



RESEARCH ARTICLE

SOCIAL ISSUES IN *HULLABALLOO IN GUAVA ORCHARD*

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ABSTRACT

Kiran Desai is the prominent representative writer of postmodern period and her novels focused on social issues like unemployment, gender discrimination, identity crisis, environmental degradation, man nature conflict, societal pressure, middle class life and spiritual rebirth. Kiran Desai explored Indian and foreign culture which correlate from different perspective for instance social discrimination, social justice, cultural differences, societal norms, religious and spiritual events etc. *Hullaballoo in Guava Orchard* is the story of middle class boy Sampath Chawla who is an employee of post office and earning livelihood but his inner voice is different which instigate him to run away from social responsibilities and boredom middle class life of Shahkot. Kiran Desai analyse the framework of social cultural issues and local Indian life of middle class people which explores their inner and outer characteristics along with their social, political and spiritual life.

INTRODUCTION

Kiran Desai is the prominent postmodern writer and employed various themes in her novels for instance local Indian culture and rural india provide background to her novels and she received many national and international awards for her writing work including Man Booker prize and Bafta award, in her works she focused on unemployment problem, feminism, identity crisis of characters, social discrimination, religious and spiritual formation of characters. Social hierarchy and class division is crucial aspect of this novel Kiran Desai portrayed class division as the vital theme of this novel particular in rural areas, protagonist of this novel struggled to maintain his social status and difference between rural and urban life, Guava Orchard present simple village life on the other hand urban life is more aspirational and demanding high social status. Class difference highlights how poor people struggled to earn their livelihood and same way protagonist Sampath Chawla and his family suffered due to class division and Marxism, the role of education and occupation can affect one's social status, with characters like protagonist Sampath Chawla suffered hard to make ends meet and earning bread for his family. The novel hints the presence of caste-based needs and social hierarchy in rural India with certain characters holding more power and influence due to their social position. Sampath's journey can be interpreted as quest for identity and belonging in rapidly changing world, his desire for escapism from mundane life

and creates new world for him and his identity as monkey baba reflects middle class culture where Indian middle class people struggled to find their place in this new world of transformation, family dynamics and societal expectations portrays the complex relationships with in individual family, the family's initial rejection of Sampath's idiosyncratic behaviour and their endmost support for his runoff signify the shifting dynamics with in the family unit. Sampath's run away to the Guava Orchard can be seen as an act of escapism or bolt for freedom from the pressures and responsibilities of his ordinary simple middle-class life, the novel's purpose is to highlights social phenomenon and expectations, the inconsistencies and contradiction seen in this novel where initial societal rejections for his behaviour but later they consider him as a holy man and he was known as monkey baba. Man nature conflict is the other social phenomenon seen in this novel as the relationship between human and nature highlighting conflicts between human and nature where human encroach upon the natural world, Sampath's escape to the guava tree to find some harmony with nature but intrusion of man into the nature also portrays in this novel which affect peace and tranquillity animals life and conflict with nature. Social realism and catapult is an important issue of this novel where monkeys and Sampath has strong connection but man nature conflict seen in this work because alcoholic monkeys disrupt everything and whole community along with dist. Collector tried to remove them from guava tree, these monkeys satire on society and Samapth's godly existence, spiritual form confused people with his identity, the character

in the novel represents postmodern terror like identity confusion and seeking for one's identity which is foremost issue in this novel. The protagonist of this novel married under societal pressure, he used to read all letters from people when he worked in post office and this leads to him know secrets of people, Sampath and his family is not very rich where sampath had to sleep under snoring to his family and has not separate room, he felt unsatisfied and dull, he felt so distressed and heavy, he wants cool atmosphere and fresh air but hot Indian temperature made him restless and heavy, he is day dreamer with no common sense, he could not adjust with real circumstances and his daydreaming felt him calm and soothe, Sampath is under non-traditional behaviour which leads him to eccentric behaviour in his boss's daughter wedding and his escape from his job and his family family highlights his inner conflict and identity crisis. The importance of caste system over emphasised and in this novel Kiran Desai portray caste difference is an vital theme of this novel and some important scenes of this novel portray casteism indirectly when Sampath Chawla got to know about Pinky and Hungry Hope he disapproved this relationship because as per his opinion ice cream family inferior to his family, our family name will be destroyed if this relationship go ahead. Though caste system influence characters life and their expectations, although this novel not directly address caste system but highlights some issues related to the caste system and social hierarchy. The novel focused on undefined gender discrimination is portrayed though the experiences of female characters particularly Pinky, she is expected to conform to traditional feminine roles and behaviours with her father emphasizing modesty and obedience, limited opportunities to women in rural India, Pinky is expected to tie to marriage and domestic life, Pinky governed by social norms reflecting patriarchal norms and man leading society. This novel highlights the contrast between the experiences of male and female characters, Sampath is able to escape from mundane middle class life by escaping to the guava orchard but pinky's options are more limited. Pinky and her mother both are portrayed different female identities but focused of different generations. Overall this novel provides nuanced portrayal of gender discrimination and the experiences of women in rural India highlights challenges they face in asserting their individuality and making choices about their lives, complexities of patriarchal societies and the challenges faced by women in asserting their identities and autonomy. In this novel woman characters represent typical Indian rural lives and differences between rural an urban India shown in this novel where simple rural life leads urban life and India represent both lives in its own terms where Indian life compare to the foreign lives as well but Indian lives leads more people and characters of this novel shows how Indian women represent their culture and norms but struggling for their true identities too.

