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**COMPARISON OF LIFE OF A COOKING
EGG AND A MAN'S LIFE IN THE POEM
A COOKING EGG BY
THOMAS STEARNS ELIOT**

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ABSTRACT

American poet Thomas Stearns Eliot, OM, is a well known writer. He is regarded as one of the greatest poets of the 20th century. He is a key figure in English language modernist poetry. He became a renowned poet as a result of his work *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*. He was awarded the 1948 Order of Merit (OM) and the Nobel Prize in literature. When the recipient of the Order of Merit is announced, OM is always added to their name. The poem "A Cooking Egg" by TS Eliot is the topic of the paper presentation. The poem's opening section deals with the present, or actuality. The future is covered in the second section. The only thing discussed are the speaker's imagined life in paradise and the speaker's past is revealed in the poem's final stanza. The paper's conclusion discusses the speaker's comparison and the poem's style.

Keywords: past, present, future, stale egg, heaven, real life.

INTRODUCTION:

Literature is the practise of using prose, poetry, and fiction to convey the ideas, opinions, and thoughts of authors. The author's views on society, people, and nature are reflected in it. On the written form. Basic literary elements including character, narratives, settings, pictures and themes are explained in American Literature additionally, it relates tales of some of the individuals that

shaped American society. American story, current affairs, and social events have had an impact on the genre. The decline plot, disregard for nature, and the third person omniscient response to romanticism and surrealism are traits of American literature. American literature demonstrates how America has evolved over time. The five major literary periods in American literature are the Colonial and Early National period, the Romantic period, realism and naturalism, the Modernist period and the contemporary period. Mark Twain was born on November 30, 1835. In addition to being a writer, he was also a humorist, businessman, publisher and lecturer. One author who referred to Mark Twain as the "Father of American Literature" was William Faulkner. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, A Tramp Abroad, Luck, and The Stolen White Elephant* are among his best-known works. Walt Whitman, William Faulkner, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allan Poe, Emily Dickinson, Arthur Miller, Toni Morrison, Ernest Hemingway, Tennessee Williams, and F. Scott Fitzgerald are some of the other well-known authors in American literature.

Poetry is the genre picked for the paper presentation. Poetry made a name for itself in American literature during the 17th century. The colonists founded it. Life and death, the meaning or lack thereof of life, the afterlife, and American aspirations are the key themes of the poem. Walt Whitman, an American poet, essayist, and journalist, is one of the well-known poets in American literature. He is referred to as the originator of "free verse." American poet, Emily Dickinson is renowned for her audacious original writing. An American author, poet, editor and literary critic by the name of Edgar Allan Poe. He is most well-known for his poems and short stories, especially his macabre and mystery-themed works. Ralph Waldo Emerson was a lecturer, essayist, poet, and philosopher. His paintings are distinctive because of his independence and nonconformity. Thomas Stearns Eliot was born in St. Louis, Missouri, United States, Eliot was

born on September 26, 1888. Along with writing poetry, he also worked as an essayist, publisher, playwright, literary critic, and editor. His father was entrepreneur Henry Ware Eliot. In St. Louis he served as president and treasurer of the Hydraulic Press Brick Company. Charlotte Champe Stearns, his mother, raised him. She wrote poetry and works as a social worker. Eliot was the sixth child for his parents. Family and friends called him Tom. He was an American citizen from 1888 to 1927 and British Citizen from 1927 to 1965.

Eliot was cremated at Golders Green Crematorium after passing away from emphysema (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, damage to the lungs) on January 4, 1965, at his Kensington, London.

He requested that his ashes be transported to St. Michael's Church in East Coker, Somerset, the village where his grandfather immigrated. On the second anniversary of TS Eliot's passing, Westminster Abbey in London hosted a memorial service. His birth and death dates, his Order of Merit, and a line from his poem *Little Gidding* are all written on the stone. "The communication of the dead is tongued with fire beyond the language of the living," is the quotation. A blue plaque was erected at No. 3, Kensington Court Gardens in 1986. Eliot spent his life here and passed away here. His best works are *The Waste Land*, *Murder in the Cathedral*, *The Journey of Magi*.

He received numerous honours for his works, including the Nobel Prize in 1954, the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1974, the Tony Award for best play in 1950 for *The Cocktail Party*, the Tony Award for best original score in 1983 for *Cats*, and the Outer Critics Circle Award for best play in 1950 for *The Cocktail Party*.

Ezra Pound and William Butler Yeats are two prominent and significant modern authors. He was also influenced by Ezra Pound.

A Cooking Egg was a poem that was written in 1919. It appeared in the 1920 edition of the book *Poems*. Since a cooking egg is a stale egg, cooking is the only purpose for one. It neither can be, consumed uncooked nor used as a fresh egg. The poem tells the tale of a thirty-year-old middle-aged man. He must deal with the unpleasant and depressing present. When he reflects on the pleasures of his youth, he becomes calm. He believes that the past is preferable to the present. He also considers his heavenly future, where he will be having every amenity. When he returns to the actual world, he learns that it is an awful place to live. He compares himself with a cooking egg which is unacceptable and stale. The poem *The Great Testament* by François Villon served as the inspiration for the epigraph. In the thirtieth year of my life, when I drank up all my shame, as stated in the line "en l'antrentiesme de mon aage, que toutes mes hontes j'ay beucs" (*A Cooking Egg*) (1), the speaker is thirty years old and unable years to escape the shame of his real-world situation.

The poem's first section is an illustration of the present. The past and future are contrasted with the current living. The second section discusses the delights of heaven, while the third and final section examines his history and childhood recollections. The poem's speaker is a man in his 30s. He is a buddy of Pipit, a woman. In the space, he was facing her. The poet refers to her as the speaker's guide and notes that she is a spinster. Although "Pipitis" is the name of a little song bird, it is the lady's pet name in the poem. She is a traditional and traditionalist and a conservative. She was engaged in knitting. On the mantelpiece, there are pictures of Pipit's great-grand father and great grand aunts as well as the book *An Invitation to Dance*. The speaker also notices a book in the space with the title *Views of the Oxford Colleges*. Both the speaker's history and future are recalled. The speaker thinks of his future. His life in the future after death is the future. He is unhappy in his current

situation As a result, he day dream about his life in heaven. He believes that great heroes like Sir Philip Siey, Coriolanus, and others of a similar calibre would make for enjoyable enjoyable company. He begins to believe that, like them, he will receive honour in paradise. Additionally, he believes that Alfred Mond, the President of Imperial Chemical Industries would be his companion in paradise and that would enjoy great wealth.

He is in a place where he considers joining forces in business with Sir Alfred Mond. He was a significant industrialist, and the speaker also intends to invest around five percentage of Sir Mond's profits in Exchequer Bonds. The refined and aristocratic society ladies would be in ecstasy with him. He desired a marriage with Lucretia Borgia so that she could entertain him with stories. He likens them to Pipit. The word "theosophy" implies to use spiritual meditation and intuition to find God or something more.

Theosophical Society was founded by Madame Blavatsky. She is the one who used her writing to popularise the movement. *Seven Sacred Trances*, a book by her, is her creation. He believed that she would provide him with spiritual direction in heaven, His spiritual mentor was Pipit, but he now wants to take her place. He desires Madame Blavatsky to serve as his shaman. The Divine Comedy by Dante makes reference to a guy by the name of Piccarda de Donati. He wants to receive advice from him because he has a lot of spiritual understanding. The final stage, which is reality, has finally arrived.

The speaker claims that everything, including honour and spiritual direction, comes from above. However it is unable to provide the satisfaction of sneakily enjoying candy with Pipit concealed behind a curtain. Only in the past, during his boyhood, and not in the present or the future, was it feasible. He discovers the scavengers with red eyes who were sneaking out of Golders Green and Kentish Town The hopes and aspirations

of the past are extinct, just like the troops who were buried in the Alps Mountains' snow The phrase "Where are the eagles and the trumpets?" appears between the seventh and eighth. Stanzas (Cooking an Egg) (2). The lines imply that that the world has lost all of its honour and glory. The speaker views himself as stale and insufficient, similar to a cooked egg. Eliot's writing has a sad tone entirely as a result of the influence of the time he lived in. In his previous works, he makes use of both mythic techniques and conventional dramatic structure. His creative output reflects his worldview.

His works featured realistic subjects Eliot's writing style was influenced by his personal experiences. The sardonic and disconnected tones in the art work. The poem, *A Cooking Egg* explores the happy past, challenging present, and fantastical future of the speaker. Without knowledge of the context and history of the name and locations described in the poem, one cannot truly comprehend the profundity of the poetry.

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IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY AS PORTRAYED IN ANITHA DESAI'S THE CLEAR LIGHT OF DAY

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ABSTRACT

This paper presents the Study on the thematic views on the select novel *The Clear Light of Day*. Gender studies is a field of interdisciplinary study and academic field devoted to Gender Identity and gendered representation as central categories as analysis. This includes women's studies, men's studies LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) Studies.

It is also offered with the study of Sexuality. It analyses the race, ethnicity, location, nationality and disability. As "Simon de Beauvoir" said: "One is not born but rather, becomes a woman". This view proposes that in gender studies the term "Gender" should be used to refer to the social and cultural constructions of masculinities and femininities, not to state of being male or female in its entirety. The traces of gender can be found in our way of speaking, the use of humour, conflict situation and so on. Gender is the most important Kaleidoscope so that we can find the different views on people and their life. In this Anita Desai's Novel "The Clear Light of Day" shows how a family moves backwards and forwards in a period of time. It also criticizes the dispute of women's role in society by exposing deprivation that Desai illustrates through the influence of western culture, the desire of true gender equality and the social roles and norms which women are forced to obey. Anita Desai tries to bring out the present scenario in which woman live and how the family adapts the situation.

Key Words: Women in Society, Oppressed, Partition, Stream of Consciousness, Struggle.

IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY AS PORTRAYED IN DESAI'S THE CLEAR LIGHT OF DAY

The study focuses on struggle among the women in society and inequality between genders. The primary theme is the importance of family, importance of forgiveness and the status of women, particularly their role as mother and care taker in modern-day India. This research paper focuses on the struggles placed within the family, and the role of women in their society. And it also mainly focuses on the impact of the past upon the present that is thematically involved in the novel. Desai has used the technique of stream of consciousness to bring out the emotional barriers and reconciliation held in the Das family.

Anita Desai as a compassionate writer, born in Mussoorie, India, who marked her position in bringing out the best of repressed feelings of her chosen female characters. She is an Indian Novelist, who has been shortlisted for the Booker Prize three times. The main technique that she uses in her novels is the stream of consciousness and narrative point of view. The majority of her novels revolve around the theme of feminine- their problems, feelings, imagination, fantasies, enchantment, resentment, excitement and their alienation.

She is also known for her awards like the Sahitya Akademi of India Award (1979), the Guardian Award for Children's Fiction (1982), the National Academy of Letters Award. Her famous works include *Fire on the Mountain* (1977), *Cry, the Peacock* (1963), *Fasting, Feasting* (1999), *Clear Light of Day* (1980), *In Custody* (1984), *The Village By the Sea* (1982). This novel is nominated for the 1980 Booker Prize.

This novel is said to be smallest treasure which is rich in giving its finest drawn characters in the novel as well as the reader and reminiscent of an Indian culture which challenges to live. This exposes the inferiority

of women in society and their scuffle for Self Determination. The female characters are portrayed as confident, solidified and persistent on ruling others rather than to be ruled.

The women show us how India stands in between tradition and modernity, and that there is hope for future generation. Through the different female characters in *Clear light of Day* Desai has managed to show different solutions Indian women may choose in order to deal with the society that is in many ways run by men, for men. At the same time she also shows us a glimpse of women who never get to choose how to live their own lives. The woman has to take care of her family, her role as a surrogate mother. The women should sacrifice all her needs for the family.

Family is one of the few sustaining things in times of distress, and even though it is not perfect it is worth investing in. Desai suggest that family makes us who we are and that we should forgive those whom we love in order to achieve peace. *The Clear Light of Day* novel deals with tone meditative, evocative, poignant, sympathetic, and gloomy and the mood of the novel is nostalgic, dreamy, contemplative, sad, restless and dreary.

It deals with the fortune and misfortune of the Das family. Desai's point was that it was our family that makes us who we are and for that family its better that we forgive. She is very well acquainted that this 20th century Indian culture does not give place for women to have same rights as men.

Anita Desai's novel *The Clear Light of Day* is a four dimensional piece on how a family moves backwards and forwards in a period of time. It also criticizes the dispute of women's role in society by exposing deprivation that Desai illustrates through the influence of the western culture, the desire of true gender equality, and the social roles which women are forced to obey. It is full of dark shadows, strange forebodings, lurking terrors from the past.

The portrayal of Bim as a strong

independent woman who negotiates the patriarchal concepts to some extent throws into disarray the cultural practices. Desai indeed beautifully portrays the whims and fancy interwoven with the disgruntled feeling of these women coming in conflict with the nature of the patriarchal society and then encapsulating it into a full paced yet interesting novel it is perhaps her best book ever. Anita Desai takes up the role in bringing out the importance of family and the feminist struggle and role of women in the society. Unlike other authors like Arundhati Roy, Jhumpa Lahiri, Kiran Desai, of old times, Anita Desai tries to bring out the present scenario in which women live and how a family is changed due to the change of time.

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**ANALYSING SELF ACTUALIZATION OF
MALEFICENT IN ELIZABETH
RUDNICK'S
THE CURSE OF MALEFICENT: THE
TALE OF A SLEEPING BEAUTY**

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ABSTRACT

Elizabeth Rudnick is a contemporary fantasy fictional writer. She has written children's fiction, young adult fiction and romance. The selected novel is a work of novelization by Elizabeth Rudnick. In this paper, a special emphasis is made on the virtue of Self Actualization through the character of Maleficent in the novel *The Curse of Maleficent: The Tale of a Sleeping Beauty* written by Elizabeth Rudnick. The paper explores how Maleficent, the main protagonist of the novel acquires a unique virtue of Self Actualization. The first section of the paper deals with the introduction and the background of the novel. The second section of the paper explores the aspect of Self Actualization through the character, Maleficent present in the novel. The third section of the paper focusses on the findings of the research, writing styles of the author, and the aspects on which the virtue of Self Actualization is found in the novel.

KEYWORDS: Motherly Love, Self Realization, Self Actualization, Revenge, Curse, Betrayal.

Fantasy Fiction is a genre of writing in Literature. The nature of fantasy fiction is beyond imagination and involves imaginary

characters such as supernatural animals and evildoers. The genre of the selected novel, *The Curse of Maleficent: The Tale of a Sleeping Beauty* is Fantasy Fiction.

Elizabeth Rudnick is a contemporary fantasy fictional writer, who was born in circa around 1872. She did American Civilization major at Middlebury College, Vermont that focused on Literature. At present, she works at Disney Press in New York as a senior editor. The writers who inspired her were Jane Austen, William Faulkner, and Ursula LeGuinn. Other novels written by Rudnick are Tomorrowland, Beauty and the Beast, and A Frozen Heart.

Her works are simple and communicable in nature. Women characters play the most dominant and central role in her novels. Her work features supernatural elements and deceptions to portray her feelings through nature as a core to represent life. The selected novel *The Curse of Maleficent: The Tale of a Sleeping Beauty* is actually a work of novelization by Elizabeth Rudnick. It was originally published on 29th April 2014. It is based on Robert Stromberg's film, Maleficent and Charles Perrault's classic folk tale, The Sleeping Beauty in the Woods.

The novel actually tells the story of Princess Aurora, the daughter of King Stefan. Maleficent is a powerful faerie who protected the kingdom of Moors. As a young girl, she saves Stefan who came to moor and fell in love with him. Due to ambition, Stefan betrayed his love towards Maleficent by cutting her wings. After his betrayal, Maleficent became a dark evil faerie. She curses Aurora, in order to take revenge on King Stefan. Stefan sends baby Aurora to the woods along with three pixies. Maleficent reached Aurora's place and raised Aurora behind her shadow. She starts to regret for the curse that she gave for Aurora.

Being aware about her past, Aurora runs to see her father at the kingdom. Being attracted by the curse, Aurora pricked her finger on the needle of a spinning spindle

wheel. Maleficent's kiss saved Aurora from the eternal sleep. Stefan waged a war against Maleficent. Aurora released the wings of Maleficent in order to gain power. Stefan dies by falling from the tower. At the end of the novel, maleficent calls Aurora as the Queen of Moor's who would make peace between human beings and magical creatures.

This paper explores the aspects of Self Actualization which finally moulds Maleficent, the main protagonist of the novel into a self fulfilled character at the end. It portrays Maleficent's achievement of Self Actualization in regards to Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.

Abraham Maslow is an American psychologist. He was famous for creating Hierarchy of Needs, a theory of psychological health that eventually lead an individual to attain Self Actualization in his/her life. He states that, "What a man can be, he must be" (Motivation and Personality, 1954). These quotes represent the aspect of Self Actualization which makes one to attain his/her ideal self. It also helps an individual to identify one's true potential. The Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs image is given in figure 1.

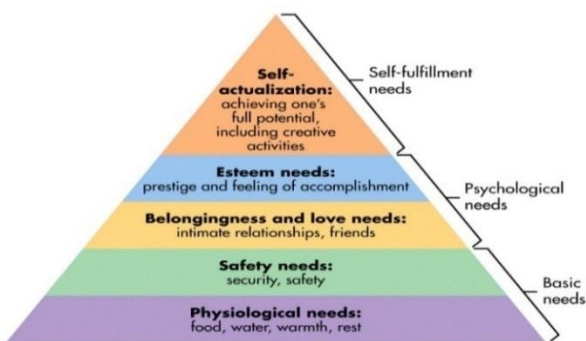


Figure 1. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs (Simply Psychology, 2020)

Self Actualization is the highest level in his model of Hierarchy of Needs. It can also be called as being needs which includes both personal and creative growth of an individual. He also believes that an individual can attain the level of Self Actualization or self fulfillment only when he/she satisfies the other

four previous needs such as physiological needs, safety needs, belongingness and love needs, and esteem needs.

Maleficent resembled her mother, Hermia and she inherited her eyes from her father, Lysander. She was taken care by other faeries of the Moor after her parent's death. She was provided with all the basic necessities at Moor. Robin, a old folklore faerie acted as the guardian of Maleficent and so she felt safe and secured at Moor. He assisted Maleficent in everything she did.

Maleficent believed in her late parents hope that there are good humans and they could also have a good relationship with them to live in peace and harmony. She accepted everyone and she treated both the humans and the creatures in the Moor to be equal. "But you said my parents believed there were good ones out there. That we could have a good relationship with them someday." (Rudnick 14).

Her first love was Stefan, a human. She trusted and treasured him inside her heart but she was later disappointed. The humans attacked the moor. We can see that Maleficent is a democratic leader who inspite of the relationship with the humans, stood-up for the Moors, her motherland. She risked her life to protect them. "Oh Maleficent! The brave lass. No matter what her relationship with the human was, she truly loved the Moors and the fair folk who lived there. She had gone to the front lines, risking her life to protect them." (Rudnick 27).

Maleficent was responsible towards the Moors. She fought against the king like a faerie warrior. She was very determined that the Moors cannot be captivated by anyone. "You will not have the moors, now or ever!" (Rudnick 27). Maleficent's nature of self acceptance is revealed when she acted as a protector of the Moors.

After this fight, Maleficent was disheartened by the human behavior and she feared that this attack may affect her

relationship with Stefan. Therefore, she left the moors and she also thought that her wedding with Stefan will be a hindrance for such an unfriendly situation. She indeed possessed problem solving skills which made others to improve their lives.

