

## **Sociological study of *Ghanachakkar***

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### **Abstract**

Sanjeev Upreti's novel *Ghanachakkar* manifests different problems observed by a professor. In the history of Nepal innumerable murders, crimes and offenses have been but the truth behind them has not been revealed. Many crimes are committed to hide one crime. This is "Ghanachakkar". As we have to forget the causes and impact of those murders or massacre, the author shows truth can come out if we move from place to place in the guise of a beggar or an investigator. The protagonist moves from place to place hiding his identity, then he gets some partial truth of those mysterious events. Novels can be useful to observe Sociology of Literature.

*Key words:* Lens, novel, political, psychological, Sociology of Literature

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### **Introduction**

Nepali novels occupy an important position in the literature of Nepal. Novels are being studied from different angles. In this context many critics have studied novels from progressive perspective. Likewise, absurdist and existentialist lenses are also used to observe Nepali novels. And now it is necessary to study novels from other perspectives like Sociology of Literature, deconstructive perspective etc. Literary texts give information of an age, so it is necessary to study some texts to find image of age. We can search cultural, religious and political events with the help of image of age. The dialogue, description, and events etc. of this genre indicate us an age or moment. On the basis of that we reach to an age and there we can study the sociology of that literary text. We can see moment, race and milieu which are vital to study sociology of literature. Sanjeeb's novel has different subtitles like "Symptoms of Madness", "Attempts of Salvation". This novel shows our life is in difficult mode and the protagonist is in search of good things in the bad world. It is difficult to define man as it is difficult to define a novel.

### **Sociology of Literature as a methodology:**

"Sociology of Literature" is a branch of literary study that examines the relationship between literary text and their social contexts including pattern of literacy, kinds of audiences, mode of publication, class of writer and the readers. Organized by Hippolyte Taine Sociology of Literature was revived in the English speaking world with the appearance of such studies as Raymond William's the *Long Revolution (1961)* and it is most often associated with Marxist approaches to cultural analysis.

Segal suggests that any sociology of literature should not be confined to what are regarded as great works by literary critics. This can be barrier to the sociology of literature. It

is quite often the cases that a coherent world-view presented by second rate or down right bad writers. What do the sociologists offer to the understanding of literature or what distinctive contribution to the understanding of a piece of literature does the sociology have to offer? For this Goldmann says literary sociology, or sociology through literature. Many valuable illustrations of everyday situations are mentioned in literature which contributes to the study of literature. The critic or reader, who uses sociology of literature as a lens for the study of novel, must come out from the common boundary of literature and study social life. There he finds different type of culture and he should see the past in social situations comparing to the present. The historical and present status combined together makes the structure of novel (Singh 1972: 18).

On the basis of this saying the reader of literature should not think sequence of events only the substance of literature. He must believe the writer and his society, his conflict with the society and the impact of historical events in his writings. Among the literary sociologists Hippolyte Taine's *the Sociology of Literature* is most important book because for the first time the concept of this approach was given by him in a systematic way. He says the production of a work of art is determined by the material and intellectual climate in which a man lives and dies. Taine compulsively evokes three words: race-milieu- moment. When a race is dominated by other races, his whole character is not lost; it is suppressed as he suffers. Jain thinks that Taine has used "race" improperly as there are many races in a country. It arises racism. (23) Taine has used "moment" "milieu" properly in a scientific way. Milieu and moment are interrelated. Moment refers to particular decade or century. Milieu refers to social environment. There is influence of the environment in the life of man. If the weather is fine, human health will be fine. If the writer gets nutritious food he can express strong thoughts.

### **The Image of Age in *Ghanachakkar***

This novel keeps the "Image of Age" quite clearly. The author, Sanjeev has used different subtitles in the novel, such as, Symptoms of Madness, Effort of Salvation. From these chapters the novel moves ahead. It shows our life exists in a quite complex mode. The novel uses the protagonist who is in search of good things in the bad world. This novel tries to classify and analyze difficult incidents in which the protagonist becomes helpless. It is difficult to define a man as it is difficult to define a novel.

The search has been done for many days. This research goes on in the guise of a beggar like saint. The search is about cell phone and sack, rise and fall of the tower, Royal massacre and Ministry etc. The character comes across a demonstration, a palmist, dinner with another beggar, and the search of a fair man for the post of Prime Minister. From these events, we reach to a historical time, from these social events we get a time, then we can recognize the Age. The age is around the direct rule by ex- king Gynendra, who had called for application for the post of the Primer. The character goes to a Ministry and restaurant where he finds all staff playing marbles. One crime is committed and more crimes are committed to hide the first crime.

At last the researcher finds an essay entitled, "Ghanachakkar". There is conflict of power, to make money and prestige in his favor, man is doing immoral activities. The essay manifests that Ghanachakkar is conspiracy, joy, action, death, conflict of power etc. these things took place at the time of ex- king Gynendra (Upreti, 2007:36). There are historical

events in this novel. Some events may appear even in future which are destructive for us. The character is in search of the causes of crimes that befell on the nation. It is written there:

1. Political cause: life is a Ghanachakkar because nobody is out from the struggle for position, money, prestige, respect. And everybody tries to establish his own greatness. For this conflict is going among people (Upreti 2007:144).
2. Psychological cause: in the center of our existence there is the lack and to fill that lack we collect money or try to be famous .( Upreti 2007:145)
3. The third cause of Ghanachakkar is concerned to human existence if we are aware of death. We search different things to reduce the pain of death.(Upreti 2007:146)
4. On the one hand there is desire and need to work, on the other there is search for rest. This contradiction is the fourth cause of Ghanachakkar. (Upreti 2007 146).

In this novel, the search has found the above causes. We cannot avoid them, we have not avoided them. Minister, Kaji, nobleman etc are inside Ghanachakkar. Ordinary people must be careful not to be apart of it, but we cannot be out of it. If we try to be out of it, we might be blamed as the lunatic.

Lukas says that a Novel is a satire. There is notice of age and satire upon that age. When the novelist is in the mood of creation he avoids the corrupt world and searches the idealistic world (Jain 1992:67) we can get such views from Lucian Goldmann. Ghanachakkar has depicted the degraded world which is good to avoid but we cannot avoid them the novel also shows types of university teachers. Young teachers are not sincere to their job so they are called helmet teachers who move to different colleges for money. A student complains that exam papers are not well checked.

## **Conclusion**

This novel has manifested historical character's sufferings, such as the suffering of Bhimshen Thapa. Modern peoples sufferings and observations of a professors come in the novel he has clearly explained the causes of "Ghanachakkar". Crime after crime are committed to hide one crime, this is Ghanachakkar. For the sake of position, money and prestige many crimes are committed. The causes of crimes are unknown. Agents or doers of crime are unknown, they are not arrested. They are able to escape from the law. The writer also makes a comment on historical personalities like king Surendra and Bhimshen Thapa. So, half of the novel is about old period of Nepal. And other half is about modern time, after the reestablishment of multi-party democracy in Nepal. In the modern part of history there are university teachers: old and new. Old teachers are sincere to the job while young one are insincere. They are unable to understand what is happening around them. Royal Massacre is the main accident mentioned here and the protagonist is in search of criminals but unable to find any. "Chakkar" is a type of search which is not solved. It is a network of many minute problems or incidents. On the basis of this background the novel manifests crime of our country and capital city which are unsolved and they become unsolved mystery. The writer is able to present events and accidents in such a way that he has observed all events and happening

there. The searcher goes from place to place in the guise of a beggar, mad man etc. He sees demonstration and strike etc which are the result of openpolitical system after 2047 B.S.

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