CHAPTER VI
CHAPTER-VI
THEME AND TECHNIQUE IN BODO SHORT STORIES

6.1. INTRODUCTION:

Writing a short story is not based on a particular technique. Rather, it is a process of shaping and moulding until the writer has crafted a complete story. In writing the short story, the writer makes many decisions but two important of them are theme and technique of writing a short story. Regarding the dealings of the short story and its various motive, impression and aims, William Henry Hudson says so—

A story may deal with any kind of motive and material. It may be a whimsical fancy; turns on a puzzle; aims at sensation; a tale of ratiocination; pure impressionism or a tale of effect; a character on the basis of a bare fact; marvelous; an excursion into morbid psychology; a piece of mysticism; an allegory; pure fantasy.¹

The same writer further writes about the unlimited range of the themes for the short stories. These are as follows—

And wholly for the purpose of suggesting the immense range—the practically unlimited range—of the short story in respect of theme. A dramatic incident or situation; a telling scene; a closely co-ordinated series of events; a phase of character; a bit of experience; an aspect of life; a moral problem—any one of these, and innumerable other motives which might be added to the list, may be made the nucleus of a thoroughly satisfactory story.²

6.2. THEME IN SHORT STORY:

One of the useful aspects of reading fiction, whether a short fiction or a novel, is that it, often provides a commentary on human nature or the human condition. The writer comments on some aspects of life through the theme of his short story or novel. The writer can explicitly state the theme in the short story.
So, it is an important element of fiction. The theme of a story is its central idea but it is not the subject of the story.

Theme is an important element of the short story. Few definitions of theme in fiction are mentioned here. In the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, the theme is defined as theme is subject of talk, a piece of writing or a person's thoughts; topic. The meaning of the theme is referred as in the *Cambridge Essential English Dictionary* as Theme is the subject of a book, film, speech, etc. The nature and the idea of the theme is expressed in the book, *A Dictionary of Literary Terms* as follows—

*Theme is the subject of a work or the central or dominating idea in a literary work. .... It is the abstract concept which is made concrete through is representation in person, action and image in poetry, fiction and drama.*

In the literary dictionary *The Routledge Dictionary of Literary Terms* the theme is clearly mentioned along with the difference between a theme and a subject— which is quoted here—

*A theme is always a subject, but a subject is not always a theme: a theme is not usually thought of as the occasion of a work of art, but rather a branch of the subject which is indirectly expressed through the recurrence of certain events, images or symbols.*

The concept of theme is seen changing with passing of time. Theme in old literature seems from moral but it may be from an unmoralised perspective,

*Not simply the subject of a literary work, but rather a statement that the text seems to be making about that subject. The statement can be (and often was, in older literatures) moral, or even a moral or lesson; in more modern works, the theme may emanate from an unmoralized, or less obviously moral, perspective.*

In the short story theme and motif has a close relation. It is shown as follows—

*Theme is distinguished from motif, a term that usually refers to a unifying element in an artistic work, especially any recurrent image, symbol, theme, character type, subject, or narrative detail. In a broader sense, motif can even refer to any recurrent theme that helps to unify a given work.*
It is seen often interchanged to motif in fiction. Thus motif and theme has close relations in the fictional work. It is expressed as follows—

*Theme is sometimes used interchangeably with 'motif', but the term is more usefully applied to a general concept or doctrine, whether implicit or asserted, which an imaginative work is designed to incorporate and make persuasive to the reader.*

It is seen in John Milton when he stated as the explicit theme of *Paradise Lost* to “Assert Eternal Providence/ And justify the way of God to men.”

6.3. THEME IN BODO SHORT STORIES:

Different themes are found in the short stories of the selected different story writers of our present study. These are shown below.

6.3.i. ISHAN MUCHAHARY:

The theme of the story ‘Abari’ is the marriage problem of a handicapped girl in Boro society in particular and in human society in general. Story writer tries to reform this pre-concept of thought of the society that a handicapped girl should marry a handicapped boy, a cripple on a leg with a lame or handicapped youth; a blind girl with a blind boy and a dumb or deaf girl with a dumb and deaf in Bodo society. The writer shows this problem with the heroine of the story, Abari. This pre-determined belief and practice of the society as well as her elder brother stand as an obstacle in the life of Abari in the matter of marriage. She revolts against the social dogma and rejects the marriage consent with a lame and hunch backed youth. She struggles and has to suffer a lot of mental tension from outside pressure and inner thought. Being a matured girl she remains determined on entering marriage with the handsome youth. It brings a happy life in future. This theme of free marriage without physical conditions but satisfaction of mind is the main theme in the story.
6.3.ii. PRASENJIT BRAHMA:

Prasenjit Brahma is a genius writer who selects the themes of his short stories in a careful way. He selects three universal themes in his short stories. He presents three different themes for his three short stories 'Bobi', 'Dogri' and 'Gwsw Thwnay'.

In the short story of 'Bobi' the theme of the story is the suffering of a dumb girl and love and romance of a young girl. A dumb girl has also the feeling of young girls. She has the feeling of romance in her mind and the sexual urge in the growing age. She has a desire in mind like that of young girls. But her desire of mind has no benefits because she cannot say and express her thinking. Her thinking and her desire is meaningless. She has no liberty of choice in human society as she has been confined within a room. Her mind wonders and enjoys with the natural scenes. It reaches its climax while she embraces a young betel nut tree to express her love and romance of her youth, the feminine natural desire and the sexual urge.

In the story of 'Dogri' the theme of the story is the inward blowing relation of mind between the male guardian of the family and the Dogri. Dogri is extremely close and dear to him. He becomes one of the members of the family. The guardian also becomes very close to him. They have a close bondage of family members. This psychological feeling is nicely reflected in the story.

In the story of 'Gwsw Thwnay' the theme is love. The theme of love may be of various modes. It is expressed in their discussions of various love affairs of world famous people. But the central theme of this story is universal or spiritual love. This love is shown between Onaru, the hero of the story and Alaishri, the heroine of the story in a befitting episode that resembles the love of Dante and Beatrice. Though they date and meet in less time than very often, the essence of their relationship can be termed as heavenly. So the theme of this story is almost a love epic. The hero once saw her in meeting. The heroine sees only coming to her home while she returns home with her friend, looks him while he was leaving. But the marriage consent transforms their meet into love for ever. Then they remain unmarried to keep their love alive.
6.3.iii. JAGADISH BRAHMA:

Regarding the theme of 'Laji Gwiywi', the story written by Jagadish Brahma
Jagat Chandra Basumatary, Principal of Salbari College comments that ---


(Eng. trans : The theme of the story 'Laji Gwiywi' is the importance of education in the Bodo society particularly for women education. But it should not be the tradition that the educated girls should be married with educated boys. Actually, the marriage is a matter of the union of souls. This is the them of the story.)

In 'Laji Gwiywi' the theme of the story is the marriage problem of an educated girl in the Bodo society which is set against the traditional belief of the society that an educated girl will be married with an educated boy only. Finally, she violates the pre-concept thought of the society, and she has to face shamefulness in fulfilling her decision of marriage. For this reason Onari, the heroine of the story has to suffer a life full of sorrow. It is expressed in the story nicely while describing the thoughts of her feelings. Two marriages of her have already been cancelled against the will of Onari on the ground of illiteracy. The bride in one case is Togen who is handsome and hails from a rich family of Dwikhorguri village, and the other is Goleram, widower with rich family background. All local youths are afraid of marrying her and thus she becomes an aged girl waiting to be married. Being an educated and aged and matured girl at last she takes her decision to solve her marriage problem. She decides to marry a strong and stout illiterate man of good family who can fulfill her desires and accordingly she elopes with him and become pregnant before her social marriage takes place. But she is happy in life. Like Abari she also faces social problems but the way of solving their marriage problems is different in both the cases.
6.3.iv. NIL KAMAL BRAHMA:

Nil Kamal Brahma is one of the greatest short story writers who presents various themes in his short stories ranging from a small unnoticed things to a deeply philosophical of human life, from a simple rural life to the complexity life of modern educated people, from an ideal and honesty character to an immoral and incestuous character, from the superstition to the highly enlightenment of science, from a kindhearted person to a cruel person, from poor people to the capitalist class. He presents very colourful themes in his short stories for which he will be remembered by the readers. The themes expressed in his short stories are discussed here.