Maleficent believed Stefan and went out of the Moors for the sake of her true affection towards Moors and Stefan. Later, Maleficent's wings were stolen by Stefan to get the throne. The deepest wound was the betrayal of her so called love, Stefan. This pain of disloyalty changed the good faerie to an evil one. "She, too, had been transformed". (Rudnick 32). The unforgettable pain made her to create a new identity for herself.

Maleficent began to value herself. She realized that she was not in need of Stefan to attain happiness in life and so she transformed into a evil faerie after his betrayal. She created a thorn wall around the moors. This symbolizes that she enveloped her true affectionate nature with a rough and harsh outlook. When Maleficent became aware that Stefan was christening his daughter, Aurora, she cursed his beloved daughter, Aurora and when Stefan pleaded, she also revealed the remedy that only a True Love's kiss would be able to break her curse. Even though, she had made herself rough and tough externally, her kindness is revealed by her heart. She never expressed that in her face. If she was really an evil faerie she would have disappeared at once but she gave a solution to Stefan. Though she was angry on Stefan, she was able to understand his role as a father and so she expressed her sympathy towards his daughter.

The pixies took baby Aurora to the cottage, thinking that Maleficent would not find them. But, Maleficent accompanied them. Baby Aurora started to cry in hunger but pixies never knew how to feed Aurora. The baby stopped its cry and slept suddenly because of Maleficent. She was with Aurora but never revealed her face to her, but Aurora knew that her faerie Godmother was with her always. After eight years, an unexpected war happened

where Aurora was also there. Maleficent made a note that Aurora should not be afraid and made her to float in her dream.

Maleficent made Aurora to feel the vision of her dream. Her experience made her hesitant to believe in a human again, because Aurora was Stefan's daughter, Maleficent feared that his greed would have inherited in her. But Maleficent could not resist the absence of Aurora, so she goes to Aurora and takes her to the moors. Maleficent enjoyed seeing Aurora playing in the moors. Earlier Maleficent used to think twice before she spoke to Aurora but, later she answered to her questions immediately. Maleficent taught Aurora new things about moors everyday. She also accepts Aurora's love towards her and acts as a faerie Godmother to her. Maleficent's unconditional love towards Aurora is revealed through these events in the novel.

Maleficent was not able to hide the truth that she was the one who cursed Aurora. Aurora wished to stay with Maleficent but the pixies had revealed the truth to Aurora that she has been cursed. Hearing the truth, she ran to the castle to see her father. Maleficent knew that if Aurora went to the castle, the curse will definitely catch hold of her and so, she goes in search of Aurora in order to save her from the dreadful curse. She tried to stop her but she failed in her attempt. When Maleficent found Aurora, she was already in her death sleep. Maleficent cried her heart out and kissed her forehead.

I was so lost in hatred and revenge. I never dreamed that I could love you so much, sweet Aurora". "You stole what was left of my heart. I used to be so bitter, so angry. I thought I would never love anyone again before you came along. And now I've lost you forever. But swear no harm will come to you as long as I live. And not a day shall pass that I won't miss your smile". (Rudnick 189-90).

The curse upon Aurora disappeared and Maleficent realized her mistake when she met Aurora and found that she was not harmful but

somehow reflected her own self. She herself recognized that she loved Aurora and she can't live without her only when she comes to know that she will be no more. She was the one who gave Aurora, a second birth. Even though Maleficent became dark, harsh and cold, no one possessed the true love which was hidden inside her. Thus, the Curse of hatred paved a way to identify the true motherly love within Maleficent.

The findings of the paper are analysed on the aspect of Self Actualization of Maleficent in regards to Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. Maleficent was a lonely orphan at the beginning of the novel. She was provided with all the basic necessities and security by her fellow creatures. We can see that her physiological and safety needs are achieved in the initial stage of the novel.

Maleficent was aware that humans were planning to destroy the Moors, her motherland but she was matured enough to love the human beings in return. This shows her democratic view of the world. She also had the power of endurance and self acceptance. She accepted her role as the protector of the Moors and she stood up for the Moors. This attitude makes her to fall in love with Stefan who was a human because she accepted humans as her own community. She believed in her parents words and she taught that nature also belonged to the humans. Through this event in the novel, we can see that her belongingness and love needs are achieved.

Maleficent became an evil faerie because of Stefan's betrayal. She cursed baby Aurora in order to take revenge on Stefan. This evil action of Maleficent exhibits herself as a self esteemed character in the novel. Since her feelings were hurt by Stefan, she decides to undergo a massive change in her life. Maleficent was also self governing in nature. She did not bother about what others would think about her change in character rather she proved that she was not a evil doer and eventually united the kingdom of humans and the kingdom of Moors by making Aurora as

the Queen of Moor's at the end. She was also very spontaneous in nature. She was clear and determined in her thoughts and actions. She did not confine herself to the norms of the society. She believed in herself. She adapted herself to the changes that she had to undergo in her life. On the course of Stefan's betrayal, Maleficent achieved her esteem needs. Maleficent was not angry on Aurora, though she was Stefan's daughter. She did not harm Aurora. She showed her love, care and affection to Aurora. She also protected Aurora and acted as her faerie godmother. Maleficent understands the role of true love in her life through Aurora which later makes her to repent for her curse. The realistic peak experiences made her to achieve the needs of Self Actualization in her life. The virtue of self realization made Maleficent to reason out the good and evil aspects of her life which in turn paved way for her to become a woman of Self Actualization. Thus, Maleficent, an orphan girl turns to be a Self Actualized woman at the end of the novel. She learns to love herself and others by undergoing Self Realization in her life. She underwent many sacrifices for the goodness of others.

On the whole, she is a Self Actualized leader who was able to show the right path to her fellow creatures.

The great teachers are those who pave ways for the next generation. The other areas in which one can perform research in this novel are eco-feministic perspectives revealed through the character Maleficent, themes of nature and destruction, how love can be concealed but cannot be destroyed, depiction of greed and love and changes in the ideologies of fantasy literature.

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Keywords: Sylvia Plath, Feminism, Equality, Depression, Control.

Literature is an art that expresses the ideas of authors in the form of poetry, prose and fiction. Literature allows a person to learn about politics, society, culture and tradition. It is the reflection of human experience. It aims at giving pleasure to the readers with interesting features. It also elevates and changes in one's own experience beyond pleasure. Language plays a vital part in literature, and writers around the world expressed their emotions and thoughts.

American literature came in the period between 1870 and 1920. During these period American writing distinguished itself stylistically and thematically from European tradition. American authors also increasingly gained respect as serious artists in the decades following the civil war as literary critics inside and outside the academy began to appreciate the intrinsic merits of American poetry and prose.

American poetry and fiction were largely based on what was being published in Great Britain, and much of what readers consumed also came from Great Britain. American Literature, religious ideologies and philosophies influenced the way that writers portrayed the period, characters, feelings, and God. Fiction refers to literature created from the imagination. Novels usually fall into three categories which are literary fiction, genre fiction, and mainstream fiction.

Kate Chopin wrote nearly fifty poems, approximately one hundred stories and vignettes, and a small amount of literary criticism. Her criticism tends to be modest, but it is often revealing. In one piece written in 1896, she discovered *Guy De Maupassant* eight years earlier, and that is when she first began to write. There is every indication that *Maupassant* remained one of the most important models in the short-story form.

Ralph Ellison's writings are primarily about *Invisible Man*, but his collection of

FEMINISTIC VIEW IN SYLVIA PLATH'S THE BELL JAR

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ABSTRACT

The aim of the project is to analyse The Feministic view in Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar* and the introduction of the research deals with the difficulty faced by women in society and about the author. The second chapter investigates the problem faced by all the protagonist in different situations of the novel. The illusion of the character was broken up by the realities of the world. It reflects the suffering of the Character in the society. The last chapter discusses the themes, character and writing style in the novel *The Bell Jar*.

nonfiction prose, *Shadow and Act*, published in 1964, made him a significant figure in the critical theory of pluralism and African American aesthetics. The essays, the majority of which first appeared in journals like *Antioch Review*, *Partisan Review*, and *The New Republic*, are arranged in three thematically related sections and emphasise the significance of folk and popular contributions to the mainstream of American culture. Ellison writes in a straightforward, didactic manner akin to the social realist protest books of the 1930s and 1940s.

The first editions of Nathaniel Hawthorne's short stories appeared between 1830 and 1837 under pseudonyms in periodicals like the *Token* and the *New England Magazine*. During his lifetime, several collections were published, including *Twice-Told Tales* (1837), *Mosses from an Old Manse* (1846), and *the Snow-Image and Other Twice-Told Tales* (1851). *Fanshawe: A Tale*, published in 1828; *The Scarlet Letter*, published in 1850; *The House of the Seven Gables*, published in 1851; *The Blithedale Romance*, published in 1852; and *The Marble Faun*, published in 1860 are some of his fictional works. Self-trust versus authority accommodation is one of Hawthorne's main themes and thematic patterns.

All of the poems in Sylvia Plath's *Ariel* were written between the time her first book, *The Colossus*, was published in 1960 and her passing in 1963, including many of her best-known poems like *Lady Lazarus*, *Daddy*, *Edge*, and *Paralytic*. The poems are dejected, vindictive, and destructive, but they are also tender, open-minded, unusually clever, sarcastic, and unyielding. They are extremely pure artistic works, and this book is a significant literary development.

Sylvia Plath's poem *Daddy* explores her struggle with not having a kind person in her life. At the age of ten, her father abandoned her, and her husband had an extramarital affair. In this poem, she tells her father about her frustration with him. *The Colossus*, Plath's

debut collection of poems, was published and received favourable reviews. Under the alias Victoria Lucas, she published her lone book, *The Bell Jar*, in London in 1963. Strongly autobiographical, this book compares Plath's breakdown and hospitalisation in 1953 due to the loss of her loved ones to the mental breakdown and eventual recovery of a young college girl. Within her last three years, she produced poems that were starkly autobiographical by writing very quickly.

Heavily influenced by the new critics, particularly Lowell's former professors John Crowe Ransom and Allen Tate, Lowell's first three volumes of poetry were marked by Christian symbolism and motifs, historical allusions, and intricate formalism. The 1944 publication of Lowell's first book of poetry, *Land of Unlikeness*, was greatly influenced. Despite being released by a small press in a small edition, the book still received favourable reviews from renowned journals like *Poetry* and *Partisan Review*.

One month before Sylvia Plath committed suicide, *The Bell Jar* was first published in England in 1963 under a fictitious name. The events in the novel closely parallel Sylvia Plath's twentieth year, as is made clear by a biographical note in the current edition. *The Bell Jar* is a work of fiction that can't help but be partially read as autobiography. Esther Greenwood is one of a dozen girls serving as guest editors for a month in a teen fashion publication run by a German immigrant family in a New England suburb. After fifteen years of being on her own, she develops a depressing attachment to Buddy Willard, a handsome medical student, which causes her life to take an unexpected turn. It is a scientific apparatus that seals off an area and removes the air from it. Here, it refers to Esther's mental suffocation caused by the inevitable indwelling of depression.

Esther Greenwood, a college student with aspirations of becoming a poet, is profiled in *The Bell Jar*. She is chosen for a one-month summer internship with *Ladies Day* magazine

as a guest editor, but her time in New York City is unfulfilling because she battles with identity and social expectations. Esther considers her frustration with her boyfriend Buddy Willard after he acknowledged that he was not a virgin and claimed to have been seduced.

Given that he behaved as though she had more sexual experience, she thinks he is being hypocritical. Esther's father passed away when she was a young girl, so she must spend the rest of the summer at home with her mother after being turned down for a writing class. She struggles to finish a novel, grows hopeless, and makes a number of half-hearted suicide attempts. In the end, she survives a sleeping pill overdose.

In the first sentence, the conflicts that will be dealt "It was a queer, sultry summer, the summer they electrocuted the Rosenbergs, and I didn't know what I was doing in New York" (1) she tells in the next few sentences that she is stupid and she feels sick and that she is preoccupied with death and when she goes for work here every woman feels ill and Esther collapses in the hallway here the women are shown as the weaker sex.

The relationship between the mind and the body, according to Esther, is one in which each confines the other. It liberally traps the body and then locks Ester up in a mental hospital. However, the body also traps the mind, and the body has little tricks up its sleeve to keep her from committing suicide. She refers to the body as a cage that keeps the mind from going out. Esther experienced issues with her mind that were distinct from those with her body and, in her opinion, were much worse. Themes that predominate in this book include the demands of nurturing, the sexual double standard, and the quest for identity, the search for self-hood, and feminist issues of power.

Esther Greenwood is the victim of a downward spiral that culminated in an unsuccessful suicide attempt and her struggle

to recover. She makes the decision to take control of her death when she feels she is losing control of her life. She excelled in her field and received numerous honours. All of her accomplishments helped her land an internship with Ladies' Day magazine, but it was there, in New York City, that she started to spiral out of control. Then, she received the disappointing news that she had been rejected from the eagerly anticipated summer writing programme.

She started to feel weak and unconfident. She was unable to read, write, or sleep anymore. She requa woman on the prowl for her self or identity. Esther's belief that she knew how her life would turn out is one of the factors contributing to her loss of control. She felt overwhelmed as she started to consider her future. Though she wanted to be everything at once, she understood that she couldn't. Esther had always been a high achiever; failure had never really crossed her mind; consequently, unexpected failures caused her to crumble.ired the ability she possessed.

A woman on the prowl for her self or identity. Esther's belief that she knew how her life would turn out is one of the factors contributing to her loss of control. She felt overwhelmed as she started to consider her future. Though she wanted to be everything at once, she understood that she couldn't. Esther had always been a high achiever; failure had never really crossed her mind; consequently, unexpected failures caused her to crumble.

She became aware of it while speaking with her boss, Jay Cee, and when he asked her what she wanted to do in the future, Esther froze and heard herself say, "I don't know." Hearing myself say that, I experienced a profound shock because I knew it was true the moment I said it (25). Esther was unprepared for the sudden pressure she felt to know who she was going to be. She felt low as she observed Jay Cee and Doreen, and this sense of being lost rendered her helpless.

Esther says the bell jar represents madness. When insane, she has the impression that she is trapped in an airless container that separates her from reality and makes it difficult for her to interact with those around her.

I saw myself sitting in the crotch of this fig tree, starving to death, just because I couldn't make up my mind which of the figs I would choose. I wanted each one of them, but choosing one meant losing all the rest, and, as I sat there, unable to decide, the figs began to wrinkle and grow black, and, one by one, they plopped to the ground at my feet (63).

Through the tale of Esther Greenwood, Sylvia Plath demonstrates to the reader the conundrum a woman encounters in her life. A woman deals with the problem of power. She has the option to take charge of her life, as Jay Cee appears to have done, but she may end up being alone. She can cede that authority to a man while still maintaining her identity as a wife and mother.

Motherhood or a career can be chosen by a woman, but not both, in Esther's opinion. Plath is arguing that, despite her best efforts, a woman cannot have it all by using the analogy of the fig tree. Women must pick between having a family and a career, unlike men, who can do both. *The Bell Jar* is a feminist book as a result. Esther, the main character, engages the reader directly in conversation as it is written in an informal style.

As both fiction and out-of-date fact, *The Bell Jar* ends on an overly upbeat note; the source of its true terror is elsewhere. *The Bell Jar* doesn't offer even the slightest hint of an understanding of suicide itself, despite sharing every emotion that drives Esther to attempt suicide. It might have the authority seal because of this. Esther's expectations of herself, others, and her own behaviour, as well as her expectations for the future. The expectations of society that Esther perceives in relation to choices about a potential career and family are the most overt example of this.

Sylvia Plath focuses on the feminism perspective and the challenges she encounters in life. As readers hear Esther Greenwood's thoughts, see everything she sees, and experience every single thrill of fear, disgust, delight, and shock, they experience every event in *The Bell Jar* through her perspective. This narrative's point of view has the drawback of making it difficult to get an impartial perspective on Esther or a more thorough account of the other characters. The fact that the story is told from the perspective of an older Esther, some time after the events in the novel, helps to temper this extremely subjective point of view.

The first chapter barely makes any reference to the story's overall structure or young Esther's point of view. Many critics see Sylvia Plath's protagonist Esther Greenwood being imprisoned inside the glass dome of *The Bell Jar* as a representation of society's oppressive rules and confusing mixed messages. The main character of *The Bell Jar*, Esther Greenwood, says that a bell jar is suffocating her life. *A Bell Jar* is a scientific apparatus that seals off a space and removes the air from it. Esther's mental suffocation brought on by depression's inevitable takeover of her mind.

The novel's central theme is feminism, which is closely related to the theme of insanity and sanity. *The Bell Jar* focuses on the protagonist's irrational society. A woman who is talented and ambitious will not fit in with 1950s society. Tyrannical rule is the norm. *The Bell Jar* serves as the main metaphor for the main character's feelings of confinement and entrapment. She feels as though she is unable to get out of her head because it is constantly returning to the same self-critical and depressing thoughts.

The Bell Jar's main character and narrator is Esther Greenwood. The storyline of the book follows her journey into and out of madness. The Bell Jar tells an unusual coming-of-age tale in which Esther learns from her madness and leaves a mental institution rather

than school, rather than receiving a positive, progressive education in the ways of the world that results in her graduation into adulthood. In addition, Esther is kind, observant, and poetic. Despite her affection for her lead character, Esther, Plath is unwavering in her portrayal of her confusion and self-absorption.

To be fully feminist, feminism must evolve, and all progressive movements must be on guard against the challenge of eliminating all forms of inequality, including male dominance and gender oppression, that they experience within their organisations and during their organising. Women and femininity, family, sex, society and class, madness, identity, transformation, and literature and writing are among the themes in this book.

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FEMINISTIC ANALYSIS ON THE FREAKS AND AN INTRODUCTION BY KAMALA DAS

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ABSTRACT

This paper would unfold feminism and how she disobeys social conventions that are designed to oppress women in this artificial

world. She dramatizes an anomalous situation in love-making in *The Freaks and An Introduction*, two of her best-known poems, where she is deeply aware of her identity as a woman and exposes the futility of loveless relationships, feminism, equal rights, freedom, and marriage. Kamala Das is a member of the first generation of modern English poets, who emerged around the 1960s with a fresh approach to both theme and form. The 1950s saw the conclusion of the first era of Indo-Anglican poetry. The modernist spirit was almost foreign to the poets of this era. Their main concerns were the nationalism, the battle for independence, and the division of the country. The Indo-Anglican poetic sphere wasn't under the influence of a new generation of youthful poets until the 1960s, when things started to take on a new dimension. One of the most influential voices in the post-colonial age is Kamala Das. The best depiction of the suppression of feminine sensitivity in a society ruled by men can be found in Kamala Das's poetry. As a result, much of her work is private and autobiographical, while occasionally she makes the personal universal.

Keywords: Kamala Das, Feminism, Sexuality, Equality, Male domination

Indian literature is a literature bring out across the Indian subcontinent produced in a variety of languages, including Tamil, Sanskrit, Prakrit, Pali, Punjabi, Bengali, Bihari, Gujarati, Malayalam, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Oriya, Rajasthani, Telugu, Urdu, Lahnda, Siraiki, and Sindhi, among others, as well as in English.

Kamala Das was a renowned Indian author. She wrote straightforwardly about experience of being an Indian woman and female sexual desires. Das was part of a generation of Indian writers whose works centered on personal rather than colonial experiences, and her short stories, poetry, memoirs, and essays brought her respect. She was the pioneer of confessional poetry.

