

Emotional Estrangement in Shashi Deshpand's '*Binding Vine*'

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Abstract

Shashi Deshpande handled the issues, sorrows and sufferings related about the helpless women in her writings. She wrote about the Indian middle class women. We know that women have right to live equally. The reality is that the underestimation of women is occurred in the male dominated society. The Women are playing different important roles as devoted mother, sister and wife. It is also expected that she should obedient submissive and loyal towards her husband. Shashi Deshpande and many other writers took steps to struggle for the auto nous existence. So she depicted every minute detail of women including emotions, sentiments, demands, dreams, aspirations and expectations. She gave voice to unheard feelings of women. This paper is providing exposure to emotional disturbance/ insecurity and feelings which are neglected and rejected in her *Binding Vine*. Parallel to that she shown us the pressure from all corners, in which she was unable to breath freely. Through the characters she wanted to bring change in the stereo-typed image which is coming from generation to generation.

Introduction

The writings of Shashi Deshpande presented the inner life and feelings of women in her major works. She depicted dreams, expectations, and aspirations of the middle class women from Indian society. Simultaneously she displayed the disappointments, dishonor, rejection and frustration of women from family/ society etc. We see the female protagonist is mostly from middle class, educated housewives, intelligent and sensitive. In her *Binding Vine*, she has given three characters namely Kalpana , Mira, and Urmila . Urmila is educated, Mira is victim of her husband's feeling less treatment, and kalpana is raped by her relative. All these characters have their own dreams, planning and expectations and demands from their husband respectively, but it is not fulfilled. The character of Urmila was suffered from the alienation when her husband is out of home. Shashi Deshpande's women are very sensitive, when Urmila visited the hospital and recognized that there are many women who are suffering from the number of problems as compare to her. In the end of novel she feels satisfied that she helped the victims and get way to overcome her own sorrows and sufferings. Through this novel Deshpande gives the real secret of life consider the one's emotion is the noble and second is that women should understand the feeling, emotion, affections of women which bring consolation. It will bring change in women's life and make it happy. Secondly Shashi Deshpande in *Binding Vine* gives women's are shown from all sections of society. House wives, from professional

field, tradition follower and some are not to cross the threshold of house. She addressed their problems and tries to stand them against it.

Expatriation on womanly emotions

The central character of the novel is Urmila. She is very intelligent educated and working as a lecturer in a college. Being a educated Urmila has very different vision to words Life. She is very him in his behavior and a attitude later Urmila entered in the married life with her own choice in their relationship there is lack of emotional balance. Because her husband is not paying much attention towards her .Financially Urmila was independent, from this she developed superego within herself. Her ego is one of the reasons why she lack love of her husband. Materially she living happy life with her husband but love, care of emotions was absent I their relationship. Her husband Kishore is merchant navy officer, most of the times he was out of station/home on account of his duty. The bond of emotion between the life partners cannot be established properly. So he always feels emotional insecurity when Kishore is out of home. She never talks about sexual gratification; she needs emotional support, some who understands her. In this emotional estrangement one incident also happened with Urmila is her infant daughter Anu expired. She trapped in this distress and disappointed. She feels lonely and she has not companion with whom she wants to spend her moments share her unspoken words. After experiences of life she became very dare and involves herself in the observation outer world/ society. She found that there are many sisters who demands justice and they are not happy in their lives. She decided to give justice to Kalpana who is victimized by rape. In this way she changed her vision of life and put an example to women in society.

Emotional impoverishment of woman

Shakutai is another character in the novel which undergoes in the alienation. She got married after some days her husband wanted to leave her for better earnings to parent's house. Six months was over, her husband did not come to visit again. She decided to meet him at Bombay. The days after marriage are golden newly wedded couple dreamed for future. They develop their love, care, affection to each other. Here in case of Shakutai the picture is different. He is not caring ,rather he has not any sense of Shakutai's emotions. She is very loyal to him. She gave birth to three children. After that she concentrates on the betterment of her life. Her husband never understood her. She was deserted by him. When her husband left her, there was no single person who provides emotional support. She created feeling of loneliness and her life seems to be empty. She is frustrated as she has no partner to console her and give courage.

The next figure is Sulu; she is very tragic figure in the novel. She is wife of Prabhakar As husband; he does not love, caring towards Sulu. His behavior towards Sulu is not estimated as good, Rather he developed his interest in Kalpana who is just like his daughter. Sulu was pressurized by her husband because of new consequences both Sulu and Shakutai wish that

Kalpana should marry with her Mousaji. If it not happened one thing is very sure that Sulu will suffer for whole life. As wife Sulu was depressed in his married life Her own husband did not fulfill the emotional physical needs. He has not any emotional attachment but he was proposed to marry with Kalpana. From this we can get the idea of male dominance in society. Every facility is available for man but women have to follow social norms. She was also frightened for divorce which seems to curse for women. After marriage kalpana had same situation she was useful for night only. She was brutally raped by rabhakar .She also lacks love, care and assurance of emotional attachment which is indirectly demand of married girl. So kalpana is suffering from same grief. But she could not express it.

Obdurate experiences & suppression in martial life

Mira is Mother in law of Urmila is having same treatment as compare to the women characterized in the novel Mira was selected by Kishore's father, on the occasion of wedding ceremony and felt in love. After this visit he wanted to marry with Mira and finally the proposal carry forward to marriage. Fro the first day of marriage she has no space to her she was remain plaything for husband. No compassion no emotional bondage was created by him. As mira's husband did not aware about her sentiments and other loveable atmosphere. In opposition to that she maintain the duties and responsibilities of ideal wife without uttering the single word for love, affection and other humanly care which is essential factor for wife. Being wife and woman she pressed her emotions in her heart. After some time, she expressed her emotional restrain through poems, diaries and other notes. Urmila understood her emotions through writings because h she was died. Urmila decided to publish it he took the initiatives with the help of great literary figure Venu form Indian literature.

All characters are suffering with their own circumstances, all character are the victims of treatment given by patricharchal system. Shashi deshpande's women wants love not lust mira is known about her husband's lustful love. Kalpana is also witnessed the same lust form Prabhakar.

Urmila is most mature and appears for social protest she has sense of in injustice and inferior ity in society. So she demonstrated the the Mira's unspoken words through publication and took a step for changing the mindset of women's world. Urmila fights for Kalpana.

Conclusion

In twentieth century the women is becoming aware and self sufficient to deal with her problems. She is strongly struggling for his existence and wants to create space in society. In present India the women are proving themselves in every sector. But one complaint is that she is turning from her main role home maker. She is justified and empowered to manage the things in the modern world. Shashi Deshpande wanted to show the mentality of women who are suffering and suffered emotionally , psychologically etc. through the character of Urmila , she wanted to tighten the wrists of women for the harassment which is often suppressed by

women on account of social protocol. She also created one kind of independence to bind firmly to break the shackles of age –old traditions. In Binding Vine She wanted to develop the bond of love, care and feeling of companionship in women’s world. She thought that this is the right track to redress the women’s loneliness and emotional suppression.

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