

THE CHANGING TRENDS IN INDIAN WRITING IN ENGLISH LITERATURE WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO CHETAN BHAGAT'S FICTION

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This is a great opportunity to know each and every country progress by its literature. The history of Indian English writing may be seen by its literary work in field of English literature. Modern Indian English writers focus on the burning issues of contemporary society and changing scenario of modern age. This applies to literature as much as to any other phenomenon. A poem or a novel or a drama has its autonomy certainly, but it has also filiations with the whole living and growing organism that is literature. Certain themes in there variations recur in all Indian literature, in all commonwealth literature and even in all literature. What is like and what is unlike, what is local and what is universal, what is of tradition and what is experimental, what is inhibited and what is wholly spontaneous the impetus of their interactions can make comparative literature a tantalizing as well as fascinating study.

During the last 20 years and more especially during the last ten years the outlook for indo-anglian literature has become brighter than before. Novel in Indian English writing has provided new scope, new dimensions and new life because of the diversity of themes related to different aspects of human life as perceived by these emerging novelists. Studies in modern Indian English fictions are an interesting field to readers as well as critic. I have selected only Chetan Bhagat's fiction for thorough studies based on the changing trends in Indian writing in English literature. Chetan Bhagat's *Five Point Someone*, *One Night at the Call Center* and *The Three Mistake of My Life*, *2 States: The Story of My Marriage*, *Revolution 2020: Love, Corruption, Ambition* are quite experimental in initiating revolution in the world of fiction. I have selected only two Novel of Chetan Bhagat first *One Night at the Call Center* and second *Five Point Someone*, first discuss about the struggle of youth and their adopting way of western work style and their frustration and second discuss about life style of Indian college students and difficulties of IITians.

One Night at the Call Center is first published in 2005. It is a new kind of literary work. The novelist is quite innovative in dealing with the hopes as aspirations and failure and frustration of the younger generation this novel mainly deals with the esoteric problem as well as general fasciations of the younger generation. There are six characters in this novel. They have different perspective towards the life and success. Each has a different aim, each has different types of problems and those may be seen in metropolitan culture.

So the plight of human heart has expressed in the novel in the literary way. The real life people are disturbed, disappointed, and passionate toward the life. Nevertheless, they don't think about own life style and the reality of the situation. Being seduced and failure they think that

their life is full of sorrow and we are the people of time but after all the realization of self is the main aspect of human. Whenever he realize this aspect then he trust one and try to prove his or her own capability to the world.

The appearance of God in this novel according to me is the one kind of self realization which shows the each characters inner plight and the next step which God has taken to solve that is as far as I concern is the inner strength which provide you power to solve and try to understand the real situation that is why each and every body may be capable to solve the problem. That is real motto of God appearance in this novel. He motivates the character and encourages them to do the work and then resolve their problems. The novels contain some absorbing episodic stories in the Trans quality of night. It is a new kind of novel in which author is quite innovative in dealing with the hopes as aspirations and failure and frustration of the younger generation. This novel is about only five or six people, but at the same time, it sets the universal tune and throws lights on the esoteric problem as well as general fascination of the younger generation.

The First few chapters of the novel have been devoted to give formal introduction about each of the six characters- Shyam Mehra, Military Uncle, Radhika Jha, Esha Singh, Varun Malhotra , Priyanka, these three fascinating guys and three pretty girls worked together connexions for western appliances. They provide solution to problem faced by the American customers. Their service begins in the nights when everyone wants to sleep. They are the representatives of modern India where the west wind has influenced each and everything –life style, profession, working style clothing, eating etc. These six people belong to six different sections of the society and their hopes and aspiration, failures and frustration have a cosmic effect. This interesting story has been narrated from the lips of Shyam who manages together all the characters of the novel all though he is certainly not the hero. He talks about Military Uncle:

Military Uncle hates it if we are late. I prepared myself for some dirty looks. His tough manner comes from the Army background from which he retired a few years ago. At fifty plus, he is the oldest person in the call centre. He rarely speaks more than three words at a time. Most of his interactions with us are limited to giving us condescending you young people glance.¹

Actually the particular character deals with the particular age group and face frustration dealing with the younger generation. He didn't settle with his daughter in law only because of her tough behavior that was from his service. Now Protagonist of the novel Shyam talks about Radhika next character. Radhika is a married woman in her mid-twenties. She is living along with her parents in laws. Her husband works somewhere else in difrent city. She has joined Connexion Call centre in order to earn more and more a wants to give more financial assistance to her husband, Anuj: "I need this job. Anuj and I need to save."² Shyam admits the facts: She Married Anuj the years after a whirlwind courtship in college. She now lives in a joint family with Anuj's ultra-traditional parents. It was tough for daddy's only girl, but it is amazing what people do for love.³

Radhika deal with that class in which for the livelihood of the famly both husband wives have to work.that is a real example of metropolitan cities house wives. Later Shyam discuss about Esha, She is the most fashionable girl working in the Connesions Call centre in the night shift. She is bold and beautiful and very careful about her dress and ornaments. Shyam is highly influenced by Esha's dress and her way of fashion. Shyam graphically views the dress of Esha.