The theme of the story ‘Megroni Akhol: Gwswni Mohor’ is love. The love which arises centering ‘Tom’, a dog in the mind of Samila, an educated girl of a rich family is with Nikholson Daimary, a professor who always looks at her for few minutes standing nearby road. Her love becomes comic due to situational irony. It is a tragic love of her when she knows that Nikolson Daimary, the hero does not look at her but Tom, a dog. He is already a married man. The situation of irony is that Samila thinks she is much loved by Nikolson. Another subtheme in the story is a sensational love between Hamphe and Halong.

Liquor is the main cause of violence in domestic life. The drunkard husband is now the symbol of total ruin of the family involving physical torture on his wife and daughter. This theme is excellently narrated in ‘Daya Swrap’.

The theme of the story ‘Shilingkhar’ is oppression of the lower class by the capitalist or higher officers. Or it may be the struggle of lower class against the higher class. In the story Abinash Mucharhary is a graduate who works as a clerk in a private company. Miss Lingdo serves as an assistant in the same private company. The officer of the private company who is the representative of higher class or higher officer tries to fulfill his physical desire forcefully from Miss Lingdo, an office assistant under him. She becomes helpless under her boss for her survival in the office. She has to either suffer or surrender herself to the wishes of boss. Being helpless she screams to save herself. In this situation, Abinash, a honest boy from lower class obstructs the boss from spoiling the virginity of the girl. The result
is destructive. He is dismissed by the boss and his character is recorded with red ink. Finally he joins the office in disguise as a driver of the boss, and kills him for his offence.

The theme of 'Udrainay' is rectification of crime or guilty. In this story it is seen that Maniram becomes corrupt for ambitious nature. He has given enough facilities to luxurious wife, educating son and daughter in standard educational institutes. He again involves eighty thousand money corruption for the marriage of his daughter Bonsri. For this crime he has been terminated from service, jailed and died in heartfelt from deep sorrow and mental suffering. In this way he has rectified in his life for his corruption. Secondly it is seen that his son Engineer does not save his father but rectify himself by arranging death ceremonial of his father at his uncle's home. Thirdly her luxurious wife does not try to save her husband but has to suffer in life losing her husband in earlier time. Finally it is seen that Bansri cannot save her father after a long struggle from his service and jailing but she recovers the corrupted amount of money. She then decides herself to be a Nun and rectifies herself serving humanity. So the theme of rectification is justified.

The theme of 'Buli' is sacrifice of life for greater cause. In the story it is seen that Bodo students of Govt. school are preparing to celebrate the sacred birth day of Bodo Sahitya Sabha. It may be considered as the day of Bodo Development Day for literature, language and culture and nation building. But this celebration is opposed by rival force of Assamese students and C.R.P.F. jawans of the Govt. respectively. In this conflict of two opposing forces Khwrwmdao, a student of poor family background who has spirit and courage for the sacred day sacrifices his life for the honour of Sahitya Sabha flag. So the theme of the story is appropriate for the title of the story.

In the story of 'Suni' by Nil Kamal Brahma the theme is misfortune or curse cast upon man. In the story it is seen misfortune comes in to the village where Ronai takes shelter with the help of Gaobura and villagers. They give her shelter and build a house for her living. She also lives in this village in unity and integrity with her daughter. She co-operates in all village activities of the society and guides
and helps women in the village. She is an educated, talented, expert, and helpful woman who brings prosperity and development of women folk in the village society. Then how does her arrival become unfortunate or curse in the village? Actually the fact is that the Suni (unfortunate or cursing) is her husband who is a thief and of bad character. He not only brings bad luck to Ronai only his wife but also to the villages in general where Ronai takes shelter. She comes to her house at night and has sexual relations with his divorced wife for which she becomes pregnant. Secondly he brings unfortunate or cursing in the village by stealing marriage gift of Gaobura where she lives in co-operation and teaches people simple and active living style. Thirdly, her husband brings total cursing in the life of Ronai when she has been imprisoned in pregnant condition along with her husband. It is also a cursing in reserve of her future child who is yet to take birth. So the theme of Suni is suited with the title.

The theme of the story 'Sanseni Jarimin' revolves round bribing or corruption culture in official work. In the story it is nicely shown in the court that a lot of emergency work of shilling act is pending in the office. They have to deal this work with only three persons of Revenue branch; they are the Head Assistant, Draftsman and typist. They cannot do all the file works at the same time. On the other hand they have pressure from officers, and they have been pressurized to do in first preferences by lawyer, muhuri and makkels. They freely offer bribes to them for immediate completion of the work. As they get lower salary they also take opportunity of earning extra money in the form of bribe and in this way they create a culture of bribe in the office. They even do the works in first preferences who bribe them. Ashini's husband has also been habituated in this practice for which he has to face a shameful situation. On Saturday he earns twenty rupees from three persons. He collects ten rupees even from a close relative. That means, he takes money for work from everybody who approaches him. It is shown in his story that bribing is a bad practice in any office, and for taking bribes from the relatives, husband of Ashini faces a shameful situation at home.

While analysing the continuity trends of Bodo short stories it is found that no story writers can cover so vast variations of themes. The themes of his stories
are very colourful with artistic beauty. In the short story ‘Shirinay Mandar’ the theme is the life problem of highly educated husband, Monojit and wife, Balangsri who have to lead in a non-luxurious life. Wife leaves her husband for unable to provide her fashionable comfort and physical desire and marries to a rich man, Nayer, an IPS officer, having money. After him she marries, Mukhiya, a hotel owner merchant. Towards later period of her life she faces many adversities for which she has to regret.

Life is full of problem and struggle. Men have suffered problems in life after marriage because they have to think for their living, for earning money and property for children and houses, required materials for future life. This ambition life brings trouble and unhappiness. ‘Sabwn Bibar’ is a nice example of this theme and problems.

In the short story ‘Lamani Juliet’ the theme is a romance of two lecherous college girls who have planned sexual relation with a man whom they called uncle in the isolated hostel room throughout the night.

The theme of ‘Mwdwi Arw Gwlwmdwi’ in the story is the struggle of life to survive for living. A poor man, Gwmbwr can be a rich industrialist with his talent and labour in his life.

Very small incidents of life become the theme of his short story. In the short story ‘Na Bathwn’, ‘Jwngha Nongablanba’ the theme is taken from small and negligent thing in the present world. It is a just atmosphere of the story. In the story ‘Na Bathwn’ the theme is just a humourical atmosphere of suspense of grinding fish. Younger sister-in-law likes to eat the fish and asks her brother-in-law for some share of it. But he replies her in smile that girls will not eat it because the fish is a Nasrai, a cunning fish who is continually deceiving for incestuous relation to a Thothagali, a foolish fish in the ploughing field.

In the short story ‘Jwngha Nongablanba’ the theme is a humourical atmosphere of situational suspense. In the story Gindri, wife of Bankho says her friends that she is still unready because the open play will not be without her husband. At night they see the play together. They feel boring waiting to see her husband’s role because the play is likely to end. Her friends are asking Gindri
frequently when her husband will appear on the stage. She fills hesitate in their asking. Finally they feel surprised when they see her husband appears carrying the dead body hero at the end of the play that turns the atmosphere to a situational humour. It creates suspense and impression in the story.

6.3.v. MANORANJAN LAHARY:

Manoranjan Lahary is one of the greatest short story writers who can present various themes in his short stories. His themes are related with living human beings and their different problems. His themes even cover from realism to magic realism where spirit or ghosts have place. He can show his mastery in theme presentation in his short stories. Different kinds of themes are found in his short stories which are discussed as follows—Sex is an inseparable part of human life. It takes different forms in the mind of human beings. Sex theme is found in the stories of Manoranjan Lahary which is treated in different forms. Incestuous sex in 'Strike, Counter Strike', 'Sex desire in 'Khonjana', Physical desire in 'Dehani Bagwi' and incestuous relation in 'Goysri' etc. are the different themes regarding sex in his stories.

Psychology is an important subject of modern fiction. Mind blowing or sense of belonging in mind is psychologically treated in his short stories. In the story of 'Koling Bel' (Calling Bell) there is a theme of psychology of mind of Jogen Bora on the last day of retirement. It also symbolises the sense of belongingness. It is nicely presented to the story through the mental condition of the U.D.A.of the office, Jadab Bora,

(Dinwi Jadab Borani sakrini jwbtharnay din. Last de. Gabwnniphrai sakriniphrai ritairment. Dinwi blyw koling belkhou khor damsradwng........

(Eng. trans: Today is the last service day of Jadab Bora. Last day. His retirement will be from tomorrow. Today he rings the bell frequently.)

