



Available online at www.jlls.org

JOURNAL OF LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTIC STUDIES

ISSN: 1305-578X

Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies, 17(3), 2359-2362; 2021

The Surfacing Of Tara As A New Woman In Bharathi Mukherjee's Desirable Daughters

P. Sathaiah^a, Dr. K. Premkumar^b

^aFull-Time PhD Research Scholar in English, Bishop Heber College (Autonomous) Trichy. (Affiliated to Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli)

^bAssistant Professor & Research Advisor, PG and Research Department of English, Bishop Heber College (Autonomous) Trichy. (Affiliated to Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli)

APA Citation:

Sathaiah, P., & Premkumar, K. (2021). The Surfacing Of Tara As A New Woman In Bharathi Mukherjee's Desirable Daughters, *Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies*, 17(3), 2359-2362.

Submission Date:08/10/2021

Acceptance Date:22/12/2021

Abstract

In Bharati's novel *Desirable Daughters*, the woman protagonist Tara is courageous and dares to extend her viewpoints on marriage, love and sex. She also redefines her role as a spouse and mother. Bharati explores the atrocities put on 'gendered subaltern', women in the form of child marriage, arranged marriage, and limitations of prospective career opportunities for talented girls like Padma and Tara in the novel. The protagonist Tara is seen violating and crossing the borders to fulfil her dreams. The modification issues of the women immigrants as outsiders in society and their phobic state of mind because of political, sexual orientation, and racial biases become essential issues in the novel explored in this paper.

Keywords: feminism, immigrant, marriage, gender.

1. Introduction

In her literary career, Bharati Mukherjee has expounded prevalently on women's activism and feminist perspectives. As her characters are generally portrayed as survivors of migrations, critics consider this an issue and outcome of the movement. However, her women characters battle for their privileges as a woman and a person. Bharati endeavours to make another association between man and woman dependent on the value, non-abuse, and non-misuse to improve the inventive possibilities of both as people and not sex divisions. As an agent of the male-centric culture, the male has been moved off the point of convergence of woman's attraction. A woman is preparing to be her gravitational power, much past the male-driven society. Dr N. D. R Chandra expresses: "Like Anita Desai, Kamala Markandaya (Suraiya), Shashi Deshpande, Nayantara Sahgal, Ruth Pravar Jhabwalla and Githa Hariharan Mukherjee uncovered numerous features of women's liberation, incorporating unsettling for equivalent chance, sexual self-governance and right to self-assurance." (82).

In Bharati's novel *Desirable Daughters*, the woman hero Tara is brave and dares to expand her perspectives on issues of marriage, love and sex; she additionally rethinks her part as companion and mother. The novel's title suggests that young women are the object of family qualification, so their direction should be Desirable. It is just that such girls who do not cross the outskirt (Laxman Rekha) of decorum are preferred and acknowledged; however, in the novel, two girls cross the decent line. Padma,

Parvati and Tara are the three sweet girls of Mr. Bhattacharjee, and they are truly delightful in their youth as they satisfy the classification of daughterhood – wonderful, clever, obliging, and loyal and stay inside four dividers for family status and regard.

Tara talks about her youth days in Calcutta, “Our bodies changed, yet our conduct never did. Insubordination seemed as though loads of fun... My life was one long youth until I was tossed into marriage.” (*Desirable Daughters* 27-28). Bharati investigates the monstrosities put on ‘gendered inferior’, women as child marriage, arranged marriage, and constraints of imminent vocation open doors for capable young women like Padma and Tara in the novel. The creator depicts marriage as a method of abuse rather than an attractive wonderful ecstasy. In Indian male-driven society, connections are constrained for young women. Youngsters are not allowed to have sex or marry a man of their choice, especially of another position. Padma is seen building up a relationship with Ronald Dev whom she adores; however, she cannot marry him. “... any infringement of the codes, any breath of embarrassment, was unbelievable” (32).

Tara’s is a masterminded marriage and is the purpose behind the disappointment in marriage. She wedded a man (Bish) whom she had never met. She wedded him since her dad advised her to get hitched. She says; “I wedded a man I had never met, whose image and account and bloodlines I endorsed off, in light of the fact that my dad revealed to me the time had come to get hitched and this was the best spouse available.” (26) Bharati feels as a women’s activist writer that, it is crooked to “give up... to the impulses of destiny and the control of the conjugal commercial centre... What do they are aware of the requirements of current woman?” (27). Here the writer advocates for an occasion to pick one’s life assistant and cautions us against the disasters achieved by constrained connections.