Her dress sense is impeccable. Esha dresses better on an average day than I ever did in my whole life. Her sleeveless coffee-coloured top perfectly contrasted with her skirt. She wore chunky brown ear-rings that looked edible and her lipstick was a thick cocoa, as if she had just kissed a bol of chocolate sauce. Her eyes had at least one of these things- mascara, eye-liner and / or eye-shadow.⁴

Esha denotes the class of highly factional bal group of youngers. Who has gest for life and they have bigger ambition in their life. The protagonist is highly influenced by his fellow. Now the set is ready for Varun Malhotra or Vroom or agent Victor Mell. He is known as Vroom because he has deep passion for anything on wheels. He has great passion for eating, drinking and merry-making. Shyam describe his fashionable outlook in these words; He (Vroom) wore black jeans and trekking shoes that made his thin legs look extra long. His dark blue sweet shirt had the Ferrari horse logo on it.⁵ Priyanka is the last member of the Connexions to take place in Qualis. She is the ex-girl friend of Shyam. Shyam's nervousness is quite obvious when he finds the glimpse of Priyanka. Military Uncle has different kind of problem in his life. He is a retired military man and therefore he maintains strong sense of discipline in his life and expects the same from the others. Military Uncle suffers from the sense of alienation and loneliness.

The final few chapters of the novel are more dramatic in resolving all the problems. In the chapter 30, characters got calls each and every character to resolve their problems and confrontations. God's call comes at the real time when they are in need of. Their lives are in danger because their quails is still hanging on the rod first of all , God talks to Radhika and makes inquiry about her life. "So back to the question, life going? You want to go first, Radhika? God said."⁶ Then God talks to Vroom. God's comments on life abrupt Vroom:

Yes, the title voice inside that ants to talks to you- But You can only hear it when you are at peace and then too it is hard to hear it. Because in modern life, the networks are too busy. The voice tells you what you really want.⁷

God makes a deal with the people in the quails and God compels them to reveal their truth about life and their hopes and aspirations. Military Uncle speaks nothing new while revealing his heart to God. He repeats the same as he used to reveal about his son and daughter-in-law:

'I want to be with my son and my grandson. I miss them every moment. Two years ago, I uses to live with them. But my daughter-in-law did things I didn't like – she went for parties, got a job when I wanted her to stay at home.....'⁸

Then the turn of Radhika comes. She reveals her feeling with tearful eyes:

I want to be myself again, just like I was before marriage, when I was with my parents. I want to divorce Anuj. I do not want to ever take at my mother-in law's face again. To do this I have to accept that I made a wrong decision when I married Anuj.⁹

She reveals her feeling to God:

I want my parents to love me again. I do not want to become a dumb model. I am sure I can find a better use for my looks, if they are worth anything. Any career that makes you compromise on your morals, or judges you because you are not an inch taller is not worth it.¹⁰

This chapter is full of dramatic happenings and thrills. God enchants everyone by making them to confess their feelings and unburden their hearts. Now, the much waited turn of Shyam comes, Shyam tries to escape the situation, but he does not succeed. He begins in chaotic way: Okay. This will sound stupid, but I want to take a shot at my own business. I had this ideas, If Vroom and I collaborate, we can set up a small web design company. That is all. ¹¹

God knows that Shyam has not unburdened his soul. Shyam compels him to reveal his feeling about Priyanka: “And I want to be worthy of someone like Priyanka one day. I do not deserve her as of today, and I accept that...” ¹². He continues: “But one day I’d like to be worthy of someone like her someone intelligent witty, sensitive and fun, someone who can seamlessly merge friendship with love. And yes, one day, I want to be successful too.”¹³ After the confessional episode, God tells them about how to get success in life and what are the points which might help someone to get success in life. God says: “There are four things a person needs for success. I will tell you the obvious ones first. One, a medium amount of intelligence and two, a bit of imagination. Agreed.”¹⁴

Then, god tells about third ingredient for success: The fourth ingredient is the most painful one. And it is something all of you still need to learn. Because it is often the most important thing..... Failure. ¹⁵ God continues further:

Yes, but to be really successful, you must face failure. You have to experience it, feel it, and suffer it. Only then can you shine. For once you taste failure, you have no fear. You can take risks more easily. Then you don’t want to snuggle in your comfort zone any more- you are ready to felling not snuggling. ¹⁶

The novel ends on the note on resurrection of life in the Connexions. Each of the six characters gets the real consolation and starts life in different way. All of them- Shyam, Priyanka, Esha, Vroom, Radhika and Military Uncle become content with their future and they would like to continue their desired life. Vroom and shyam start their own website design company and theycall it the Blacksheep web Design Company.