She wrote many Poetry, novel, short story. Most of her work's major theme is feminism and it's also in feminine tone. She is the mother modern English poetry. Her famous poems are *summer in Calcutta, The Freaks, and A Hot Noon in Malabar, Forest Fire, My*

Grandmother's House, An Introduction, and My Mother at Sixty-Six, The Sunshine Cat.

The freaks was published on December 8, 2013. This poem dramatizes a loveless courting and a strange state of affairs in love-making among a husband and wife. It additionally brings to mind the struggling of the girl character who stays an on-player within side the act of love-making as it denies her the emotional and highbrow thrills of life.

The speaker's feelings are expressed in the poem as she and her spouse look forward to the graduation of their physical intimacy while lying in bed together. Even though they are anticipating their physical union, the girl companion is a little bit repulsed and terrified. Instead, she observes that her husband moves his hands slowly.

The poetess believes that her boyfriend isn't passionate or skilled enough to elicit a genuinely strong yearning for sexual union from her. She then learns that, despite spending a lot of time together and having a marriage, she and this man were never truly able to find marital bliss. The "coiling snakes of quiet" or an emptiness in her heart are what she perceives as making her unhappy. In the end, she refers to herself as a freak or aberrant person who plays up her lust in order to be taken seriously as a regular person.

Kamala Das exudes a strong sense of resolve as she rebels against the traditional social concept of women. Even though she questions conventional gender roles, many of her poems highlight the emotional sterility and emptiness of marriage as well as the depth of the wife's sorrow when she submits to a spouse who she finds disgusting and with whom she has no emotional connection at all.

One of her most well-known works is an introduction. It was released in 1965 as part of her debut collection, *Summary in Calcutta*. This collection focuses on love, the suffering it causes, as well as betrayal. In her poem, *An Introduction*, she explores complex feelings about the system that governs her existence and the lives of other suffering women. She has the credentials to back up her assertions about oppression and freedom because she was instrumental in establishing the Indian feminist movement.

In this poem describes how in a male-dominated patriarchal society, a woman must surrender herself to her husband thoughts, which may be ugly or lustful. She is supposed to satisfy him in all the ways without thinking about herself, her sexual needs and desires. We can clearly understand the pain of a woman in an unpleasant marriage life. Here the poet tries to bring out the inequality in gender.

Women are treated only as things not as humans. All their rights are suppressed by the male dominating society. Women in this poem was married to an old man, who was very ugly and lustful. By this we can understand the every marriages of that time held without the permission or sometimes without the interest of women. *Freaks* means strange and abnormal so by this title itself we can know their relationship.

Though they are married and living together, there is no love between them and also there is no connect other than physical relationship. The poem starts with a word *he talks* which denoted that only male has the freedom and right to talk. Women don't have freedom to speak. The poet is thus comparing his husband's mouth with the cave and his teeth with stalactites. Again these are the attributes of his ugliness.

This shows her disliking towards her husband. Her husband only wants to satisfy his own desire and not interested to understand her heart and feelings. All her husband's act was seems to be selfish. The poet is thus comparing

his husband's mouth with the cave and his teeth with stalactites. He puts his right hand on her knee in order to advance his love making. This reveals that women are considered as a material which fulfil their sexual desires.

Real man should make her girl to feel comfortable while she was with him and should love her. But here her husband's love is only for her skin. Wife's heart is like an empty cistern which is longing for true love. But it was completely filled with poisonous snake which is killing her heart. Many women undergo these pain and struggle in their marriage. Men is not the only creature who has feelings and desires even women was also created in same way as men. So this male dominated society can treat women equally.

In the opening lines of this poem, the speaker claims to be familiar with all of India's male leaders. She carries their names as a mark of respect for their immense strength. This is in stark contrast to the lack of control she had as a child and after getting married at age sixteen. She experiences identity issues before being able to leave the conventional role of wife behind.

The poet talks about how men can live in the world while still having a firm sense of who they are. We honor their choices and sentiments. In the last few lines, she protests against this manner of living by asserting that the emotions she is feeling are not those of the man she loves.

The life of a woman in a patriarchal culture is described in this introspective poetry. In this poetry, Kamala Das discusses the culture and her relatives that advise her not to use or speak "English." It is as human as I am, she retorted. She inadvertently confronts her identity while capturing the notion of a "human" in relation to the language she wishes to utilize.

In order to pursue their own identities, women often suffer. She also talks about her own experiences growing up in a patriarchal

society. According to feminist theory, women are perceived as being of a different sex, hence Kamala Das frequently uses the pronoun "I" to demonstrate her equality with men in society, adding, "I too name myself I."

The patriarchal system is criticized in the poem. The poet emphasizes the fact that she was married at the age of sixteen despite the fact that child marriage was a common practice in India. When Kamala Das says that she "ignored the womanliness," she is implying that she was unaware of a woman's feminine characteristics. The term "womanliness" refers to the individual feelings and experiences that women have that society fails to acknowledge.

Feminists also contend that gender is a construct and that it is a role that is passed down to both sexes. She makes reference to stereotyping and the position that has been assigned to women by saying, "Wear sarees, be a girl/be a wife, they said. Cook, embroider, and argue with the servants. The lines imply gender stereotypes and a social construct that is passed down to a woman. Das confronts these conceptions and the perpetuation of a woman's status in society in a candid manner.

In Das's writings, the phrases "Fit in. Oh, /Belong, shouted the categorizers" are examples of "écriture feminine." The bolded words "Fit in" and "categorizers" highlight the long history of female adherence to societally established gender norms. The name "categorizers" is a strong allusion to the woman who had complied with the created standards and customs that had been passed down to women, and it also invokes the years of oppression a woman had experienced in order to fulfil the position.

It is obviously aimed at the notion of a gender role in society. Be Amy or be Kamala, she advises. A better option would still be Madhavikutty. It's time to decide on a name and a role. When you hear the word "role," you probably think of the socially constructed gender roles that women are expected to "Fit into."

The poet explains how men can navigate the world with a strong sense of who they are. They are free to express their emotions and preferences. She fights back against this manner of living in the final lines by claiming that she feels emotions that are not those of the man she loves. She has the ability to use the pronoun "I."

Mainly a feminist, Kamala Das. She criticizes the patriarchal system in her audacious works. The notions of feminism in her literature are developed from the Indian patriarchal society, which is very different from Western society, as the concept of "feminisms" is emphasized. Her writing also demonstrates the "écriture feminine" writing style. She employs self-expression as a confessional poet, which aids in examining the inner meanings of her experiences in a patriarchal society.

Consequently, we can say that feminism is a broad notion. It makes the case that prejudices against men and women are the root causes of inequality. They attempt to draw attention to the disparities between sex and gender and outline the roles that both men and women play in society equally. Feminist poets like Kamala Das in the literary world criticize patriarchal culture and invoke the place of women in society. Her poems discuss the need for equality and examine the society's disregard for the experiences of women. Therefore, as the very sustenance is Indian and potentially represents the Indian image of a woman in society, the fundamental idea of "feminisms" can be used.

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ANALYSIS OF FEMINISM IN VIRGINIA WOOLF IN HER WORK "TO THE LIGHTHOUSE"

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ABSTRACT

To the Lighthouse published in 1927, the centers on Mr. Ramsay and his family and their visit of the Isle of sky. This novel recall childhood emotions and highlights adult relationships. *To the Lighthouse* is divided into three parts namely the window, time and passes and the lighthouse, Virginia Woolf focuses on exploring the idealized feminist woman who challenges male hegemony to achieve a sense of individuality. The paper is a tribute to my favourite writer who is and always be an inspiration to continue to look at every work with both sides of the spectrum and female experience. *To the Lighthouse* seemed to be an appropriate work to explicitly show the androgynous mind of Virginia Woolf with its symbolic character, themes and stream of consciousness.

Keywords: Idealized, hegemony, inspiration, spectrum and stream of consciousness.

Virginian Woolf was an English author who was born and raised into a privileged

household in England in 1928. She worked as an essayist, novelist, publisher and critic. Several pieces of her writings such as essays, short stories, and novels were published throughout the 1920s. She is the author of the book "To the Lighthouse", which was published in 1927. A work which embodies her exploration of independence and the two different levels of women. In Virginia Woolf's "To the Lighthouse", what are the struggles to obtain and assert female autonomy is constantly threatened and undermined by a society built upon the patriarchal male hegemony to achieve a sense of individuality. Virginia Woolf has been criticized by many of her feminist speakers in her works. Her "A Room of Her Own" thoroughly parades how she suffered with illuminating features in mind facts and this is one of the greatest feminine classic short stories in the 19th century time. Virginia Woolf criticizes the suffering of feminine post and pre pregnancy illustrations to ignore the fact close to her heart was the androgynous nature of inspiration to continue to look at every work of the spectrum and not just Virginia Woolf's female experiences; it's all about feminine characters of several people. This paper aims at highlighting the important facts about the dichotomy of male and female perceptive, manufacturers and the mind set of Virginia Woolf reflects her own personality in a room of one's own. Who explicitly the feminist freedom, individual sense, self respect, political, independent thinker, gender identities, and the stream of consciousness. She represents an idealized feminist who challenges male hegemony and deal with their consequences. The efforts of Virginia Woolf is to create independent female characters Lily Briscoe, and who endeavour to be an artist. "women's can neither paint or write", independent heroine, the novel ends with finished portrait at the beginning of the fiction novel and freedom of angles voice inspired the future generations because of the patriarchal society and advocates for equality rights and social status. To the Lighthouse novel Virginia Woolf talks about the depicts of two different types of

women how they serve in the patriarchal society along with the attitudes of men held towards women at the time. Virginia Woolf, an author who wrote about her independence and freedom wisely for herself to live in society. Here so many things are related with feminism which found in the novel, many women in the novel silently subvert conventional female gender role and gender identity. The essence of "To the Lighthouse" are harmony and peace to achieve her integrity to give peaceful life. The women character 'Lily' remains unmarried, independence, autonomy and her art over men, she lives with art for long time because art never fades its ever green with our Lily in the end she becomes selfish outwardly and for herself needs and individuality to allow, to achieve as an artist of woman's in days to days traditional and cultural to draw painting or writing. Virginia Woolf advocates women is choosing art to determine whether allow freedom and obligations emotive of natural law notions and justice as well as the nebulous and imprecise ideas are reflecting common sentiments all over the world.

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PATHETIC PREDICAMENT OF SUBALTERN IN ARAVIND ADIGA'S THE WHITE TIGER

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ABSTRACT

This paper deals with the pathetic hardships of Subaltern in Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger*. Subaltern is the highlighted concept which shatters the entire comfort zone of protagonist, Balram Halwai and pushes him out to the society. The feeling of otherness is the crucial hierarchy which arranges the standard of the people from high to low. Through this novel Adiga splashed his thoughts on social constructions.

Keywords: Subaltern, Aravind Adiga, Balram Halwai, social thorns, otherness, hierarchy

"There's really no such thing as the 'voiceless'. There are only the deliberately silenced or the preferably unheard" (Roy 74). Sometimes the voice of lower class will not be heard by the higher people. The pain shatters the voiceless even deeper.

Subaltern means otherness, marginalizing the lower class people and pushing them to the edge of the society. The term subaltern was introduced by Antonio Gramsci and the father of subaltern the history was Ranajit Guha. He was one of the great historians as well as an influential personality in Subaltern studies. His work *Elementary Aspects of Peasant Insurgency in Colonial*

India created a great impact in the society. This debut volume of Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger* drew the line between marginalized and elite people.

Aravind Adiga was born on 23rd October 1974 in Chennai. He was a writer, scholar, journalist and an activist. He secured a place in people's heart through his reputed novel *The White Tiger*. His Alma mater started from Canara High School. Then he completed his under graduation in St.Aloysies College, Mangalore and he did his Masters in English at Columbia University. He started his career as a Journalist in 'Financial Times'. Meanwhile, he got a chance to interview the former US president Donald Trump.

Adiga received Booker Prize for his tremendous work *The White Tiger* in the year 2008. He was known for his post-modernistic approach, which emphasizes human experience rather than truth or objectivity. His other works are *Amnesty*, *Selection day*, *Lost Man in the Tower* and *between the assistance*.

The novel *The White Tiger* is in a picaresque style. Adiga used bildungsroman approach in the novel which means sturdy growth of the character both in mental trauma and moral value. This book won 40th Man Booker Prize for the debut discharging approach of Adiga in this novel. It could be traced that the protagonist of this novel Balram Halwai was caught between the social classes of the society. This novel revolves around the points of social constructions, subaltern and postmodernism.

Adiga's *The White Tiger* highlights the character of Balram Halwai, who was subjugated by the elite society throughout the novel. He was born in an ignoble class which was not his mistake. It is the stereotypical view of the society which was not allowing the lower class people to grow. Even if they were trying to shine, elite class diminishes their light and pushes them into the dark.

Balram Halwai used his mighty weapon of patience to gain freedom from the elite

class. Balram was brought up in lower class. He belongs to a poor family. He was under the control of Kusum his Grandmother. Balram's grandma Kusum is the matriarch of the family and she manages the home with strict traditional Indian family customs. There are two comparisons that Adiga often highlighted in this novel. They are Balram with "*Rooster Cock*" (Adiga 173) and Balram with "*The White Tiger*" (Adiga 319).

Ranjith Guha pointed out the binary relationship between elite and ignoble people in his subaltern studies. This subtle view of subaltern slurps the blood of lower class people in this novel *The White Tiger*.

Balram with "*Rooster Cock*" (Adiga 173), It expresses the trauma of a rooster cock in the butcher's shop. Every day it was knocking for its freedom from the cages that was hard. In the same way, Balram Halwai is trying to escape from all the social dilemmas and from the elite people. Balram was not allowed to study more than second grade because of his grandmother, Kusum. Balram's father Vikram Halwai is a riksha puller in the village Laxmangarh. He died in an early age of Balram Halwai. The land in the village was taken by the Landlord, "*The stroke*" (Adiga, 13) was the chief head of all the rouges. He also illegally sold the coal out of government premises. Balram has also named some other characters in the novel animal names like "*Water Buffalo.... The Raven.... Wild Boar*" (Adiga 25). Balram described all these characters with animal names because of their old beliefs in caste system even in the modern era. Their subtle belief turned the village into a jungle.

Guha often mentioned the term elitism in his subaltern studies which exhibits the idea about the upper class people who took privilege over the lower class people in the name of capitalism, colonialism and nationalism.

"Many of my best ideas are, in fact, borrowed from my ex-employer or his brother

or someone else whom I was driving about..." (Adiga 47). Subaltern highlighted the point that Subjugation, domination, abolition and abusing still existed in the modern society, even though it was stepping towards the new advancements every new day. Still some people are living and growing with these monstrous belief of old classes, creed and casteism.

Balram got a job as a driver in the house of the higher class people though he belonged to the lower class. He not only played the role of a driver but also as a cleaner, discharging all the lower duties to his head and finally he was also accused for someone's crime. As Guha noted in his studies, elite people were taking advantage of lower class people, because no one will be ready to fight for the low class people. Balram's life was also spoiled because of his class, creed, pathetic and voiceless situation before the elite society.

Guha argues about elitist bias, elitist-colonial-elitism, and bourgeois-nationalist elitism and domination in his subaltern studies. Discriminating people is an injustice to the humanity. Everyone lives with the same flesh and blood but the elite, like animals as Adiga mentioned in his novel *The White Tiger* were growing and glowing in the society by sucking the wages of the poor, stealing their lands, dominating them, abusing women, threatening and torturing them. On the whole, they treating the lower class people as slaves. The elites put down the ignoble people to their feet and destroyed humanity completely in this modern society.

Adiga depicted this entire novel in a subaltern's perspective. Thus, it is very clear that Balram was victimized by the elite class because of his caste and creed. Adiga raises his voice on behalf of the lower class people who were subjugated under the domination of elites in this modern society through his novel *The White Tiger*. It should reach out more people and this bias should stop among poor voiceless people.

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INTROSPECTION OF J.M. COETZEE'S DISGRACE

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ABSTRACT

John Maxwell Coetzee, a South African novelist, critic, and translator is noted for his novels about the effects of colonization. In 2003 he won the Nobel Prize for Literature. His reputation was confirmed by *Life & Times of Michael K* (1983), which won Britain's Booker Prize and *Disgrace* (1999), which again won the Booker Prize. *Disgrace* is a novel that investigates shame and dishonor. *Disgrace* is multifaceted that throws light on the contemporary harsh realities of life. This paper mainly deals with the postcolonial situation in South Africa it deals with ethical issues within a postcolonial discourse. This paper is aimed at finding out the theme of the novel *Disgrace*. The theme of this novel is the superiority and inferiority of white and black is a constructed ideology. This paper expresses how Africa as a country still strives to free itself from the effects of the colonial times.

Keywords: Shame and dishonour, South Africa, Superiority, Inferiority, Colonization.

INTRODUCTION

John Maxwell Coetzee (born February 9, 1940, Cape Town, South Africa), a South African novelist, critic, and translator is noted for his novels about the effects of colonization. In 2003 he won the Nobel Prize for Literature. He is a widely acclaimed novelist who has chronicled South Africa's transition from apartheid.

His first book, *Dusklands*, was published in South Africa in 1974. *In the Heart of the Country* (1977) won South Africa's then principal literary award. His reputation was confirmed by *Life & Times of Michael K* (1983), which won Britain's Booker Prize. It was followed by *Foe* (1986), *Age of Iron* (1990), *The Master of Petersburg* (1994), and *Disgrace* (1999), which again won the Booker Prize. Many of Coetzee's novels engage with the English literary canon, some in explicit, others in implicit ways.

Coetzee is unique among South African novelists working in English. The term "disgrace" does not sound nice and noble as it brings only shame on somebody, which means an insult, disrespect, defame of name and a bad-image in the recognized individual life. J.M. Coetzee's eighth novel, *Disgrace*, his first about his native South Africa, its transition to black-majority rule, constitutes a direct and rather ominous meditation on that fear.

South Africa is a multicultural society. With different ethnic groups constituting the population, peaceful coexistence is challenging and remains as a problem. Racism is not a new concept to our world which began many centuries ago. Apartheid had left deep gut-wrenching wounds and marks in the hearts of the subjugated. The apartheid regime was built on an ideology of racial segregation.

Apartheid, was a system held in place from 1948 until 1994. It was official policy under which the rights of blacks were severely limited and under which whites, though the minority in terms of numbers, were in charge. Under Apartheid, blacks were not even

considered to be legal citizens of South Africa, and they were forced to attend separate schools, go to separate hospitals, and receive separate public services. When blacks were deprived of their citizenship, they were divided into self-governing tribes called Bantustans. During this apartheid period, blacks were highly discriminated by whites in their own indigenous land. Repression and violence was practiced by whites on those black societies.

Disgrace is dense and cutting which is beyond the desire of sufferers to signify something beyond themselves. Several themes are tied together in this novel which sets the plot moving. It is a complex exploration of the collision between private and public worlds; intellect and body; desire and love; and public disgrace or shame and the idea of individual grace or salvation. Through the characters, Coetzee has effectively portrayed the above themes of the story.

THEME OF MORALITY

Morality is formed out of a person's values. Values are the foundation of a person's ability to judge between right and wrong. Here in this novel, J.M Coetzee is concerned with important moral issues including disillusionment of the post-apartheid and race relations in his native land. Coetzee involves us in the struggle of a discredited university teacher David Lurie to defend his own and his daughter Lucy's honour in the new circumstances that have arisen in South Africa after the collapse of white supremacy. He has focused on human rights, animal rights and social and political injustice.