We see confusion in the mistake of Tara’s marriage with Bish and the achievement of the worship marriage of Parvati with Auro. Tara faces the secret of present-day women after her settlement in America. She encounters change from an appealing young woman to an impelled American woman. Like the New Woman, she is in the fight between show and advancement. As an inconsistent gutsy woman, she vanquishes by then. She makes tests on dress, food and plan. Companion in Indian preservationist society is treated as a god, “protecting tree”, provider and safeguard. Tara breaks this legend and picks another man who suits her air and satisfies her sexual needs. She rejects being an object of atonement, a gem and a peaceful and docile creature to her loved one. She attempts to be revered and respected and need not bother with just to be given and made sure about by her significant other as is needed because of different women. So she differentiates herself from different women. She is the legend of the novel since she has the relentless mental guts to transcend the cutoff points and take beginnings in a dark way that may lead her to wreck.

While her sisters Padma and Parvati lead an imprudent and inert life, embrace the working class culture, stay dubious about their new character, do not have any desire to broaden their perspectives and are less definitive, Tara creates a fantastic figure to meet each opposing condition: to stroll ahead with all of her limitations to a dark and unfathomed method of understanding her greatest limit as a free individual. Padma lives in America; she sticks to Indian ways, mates, pieces of clothing and food. Padma calls Tara “American”, which implies self-locked in. She reminds Tara to seek after the models of Sita and Savitri “... things are never immaculate in marriage, a woman must be set up to recognize not as much as faultlessness in this lifetime-and to show herself on Sita, Savitri and Behula, the upstanding mates of Hindu fantasies” (134), Tara picks her own way.

The direction of Padma addresses the perspective of male shut-mindedness, and by contradicting it, Tara develops the women’s dissident perspective over phallogocentric. The divulgence of her child’s sexual direction leaves her shocked for a moment. However, the turn of events and accessibility with which she recognizes the above association discusses her profound mindfulness and sensibility. Notwithstanding moving towards the complete open door from standard positions, Tara cannot be detached from her establishments. She supports Indian family guidelines and feels isolated and insufficient in the wake of being isolated. The closeness of Bish gives her internal solace, which she needs from Andy’s association. She feels open after division from Bish because, in her mind, Bish is

her loved one, the protecting tree. The necessity for a companion in kind of Bish exhibits that it is hard for an Indian woman to be thoroughly liberated from 'reliance disorder'. She can in like manner not avoid her supporting commitments towards Rabi, her child.

The fundamental issues inspected in the novel are marriage, love, sex, settlement and woman persecution. The three Bengali sisters address the three remarkable pieces of female experiences. Parvati continues with a vain limited neighbourhood presence with her life partner Auro. In contrast, Tara continues with an ultramodern free life as a separate individual where she is outfitted with each opportunity to acknowledge progression and opportunity. Both the sisters exist on two limits while Padma searches for a fine amicability between the two; she continues with a free presence with her significant other, Harish Mehta, and does not overall discard her social characteristics. Through the three female characters, the author gives the three choices for an Indian woman to seek after. Padma and Parvati stick to the safer zones; Tara moves to an unsafe and testing position of life, so she is given more essentialness than the other two sisters.

Bharati's women are striking and emphatic and have a solid possibility for versatility; they comprehend and exist in the firm ground of the real world and recognize the severe reality of their life. All three sisters, Padma, Parvati and Tara singly break the conventions and generalizations to lead their way. They likewise attempt to change with the changed situation. At last, in *Desirable Daughters*, freedom and dissatisfaction become a basic part of the lives of Indian women who will not change themselves to the adjustments in daily routines and the lives of the individuals who are subject to them.

In writing, it was being portrayed by numerous women authors, among them, Bharati Mukherjee, transformed into the live instance of a freed person who, through her books, portrayed the skirmishes of pariah women for achieving their character. Bharati Mukherjee offers followers to step through the exam strongly against the standard edge work of the overall population and to turn her way towards attention to her own worth and spot in the overall population. Bharati Mukherjee is an Indian-brought into the American world. Mukherjee achieved her ubiquity with the books like *The Tiger's Daughter*, *Wife*, *Jasmine*, *The Holder of the World*, and *Leave It to Me*, *Desirable Daughters*, *The Tree Bride* and *Miss New India*.

For a large portion of the settler writers, migration turns into a copying subject of conversation with the world, turning into a worldwide town. In a globalized world, the distinctions liquefy into likenesses. Culture and gatherings outside the predominant philosophy attempt to discover approaches to advance their variety. In earlier occasions, the fundamental purpose behind the movement of the third-world people depended upon their expert issues. Regardless, in the circumstances where social dissimilarities are significantly sharper to the extent of racial, phonetic and religious, the quandaries get hopelessly marvellous for the subaltern to adjust to the new conditions. The alteration issues of the pilgrim women in an untouchable society and their phobic perspective due to the political, sexual direction and racial biases become basic issues in the books of Bharati Mukherjee.