By ringing the calling bell again and again he shows his involvement in the office. It is meant that he can no longer use this bell again as he is going to retire on that very day.
Prostitution is now a common theme of modern short story. It is a common phenomenon in big cities for livelihood profession. Poor people or simple women folk are forcibly made prostitutes and in urban society they are found in large numbers. In the story, 'Shamphabai' the theme of the story is the sex trade or prostitution. But the prostitute is not doing this profession willingly. She has been compelled to take up that profession for no choice of her ownself. So, this theme of prostitution is a new and challenging theme that has been courageously described in the story by M. Lahary.

Poor economic condition or poverty is now a common problem of every society. It is the common thing in rural villages as well as in the urban society. It is nicely reflected in 'Lodraini Simang'. So M. Lahary also likes to write on some specific social problems of the poor people.

Love is another common theme of all literature. But love may be of different forms, it varies from man to man. Love is the theme in some stories of Manoranjan Lahary which takes different forms in the stories. This love theme is found in 'Gangse Phali', in 'Gathwn-Juli' and in 'Nekhles'. In the 'Gangse Phali' there is a theme of true love which ends in unity. Love is the main theme of the story 'Gangse Phali' and it is based upon the love of Basiram and Laodangi.

Laodangi is from Bhutiyapara who loves Basiram. She gives a handkerchief to Basiram herself. By doing so she shows her real love. Basiram feels very happy receiving the Phali. He feels that she cordially loves him. He puts the handkerchief upon his chest. He dreams in a sweet moment of dancing with Laodangi in Bwisagu. Next morning he sees the Phali is really missing. He deeply feels sad. His hurt is broken in fear. He fears that she may not believe him and may think that he does not love her. It causes a great pain and sorrow to him. He feels of losing her love. He goes to Laodangi to confess the losing of the handkerchief. Finally Basiram feels surprised seeing the same handkerchief again which he has lost. He realizes that she has really taste his mind. Both of them smile and they enjoy the Bwisagu happily. This is an example of true love of the simple and easy going of village folk, what Lahary has beautifully portrayed in the story.

In the 'Gathwn Juli' the love ends in tragedy. The girl is being married to other man for the sake of family and the boy commits suicide in the river. Love
ends in tragedy. The love theme in 'Nekhles' is the love of owner and a working maid servant what ultimately turns into separation. The wife strongly opposes it what prevents their union. In theme of short story 'Goysri' it is seen that illicit love and love of facial appearance donot last which, on the other hand, it may bring tragedy in life. It is seen in the character of Goysri. She loves Okhonda first seeing his physical appearance and role of acting in Jatra gan. Goysri is romantic and emotional. She gives importance on outward looking. Then she again falls in love with Goyaram. She is not conscious of the character of Goyaram. She never thinks deep her love with him. In the Mela they enjoy the festivity. She is a romantic lady and not of high character. She has physical relation with him for which she becomes pregnant. He hopes that he will marry her socially. They stay in his aunt’s home, where they go directly from the mela on that night. After a week he runs away at night without informing her. She suffers for her guilt, but Goyaram escapes punishment. Another theme of illicit love is seen in 'Nekhles'.

Diversification of theme is seen in his stories. Customary practices of the society are some themes in his short story. The customs and practice of offering a bottle of liquor in marriage is common in the Bodo society. This tradition creates quarrel between two parties and as a result the marriage is broken. It is the theme of 'Botolse Zou'. Mental tension is a common problem of modern man and this theme is found in 'Nin'. Being retired from U.D.A. from supply office, and being scolded by his wife, Hangphe Bajen suffers from insomnia. He cannot sleep at night. Even medicine does not help him. Doctor advises him to forget all problems to remedy it. He says,

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\text{Be berama swmjikhangw jinga sinayniphrai, mane keyars end enjaitiniphrai. He again says, Be rogkhou swkhanw mwnselo muli dong. Be jadwng- tu forgotten iyor keyars end enjaiti komplitli.}^{12}
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(Eng. trans : This disease causes from tension, that means from cares and anxieties. He again says, 'To cure this disease there is only one medicine. This is to forget your cares and anxiety completely."

Finally he gets deep sleep when he drinks three bottles of alcohol with his friend; Goren. Theft is the common theme of literature. This theme is seen in 'Asi
Gojo'. It is nicely told that the character of thief always remains so. It is shown in 'Asi Gozo',

Belief in evil spirit or ghost is a theme of the story in 'Kot Gosla', in 'Horni Kol' and in 'Gaodang'. Superstition of 'Kot Gosla' is arisen from false spirit. When Mwnbaru was returning home from Bhaoraguri market he is frightened by his friend Laokhwb on the way. He is greatly feared believing it ghost or spirit. His coat is taken away by the feigned spirit at darkness. In the story of 'Horni Kol' and 'Gaodang' the same theme is found. The story 'Gaodang' is restructured story of 'Horni Kol'. The same theme belief in evil spirit or ghost is found in 'Horni Kol' and 'Gaodang'. Each story has the theme of what events from a spirit girl who calls the doctor for her ill mother. Doctor sees the dead girl in ghostly form. She appears before him like human being and leads the doctor to treat her ailing mother. The doctor follows her and does his job. But finally he comes to the reality with the discovery that the girl who led him to the cottage is, in fact, a dead girl. So he is frightened after knowing the fact. This is a story on a new topic in the history of Bodo short story.

The theme of murder is presented and treated in different ways in these three short stories. Murder in 'Dantharu' is the result of reckless drinking of liquor. In the story of 'Dantharu' it is seen that the theme is that liquor is the symbol of destruction. Bedang's family becomes unhappy and cries for using liquor. It is seen that a people who is habituated with it to lose wealth and property one by one. The family passes days with quarrel, cry and physical and mental disturbances. Even one night as described in the story, he rushes to kill his brother Gongaram. It is dark and out of intoxication he cannot see his wife. Thinking her as an enemy he kills her with the axe. She dies on the spot. It happens only for liquor. For this reason the tortured wife recovering from sense kills him. In the story of 'Nesa' the theme of murder is seen for liquor. He is always in need of money. So, looter kills Laili and takes the neckless from her. In the story 'Dinwibw Sitharnw Hayakhiswi' the theme of murder is treated in different way. The main character who is a drunkard targets to murder an educated man but she cannot kill him for the good behavior of the latter.
Besides, we see many other themes in the short stories of Manoranjan Lahary. The theme of massacre is narrated in Bodo populated area by Nagas in the short story ‘Bima’. Other themes expressed in his stories are the theme of dutifulness in the short story ‘Jimmadar. The theme of pain and suffering is found in the short story ‘Jobra.’ Theme of living ways or means is found in ‘Raha. Theme of earning money for survival is seen in the short story ‘Phita.’

Marriage is a common theme in all literature in present modern society. Marriage is also the theme of his many stories. In ‘Bajwi’, the theme of re-marriage of a widow with her brother-in-law is seen, the use what is a very challenging problem of the Bodo society. The theme of marriage is presented in ‘Daha.’ In ‘Daha’ the theme is the marriage of step wife. The theme of marriage and its problem is shown in the stories ‘Gaodang’ and ‘Dogri.’ The theme of impotency or barren in married life is noted in ‘Sangrema’.

Other important themes in the stories of Manoranjan Lahary are martyrdom, suicide, dead or murder. The theme of martyrdom is found in the story ‘Mungkhlong’ and the theme of suicide is reflected in ‘Buli’. The theme of suicide and poverty is shown in ‘Gathwn-Juli’

Different social themes are also found there. The theme of casteism in ‘Meser Chawwa’, the theme of untouchability is in ‘Saha’ and in ‘Apne Ujaya Naase’. The theme of rustic and illiterate life is found in ‘Gangburjwng Angjwng Glwm’ and in ‘Theng Daphla Daphli’. The theme of medicine in food habits is found in ‘Khiphi Bendwng’. The theme of disease is revealed in ‘Athingni Beram’.

The theme of pure motherly love for a child is expressed in the story ‘Bima’. In the short story ‘Bima’ the pure love of a mother to her child at any situation is reflected. Being driven by Nagas from their place, they leave for the plain areas of land of Assam. But before reaching Assam the mother has been ambushed by Naga arms groups. They say if she gives the child to them then she will be allowed to go. But she refuses, strongly protests them and seizes her child on her breast. She says,

\textit{Ou, angnw be thwinaykhounw nangou, jay thwinaya angnw arw angni gothonw orayni thakhay udangsri labwgwn.}^{13}
(Eng. trans: Yes, I need this death, which death will bring to me and to my baby freedom forever.)
This brings death to her. She is killed by them. She then gets freedom seizing her child forever. This is an example of a pure love for her child of a Bodo mother.

