



ROMEN BASU'S CONCERN WITH TERRORISM IN HIS NOVELS

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ABSTRACT

Romen Basu is a man of concerns he always write with a purpose but still hates if someone calls him a sociological novelist. He has concentrated on joint family system in his earlier novels and his later novels centre on social problems. His style is simple while his statements are sharp and emphatic. His themes are complex and the social problems which constitute the themes are caste, religion class and terrorism. The theme or 'cause', as he calls it, calls for attention and study. His concerns are not only limited to India but also towards the world fraternity.

Keywords: Exploitation, Society, Anguish, Harmony

Introduction

Every Novel Romen Basu wrote in his life always had some connection with some event and he always wrote for the betterment of the society. Romen Basu has very well described the troubles caused by terrorism in his novels and major concerns of terrorism on people and harms to society. Romen Basu has described very well about the problem of terrorism not only happening in India but also in the world. In his post ninty novels he first wrote My Own Witness (1993)about terrorism in Punjab in eighty's after that he wrote about the terrorism that was going on in Kashmir in Torn Apart (1997) and he wrote about terrorism going on in Israel in A Siren (2005). Basu Always Wishes for Harmony in His Novels with in the Family and Society In his "My Own Witness", he gravely studies the matter of terrorism that was there within the province of Punjab during the eighties of the last century. He attempts well to find out the causes behind terrorism. He conjointly tries to search out however greatly the State that inflicted wounds on the holy shrine, and what had been the perspective of the rulers towards the matter.

He makes Onkar, the hero of the novel, his mouth-piece for preaching the Gandhian way of non-violence.

In his yet another novel "Torn Apart" Basu deals with a similar problem in Kashmir. Sayid Ahmed, the protagonist within the novel may be a journalist by profession. He is dragged into the whirlpool of Kashmiri politics by the high handedness of the police and the army. He is pushed deeper and deeper into the struggle, witnessing the miseries of the commoner . Basu examines the past, the present and the future of Kashmir within the context of the military, Kashmiri youth's rejection of the compromise politics, the remedial measures taken bythe centre and their irrelevance for the Islamic fundamentals.

Sayid Ahmed continues to look for a just, equitable solution that might satisfy all quarters. Finding none, he results in the last word sacrifice of his life.

In his last novel in concern with terrorism "A Siren" that was Basu's fifteenth novel and twenty ninth published work, it is written in 21st century with a theme of communal brotherhood and peace among the people of Palestine and Israel. Emanuel the pivot of the novel always tries his best for a peaceful compromise between the Palestinians and Jews. How political leader ruined the lives of the youth of the region, they are prepared for suicide bombing and young boys always there for martyrdom. In his efforts for the betterment of the region he and Fatima both met an accidental death.

"A Siren" is split into Eight chapters. In the first chapter, we meet a man named Hasan Zaidi who is coming back from England after completing his PhD in political science. In the second chapter, we meet the main characters of Novel named Emanuel and Fatima. Fatima a Palestinian girl and Emanuel is the one who is Jew. In this novel, we see that after 1948 a new country, Israel, has been born and there are daily attacks between the Palestinian people and the soldiers of Israel. And we get to know about the situation there when Mercy Hasan Zaidi's father said "You children should go and have a good time before all of Palestine blows up in smoke".(11) When Hasan is spending his first day in Israel after his homecoming, there is a loud explosion in his neighbourhood and after that the soldiers of Israeli army come there and beat the people present there mercilessly. Hasan sees that the youth who should be in classrooms in schools at this time. They are wandering in the streets, they have stones in their hands and they are searching for their enemies Israeli soldiers so that they kill them. Daily riots and Bomb attacks are common now a days in this region Many Palestinian young boys have formed their own separate gangs, in which they are making plans for creating disturbance and to harm the Jewish community in every possible way even ready themselves as suicide bombers. By the speaking of Arafat the Palestinian leader that wherever there is a crowd, they should go and bomb themselves. Fatima's brother Fouad is also one of them Emanuel and Fatima who were the protagonists of this novel. Fatima is a nurse and Emanuel is a pharmacist. They are always striving for mutual brotherhood and peace in Israel. These people always meet in places where there are many fewer people come, Mahmood's coffee shop is one of these places where these people meet. Palestinians and Israelis were very fed up with everyday quarrels and riots, so the people there wanted peace and in this endeavour, Emanuel meets many people, the main people of which were Bernie Sachamohor who was a policeman, Mr Tahir, Mr Camus, Professor Ibrahim, Mohammed, Professor Dr Hamidi, Mr Tyabi, Mr Rahmatullah, Nicholas, Mosis When all they meet each other these people give a lot of examples while talking about compromise such as "compromise between the soviet union, Yugoslavia, Bosnia, Albania" (30)

CONCLUSION

"Gandhi said to Indian give Muslims their share and you'll reach their heart" (45)

When these people are talking about establishing peace in Israel, they describe India and Gandhi many times." hundred and fifty million Muslims living in India putting their trust in God and People" (33), again "we would need someone like Gandhi and Nelson Mandela to help us reach a solution" (101) • Emanuel and Fatima are planning to carry out a peace march so that they can know the hearts of the people of Israel and establish mutual brotherhood there to relieve people from the day-to-day atrocities. a peace march in which they plans to move forward by involving both Jews and Palestinians. They carry out a peace march till the office of Prime Minister Ismail wants to disturb the march, "Barak is also approached by a group of jews urging him to end his support for the peace march "(144) and finally manage to deliver their letter to the Prime Minister. Emanuel and the peace march is taken by him are discussed in the newspapers of that day. Both Emanuel and Fatima met an accidental death at the end of the novel. The novel ends without answering many questions like is their harmony between Jews and Palestinian after that and many others

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