David, the protagonist the hero, but in subversive manner; he is neither tragic nor comic hero. David is a man whose greatest flaw is sensuous desires. This desire leads him to his downfall in all cases. David's experience in life is a journey from ignorance into full awareness of his weakness right moral course to follow. The book opens by the scene of David driven by his excessive desire; this

desire blinded and brought him to the level of being compared to animals.

David's story with Melanie is another evidence of his moral degradation. David, as a professor, is expected to discipline her and students and show care as a father but we find him making use of his position and abusing his student. David's affair with Melanie as an act of rape, but if we see deeply the situation, it is worse than rape. David starts to lose his moral and academic responsibility.

In the countryside, becomes involved with the animals; it shows his soft corner for them. He feels that animals are less than human beings. But at last, he realised that they have to die someday. And David later realises that Melanie's experience was only an act of voluptuous desire. David who does not believe in God, agrees to accept his disgrace.

THEME OF POWER

Power is an instrument that control other people. So, power determines who has

Power and who is powerless. This makes the discussion of power interesting. There are

Many aspects influence the power character is generally drives the story forward. In dialogue, Lurie and Petrus are considered as powerful characters. This novel is mainly about three characters. David Lurie, his daughter Lucy and Petrus. This story tells about David and Petrus, and how they use women to gain power.

David has built his world on power. He is used to controlling his job, life and women. David started as a powerful and respected person with a great job. In the beginning of story, David meets Soraya, a prostitute. Every Thursday he went to met her. David uses her to satisfy himself. He uses his power to his superior position. The first time in the story, David takes advantages of his power by putting himself where he is shows as the dominant one

and Soraya disappear him and back to her real life.

David is fired from his work and accused of having a sexual relation with one of his student and this is all of David's power is taken away from him. He loses his power because of his exaggeratedly good image of himself when he is seducing Melanie. Lucy is abused by three men in her own house, and from there on everything changes for David, Petrus and Lucy. When this happens, Petrus is away. David is totally powerless in this point. He can't do any help to Lucy.

THEME OF EXPOLITATION

In this novel, Coetzee has played out the plight of the white and black people in a different aspect. This theme of exploitation can be witnessed at both personal and societal levels. Every character suffers a form of exploitation at different places. The power of exploitation in characters takes a change in the middle of the novel. The exploiter becomes the victim of exploitation at some point and vice versa.

In the beginning, the initial encounter between David Lurie and Soraya was much of business like. Soraya was exploited but on her will. When he finds out about Soraya leaving the agency, his action of hiring a detective to find her displays how intimidated and powerless he felt. Soraya who was exploited earlier took charge of the situation and showed Lurie what his place was. When the subaltern in the situation rises, the exploiter could not bear it.

This novel expresses how Africa as a country still strives to free itself from the effects of the colonial times David works in the animal shelter where the animals are euthanized. He feels broken, hopeless and homeless. Animals are slaughtered irrespective of their colour-may be the goats that are slaughtered for Petrus's party or the dogs slaughtered in the animal shelter. In this

story, the exploited lead a miserable life. They live with grace while the exploiter is reduced to the poorest form.

THEME OF ISOLATION

Though David Lurie fails in following his moral values, his mind and soul urges for isolation. Since his marital life was not successful, he had no belief in relationship. He likes to be alone when he does something unfair and after. He loses his virtue of being amicable and a gentleman. A man of this nature always put themselves in the state of isolation. He does not prefer to be engaged with people around them but all alone.

It is true that highly creative individual sometimes fails in personal relationships and they feel to be in isolation. Nothing prepares us for this disease called isolation but the state of mind the person goes through. This happens in the shape of early separation or bereavement. They go through several stages, at last they choose isolation as the best option to forget or live with the memories of their close one. The theme of isolation can be witnessed throughout the novel.

'But the truth, he knows, is otherwise. His pleasure in living has been snuffed out. Like a leaf on a stream, like a puffball on a breeze, he has begun to float towards his end. He sees it quite clearly, and fills him with despair. The blood of life is leaving his body and despair is taking its place, despair that is like a gas, odourless, tasteless, without nourishment. You breathe it in, your limbs relax, you cease to care, even at the moment when the steel touches your throat J.M.Coetzee.

This relates to David Lurie as well. Comparing to his omniscient personal life, his professional life is transparent. There was no one to take care of him nor comfort him so he was in search of happiness. He was surrounded by female figures in his family. He did not have a proper male figure in his family.

Because he spent his childhood in a family of woman. As mother, aunts, sisters were replaced into mistresses, wives, and daughter so that he didn't get the love of this father and respect for women.

He felt that keeping himself away from the society would be good and safe for him, but that was not so long for him in the case of Melanic Issac, was the student of David Lurie in his Romantic course. In this novel Coetzee takes up the issue of rape, gender inequality black vs white. This can be taken under gender based isolation or racial isolation.

When Lucy is introduced in this novel she is depicted as a lonely homosexual who lives alone on her farm. Her isolation is mental, physical as well as psychological. Isolation should be filled in one way or the other in that case Lurie fills it through Melanie whereas Lucy overcomes by adjusting herself in the place she live.

There are many reasons for her isolation. First it is because of her inability to handle her relationship with her father David Lurie or with her partner Helen. This can be due to her early life. Her parents were divorced when she was very young. She is living with either of them. One of the reasons that since she is lonely and did not have a normal family. She did not have close relationship with her family.

THEME OF CHANGE FROM ONE LEVEL TO ANOTHER

The affair with Melanie leads to David leaving the university and to choose to move to his daughter's side in a small holding. As a reader you do not know much about Lucy. You know that David did not have very close connection to her which gives you the feeling that he has no control relationship to her daughter. The aim of him moving to Lucy was for him start over the reason why he chooses to go to her might be because she is the only family, he has by having said that one could argue that he is a lovely man he seeks refuge in his daughter hoping for some peace in his confusion life.

David chooses to care for Lucy and want what is best for her. To this she doesn't agree. When David first came to Lucy's place, he wanted to seek refugee but the situation changes drastically. David decides to go back to Cape Town for a while after realizing. That Lucy and he do not get along very well. That is yet another choice he makes. In the process to getting closer to her again which is a choice that again strengthens his agency. In the novel to feels that everything he does from the very beginning is based upon his own control and choices which is true in the sense of him carrying out his life and the way he wants it to be but in the long run he has no power whatever of what is happening to him or to Lucy.

THEME- NOTION OF LOVE

This novel has more to do with desire rather than love. But we find a platonic love between father and daughter which is familiar. When Lurie was disgraced and shamed, he moved from the city to his daughter's farm to escape from the trouble for a while. Lucy asks about this issue to Lurie indirectly. This shows Lucy's concern towards Lurie and enquired if everything was alright.

When Lucy was abused, he was not the person who simply offered love and refuge. When she was pregnant and Lurie asks her to abort the child but she refuses to do so, this makes Lurie even more anger on her. Lurie doesn't want her daughter to bear the child of unknown man and he comes to know Lucy was a lesbian and her relationship was broken and doesn't want her to like this. She is not ready to make a decision. She is avoiding such talks because her memory's painfulness. David is very strong to make her move off. David shows his love to for daughter by telling her that this is not good for her thinking about what had happened and to move on. Lurie doesn't want her to be alone burying her memories deep inside.

Father always wanted his daughter to be happy that's what Lurie wants from Lucy. By comparing and contrasting Lurie's and

Lucy's they support them eventually. Hence Coetzee conclude that loved one presence is enough during hard times and difficult period. Lurie fails in his marriage life and with his relationship but been a good supporter for Lucy.

The familial love represents a more ideal and self-sacrificial emotion. *'From the day hid daughter as born, He has felt for her nothing but the Most spontaneous, most unstinting Love. Impossible she has been Unaware of it.'* (Coetzee 76).

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the book *Disgrace* explores reactions in which humans fight for their rights even if they have nothing to start with, to be human being. His job was to protect her and not cross the red line which seemed like nothing to him.

A person should age gracefully and should be respected by others and be a role model for many but not bringing disgrace to his family. One should not bring humiliation upon himself, because one fights all his life to protect his name.

What goes around comes around, in which he has harmed others, he was hired out of his job and his daughter was raped. He did not defend his daughter because she was not on her side, in which Lucy wished she could get her rights from the South African government which she could not do. One can say that disgrace is a novel which encodes many ethical issues. These issues are our all not straight forward; they are wrapped up by the aesthetics of the text.

In the theme of morality, David who does not believe in God, agrees to accept his disgrace. In the theme of powerful and powerless, David and Petrus have different intentions with using women. Petrus gain economic and material winnings. David's gains only the sexual pleasure. In the theme of exploitation, David works in the animal shelter

where the animals are euthanized. He feels broken, hopeless and homeless.

In the theme of change from one level to another, everything he used to be in control turns into the position of weakness, shame and disgrace which makes his agency fade. In the theme notion of love, in this novel seducing has more to do than love, but we find that familial love is an intense feeling of deep affection between Lurie and Lucy.

This story has many cultural issues that can be applied to real life problems in which they should be put into consideration. Still this world exists in the clutches of the evils that is to be rescued through hope, reformation and action.

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**TO ANALYSE THE THEME OF GENDER
IDENTITY IN THAT LONG SILENCE BY
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ABSTRACT

Silence plays a vital role in Gender Identity novels on Contemporary Literature. Being silent between unwanted conversations is healthy whereas it differs in other situations which can become an obstacle between the communicators. Shashi Deshpande has won the Sahitya Academy Award in 1989 and was awarded Padma Shri in 2009 for her fifth novel, *That Long Silence*. This shows the authors psychological insight of the Indian women. This paper analyses the theme of gender identity through silence in this novel *That Long Silence* and the realities of drooping of the revolutionary ideas due to the changes in time through the Protagonist Jaya, who attempts to solve her problem with temporary withdrawal and later realizing her mistake and becoming successful in both married life and in her career. It also expresses the Quest of identity, the pain and sufferings of the Indian women in our society.

Keywords: Silence, Self-identity, Self-realization, Society norms, Suppression

Indian literature is considered to be one of the oldest literatures. In the beginning the stories were passed from one generation to another verbally by the oldest to the youngest. Later everyone started to write their thoughts

on palm leaves, stones and so on and preserved it. The earlier books were Vedas and Upanishads. During the Independence era in India Literature has played a vital role in igniting the feeling of patriotism in the minds of the people. Later after the independence Indian literature got its recognition as a separate literature and was acclaimed globally. This is further divided into other literature according to the language in which it is written.

The famous writers were Rabindranath Tagore, Bharathiyar, Kalidasa, Kambar, Mahatma Gandhi and many more. After many years passed a new type of writing named 'feminism' emerged after women writing became prominent. In this type of writing women started to write about their experiences, life and the domestic violence they undergo in day to day life.

There are many women writers who pen down their thoughts and ideas about the society on the themes of Feminism, Male dominations and so on. Feminist writing is one of the most interesting developments in fiction. Margaret Drabble used feminism as a central theme in her fiction. In the novel, *The Millstone and The Waterfall* she brings out the conflict of the modern woman to who freedom is given to them in theory but not in reality.

The popular women writers like Virginia Woolf, Toni Morrison, Margaret Atwood, Mary Shelly, Jane Austen, George Eliot, Alice Walker and Emily Bronte have created a niche for themselves in literature. Mary Wollstonecraft was the first feminist women writer. Indian women writers often spoke about male domination, women sufferings in the Society with a simple style of Frankness in their works. Shashi Deshpande an eminent writer uses feminist ideas in her works. The Contemporary writers of Shashi Deshpande are Anita Desai, Arundhati Roy, Anita Nair, Kiran Desai and the confessional poet Kamala Das.

Shashi Deshpande was born on 19th August 1938 in Dharwad, Karnataka. She is the youngest daughter of R.V. Jagirdhar who was a Sanskrit scholar, novelist, actor and a dramatist. His works has become a representation of the national heritage. She completed her Undergraduate in Economics in 1956 and studied diploma in Journalism in 1970. She also took a second degree in Law at Bangalore. She received Nanjangud Tirumalaba award for her novel "*The Dark Holds No Terrors*" in 1989. She got restless with being just a housewife and mother. In her stories, women always belongs to middle class who fight for their identity in family and society. She is a writer as well as a political person. Her work *writing from the Margin: And other essays* was published in 2003.

Shashi Deshpande has written eleven short stories, novels and many children's books. In her novel she talks about how a man manipulates and dominates a woman in the family that leads to her loss of identity. She uses the narrative technique to bring out the married women's plight and the constrained procedures that our society created over the years. The settings of her society often depict the tradition of our Indian Society. Her protagonists were mostly women who belong to middle class families. Some of her famous works are *The Dark Holds No Terrors* (1986), *The Intrusion, The Binding Vine* (1992), *Shadow Play* (2013), *That Long Silence* (1988), *A matter of Time* (1999), *Small Remedies* (2000), *Moving On* (2004), *Strangers to Ourselves* (2015).

Shashi Deshpande is a great short story writer, prominent novelist who also wrote four children's books. In 1978, her collections of short stories were published. *The Dark Holds No Terror*, her first novel was published in 1980. She was awarded *Sahitya Akademi* in 1990 and *The Padma Shri* award in 2009 for the novel, *That Long Silence*. Her works revolves around women and are mostly based on male domination, alienation, stereotypical ideas on women and identity and the

constriction of rules from the society over women. *That Long Silence* is a fictional and an autobiographical novel which portrays the impacts of linguistic diversity and brings out the stereotypical ideas which makes a woman dumb in society.

That Long Silence is Shashi Deshpande's masterpiece, which opposes the Indian rules and regulations imposed on Indian women. Jaya, the protagonist of *That Long Silence*, who lived as an "individual" when she was with her parents. Her grandmother used to advise her to be a conventional woman, in a sense, a wife who shouldn't raise her voice against her husband. Jaya retains her sense of individuality. She writes in her free time, even though she has failed to become an successful author. Jaya is educated and gets married to Mohan a wealthy business man. Jaya and Mohan disagree on many things and there is no space to express her views and opinions. Mohan expects her to adjust with him unquestioningly. There was no love between them. As days passed on they had two children Ravi and Rati.

Unfortunately, her husband was suspended from the job for his malpractice in work. She used to write after her marriage, her topics are mostly related to her unhealthy marriage life which is not liked by her husband. Jaya's sister Kusum meets Jaya and told her about her unsuccessful married life. Meanwhile, Jaya is busy with her responsibilities as a mother and housewife and to remain silent. Mohan wanted her support and care in which she lacked to give. As her grandmother told her she maintains to be silent even when her husband suffers from mental stress. Silence is a major cause for the conflict and separation between them. Their son Ravi runs out from the home which makes her to realize her mistake of being silent when her husband needs her help. Mr. Kamat, a neighbor of Jaya advised her and made her to realize her mistakes.

The novel is about a woman who wanted to live her individual life and to find

her identity. Stereotypical ideas are the ones which makes women to be silent and dominate her when she tries to explore her ideas. The plot has a central theme that is the impact of silence and the search of gender identity. The conventional ideas and the uncivilized thoughts dominate a woman even though she is educated. They don't have individuality and want to be dependent on the male. *That Long Silence* is a Novel which brings Indian women sufferings under the conventional ideas and male domination society. The family issues and inner conflicts are picturized in this novel.

Shashi Deshpande portrays the feelings and inner conflicts of a middle class Indian woman through the character of Jaya. It speaks about the gender discrimination and inequality that is prevalent in the Indian society. Shashi Deshpande says that, "This book is demystifying women hood".

One of Shashi Deshpande's quotes, "There was...the feeling that after becoming a wife and mother, my intellectual self, which had been so important a part of me until then was being suppressed, that it was being discounted, not valued" (). This dormant self was becoming restive, it wanted a release. Maybe it was out of the conflict between this 'female self' and the intellectual self that self expression began" where she is searching for her own self. This quote is similar to her novel *That Long Silence*. The novel evolves many themes such as suppression of women, society etc but the major theme expressed in this novel is Gender Identity through self realization. The themes are written to give impact to the readers and to insist the readers to follow the principles that not cause harm to woman.

Deshpande's quest for identity and freedom has become prominent themes. *That Long Silence* signifies the pathetic condition of Indian woman. It is a reflection of sufferings of an Indian woman in the dogmatic society i.e., family. It also reflects how woman suffers deeply and end up life silently baring molestations of male. The sacrifice made by women counterpart is hardly noticed by the

male dominated society. The writer wants such women who suffer to break their silence in the wake of feminist movement. The novel illustrates the image of women in the middle-class family and the way she is sandwiched between the tradition and modernity.

The title of the novel depicts the intention of the novel is in order to reveal the female psyche during the quest of Jaya, the protagonist, for herself. It reveals the true identity.

So Deshpande seems to give the message that woman should accept their own responsibility for what they are see how much they have contributed to their own victimization "It is only through self analysis and self understanding through vigilance and courage, they can begin to change their lives." Without that, life would be impossible. And if there is anything to know now it is this life has always to be made possible (193).

The main protagonist in the novel hates the snapshots of the traditional women such as Savitri, Draupati and Sita. Rather she prefers the metaphoric use of a pair of bullocks substituted to a married couple. "Two bullocks yoked together...it is more comfortable for them to move in the same direction. To go in the different directions would be painful; and what animal would voluntarily choose pain?"(11, 12)".

Deshpande then uses the picture of a crawling worm in the hole. The worm represents Jaya as a sprouting writer who is trapped by the Stereotypical society leading to her loss of Identity. "Oh God I thought I can't take any more even a worm has a hole it can crawl into" (*Shashi Deshpande's that Long Silence*). This shows her quest for Identity and the pain is expressed by the author with striking use of words.

In the end of the novel when Jaya realizes her mistake of being silent a thrust is given to the readers stating that one should not loose ones identity at any cost even it may be family or any reasons. Feminism the main

view of the author explored in this novel helps researchers to transform the society's view on woman and help them bring out their own identity. Through this novel Shashi conveys to his readers that "No gender is inferior to any other gender. All are equal in the eyes of God. When both the genders are treated equally there will be no harassments and there will be harmony forever both in the family and society".

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DISCRIMINATION ON WOMEN IN ANITA DESAI'S FASTING FEASTING

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ABSTRACT

Anita Desai is one of the most prominent Indian women novelists. She is known as the Mother of the Indian Psychological novel. Anita Desai's other works include *Scholar and Gipsy*, *The Village by the Sea*, *Games at Twilight*. *Fire on the Mountain* which received Sahitya Akademi Award in 1978. She portrays the emotional trauma of a woman as an individual. In her novel more attention is paid towards the education of boys. Anita Desai's *Fasting Feasting* is a story of an Indian traditional family which has different standards in daughter's and son's life. The main focus of the paper is to bring out the discrimination of women which is effectively portrayed in the novel. The discrimination of women was brought out by two characters. One is Uma who is a protagonist who does not allowed to pursue education and another character is Anamika who is a brilliant student and wins the scholarship in Oxford University. She could not continue her studies because she is married off to a man. In this novel not only patriarchal society is responsible for discrimination but even the female characters are also active participants in discriminating women.

Keywords: Anita Desai, Discrimination, Patriarchy, Family, Education.

Literature is the absolute representation of life. It reflects the lives of different people around the globe. It connects each individual in the name of culture, economy, politics, and technology. It fabricates a way for the people to fictionalize their thoughts and experiences. Literature in the present scenario still exists as

an expression of art, a source of knowledge, and an instrument of refreshment. It has different forms like prose, poetry, drama, and novels. Still, it provides the same insight knowledge and emotions.

