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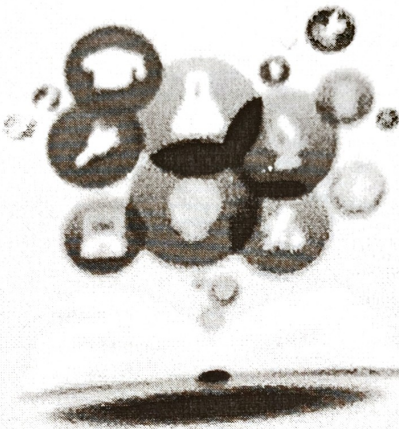
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Omniscient Writer's Eye : Rushdiean Fictions

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Indian English novel is able to establish its own name and fame by passing through difficult and wonderful ways. Indian English writer have around considerable interest both in India English writers have aroused considerable interest both in India and abroad. It is a sign of Indian English novel to dominate the world stage.

It was not possible without the Herculean tasks of many Indian writers like Toru Datta, Derozia, Sri Arbindo, RabindraNath Tagore, A.K. Ramanujan in the field of poetry and Mulk Raj Anand, R.K. Narayan, Anita Desai, Amitav Ghosh, JhumpaLahiri, ChetanBhagat, Salman Rushdie etc.

We find a very creative achievement of Indian English Literature. Salman Rushdie is very different kind of writer among the above Indian writers. His place in this galaxy of writer is unique as his style of writing. Salman Rushdie occupies a unique place and respect in the vast realm of world literature. His critics, viewers and readers have offered him the position of omniscient writer who has the outstanding ability to focus on the humanity. Rushdie has contributed the vast world of literature through his novels - *Grimus*, *Midnight's Children*, *Shame*, *The Satanic verses*, *Haroun* and *The Sea of stories*, *The Moor's Last Sigh*, *The Ground Beneath Her Feet*, *Fury*, *Shalimar, the Clown* and *The Enchantress of Florence*.

All his novels are very peculiar in dealing with the conflict between history and present, political and social, time and timelessness, myth and reality, realty and romance in a very wider perspective. Above all, the aspects, his novels project itself Rushdie as the omniscient writer who always stands at the side of humanity.

The specialty of Salman Rashdie is that he writes without any burden on this intellectual and Human sense. This is the basic reason that makes him controversial too. His fictional world may appear the others to be full of contradictions but his Omniscient writer's eye which could not be censored and suppressed by any government of the world. It is his writer's world to strengthen humanity in the world.

The controversy about his outspoken writings about the harsh reality of life makes him different from others. For humanity in the world he is always in search of imaginary homelands. After reading Rushdie, everybody can conclude that his Omniscient writer's eye creates his imaginary homelands. It is always misunderstood by the prejudice and biased eyes of the politicians, and the false people of religion. However, Rushdie wants to free all the world from false chains of religion, geographical boundaries, caste, creed, and race.

For Salman Rushdie, literature is report coming directly from the confrontation between head and heart:

Literature is an interim report consciousness of the artist and so it can never be finished or perfect. Literature is made at the frontier between the self and the world and in the act of creation that frontier

softens, becomes permeable allows the world to flow into the artist to flow into the world (*Imaginary Homelands* 427).

When we study the fictional world of Rushdie we find his unbiased and human approach. His childhood and adolescence play major role in shaping his mind because in his writings we find the great Indian cultural filling and the great cultural civic sense, Rushdie does not forget the great Indian culture inspite of his stay in the west.

The tolerance of Indian culture and democratic and liberal attitude of the Western nations make Rushdie to write through Omniscient point of view. He has stated himself about his influence:

My writings and thoughts have..... deeply influenced by Hindu myths and attitudes as Muslim ones. (*Imaginary Homelands* 404)

When we study his different types of novels, we will find his handling of the very easy and controversial subjects as well. His novels *Midnight's Children* mocks at the partition of Indian and Pakistan. It is a painful story which intermingles the events of Hindu - Muslim riot, India - Pakistan war and the emergency of 1975. This novel raises the basic question of the identity of persons who belong or 'everywhere' or 'nowhere'.