Thus, One Night at the Call centre is an interesting novel for several reasons altogether. The entire action of the novel takes place in the night. The night may have some symbolic implications here. Throughout the night, Shyam, V-room, Radhika, Esha, Priyanka and Military uncle are not in state of peace and harmony. Throughout the night, they strive about betterment, satisfaction, contentment and settlement, they struggle hard and there is panic and chaos in the night have been scattered by the light of sun which also marks the beginning of new life of all the six characters of the novel.

The Five Point Someone is the story of first person narration. There is no ironical detachment gives some autobiographical touch there is combination of human emotion and passion. Chetan Bhagat’s debut novel *The Five Point Someone* creates a unique charm and fascination not only among the IITians but also among scholars and readers outside the IIT Campus. His candid way of first person narration without ironical detachment gives impression of some autobiographical touch as it is inevitable for the author of his first book.

The novel comprises twenty-seven chapters; each chapter is beautifully designed with separate motive in terms of story- telling, although there is a sense of spontaneity in them. The writer is always busy in diving deep into human emotion and passion in order to universalize his experience through adopting objective co-relative. Each chapter is co-related with each other, not only by structural beauty but also by thematic coherence. Chetan Bhagat shows extraordinary

talent in shortening the bridge between fact and fancy, reality and romance, and above all, between practical and fictional way of sensing the various happenings.

“In the very beginning chapter of the novel entitled ‘Bare Beginning’ Chetan Bhagat candidly speaks about the real message of the novel: ‘It is not a guide on how to live through college. On the contrary, it is probably an example of how screwed up your college years, can get it you don’t think straight.’”¹⁷

It is the study of three intimate friends- Hari, the narrator of the story, Ryan, the real motivator and Alok, the burdened man- whose hopes and aspirations, failure and frustration, and their tricks and desires are presented with rare frankness and reality. This first chapter of the novel also throws lights on the ragging of the freshers by the seniors, and how they use inhumane method to terrorize the freshers just to just to show their baseless superiority and arrogance. After first semester debacle, Alok leaves the company of Ryan and Hari. He would like to share his studies with some intelligent students. Alok does not want to lose his identity among his friends. In spite of eating, drinking and merry-making, he would like to improve his grades to get the proper placement in order to help his ill father and perform sister’s marriage. In the chapter entitled ‘Alok Speaks’, the novelist unloaded the heart of Alok while throwing lights on the characters of Hari and Ryan: “Ryan, the man who lives for the moment, who does not want to be like him? Rich parents, good looks, smart enough to get into IIT, athletic enough to be good in sports and fun enough to always attract friends”¹⁸

Let us talk about their C & D plan. This theory is discovered by Ryan who has shown more interests in the plan after the return of Alok in the company. C & D plan throws lights on the demerits of the IIT system because IIT system is not just because:

It suppresses talent and individual spirit. It extracts the best years of one’s life from the country’s brightest minds. It judges you with a draconian GPA system that destroys relationships. The profs don’t care for the students. IITs have hardly contributed to the country.¹⁹

This six points agenda is although humorous in description, but Ryan is very serious and conscious while he was drafting it. These three friends keep on following the six points agenda without any discrimination. They show great respect of emotions, mutual respect, reciprocal devotion and understanding. Their motto of cooperation is to dominate and that is why C & D document is signed by Ryan with his blood:

And soon he did get some blood from his little finger and signed the C and D document like primitive tribesman. I have to say, the whole bloody thing made this feel important.²⁰

Hari – Neha relationship has not been presented in ‘ultra-romantic, manner. In spite of some dating, exchange of some gifts and greetings, there is so-called shyness in the nature of their relationship. There is gradual growing interest between them. They always unburden their hearts before each other. Hari’s innocence is able to win the heart of Neha. It is the beauty of their relationship that Neha tell the reality of her brother’s suicide to Hari. Neha shows the last letter of Samir to Hari with tearful eyes. The last letter of Samir contains the truth of his death that he was died no in accident but his death was suicide.

Chetan Bhagat has discarded the fact that the modern novels cannot be successful with sex and violence. The novel is immensely successful without and description of sex and violence. In this novel, there is only one chapter in which there is sexual relationship between Hari and Neha. But the presentation is full of coyness and shyness.

One side *One Night at the Call Center* throws lights on some of the burning issues of modern age. The problems of placement and settlement of the educated youth, formation of various kinds of human relationships and above all, the impact of materialism on human relationship are discussed here with great pain and vision. On the other side *The Five Point Someone* presents the truths of IIT campus in remarkable manner. His extraordinary combination of humour and fun makes this novel full of sensation. His criticism of ragging in the most prestigious institutes of the IITians is of full authenticity. At the same time, the story of Hari, Ryan, Alok and Neha is told with exceptional clarity and candidness. It is a fascinating book deals with the hopes and aspiration of Hari, Alok and Ryan who are typical as well as strong individuals having different aims and ambitions, and at the same time they also represent the broad community of the prestigious institutes of the nation.

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