

Civilization in the Selected Novels of Charles Dickens and Mulk Raj Anand

Dr. DARA BABU

Academic Consultant, Department of English, P.G Centre
(Vikrama Simhapauri University) Kavali, SPSR Nellore

Abstract

According to Scholars perspective, every writer is the product of his own period. Hence an attempt is essential to read the history of Charles Dickens and Mulk Raj Anand's time and the problems they encounter and write about in their writings. A brief study of their lives would definitely add some meaning to this type of comparative reading. Both the authors' childhood and youth had a very great encounter in their writings. Both Charles Dickens (1812-1870) and Mulk Raj Anand (1905-2004) were prolific writers. Both of them lived in the times of great social and economic upheavals. Nothing escaped them as both were endowed with keen perception and deep insight. The novels of Charles Dickens and Mulk Raj Anand are vivid illustrations of a world that is so shockingly real and fixed that there seems no escape from it. They describe touchingly and convincingly the plight of the child-rejected, maltreated, exploited, and cast away-as one in a perpetual conflict with injustice and cruelty. They are made to endure various miseries and sorrowful experiences of oppression, inflicted upon them by individual and systemic exploitation, in which society is seen as an Ogre. In the sense that they, as committed writers, mould and shape their novels as works of art in which they envisaged the emergence of a new society free from dehumanization, domination and exploitation and from social and political marginalization. Each novelist suggests his own unique remedy for the social ills in the scholar's perspective.

Keywords: perspective, maltreated, oppression, dehumanisation, envisage, human dignity, ogre, exploitation.

Introduction

The present study intends to examine A scholar's views and attitudes which condition his work are the result of a number of influences that operate upon him from childhood onwards, and Dickens and Anand are no exceptions in this respect. Their heredity, education, and people they have met, social milieu, and the books they read, have all conditioned their art, and gone into the making of Charles Dickens and Mulk Raj Anand, spokesmen of the low and underdogs of privileged world.

Dickens has spent the first part of his childhood in south England but in 1814 the family was moved to London when John was posted there. His father worked as a major clerk in the Naval Pay Office but because he was continually living beyond his means, he was imprisoned for debt in the Marshalsea in 1824 and 12-year-old Charles was taken from school and sent to work at a boot-blackening factory. At the age of fifteen, he was employed by a solicitor and studied shorthand. In 1829 he started as a freelance reporter of law classes and in 1831 became a parliamentary reporter. During that period, he went through the environment of justice and administration that he would later criticize. He never forgot his life as a working boy and

the majority of his novels were published in serialized versions, monthly or weekly, to be accessible for lower classes because his books were about lower classes and therefore directed to lower classes. He was one of the most popular novelists of the Victorian times. On that time he is considered the social chronicler of lower class London life. His novels reflect a vivid picture of the life of the poor people of his day. Dickens' purpose in his novel is directed to social reform. They have cared small of human values and hardly understood the significance of the charity of the poor.

Review of Related Literature

Mr. Srivastava Arvind Kumar (2007), Department of English, Dr. Rammanohar Lohia Avadh University, Faizabad, published thesis entitled 'Social Realism in the Fictions of Charles Dickens.' He evaluated that Charles Dickens is the novelist of the people and for the people that is his fiction of that deals with different kinds of social realities. Dickens shares a common psycho-social affinity and enumerates the moral crisis of his items in their writings. Dickens clearly narrates the harrowing of great experience of the opposed the suppressed people like

Oliver in *Oliver Twist*. Mr. Shivasthava clearly explained in his thesis, Dickens trusts such a literature ought to maintain action aimed at the new creation of one world with whole people clearly enjoying, economical, social, political equality. Dickens characters belong to two classes of people those who have emotion and feeling and man who have love. He describes the souls which nature creates with those which society deforms.

Mr. Ramamurthy, S (1988) Ph. D Research Scholar, Department of English, Bharathidasan University, Tamilnadu, published thesis entitled 'The novels of Charles Dickens and Mulk Raj Anand a Comparative Study.' He was clearly explains regarding to Dickens' Influence and his study in comparative literature is a way of identity of imitation and reality. The study enables us to comprehend the stage that writer asserts his literary views in the midst of different types of literary influences and trending innovations of himself. In the entire world, among the English novelists, Charles Mentally, heir humanism is the basic juncture of their fiction and it has personal determined of their scope, range and their literary theories and literary views.

