

Communal Riot & Social Disintegration in Mahesh Dattani's Final Solutions

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Abstract:

The plays of Mahesh Dattani touched the burning issues of the contemporary Indian society. The India is land of varied cultures traditions, religions and customs. The disharmony between the religion the major problem occurred in the society which disturbs the national unity, economic strength, and image of state/ nation. This issue is rendered from the independence. The mutual understanding in such diversities is only the way to enjoy the resources for the progress of nation. The crisis or communal tension, the challenge like this has placed unique place in the Indian theatre/ drama. Such issues found the path in the plays of Mahesh Dattani. The play '*Final Solution*' [1992] throws light on communalism simultaneously inhuman behavior discrimination based on the caste/ religion conventionally formed the prejudices which can creates social distances among the society. The final solution depicted community riot between Hindu and Muslim, its effects on the peace of society during the period of post partition. The psychological changes, feeling of enemy causes the brotherhood of nation. Mahesh Dattani pictured the communal unrest by family of three generations happened with it. The present research paper evaluates the conditions of middle urban life and communal stress in the *Final Solution*.

Key –words: riot, marginalized, vegetarianism, communalism, and demonization.

Introduction:

Drama is such an art form which deal with social subjects. It mirrored the social problems and made attempt to create future society which has base of existing society. This form of literature enlightened the audience but gives number of thought/ concept to think. So drama is partially sociological and literary.

Mahesh Dattani is well known dramatist In Indian drama In English. He has been awarded by '*Sahitya Academy Award*' for the significant contribution in the world of drama, with his dramatic writings. He was fond of Gujarati and Kannad plays which inspired him to the dramatic writings. His interest in drama, pave the way to found 'Playpen' a theatre company in 1984. Before that he performed in numerous plays as leading role in Indian English plays and British plays. His prolong experience of acting provokes him for direction of plays. In his writings he dealt with current issues, marginalized sections of society and handled the crying circumstances of society like child abuse homosexuality, the problems of underestimation of Hijada community social frame. The outstanding works of Dattani's final solution was first performed at Bangalore in 1993. The play mainly highlighted the communal violence. The religious scratches between communities took wild fire in the hearts of people of both sides. So the attacks, fighting's happened in the corners of nation for religious existence. Dattani had written his plays in the post colonial period the play has recorded the Indian society with its sorrow sufferings dreams and aspirations incidents of violence happened for the sake of religious feelings. He is not only actor, writer or director but he played as active role of social activist. He strongly believed the people who lived in Indian society were living in unexpected fear and anxiety. So Dattani tried to cover the unanswered concerns through his commentaries and plays about the undirected laws which affect the urban middle class families with their habits of living and equalizing the conditions they have. His imaginative power captured the deep rooted issues of society which was totally voiceless.

The play Final Solution opens with the diary writing, Diksha or Hardika Newly married girl was writing her experiences with new people and house she had not in good tune in laws house. After the India's Independence she was also free from the four walls of her house. Now she has her own views and choices. She was fond of music especially she loves to listen Shamshad Begum and Noor Jahan songs. She wanted to be a singer but her family did not allow and support her to fulfill her dream. She planned to take the visit of Zarin her good friend, their relation tighten the bond of friendship. The scene is now shifted to forty years forward and Diksha's granddaughter Smita was taking phone call of Tasneem. Smita was collecting the information regarding the bomb blast in her hostel. There was tension and fearful atmosphere outside in Moholla. So Diksha advised her daughter-in-law Anna to be sure to close the doors and windows. At this moment Javed and Bobby was running on the street and Hindus were following them to kill as they belongs to Muslim community. At last they knocked the door of Ramnik, Javed and Bobby entered and requested to save their lives.

The mob threatened the family of Ramnik to hand over the Javed but Ramnik refused to do so.

Communal Riot

The differences of two communities were shown as Javed and Bobby was from Muslim community. Before that, they attacked on the chariot and wanted to kill the temple's Pujari [worshipper of Temple]. This is the reason that, the people from Hindu community got hurt and decided to take revenge of Muslim people. Javed committed this act on the name of Jihad. It was the poison of caste/ community to prepare the young minds for the fighting on the name of religion. Ramnik asked Javed about his involvement in terrorism. Javed released all the incidents happened with him in his teenage and how his family was abused. Bobby was good nature boy; he told all truth which was only the cause of religion. Smita was very familiar with these two boys appeared in the family of Ramnik. She behaved friendly with two boys, Ramnik was so kind person and gave good treatment to them. He asked Javed about his job. Diksha was watching all the discussion and incidents and memorizing that she was beaten by her husband for the friendship with Zarin. Ramnik also did not forget the incident the burning of shop for the purpose to take at low price. The final Solution ends with undefined solution.

The play final Solution handled the issue of communal crisis in the different context. It talked about the sufferings of Hindu and Muslims mutually. The character of Hardika, Diksha and Javed suffered in the set-up of Indian community. This all disturbed the normal social life and day to day affairs, need, working etc. It directly affected the empowerment and progress of nation. The scene of play took place inside and outside of Ramnik Gandhi's house. Though the ashes of partition are not destroyed, the dispute between land and nationalism is unsolved; even after the Indian society is celebrating the fifty six years of independence. The required solution is based on establishment of communal harmony in the nation which depends on the communities of nation.

The whole play is full of memories, dialogues, images sudden shifts etc. In the communal tension the youngster like Javed and Bobby were used to spread communal violence. Such young people were not able to lead normal life in society. Society do not support such persons to lead in better way and ready to look them as criminal of it, either they end their lives or police department encountered them. In such circumstances some

talented minds are diverted from their aims which shall useful to develop the recourses for national development.

Conclusion

Mahesh Dattani was keen observer of the society. He found that Indian society and its culture has impact of religions and other religious customs. Due to caste the marginalization of some sections of society had been occurred, and the dominance of some sections of society has been the different issue, he highlighted the hurdles which stood in the welfare of society and break down to the progress of nation. Secondly he was sensitive about the human relationship and its vital role in development of society. Conflicts, ego, clashes in families shows that male centered norms brought suffocation to the other members living in the family /society and it is done by the leaders of particular groups or community. Such conditions leads to communal tension aroused and the fellowmen might suffer in this disputes. Dattani's play are suitable examples to justify the actual documentation of society in the post partition period of India. Once in interview he claimed that 'Theater is reflection of what you observe'. At the same time Dattani's dramatic writing projected the rapid changes and alterations in the existed system more than that he offered the most challenging scenario of Indian Society, which was not changed after the independence of India, with his own style of description and narrative technique. On this basis Rakesh Sharma made documentary entitled as **FINAL SOLUTION**, on the aftermath of the 2002 Gujarat riots — that left 2,000 dead, hundreds raped, and more than 2,00,000 people got homeless or displaced.

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