The body of writing by Indian authors who use the English language is referred to as Indian English Literature, who speaks English as well as one of the Indian language as a second or co-native language. Salman Rushdie, among other diaspora residents, was born in India. The first book of Indian English Literature is *Travels of Dean Mahomet* was written in English by an Indian author named Sake Dean Mahomet. The account of Mahomet's Travel was printed in England in 1793.

In order to describe an experience, early Indian writers employed novels written entirely in English. It was mostly of Indian origin. Writings by women in the 20th century shifted toward a modernist art form where feminist sentiments were blended with political commentary. Women's works like Hamsa Wadkar, displayed an honest image of the world's professional women who work in theatre and television distinguished them into a separate class while still subjecting them to the same violence and pressure of patriarchy.

Hamsa Wadkar discusses her life as an actor starting at the age of eleven in her book. In her life she was married to suspicious and violent husband. She was imprisoned at his home together with two other woman after eloping with another man. Women's causes and political activism were mixed by writers like Mahashwethadevi.

Mahashwethadevi constructs a realm of tribal rebel fighting in Draupadi. They became Maxalities in protest against a strong armed capitalism based political system. Others like Sashi Deshpande constructs a forum for common female experiences. She investigates the experiences of women in *Binding Vine* where women comes from various strata of society.

Anita Desai was born 24 June 1937. She is an author from Indian and a former professor of Humanities at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Anita Desai was born in 1937 to a Bengali father and a German mother in Mussoorie, India. Her German mother and Bengali father first met when he was student at a Berlin-based engineering students and they were married while the city was still it's unusual for an Indian man to wed a woman from Europe. After getting married; they relocated to Delhi.

Anita Desai speaks exclusively German at home and Hindi with her neighbors. Bengali, Urdu and English are the three native languages were she was well-versed in it. In the year first she began to read and write English, it was her "literary language" because she studied it in school. She started to write at the age of seven and her first story was published when she was nine. She completed her schooling in Queen Mary's Higher Secondary school in Delhi and she was graduated her B.A.English Literature in 1957 from the university of Delhi's Miranda House. In 1957 she was wed to director of computer software company Ashvin Desai.

She launched her literary career by publishing *Cry the Peacock* by her debut book in 1963 She is one of the most well-known authors of the modern generation in terms of writing style. Anita Desai's other notable works are *Cry, The Peacock* (1963), *Voices in the city* (1965), *Bye-Bye Blackbird* (1971), *The Peacock Garden* (1974), *Where Shall We Go This Summer* (1975), *Cat on a Houseboat* (1976), *Fire on the Mountain* (1977), *Games at Twilight* (1978), *Clear Light of Day* (1980), *The Village by the Sea* (1982), *In Custody* (1984), *Baumgartner's Bombay* (1988), *Journey to Ithaca* (1995), *Scholar and Gipse* (1996), *Fasting Feasting* (1999), *Diamond Dust and other stories* (2000), *The Zigzag Way* (2004), *The Artist of Disappearance* (2011).

Anita Desai's significant honors includes Winifred Holtby Memorial prize and Sahitya Akademi in 1978 and in 1980 she was

shortlisted for Booker prize for fiction in 1980. She was bestowed for Neil Gunn Prize in 1993, Alberto Moravia Prize for Literature (Italy) 2003, Benson Medal of Royal society of Literature in 2007 and Padma Bhushan in 2014.

Anita Desai's novel in *In Custody*, Devan Sharma the primary protagonist of this story who is residing in India. The 1980s until 1999 are covered by the narrative. During this period Indian cultures and practices were evolving.

The Village by the Sea sets up in a little village called Thul in Western India. The family in the novel who were split up and attempts to reunite toward the conclusion of the novel. The 13 year-old Lila, who is the oldest child and Hari who is 12 years old are the protagonists.

The main themes of the book *Fire on the Mountain* are loneliness and solitude as used as the misery and suffering in an elderly widow's abandoned life. Anita Desai's book *Cry the Peacock* features Maya, a young married woman who is troubled by childhood memories of a fatal catastrophe.

Voices in the City is a story talks about freedom and struggle of the people. The Peacock Garden starts from a character of Zuni who is a little Muslim girl whose family is involved in the conflict in this tale. Rather than remaining in Pakistan the family of Zuni travelled as refugees and lived in the mosque's garden like many other Muslim household engaged.

A brief narrative called *Games at Twilight*. The plot of the narrative is rather simple. The entire story revolves around the popular children's game of hide and seek in India. In cat on the Houseboat, Papaya was an unusual kitten. She was a wonderful travelling cat and like to eat papayas. In this story she developed various experiences. When Nira, Nily and their parents stayed in a boat house in Kashmir Papaya began to enjoy its vacations.

Anita Desai depicts the difficulties experienced by an Indian family after partition in *Clear Light of the Day*. In *Bye- Bye Blackbird*, the life of immigrants who experience a conflicted love and hate for their home nation in a strange civilization is depicted. The tale is separated into three sections: arrival, disclosure and perception, abandonment.

She uses bullying and manipulation, self-realization, and existentialism as themes in her book *In Custody*. Freedom, adaptability, and family are presented in *The Village by the Sea*. Exile, nature, and alienation are all themes in *Fire on the Mountain*. Death and detachedness are present in *Voices in the City*. Violence and garden dividers are present in *The Peacock*. Social hierarchy, alienation, and isolation are focused in *Games at Twilight*. Family, escape, and women's place in society are all addressed in *Clear Light of the Day*.

The novel *Fasting Feasting* was split up into two sections. The first section of the book is sets in India and describes the life of Uma, the daughter of Mama and Papa, who is trapped between four constricting walls. Similar like her brother Arun, Uma is not permitted to continue her schooling. She feels burdened by all the additional tasks, such as cooking and running errands. Early in her life, Uma can be seen straining to attend school. She is not as intelligent as her brother Arun, but she adores Mother Agnes, who is her sister and who teaches everything. Uma is ultimately forced to drop out of school and work for her parents. The novel's second section, which is sets in America and focuses on Arun's life. Anita Desai compares Uma's life to that of Arun in her character sketches. For instance, Arun is permitted to strive for excellence schooling in USA. He misses his native India despite remaining in America.

Two characters in Anita Desai's book *Fasting Feasting* bring up the mistreatment of women. One is the novel's main character, Uma, and the other is Anamika, Uma's cousin. *Fasting Feasting* performs a good job of

explaining how common prejudice against women works by showing how uma's (MamaPapa) parents prevent her from going to school to have her education. Arun, a male child, on the other hand, advocates for his schooling in the USA.

MamaandPapa.MamaPapa.PapaMama. It was hard to believe they had ever been Separate existences, that they had been separate entities and not MamaPapa in one Breathe (Desai 5)The girls in this book are not raised for education; instead, they are raised only for marriage and confinement inside four walls. Uma is the unmarried daughter of a middle-class family and is regarded as an oppressed woman.In my day, girls in the family were not given sweets, nuts, and good things to eat. If Something special had been bought in the market; it was given to the boys in the \Family. (Desai 5)

This statement was said by Mama as she recounts her childhood to her daughters Uma and Aruna. In those days, our forefathers believed that a boy's birth brought joy and happiness to the family while a girl's birth was a curse. From the moment of birth, women in India occupy a lower social class. Uma is the family's eldest child and is responsible for all home duties. Her father often criticizes her for her slow learning, and Arun received the greatest education possible in the United States but Uma is not allowed to attend a convent school.

This novel switches from present to past. When Arun and Aruna were born to her mother, Uma recalls, she was the sole one responsible for taking care of them and managing all household chores. Uma is shown in this book by Anita Desai as being a slow learner who won't pass her test. She will continue to take the same classes year after year, which is why her mother claims;

You know you failed your exams again. You're not being moved up. What's the

Use of going back to school? Stay at home and look after your baby brother. (Desai22)

When Uma became weary of managing all home duties, she went to Mother Agnes to ask for help with her studies. However, things did not go as planned, and her mother began to chastise Uma when Mother Agnes asked for her on Christmas Eve.

Didn't I tell you to go to the kitchen and learn these things? For so many years I have Telling you, and did you listen? No, you were at the convent, singing those Christian Hymns. You were playing games with that Anglo- Indian teacher showing you how to wear skirts and jump around. Play, play, play, that is all you ever did. Will that help you now? (Desai 77)

She is stressed out from doing chores like caring for her brother Arun, feeding him, bathing him, etc. Like Uma, Aruna, who is MamaPapa's second daughter, too wants to help around the house and care for her brother.

At one point, Uma's father made the decision for Uma to work as an ayah in other homes to make money. Additionally, because of Uma's weird face, several of the suitors who are chosen by her father have rejected her because of her body's tone and features. Unfortunately, she got married to Harish, a man who was already married.

For the purpose of a dowry, Harish married Uma. After her marriage, her husband began to discriminate against her as well as her parents, who had already done so. Papa is the one who learns that Harish has an additional family. And Uma began performing her usual household responsibilities in her husband's home. Now her father (papa) character was taken over by her spouse Harish.

Another victim of discrimination against women is Anamika, who is a relative of Uma, Aruna, and Arun. Anamika is MamaPapa's niece and the lovely, graceful, and smart daughter of Lily Aunt and Bakul.

She is a sweet and kind woman. The family deems Anamika to be their favourite female.

Anamika is not simply a lovely girl. She excels in school and receives a scholarship to Oxford University, but she was unable to complete her education because, like Uma, she wed a guy (a tragedy of arranged marriage). Because of her marriage, her mother-in-law and her husband beat her after she was betrothed.

She had been married for twenty-five years, the twenty-five that Uma had not.

Now she is dead, a jar of grey ashes. Uma, clasping her knees, can feel that she is Still flesh, not ashes. But she feels like ashcold, colorless, motionless ash. (Desai 155)

Therefore these are the events that occurred throughout Anamika's life. Her life has been linked to Anita Desai's other book, *Voices in the City*. The main character in this work is Monisha, who, like Anamika, ends her life because of her terrible husband.

Another character that is similar to Uma and Anamika is Mrs. Patton, who is treated unfairly by her husband while Arun travels with them in United States. Mr. Patton has made her want to abandon her vegetarianism like Piscine Molitor Patel (Pi) breaks his vegetarianism in Yann Martel's novel *Life of Pi*. When Arun confesses that he is a vegetarian, Mrs. Patton is delighted meanwhile Arun replaced the image of his father to Mr. Patton.

Mr. Patton ignores her. He is getting a can of beer out of the refrigerator. Opening it with a Shark jerk of his thumb, he demands, 'Where are the kids? Are they going to be in for?'

Dinner tonight? What have they been doing all day? Are they doing any work around here?

(Desai 207)

Mrs. Patton, who is the sister of Mrs. O'Henry and the wife of Mr. Patton and the

mother of Rod and Melanie, is concerned about her husband because he often ignores her and is more attached to his kids than to her.

Even though Uma lacks intelligence, she has a good heart, a strong sense of responsibility, and she matures spiritually tremendously as a result of the life-altering experiences she goes through. By the end of the book, she has carved a role in Indian society where she can express her individuality.

One of the most well-known Indian woman novelists is Anita Desai. She is recognized as a Mother of Indian Psychological Literature. *The Artist of Disappearance*, *The Zig Zag Way*, and *Games at Twilight* are some of Anita Desai's additional works. In 1978, *Fire on the Mountain* won a Sahitya Akademi Award. She emphasizes the unique emotional anguish experienced by women. The education of boys is given more focus in her book than that of girls.

Anita Desai uses her early years as a central element in several of her writings. Her writing style is frequently poetic and illustrative, focuses on fiction and fantasy, uses symbols and flashbacks, and is characterized by these elements. *Fasting Feasting* shifts back and forth between the past and present. Uma recalls in the past how she was forbidden from attending school to further her education while her brother Arun had the greatest education and opportunities in the USA.

Anita Desai is a mixed-race woman; her father is an Indian from Bengal and her mother is a German Christian. She uses Uma's character as an illustrative case study for how discrimination against women manifests itself when a woman is permitted to handle the responsibilities of the home, including cooking, making tea for her mother and father, and caring for her siblings Arun and Arun within four constrained walls.

Affection in marriage, loneliness, escapism, alienation, discrimination against

women, suffocation, family, and the domination of patriarchal society are the main themes that Anita Desai concentrates on in her writings. Her books are brief and straightforward. She makes wise use of image, symbol, and ideas. Her use of sounds and poetic symbolism in writing has won recognition. She differs from other modern Indian women writers of English literature in terms of her insight and special writing style.

Gender inequality is a major element covered in Fasting Feasting. Uma cannot attend a convent school because there is a division between the lives of males and girls, but Arun's father is looking for the greatest education possible for him. In this book, women are only ever brought up to get married and not for study.

Anita Mazumdar Desai, an Indian author, published her novel *Fasting, Feasting* in 1999. The novel *Fasting Feasting* was split into two parts. The first section of the book is set in India and depicts the life of Uma, the daughter of Mama and Papa, who is trapped between four constricting walls. Similarly like her brother Arun, Uma is not permitted to continue her schooling. She feels burdened by all the additional tasks, such as cooking and running errands. Early in her life, Uma can be seen straining to attend school. She is not as intelligent as her brother Arun, but she adores Mother Agnes, who is her sister and who teaches everything. She is ultimately forced to drop out of school and work for her parents. The novel's second section, which is set in America and focuses on Arun's life is set there. Anita Desai compares Uma's life to that of Arun in her character sketches. Arun, for instance, is permitted to seek his greatest education in the USA. He misses his native India though staying in America.

There are several repeating themes in the narratives, places, and characters in Anita Desai's novels. Her stories have two opposing instincts: one is a gothic mystery, the other is a philosophical fiction.

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ANUPAMA- AN EVOLUTION IN THE WORLD OF ILLUSION AND BETRAYAL IN SUDHA MURTHY'S MAHASHWETA

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ABSTRACT

This novel *Mahashweta* is written by Indian author Sudha Murthy. She has won the Padma Sri award. *Mahashweta* is stimulating and an eye opening Novel for the Modern Indian Woman. This paper investigates the depression of Anupama, who have been affected by Leukoderma and sent out from her mother in law's house, Anupama who was helpless and later lead a successful life. The main theme is isolation which moves the protagonist in a positive way. Through the novel the author focuses on women Empowerment and prevailing social condition of India. In this Paper vivid the Discrimination of Woman in Sudha Murthy's Novel *Mahashweta*.

Keywords: Leukoderma, Marriage, Isolation, Depression, Independent, Identity.

The word Literature comes under art which is written in works similar to the creative form of Language during the ancient place Literature was great in number and everything had its own form of Literature. The term language is known as Literature through literature people in the olden days started to ask questions against others it introduced many famous writers like Shakespeare, Coleridge and Leonardo Vinci. With literature people came to know the value of art in different Methods. The word literature derived from the Latin word *Litteratura* which is used to refer all written works. Later these concepts in oral forms of literature were classified according to fiction, non fiction, poetry and prose. so, literature is an oral or written work which consists of articular use of language that reflects human life. For example epic, poetry, drama, biography essay and Auto biography. Literature is everlasting by the ideologies and thoughts of an individual directing and reflecting the story of a particular person or a society or a nation. It has a story behind every creation. Basically literature was written for entertainment and later for knowledge. It has no limit to the subject it deals with literature is the most effective way of expressing emotions and feelings. Every literature is a kind of expression which comes to our mind. All writings in prose or poetry of famous writers has imaginative and real characters. Indian English literature also refer to as Indian writing in English is the body of work by writers in India who write in the English language and whose native or co native language could be one of the numerous languages in India it is frequently refer to us as Indo Anglian literature. Indian English literature is an honest enterprise to demonstrate the ever rare gems of Indian writing in English.

Sudha Murthy was born on 19th August 1950. She is an Indian engineering teacher, Kannada, Marathi and English author as well as a social worker. She is also the

chairperson of the Infosys foundation. She is married to co- founder of Infosys, N.R Narayana Murthy. She has won the Padma Sri award. Sudha Murthy began her professional carrier in computerscience and engineering. She is also a member of the public health care Initiative of the gate's foundation. She initiated a bold move to introduce computer and library facilities in schools in Karnataka and thought computer science. She got 'best teacher award' in 1995 from rotary club at Bengaluru. Murthy is best known known for her social work and her contribution to literature in Kannada and English. Sudha Murthy has also acted in the Marathi film *Pitruroun* and the Kannada film *Prarthama*. 'When someone looks down upon you, let them do it. You can't control others Mind. Believe in yourself.' Sudha Murthy, advises young woman, one has to have some support- either from parents or in- laws- when a child comes into the family. 'Whatever little time you get, you should spend it on children until they are fourteen. After that they don't require you, says this loving mother who was not strict with her children.

Sudha Murthy wrote all her novels in Kannada until she turned fifty in two thousand. Sudha Murthy first English book came up two years later with *Wise and Otherwise*. Her books have been translated into twelve Indian languages and Italian too, she says. Sudha Murthy says her target audience is not only children but young people and parents as well. Sudha Murthy is well – known for her book *How I taught my grandmother to read*, which continues to inspire many, and is also included in academic syllabuses for students across India. Since then, she has penned many books, including *Here, There, Everywhere*, *The Mother I Never Knew*, and *Three Thousand Stitches*. *Grandma's bag of stories* originally published in the year 2012 was written by Sudha Murthy. In *Grandma bag of stories* in this book the children go to meet the grandparents in *shiggaon* in north Karnataka. They also meet Vishnu kaka's grand children who live next door. *The Magic of The Last*

Temple originally published in the year 2015 was written by Sudha Murthy. City girl Nooni surprised at the pace of the life in her grandparents village in Karnataka. But she quickly gets used to the gentle routine there and involves herself in a flurry of activities, including puppet making.

Mahashweta by Sudha Murthy is one such book. It is a simple story of a simple girl with simple aspirations, who wants to lead a simple life. Her name is Anupama. She finds fairy tale love and gets married, only to find her dreams shattered to pieces. When she discovers that she has Leukoderma. This novel deals with the themes of courage, education, social evils, feminism, social status and family relationships is more important than money and silent suppression of woman and how they overcome their problems in society. She gives more importance to spiritual love. Mahashweta is stimulating and an eye opening novel for the modern Indian women.

The title Mahashweta is taken from the Sanskrit novel 'Kadambhari' by the great scholar, Bana Bhatta. In the Sanskrit novel heroine is named Mahashweta, she is the daughter of King Gandhara. The hero, Pundarika meets with death. Mahashweta could not afford him dying, so she tackles the situations herself with a severe penance by wearing a white saree in the forest. By her effort and heart rendering love, she gets her lover, Pundarika back to life and is reunited. This story is also based on the story the same way as Anu who is pure tries all sorts of things to save her marriage. Mahashweta is one of the best works of Sudha Murthy. The novel Posturizes a young beautiful and bold girl named Anupama. She gets married as in a fairy tale and later she was affected by leukoderma and her life changes.

Mahashweta, the main protagonist of the novel is Anupama is a Sanskrit erudite. Anupama is depicted to be a product of rapid transformation. So here the importance is given to woman and a play. Sudha Murthy's novel entitled "Mahashweta" seem to have been

originated from Bana Bhatt's Sanskrit novel "Kadambhari" where Mahashweta plays a significant role as a heroine. The following expression of the heroine Anupama of the novel "Mahashweta" shows her intense and unconditional love to her lover Dr. Anand who does not honour her love simply because of the fact she suffers from an incurable disease called leukoderma after marriage. The novel begins with 'the female child is stronger than the male child at birth, as adults it is the man who becomes oppressor, and woman who suffers. According to Simone de Beauvoir 'one is not born, but rather becomes a woman' is not born, but rather becomes a woman'.

