

JOURNEY OF SIMRIT FROM SUBMISSIVE TO EXPRESSIVE

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ABSTRACT

Feminism is defined as traditional, culture, political movements and economic that are focused on establishing officially authorized safety and complete equality for the women folk. Nayantara sahal is the most prominent Indo-Anglican author who belongs to one of India's most prominent political Indian families. She is a eminent Indian novelist, journalist, feminist, advisor and political columnist of present India. Born into a political family, it is not remarkable that history and politics inspire a lot of her writings. This paper is a try to explore the sort and area of the distress of woman folk with the reference of Nayantara sahal's "The Day in Shadow". It tracks the life of a divorced woman Simrit, her life with agony and unhappiness and how she experiences the difficulties in the hands of cruel and unjust male and how Simrit coming out of her Shadows and becoming herself.

KEY WORDS: Feminism, suffering, Domination, Equality, Self-respect, Liberty, Struggle and etc.,

1.INTRODUCTION

Feminism is defined as culture, economic, and political movements that are focused towards establishing lawful creation and complete equality for the women folk. Later it is emerged as a worldwide movement to secure women's rights on the one hand and on the other hand to secure love respect sympathy and understanding from males. Throughout the globe women are deprived of their do and biased rights.

Though feminism is not are relatively new concept has always formed part of the women liberation movements it emphasis has been changing, inform and content with gender equality being one of the aspects. There is no doubt that feminism is today a major accepted fact of modern life with women competing with men on all walks of life, and even doing better than them in some areas.

Nayantara sahgai is one of the great's Indian women novelists writing in English. She began writing since her childhood and became a professional writer in the post- independence. Nayantara sahgai was born in Allahabad on May 10, 1927, into one of the India's most prominent political families, with mother Vijayalakshmi Pandit as India's first ambassador to the U.N., her uncle Jawaharlal Nehru as India's first Prime Minister, and her first cousin, Indira Gandhi as the India's third Prime Minister as well as the first woman prime minister of India, it is not remarkable that the politics, and history inspire and underlie greatly of her writings.

Nayantara sahgai is a novelist and political journalist who have written nine novels to her credits, two biographies, two political commentaries and a overweight come to of articles in numerous newspapers and magazines. She won the Sinclair Prize for Fiction in 1985, and recipient of the impressive Sahitya Akademi Award for her novel *Rich Like Us* (1985), and the Common Wealth Award for Eurasia for her novel *Plans For Departure* in 1986. She was Fellow of Woodrow Wilson International Centre for scholars, the American Academy of Alerts and Sciences and the National Humanities Centre, North Carolina and was awarded an honorary doctorate for Literature by the University of Leeds in 1997.

Nayantara sahgai is the most significant voices among the Indian women novelists who have given a new approach to understanding women with the political changes in India. Sahgai in her novels she attempts to endeavour women as a main be incorporated with everyone longings, wishes, aspirations, hopes and frustrations of being a women. She explores the strain of women appropriate to their dependence on men for both and every stage of their life. She narrates their struggles in bondage and lives on their own.

The major themes in the sahgai's novels are drawn through man-women relationship, alienation of husband and wife, extra marital affairs, self ego and quest for their personality from their multiple roles as a daughter, sister, wife and mother. In each one of her novels, there is a sensitive depiction of the way women suffer due to the male chauvinistic society which assigns them a subordinate position in patriarchal society.

In Sahgai's novels we may possibly catch the sight of the harms of women in different aspects. For instance in the novel *A Time to be Happy*, Sahgai explores through the character of Maya, women's search for independence status in cooperation inside nuptials as on a par partners and outside nuptials as individuals. In the novel, *This Time of Morning*, Sahgai examines the area of women in Indian society before marriage through the character of Nita. In the novel, *Storm in Chandigarh*, Sahgai demonstrates her in understanding of individual relationships. As well as in the novel *A Situation In New Delhi*, sahgai portrays the conflicts of individual bond with the better print of distort politics. In this paper, I would like to explore the tribulations faced by a divorced woman with the reference of the novel *The Day in Shadow*.

The novel *The Day in Shadow*, deals with the harms faced by a young, good-looking and daring Indian woman, Simrit, who rapt under the burden of a brutal divorce settlement.