2. Conclusion

Mukherjee portrayed various parts of the social, political, mental, sexual and racial separations, issues and sufferings of Asian foreigner women. The author mysteriously communicated her own encounters through short stories and anecdotal works and gently portrayed issues of outsiders and bigotry as a significant component of her compositions. Most of Mukherjee's characters are Indian women who are the casualties of bigotry and sexism, frequently headed to frantic demonstrations of savagery in the wake of understanding that they cannot be found a way into the way of life of the West nor in the Indian culture they gave up. She extraordinarily identified women giving outlines of the pickle in contemporary society and the contorted mind of those migrants who have been getting by in the contention of conventional qualities. The women characters in her books are exceptionally recognizable, and the writer effectively depicted them in the prior setting. They assumed the significant function being developed of the nuanced topical examples in the books of Bharati Mukherjee.

References

- Kumar N. *The Fiction of Bharti Mukherjee: A Cultural Perspective*. New Delhi. 2001.
- Mukherjee B. *Desirable Daughters*. New Delhi, Penguin. 1990.
- Nelson ES. *Bharti Mukherjee: Critical Perspectives*. New York. Garland. 1993.
- Roy, Sumita. *Jasmine: Exile as Spiritual Quest in The Fiction of Bharati Mukherjee*. RK. Dhawan (ed.). New Delhi: Prestige Books. 1996.
- Ann, Ms Desiree, "Bonds' bonding with nature in the select works of Ruskin Bond." PoGo Publishing House, *Inland Flashes-Contemporary Indian Writing*, 2015.
- Julie, S. Nithya Fraila, and T. Jayakumar. "Chetan Bhagat, The Salvator of the Indian Youth: A Study of His Five Point Someone And The 3 Mistakes of My Life." *IMPACT: International Journal of Research in Humanities, Arts and Literature*, vol. 6, no. 9, 30 Sept. 2018, pp. 439–444.
- . "The Usage of English in Chetan Bhagat's 2 States: The Story of My Marriage." *IMPACT: International Journal of Research in Humanities, Arts and Literature*, vol. 6, no. 10, 8 Oct. 2018, pp. 1–4.
- Kathiresan, B, and S. Arulmurugan. "The Dystopian Trope in Yevgeny Ivanovich Zamyatin's We." *Asia Pacific Journal of Research*, vol. 1, no. XXIV, Feb. 2015, pp. 155–157.
- . "The Immortality Trope in Rudy Rucker's Software." *International Journal of World Research*, vol. 1, no. VII, 2014, pp. 58–62.
- Moorthy, G, "Vicissitude of Apocryphal and Archetypal: The Select Novels of Carol Shields: A Study" *Portrayal of Social Issues and Challenges Faced by Women in World Literature*, edited by K. Yesodha Devi, Harrows Publication, Madurai, 2013.
- Urmila, P, and Dr. R. Srividhya. "Maladies of the Immigrants in Bharati Mukherjee's Darkness." *International Journal of English Language, Literature and Humanities*, vol. 4, no. 4, Apr. 2016, pp. 570–582.
- Kathiresan, B, and S. Arulmurugan. "The Immortality Trope in Rudy Rucker's Software." *International Journal of World Research*, vol. 1, no. VII, 2014, pp. 58–62.
- Preya, M.N.V. (2021). Cultural Conflict in Kamala Markandaya's *The Nowhere Man*, *Amnayiki*, 19, 245 -249.
- Preya, M.N.V. (2019). Diasporic Facets in Jhumpa Lahiri's Interpreter of Maladies, *Think India Journal*, 22(3), 2159-2163.
- Preya, M.N.V. (2019). Stereotyping and Bigotry in Media and how it Entrenches Gender Inequality, *Research Review*, 4(3), 1220-1222.
- Preya, M.N.V. (2019). Voice of the Voiceless: Rejuvenating Dispositions in Kamala Markandaya's *Two Virgins*, *Language in India*, 19(3), 154-160.
- Nainar Sumathi, P. (2013). Diaspora and its Impact in the select novels of Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, *Shanlax International Journal of English*, 1(3), 47-54.
- Nainar Sumathi, P. (2020). Issues of Women Identity in Bharathi Mukherjee's *Desirable Daughters*, *JAC: Journal of Composition Theory*, 13(8), 1-5.
- Nainar Sumathi, P. (2019). Post Modernism in Chetan Bhagat's *Two States*, *Journal of Emerging Technologies and Innovative Research*, 6(3), 3.
- Nainar Sumathi, P. (2017). Diasporic Consciousness in Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's *The Mistress of Spices*, *Shanlax International Journal of English*, 6, 5.