



## Think India (Quarterly Journal)

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S. T. HINDU COLLEGE, NAGERCOIL-2, Tamilnadu, India



### Migration and Survival of the Protagonist Pi in Yann Martel's *Life of Pi*: A Sociological Approach

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#### ABSTRACT

The survival of the individual during the migration in India in 1970s and its causes are represented in the novel, *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel published in 2001. The survival of the protagonist in the event of migration is set as a main plot of this journey narrative. Pi is the main character in the novel. This paper is an attempt to analyze the migration of Pi from India to Canada with his family which has been sociologically approached. Thus, the concept of migration is reviewed as a new dimension of Diaspora which has been dramatically and magically connected with the survival instinct.

Keywords:

Migration, Survival, Sociological Approach

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Migration is certainly not another marvel at the present time and numerous individuals have moved as individual or gatherings. There are many reasons why many individuals migrate than remain at their nations, for example, financial declines which is brought about by cash, issue of government, family, issue of locale and others.

Migration or forced human movement can be characterized by the development by individuals starting with one spot then to the next. The development is frequently over long

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movement and starting with one nation then to the next. Inside movement is likewise conceivable; to be sure, this is the prevailing structure all around. Movement might be people, nuclear families or in huge gatherings. According to Skeldon (1997:19) in Hein (2007: 11) “Migration patterns were further assumed to be influenced by factors such as distance and population densities”. It implies that migration is brought about by numerous variables like to change a low pay to be high salary by movement in another nation. For this situation numerous individuals relocate to show signs of improvement life and financial.

Other than unadulterated financial increases, movement and settlements take consideration in higher interest in social insurance and training. However, not every one of the effects are certain, abuse of vagrants by corrupt spotters or bosses is allegedly broad; division from family can be upsetting for transients; and enormous scale movement can represent the genuine difficulties to a country's character and away. The battle to get every last bit of it, some of the time they find numerous hindrances, irritates, difficulties throughout everyday life and others. It is called as natural selection.

“Migration is a decision that impacts the welfare of the household, the home community, and in the end the whole economy in various ways” (Azam and Gubert 2006). Survival is a push to choose what somebody to do when they locate an awful condition in movement. There are many individuals get worn out and surrender highly involved with going by migration. According to Herbert (1864:444) Mr. Darwin said that the survival of the fittest, which I have here sought to express in mechanical terms” called ‘natural selection’, or the preservation of favored races in the struggle of life. It implies that the natural selection is solid in human who can adjust with the nearby or environment. In other causes, natural selection can be characterized as how to make due in new places and they can adjust with the surrounding.

India gives much importance to religion. Some of the time, religion turns into a culture which can make turn to be the custom in the family. Religion is imperative to Indian since they think about that God is everything and sacral. There are lots of religion in India, for example,

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Hindu, Islam, Catholic, Kristen, Sikh, Jew and others. India is nation where individuals of various religions and societies live in harmony.

According to Spencer (1864:444) Mr. Darwin said that “the survival of the fittest, which I have here sought to express in mechanical terms, called ‘natural selection’, or the preservation of favored races in the struggle of life”. . Numerous Indians pick industrialized nations as goal like United Kingdom, United States, and Canada. The objective of gatherings of movement is to show signs of improvement life and to transform themselves with change their low pay to be high pay. Now and again in movement there are lags or when individuals who relocate to a nation need a battle and sacrifice.

Migration in India in 1970s called as Indian diaspora specifically “Gulf Diaspora”. During the, time India is known by unskilled-labor and semiskilled-labor. In the novel *Life of Pi*, Pi and family decide to migrate to Canada to work and to continue Pi’s study. There are several reasons for Pi and family decide to migrate, they are: Canada as destination country, migration as government effect, and migration as economic effect. Religion ethos becomes the power of Pi to face the obstacles in process of migration.

Economic earnings of Indian foreigner zones the endurance for relocation in 1970s in India. In the novel *Life of Pi*, the principle character of the novel is Piscine Molitor Patel or Pi. Pi must get by during the time spent movement and he is separated from everyone else without his family due to shipwreck in the mid of Pacific Ocean. In this manner Pi during his time for seven months alone in the ship with tiger. During this time he spent most of the time with cruel environment, Bengal Tiger, shark, enormous tempest, and the coldblooded condition till fundamental land. Just because he landed at Mexico, however he proceeds with his voyage to Canada.

The type of survival by Indian worker in 1970s is moves to industrialized nations which have high economy and high pay. It turns into the method for survival of Indian outsider when constrained financial issues and politic issues. The endurance of Pi is began after the wreck of ship. Pi is spared by a raft and he finds a few creatures on it. He compelled to adjust to new

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condition, for example, (1) Pi must to eat flesh fish although he is vegetarian boy, (2) Pi must adapt with the weather where in the middle Pacific Ocean as the location, (3) Pi must to survive by himself. Then his family which has been sociologically approached by the people in India. They suffered by the religion and Pi says about the people approach to their family in India. Because of some circumstances they migrate from India to Canada. Thus, the concept of migration is reviewed as a new dimension of Diaspora which has been dramatically and magically connected with the survival instinct.

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