



A review of condition of social and mental turmoil in Bhabani Bhattacharya's "He Who Rides A Tiger"

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Abstract

His work, He Who Rides a Tiger, by the acclaimed Indian English author Bhabani Bhattacharya, depicts a condition of social and mental turmoil. Many concerns that separate the poor class from the upper class are addressed in the book. The novel, Kalo and Chandrasekhar's narrative shows the author's ability to bring out the conflict between old ideals and contemporary ones. An effort is made in this research to analyze the works of Bhabani Bhattacharya and the social and political imperatives that led to paradoxical circumstances in the pre-Independent Indian period.. As a result, a segment of society and a huge portion of the population have benefited from the wealth of others who have been forced to suffer due to a lack of concern for the laws and the greed of the affluent. They ended themselves in a terrible dilemma as a consequence of being caught up in the web of life. There was an unsettling search for new ideals and ancient culture between those who clung to tradition and others who sought to break away from it. Most of the populace started to experience hunger and felt either entirely abandoned or that it was impossible to lead a normal life in the face of enormous obstacles. There are many young individuals who are fighting to get through this dreadful position with the hope that the pain would go away and that success may be viewed as a glimmer at the end of the tunnel. As a result of my thorough reading of Bhattacharya's works, I have utilized primary and secondary sources extensively to support my position, which I believe is a result of this notion.

Keywords Famine, Realism, hunger, draught, famine, starvation, assassination, poverty, male chauvinism

Introduction

In addition to being a gifted writer, Bhabani Bhattacharya has a strong sense of purpose. His writing is direct and straightforward. As a matter of fact, it was the simplicity of his manner and the rational and balanced stance on society that piqued my interest in studying him. The depth and range of his knowledge and creativity in dealing with people and issues were impressive for one of the most erudite men of his time. His scholastic reputation as a historian is well-known across the globe. His knowledge of human history has been greatly enriched as



a result of his historical research. His literary manifesto could be defined with simplicity and precision since he epitomized the historical mind's capacity for definition. He Who Rides a Tiger's hunger in Bengal continues to be a matter of circumstantial. Indian traditionalism and modernism collide in Mohini's music. Mohini and Jayadev of Music for Mohini are a traditionalist and a modernist, respectively. A Goddess Named Gold paints a disturbing picture of greed and poverty. In reality, the story advises India not to sacrifice her spirit for the sake of growth and modernity. Music for Mohini is just around the corner in this story. There is a pact between Gandhism and scientism in the shadows of Ladakh. The author makes a compelling case for fusing the ancient with the modern. Material and spiritual qualities are commendable in the life of man, according to A Dream in Hawaii. Tradition, according to Bhattacharya, is important and should be preserved. To have a fully evolved civilization, modernism and tradition must be assimilated and incorporated into each other. As for unfounded ideas like superstitions and other old methods, he is opposed to them.

When he needs greater ideals, he doesn't think twice about travelling back in time. In order to achieve full modernity, he contends, one must bring together the best of the past and the best of the present. Bhattacharya's books also touch on the impact of industrialisation on societal transformation in his works. The author of Shadow from Ladakh argues that modern industrialisation and traditional Indian culture must coexist together. It's no secret that industrialisation has had a profound impact on the world. He argues that the current state of affairs is in need of completion, and that progress in the industrial sector does not constitute modernity. It is his hope that society would embrace both the industrial and the cultural qualities of the past. His pioneering literary work, the creation of literature for life's sake and the incorporation into it of Gandhian spirit, his experiments in the English language to adapt it to Indian needs, the recreation and rationalization of our ancient cultural values, and above all, the very act of writing and popularizing novels in English reflecting Indian society are just some of his accomplishments as a novelist, according to Hemenway.. To understand Indian English literature, one must go no farther than the works of the great Bhabani Bhattacharya. Sahitya Akademi Award in 1967 for his work. Kalo, a blacksmith, is transformed into a bogus 'swami' in his tale He Who Rides a Tiger. As with Raju, he was a robber, a prisoner, a corpse remover, a prostitute home procurer, and a swami before becoming one.



