

# **Love, Sacrifice and Patriotism motifs in the Calling Sehmat by Harinder Sikka**

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## **Abstract**

‘Calling Sehmat ‘is heart touching story of patriotic girl who gamble her life for the nation in other country. Harinder sikka’s depicted the story of such unsung and unnoticed devotee of nation well as freedom fighter called Sehmat. she performed her duty as spy to supply the information of Pakistan and planning of Pakistan to the Indian intelligence, during Indo-Pakistan war in 1971. She had been enjoying her normal life with dreams, aspirations and suddenly she shouldered highly risky task. In this course he was attracted to Iqbal Sayeed as she got married traditionally. She developed physical relationships with got pregnancy from him. On the other hand she promised to her father that she will continue his mission to serve nation. As her upbringing was in patriotic ambience she bound to do her national work. It is observed that devoted Sehmat as wife, daughter, and daughter in law was fit to her role in the novel. It is true and fact based story written by Sitka the present paper echoes the feeling of patriotism love of obedient daughter careful wife and mother which was justified by Sehmat in the novel.

**Key Words-** *patriotism, sacrifice, love, homeland*

## **Introduction about Novel**

Harinder Sikka is graduated from Delhi University later he joined Indian Navy. He served the nation for couple of years and took voluntary retirement in 1993 as Lietenant commander. He produced his first film Nanak Shah Fakir this film bagged the three national awards with Nargis Dutt award.

Calling Sehmat is debut novel printed in 2008 at Konark. It is an attempt to bring focus on the fighters for nation and saved people of India. The novel based on the war circumstances occurred in 1971 between India and Pakistan. Sikka devoted his eight years to fictionalize. Then it is printed. In 2018 The Harinder Sikka’s writing of Calling Sehmat is poignant tale of love, loss, guilt, heartbreak sorrows and sufferings imbibed in the character. The novel is adopted by flim director Meghna Gulzar and titled as Raazi. The actress Alia Bhatt played

leading role as Sehmat and justified Sainly woman Sehmat. According to novel high level of morals calibers courage and spark can be seen in the novel and flim in Sehmat. The author also touched the blossoming love of Sehmat and Abhinav[ Aby} and Sehmat. The ending of story is perfect withdrawal of hurt and grief which Sehmat had experienced. The meaning of Sehmat is to agree and Raazi in Hindi language. The title is suitable for the film and novel she was not forcefully done her job as Spy due to love of father and nation and he agreed to work for nation and set her mission. It is hope that that the message given by Calling Sehmat finds place in the heart of new generation especially in sensitive areas like Kashmir which gave birth to Sehmat.

### **Plot of story**

The story is set in Kashmir in India It gives descriptions about the relationships between Pakistan India, The story revolves round only single character Sehmat Khan who is a Kashmiri young Muslim girl from Muslim father Hidayatulla Khan and Hindu mother. The name Sehmat is given from her parental side, she was young enthusiastic charming, college going girl and enjoying her golden days of college life His family is patriotic and her father was working for India as informer. He provides information of movement happened in Pakithanin respect of India. During his trade/ business in pakithaan he established spynetwork within Pakithan. As the Hidayatulla Kan was suffering from cancer and he has little time, we wanted to carry his mission in the means of Sehmat. So Sehmat was called from her family and when she came back to Hidayatualla Khan he explained the work done by him for India. She loved her father very much she took her father's incomplete mission for her mission and determined towards mission. The well connected Pakithani general was her father's classmate in college days. Both families agree to marriage of Iqbal Sayeed with Sehmat. This was well lanned by her father an officer of intelligence agency So that nobody suspect to Sehmat . Actually Sehmat has engaged with Abhinav her college friend but she sacrificed her love and dreams to national work and ready to marry with Iqbal Sayeed. As she appointed herself for the noble mission of spy in unknown country, she was trained for self defense and encounter coming obstacles by intelliengence officers. She got married with Iqbal Sayeed younger son of general in Pakistan.

One more thing is notable she never expressed her wishes to her father. Her patriotic ambience influenced her to exercise this spy network. The novel has given the minute details of

Sehmat stay in Pakistan. Sikka provided the place for the love story of heroic spy who sacrifices it for war directly for homeland.

### **Sacrifice of Love and feeling of Patriotism**

In Pakistan at laws house she established small network for disposal of information and current happenings in house of head of army. Sehmat Khan Supplied the information regarding the activities, from that Indian Navy was able to control the seas around both side of Pakistan and saved from embossment. In the course of living at home with her husband she juggles between the duties of dutiful wife and obedient daughter and fearless and patriotic spy. She devoted to her family and looks after his laws house. One came to know that Sehmat was doing her work of informer to India she has no option except murder of that fellow to move towards fulfillment of her mission. Afterward her husband elder brother suspected on her. She also murdered him skillfully. Being a woman hard she rejected herself for this cruel works. But it was all about the nation and mission. By this two deaths her laws house was disturbed she also not ready to digest this grief. She felt guilt about her activities at last when the investigation team found that the information provider system is existed in the house assembled by the Sehmet the Army chief send arrest warrant and enquiry about the family of general. Now her husband knew all the reality of his wife and he wanted to communicate regarding all the matters when he returned to Sehmet, she has no option and put revolver on her husband for security. She ran away from home at the decided spot of the intelligence team. At last she met her husband at bazaar and disappeared the place was bombed and her husband died.

She ran away from the Pakistan very intelligently and arrived in Indian. She has skillfully managed to take out the important information from the files at the office of Pakishani general with special writing styles and most appreciated thing is that all information she circulated from there matched with Indian intelligence reports which visualize the plan of Pakistan army. She done her duty with extreme courage and confidence. When she went to hospital she knew that she was pregnant and she decided to give birth to a child latter that joined in Indian navy. Here most notable point is that she was engaged with Abhinav in her college days but she dedicated to her husband Iqbal Sayeed. We can observe that the feelings of motherly love and dedicated wife and sacrifice for nation

### **Conclusion**

Harinder Sikka's Novel calling Sehmat is true story of Indian girl. The opening of the novel is with news of Sehmat's death. Sehmat devoted his golden years of her life for nation. The Sehmat took the lessons of love and dedication to country is highest form of devotion to save nation and people living in the nation she had courage to work as a spire for saving the country in 1971 Indo-Pak Naval War. Sehmat's intelligence to encounter the circumstances is appreciated at the same time his love for Iqbal Sayeed is pure and her emotions towards her father and his mission was absolute. She preferred the love about mother country and taken mission. When Sehmat settled in his old life in India she was isolation and memorized the incidents stamped on her mind. The ending of the story is perfect withdrawal of hurt and grief which Sehmat had experienced.

The Sehmat born and brought up in rich businessman family but she rejected the happy life and inspired her for the dangerous and difficult task. At every step she has barriers for her job but as soldier in battleground she defeated it Sehmat passed the test of patriotism and set an example to Indian generation the real interpretation of patriotism

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