

The Style and Narrative Techniques of Kushwant Singh's Writings: A Novelist and Writer: A Study of his Major Novels.

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Abstract:

This study examines Kushwant Singh as a novelist and writer with reference to his analysis of major novels and emphasis is laid on to explore the important subjects of partition, Quit India Movement, cultural, social and political life of Sikh's community and their familial relationship of love and sex have been presented with immense talent and skill in detail. This is evident in the style of his writings. Kushwant Singh has adopted the techniques of archetypes, myths and stream of consciousness in portraying characters in an impressive and unique style and narrative techniques.

Objectives:

To motivate and create interest among the students in the learning process to improve language skill related to their subjective study. This study analyses the important subjects in the major novels of Kushwant Singh in detail.

Methods:

This analysis of Kushwant Singh as a novelist and writer reveals the uniqueness and style of his writing and the method of examination is clearly illustrated by him in all his major novels.

Findings:

All Indo – Anglian writers have examined variety of subjects related to their works, Kushwant Singh has examined the subjects of love and sex, sexual relationship of the hero in the company of women in USA and in India have been portrayed immensely by the author in detail. The events and incidents are narrated by him in simple and elusive style.

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I. Introduction:

Kushwant Singh's major novels often gives us information to the readers and examined the relevant subjects of partition, Quit India Movement and its impact on society, social, political and cultural life of Sikh's community at Delhi, love and sex, sexual relationship of the hero, Mohan Kumar, with his wife Sonu, the company of women in New York and in India are clearly illustrated by him. This introduction gives us Kushwant Singh as a major novelist and writer of 20th Century. This is well-established by his wonderful presentation of his ideas in the form of various significant subjects in all his major novels.

Kushwant Singh: A Man a Writer

Kushwant Singh a novelist and writer was an Indian author, lawyer, diplomat, journalist editor and a politician. As a writer, he was best known for his analysis of secularism, sarcasm and an abiding love of writing poetry in English. His comparison of the East and the West is adorned with wit and humour remarkable. He served as a Member of Parliament in Rajya Sabha, the Upper House of the Parliament of India. He was awarded Padma Bhushan in 1974 and Padma Vibhushan in 2007. As a man and writer Kushwant Singh has examined the important subjects of the style and narrative techniques in his major novels related to **Train to Pakistan, I shall Not Hear the Nightingale, Delhi and The Company of Woman in detail.**

Train to Pakistan (1956)

The national movement known as partition is an important event occurred in Indian history. The events are clearly examined by Kushwant Singh in **Train to Pakistan** which it differs from other works in presenting ideas in detail. The progress and development of the work has followed time, place and action in which there is a blend of human compassion and love in it. Peace and communal harmony is disturbed by other forces to join hands with the government are being examined by Kushwant Singh in full and complete details.

The work, **Train to Pakistan** evaluates the subjects of partition. Millions of people were on fight. One million people lost their lives. Kushwant Singh observes this situation: "...when the creation of new State of Pakistan was announced, ten million people – Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs were in flight... The only remaining...village was Manomajra" (TP, pp.1-2)

The train is an important symbol personified in the work, **Train to Pakistan** which stands for the daily and routine life of Manomajra before independence and the arrival and departure of train is portrayed remarkably by Kushwant Singh in detail. The author observes: "As the mid day express goes by Manomajra stops to rest... When the evening passenger from Lahore comes in every one gets to work again."2 (TP, pp.4-6). The partition has given two political states namely India and Pakistan respectively. It gave rise to the withdrawal of people from both states at once. Kushwant Singh and Manohar Malgonhar were successfully experimented in presenting historical ideas in their own techniques and style. O.P Mathur remarks: "Singh's deep love...makes him to work for twenty years...to writes a novel of its past"3 (O.P Mathur)

I Shall Not Here the Nightingale (1942)

The work, **I shall Not Here the Nightingale** attempts to portray the subject of freedom struggle from 1942 – 1943. It does not examine any political thought or idea during the period and gives us some information and details about people's desire for freedom. Some young men are preparing to free the nation from British rule.

The work **I Shall Not Here the Nightingale** portrays a significant subject and illustrates "Ghandhiji's Sathyagraha" movement based on 'non-violence'. Emphasis is laid on to establish unity of social, political, moral, spiritual forces which have been presented with skill and knowledge by Kushwant Singh in detail.