It is the Omniscient writer's eye that compels Rushdie to visualize all the events - partition, riots, emergency etc. Salman Rushdie in the delineation of political events maintains an objective outlook which provides him an opportunity to involve himself less in narrative which sometimes becomes bitter. He comments on the event of partition, emergency of 1975. These events make him restless to point as the anti humanist.

His next novel is based on the post partition Pakistani life. As a nation, Pakistan is a failed state. The two nation policy of Jinnah becomes useless when there is emergency of Bangladesh. It is partition of culture Indian culture of humanity. *Shame*, his next novel, is further development of multidimensional themes of *Midnight's Children*.

Shame devotes a great deal of the political ambition of Raja Hyder. With the declaration of marshal - law and the arrest of Jichik, Hyder Raja takes over as the administrator of religion. He is supported by Maullana Daud, the divine who gives him all the council he needs. While the situation in the fictional countries is in the disturbing state, the narrator of the novel shifts back to the state of a fair prevalent in Pakistan in mock heroic manner. The narrator's visit to Pakistan provides him to see the alarming political condition which is in the state of chaos and anarchy:

Fire to motor cars, school buses, Army trucks and the libraries of the British Council and United State information service to express their displeasure. Field marshal A. ordered troops into the streets to restore peace (*Shame* 167).

The novel, *Shame* presents the political scenario of Pakistan and her rulers becoming autocratic and dictatorial. The political developments instead of liberating and widening the outlook of the masses had turned them more and more by threats vigorously towards the religion. For instance, in a new army political hero begged by religious fanatics. Salman Rushdie in this novel brings out the fact that politics of Pakistan is based on aggression towards India. For instance, the defeat in 1971 war had been a crushing blow to the Pakistani ego because Pakistan's autocracy had been predominantly military. It is Rushdie's writer's eye which portrays the condition of Pakistan

and impact of Islam on the administration of Pakistan. Rushdie looks at this situation as the observer of unbiased sight.

The most controversial novel of Rushdie is *The Satanic Verses* (1988) which reflects Salman Rushdie's political awareness and consciousness. This novel shows his socio-political leanings and longings towards political drama of human world. He highlights the political propaganda of the religion. He links religion and life, culture and politics into one hole. He shows the world is a power of word political. The novel deals with the problem of faith in a particular religion. He has painted the world how people become fanatic and victims of immorality in attitude towards particular religion. Rushdie belongs to Islam, but he did not hesitate to find out the short comings in Islam. It was the politics that banned his novel inspite of finding out the real meaning from the novel. Rushdie is considered as the culprit of religion without fully understanding his Omniscient writer's eye. In fact Rushdie is merely the freedom fighter of humanity and not member of any particular group. Farwa had been issued to kill him for the sake of Islam. But Rushdie raises the basic and human question: Can Islam allow anyone to kill any one for the sake of religion? His *Satanic Verses* answers it silently and ironically.

In fact *The Satanic Verses* is not only full of assault on Islam but also but against Hindu fanaticism. He criticises the fanatic party Shiv Sena which creates the communal troubles in Bombay, the city which he likes very much. Rushdie is against all the communal forces which are able to create a sense of troublesomeness, violence, horror and terror, for him the communal violence is the result of Hindu and narrow minded mentality of selfish political leaders who only fights for vote bank politics.

The Satanic Verses is considered as the controversial book. This controversy is raised because of the revealing a truth. Rushdie does not hesitate to present the real life of Islamization. He is against the politics of Islamization because it creates horror, terror and violence in the minds of innocent people who see religion as the preserver and not as the suppressor. There is the politics of religion which stops critics and viewers to throw lights on the different aspects of the novel.

To conclude, Rushdie highlights the problem of humanity in his novels. He becomes advocate to the struggle of man for peaceful life. He shows supreme compassion, overwhelming passion, great insight in handling of various thematic patterns in his novels. His sense of human struggle and conflict is multidimensional in nature. He is neither political nor social in his approach towards reality of human existence.

His writing with Omniscient point of view makes controversial but more realistic in presentation. This makes him very special in the world of literature. For his Omniscient writing, he is ready to face many problems as he is the true angle of humanity, the ultimate aim of every artist.

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