

## THEMATIC ANALYSIS OF PARTITION NOVELS : AN ANALYSIS

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### Abstract

Historically, it is a fact that over centuries the Hindus and the Muslims lived amicably a life of peaceful Co-existence. The foreign Islamic rulers invaded India from time to time, their motive behind invasions was not mainly related to religion. They wanted to plunder the wealth of India. In this process of collecting booty they looted both the Hindu the Muslim rulers and the masses of India as well. Even these plunderers were sometimes helped by the Hindu or the Muslim rulers with whom they had developed friendly relations. During the medieval period the rulers were generally Muslims and they oppressed both the Hindu and the Muslim masses. The condition of the Hindu and the Muslim peasants and workers was the same.

**Key Words :** Rulers, violence, partition, division, refugee, communities, society.

### Introduction

The literature on the Partition poignantly captures the ravages of history on human hearts and lives. It represents not only the unprecedented tragedy and violence of the Partition – arson, murder, rape, uprooting of millions and the emotional sears and unresolved dilemmas of identity and homelessness experienced by the survivors-but also how in individual acts of charity and compassion humanity still survived across communal divide. The brutal impact of the partition has been haunting the creative imagination of the novelist. The joy of freedom was overshadowed by the partition and its aftermath, that is, migrations, uprooting and massacre on communal lines.

### Impact on Community -

A community is also defined or identified due to the likeness in language, customs and modes. Every community has some particular ethnicity or name. Each community is something of an individuality or a personality often indicated by the name given to it. There is no denying the fact

that the notion of community keeps on changing with the changing context, and in different Socio-political context the defining factor of the community may change. In times of social upheavals such meanings undergo a change rather rapidly.

The partition was such a social upheaval that caused change in the definitions of community. It was during the partition that all the definitions of community based on locality, caste, tribe or region proved fragile. Communities were now no longer defined in terms of area or language or ethnicity but essentially and only on the lines of religion. Communities got defined only in terms of communal rivalry or otherness. It was due to the emphasis on religion as the determining factor during the partition that other identities became weak. Now the concept of nation got redefined in terms of religious identity, as a separate country was demanded on religious basis only.

Hindu were made to flee from Pakistan while the Muslims were forced to evacuate the Indian land. They became Mahajirs there. The refugees and Mahajir emerged as distinct communities. That during social and political upheaval the notion of 'community keeps on changing depending upon the new circumstances and new areas or factors of bonding amongst groups of people. The people of one community started looking at the other community as enemies, feelings of bitterness and hatred grew rapidly. In the frenzy of riots people forgot that no religion teaches violence or hatred towards other sections of humanity, that religion, infact, is a matter of faith, bonding and spiritual upliftment. Communalism is a product of political maneuvering than of religious hostilities.

### **Impact of Communalism -**

There are different types of communities in a society. In a way a village or neighbourhood forms a community where people share common interest and live collectively. The village is the oldest permanent community of man. The fact of social living and common specific area gives birth to community and the individual starts identifying his interests with larger interest of the group or community. During the time of partition people of one community started looking at the other community as enemies. British sowed the seeds of communalism whose harvest was very bitter.

The communal hatred and divide gained so much momentum & resulted in the partition of India. This divide became so deep rooted. Communalism is a type of consciousness, that makes the members of a community feel that they constitute a distute a distinct group. The ideology of communalism consists of three stages. The first stage of communalism appears when people who follow the same religion have common secular interests. This communalism is based on fear and hatred and has a tendency to use violence of language, deed or behaviour, the language of war and enmity against political opponents.

### **Analysis of Violence -**

There are some thinkers who relate violence to Aristotle's concept of catharsis as a release or transformation of emotional pressure or impulse through Activity and expression. Catharsis lies in emotions and it becomes essential to release these pent up emotions either through expression or action to feel normal. Some of the repressed emotions are released in such violent actions that they become dangerous. Man inflicts violence on woman to strike terror in her so that she remains subdued as an object, as a piece of property.

Man want complete control over a woman's body and mind, which means crippling her, choking her, thwarting her. For a man woman's mind has no value, to him only woman's body is important. Violence is also useful is keeping man healthy. Physical violence is a common and

most obvious form of violence against woman. One of the most common forms of violence which is simultaneously physical and mental is rape.

The social codes are enforced on woman in the name of morality without trying to understand that morality should be concerned with good and evil. Gandhiji, who is credited with bringing women into public life to join the national movement that woman was suppressed under custom and law for which man was responsible.

### **Socio Political Upheaval -**

Countless families rendered homeless and uprooted during the partition and treated as 'other' in their new places of refuge. It seemed as if their life had come to a stand still and the rest of the life would be spent mourning for the lost past. Communal frenzy poisoned people's mind so much that they started looking at each other with hatred and ill will.

The partition of India was really a turbulent and traumatic period in the history of the sub-continent when the worst passions were aroused in the name of religion. People lost faith in one another giving place to hatred and malevolence. A split in the amicable relationship appeared. People were forced to flee from their houses. They had to take refuge on the other side where there Co-religionists lived. Human values were hit hard on the anvil of communal fury yet there is no denying the fact that goodness still survived giving place to hope and optimism.

### **Conclusion -**

Partition is declared a chasm appears between two families dividing them physically as well as emotionally. The new situation pollutes both the families. The partition violence and hatred created a gulf between those who had live together happily sharing one another's joys as well as sorrow. True religion binds man to God and man to man. The religion that teaches antagonism to other religion is not a religion.

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