



Articulating Marginalized Identities: A Study of Select Works of Hindi and English litterateurs

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Abstract:

Literature, music and art are forms of expression through which a litterateur attempts to write about the social, religious, political and economic events that occur from time to time. Various writers have made numerous attempts to draw the attention of the government authorities to the faults and bigotry that exist in society through writing. Every country's literature plays a vital role in nation - building.

Many litterateurs have attempted to write about Uttarakhand's peculiar geographical location, simple life, verdant hills, pure rivers, women's plight, people's faith in God and their belief on witchcraft and economic inequality between rich and poor etc. Through stories, novels and poetry, these authors have depicted the realities of marginalized people's lives. Shailesh Matiyani, Vidya Sagar Nautiyal, Himanshu Joshi, Manohar Shyam Joshi, Shekhar Joshi, Shivani, Mrinal Pande, Namita Gokhale, Jaiwanti Dimri, Diwa Bhatt and others are among the numerous prominent writers in Uttarakhand who have raised the challenges of disadvantaged people in their writings. This paper titled "Articulating Marginalized Identities: A Study of Select Works of Hindi and English litterateurs" highlights the condition of marginalized people in various sections through the works of Hindi and English litterateurs, and attempts to unravel the circumstances of these marginalized people.

Keywords: Articulate, Marginalization, Geographical, Witchcraft, Panorama.

The Voiceless Women: A Study in Shivani's *Bhairavi: The Runaway*

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Abstract

The term 'subaltern' incorporates the entire people that are subordinates in terms of class, caste, gender and rank, or in any other way. When it operates in terms of class, gender and caste, it is more psychological than physical. Antonio Gramsci coined the term subaltern to identify the cultural hegemony (According to Merriam Webster the word hegemony means the social, cultural, ideological, or economic influence exerted by a dominant group).

This paper endeavors to highlight the voiceless Marginalized women in Shivani's *Bhairavi: The Runaway* (a translation from the original Hindi text, Bhairavi rendered in English by Priyanka Sarkar). Shivani aka Gaura Pant was a very prolific and voluminous writer, she has many novels, short stories and essays to her credit. The English translation of her works give an insight into the deeper psychological understanding of women. Shivani's purpose is to give voice to the marginalized women in the society and to explore the discrimination order of caste, gender and class.

Keywords: Subaltern, Hegemony, Gender, Caste, Class and Discrimination.

India is basically a patriarchal society but some of the famous Indian Women writers are Kamla Markandaya, Dalip Kaur Tiwana, Shashi Deshpande, Anita Desai, Kiran Desai, Manju Kapoor, Mrinal Pande, Jaiwanti Dimri, Shivani and many more who have portrayed the

Premchand's *Godan*: Plight of A Marginalized Peasant

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Abstract:

Premchand's *Godan* (The Gift of a Cow) is considered his masterpiece of peasant India. This novel is the backbone of Indian society in which peasants were suffering but still never stopped being hopeful and optimistic. It is the epic of rural atmosphere and considered equivalent to rural 'Gita'. The novel highlights the miserable life of poor peasants in pre-colonial period and it is the story of unending suffering and exploitation of farmers by moneylenders and it is a live depiction of landowners as to how they pushed poor peasants to live in margins of society. The main characters of *Godan* are suffering from illness, starvation, misery, illiteracy, exploitation and death.

The leading character Hori around whom the whole story revolves is a poor subaltern who experiences the sufferings and hardships of life. The main theme of this novel is exploitation of peasants by upper class people or by money lenders. They took advantage of illiteracy of poor people, moneylenders considered themselves to be owner of the peasants once a loan is given. It was mainly because of the interest rates which were unimaginably high and unfair. Therefore, they never got rid of the debt. The poor Hori's unfulfilled desire to keep a cow at home, the importance of a cow and why it is considered necessary in Hindu religion to gift of a cow at the time of death are some of the most important parts of this novel. This paper specially highlights the plight of peasants.

Keywords: Exploitation, Illiteracy and Starvation.

Godan was first published in 1936 in Hindi and it was first translated in English by Jai Ratan and P. Lal in 1957. Due to its popularity the director Trilok Jetley made a movie "Godan" in 1963 starring Rajkumar, Mehmood and Shashikala. In 2004, *Godan* was also part of 26-episode TV series named *Tehreer*. It shows the caste discrimination, class distinction, miserable life of farmers, lack of unity between peasants and condition of women in society. Hori is the

Premchand's *Godan*: The Story of An Unseen Struggle of Women

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Abstract

Godan novel is a bridge between urban life and rural life. It's a kind of framed or embedded narrative where there is story within a story. Hori, a poor peasant is the central character of this novel. Hori is an honest and noble man who is forced to live in a unwarranted situation due to the social structure during the British colonial era. His high moral values were the reason of his penury. One part of this novel deals with the life of poor peasants and the other deal with the lives of urban people like Miss Malti, Mr Mehta, Rai Sahab, Mr Khanna, Govindi, etc.

Some important women characters like Dhania, Jhunia, Rupa, Selia, Govindi face different kinds of marginalization by their loved ones. Women is always treated as subordinate in society and is expected to play the role of puppet in the hands of men as described in the novel. Caste segregation is one of the most important and notable things shown in this novel.

Even in this digitally driven, technically advanced and profusely candid era of 21st century, any female needs to strive harder than her male counterparts for even similar dividends and resources. The reality and root cause both for the same, reside deep inside the elementary cells of our male dominant upbringing and patriarchal settings of the society. This paper attempts to highlight the pathetic condition of women in colonial period and the Hippocratic settings of the society and un-declining statistics of 'Female Foeticide', piled up legal cases of 'Domestic Violence', frightening number of 'Dowry/ Marital Frauds' or cases of ill-treating the woman to deliver 'Female Child' bring forward an utterly ugly stock of the 'Discrimination subjected to the women in Society'.