Sudha murthy presents the story of Anupama, the protagonist of the novel. She is a beautiful woman, intelligent, a classical singer and actor. Anupama as per her name means none can compare with her. The intelligent and well-established Dr. Anand gets attracted towards Anupama by her simplicity and striking beauty. Anupama is also attracted towards him. But Anupama is a little hesitant as she is from a poor background. But after all the struggle both the families agree for the marriage. For Anupama, it was dream come true. Even though her mother-in-law did not like her she agrees only because of her beauty. The select novel Mahashweta is one of the best work of Sudha murthy. The novel focus on women's struggle, pain, anguish, sorrows, conflicts as well as how the protagonist comes out from pessimistic condition to strong woman. But in this process of the transformation of the protagonist in the marital relation becomes fragile. Before the marriage Anupama's life was very simple but free of any kind of worries. She was active in social work. She used her talent to help the poor and needy by collecting donation, selling tickets. Educated Anupama wanted to support her father but she couldn't. But after her marriage her life become more critical due dominating mother and arrogant sister in law. Her real problem started from the day she discovered white patch on her leg and it was

leukoderma from the dermatologist. She lost all her freedom. Radhakka, a mother of Anand treated Anupama like untouchable and sent her to her father's house. Anupama was blamed for hiding the disease and marrying Anand. He was the only person who knows the truth. As a Doctor Profession knows the internal emotional feeling of the patient. As a husband he has to understand his wife but he just believe what his mother said ignoring the reality. Anupama wrote, any letters to Dr. Anand when he was in England but he didn't reply. Dr. Anand failed to understand inner beauty of which she isn't comfortable.

Here we see the violations of Women's rights. When a woman leaves her husband's house she does not have a place to live. Here Anupama is forced to leave her husband's house. A woman without her man has to face much Embarrassment in the society, though parents of the daughter would consider as bad omen to stay with them after her marriage. When it comes to Anupama, she suffered a lot because she was in her step-mother's house. Anupama tries her best too obtain the rights when it fails she went to search for independent individual identity. She collects all her courage and determined herself in prayer to goddess, "give me the courage to live know matter what happens! However know matter how trivial they are in their society, they are daily struggles are much enough to raise great sympathy and stress for the environment that the characters are part of.

Now she gains enough courage and bravery to lead an individual life in new place. She rebels against the laws follow in the society and she puts everything backward and walks through the ways forbidden by and settles herself a different person in the end of the novel. She explained and emotional and determination, 'we have become good friends. Let us remain so, and not complicate our relationship by getting married.

She represents the woman of postmodern world in this respect, who is turn between freedom and tradition The findings

that emerged from the study reveal the violence, denigration, and exploitation faced by the female characters of the novel such as Anupama, Mirdula and Shrimati. It is inferred that the women in the novel such as Mirdula, Shrimati and Anupama are simple, hardworking and innocent throughout, whereas as the males – Sanjay, Srikant and Anand are strongly influenced by the power of luxury, comfort and materialism, steadily climbing up the corporate ladder without realising the value of family life. The man's greed for power, luxury and social status as proved to be very expensive to the female characters. The female Protagonist realize the fact that artificial values and material success cannot make a person successful. They also work tirelessly to overcome the barriers drawn by male dominated society to lead a purposeful life.

Mahashweta is a great novel it highlights false values and superstitions many of us have. The character of Anupama a representation of the society where even education cannot change a man's mind set. The society plays a vital role in everyone's life. Anupama when she gets the white patches, she feels bad but she is a transformation from a world where people keep suppressing women but she takes it in a positive note and changes the other way. The white patches represent her purity and her love for her husband even though he is not with her. She remains strong and represents the female society on the whole. The writer has portrayed various aspects of Indian society – arranged marriages, dominating mother-in-law, helpful friends, hypocrite relatives, a cursing stepmother and worried parents of a young Indian girl. Through the novel Mahashweta,

Sudha Murthy has tried to emphasise few things such as, the myth that leukoderma is hereditary, or infectious disease. When we take marriage rows – we should take them seriously. In our life we should never take our near and dear ones for granted. The social stigma of the married woman living with her parents her stepmother's continual barbs

and the ostracism that accompanies her skin condition force her to contemplate suicide. "Marriage is a gamble. The result cannot be predicted beforehand. Finding the right match is matter of chance. I was unlucky in this. Even household pets are treated with love and care when they are unwell.

A woman is an equal competent just like a man. Today a woman has also become a direct money earner and she is not only confined to household works. The character Anand and Anupama reflecting the mood and temperament of present-day couple. The Novel Mahashweta projects post-Independence sentiments and attitudes crystal clearly making the readers to think that life after marriage is not to live individual life but to life together with right understanding to lead a clean and healthy life. As a result, analysis of 'Mahashweta' is focused on the theme of isolation. References.

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AN INDIGNATION NARRATIVES OF WOMEN IN ADRIENNE RICH'S POEMS

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ABSTRACT

Adrienne Rich is an accomplished American Poet. She was born on May 16, 1926 in Maryland and she marked her absence in this world on March 2, 2012. Her famous works include *The Diamond Cutters and Other Poems (1955)*, *Dark Fields Of The Republic (1995)*, *Midnight Salvage (1979)* etc. Her notable accolades are National Medal of Arts in 1997, Bollingen Prize in 2003. This paper focuses on two poems of Adrienne Rich, *Snapshots of a Daughter in law and Diving into the Wreck* which deals with feminism, oppression and tormented life of women. The first poem deals with the torments of a married woman and it tells about the oppressive life of women beneath the patriarchal society. This poem also reveals the overlooked desires of women. The second poem reveals an immense angst of woman, this poem exemplifies a disappearance of woman in history. The main focus of the paper is to reveal the woman's inner wrath to the people, for being belittled by the patriarchy society.

Keywords : Adrienne Rich, Oppression, Patriarchy, Torment and Resilience

Poetry falls under a kind of Literature, which deals with aesthetic and rhythmic qualities of language. This genre has a tendency to evoke a concentrated imaginative awareness of experience or emotional response through a language of sound or rhythm. Geoffrey Chaucer has gained the fame of being

extolled as Father of English Poetry. The inception of poetry can be traced in the 13th Century, which existed as an oral recitation. The miscellaneous genres of poetry comprises Narrative Poetry, Lyric Poetry, Epic Poetry, Satirical Poetry, Elegy, Verse fable, Dramatic Poetry, Speculative Poetry, Prose Poetry, Light Poetry and Slam Poetry. The work *Hymn on the Creation* alleged to be the first poem in English Literature written by Caedmon. Caedmon is considered to be the first poet in English Literature.

Adrienne Rich is an American Poet, essayist and feminist. She was born on May 16, 1929 in Baltimore, Maryland. Her existence came to an end on March 27, 2012. She obtained her School education in Roland Park Country School, Later she enrolled herself at Radcliff College to pursue a diploma in B.A. The inception of her literary career occurred when her father encouraged her to write poetry at a young age. Her father is a Professor and Pathologist. Her mother is a pianist. She was highly idolized by the great writers like Blake, Keats, Dante Gabriel Rosetti and Tennyson. She has spent half of her lifetime exploring Europe and Italy in pursuit of writing Poetry.

Her first collection of poetry *A Change of World* was accepted by an acclaimed poet W.H Auden for the Yale Series of Younger Poets Award. She has garnered massive accolades through her first collection of poetry. Her other poems include *Leaflets Poems* (1965 - 1968), *The Dream of Common Language Poems* (1974- 1977), *An Atlas of the Difficult World* (1988- 1991) etc. Her feats in literature includes National Book Award in 1974, Bollingen Prize in 2003, Griffin Poetry Prize in 2010 and National medal of arts. Adrienne Rich raised a red flag, when she was awarded with the National Medal of Arts, she refused to accept the award due to certain controversies.

She has a radical feminist voice in all of her works. She has played an inexplicable role in social justice and in the anti war movement as a result, she has also penned

down work of criticisms and nonfiction, which includes *Of Women Born, Motherhood as Experience and Institution* etc. During 1950 and 1970 she has widely contributed to feminist movement especially during "Second wave of feminism". She has also written about "White Feminism". The work *Blood, Bread and Poetry* bears the theme of White Feminism.

Her contemporaries are David Jones, Dylan Thomas, Philip Larkin and Stevie Smith, and their works includes *The Anthemata* (1952), *Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night* (1951), *Not Waving But Drowning* (1957) and *Mr. Beanly* (1955). This paper mainly focuses on two of Adrienne Rich's poems, *The Snapshot of Daughter in Law* (1963) and *Diving into the Wreck* (1973). Both of her poems mainly focuses on the theme Feminism since she expressed her rage against patriarchy society through these two poems. The poem *Diving into the Wreck* was published during the second wave of feminist movement and it also won National Award.

The first poem *Snapshots Of Daughter In Law* deals with the torments of a married woman and it tells about the oppressive life of women beneath the patriarchal society. This poem also reveals the overlooked desires of women. The second poem reveals an immense angst of woman, this poem exemplifies a disappearance of woman in history. The main focus of the paper is to reveal the woman's inner wrath to the people, for being belittled by the patriarchy society.

The title, an indignation narratives of women, focuses on two poems *Snapshots of Daughter in Law and Diving into the Wreck*. The title can be justified through these two poems. The first poem *Snapshots of Daughter in Law* deals with women's oppressive life in patriarchal society. This poem has four parts, the first four parts deal with the unhealthy relationship between daughter in law and mother in law. The next ten parts deal with the oppressive life of women in patriarchal society. The first stanza of the poem deals with the

description of the poet's mother in law, she tells that her mother in law has henna hair color and her dresses are very old fashioned, which means she dislikes her fashion sense. Her mother in law was beautiful when she was very young; these are the descriptions the poet gives in the first stanza. In the second stanza she criticizes her mother-in-law.

She says that her mother-in-law's mind is like a moldering cake filled with useless experiences. She says that her mind is filled with suspicion, rumors and fantasy. Her mother in law always criticizes her, and the poet tells that her mother-in-law's useless thoughts will crumble like a moldering cake. Through this stanza we can make out that the poet's mother in law coerces her to live an oppressed life. The title can be justified through this stanza because the poet criticizes her mother-in-law and she pours out an extreme rage for making her life miserable using metaphors. She further says that she is forced to do all the household chores. She is sick of doing routine household work. She even banged a coffee pot into the sick out of wrath. She again expresses her indignation narrative through these emotions. She further says that she heard an angel telling "Have No Patience", which means enough is enough, get rid of all the household chores and life oppression.

SNAPSHOTS OF DAUGHTER IN LAW

"The next time it was: Be insatiable. Then: Save yourself; others you cannot save. Sometimes she's let the tap stream scald her arm." (Lines 18-20)

The title can be justified again because the poet tells that she has also burnt her finger and she forgot to close the tap as she was engrossed in her own thoughts. Her thoughts are filled with anguish and rage because she has been dumped by her mother in law and society. Her conscience is telling to revolt against the norms but she can't do it. She says that her physical pain is nothing compared to

her mental anguish. In the third and fourth stanza, the poet confesses that her mother in law is authoritative. She compares herself to a predator and her mother in law to a beak, she tells that her mother in law is eating her flesh through the beak. She expresses her fury by telling that she will stab her mother in law with the same knife by which she was stabbed. Here the poet's fury conveys her mother in law's authoritative behavior. She next compares her life to the loaded gun which is filled with rage and anguish. The next part of the poem deals with the patriarchal society and oppressive life of women. In the fifth stanza, she says that women have to shave her legs until they gleam to please men, the poet finds it very disgusting to please men because she wants to be liberal in absence of doing such sort of things. The poet compares Corinna bird to a woman, because the bird every time denies her own talent and it sings for men, likewise the woman is also denying her own wishes to please the men.

SNAPSHOTS OF DAUGHTER IN LAW

"Dulce ridens, dulce loquens, She shaves her legs until they gleam, like petrified mammoth-tusk"(Lines 49-51)

The poet even compares a woman's life to nature since nature is personified as women. She grumbles that nature has shown her household Books only to women but not to men. The title can be again justified because the poet expresses her intense temper and interrogates why it has always shown only to women but not to men? The poet couldn't restrain her fury and tells, even if women achieve by defying the society norms, they are labelled as harpy and shrew by men. The poet further tells that we all die at fifteen, here the narrative has changed in the eighth stanza because the poet represents every woman's suffering not only her personal bewails. She says that every woman dies at fifteen, when she gets married. At the age of fifteen, they are

getting married by burying their dreams and desires.

The narrative here was again changed, when the poet revealed the reason for her oppressed life. She says it is women who are the cause of oppression. She says that flattery made them live an oppressed life. The poet confirms that flattery is the one which derails women from achieving their desires. The poet concludes the poem by telling that women must not be flattered and they must achieve their desires. Throughout the poem, she preferred a rage filled tone to express her agony.

The second poem *diving into the Wreck* is also a feministic poem, which mainly deals with a liberty for women. The poem begins with a preparation, the poet prepares herself to dive into the wreck, which means underwater. As she prepares herself to dive into the underwater, she compares herself to Jacques Cousteau, a French mariner, who explored the wreck in devoid of others favor. The poet goes into the wreck and she encompasses herself with flora and fauna. She laid her eyes upon sea creatures, she even felt that she possessed both the aspects of male and female. The title can be justified through these poems because she feels that she is both mermaid and merman but she also confides that a woman's contributions will not be acknowledged, recognized or seen in history by society. They will extol only male anyway. Women's contributions are never going to be mentioned in the book of myths. She says that women will always remain invisible in history.

The term shipwreck refers to the life of a poet, she wants to wind back the clock to make out what caused her wreck. It is a kind of self exploration, she is revisiting her past. Her journey of diving into the wreck is daunting. It takes lot of courage than it's required. She faces lot of obstacles to reach, but at last she figures out that wreck is caused by male society. The title can be justified again through this poem because the poet tells that, the patriarchy society is the reason for woman's

wreck. Men damaged them and caused them wreck. The poet portrays the struggles of the women and the way they overcome it with the courage.

DIVING INTO THE WRECK

"We, I, you—all of us have, whether through shame or bravery, Made it back to this place. And we all carry a knife, camera, and the book of myths which doesn't mention us at all". (Lines 71-94)

In the beginning of the poem, she tells that, she prepares camera, knife and sharp to dive and as she dives, she faces lot of insecurities. She goes down by using ladder but no one is there to guide her. No one is there to tell, when she will reach the water. The air around her changed from blue, green then to black. She warned herself to not to get scared or distracted by the creatures. She concludes it by telling that women also carries camera, knife and bravery. She also struggles but only men are recognized. Only men are mentioned in the history not the women. At last men is the reason for woman's wreck.

The title can be justified through the poems *Snapshots of Daughter in Law and Diving into the Wreck*. Both poems reveals an indignation narratives of women. These two poems expressed anger of women. These poems were not set in a somber state but in a fury state. The poet is not pleading but demanding with fury. The didn't demand with tears but with wrath.

The paper commences with a deep scrutiny of the genre poetry, that part tells about the genre Poetry and the emergence of poetry in Literature. It also tells about various genres of poetry and literary devices. The last part of Introduction includes, Poet's life, her contemporaries, honors, awards and her notable works. The Introduction part came to a closure with a brief summary of the poems, *Snapshots of Daughter In Law and Diving Into the Wreck*. The second part of the paper deals

with the justification of the title through the poems *Snapshots of Daughter in Law and Diving into the Wreck*. The readers can wrap their mind around about Adrienne Rich's conviction on oppression. In the first poem she talks about oppression and unhealthy relationship between Daughter-in-law and mother-in-law. She talks about disgusting household chores and lack of liberty to live up to her desires. In final stanza of the poem the narrative has changed, the poet began with her own personal sufferings but at the end she represented entire women's sufferings. In the second poem, she talks about her miserable life. Though the poem initially commences with an utter dismay, the closing line of the poem rendered a notion about disappearance of women from the history and the way the men wrecked women's desires.

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VIOLENCE AND GENDER ROLE IN SELECT SHORT STORIES OF CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE

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ABSTRACT

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie is a Nigerian novelist, short story writer and a non-fiction writer. The acclaimed feminist writer focuses on poverty, crime, violence, assimilation, language barrier, ethnic and religious conflicts, gender oppression and women's role. This paper highlights the themes of violence and gender role in the select short stories *The Headstrong Historian* and *A Private Experience* from Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's short story collection *The Thing around Your Neck* published in April 2009.

Key words: Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, violence, assimilation, religion and ethnicity.

This study aimed at designing a model of instructional materials for Academic Writing Course focusing on research paper writing. The model was designed based on the Curriculum at the English Education Study Program, Faculty of Language and Art Education of IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro, East Java, Indonesia. This model was developed in order to improve students' skill in writing research paper which is one of the prerequisite tasks before graduating from university. The steps of this research and development consist of needs analysis, document analysis, model design, model development, and model experimentation. Violence and Gender Role in Select Short Stories of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie is a Nigerian scholar, author, essayist, short story writer, novelist and a feminist born in an Igbo family in the city of Enugu in 1977. Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie has written three novels, *Purple Hibiscus* (2003), *Half of a Yellow Sun* (2006) and *Americanah* (2013), a short story collection, *The Thing around Your Neck* (2009) and two non-fictions, *We Should All Be Feminists* (2014), *Dear Ijeawele* (2017) and a memoir

Notes on Grief (2021). Adichie has won the Commonwealth Writer's Prize in 2003, the Orange Prize in 2006, MacArthur Genius Fellowship in 2008, and the US National Book Critics Circle Award in 2013.

A short story is a genre of literature which was told in the form of narration before taking writing form. Though before the nineteenth century the short story was not predominantly considered as a distinct literary form, throughout the history humans have recognized and enjoyed as anecdotes short myths, abbreviated legends, etc. A short story is a brief fictional prose narrative that tends to be less complex than a novel. A short story focuses on only one or few incidents, has a single plot, a single setting, a single narrative, a limited number of characters and covers a short period of time with a beginning, a middle and an end to make it complete. Edgar Allan Poe opines that a short story should have unity of impression and singleness of purpose.

In her short story collection, *The Thing around Your Neck*, Adichie traverses the ties between men and women, parents and children and explores the link between Africa and America with twelve gleaming stories. Through her short stories, Adichie celebrates the cultural opulence and the intellectual vigour of Nigeria at the same time she illuminates the struggles of the Nigerian immigrants residing in the United States of America and the inequities in the jurisdiction and the society of Nigeria from the perspective of female protagonists.

This paper prioritizes the themes of violence and gender role in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's select short stories, *A Private Experience* and *The Headstrong Historian* from the short story collection *The Thing around Your Neck*.

In *The Headstrong Historian*, Nwambga and Obierika have a son named Anikwenwa after numerous miscarriages. After Obierika's murder by his two cousins, Nwambga sends her son to a catholic mission school to protect him and to make him learn English thus he can prosecute the two cousins. Anikwenwa wins their land back which was stolen by the cousins and he indulges too much into teaching that he spurns to eat heathen food, changes his name and declines all the other indigenous traditions. Anikwenwa marries and has two children. The second child Grace receives Western education but she is bewitched of her native culture. She stays with her grandmother when she is mortally ill. She writes a book on Nigerian history and embraces it that she divorces her husband as he considers it a worthless topic. She changes her name to Afamefuna. Adichie discloses the violence, assimilations, gender role and indigenous culture through *The Headstrong Historian*.

A Private Experience is about Chika and an unnamed woman in a forsaken store hiding from a riot in the market. Although Chika and the unnamed woman have a copious amount of differences, they have amity with each other. Chika's sister is lost in the riot and the woman's eldest daughter is lost too. Adichie disgorges the conflicts and the gender roles in the Nigerian society through *A Private Experience*.

