality and reality of post colonial society.

The outcaste were not allowed to draw water from wells, enter temples and touching anything. The high class people believe that their touch would make them impure. The society of high class people won't let them going in the houses, temples. The white men call them “ Kala Log zamin par hagne wala” (black man , you relieve yourself on the ground !) P. 11

Even sohini's went to draw water from the well, Gulabo's approach to sohini classifies the harsh realities of that time. Gulabo's abuse,

“ Ari , you bitch ! Do you take me for a buffoon ?”

But Sohini's face looks quitely selfless manner & happy.

Bakha's hockey match incident took the readers to mannerless mankind. Instead of thank Bakha, the child's mother scold him and says that it is he who must have been the root cause of trouble. The lady who gave the food to sadhu comes in touch with Bakha changes his mind as she said,

‘ You eater of your masters.’

‘ May the vessel of your life never float in the sea of existence’.

Bakha's hesitation could be more scared when he thinks of himself that a numbers of incidents happened in his life. The anticipation draw in front of his eyes made Bakha's soul very drastic. The mind, which has once pepped into the wonderland of the new , contemplated various aspects of it with longing & desires, is shocked and disappointed’.

Anand has also highlighted Lakha's true faith on Hakim Bhagvandas. Lakha's call of Hakim to treat Bakha in Childhood is extremely heart touching. The service of man is a service of god. Lakha's urging to Hakim in a very deeply heart touching way shows the pathetic image of society. Lakha's pray for Bakha creates a pity for society to think as a soul.

Anand wants to show through the novel how the Brahmin caste or the upper class people treat untouchables. Bakha has a worst predicaments and situations to stand in the society. When Bakha stared at Jalebi, his mouth was watering. His keen sense of getting the jalebi is curious. but he was used to being spoken roughly.

‘ You swine , you dog ,why didn't you shout and warn me of your approach ! ’.

He shouted as he met Bakha's eyes. ‘ Don't you know , you brute. That you must not touch me ! ‘

Anand is very successively shown the plight of untouchables and is possible to wipe out untouchability from the indian society. When the dusk approaches he finds three solutions. He may become Christian with the help of Hutchinson, the salvation army missionary. He has been happy to hear from Hutchinson that Christ receives all men and jessuh Messih makes no difference between Brahmin and the Bhangi. But Bakha is confuse to clear to tell who his Christ is. Because his honour for the country comes first. The second one is that he may take comfort in Gandhiji's chastiment of the caste. Hindus and wait till the social conscience of people is reused. The third is he may put his faith in the water closet system about which the positivist poet had talked. It is prosaic, straightforward and considered in the light of what has gone before in the book , it is convincing.

Conclusion : From the novel , one thing should be clear in Indian society that untouchable is not a curse but a curse in everyone's mind that diminished the nation. Still the problem in many villages face out. Anand notices that we can remove untouchability by giving them jobs. He concludes the novel with a hope of faith & idealism. Bakha's hope of flush system would come to the sweepers and people like him.

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