6.3.vi. HARIBHUSAN BRAHMA:
Haribhusan Brahma is another successful short story writer. In his stories he discusses the themes of social problems in different topics. He presented all these in satirical way with the zeal of reformation. His topics of the story are education, immoral and luxurious character of boys and girls, and the condition of poor family, traditional food habits, liquor and the lost history of the Bodos. He tries to present the existing falling standard of character and law, corruption and unfairness of the Bodo society.

Immoral character is now becoming a great social problem of the modern Bodo society. It brings a new threat to the new generation of our society. This theme has been painted in the story 'Srimati Durlai'. In this story the writer tries to focus the theme of immoral character. Srimati Durlai is portrayed as a free frank talkative bold character. But she crossed the traditional limitation of a girl. She is ironically portrayed as open minded for all men irrespective of castes and religion and age. She is indirectly portrayed as a standard prostitute who involves in sexual activities or in free life. Sex or open relation of male and female is not allowed in Bodo society or neither the society allows immoral sex activities as fashion. Immoral character is the theme of the said story. It is presented through the heroine as she drinks wine in the market place, as she lives a reckless life, and after watching a movie she passes the night at town either for her sexual pleasure or for flesh trade. At the end of the story we see that she is fully involved in this profession in Bhutan. So, her character is portrayed ironically with the aim of reformation for the coming young generation in the society.

Education is first looked in new vision in the short stories of Haribhusan Brahma. Involvement of illegal activities in education system is shown in the story of 'Honglani Saori'. The importance of education in human life is shown in the
short story 'Gwdan Khonthaigiri'. The theme of education is looked in reforming way in these two stories. In the story 'Honglani Saori' a Primary teacher, Paniya master arrives school drinking alcohol. He often sleeps in the school when he drinks more than limits. He considers the scolding and punishment to children is his prime duty of teaching children in school. On the other hand, school secretary and school inspector take no action against Paniya master when he is caught red handed while sleeping in school due to overdrinking. Finally, the writer makes fun of the education system. Inspector Nagen recommends the name of Paniya master for the Rajtrapati award as the best and dedicated teacher instead of punishing him. The writer gives the indication that he has been offered liquors etc. by the secretary of the school. The present education system and the involvement in illegal activities of the concerned official persons are satirically presented for the reformation in the society. In the story 'Gwdan Khonthaigiri', Dondi loves Alaishri seriously. But Alaishri is not serious in love matters. Dondi always thinks of winning the mind of her. He even neglects study than love. On the other hand, Alaishri clearly informs him that study should be given the first preference. Having education is greater than love making. Only good education helps us in future life. She even suggests him that if he can be a good educated man then many Alaishris will be married with him. Lastly, Alaishri rejects his offer of love for her better future life. The theme of education has been valued than the value of love in this story, which is a new thing in modern Bodo society.

Theme of poor family or poverty and fond of traditional food are reflected in the story 'Lain Bus'. In the story the family condition of new son-in-law and brother of Gaujru are very poor. They can earn only their daily bread. They are living in extreme poverty. Due to poverty they even deny foods to guests indirectly. Secondly, the other theme is the fond of traditional food, napham and rice liquor. It is very special and favourite food for the Bodos. All the characters in the story express their love for this food and its taste. It also creates a humourical situation in the bus journey to new son-in-law's home.

In the story 'Narkhw,' the subject matter is drawn from luxurious life. This life affects the education and economy in the society. It is shown that the Bodo
families are destroyed for liquor but here Narkhw loses his education and all his 
paternal property for luxurious life. The sub theme of luxury is the theme of 
education and the theme of economy. Being illiterate but experienced father he 
tried son to make highly educated person and used required money when his son 
asked. He realized that education is very important in every corner of life in the 
present day society. But he failed in his dream because Narkhw gives more 
importance to luxurious living and enjoying movies etc. He also tries to make his 
son conscious of economy. Because he knows that the knowledge of economy is 
the main concern for looking after family. He tried to explain to Narkhw the value 
of money and its earning and saving using only in genuine needs. But Narkhw 
also failed in the knowledge of economy because he is not giving importance to it. 
After his father death he marries a girl. He spends huge money arranging expensive 
marriage. Being unaware of economy he gradually loses all his paternal earning 
and properties. He could not get a job because of his low education. Finally he 
turns from a rich man to poor man and from luxurious way of life to a degraded 
labourer in order to save his family. So, the theme of luxury in the life of Narkhw 
brings all the ruin to his life. It is expressed satirically in the story.

6.3.vii. GOBINDA BASUMATARY:

'Haraoni sailo' has a theme of contrasted feeling of human society in general 
and the Bodoland society in particular. The story begins nicely in the background 
of one revenue village comprised of Bodo and Santhal people with the theme of 
love, sharing, co-operation, belief and peace of two communities. The village is 
divided into two parts by a rivulet and the Bodo and Santhal people live each side 
separately, but brotherly in the village. There is a bamboo bridge over the rivulet 
which the writer has used as symbol of unity between the two communities. Later 
in the story it is seen that society transforms to a state of chaos, disbelief, non­ 
cooperation. Slaughtering and disharmony happen among the Bodos and the 
Santhals in the same village following a communal riot between the two communities 
like other places in Bodoland. It shows how peace and sharing love may turn into
chaos and blood stained hatred. Slowly due to ethnic classes in the Bodo society, what is a very recent sociological topic in Bodo short story?

The realistic picture of the riots of the Santhals and the Bodos, the establishment of relief camps and suffering life after riots are presented in the story. The theme of disbelief and suffering is found in 'Garai Dakhwn'. The theme of Bodo movement for self protection and identification is found in the stories ‘Phifti: Phifti’, 'Soser Alini Raijw Binay', 'Phura Therojwn' and '6thi Disembor : Hather....'

Easy money and corruption are also the themes of some of his short stories. Easy money collection which brings social disharmony is seen in the story 'Julaphi Gudung'. Corruption of contractors and supply work are realistically described in ‘Gari Bigwma’ and ‘Udwi’. The issue of corruption is portrayed nicely in his stories.

6.3.viii. JANIL KUMAR BRAHMA:

Janil Kumar Brahma is a spontaneous writer. He wrote many short stories. His are in the story book collections Dumphaoni Phita, Mwider Muhuni and Japanni Swima. He will be remembered for his story telling. He is not so concerned with the deep problems of human lives. But he tells the story as he looks in the society and human beings. He presents different themes of Bodo society of rural and urban life, different subjects of Bodoland area and outside the state. He shows different shades and pictures of life in his stories.

The earning money for survival is a common theme of his stories. The themes are given different situations and problems by the author. The economic condition of the Bodo families is very poor and pathetic. This theme of earning living or money for livelihood is found in the stories ‘Dumphaoni Phita’, ‘Anwi Onaisini Usunda’, ‘Laisrwnni Bwswn’ and ‘Daokhela’. In the short story ‘Dumphaoni Phita’, Dumphao, the heroine of the story started selling phita and tea at Samthaibari market. Later on she established ‘Dumphao tailoring. In this way she helps family by earning money with these small businesses. In the story ‘Anwi Onaisini Usunda’, Onaisi, a widow chooses selling tea, phita and wine at Rangia town for livelihood of her family. In the story ‘Laisrwnni Bwswn’, Laishri selects selling of firewood at Porbojora for looking after her children and family after her husband death. But
Longlai and Jebra in 'Dao Khela' hold 'dao khela' (bird game' in Lwkhpuza or Laxmi mela) for earning huge money in few days and to lead their family in better condition and to fulfill their long standing requirements of their families. Three women get success in business in helping their families but Longlai and Jebra suffer loss in temporary business.

The painful life of working male and female servants is the theme of his stories. This theme is seen in the stories 'Rego Dahwna', 'Orge', 'Daosrigwba'. In the story 'Rego Dahwna' Rego, the hero of the story suffers in life because he is not an experienced real male worker but situation leads him to be a working man. He never learns agricultural works at home. When he works as a working servant he cannot do all the works smoothly. Being inexperienced he gets failure in all works and he is always scolded by guardian. So he suffers a tragic life. Being a good and expert working servant Khaylaram can help owner in all the agricultural works. But he can not succeed in love. He loves Daosri, a working girl. Being extremely of dark complexion he is rejected by her. Being failure in love he suffers a painful life. In the story 'Orge' she suffers a disastrous life because she cannot succeed in wooing love from any men. Being extremely black and ugly she will not get married, and remains unmarried maid servant. She cannot succeed in her love because of her physical appearance and ugly look.