The theme of violence is predominant in the short story *The Headstrong Historian*. Adichie illuminates the violence caused by jealousy in *The Headstrong Historian* with the characters, Okafo and Okoye. Obierika regarded his cousins, Okafo and Okoye as his own brothers. When Nwamgba had three miscarriages because of Obierika family's

misfortunes, Okafo and Okoye urged Obierika to marry another woman which Obierika declined. The cousins' envy darkened when Obierika took titles and widened his business. They killed him with medicine, smashing his trust. The cousins were heaping abominations by cheating a widow and forcing her to marry another man. They took a large piece of land and deceived the elders by saying that they were farming the land for Nwamgba.

Adichie portrays the psychological violence in *The Headstrong Historian* with the incident where the village girls tormented Nwamgba by saying, "She has sold her womb. He plays his flute and hands over his wealth to her.", which engendered Nwamgba to find a wife for her own husband.

Adichie depicts the violence of the rulers in *The Headstrong Historian* by describing how the British soldiers and the merchants of the companies destroyed the village Agueke and its people with their guns. Adichie emphasizes the violence and abuse of power by saying, "People ruled over others not because they were better people but because they had better guns", says Ayaju.

Adichie represents the violence of justice in *The Headstrong Historian* with a native person, who is the rightful owner of the land, lost the case and his land; furthermore he was beaten up and locked up, all because he did not know the language that the non native judges of the court spoke. The foreigners who first entered the nation for trade started destroying justice to the natives of the land and are illuminated.

Adichie emphasizes the violence of human rights in *The Headstrong Historian* with the sub theme slavery. A boy named Iroegbunam tells how he was abducted and was taken to a slave dealer. He was tied together by the hands with others who were abducted too. He was hit with a stick. They were treated like goats, taken on a large ship and eventually be eaten. They walked with a

little water till their feet bloodied and bodies became numb.

In *A Private Experience*, Adichie exhibits the violence caused by religious and ethnicity differences. Hausa Muslims behead Igbo Christians with machetes and Chika hides with a stranger woman in an abandoned store in the market. Adichie highlights that the riot can be avoided as the Holy Koran was on the roadside among the Muslims but no one bothered to look at it until a Christian and Igbo man drove over. The riot might have a political reason too. Adichie opines, "Religion and ethnicity are often politicized because the ruler is safe if the hungry ruled are killing one another".

In *A Private Experience*, Adichie expresses the cruelty of violence through Chika who looks at the charred flesh. She cannot tell whether the burned man is Igbo or Muslim or Christian. Adichie portrays how Chika's merry visit to Kano costs the life of her innocent and brilliant sister. Adichie subtly incorporates how the media narrows the riot and the deaths into a few words; how the media would generalize the Hausa-speaking Muslims violate against the non-Muslims without mentioning the gentleness of a Hausa speaking Muslim woman.

Gender role is portrayed in the both positive and negative ways in *The Headstrong Historian*. Nwamgba is a headstrong woman who makes pottery and married the man she loved owing to her stubbornness. Her father warned his family members not to tell that Nwamgba wrestled her brother to the ground, as she is a girl who is not supposed to be stronger than a boy. Nwamgba's father let her marry the man she chose to avoid Nwamgba returning home after conflicts with her in-laws. Nwamgba does not give up till she gets justice.

Adichie in *The Headstrong Historian* depicts the earth and the river goddesses as women and they protect women from being slaves. But, the women in the village consider women's role is to bear children or else she is

ill treated. Even to Nwamgba, a prosperous man like Obierika ought to have more than one wife. The villagers consider nature as women and respect them but ill treat a woman just because she fails to give birth to a baby.

Ayaju, in *The Headstrong Historian* is a slave descent, a traveller and a cosmopolite, who knows trade, is respected. She is a member of Women's Council. But she suggests second marriage to Obierika whose family's misfortune is the sole reason for Nwamgba's miscarriages.

The title of the short story, *The Headstrong Historian* signifies Grace. Women carry the tradition and culture of any country. After Nwamgba, her granddaughter Grace is the only member in the family who embraces the Nigerian culture. She teaches elementary school children and writes a book on the history of Nigeria. She divorces her husband when he calls her book a misguided piece for which she wins prizes. Grace renames herself as Afamefuna.

Adichie incorporates assimilation as a predominant theme in *The Headstrong Historian*. Anikwenwa, the only son of Nwamgba becomes an assimilationist. After studying in a catholic school, he ignores his culture. He reluctantly agrees to their traditional ceremony He becomes an entirely different person. He stops eating the "heathen" food and tells his mother that her nakedness, their lifestyle a sin. He wears trousers and a rosary around his neck. His marriage ceremony was not held in a traditional way. He pleads with Nwamgba to be baptized and anointed when she is in her deathbed. The reason being that he could conduct a Christian funeral for her and avoid participating in a heathen ceremony.

The oracle asks for gin instead of the palm wine which is their custom, to offer to God. Through this incident, Adichie questions whether the God converted too.

In *A Private Experience*, when men cut others head off, Chika and the unnamed

woman, despite being like chalk and cheese, have mutual support. Chika is a rich, Igbo Christian who has a light complexion while the unnamed woman is a dark, poor and a Hausa Muslim. Their religion, ethnicity, appearance, odour, social class, intelligence, proficiency, environmental background and belief in God are the extreme ends. The unnamed woman's whimpers are peculiar to Chika as the women she knows cry loudly. The only similarity is that both Chika's sister and the unnamed woman's eldest daughter are lost in the riot. Chika, a medical student, helps by giving remedy to the woman's dry nipples. The unnamed woman helps Chika by praying for her sister and makes Chika realise that one does not need luxury to pray.

The woman's name is not revealed at any point in the whole story. It encompasses that one does not need name or any identity to be helpful. One can feel secured in the unknown place with kindness and morality. Adichie emphasizes that, it is in one's own hands whether to take the differences as a curse that makes him to hurt each other or a blessing that makes him to help each other.

It is concluded that Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie has written about violence and gender roles in Nigeria by covering the richness of the Nigerian culture and history. Adichie employs her short stories to emphasize that violence in any form is immoral and wicked. Adichie uses literature to speak against gender oppression and to embrace her race and ethnicity.

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THEMATIC ANALYSIS ON RACISM ON SELECT POEMS OF AUDRE LORDE

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ABSTRACT

Audre Lorde was an American writer, known for the vehemence in her works. Audre's works focus on racism, sexism, feminism, classism and homophobia. Some of her notable works are *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name*, *The First Cities*, and *The Cancer Journals*. Audre was a representative, who never failed to write about the issues that has to be brought to light. This paper highlights the theme of racism in Audre Lorde's selected poems *Coal*, *Now*, and *Power*.

Keywords: Audre Lorde, Racism

This study aimed at designing a model of instructional materials for Academic Writing Course focusing on research paper writing. The model was designed based on the Curriculum at the English Education Study Program, Faculty of Language and Art Education of IKIP PGRI Bojonegoro, East Java, Indonesia. This model was developed in order to improve students' skill in writing research paper which is one of the prerequisite tasks before graduating from university. The steps of this research and development consist of needs analysis, document analysis, model design, model development, and model experimentation.

Thematic Analysis on Racism on select poems of Audre Lorde

Racism is the adverse belief that people from different races hold distinct characteristics, qualities or traits, which results

in discrimination of an individual or a group as inferior or superior. It is segregating people through their external features, especially color of the skin. Racism is also called as Racialism. The term racism came to universal usage in 1930s. Benjamin P. Bowser, an Emeritus Professor of Sociology, California State University, classified that the Theory of Racism into three levels: Cultural level, Institutional level and Individuals level. Bowser explained cultural racism as the presumption of White supremacy and Black inferiority, institutional racism as the maintenance of racial hierarchy and individual racism as the racial beliefs.

Racism and prejudice in the society is displayed through literature, so that readers can understand the perspectives and change the views of the people. There are numerous writers who produced literary works on Anti-racism. Some of the well known writers who wrote about racism are Maya Angelou, James Baldwin, Toni Morrison, Octavia Butler and Langston Hughes. Audre Lorde was one of the writers who wrote about racial issues faced by African Americans.

Audre Lorde was an American poet, autobiographer, essayist, feminist, librarian and civil rights activist. Audre was born in New York City to parents of Afro-Caribbean descent. Her writings worked as an instrument that exhibited her passion. Audre's works channeled the inequities of racism, homophobia and sexism. Audre used poetry as a medium for expressing her emotions. In the essay *Poetry Is Not a Luxury* from her book *Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches*, Audre says, "Poetry is the way we help give name to the nameless so it can be thought". She views poetry as a voice that conveys a message or feeling to the people.

Poetry is a form of art that is in existence since prehistoric time. In earliest period, poetry was sung as they are related to music. The evolution of poetry paved the way for the formation of different kinds, forms, structures and ideas in the genre of poetry.

Audre Lorde's style of writing has metaphors and usage of polemical language.

This paper emphasizes on the theme of racism in Audre Lorde's selected poems *Coal*, *Now*, and *Power* from her collection of poetry *The Collected Poems of Audre Lorde*. *Coal* is a poem about embracing black heritage. Audre compares black people to coal. Coal is dark but it is the darkness that gives the brightest diamonds. Audre also mentioned the struggles of being a black lesbian in a homophobic society. *Now* is a short and strong poem that speaks about equality and human power. *Power* is the poem in which Audre reflects her anger against a historical racist incident that happened in America.

I Is the total black, being spoken From
the earth's inside

These lines from *Coal* are about Audre Lorde's own feeling and individuality as a black woman. The poet appreciates her race and ethnicity by comparing herself to coal. Coal is a valuable fossil fuel that is used for multiple purposes. It is essential for generation of electricity, production of metal and cement, gasification and liquefaction. People think coal is cheap and common, but coal is an irreplaceable organic fuel. The poet compares her race to coal as it is black and it is born from nature. Audre Lorde says that the words she uses are also 'coloured'. She addresses the strength of words in this poem in the lines "Some words are open like a diamond on glass windows". African Americans were harassed by white people in different ways. Verbal abuse against black people was a major kind of harassment. Offensive terms like "Negro", "Uncle Tom", and "Jim Crow" were used to insult them, which created an irreparable effect mentally. Audre communicates how words can harm through the line 'Some words are open like a diamond on glass windows'. She also makes sure that her words in the poetry are built carefully.

Woman powerm Is Black power Is
Human power The poem *now* is specially

written for black women who encountered oppressions by white women and men. This poem is an inspiring poem that is written to uplift the spirits of black women for being strong. It is a motivation to voice out and be powerful. Audre reminds that the power which is already present should be brought out through speaking. Speaking is the way to liberate, because black women were silenced by their oppressors for a long time.

This policeman said in his own defense 'I didn't notice the size nor nothing else Only the color'. There are tapes to prove that too.

These lines are from the poem *Power*. In 1973, a ten year old African boy named Clifford Glover was shot dead by Thomas Shea, a police officer in New York City. The police officer later acquitted of murder. This unjust act led to many riots and revolts. Audre Lorde used this poem as her way of rebellion. The lines mentioned above describes how black people, regardless of age were brutally treated only because of they belong to a different race. They were assaulted both physically and mentally and were treated as sub humans by the white people. Audre expressed her rage that an innocent child was killed by a racist police officer. She also mentioned how the police swore at the boy before he shot him. The police officer escaped the punishment that he deserved as he was white. The suffering of the boy's parents and the death was not given justice. The white man had power to exonerate from the huge crime. The discrimination made the black people powerless and fearful to live in an unsafe society.

Power was published in the year 1978, but still it is relatable to the brutality that is happening in this period. Black Lives Matter, a movement started to protect and equally treat the African American people began in 2013 by three female black organizers named Alicia Garza, Patrisse Cullors, and Opal Tometi. This movement started as an agitation like Audre Lorde's writing. In 2012, Trayvon Martin, a 17 year old boy was shot dead by a white man

named George Zimmerman. Zimmerman's acquittal from the charges in the year 2013 resulted in the beginning of the movement with social media hashtag '#BlackLivesMatter'. The movement developed in years as the violence against black people did not stop. In 2020, an African-American named George Perry Floyd Jr. was abused and murdered by a racist police officer. The death of George Floyd activated violent protests for equity. So, still there is no assurance for African American people's safety. The racial discrimination has not come to an end.

There are many other Antiracism movements that support other races against discrimination. One of them is Stop Asian Hate movement started as response to racism against Asian Americans related to Covid-19. IMADR, abbreviated as International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism is an international non-governmental organization founded in 1988 by one of the Japan's largest minorities, the Buraku people. This organization helps the marginalized and discriminated people to represent their problems.

"It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept and celebrate those differences." This saying of Audre Lorde can end racism if each and every individual in this planet starts to accept differences of people from different race and culture.

It is concluded that Audre Lorde wrote against racism in her poems. The poet's respect for her race plays a major role in her writings. Racism and prejudice can only lead to catastrophes. Audre used the poetry to influence and speak up for her race.

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TO ANALYSE THE THEME OF GENDER DISCRIMINATION OF WOMEN IN THE NOVEL THE AWAKENING BY KATE CHOPIN

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ABSTRACT:

The focus of this paper to discuss the struggle of a woman who loss her self identify after marriage. This paper analyses the theme of self identify through protagonists of the novel .The Awakening and it reveals the pressure and society expectations towards woman who want to lead a happy life outside of her marital status and also expose her inner feelings. The story centers on a woman transformation from a responsible mother and traditional housewife to an individual with a sense of self independent and self awareness. It speaks about the mental health of a woman, when she wants to live an independent life by challenging social expectations, then society call her as an insane .Here the message Chopin wants to convey that the woman should explore the world and move forward to fulfill their wishes.

Key Words : Marriage, Self Identity, Awakening, Family, Social Expectations, Transformation

American literature is literature written or produced in the United States of America and its preceding colonies and consisted mostly of practical nonfiction written by British settlers, America was discovered in 1492 by the Italian explorer Christopher Columbus and the first and permanent British Colony was established in 1607.

The history of American Literature divided in to five periods such as the colonial and early national period (1600-1830), Romantic age (1830-1870), Realism and naturalism (1870-1890), the modernist period (1890-1945) and the contemporary period (1945-present) American literature reveals the culture and history of the United States. Moreover American literature studying in other countries gives foreigners the opportunity to get to know American culture, history and works of the great authors and it's explains basic characteristics of all kinds of literature such as characters, plots, settings, images and themes .American literature explores the theme of The American Dream, Loss of Innocence, Coming of age, Alienation and Isolation and Relationship with society.

The major writers of an American literature are Ernest Hemingway, F.Scott Fitzgerald, William Faulkner, John Steinbeck, Arthur Miller, T.S. Eliot and Robert Frost.

The genre selected is Novel, A Novel is a work of fiction, loosely defined as clocking in at 50,000 words or more, the types of genre in the novel such as literary fiction Thriller, Mystery, Romance, Historical and Bildungsroman, the novel have few element such as Characterization, Setting, Plot, Dialogue, Point of view, Symbolism and themes. The novel is propelled through its hundred or thousand pages by a device known as the story or plot. This is frequently conceived by the novelist in very simple terms, a mere nucleus, for example, Charles Dickens'

Christmas Carol (1843) might have been conceived as "a misanthrope is reformed through certain magical visitations on Christmas Eve A novel basically taken from the Italian word NOVELLA that is referred as fictional piece of prose almost written in a narrative style presenting a realistic picture of believable characters and events, the novella was a kind of enlarged anecdote like those to be found in the 14th-century Italian classic Boccaccio's Decameron.

Some of the famous American Novelist are Ernest Hemingway, John Steinbeck, William Faulkner, Mark Twain, F.Scott Fitzgerald, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Norman Mailer, and Cormac McCarthy, African-American writers, such as Richard Wright, Ralph Ellison, and James Baldwin, dealt with racial inequality and violence in contemporary US society while Maya Angelou and Toni Morrison focused on the 20th-century history of African-American women. In the 1960s, novelists such as Saul Bellow, Philip Roth, and Joseph Heller examined the Jewish experience in American society.

Here in Kate Chopin's The Awakening explore the theme of feminism through the protagonist Edna Pontellier, It expose the exploration of woman's discovery and liberation.

Kate Chopin was a realistic fiction writer who made her mark writing fiction that was regional in character, yet universal in nature, she was influenced by the strong women who raised her, and believed that women had the capacity of being strong and independent. Her works conveyed the message that women could claim identities independent from men's, Chopin is admired as one of the foremothers of twentieth century feminist literature. Her work was recognized sixty five years after her death, In 1990 Chopin was honoured with a star on the St.Louis Walk of Fame.

Her Contemporaries are Zelda Fitzgerald, F.Scott Fitzgerald (The Side of

Paradise) Ernest Hemingway Kate Chopin works such as the Story of an hour, The Strom, Desiree's Baby, A Pair of Silk Stockings, A Respectable Woman and the novel At Fault In the story of an hour, Kate focuses on repression of women and lack of self identity through the character Mrs. Mallard and in a pair of silk stockings, story follows Mrs. Sommers who prefers spending a windfall on herself, rather than on her children and her other short story.

Regret raise the question of motherhood through the character Mamzelle Aurelie, At Fault is both romantic and filled with stark realism-a love story that expands to address the complex problem of balancing personal happiness and social duty-set in the post-Reconstruction South against a backdrop of economic devastation and simmering racial tensions.

Chopin's use simple, clear, straightforward, and economical. She describes people and objects lucidly and seems to waste no words. The unique style of Kate Chopin's writing has influenced and paved the way for many female authors, Kate Chopin writings brings out the importance of women empowerment, self-expression, self-assertion, and female sexuality through creativity in her literary work.

In her novel, The Awakening, Chopin establishes her stylistic control over her words, her sentences are sharp and exact and her word choice is accurate, She uses lot of imagery, symbolism and allegory, For example she uses the imagery bird with broken wing represent Edna's failure to find freedom, uses the sea as a symbol of empowerment and she uses third person omniscient.

The Awakening is considered one of the first feminist novel in American Literature, published in 1899, It prefigures the works of American novelist such as William Faulkner and Ernest Hemingway, A Solitary Soul is a original title of the novel, The Awakening was Chopin's second novel and she inspired by the

writing of Guy De Maupassant Chopin began writing the Awakening in 1897 then completed it on 1898, it was published by Herbert Stone in Chicago on 22 Apr 1899.

The story centers around one woman's transformation from traditional housewife and mother to an individual with a sense of self awareness and self independent, In this novel explore the shoes of Victorian woman through the character Edna Pontellier, throughout the novel Edna trying to find her true self, In here Chopin shows woman's loss of identity in order to satisfy the society.

The novel begins in Grand Isle, Louisiana, where Edna with her husband Leonce and with their two sons Raoul and Etienne vacationing to the cottages of Madame Lebrun, In this novel Chopin shows the patriarchal society in the late nineteenth century through the character Leonce, even he is loving and caring towards his family, was preoccupied by his job, In here Chopin explain the two characteristics of woman, through Mademoiselle Reisz courage, independent and her passion on music, in other hand Edna as contingent and dependent, in there Edna falls in love with Robert Lebrun son of Madam Lebrun, She resents her duty of mother and wife when she spending time with Robert and She starts to paint again as she did in her youth, she also learn to swim, she feels alive than even before but later Robert was awaked that he is in relationship in married woman and escape to mexico.

