ABSTRACT

Chapter One: Introduction

By the end of the 19th century several nationalistic movements had started in India. While the Indian national congress was calling for Britain to Quit India, the Muslim League, in 1943, passed a resolution for them to Divide & Quit. There were several reasons for the birth of a separate Muslim homeland in the subcontinent, and all three parties—the British, the congress & the Muslim League—was responsible. British had based their knowledge of the peoples of India on the basic religious texts & the intrinsic differences they found in them instead of on the way they coexisted in the present.

The British helped to establish the M.A.O. College at Aligarh & supported the ALL India Muslim conference, both of which were institutions from which leaders of the Muslim League & the ideology of Pakistan emerged.

However, Congress rejection of the interim government set up under this Cabinet Mission Plan in 1942 convinced the leaders of the Muslim League that compromise was impossible & partition was the only course to take.

The Partition of India has been one of the most tragic of all political events to affect India. The British left, dividing India into two. The nation was divided along religious lines, PAKISTAN as an Islamic state & INDIA a secular one.

But the question still arises whether the partition was wise & was it inevitable? The Partition left both the nation divested. The subsequent migration of the people led to endless suffering & miseries. Not only was the country divided but provinces of Punjab & Bengal were also partitioned, which caused many riots & claimed many lives. Hindu,
Muslim & Sikh used women as instrument of power many were raped & looted.

Communal frenzy caused huge exodus of population on both side. Khushwant Singh, Chaman Nahal, Bhisham Sahni are among the good numbers of writer for whom partition is the matrix of the plots. Khushwant Singh’s Train to Pakistan’, Chaman Nahal’s Azadi’, & Bhisham Sahni’s Tamas’ have been chosen with an intention to encompass historical Political, Social, Cultural, economical, perspective of partition. And the work of literature also associated with these number of factors. These are the factors which help in the understanding of the genius from & content.

The Partition novels realized the trauma of the partition in terms of the displacement, communal discord & indignities that had to be endured by people driven to final a new home & a new identity.

Chapter Two: Khushwant Singh’s; Train to Pakistan:

Trauma of Partition

Train to Pakistan a bestseller when it was first published in 1956, is now widely accepted as one of the classics of Indian fiction. He was awarded the Grover Press India Fiction Prize in 1956.

The novel deals with the plight of the Hindus, Muslims & Sikhs in a border village in India at the time of the country’s partition recreation the agony & tension of the People Shaken out of their complacency by the traumatic experiences, of communal frenzy. The moving event of the partition has been realistically presented by Khushwant Singh through the stories of his characters.

Train to Pakistan is a sensitive and realistic picturisation of the trauma of partition. The summer of 1947, the partition gave birth to two political boundaries India & Pakistan.
Mano Majra is a tiny place where Sikhs & Muslim have always lived peaceably together and life is regulated by the train which rattle across the nearby river bridge.

Until, a train comes over the bridge at an unusual time & the villagers discover it is full of dead Sikhs. The village becomes a battlefield of conflicting loyalties & neither Magistrate nor police can control.

The novel capture the mindlessness of the communal violence, with great objectivity & also in a chilling fusion through the portrayal of the situation before & after the Carnages.

Even as the novel's major themes mindless, communal violence, the impact of partition on innocent lives in the deep chasm that was created among the people of the same place on religious lines.

**Chapter Three : Bhisham Sahni  Tamas : The Awful memories of Survival :**

After partition in 1947- his family settled in India & Bhisham Sahni took the last train to India - he settled down in Delhi. Bhisham sahni won the Sahitya Akademi Award for 'Tamas' in 1976.

'Tamas' is one of the most thought provoking & powerful novels written about the partition. It was set in a small town frontier provience in 1947, just before partition. Tamas tells the story of a sweeper named Nathu who is bribed & deceived by a local Muslim politician to kill a pig, ostensibly for a veterinarian. The following morning, the carcass is discovered on the steps of the mosque & the town, already tension ridden, erupts. Enraged Muslims massacre scores of Hindus & Sikhs, who in turn, kill every Muslim they can final. The killing stop but nothing can erase the awful memories from the minds of the survivors, nor will the
various communities ever trust one another again. The events described in Tamas are based on true accounts of the riots of 1947.

Chapter Four : Chaman Nahals Azadi. Pain of Partition :

Chaman Nahal's Azadi' is a simple & candid novel about the realities of India's independence & her partition Azadi (1975), which won the Sahitya Academy Award for the year 1977, is a much more ambitious undertaking.

The hopeful dawn of Indian independence & the tragedy of partition- the massacres & the vast influx of refugees. Spanning from the announcement of the cabinet mission plan on Jun3, 1947 to the 'aftermath', the murder of Gandhi, the novel is divided into three parts - The Lull, The Storm, The Effect of partition.

A three part novel, Azadi narratives the trauma of post-independence partition of India. Set in undivided Punjab of Western India the first section 'Lull' traces the humdrum life of the mixed Hindu-Muslim community of Sialkot, a town ultimately bequeathed to Pakistan.

The second Storm documents the overnight transformation of this settled community into refugees, their uprooted life at the camp, traumatic journey across the border and 'resettlement' in an alien country. The third section, is the effect of partition - riots, displacement, savagery, and political insensitivity are reflected.

The migration of Lala Kanshi Ram, a Sialkot grain merchant and his family to India at the time of dismemberment of colonial India into two nations in 1947, is easily one of the most comprehensive fictional accounts of the partition holocaust in Indian English Literature.

The rigorously unsentimental style of reportage adopted by the author accentuates the tales of cowardice, heroism & plain survival where the worst victim is inevitably, humanity itself.
Chapter Five: Conclusion:

After the partition, the two nations are still trying to heal the wounds left behind by this incision to once whole body of India. Many are still in search of an identity & a history left behind beyond an impenetrable boundary.

Distrust, humiliation, death, multi-racial, multi-religious, multi-cultural & drama of human decay were result of the partition.

Our general attitude towards the partition makes them not just something that once happened - in - real life or in imagination but something that forms on inalienable part of the present & malres us concious to quote T.S. Eliot words "not only of the pastness of the past but of it's presence".

The concluding chapter is an appraisal of partition holocaust pervading in the partition novels written by Indo-English novelist Khushwant Sing Bhisham Sahani & Chaman Nahal. Khushwant Shings "Train to pakistan" concentrates on a village Mano Majra, the Oases of peace & communal harmony & views the winds of communalism of bloody reprisal blowing all over the country & effecting this village, too. Bhisam Sahani's 'Tamas' throws light on the cruel & foul acts of the persons who, in grab of religion, perpetratal atrocities by whipping up communal frenzy.

In Chaman Nahal's 'Azadi' scrutinizes in detail the cause of partition. Hindus in Pakistan felt demoralised 8c vice-versa They felt so defected abduction, so that horror of horrors like abduction, naked marches by woman rapes, murders etc.
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