Partition Echo: Glimpses Through Partition Novels Juxtaposed Kashmir 1990’s Reign of Terrorism

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Abstract

The present paper depicts India’s freedom received not happily but at the stake of life of million of people whose effect now and then, seen in communal hatred and violence, till 1990 Terrorism in Kashmir on behalf of Pakistan displaced and uprooted thousands of Kashmiri pundits from their home land juxtaposed the same era of separation of India. Novels like Train to Pakistan, Bapsi Sidhwa ‘Ice Candy Man’ and Bhism Sahani ‘Tamas’. comes in the category of Partition Novels. Stories of Shadat Hassan Manto delineate gruesome and heinous act of violence, Molestation of women, brutal murder.

Keyword: Tryst with Destiny, Juxtaposition, communalism, Tehzeeb

The Speech ‘Tryst with Destiny’ on 14th August 1947, delivered by Pandit Nehru at the midnight hour “At the stroke of midnight hour when the world sleep, India will awake to life and freedom. A moment comes, but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age end and when the soul of a nation long suppressed, finds utterance”. The Dawn arisen but not with rosy hue but smeared with blood shed. The Moment eagerly waiting for turned into disaster. Ganga-Jammini Tehzeb of two diverse culture smothered under the feet of hatred; India saw ruthless brutality. Jinnah, leader of Muslim–League demanded separate nation for Muslims which eclipse the festivity of independence into nightmare.

Juxtaposition of Partition and Kashmir Terrorism for another Partition Angst of leaving own home, eyes drenched with water, leaving behind relations, families and friends, perpetrated Genocide, Mass murder, women raped, young men killed the similar atrocities revived during Terrorism prevailed in Kashmir. The seed of hatred sown during partition reincarnated in 90’s. Front page Newspapers inked with routinely horrendous stories of barbarity.

Writers like Krishna chandar, Rajender Singh Bedi, Sahadat Hassan Manto, Chaman Nihal, Ismat Chughtai, Amrita Pritam and in English Salman Rhusde, Khushwant singh, K.A abbas and Bapsi Sidhwa are renowned Partition Novelists. Same incidents and violence vividly portrayed in their novels against the backdrop of Independence, one can easily judge, how hatred goes in what extent on communal, religious ground. Sahadat Hasson Manto ‘Short stories ‘Toba Tek singh’ ‘Akhi Salute’ ‘Titwal ka kutta ‘Khol Do’ ‘Thanda Gost” portray ghastly deed and death of humanity and gruesome act of massacre juxtaposed and enlivened during 1990 when Kashmir valleys engulf under the rage of
separate Kashmir, Terrorism spread on the demand of Kashmir. Now Kashmiri Muslims beguiled in the name separate state for themselves Kashmir’s youths under the influenced terrorist organization’s funded by Pakistan, mislaid young blood to pave them on the path of killing innocence people of Kashmir and forced them to leave their home in wee hours.

In 2019 when Kashmir freed from Article 370 and become an integral part of India, now forwarding toward peace and peaceful co-existence.

In ‘Train to Pakistan’ the story is woven in the backdrop of partition. It was the summer unusual as other past summers in “Mano Majra” Juggat Singh a village goon fall in love with poor Julah’s girl (Muslim) Nooran, left his seed in her womb, Juggat Singh sacrificed his life to unturned the plan of Dacoits who wants to derailed the passengers train going to Pakistan filled with refugees from India but Jugget smell thr rat decided to stake his life for the sake of humanity to save thousands of lives. This incidents shows victory of love and humanity over communal hatred. Before partition all communities lead a peaceful life of co-existence there were communal harmony among people of all religions Each community participated in each other with full fervor and enthusiasm which is depicted in the social structure presented in the beginning of ‘Train to Pakistan’ where ‘Mano Majra’ inhabited with with Muslims and Sikh communities in majority ,only one Hindu house existed in the Village. Mosque existed amidst the village locality. Where Granthi of Gurudwara awaited for the Azan before his chanting of Guruwani. The venomous demand for separation of country instill in the atmosphere torn the very fabric of harmony into threadbare. Similarly other Partition novelist like Atia Hussain, and Chaman Nihal portrayed happy and peaceful co-existence’

Bapsi Sidhwa a Parsi Pakistani woman Novelist in ‘Ice-Candy man’ allegorically describe Partition of India .Shanta (Ayah) depicted as India, here a character of Lenny, an eight year old girl, is the narrator of the Incident, according to Sidhwa Pakistan creation was due to Gandhi gave more emphasis on religion which drifted both religious community of Hindu and muslims, Sidhwa portrayed partition was an unnecessary event ever taken place which turn into ruthless brutal act It is charged on Sidhwa that ‘Ice Candy Man’ “is instilled with prejudice that the incident displayed with Pakistani Perspective”,Niaz Zaman repeatedly mentions the so called Pakistani perspective in his book (p 237) Crane in his essay (1996 PP 41-63) too has said that Sidhwa is a Pakistani writer writes against India’s version of Partition in point of view of Pakistani inhabitant, but it could be Sidhwa own perspective on Pakistan. Shanta as a symbol of India while Ice Candy man is a muslim protagonist who disgrace, ruin and humiliate Shanta and ultimately thrown her into brothel. The horrible deed performed by her Muslim lover is more personal and isolated act of violence. Final act is depicted in the end reach the pinnacle of the denouement when Lenny and her half -brother Adi(muslim) indulged in fight and torn apart Lenny doll (allegorical, partition of human life on the side of subcontinent the crying angst eg: the doll reveal agony and suffering , mass massacre in the name of religion.

Kushwant Singh charged for the novel ‘Train to Pakistan’ weaver the whole story in order to glorify Sikh bravery and sacrifices all through the history to proclaim bravity of Sikh because the main protagonist is Sikh, who fall in love with Muslim girl. Imam of Mosque portrayed ‘Blind’. Some says
that he is trying to justify that violence perpetrated by Sikh only in retaliation. Sikh never attacked in first attempt in the name of Communalism.

**Conclusion**
Whatever the perspective of critics, it is asserted that the cruelty and hatred portrayed symbolically. It cannot be denied that harmony and peace got dismantled but the scar remain left which now and than scratched by fanatics which is seen in the present context in Kashmir and adjoining border.

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