At the middle of novel, Chopin shows the transformation in Edna's Character when she back to New Orleans , She feels enthusiastic and independent, instead of worrying on social responsibilities, She live happily but Leonce was disappointed by Edna's new behaviour and he seeks the help of Doctor Mandelet the family Physician to recover Edna, In here Chopin revealed the characteristic of men in that time, when woman to lead a independent life and free from social expectations, the they considered

as dissimilar and they unable to express their feelings and sentiment, Adele Ratignolle a socially ideal woman also considered as awakening who remember Edna's duties as mother and wife and Adele also advise Edna to quit her relationship with Robert and Edna's was encouraged by Mademoiselle Reisz to invoke her inner self towards independent life.

At the end when Edna back to Oreland, Robert is gone. , she stays awake thinking about her children and her relationships. She get tired of everything and just want to live free out of social expectations.

Kate Chopin examines the theme of freedom ,Social expectations ,Women Rights and Equality, Here Chopin bring out the character of Edna as one who longing for freedom from her marital life and motherhood responsibilities and also shows how she feels free while on Grand Isle and loss of freedom when she went back to her house, and chopin exposes the society expectations towards women in late nineteenth century, Women want to sacrifice her own dreams to satisfy their family member wish, In Chopin's The awakening there is no equality, Women were considered as property and they have to no rights to voice out their feelings But Chopin set the Heroine role as one who fight against social norms in order to search for her identity

The Awakening is critically acclaimed as an American version of Gustavo Flaubert's Madame Bovary (1856) and a landmark feminist text , It was criticized for both subject matter and it's point of view, When it was first published, it was widely condemned for its portrayal of sexuality and marital .Her novel was considered immoral not only for its depictions of female sexual desire but also for portraying a woman that went against the typical social and gender norms banned for its vulgar language.

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PERSPECTIVES OF FEMINISM IN VOLGA'S THE LIBERATION OF SITA

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ABSTRACT

This Paper is to study Perspective of Feminism view in Volga's *The Liberation of Sita*. Perspectives on feminism is the subjects of this research paper, which focuses on the feministic tone projected on the women characters by Popuri Lalita Kumari popularly known for her pen name Volga, she is a Telugu poet and writer well known for her feminist perspective. Lalita Kumari's novels, plays, short stories and articles in newspapers and journals are mostly regarding to feminism. She

was the first person to introduce western feminism to Telugu readers. *The Liberation of Sita* was her recent work which was published in 2016, a strong narrative of women who were punished in the name of cultural boundaries. This paper concentrates on the patriarchal exploits towards women by the society. This research highlights the life of Sita and also other few women characters who were repressed by social constrains.

Keywords : Penance, Self-identity, Truth, Beauty, Relationship, Inner power, Dignity.

Female is the matter of biology but feminine is a set of culturally defined characteristics. Feminism concentrates on what is absent rather what is present. It concerns with marginalization of women in patriarchal society, a culture organized in the favour of men. In 19th century female writers such as Amantine Lucile Aurore, Mary Ann Evans and Katherine Harris Bradley used male name as their pen name. But today's scenario is totally different. Many female writers emerged to female perspective writings. Indian writers aimed at defining, establishing and defending equal political, economic, and social rights and opportunities for women in India. One such Indian author made readers to see in the lens of women is P. Lalita Kumari, who is a novelist, short story writer, poet and also a feminist. Through her work *Sahaja*, she introduces feminist moments such as first wave Feminism and second wave Feminism to Telugu readers. She was born in Andhra Pradesh, India who won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2015 for her short story compilation *Vimukta Kadha Samputi* in Telugu and Best Novel Award for *Sveccha*. She has also been a professor and head of scripting division in Tollywood. *The Library of Congress* has a collection of her most popular published works, which has English translations and selected short stories. Her works initiated the concept of feminism when the idea was hardly accepted. Her female characters are strong, progressive and search for their self-identity. In *The Liberation of Sita* also the protagonist Sita who was exiled by her

husband was also in search of her self-identity with help of the other female characters such as Surpanakha, Ahalya, Renuka Devi and Urmila. This novel is the re-telling of the epic Ramayana by Valmiki. Her first novel *Sahaja* was published in 1986. The immediate next year 1987, *Sveccha* her second novel was published. Both the novels focus on women and their broken marriages. Lalita Kumari has penned and translated around fifty publications.

This paper, Perspectives of Feminism in Volga's *The Liberation of Sita* intends to focus mainly on the feministic perspectives and myth on Volga's *The Liberation of Sita*. Like other works of Lalita Kumari this novel also anchors on the idea of feminism. The female protagonist Sita aims to find her identity in the world of patriarchy society. *The Liberation of Sita* is the re-telling of the great epic *Ramayana* written by Valmiki, is a Sanskrit epic from ancient India. *Ramayana* is seen only through in the view of Rama but in the novel *The Liberation of Sita* is seen through the eyes of Sita. The purpose of this study is to know how the women of past crossed the unjust paths of their life. And also to denote that only the time moves not the situation. From then the time of Sita to now women are facing the same trails in their day to day life. It is unfortunate that a woman can relate to it even now after all these years. The crucial issues to women's lives like childhood, marriage, pregnancy, and different difficult moments of their life are reflected in this works. Through women writer's techniques and thematic works can help modern world to understand women's issues and feminine concepts in different situations and stages of their life. *The Second Sex* by Simone de Beauvoir is one of its major theoretical texts in 19th century that defines the term feminist. Inequality was the main concept that was dealt by feminist. *The Second Sex* is a book that reflects the so called second wave of feminism. It points out the fundamental asymmetry of the terms masculine and feminine, similarly in the

novel *the liberation of Sita* also brings out the social discriminations of male and female. *The liberation of Sita* traces the life of Sita, who gets the realization of life through various events. The novel is definitely a feminist writing in which myths are revised, rewrote and retold from a female point of view. Mythical symbols lead to creativity in this novel. P. Lalita Kumara, the author of the novel *the liberation of Sita* has not changed the story nor provide an alternate ending. Instead Lalita Kumari made the readers to see in the lens of feminism. By giving the symbolism of myths author tries to foreshadow the society's critical approach towards women. In the name of customs and myths women were continuously exploited. Author attempts to reveal all hidden stories behind the events that have given voices to the women in *Ramayana*. This novel signifies the marginalized position of women in society. Sita was the root cause for the war in the great epic *Ramayana*, a negative image been signified to her character. But author by revealing the hidden secrets paints a different aspect to the character Sita. Volga's retelling opens new spaces within old discourse, enabling women to view their life from gynocentric perspective.

In this novel, Volga has given beautiful definition for beauty. She considers that beauty does not as external but from within. In the encounter with Surpanakha, Sita will understand the real meaning of beauty that does not, come from the accessories but through the actions. When Surpanakha explains her experience in the garden all these years, Sita recollects her life in the past. Through Surpanakha author tries to enlighten the idea of beauty. By comparing nature and beauty author justifies that there is nothing called ugly in the world. Through the voice of Surpanakha, the author speaks out the social compulsion that the world expects women to be. Volga vocalize that the success of a woman does not depends on a relationship with a man. There is patriarchal notion that Woman and beauty are always seen in the same line and

this myth is broken by Volga through the words of Surpanakha.

I have become tough by facing upto the challenges life threw at me. I have been able to find happiness in trying to understand the very meaning of beauty I loathed my own appearance. I hated myself. There were also days when I even wanted to kill myself. My love of beauty turned into jealousy of all those who were beautiful I became a walking volcano. A stormy sea of grief. It was hard finding the real meaning of beauty (Volga 10).

In the epic *Ramayana* only the character Rama's valour is seen. But through Volga's eyes a reader can visualize Sita's trauma. In the epic, the curse of Ahalya was seen only in the aspect of Gautama. But Volga tries to perceive in the eyes of Ahalya. When Sita got to know about Ahalya's curse she felt that it was an unjust. She cannot be blamed but the societal boundaries accuse her as a wrongdoer. Even Sita's mother-in-law and Rama did not like to speak about the incident to Sita, saying that she should not hear such things or talk about it. This means that Ahalya is considered as a sinner. Volga tries to break the norms in which women are usually attacked. Women are vulnerable to such accusations made by the society. This was widely spread notion that a women should be proven legitimate through her husband. If women do not fall under the social or patriarchal rules then she will be accused. Using the myth of the curse, Volga suggests that men easily impose accusations on women. Ahalya's advise to Sita about self-identity is actually is the words for readers by the author. The myth of purity was beautifully dealt by Volga through Ahalya. In this, the character Ahalya directs Sita to find goal in her life. By saying this Ahalya point out that Sita not only belongs to her husband and family but to the wider world. The author says that, for women the ultimate aim should not just to feed or taking care of their family but also to discover the goal in their life.

Volga expresses the power of dignity of a woman through her words saying, "Society gave him authority. I didn't. Till I give it, no one have the authority over me." (28) Chastity is also one of the main reasons for the conflict in this novel. This chastity made a son to kill his own mother. It is also a societal norm that a women's identity is based on chastity. By narrating the story of Renuka Devi who was killed by her own son, on the order of her husband. From this Volga states the accusations and punishment went far beyond even for the mistake that was not committed. The authority was taken by men made them even to order their own son to kill his mother. Renuka Devi paves way for sita to find herself. Sita being a woman who cares only for her husband and family was thrown out of the kingdom. The other women characters like Renuka Devi who have crossed similar path guides Sita. Nature was held high and Volga fantastically takes nature as an example to explain the temporary relationship in the novel *The Liberation of Sita*, through the following words, "A situation where children as their mother who their father is or where a husband asks his wife who fathered her children comes only in the life of women, Sita. Think of the predicament of those women and you'll understand my words" (55)

Suppressing and making women feel weak is also a reason for the authority taken by a man himself. In this novel Volga expresses the superiority of men through the words of Rama's character by stating, "As long as I am alive, you will never have to protect yourself. Such a situation must never arise. You must look towards me for protection. You must turn to my strong arms for protection. If you take care of yourself, what am I for? Promise me that you will never do that."(72) The society made women to feel feeble, lame and to depend on them. By constructing that men are valour and physically strong, it turn to be that only men can protect women. Through the character Urmila, the author tries to convey that strength is not only physical but also mental. The mental

strength of Urmila is phenomenon, she says that "It's not easy to remain ourself." (78) Sita was contented despite of the obstacle. But in Urmila's case everything happened in her life without even her advice. Not even consulting Urmila, her husband left her. Only then she understands what life is. She was able to balance her emotions properly. She would have been in rage, but didn't, she started to observe herself. She stopped thinking about others and began to learn who she is. She enjoyed her solitude. And that is how she gained the mental strength. She conceived more knowledge about her emotions. The war that she waged with these years of solitude has brought her peace and joy. Through the voice of Urmila, Volga conveys that power is the root cause of all miseries. And those who do not submit to anyone's authority will live in peace.

Liberation and freedom are the lesson learned by Sita, through the life of Surpankha, Ahalya, Renuka Devi and Urmila. Towards the end of the novel the character Rama feels dejected for leaving Sita and that is the victory. When society makes Sita to cross the chastity test it is the wound for her life. Sita understood that need not prove herself to anyone not even to her beloved husband. Rama knows about Sita, still he was quite when society question her. By this Volga renders that no one whom you trust will stand for you but only you. So protect you for yourself. This can be relatable to the present scenario as well. In today's world women emerged into different fields but still she is suppressed only because that she is a women. The unjust that happened to a queen before three hundred BCE was still prevailing in current generation. This paper is to illustrate that the inequitable environment has been existing till now.

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THE SCARLET LETTER: FEMINISM DURING THE PURITAN AGE

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ABSTRACT

This work “The Scarlet Letter” was written on the year 1850 by the famous American Novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne. The story revolves around the life of Hester Prynne who is indeed the protagonist of this novel “The Scarlet Letter”. The story itself is set in the seventeenth – century Puritan community of Boston, Massachusetts, at The United States of America. The story deals with the protagonist’s life, who is badged as an adulteress in the beginning of the novel and how it gradually changes through the age. Hester Prynne has an affair through which she has an illegitimate child. Hester Prynne is very stubborn on not revealing the name of the child’s father. Hester Prynne accepts the public shame and the disgust of the people solely. The puritan age was a very hectic time for the people of the society. The people were

obligated to follow the rules and regulations strictly. “The Ten Commandments” was basically the rule book of that time in the puritan community. Breaching of any of the commandments leads to serious and fatal punishments. Hester Prynne, who had failed the seventh commandment undergoes a series of harsh and insulting punishments. The way how she endured it throughout expresses her resilience and woman power.

Key Words : Feminism, Puritanism, Sin, Affair, Confidence, Badge and Insult.

INTRODUCTION:

American literature is a literature which is written or produced in the United States of America and in the colonies that leads up to it. At first the American literature was naturally a colonial literature. The American literary tradition thus is a part of the broader tradition of the English – language literature, but it also incorporates literature of other traditions manufactured in the United States and in other immigrant languages. Furthermore, a rich tradition of oral storytelling exists amongst the Native American tribes. The history of American literature was first initiated with the arrival of English – speaking Europeans in what would become the United States.

The American Revolutionary Period is noteworthy for the political writings of Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Paine, and Thomas Jefferson. An early novel in American Literature is William Hill Brown's “The Power of Sympathy” which was published in the year 1791. Writer and critic John Neal in the early – mid nineteenth century helped facilitate America's progress towards a unique literature and culture, by criticizing predecessors like Washington Irving for emulating their British counterparts and influencing others like Edgar Allan Poe. The evolution of American literature explores themes such as "The American Dream," "Coming of Age," "Justice and Injustice," "The

Pursuit of Happiness," "War and Peace," and "Freedom and Dignity."

Nathaniel Hawthorne was an American novelist and a short story writer. Nathaniel Hawthorne's works often focus on history, morality, and religion. He was born in the year 4th July 1804 in Salem, Massachusetts, from a family long associated with that town. Nathaniel Hawthorne's first published work is "Fanshawe: A Tale" which is based on his own experiences at Bowdoin College which appeared anonymously in the year October 1828. Although it sustained generally positive reviews, it did not sell well. He published several other minor pieces in the Salem Gazette. Nathaniel Hawthorne is best – known for his works "The Scarlet Letter" which was published in the year 1850 and "The House of the Seven Gables" which was published in the year 1851. These two works of Nathaniel Hawthorne is considered as the master pieces of the eighteenth – century American Literature.

FEMINISM DURING THE PURITAN AGE:

The idea of feminism started during the late nineteenth and the early twentieth century. Feminism is nothing but a rage of social, political and economical movements to establish the double standards of our society and to empower the status of women throughout the world. Feminist literature illustrates characters or ideas that venture to change gender norms. It is likely to examine, question, and argue for transposition against entrenched and antiquated gender roles through the written word. Feminist literature attempts to alter inequalities between genders across societal and political arenas. Feminist Literature looks to add on a unique feature and often overlooked feminine – specific voice and tone to gender, societal and political issues, as well as social variabilities where a feminine voice is required to make an impact. Feminist literature was birthed of the need to

manifest injustice and a need for change. An outpouring of essays, articles, books, and journals grasped the public eye and stirred up the flames of reform for women in the nineteenth century. Not only did such writing have an immeasurable impact as a change agent, but it also left an enduring legacy for women and a wealth of literary history. Even in the present situation feminism is considered to be a threat by few and as a joke to few.

Considering the fact that the story is set during the seventeenth century, where the idea of feminism did not even exist fuels up the interest more. The protagonist of the story, Hester Prynne herself is the epitome of a female "heroine". Hester Prynne was indeed a very beautiful young woman. However, her beauty was just an appearance description in the work. Hester Prynne did not portray or use her beauty in a negative sense.

The Puritan society recited the way an individual should regulate themselves in all aspects of life. The Puritan laws and moral standards were signified to escort their lives and keep them on the righteous path. However, it was not always easy to follow these rules. One must have a powerful reason to go opposed to what is considered proper by the society. The main character of this novel Hester Prynne's reasons are strong enough that she is willing to risk it all for what she believes in. She will be persistently known as a sinner, but also a brave and courageous woman who had the courage to stand up for herself in a time when women were nothing more than to be very traditional, modest, obedient housewives who are expected to follow the rules and norms which are regulated by the society.

Hester Prynne was a combination of both traditional and modern woman. Hester Prynne was punished for committing a sin. Hester Prynne was a married woman who had an affair with someone else through which she conceived a child. Hester Prynne was scorned by the people for her action and she was ridiculed by the people of her society. Hester

Prynne was tormented mentally by the people. Despite of all the tribulations, Hester Prynne was persistent on not revealing the name of her child's father to come out either. Even though she was badged with an "A" symbol, Hester Prynne was bearing the badge on her chest without any hesitation.

The letter "A" represents the Scarlet Letter. The letter "A" was an identification mark for adultery. As time goes by, Hester Prynne supports and take care of her daughter Pearl without anyone's help. Hester Prynne did some handiworks for money to support her daughter Pearl. Hester Prynne was self – reliant and ambitious. Even though people defied her, they loved her handiworks and also bought it. Although Hester Prynne is an outcast, Hester Prynne remains able to support herself due to her uncommon talent in the needlework. Hester Prynne's taste for the beautiful infuses her embroidery, rendering her handy works fit to be worn by the governor despite of its shameful source. The societies small – minded and contemptuous attitudes are best exemplified in their refusal to allow Hester Prynne to sew garments for weddings, as if she would contaminate the sacredness of marriage were she to do so. Hester Prynne moved to the outskirts of the town and secluded herself and her daughter Pearl. She did that not only for herself but to save her daughter Pearl from the hatred and ill – treatment of the people of their society.

However difficult it was, Hester Prynne did not give up on her daughter Pearl. Her daughter was not following the rules of the Protestants and was a wild child by nature. Hester Prynne's daughter Pearl was very rebellious on her own ways which was not liked by other people in their society. When her daughter was about to be taken away from Hester Prynne, she was actually fighting against the authorities to keep her daughter Pearl with herself. Though Hester Prynne had multiple opportunities to reveal the name of the child's father, she did not use it. Hester Prynne was super secretive and independent. Hester

Prynne was putting her life out of misery all by herself. Hester Prynne did not expect any male's companion or help to redeem herself. Hester Prynne was self – made and self – revivable. Hester Prynne did the best she could by staying out of everyone's life while making her life a better one.

Gradually, the people started to realize the true, brave and courageous heart of Hester Prynne and was adored by many people of their society. Hester Prynne soon gains the respect of other women in Boston, becoming something of a quiet confidant for the people of her society. Even after when she was acquitted from her sin after the confession of Arthur Dimmesdale (the actual father of Hester Prynne's daughter Pearl), Hester Prynne moved to England along with her daughter Pearl and wore the scarlet letter "A" always on her chest in remembrance of the sin she has committed. Her intricate embroidery of her scarlet letter "A" demonstrates her attitude about her "sin" as she has committed adultery. Hester Prynne wore the scarlet letter out of choice, and not out of obligation. Even though the scarlet letter "A" was considered to be an object of shame.

CONCLUSION:

Hester Prynne gave the scarlet letter "An" a new meaning. At the end of the novel, the scarlet letter "A" was not just a scarlet letter, but she gave a new meaning to the scarlet letter "a". Hester Prynne used the scarlet letter as an object to redeem herself. The scarlet letter taught Hester Prynne to be independent, brave – hearted, courageous, strong willed, and empowering woman of the century. Hester Prynne was exhibiting the qualities of a powerful feminist. In a patriarchal society, Hester Prynne made a huge difference through her actions. Hester Prynne was resilient to the negative remarks and made herself a strong woman. Hester Prynne is indeed the first true American fictional heroine. Nathaniel Hawthorne portrays Hester

Prynne as an admirable figure due to her courage, relentlessness, and her ultimate transformation after committing adultery which is considered as a sin to the puritan community.

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