

PSYCHOTIC TORMENT OF FEMALE PROTAGONIST IN BHARATI MUKHERJEE'S NOVELS - TIGER'S DAUGHTER AND WIFE

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ABSTRACT:

Bharati Mukherjee's is the third feminist writer of Diaspora. Her novels focus on the main character of women who had suffering from alien culture which they could not manage up with them .some of them succeeded in life but some have to accept the tough life in society. They suffer psychologically had the commotion to hack it with society which they live and this traumatic situation are experienced by them individually. The protagonist Tara and Dimple suffer psychologically in the search of their identity in the alien land. This paper deals with psychotic suffering of female protagonist in Bharati Mukherjee's novel Tigers Daughter and wife.

Keywords: *Trauma, Psychic, Culture, Riots, Violence, Loss of love and care.*

Bharati Mukherjee's is one of the most influential literary figures of Indian women writer in English who is honoured as the grand dame of diasporic Indian English literature. She has been termed as Asian American writer, Indo American writer .she was born in Calcutta on 29th July 1940who is an expatriate, Indian origin in U.S .A, one of the remarkable women writers to the debated of post-modernist literature. Bharati Mukherjee's has established herself as a powerful member of the American literary scene with her novels like the tigers daughter 1972, jasmine 1989, wife `1978 and anthologies' of short stories such as middle and other stories 1988 and darkness 1985.the holder of the world1993 and leave it to me1990 are two other novels by Bharati Mukerjee .Her writing style is very original and its very imaginative .she uses great method in her symbolism and metaphorical artistry. Some of the bitterness felt by Bharati Mukherjee's felt by Bharati Mukherjee's then and other are cultural concerns are projected in her creative writing .Her two novel tiger daughter and wife .Here novel Tigers Daughter and wife there novel affect psychologically which the circumstances where they could not hack it up by them. There psychic trauma does not allow them to lead the peaceful life to live in particular psychic situation.

Trauma is a type of scratch to mind which one could not cope by them. it affects their emotions and create the stress that exceeds one ability to survive .Trauma may have the long term negative consequence ,it involved two types of trauma they are physical and mental

trauma that threatens the wellbeing, sense of security or survival. The aim of my presentation to say about how the psychological trauma affects Tara and Dimple in Bharati Mukherjee's novels.

Bharati Mukherjee's novels *Tiger's Daughters* 1973 and *Wife* 1976 deal with two different problems of expatriates .while the first is truly immigrant novel the second thematically resemble Arun Joshi , "The Foreigners". The aim of my presentation to say about how the psychological trauma affects Tara and Dimple in Bharati Mukherjee's novels. Her first novel *The Tiger's Daughters* and another entitled *Wife* 1975 concentrate on the cultural conflict of east and west .Each has a heroine of Indian derivation who suffers a cultural shock by going to the states.

There is similarity of approach to the main theme in both novels, but the author and as a touch of novelty in the second by reserving the position of the protagonist from occurring the first. There both novel present the personal experience of Bharati Mukherjee's .The point of different is the Tara the heroine of *The Tiger's Daughter* reacts mentally ad psychically to the changed scenario of a mutiny cultural o returning to the city of her birth and early education.

The *Tiger Daughter* Tara return to India after v seven years of marrying David Cartwright , a American husband David does no part emerge in the novel but he reflected by letters to him. Her nephews and untie are the Bombay airport .Tara after reaching their find her own place changed within 7 year from the time when she was a care free girl at the convent of the St.blaise Calcutta she has to face riots and violence on the lane daily processions of the factory workforce. She thinks:

The shadows of suicide or exile, of Bengali soil sectioned and ceded, of workers against their bosses could not have been divined by even a wise man in those days (TD p. 6)

She is venerable gorgeous daughter of Bengal Tiger Banerjee a wealthy tobacco manufacture. She met at her old friend and young one in the Catelli continental hotel on Chowrighee Avenue are of no avail. After reaching Bombay all her fuss made over by her uncle and aunt and their clutch is expected enough but the change in men thinking and behaviour is perceptible in the conversation of her two nomadic companies on by train journey to Calcutta. Tara feels:

I have returned to dry holes by the sides of railway tracks, she thought, to brown fields like excavations for a thousand homes. I have returned to India (TD p. 21)

The former St.Blaise and Vassar girl is subjected to all kinds of humiliations of Calcutta and Darjeeling's that he refined sensibility meets with repeated shock. The trauma of shock to Tara a westered Indian woman Tuntanwala mists a calling her Mrs. Cartwright is too big for her to bear.

For Tara, Vassar had been an almost unsalvageable mistake. If she had not been a Banerjee, a Bengali Brahmin, the great granddaughter of Hari Lal Banerjee, or perhaps if she had not been trained by the good nuns at St. Blaise have to remain

composed and ladylike in all emergencies, she would have rushed home to India at the end of her first week. (TD p. 10)

Tara affected I psychologically by circumstances mainly at first she is mortified in the tea shop. It made her unwillingly and ministers the first reason of astonishment by Tara. The second episode is of the picnic organised by Tiger Banerjee at his factory premises for the entertainment of his daughter and first. A small snake is exposed the swimming pool where they fall for some time before lunch is served .Tara is so dismayed that she grades by screaming loudly which surprise even her parents.