This novel portrays rural and urban life from different perspectives and contrast between rural and urban life represent here, although rural life is simple, more traditional where Sampath find solace and mental peace but along with this rural life provides limited opportunities to people to fulfil their needs like Sampath's father struggled to meet his ends. Rural life represents real India where substantial community is important and people know each other where social norms are stricter to urban life. Urban life represents modernity and aspirations via characters like sampath's family striving for social status and material comfort and increased opportunities

is special feature of modern life where employment, social mobility and materialism are important part. Urban life provides individualism and way to escape from traditions and social norms, the novel highlights the contrast between the peaceful natural setting of the guava orchard and the bustling modern life in Shahkot an monkeys represent urban life and chaos of modern life, they represent Sampath's own desire to escape from societal expectations, monkeys are symbol of nature and harmony but parallel contrast with traditional life of Shahkot, the presence of monkeys on guava orchard symbol of disruption and change as they upset the order and routine of the villages lives which mirrors the disruption caused by Sampath's decision to leave his mundane life and find solace in guava orchard. Social realism and catapult is an important issue of this novel where monkeys and Sampath has strong connection. Human alienation from society through Sampath's character provided when Sampath became monkey baba or tree baba, theme of escapism is important feature of this novel and became vital social issue and it is significant theme of inheritance of loss by Kiran Desai too in which characters from different background struggling with alienation, loneliness and identity crisis.

This novel explores pain of isolation and longing for belongingness particularly in the context of immigration and cultural displacement. Human alienation is the nuanced concept in novels of Kiran Desai's novels and protagonist of this novel shown his interest in simple rural life where nobody can disturb him and his escape from chaos of his daily life shown his identity crisis as well as his desire of escape from societal expectations which is also a satire of society where everyone needs to live as per terms of society and various societal issues create chaos in one's life which became cause of escapism and alienation, man nature conflict also is an example of class division and Marxism where materialism and wealth decide one's place in society, earning livelihood is not enough but we need to gain wealth because wealth decide your place in society. Eco criticism is an important theme of this novel where Kiran Desai confronts how eco-criticism influenced our society and nature, although human tried to reduce this environmental crisis but this novel shows how man's greedy nature affected our society from social perspective and its long term effects on our politics, ecology, economics as well as international relations. Global environmental crisis and globalisation is an important cause of human degradation which leads to our whole societal degradation, this novel starts with the news of global warming which leads to inform readers about global disasters and changed atmosphere in world, one serious change increased temperature of everywhere and summer heat overlapped whole Shahkot with yellow haze. This study tries to analyse orchard and forest value in order to human ungrateful attitude and human colonies invade forest with ravaging attitude, balance of ecology has been collapsed and harmony between human and nature destroyed. when man intrude in nature animals adapts changes but when animals intrude human colonies, they raise their weapon to catch them and kill birds and animals. The dark side of human nature is reveal in this novel where human is not behave like human but worse than animal, human mistreat animals when animals intrude their personal interface, in an instance when monkeys intrude guava tree people called police and DSP enters in scene to relocate monkeys here humans worst behaviour towards monkeys and other animals shows dark side of human, Sampath Chawla made human connections with monkeys and alcoholic

monkeys symbol of showing eccentric behaviour of our society and every character of novel behaved unconventional an instance a girl or bride to be came to the guava tree to marry sampath and girl's father encouraged her to climb on tree to marry tree baba she do as directed which shows how society pressurise woman to marry initially people wants to get back Sampath into normal day to day life but when they fail they accepted the change this instance highlights change is important part of our society and changing society or any initiative taken by individual or group is not accepted easily but determination is important and when individual is determined change can be possible .

No doubt, *Hullabaloo in Guava Orchard* serves as barometers of human responses to social forces and paints a picture of wrongs of Indian society in graphic detail. This novel portray various social issues through a beautiful story and every character of this novel justified by kiran Desai, she shows her writing skills in this novel which made her prominent Indian writer of English literature and she achieved various prizes too for her writing works.

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