There's a mysterious black guy named Kalo in town. Her mother's death left him and Chandralekha alone. Even though she is a victim of caste prejudice throughout her school years, he is happy with her upbringing and her education. However, his joy is fleeting. There follows man-made famine and tyranny brought in by commerce as well as affluent people.. Because there is nothing to do in town, the majority of residents have begun to migrate to Calcutta City. When Kalo reaches the capital city, he will be free to walk about without fear and with his head held high. He gets arrested for minor theft while riding the footboard of a train to the city and sentenced to three months in jail. He is not granted a fair trial, and the magistrate interrogates him about himself and his daughter in an unflattering manner. A decent and honest life in the capital city is impossible for him, even when he is released from prison. People starve to death on the streets, while the wealthy revel in their own kind of misery. In order to support his family, he reluctantly takes a few odd jobs and sends a little amount of money to his daughter. That Kalo's own daughter is a victim of the love industry for which he is an agent is Kalo's own fault. However, he manages to save his daughter from the trap just in time. Kalo and his daughter became swamis as well.

Bhattacharya is a vocal opponent of social stratification based on race, class, and faith. Bhattacharya is very aware of his position as a writer in the book. In addition, he serves as a social crusader. Injustice, exploitation, brutality, and tyranny are just a few of the societal ills that are brought to light. He focuses on the struggles of the working class and the impoverished. People who benefited from the famine's agony and those who used them as caste rulers are the target of the narrative. Emotion and anxiety propel the narrative forward at breakneck speed. Kalo develops a resentment towards society. It doesn't give a damn about his plight or his total powerlessness. When his daughter is in a predicament, he is even more enraged and resentful of it. In the end, he is successful. Success for him is a sort of retribution against the culture he grew up in.

As a writer, Bhattacharya strives for accuracy and a certain point of view on the human condition. It also illustrates some of life's difficulties. In the midst of such adversity, a great story is born. Among its contents is something of immeasurable value to humankind. The novel's protagonists all make genuine attempts to engage in the world around them. Man vs society is the central theme of the book. It describes Kalo's method of disguising himself in



order to exact his revenge on the people around him. However, he eventually learns that his disguise is pointless. In addition to helping others, he hopes to get his life back on track. Despite his sincere and modest attempts, the evil society continues to reject him.

The person who rides a tiger intends to challenge popular belief and superstition. Because of its three-dimensional perspective—political, economic and social. Throughout the narrative, the author makes reference to the caste system, which is one of his main goals. It's a well-oiled machine. Chandra's decision to attend school has drawn ire from members of both the high and low castes in. Her character is steadfast, as are her thoughts and deeds, which demonstrate a good deal of constancy. Despite her formal education and refined lifestyle, she hasn't lost her sense of wonder and happiness with her station in life. Daughter is the one who expresses significant pain and less enthusiasm for the experience when father and son start riding a tiger.

Day-to-day events and issues are a recurring topic in Bhattacharya's writings. Rural and urban communities are represented through Bhattacharya's characters. When it comes to people and circumstances, he has a good sense of observation and perception. He covers a wide range of topics and subjects. For the writer, it was his goal to illustrate that the working-class people should not be cowed by anybody because of their hardships. Certain drastic changes in a person's life are represented in the book. It belongs to a portion of the population that is marginalized and oppressed. There are no frivolous or hypocritical emotions in our society since Honor and moral principles rule. It is the culmination of the battle between good and evil and truth and deception. By examining the actions of numerous individuals, the book is able to demonstrate the significance of both traditional and contemporary principles.

Conclusion

Thus, it is apparent that Bhabani Bhattacharya's books are committed exclusively to exploiting the social and political realities of everyday life in the nation. " Indian social and economic issues are examined extensively in his works, which focus on the effects of hunger and poverty on the Indian people. A writer such as Bhattacharya is more interested in depicting the social, economic, and political realities of life and society in India via the lens of art than philosophical issues. For the most part, the plot of his books is driven by the collision or struggle between two opposed ideologies. 'So Many Hungers' and 'He who rides a tiger's' plots are centered on a conflict between nationalist impulses and the existing structure of the society, as well as



between rural and urban life. It is clear that India and its modern viewpoints are a central theme in all of his books. A thinker and writer, Bhattacharya depicts India and its cultural traditions in a positive light. A author who is faithful to his craft, he depicts Indian peoples' issues and struggles in a creative and in-depth manner. I was blown away by his command and command of the novel's events. This further enhances his reputation as a contemporary Indian author and social realism.

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