The third of her scandalous experience at the summer resorts of Darjeeling where the group of middle class Indian tourist perform crudely towards her when she out riding with her friend pronob and English girl they meet at their hotel. The last straw is her rape by Tuntunwala at the Nagapur guest house, where she goes at the suggestion of her father to claim her never after Darjeeling experience. Tara thinks

She could not share her knowledge of Tuntunwala with any of her friends. In a land where a friendly smile, an accidental brush of the fingers, can ignite rumours – even lawsuits – how is one to speak to Mr. Tuntunwala’s violence? (TD p. 199)

She has returned from America with high hope of reunion with parents, kindred and friends. She is familiar streets and the convent but in the end of novel ,she depart for America in a hurry almost clandestinely ,without talking leave of all her friends suddenly informing her helpless parents about her decision to return to David and the united states.

Tara found herself shouting “Ma, Ma, Mata” with the rest. She found it easy suddenly to love everyone, even Antonia Whitehead, who was the only person standing in entire room. It was not Kananbala Mata who moved her as much as the worshipers themselves (TD p.173).

Tragedy, of course, was not uncommon in Calcutta.

The newspapers were full of epidemics, collisions, fatal quarrels and starvation. Even murders, beheadings of landlords in front of their families... (TD p.97).

Four years after publication of The Tigers Daughter appeared wife, a novel in which Bharati Mukherjee’s considers the same problem from a upturned position and angle. Dimple is the heroine of wife novel. She is another women who is born in Calcutta, college educated maiden, where marriage is arranged with Amit, a Bengali engineer, who is motivated of making a successful professional career in the states. Dimple and her husband both of them do not care a job in India. Her mother in law does not appreciate yearning for a more free life than she gets in the traditional Indian family. When Jyoti and Amit discuss guns and licenses over dinner, Dimple:

“Thought she had never really been friends with anyone before this, never stayed with someone for weeks and discussed important things like love and death. That’s what America meant to her” (Wife p. 84-85).

Dimple in wife is a young Bengali bride who accompanies her engineer husband to New York to face a way of life to which she cannot easily adjust. Bharati Mukherjee’s has transferred her own mood at psychic to the two novels. The divergence of approach in the two novels is also reflected by the names of the women. One is called Tara after a manifestation of the goddess Durga and to other bears the name of Dimple a common westernized India pet names.

This is the trauma of most educated Indian girls, who have to suffer all the humiliations involved in an arranged marriage. In Hindu society choosing the bride for profitable job is mortifying for the girls he interviews one after another the ma has all right to choose, but the poor woman is treated as a thing without feelings and emotions.

In the marriage women are reacted and treated as property for providing pleasure and soothe to the possessor. Brides are even today selected on the same base. Bharati Mukherjee’s, mortal as an Indian woman she knows about this directly and reacts to it’s in her own way after her experience of the west. That is precisely the reason why she write novel like the tigers daughters and wife.

Dimple husband ultimately land in New York, there he stayed with Joythi Sen apartment. She helps in kitchen and goes out for shopping. But she could not buy and ask anything in store. she gets return is enough discourage her from trying similar for anything in future at the time Amit get foothold job as they move to an apartment which some American friend vacate for them and their life in New York novel an different pattern. There we can found the tough situation who adjusts the American culture by Indians. Dimple :

Where twenty hawkers would be grabbing at her for any small change she had. They’d do anything to please her, cut a tangerine in half if she had only ten paise. What was wrong with her money? In Calcutta she’d buy from Muslims, Biharis, Christians, Nepalis. She was used to many races; she’d never been a communalist. And so long as she had money to spend no one would ask her what community she belonged to. (Wife p. 60)

The durga pooja celebration this was Amit friends organize is expectedly an all Indian affair. There are however Masha Mukherjee an American lover married to India scholar and her broke Milt Glasser who show interest in Indian community.

Dimple is obedient and faithful Indian life gradually loses faith in the ambitious dreams of success that Amit nurtures to the last. she felt unsuccesses to live in New York. She could not amend environment. This was like two different culture which she could not like two world deep for her to bridge over, her lonely in mansion, Amit makes round, looking for suitable career, make her depressed and neurotic for a several weeks.

She contemplates in different technique of suicide .she was thinking about the love life they enjoyed in early months of marriage appear to the long forgotten dream. She and Amit forgot show the love and care to her wife .He was teaching property. The main thing of distance from parents and college friends in Calcutta intensifies the situation.

These all making her seduces Milt Glasser ,to whom a casual sexual encounter with a women he apparently admires is nothing unusual ,but because of her Indian background, it is quite traumatic experience of dimple who feels transferred after her act of betrayal to Amit.

When they got home, she helped Milt make hamburgers -the pinkish meat got under her nails and for a while she feared Amit would be able to smell it on her for days to come - and she ate almost a whole one with mustard and relish, .and waited until Milt had left before rushing to the bathroom and throwing it up. With her forehead on the edge of the toilet bowl between heavens, she thought it was small price to pay for all the things she had done since moving into Manhattan. (Wife p.176)

Dimple distressed mind made her to stab her husband instead of committing suicide. Many Amits and Dimple in real life must have met the same fate as these two Couple of her novel. Bharati Mukherjee's projection of feminist outlook that an Indian woman is always caught up in a cross cultural suffering and psychological effect and ultimately suffers at the end. The implicit scrutiny of the heroines of *The Tigers Daughter* and *Wife* lead to some interesting termination both Tara and Dimple are proposed as middle women between two cultures and suffered psychologically in opposed condition. Their disenchantment with America and India respectively swift but plodding San over a period of time .The author's message is clear that no one can help people in certain situation. She has to take her problem by herself and find solution is the only key for her peacefulness.

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