

Treatment Of Motherhood And Its Representation In The Select Short-Stories Of Two Assamese Writers

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Abstract:

Short-Stories are another strongest, effective and people wanted form of literature. Different definitions are given by various critics of Short-Stories about Short-Stories but no one has its full coverage. Short-stories reflect day to day life pictures of human kind, as it is another important part of literature. In Assamese Short-Story literature history, two prominent writers namely Bhabendra Nath Saikia (1927-2006) and Dr. Mamoni Raisom Goswami (1942-2011) provide enormous efforts for the development of Assamese Short-Story. They have their own creativity and unique characteristic in their short-story. Though, similar characteristics are found between their short-stories. They are- problems and struggles of common people, people's common hope and expectations and pictures of society's are the main. We also found various aspects in Mamoni Raisom Goswami's writings. She mainly tells about expectations of women, happiness and sadness in women lives. Motherhood for women is the greatest feelings ever.Every woman dreams to have the happiness of getting atleast one own child..... it is believe that.. Motherhood makes a women complete.... We have seen two different pictures in the Story of 'Endur' and 'Shanskar' of Bhabendra Nath Saikia and Mamoni Raisom Goswami respectively. In this paper attempts to discuss about various pictures of motherhood with the help of above mentioned short stories.

Keyword: Motherhood, Women, Representation, Society, Child, Assamese literature, Short-Story.

1.0 Introduction:

Two prominent revolutionary writer of Assamese literature are Bhabendra Nath Saikia and Dr. Mamoni Raison. ...They will always remain as Gold/prominent/revolutionary writers for their tremendous contributions towards Assamese literature... They are names written with Golden letter in Assamese literature. Writer Bhabendra Nath Saikia received various prestigious awards from various sources. He receives Assam Valley Literature Award, Sahitya Akademy Award and also received Padma Bhushan titled from Government of India. Mamoni Raison Goswami received Sahitya Akademy Award, Jyanpith Award and Principal Prince Claus Laurane Award.

Mind set of women is widely discussed through the literature. Various writers try to art women mindsets differently. In real sense, it is hardly possible to art a woman mind. A few or no one can predict women mindset properly. It is the Ocean where a swimmer dreams to cross the Ocean through swimming. It is widely seen about women mind set not only in

Bhabendra Nath Saikia and Mamoni Raisom Goswami writings but also various Assamese Prominent writers. Motherhood is another mind set of a woman. Naturally women are able to give birth. They have natural ability to give birth. ...Proportionately a woman is complete when she has experienced motherhood..... In society, it is believed that a woman is complete if she has experienced motherhood. We have observed two different pictures in the Story of 'Endur' and 'Shanskar' of Bhabendra Nath Saikia and Mamoni Raisom Goswami respectively. In Endur, writer tries to show a mother mentality about getting another child after demise of her previous one. Again in Shanskar, Raisom tries to give an account of a woman who regularly abortion of her fetus.

1.1 Aims and Objective:

Aims and objective of this paper are-

- a) To discuss the mind set/ mental conditions of a mother in Bhabendra Nath Saikia's Story name 'Endur'.
- b) To portray a mother's picture through the help of Mamoni Raisom's Story name Shanskar.

1.2 Methodology:

To prepare this paper, use both descriptive and analytical methods.

2.0 Discussion:

2.1 Treatment of Motherhood and Its Representation in Bhabendra Nath Saikia's 'Endur':

'Endur' is one another most creative literature of Bhabendra Nath Saikia. In his story 'Endur' describe about a divorce woman left away by her husband and living with her only child. Whole story of Endur tells about emotions of motherhood.

Moti was the only/sole power for his mother to live. Motir's mother was a parentless daughter. For her survival she lived in her Uncle's home. One man proposed her for marriage and carried her to unhygienic and unnecessary place... but the man left her with pregnant conditioned. After Motir's birth, he was only the source of his mother's live. She lives because for her child Motir. Motir's mother just satisfied with her child called as 'Maa Maa'. She was completed because of Moti. She feels complete because she enjoyed her child childhood; she gets motherhood feeling through her child. Naturally we observed mother's love towards her child. She able to forget her previous sorrow, cheated from her husband only because of Moti. Society believes that husband is only the supreme of a women's life. In this Story, writer tries to show a different picture. In his view shows child is everything for a mother. She can live without husband when child is in her side. He describe as-

Kebol he thakile hoi.

Eta Giriye kot koi eta hontan bohot dangor hompoti.

Tair karont kebol Maa-Maa sabdo bur humai thakilei hol.

Tatkoi dangor gondogul taik aru nalage .(p-461)

Every man has its some natural expectations. Some expectations are revealed take in adulthood. Adulthood expectations are very strong. Some are controlled but some not. Uncontrolled emotions and expectations are controlled when a women becomes mother. She has received power to control her emotions and expectations. For this reason motherhood is supreme and expected. Mother forgot other pains-happiness and expectation when she becomes mother or Maa. Because at this stage she has many responsibilities towards her child and again motherhood helps her to forget pains. Her husband left away when she was pregnant. At this time she was a young woman. She has options to go and fulfill her needs but motherhood helps her to with her child with happily. This is just possible because of child Moti. Unknowingly Moti controlled her mother's purity, self respect and dignity. It says as in one's part of this story as-

Okole thakiboloi tair voi lage hosa.