In the stories of Janil Kumar Brahma also, there is the theme of love. But this theme of love is expressed in different ways in his stories. In the story of 'Alasi' there is a love theme. This love is between Lebaram, a young hero and Labari, a young heroine. But the treatment of love, what is observed is not explicit. Lebaram loves Labari, but he never visits her as promised. He is not serious about love and it seems he is a liar. But Labary loves him seriously and sincerely. After failing three dating with her and proposed visits to her family by the boy, the girl feels sorry and gets ill. At last she breathes her last knowing the fact that her boy of dream is going to marry a different girl of his choice.

Laughter and humour has become a differently treated theme in the story 'phorbojorani Bihamjw'. It is treated in the sequence of a journey of groom's party
to settle a marriage. The ear carrying the passengers got stuck to the muddy road in the village of the bride. Even the dresses of the people of the groom's party were also found to be dirty. As such the purpose of the journey has to be cancelled. The story revolves round such humourous episode.

Theme of science and technology is expressed in his some stories. How the science and technology contributes to human society and how it brings changes in society, in civilisation and in human mind is narrated in some of his stories. It is nicely expressed in the story 'Uwal'. As this brings changes in human society in general, and in Bodo society in particular, working servants also demands radio, T.V. and rice-mill facilities like their masters. Even the working male and female servants accept this change but Songphla, the old fashioned rich man can't support it. For this reason he is not getting any working servants for which he gets sad and furious and splits the uwal and gaihens into pieces.

Theme of welfare of the society is reflected in the story of 'Dumphaoni Phita'. Saben Basumatary, husband of Dumphao is incarnated as a social worker in his life. He likes social work rather than family affairs. His poverty cannot stop his will and dedication to the society for which he and his wife got rewarded in the last.

6.3.ix. RANJIT KUMAR BORGOYARI:

He is a remarkable short story writer. His story collections are 'Jousai Badwr Diriya', 'Khonsri Sikhla' and 'Gwdan Jiu'. He is a social worker and reformer. All his short stories have the subjects of reformation. In the short story 'Jousai Badwr Diriya', the central theme is 'the liquor is the main cause of destruction'. The other theme is crime and punishment. The writer tries to reveal the evils of drinking liquor in the Bodo society in particular and human society in general. In the characterization of Jousai Badwrsing Diriya, he portrayed him as a drunkard. Being drunkard, he drinks day and night, and quarrels with people, and he sells all his paternal property such as lands, groves and trees, orchard trees, cattle, homestead. Having been overdrunk, one mid-night he strangles his own daughter to death out of anger for not providing liquor to him. He has been jailed for 15
years for it. Liquor makes him drunker, idleness and dull. Secondly if one commits crime either in intoxication of liquor, crime is crime. One must suffer for it. He strangles his own daughter to death out of intoxication and anger due to over drinking of liquor. He acts crime and he has been jailed for his crime for fifteen years. Both the themes have a motto of social reforms. In the story 'Khonsri Sikha' he portrays the theme of weaving cloth as a commercial profession. She weaves cloths and sells them. She lives by selling the cloths. This is the theme of the subject of women empowerment. In the story 'Gwdan Jiu' he has tried to break the bonded labour. In Jalpaiguri district, West Bengal the poor Bodo families sell their daughters in exchange of money. Two teenagers are sold to a Bodo family where they have to work from morning till night everyday. They were frequently scolded and even punished. They were treated as bonded labour. One day one of these two girls run away and enter in a gathering of mass rally, what is organised for the prevention of wine? Incidentally the girl meets a good man in that meeting what changes her life dramatically and she gets a new home where she starts a new free life. It is a story full of dramatic elements and only a few Bodo stories have such peculiar characteristics.

6.3.x. JAMUNA BRAHMA:

Jamuna Brahma is a female writer of the Modern Age. He brings the thinking of woman's life in Bodo short story. Her lone short story 'Jarman Bilai' is a short story based upon domestic life. The theme of domestic problem in the short story 'Jarman Bilai' is very simple. The story begins with the expression of cordial love, understanding, unity, helpfulness and co-operation and peaceful domestic life in the rural family. The family comprises of Daotheb, mother, Dinesh and Mahim, two sons, Mwinathi, daughter-in-law and children of Mwinathi. Being Engineer Mahim married an urban girl and settled in city. Then the happy family coming out of rural culture is disillusioned with the in-law's family of urban culture. The cordial and peaceful family amongst Dinesh, Mwinathi and Mahim is polluted with Manju, a woman of modern urban society. The family of Dinesh and the family of Mahim get involved in conflict in their thinking. Mahim also demand the share of the
agricultural products out of his paternal property. This brings an uneasy feeling and misunderstanding, unhappy and crisis in the otherwise happy family. It deeply hurts Dinesh and Mwinathi. On the other hand Manju is greatly dissatisfied. This crisis or problem in domestic life in the conflicting background of rural and urban life is presented here. It is a conflict between two sets of value.

In conclusion it may be noted that the themes of the Bodo short stories cover a picture of life - larger, richer, and more varied than we ourselves may ever know of our own individual knowledge; it opens up a new field of experience and new line of thought and speculation and a humanity of our everyday round of existence into contact with those fresh, strong and magnetic personalities. The different themes of the different writers as described above reveal the fact that the modern Bodo short stories have expressed the life, society and culture of the Bodo people in particular, and the human beings in general.

6.4. TECHNIQUE IN SHORT STORY:

Technique is a very important artistic element in short story writing. It has a great role in making a short story writing success or failure. In fact, it is the crafting art of overall impression of the story from the beginning to the ending. Some definitions of technique are discussed here for understanding of the term and its application in fiction.

In Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary we have, *Technique is a method of doing or performing one, especially in the arts or sciences.* Another dictionary *Cambridge Essential English Dictionary* defines the technique as, *Technique is a particular way of doing something.* One contribution to the topic by A.N. Gupta and S.Gupta is,

*Technique is the manner or ability with which a writer (or other artist) uses the skills of his craft. Specialized methods and procedures are used in a particular field. The technique of a novelist, for instance, requires the characterization, the building of a conflict, the development of suspense, the writing of a dialogue.*
According to Robert Louis Stevenson, the famous writer explains the short story writing technique as,

_There are only three ways of writing a story, you may take a plot and fit characters to it; or you may take a character and choose accidents or situations to develop it, or you may take a certain atmosphere and get action and persons to express and realize it._\(^{17}\)

In other words, it may be interpreted in different ways that the writer may construct a story of plot alone, with character and setting confined strictly to its requirements, or of character alone, with plot and setting just sufficient to display it, or of setting alone, with plot and characters as mere subsidiaries. As for examples, 'The Bottle Imp is a story of plot', 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde' is a story of character and 'The Merry Men' is a story of setting.

6.5. IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS OF SHORT STORY TECHNIQUE:

In the writing of the short story technique has very important roles in making short story a successful one. Among this technique the beginning of the short story, its ending and technique of showing and telling in the story have very important role to make story popularity and impressive one. Let us have a brief description on these techniques.

BEGINNING THE SHORT STORY:

If the beginning of the short story doesn't capture the reader’s attention and inspire them, the readers won’t continue to read the short story. Therefore, the story should generate interest and curiosity, often begin with a narrative hook, which grabs the reader’s attention, motivating them to read on and turn towards end. The most important sentence is often the first one. It is often called the hook or lead. If it doesn’t inspire the reader to proceed to the second sentence, and then the third....in fiction writing or any other form of creative writing is dead. In short story, the most important sentence is the first one. The first sentence needs to grab the readers’ attention and compel them to read on. In a good piece of creative writing an ending is a very important point.
ENDING A SHORT STORY:

It may be noted that the writing of a short story is like a discovering the crafting of the opening, conflict, climax and resolution of a short story. In other words, the writer has no idea how the story was going to unfold or end, until the writing begins.

THE TECHNIQUES OF SHOWING AND TELLING:

A successful creative writer uses the techniques of fiction writing of showing and telling. The craft of fiction or techniques of short story writing is not only understanding the required elements of fiction, such as setting, plot, character, dialogue, theme, but also the techniques of fiction (the craft of fiction) such as characterisation, minimalism, epiphany, plot twist, scene, summary and showing.

