
QUEST FOR NARRATIVE IN ROHINTON MISTRY'S *A FINE BALANCE*

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Abstract

Rohinton Mistry's novels portray personal and cultural identity. In his works, he portrays Nostalgia as a part of the thing for his homeland. He easily understands that human identity to know about his or her religion. The novel, *A Fine Balance* shows light on the Parsi community in India of which he himself belongs and is concentrating on their lifestyles, traditions, and customs. *A Fine Balance* is a richly well-knitted the lower class people with Parsi lifestyle. Dina, the Protagonist, fights for her independence and individuality but continuously, she got failures and threatening by society. She moved on to his brother's house as a servant when she has lost flat. Like Political, Nativity, and Sufferings of the lower class people were the themes in *A Fine Balance*. The author also tries to portray reality in his works. Rohinton Mistry who clearly portrays the human sufferings of which clearly gives a space of endless sufferings of the individuals.

Keywords: *novels, homeland, Protagonist, endless sufferings, .etc*

Introduction

Rohinton Mistry was born on 3 July 1952 in Mumbai. He completed his BA in Mathematics and Economics from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai. In 1975, he immigrated to Canada and earned a degree in English and Philosophy from the University of Toronto in 1984. Mistry worked as an accountant in a bank for a brief while before pursuing a full-time career as a writer. He is a member of the Parsi community and almost all of his fictional works focus on the lives of people from this community. He left Mumbai at the young age of 23. most of his works are based in the metropolis, which is recreated partly from memory and partly from imagination. He is a preoccupation with the predicament of the Parsi Community. Mistry has often been recognized as a pioneer of the Parsi English novel.

Later three years, Canada published his collection of eleven short stories, *Tales From Firozsha Baag*. It was published, later, in the US as *Swimming Lessons And Other Stories From Firozsha Baag*.

The novel *Such A Long Journey* is a Second book and Published in 1991. It won the Governor General's Award, the Commonwealth Writers Prize for Best Book, and it was adapted for the 1998 film *Such A Long Journey*

His second novel and third book *A Fine Balance* (1995) Won the annual Giller Prize in 1995. *Family Matters* is a consideration of the difficulties that come with aging, which returned to in 2008 with the short fiction *The Scream*. This was followed by the publication of *A Fine Balance* in 1995. As opposed to his earlier works, this novel broadens its horizons by including members of different communities as characters. Mistry acknowledges the same in an interview when he says that I made a conscious decision in this book to include more than the Parsi community, mainly because in India seventy five percent of Indians live in villages and I wanted to embrace the social reality of India.

The novel traces the lives of three sets of characters, Dina Dalal and her family, Ishvar and Omprakash who are tailors by profession, and Maneck Kohlah, a student in Bombay who later His books portray diverse facets of Indian Socio-Economic Life as well as Parsi Zoroastrian Life, Customs, and Religion. Many of his writings are markedly “Indo-Nostalgic”.

Discussion

Religious Identity;

The Parsis and the other minorities underwent inhuman attacks on their identity and physical self leaving them numb and paralyzed.

Power politics and economic domination, leaving the victims of oppression and neglect.

To the subaltern,
“*Living each day is to face
one emergency or another*”.
(Mistry, 571)

Despite the new laws regarding untouchability, exploitation of the lower castes by the Upper castes continues.

After the death of her husband Rustom Dalal, Dina Dalal tried to live a decent and independent life through her tailoring business. Because of Ishvar and Om’s disability, Dina is forced to close her sewing business.

State Of Emergency

In the very beginning, Ishvar asks,

“*Dinabai, what is this Emergency we hear about? ”*
“*It doesn’t affect ordinary people like us. ”* (Mistry, 75)

Thakur’s men beat Narayan and his friends to death and in due course, the entire family was burnt alive.

“*Filthy achool castes*”
(Mistry, 172)

It seemed quite ironical because instead of advancement and prosperity all the characters experienced destruction and identity crisis.

Conclusion

It is also the site of the repetition of caste-based brutality. The lower castes are beaten too, tortured and killed for trivial reasons. The minorities in India do not look for scaling the skies or economic up gradation but for equality, justice, satisfactory basic needs, and coexistence.

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