Frederick, K. William (1984) Ph. D, Research Scholar, Department of English, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Ananthapur, published thesis entitled 'The motif of childhood in the novels of Charles Dickens.' Frederick examines/find out a motif of motif in Dickens novels. In general, Dickens has called the 'protagonist of the romantic poets in his test of the perfect of individuality that was combined with human maturity of experience and his handling of the introducing an organic pattern. The pattern of evolution in the lives and careers of the various child characters, as they have been analysed in Chapters III, IV and V of his thesis would lead one to such a conclusion which describes reality and Heroism.

Overview

In the sense of Indian Scholars, every writer has their own perception to describe heroes' individuality and perception. According to Charles Dickens, he is more successful with heroes' characters drawn from the middle and lower classes of this society. As a child and young man, he had seen and even experienced the life of these classes. It was in his blood even after he had become a high hat with his

thumping success in the field of fiction. Charles Dickens like Mulk Raj Anand is a humanitarian novelist. He selected child characters to evoke the feelings of pity and sympathy in public, who represented the real condition of the poor children of London of his times. Most of the characters in Dickens' novels are flat, not round. The literary conclusion to be drawn is that the law is not the instruments through which justice can be attained. Dickens reserves a place for human sight and conclusions as a valid alternative to the application of substantive legal principles in the achievement of justice.

"The Indian labourer is just a piece of property, a sub-human

Being with no rights and all duty, who's only utility is to be a Serviceable tool in the vast machine of the plantation (*Two Leaves and A Bud*, P.471).

The central theme of the novel is the exposition of the ill-treatment of thousands of wretched labourers at the hands of a handful selfish and arrogant British planter and their sycophants on large tea estates in the thick hill forest area of Assam. The portrayal of the untold sufferings of the poor and poverty is realistic and down-to-earth. Mulk Raj Anand pursues his main concern of the redemption of the downtrodden with the zeal of a reformer. In doing so, he naturally, emerges like all genuine and true artists, as at once the universal and an Indian nationalist.

The most poignant picture/character that deplores the plight of the poor in the novel is described to use when Hari and Munoo are in search of a little bit of space to rest for the night. The cotton mills, another version of hell, where Munoo comes to work along with Hari's family, are intended to expose the exploitation of the Indian proletariat and condemned to subhuman existence by British imperialists. Unlike his fellow youth who were blame the machine responsible for their starvation and unmixed evil, Ananta believes that the machine is only a tool, to be put to the right use by man. His explanation by comparing it to a bride is a good example of imagination. Anand's portrayal of the lives of the poor clearly reveals this quality of 'felt experience'. Some of the characters and incidents have been taken from real life, the life of the individuals who have figured in his confessions. These different roles have helped him in the discovery of his holistic vision of life which converts his philosophy of humanism.

The character of Bakha (the Hero) also illustrates Anand's concept of work as worship, his belief in dignity of labour, and the importance of developing man's personality as a whole. He does his work willingly and neatly. He has unconsciously assimilated the idea of devotion to his duty. Cleaning human excreta is regarded by many as a low and dirty work. But the hero Bakha has no inhibitions and he looks clean and sensitive in spite of his work. In fact, the hard job has made him strong and well-built. Here strong was shown the reality of Charles Dickens and Mulk Raj Anand's realism/heroism.

Charles Dickens used first person when writing *Great Expectations* so that the character tells the story rather than the author. Charles Dickens made use of the figure of speech known to medieval rhetoricians as epanaphora. The technique adopted by Mulk Raj Anand in his novels suits his purpose. All the vital part his work is about it and all his living characters are the members of the same family. The technique adopted by Mulk Raj Anand in his novels suits his purpose.

Conclusion

The researcher finds out regarding to view and changes of Charles Dickens and Mulk Raj Anand, they were firmly believes that human civilization does not always indulge in wars, creating conflicts-one after another to portraying hero's role. He hopes that the spurious elements of contemporary civilization such as fratricidal conflicts and crude barbarism associated with money and exploitation that would be wiped out by a new civilization ushered in by the revolutionary spirit of man who could build a more egalitarian society based on justice, humanity and a civilized morality. Thus, Mulk Raj Anand as realist and with a deep sense of humanism and compassion for the poor, the backward and the downtrodden and as a stylist with command over a language which can be truly called the people's language and mastery over the language for Mulk Raj Anand, narrated his works with the sympathy and full

of love for victims in the main roles of heroes. His works were reflecting the extreme level of suffering of their downtrodden protagonists without any crime and fault of their own in the sense of main roles as heroes. Education had been commercialized and runs like profitable concerns. Dickens heroes were does exaggerate want of knowledge of teachers and founders of such schools in ancient days. A civilization is nothing but developing the culture and modernity in the life-style of human.

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