6.6. LITERARY DEVICES USED IN SHORT STORY:

Twice already we have spoken of the study of style, dealing with its interest first on the personal side and then on the historical side. We have now to add that there is a third way in which style may be studied and to which we are brought round by the view of literature as an art, which we are now emphasizing—the technical or rhetorical way.18

The basic elements of the short story are setting, character, conflict, point of view, plot and theme. The fiction writer's choice of 'literary techniques' is an important element of fiction. There are many techniques available to the writer, such as allusion, alliteration, allegory, and flashback and foreshadowing. Some popular techniques or devices include symbolism, imagery, irony, and figurative language—such as simile, metaphor and personification. The writer can use any number of literary techniques to tell his or her story. These literary devices guide our interpretation and help us better understanding the story's complexities and the overall meaning.

Irony has three main types which are verbal irony, dramatic irony and situational irony. Verbal Irony is the contrast between what is said and what is meant. It may be called sarcasm. Dramatic Irony is the contrast between what the character thinks to be true and what the reader knows to be true. The reader
knows more than what one character knows. The character will react when he or she learns the truth of the situation. A form of dramatic irony in which a character who is about to become a victim of disaster uses words that have one meaning to him and quite another to the spectator or those who are aware of the real situation is called Tragic Irony. Situational Irony is the most common in literature. It is the contrast between what happens and what was expected (or what would seem appropriate). Because it emerges from the events and circumstances of a story it is often more subtle and effective than verbal or dramatic irony. Symbolism is representing something else of a character, an action, a setting, or an object. Most often, the symbol in a story is an object that represents its owner's character or situation, or both. Symbols are usually recognisable by the amount of emphasis they receive. Objects intended to be viewed as symbolic may be described in detail, be included in the title, be referred to frequently, or emphasised at the beginning or ending of the story. When we recognise a symbol and understand its meaning or meanings we see more clearly what the writer chose to emphasise. Flashback is a writer's technique in which the author interrupts the plot of the story to recreate an incident of an earlier time (goes back in time; like giving the reader a memory). This device is often used to provide additional information to the reader. Foreshadowing is a writer's technique in which the author provides clues or hints as to what is going to happen later in the story. It's like the music in a scary movie when we know that something bad is about to happen.

In writing short story the use of structural technique may be noted from *A Background to the Study of English Literature*,

*The short story is not merely a greatly shortened novel. It shares, of course, the usual constituents of all fiction—plot, character and setting—but they cannot be treated with the same detail as in a novel. Each has to be reduced to the minimum in the interest of the impression they are together intended to convey. All, in other words, take the shortest route towards the 'preconceived effect,' 'the one pre-established design.' They are all a means to an end. Any superfluous detail only retards the progress towards the final effect. The plot is confined to the essentials, the characters to the indispensables, and the setting to a few suggestive hints.*
6.7. TECHNIQUE IN BODO SHORT STORIES:

We have already seen that technique is an important element of short story writing. The artistic creation of the short story and literary devices employed in the story are technical elements of the short story. Its beauty and smoothness depends on the handling of the writer. Its perfection makes short story aesthetic and impressive. Now, let us examine the techniques in select Bodo short story writers in the light of the above mentioned theoretical perspective.

6.7.i. ISHAN MUSHAHARY:

Ishan Mushahary is a writer of the Old Age period of the Bodo short story. He has written only one short story in Bodo. As he belongs to the Old Age period short story writing in Bodo he applies, in most cases, the traditional technique in his short stories. Here, one named 'Abari', one of the notable old short stories of the Bodo literature has been selected for discussion. Manoranjan Lahary views him as the first successful Bodo story writer. He says the story 'Abari' has plot, character, dialogue and philosophy. The story is written in traditional way. The story has beginning, middle and ending. The plot is developed with the events related to the main character Abari. The beginning and ending of the story is simple like traditional short story. The story is constructed in three structural parts but it is nicely connected with the problems of Abari. The title of the story is suitable as the story and its problem arises round the character Abari. In the story Ishan Mushahary employs a simple straight forward manner and present different events in their chronological order. The story is narrated in the third person perspective.

The beginning of the short story 'Abari' has an important message about the short story. It tells the marriageable age of Abari in a single beginning line. This beginning message is seen developed later on. It also describes the dress consciousness of Abari.

*Instantly Abari entered the age of eighteen. A girl of this age is normally called a youngstress. She was an attractive maiden now. She was more bashful and dress consciousness.*

20
In the short story ‘Abari’ the story ends in a close ending technique. It is nicely expressed in the concluding paragraph of the story,

_Sanse mwjang dinni mwjang mwnabiliyao gaoni dokhna gangsekhouwnw
lananwi bisai johwinw biyw wngkhar langnayswi. Biha dong gwdnayao
hathaini resom dwngse, akhayao ashan gongse arw ingthi gongse.
Hwmblabw biyw jadwng khust, minibala._

(Eng. trans: One day, in an auspicious moment, Abari set out to go to the young man’s house. She had only a necklace on her neck, a bracelet in her hand and an imthi (ring) in the nose. Yet she was filled with joy and happiness.).

6.7.ii. PRASENJIT BRAHMA

Prasenjit Brahma is a writer of early Modern Age. He writes three short stories. He can establish himself as a successful Bodo story writer with these three short stories. His short stories have plot, character, dialogue and philosophy. In the traditional short story he introduces the treatment of psychology in his stories. In the short story ‘Bobi’ the story has beginning, middle and ending. In his two stories ‘Dogri’ and ‘Gwsw Thwnay,’ the plot has beginning and ending but no climax or problem but only feelings of mind. He selects his themes which have universal significance. His characters have limited scope for development. But he has introduced psychological treatment to the Bodo short stories. In the short story ‘Gwsw Thwnay’ he has used short story in three parts but it is nicely connected with narrative technique. The titles of the short stories are appropriate. He is one of the greatest masters in the narrative technique in the Bodo short story. In his stories there are no series of events or incidents but these contain only flow of minds. His poetic language in the story ‘Dogri’ is superb. It is really incomparable art. His short stories are remarkable for figurative languages. He also employed the narrative technique of epistolary in his ‘Gwsw Thwnay’. He uses symbolic sentence in the story ‘Bovy’. The story is narrated in the third person perspective in the story ‘Bobi’. The story is really impressive of showing technique through the character of Bobi. In other two short stories he tells in the first person narrative being a character of the story. The story ends in a closed ending in the stories of ‘Bobi’ and ‘Gwsw Thwnay’ but open in the story of ‘Dogri’.
The beginning and ending sentence of the story ‘Bobi’ is really impressive and significant. The beginning first sentence of the short story ‘Bobi’ has a figurative meaning of her reaching an age of youngstress. It is shown here,

Thanghang thangahang lajigusu dokhonaya janjiniprai jerybayo kharkhwbay.\(^{22}\)

*(Eng. trans: The coy girl had recently changed the mode of her dress as she entered the threshold of puberty.)*

The ending sentence of the short story ‘Boby’ has a deep phylosophical truth of universality of a dumb girl.

...... Songsarao biyw omashi sibay .....\(^{23}\)

*(Eng. trans: ...... The world has no feeling for Omashi! it doesn’t understand her. The poor thing ...!)*

6.7.iii. JAGADISH BRAHMA

Jagadish Brahma is a writer of early Modern Age. He writes one short story named ‘Laji Gwiywi’. He will be remembered for this lone short story of his. He is a well known story writer. Like other writer he tries to reform the society in different angle. His story has plot, character, theme and philosophy. The story is written in traditional way. The story has beginning, middle and ending. The plot is developed with the events or incidents related to the main character, Onari. The beginning of the story has suspense. The story is narrated with the flashback technique. The story is started with the effect of ending and draws the mind of the readers. Other important technique is that he uses mind feeling and thinking in place of conversation. The ending of the story is closed ending. Structural construction has three parts but it is nicely connected with the character Onari. The title of the story becomes appropriate in the short story. Simple and plain narrative technique is used. The story is told in the third person perspective and the story develops in serial evnts but it starts giving clues in the beginning which create suspense for ending.
The beginning of the short story ‘Laji Gwiywi’ has technical importance. The story begins with the flashback technique which has created the suspense of the story.

_Bima biphanilo gonthong hayakhwi Oneya, lekha gwrwng makhase khoro gwjou khalamnw haywi khalambay. Boyjwngbwsi si hwnjabay bini akhola. Bikhou bebaidi ogen haba maogwn hwnnanwi raobw sanakhwimwn._

(Eng. trans: Not only cut the nose of her parents but also disgraced to all educated. Fy! Fy! what is her moral! Nobody thinks that she will do such an immoral act.)

The ending paragraph of the story reveals the story ends in a closed ending—

_Bima Gilariya bagdaokhangw khathong burini bathrayao. Oneya mwdwm bohora? Lashing shing bathra be! Laji gwiywi ... Bima biphani man danbay._

(Eng. trans: Her mother Gilari shocked at the words of Khathong, an old woman. One is pregnant. What a shame! Shameless ... dishonor her parents.)