Lukoloiku voi lage, nijoloiku voi lage.

Tair boyokh tue maje maje lathi-torual,

Luha-laskar loi taik beri dhoribo khuje;

Kintu Motir murtu bukut humuai loi tair boyakh tu

Mylan kori pelabo pare.

Aaru keitaman bosor par kori dibo parile,

Tair boyakh Vikharir boyakh hoi jabo. (p-460-461)

Pains are the integral part of the main character of Bhabendra Nath Saikia's story 'Endur'. Betray by her husband when he is the most needed person of her life on that time and deprived from parents love and her source of happiness Moti's demise make her lives worst and more painful. She feels lonely. She is acting as a mad woman because of her child Moti's absent. The death of her only child is a struck for her and she takes time to retrieve herself. As time passes she has just forgot some memory and gradually she feels light. But again expectation for child is not ended now. Moti's die as heavy weight (bosta) things fallen into his body. So that he died. The truck hendiman often came to meet her as a companion and moral support towards her. He carried some sweets for her, but she never talked to him. He offers some foods like rice; dal but she always rejected his offer. She feels about another child. She has dreams having another child. She becomes mad, wild for getting a child. Now she unable to control her inner expectations, emotions, needs which previously grab by

motherhood and child's love. Writer compares her situation with mouse which bites her body piece by piece. Story writer, she gives signals to the handiman to give her a child. At that stage she forgot about what rights-wrong, good-bad and morality. Just she wants a child and fulfills her shoulder/ hands with child love and motherhood. Story writer ended this in this below mentioned way-

Eai muhutot Jodi hei handiman tu e taik hudhe he,

“ Dail Saol kiba olop aani dio de”-

Tetiya tai koi dibo, “De”

Antoto eta MOTIR karone. (p-461)

2.2 Treatment of Motherhood and its Representation in Mamoni Raisom Goswami's 'Shanskar':

It is found conflict between new and old in Mamoni Raisom Goswami's writings. Her stories are based on women centric. Shanskar is one another of her successive creative writings. Here she is not writing about traditional thinking persons, she wrote about expectations, needs and underprivileges persons. She portrays very pathetic pictures through her story Shanskar.

Shanskar has its own importance and deepest level of creativity of the writer. In this story she tries to portray a man pictures that needs child. Demise of Pitambar's first infertile wife, he got engaged in second time for marriage. But again his second wife is not able birth a child. Wealthiest Pitambar's has no any successors to look after his property. He wants baby from Damoyanti who is other wife and widows also.

Damayantir gorbhat stithi lua sishutie jen

Jnnmo laav nokorutei

Hoihobor pora goi torun jubok hol.

Dhanashree nadir pare pare he

Pitaamborr hatot dhori ghuri furiboloi dhorile.

Damayanti was wife of Bamun and she is a widow. She feels enegtic and adulthood if she already has two daughter girl children. According to writer Damayanti is beautiful and attractive. Somehow she managed her poor family. For her underprivileges situation make her like “Mamore dhora loharr Kaman”. As that reasons her mind also converts into cruelty.

Story writer try to portray Damayanti character as a soft but how her situations make her cruel. She managed her family through doing home maid tasks in others houses. Further she has throw out from this type of home maid activities which are only way of living of her family. Later on, she engaged some activities illegal which are not good as on the eye of society. She forgot to unidentified what is right or wrong only because of their survival/ for two times meals. She has got pregnant from other persons. She killed many unwanted fetus before taking birth. And this fetus were barried under the beneath of bamboo. In the last of this story she got pregnant from Pitambor mahajan. Mahajan promised to marry her but she destroy fetus in her womb. The destroyed fetus is barried in above mentioned place. Pitambor tries to find out his child under beneath of bamboo trees. At that time Damayanti emotionally said as-

Moi puti tho isu hosa kotha! Kintu ki pabi tat-

Mangkhopindo etahe pori ase!! (p-347)

From the beginning of fetus to make the future of the child, a mother has limitless dreams. Children are everything for a mother if she has nothing as special/ wealth. But for some women the value of a child may differ women to women. A woman value to a child is not much more because of their poverty has different means. Society recognizes an ideal woman who has kind heart, soft mind and motherhood. But in this story it is quietly different.

3.0 Conclusion:

Endur and Shanskar have its own uniqueness, beauty and significant Story. It creates major pressure in readers mind. Underprivileged women are the main character of both stories. It is seen from these two stories that the both women's are widow. As a widow how she faced the world and what problems she specially faced are described. Two women of these stories have to pass their lives with only pain, deprived from love, dignity, and poverty.

Both women are mother. But both writer tries to two extremely different character of a mother. Reaction for motherhood is different for both of them. Their feelings towards motherhood are quite different. After losing her only child Moti, she wants another child to fulfill her motherhood. It is seen in Bhabendra Nath Saikia's Endur story. While Shanskar writer tries to portray another pictures of a mother, where Damayanti killed her own fetus before taking birth. Damayanti's mother character is different from other usual mother, where a mother killed her own. Can underprivileged, poverty, betray from society change a mother's motherhood?

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