The work **I shall Not Here the Nightingale**, is a historical document which deals with the major subjects and concerns of prayer, help in form of giving charity to the poor people, spirit of worship in Guru Granth Sahib, victory over tyranny, dishonest trick, double-talk, double-dealing violence and crookedness are clearly examined by Kushwant Singh in a remarkable way.

Sabhari tells, Sher Singh that she would not hear the song of the nightingale and that she is about die and she would not hear the dawn of independence and it is a happy moment for the people of the country to enjoy freedom. This is the significance and meaning illustrated by Kushwant Singh in **I shall Not Here the Nightingale**.

Faith in Sikhism is the major subject of **I shall Not Here the Nightingale** in which Sabhari is portrayed as a pious, religious woman and submits, herself to God, Guru Granth Sahib. She has dedicated her life for the family and release of her son from jail. Facing the charge of murder. She has proved to be a true mother in the work, till the end. This work reveals the theme of motherhood, love and affection, and humanism in a unique way.

The major subjects and concerns of love and sex in **I shall Not Here the Nightingale** by Kushwant Singh examines the relationship between Sher Singh and his wife, and presents her sexual urge in the following words of the writer, "She lay-like a nude model posing for an artist: one hand between thighs covering her nakedness and other stretched away to expose her bust."4 (ISNHN, p.18)

Delhi (1990)

Delhi, Kushwant Singh's third work examines the subject of history and its past, evaluates through a tourists guide almost connected with known and unknown places, Muslim period ruins, mosques, domes and Muslim related India which have been presented by him keeping in view with the foreign readers to know more details about India.

The main subject of the work **Delhi**, analyses not only the past history of India but also illustrates immense and vast travel experience, meeting with people of others countries, variety of food items behaviors that have been found to be useful to know more about India, his knowledge of English literary bend of mind creates interest and taste among readers, this is evident in the presentation and style of his writings.

The subjective analysis of the work, **Delhi**, has dealt with Delhi and Bhagamati in his own narrative techniques and style. The author says: "I have two passions in my life... Delhi and Bhagamati...have two things in common... lots of fun... are sterile."5 (Delhi, p.30)

The Company of Woman: (1999)

The work, **The Company of Woman**, deals with the life of the here, Mohan Kumar, his relationship with women in New York and in India, relationship of his wife, Sonu and also relationship of Sarojini Bhardwaj, Molly Gomes, Mary Joseph and Susanthika are interesting and impressive to read which is fascinating, interesting and charming to the readers.

Mohan Kumar examines his life in the States and life in India and observes: "In America I had got all the sex I wanted, without long-term commitments. In India it was not so easy, I did not relish the idea of visiting

prostitutes or looking for call girls, Even I succeeded in persuading a working woman to share my bed, there was no place I could take her to: Indians do not believe in privacy..."6 (CW, p.139)

Mohan Kumar is addicted to regular sex with women in USA and in India. He has devoted all the time with women and enjoyed sex. His sexual experience with his wife is entirely different from what he had enjoyed in New York. They have children and their love is mechanical and trivial, their mutual relationship and misunderstanding of each other leads to divorce.

Mohan Kumar enjoys fun and keeps company with women at Haridwar. He enjoys the physical beauty of women when they were naked taking bath, thinks of bra, the breast and between the legs and of his relationship with Susanthika, and loses, the reasoning power and decency. Mohan Kumar, the hero of the work **The Company of Woman**, says: "I am not a sex maniac to go after every pussy."7 (CW, p.82).

The work, **The Company Woman**, is divided into three section, the first and the last is the reminiscences and observation of his life. The second section of work, **The Company of Woman** deals with Mohan Kumar's health condition which deteriorates and becomes impotent. He develops AIDS and meets death. The end of Mohan Kumar's life is narrated in the last section. Mohan Kumar himself says: "But now I am unwell and suddenly alone, I seek solace in memory, in thoughts of all the women I have known."8 (CW, p.85)

The company of Woman is considered a masterpiece of Kushwant Singh which explains the causes and the effects of the fatal disease called AIDS. It gives warning to all in vivid and distinct style. It also examines the character of the hero's activities, actions and deeds which leads to death at the end of his life.

II. Conclusion

The study of Kushwant Singh's major novels helps the students to learn more about Indian culture and tradition. This self-study helps the students to know more about Indian literature in the form of fiction. Moreover, the students develop not only their originality of language skills which is enduring and endearing in their academic career to style his style and narrative techniques in all his major novels in detail.

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