6.7.iv. NIL KAMAL BRAHMA:

Nil Kamal Brahma is a great writer of the Bodo short story in Modern Age. His mastery on the Bodo short story lies in his writing collections _Hagra Guduni Mwi, Shilingkhar, Shirinay Mandar, Sakhondra_ and _Mem Daodwi_. He can establish himself as a successful Bodo story writer with the publication of _Hagra Guduni Mwi_. He can become more artistically success with the story writings of _Shilingkhar_. Then he enters more deeply in human psychology and complexities by _Shirinay Mandar_ and _Sakhondra_. He handles for the reformation of the society both urban and rural with satirical touch. It is seen in his writings of _Mem Daodwi_. His stories have all the elements of short stories. Most of the short stories _Hagra Guduni Mwi_ are plot based stories where characters and situation are added to tell the story perfectly. The title story ‘Hagra Guduni Mwi’ is a nice example of it. Most of the stories in _Hagra Guduni Mwi_ are narrated in the third person narrative technique. The short stories of _Shilingkhar_ are mostly character-based story where plot and atmosphere are put into. They are also told in the first person narrative style. The title story of ‘Shilingkhar’ is character based story. ‘Aithing’ is one of the best stories where situation is given more preference and character and plot is accompanied
to it. He is a great writer who wrote short stories with all modern techniques and elements of the short stories. He selects the stories from the all spheres of life and society, from rural and urban culture. His plots, characters, situations, dialogues, philosophy, language and rhetoric, writing technique and artistic creation in these entire fields he shows his Excellency. His beginning, development and ending are balanced in the story. In some of his short stories in the last stage of writing short stories have narrative hook, abrupt beginning, abrupt ending, suspense and impression and policed language which are common features of his short stories. In short he is the greatest master of artistic creation of the short stories particularly in Bodo and general in short story.

In the short story 'Shilingkhar' the story writer uses the technique of flash forward, theme of situational irony, author surrogate and stream of consciousness are used. The narrative technique is nicely mingled with dramatic and stream of consciousness technique which forwards the plot and brings out the characters. The story of the plot begins with the suspense of last part of the story. When the suspense is open the story ends in sad feeling.

The beginning of the short stories of Nil Kamal Brahma is always impressive. Here he uses the flash forward technique. The story begins from the middle part and again retells the past and future actions of the story. The story begins with a single sentence here,

*Driver, gariya bohon, Surekhaha kolejni som jabay*\(^{26}\)

*(Eng. trans: Driver, get ready the car, it is the college time for Surekha.)*

Stream of consciousness technique is used in his stories like 'Megonni Akhol: Gwswni Mohor', 'Shilingkhar' etc. The driver works his duty and at the same time he thinks for his life and position, labour work and honour. He suffers the philosophical tragic life of Hamlet— 'To be or not to be'. He himself fights inside in the mind between Abinash, the educated hero and the driver life, Bimolendu. For this dilemma like Hamlet he dies in a car accident.

Symbol is a technique of short story writing in the short stories of Nilkamal Brahma like 'Gasa arw Sulung', 'Sabwn Bibar'; 'Shirinay Mandar' 'Mwsha' etc. In 'Gasa arw Sulung' Banashri is a symbolical character like a Gasa (lamp) and Sulung
(Source) for the life of Maguram, lover of Banashri. In 'Sabwn Bibar' the dream of Major Manshing is symbolically presented where human life is like foam of soap. In the short story 'Sirinay Mandar' the life of Balangs is symbolically presented valueless or honourless with the mandar bibar (flower of crinina indica).

Irony, humour and satire are the techniques of using the language in the short story. Many short stories of Nil Kamal Bramha such as 'Mem Daodwi', Swima Gwthwini Soho, 'Bantha' etc have the use of ironical and satirical uses of language against the defective in human life. 'Jwngha Nongablanba' is narrated the story with pun and humourical language. Eve the character of Gindri is ironically portrayed. The situational irony is found in the love of Samila in the short story 'Meghonni Akhol: Gswwni Mohor'.

The beginning sentences or paragraphs of the short stories are very important. This beginning creates suspense in his short stories like 'Sabwn Bibar', 'Mwsha', 'Jwngha Nongablanba' etc. In 'Sabwn Bibar' and 'Mwsha' he begins with the single sentence. In 'Jwngha Nongablanba' the story begins with conversation of two women. In the story 'Sabwn Bibar' it begins with a narrative hook which beginning creates suspense to the readers. It begins as,

Dakhali gwmwthao simang dwngse nudwngmwn ang.27

(Eng. trans: The day before yesterday I dreamt a wonderful dream.)

The ending of the short story of Nil Kamal Bramha has a different technique which is uncomparable with other writers. In the story 'Sabwn Bibar' he concludes the story having the reference to the beginning as,

Dakhali ang nunay sabwn bibarni simanga behounw phwormaydwng
Juthikanw kinthaangou jabay.28

(Eng. trans: It ought to tell Juthikha that the dream of the flower of soap which I saw the day before yesterday refers to it.)

In the short story 'Hagrani Bipha' the story is concluded nicely in a dramatic conversation—

In the short story ‘Jwngha Nongablanba’ the technique of dramatic presentation is seen here. The story begins with the conversation between Gindri and Mwnbari. The beginning dialogue hints the coming events ‘Drama of Jaolia Dewan’ and the speaking of Gindri is the suspense of the story what role actually Bangkho does. It continues till end. Narrative technique is applied in objective style. The story is told in two parts, first part leads to climax and second part is resolution. The dramatic stage performance is a nice technique to develop the plot and reaching the resolution within the story.

In the story ‘Daya Swrni’ the beginning and ending paragraph of the story is told by omnipresent writer. But the technique of storytelling is autobiographical. It is told by Oboshi in the first person. The technique of detective by police and judge in court is applied. In reply of interrogation she narrates all stories in the first person. The technique of beginning of the story starts from the ending part of the story is a nice technique and which creates suspense till the end of the story.

In the story ‘Gamini Simang’ the story is told in first person narrative with the character of officer. Dramatic conversation is applicable whenever it is necessary. The episode of officer and his brother-in-law at Shillong office is comical and becomes very loose in the connection with main plot. It is incredulous.

6.7.v. MANORANJAN LAHARY:

Manoranjan Lahary is one of the greatest masters of the Bodo short story writers in the Modern Age. He writes many short stories which are collected in Solo Bidang, Bajwi and Gaodang. His master craft of Bodo short story rests on these story books. The treatment of psychology in his story brings his stories in deeper realities of mind. The dialogues are highly applied in the development of plot and characterization. His stories can reach into deeper human mind and complexities. ‘Calling Bell’ is one of these kinds of stories. He brings a brilliant balance in the creation of the stories and telling it. ‘Bajwi’ and ‘Gangse Phali’ are nice examples of
it. He narrates stories lively and vividly which makes him to be remembered for ever. He tells story with the technique of words economy. In a brief small campus of the short story he tells meaningful and deep philosophy of life. He not only writes on real life but in deeper realisation he adds the imagination of spirit and its belief in human society. 'Horni Kol' and 'Gaodang' are written with a technique of magic realism of reality and imagination of spirit. He is a great writer who writes short stories with all modern techniques and elements of the short stories. He selects the short stories from the all sources of life and society. He can show his mastery over plots, characters, situations, dialogues, philosophy, language and rhetoric, writing technique and artistic creation. His narrative has a great impression to the readers. Finally, he is considered as a great master of short story writing technique.

Gwgwm Brahma Kachary, an Asstt. Professor, Bijni College says that Manoranjan Lahary uses the technique of psycho-analysis, magic realism, imagery and compact syntaxes. In this regard he says--

Bithangni solo lirnayao gwsw bigiyan sansri bahaynay, magig realish technique bahainay nuyw. Bithanga swdwb saogari bahaynaybw nuyw. Style mohorwi bini solophwrao economy of words are lively akhukhou nuyw. 30

(Eng. trans :It is seen the use of psycho-analysis and magic realism technique in the short stories of Manoranja Lahary. He also uses the imagery and the language of compact syntaxes.)

Manoranjan Lahary is a great artist who brings the technique of magic realism in the short stories. He is the first short story writer who creates an atmosphere and situation in the short story where a living doctor accompany with the spirit of Gaodang and walk together a long distance along the forest lane. They talk with each other like a two living human beings. Only a great master can write such kind of short story.