Through the character of Simrit, Sahgal try to projects how a divorced woman faces the difficulties in the hands of male-dominated Indian society. The entire novel deals with the life of Simrit who constantly faces torture with her partner Som. In one of her interview Nayantara sahgal herself admits that in all her novels she has taken a bit of her own experience to her character to her heroines but *The Day in Shadow* was a autobiographical. Its main theme that of a disastrous financial settlement made at divorce was taken from her real life situation.

The role of an Indian women have been undergone a dramatic changes from the Vedic period to till now. Women are the silent sufferer of the archetype Indian womanhood with all her self-effacing wifely qualities of chastity, submission and loyalty. From out of date dot to till at this instant women are measured as a domestic servant or just a child bearer. The result of higher education provided to women made the woman self-reliant. Their need for liberation from the shackles of marriage life has been felt by many educated women only in the post independence era.

Nayantara sahgal depicts the life of Indian women who struggle for survival in the present day political based world and their quest for individual freedom and self identity. In sahgal's novel several married women undergone the moments of mental agony within them. In *The Day in Shadow* sahgal, show female as a further progressive and rebellious in her life. Smirit, the protagonist of this story undergoes the many difficulties, oppression, depression, agony, stress and felt like her home as a prison just because of her loveless marriage life. It shows how Smirit comes out of her shadows and becoming herself at the end.

Simrit, the central character of this novel is a thinking woman who is striving for an individuality and independent personality. While many women donor have gusts to think of walkout from their marriage however unhappy they might be, Smirit bravely decided to go divorce when she finds her own temperamental disparity with her husband, Som. She was happy about her marriage life during few years of her marriage but soon she found that she has been treated as a possession by her husband Som not as a person. Som is a work grasping and ambitious to make a lot of money quickly while Simrit is a easy woman who is content with the trouble-free possession in her life. Som abortive to impart with his wife. He is a self-centred male who cares just about his particular needs, as Smirit is missing with a feel of budding vacuum inside her marriage life. When she found she can't bear any more she divorces her husband at the high risk of feeling misery, economic crisis, depression of being lonely and a score of other existential problems.

Smirit feels herself suffocating with her husband Som. Therefore, she seeks divorce from her husband to be free, but she can only realize that it is too cruel situation to live as a divorced woman in Indian society. Even at divorce, her husband made a cruel and brutal divorce settlement where the property, and other shares worth six lakhs had been transferred to Simrit's name which later inherited by Brij on his maturity. Som had done this so that he could escape from paying tax on those properties and moreover, he can enjoy the income over it. Simrit

doesn't have any willing to pay the heavy taxes levied on the property without having any rights or income over the holdings. Living in her own itself was a burden to her. Moreover, her divorce settlement had shocked Simrit both emotionally and physically. Each and every situation of Simrit has shows how a divorced woman faces problems in their day today life.

Out of her struggle, a new Smirit is born, a person who can make choices, takes decision and becomes aware of herself as an individual. After divorce she faces many problems, but as a new Smirit she tries to overcome all her problems with her strong characteristic "toughness of undivided integrity"(DS 38). When her mind and body open up to receive new responses, she has a new sense of fulfilment in the relationship with Raj. Smirit finds the true happiness in relationship with Raj comparing with Som. In her relationship with Raj, they don't want to possess each other instead of that they treat each other as a person's rather a possession. It gives them enough space to live their own life in the way they need.

Women can be proud of being women without seeking supporting roles from the man as a father's, brothers, sons and husbands to reach her goals. If the ultimate goal of feminism is to force woman to have freedom of choice and to live a life of her own, then Simrit is a feminist. Because Simrit took this freedom of choice in choosing her husband Som earlier and Raj later. Som is a male chauvinist and Raj appears to be superior to Smirit in his intellect but Smirit with her independent spirit she never bows down before male domination. Nayantara sahal is not disparate to marriage as a ceremony of a common setting up, but she stresses that women had to be treated with humanistic values, according to which a female is not to be fall just as a sexual category point or glamour girl but as a person in her be the owner of her rights. For a successful marriage life loyalty and mutual understanding is needed. Being a liberated, woman can flee from their bitter survival to better survival.

2.REFERENCE

[1]Sahgal, Nayantara. *The Day in Shadow*. New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House Pvt Lt,1976. Print.