His important technique is the economy of the short story. His short stories has been written in shortness and brevity.

Intrigue is another important technique in his short story writings. Sometimes it helps hero or heroine and sometime it brings ruined to hero or
heroine. Such examples are ‘Goysri’ and ‘Gangse Phali’. In ‘Gangse Phali’, Laodangi offers a phali or hankerchief to Basiram as a token of love in Bwisagu festival. But laodangi again steals it to test her lovers’ mind and love. Finally she returns the phali again after testing her beloved’s mind. Laodangi plays an intrigue here against her lover to know her lovers’ true love. In the story ‘Goysri’ Goyaram entraps Goyshri for temporary physical love. Goysri falls in the entrapping plan. Here Goyaram acts an intrigue against Goysri.

Humour is a technique of his short story writings, his humour is come out from the illiteracy and ignorance of the rural character. It is found in the short stories such as ‘Theng Daphla Daphli’, ‘Gangburjwng Angiwhn’.

6.7.vi. HARIBHUSAN BRAHMA

Haribhusan Brahma is one of the greatest Bodo short story writers. He writes many short stories which are published in collected anthology in *Srimati Durlai, Rwnaao Phagla* and *Khiphi Bendwng*. These stories have a new trend in the Bodo short stories. When the story collection *Srimati Durlai* first appeared he became a very popular and it established him as a prolific writer. His short stories have humour and satire. He brings humour and satire as a weapon of reformation in the society and of amusement. The dialogues are used to develop the story. He shows the society and human beings as he saw them. He gives more importance in plot and atmosphere in his stories than the character formation. ‘Lain Bas’ and ‘Gubru Sarbay’ are nice examples of atmosphere based story. ‘Gwdan Khonthaigiri’ and ‘Andari Burwi’ are nice examples of plot based stories. He narrates stories as he sees with touching of satire and humour. He writers modern short stories in addition of humour and satire. His narrative has a great impression and amusement to the readers. Finally, he is the only the great master of modern Bodo short story writers.

Suspense creation in the beginning of the short story is his technique. It is seen in his short stories. In the story book of *Srimati Durlai* it has a technique of beginning which has created suspense at the beginning of the story. The beginning is like this—
Ang dinwi gwwtheu-gwwtharwi Srimati Durlaini sungdo jiu khourangkhou lirnayni bibankhou lanay jabay. Mwntham gwnang jahwnanw angkhou lirn wrthukhangw.\(^{31}\)

*(Eng. trans: Today I deeply and piously have taken the responsibility of writing the short biography of Srimati Durlai. Three important causes excited me to write the biography.)*

The ending technique is also impressive. It is not a complete and full biography of Srimathi Durlai but a part or slice of her life. The writer keeps an open close ending of the story as he wishes to add the remaining life history of her with her perfect and genuine address. It is written so,

*Srimati Durlaiadi lekha rwngou na rwngamwn bekhou lananwibw dasimbw angha gwsywa gud -gud. Jikhi jadwa, angni lirnaya dwibana badi lwb lwb jerwibw jeraobw saglwb langwn jebla angni lirnayabw Durlaini akhayao khilase gwslywi gwnang bathraphwrkhou lirthumnanwi horgwn hwnnanwi mwle gwsywi nethonay jabay." Litgiri—Musri Nilambar Narzary.\(^{32}\)*

*(Eng. trans: Whether Srimati Durlai is literate or not I am still curious about it. However if my writing spreads everywhere like the flood it reaches to Durlai. Then she will write her important records to complete her biography so I wait with nervous mind. Writer— Musri Nilambar Narzary.)*

The new technique applied here is the story told with the character of the story. It is told by Nilambar Narzary. The story telling art becomes admirable and impressive. It is a new technique of storytelling aspect. In the construction of plot it is seen that the writer first selects a character, then the character does a series of activities as a part of marketing and habits. Here he adds atmosphere. All these help in the movement and completion of the plot. The resolution of the plot completes with the missing of Srimati Durlai. The technique of telling story is very lucid, humourical and satirical.

6.7.vii. GOBINDA BASUMATARY:

Gobinda Basumatary is one of the greatest writers of Modern Age period. In the short story book *Haraoni Saikhel* is one of the story collection books. He is a writer who creates short stories with a technique of two contrasted themes. In the short story ‘Haraoni Saikhel’ he presents two contrared ideas of peace and
violence. It is his story writing technique. Symbolism is another technique of his writing short stories. The revenue village Polashbari is symbolically presents as a place of unity and peace. At the end of the story the Polashguri, the same village represents the place of violence and chaos. Irony is another technique of his short story writings. He ironically presents selfish social workers in his short stories like 'Sarthiphiket. 'Santhi: Jathi: Develop". He has also ironically presented the contractors who earn money by bad ways such as 'Udwi.

6.7.viii. JANIL KUMAR BRAHMA:

Janil Kumar Brahma is one of the greatest short story writers of Modern Age. He is a strong social worker. He writes many short stories that are published in three short story books named Dumphaoni Phita, Mwider Muhuni and Japanni Swima.

Setting is an important technique of his short story writings. In the short stories of 'Orge', 'Khamblao Mahajwnni Blad Presar', 'Thekhlani Simang', 'Monthri Phwigwn', 'Khwilaspurni Motham Mahajwn', 'Rego Dahwna', 'Uwal' the settings are located in the background of rich Bodo family in Bodo villages. In the short stories of 'Dumphaoni Phita', 'Laisrwnni Bwswn', 'Anwi Onaisini Usunda', 'Thikhiramni Phwimal Mijing', 'Hwnnanwi Bungtharw Ang', 'Dao Khela', 'Meleria' the settings are in the background of Bodo poor family in village. In the short stories of 'Gomtha Masterni Khapal', 'Hajwni Sikhiri—Hayenni.Bibar', 'Sonani Medel', 'Trening 'Japanni Swima' the settings are in the background of service lives of rural and urban people.

In the short story 'Rego Dahwna', the character is ironically portrayed in the stories. In the stories of Janil Kumar Bramha the story telling technique is very rich. Humour, irony, conversation are the important techniques in the writing of his short stories.

6.7.ix. RANJIT KUMAR BORGOYARY:

Ranjit Kumar Borgoyary is a writer of middle stage of Modern Age. He has written three short stories. His short stories have plot, character, dialogue and philosophy. It has been observed that he introduces the flash back technique to
the story telling aspect in the short story 'Jousai Badwr Diriya'. The story also has the beginning, the middle and the ending. He selects the subject matters and themes from the Bodo society. He tries to reform the society from the clutch of alcohol, bonded labour and economy. These are with regional themes. The title of the short story 'Jousai Badwr Diriya' is appropriate to the story. He brings new technique in the story telling. He uses the flash back technique in the Bodo short stories. This technique of story telling art and the touch of social aim of reformation make the story impressive. The story is narrated in the first person perspective by a character in the story. He brings again new technique of story telling becoming one of the characters in the story. The beginning and ending sentence of the story is a plain. Figurative languages are seen in the story.

6.7.x. JAMUNA BRAHMA

Jamuna Brahma is a writer of Modern Age. She is a feminine writer. She wrote one short story. She is one of the successful writers of the Bodo short stories. She has written the short story from the feminine point of view in modern Bodo short story. Her short story 'Jarman Bilai' has plot, character, dialogue and philosophy. In the story 'Jarman Bilai', the plot has beginning, middle and ending. She selects the subject of the story from domestic life of the society which is the meeting place of rural and urban culture. She selects plot and subject of the story, and then she puts characters and atmosphere there. The plot of the story develops with the rising of the problem. The story highlights deeply the feelings and sentiments and reactions of the females of the rural culture and urban culture. In the same short story 'Jarman Bilai' the dialogue is used to narrate the short story. The beginning and ending has no special technique. She uses symbolism in the title of the short story. The story writer presents the symbolic meaning in the title of the story. In daily life Bodo people use marigold grinding for little cut. In big wound Jarman leaf is used in the village. But in this story the Jarman Leaf is used to cure the domestic problems of Dinesh and Mahim. It really solves the problems. So, the symbolic implication becomes meaningful one.
6.8. CONCLUSION:

Theme and technique are two important elements of the short story. The theme is like the soul of the short story and the technique is like the skin of the short story. The theme of the Bodo short story covers a wide range of human lives and their feelings and sufferings, their problems and struggles and the influences of modern urban life. In technique Bodo writers are improving from the old age period writers to the modern writers. In the traditional style writing symbol, irony, humour, etc. are not found. But these all are used in the modern writings.
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