CHAPTER SIX

(1891)
TESS OF THE D’URBERVILLES

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6.1 Introduction

In 2003, Tess of the D’Urbervilles was listed at number 26 on the BBC’s survey The Big Read.\(^1\) It is generally regarded as Hardy’s masterpiece, and certainly it is his most ambitious novel. Thomas Hardy describes the misfortune occurred to a poor peasant girl, Tess, the cause is low economic status. The story is about the destruction of innocence and sophistication of humanity. Tess herself is the most sublime figure in Hardy, combining supreme beauty with nobility that elevates the conception capitalism in it. Capitalism is pervading severely in the novel, and remains core part. Hardy was a shrewd novelist who consciously or unconsciously projected capitalism in the novel. He differentiates the characters from each-other in relation with money, economic condition, business, social status and industrial and agricultural development etc in the society. Many academic disciplines which adopt Marxist theories agree with “the Marxist conviction of the interrelationship of word and world, of theory and practice, and of the inequities of the capitalist system in its various forms that makes it more than fashionable.”\(^2\) Thomas Hardy lived in a turbulent period when England was experiencing tough social problems and sharp contradictions which resulted from the notorious industrial Revolution. The novel filled with severe capitalism and its impact on the society.

6.2 The Projection of Capitalism in Tess of the D’Urbervilles

Economic factor is an influential factor which frames Tess’s tragedy. Poverty is closely connected with industrialization, capitalism, urbanization, agricultural business, the rural economy and peasantry. He exposed capitalism with the help of individual characters and their relationships based on economic class. Tess’s tragedy is the result of economy based on Marxist literary theories. The industrial revolution with its impact disintegrated the traditional English agriculture, undermined the practical system, and impoverished the peasants to the core. Industrial revolution drove English peasants to the verge of death. Peasants sink into endless misery and bitterness.

The disintegration of the rural economy and the collapse of the old agriculture style completely. This economic transformation forced peasants to be exiled from
their native villages in order to seek life sustenance in alien places, where they were mercilessly exploited and cruelly oppressed by the new born capitalist class who took the place of the aristocracy as the upper class. Due to the poverty in 19th century, they were drifted from place to place and become homeless.

*Tess of the D’Urbervilles* is a tragedy caused from the capitalist perspective and the upcoming social disintegration that has been occurred by the industrialization to the countryside. In the 19th century England, huge number of country people left for the cities. Agricultural laborers were the worst paid in Dorset. There was a march on London of impoverished laborers from all over the South England from Kent to Dorset. The children of six years have to work in the field for food. The poverty of the agricultural laborers, the inflated price of basic foods and the misery that had always accompanied widespread unemployment were close facts to Hardy during his childhood.

Thomas Hardy projected the capitalism with help of mechanism, technology, modernism and industrialism in agrarian culture. Mechanism symbolizes that the power is moving at axle so s/he becomes ready to oppress others. Capitalism enriched very powerfully with the introduction of machinery. The threshing machine symbolizes as mechanism which is chief part of capitalism, depicted in Tess. Hardy depicts:

“The rick was unhaled by full daylight; the men then took their places, the women mounted, and the work began. Farmer Groby-or, as they called him, ‘he’-had arrived ere this, and by his orders Tess was placed on the platform of the machine, close to the man who fed it, her business being to untie every sheaf of corn handed on to her Izz Huett, who stood next, but on the rick; so that the feeder could seize it and spread it over the revolving drum, which whisked out every grain in one moment.”

In England, Hardy describes farming after industrial and technical innovation of equipments. It made farming easier than earlier to masters and farmers. Hardy described it in picturesque manner. It is used for a new sort of farming, streamlined, on a large scale, and technical. The laborers have very few benefits. More intensive farming did not create more jobs and the work became less varied and required only
at certain seasons of the year. The widespread poverty provided much of Hardy’s concern with the plight of the labourers. When he wandered Dorset, he was

“dismayed by the evidence of appalling disaster, buildings crumbled, fences collapsed, roads decayed, and farmhouses abandoned.”

The innovations of machineries in 19th century destruct of agriculture sector. It is not only the destruction of countryside economy, but also the general English peasantry. Peasants suffered due to economic poverty and the misery of exile from home. Capitalism worked inertly to destroy rural culture at large level.

In *Tess of the D’Urbervilles*, Thomas Hardy gives a picture of unemployment, being turned out of tied cottages, seasonal labor, new mechanized techniques in farms, new accounting techniques in business, gradation and differences between the employers and the employed. The impact led on the towns and educated men of the rural part of England. Tess gives very drastic picture of the agricultural workers left the countryside for cities. Labor on farms became increasingly precarious and labourers moved from one seasonal employment to another. It is good example that Tess was dismissed from the job of dairymaid. So she found in money problem. She moved on to winter world drawing reeds and grubbing turnips for Farmer Groby at Flintcomb-Ash. She got a job of a farmland at Flintcomb-Ash. It was a physically exhausting job in which she had literally worn to shreds while working. Here she found the meaning of true wretchedness occurs through the superiority of class, money and capital which play vital role in life. Capitalism is exposed with following extract:

“I am glad of this opportunity of repaying you a little. To-morrow I shall expect to hear your mother’s goods unloading … .Give me your hand on it now-dear, beautiful Tess!”

Hardy describes Alec as a Capitalist and new business holder. He was very shrewd and represent as newly born capitalist and to oppress Tess. He considers Tess as a commodity and used her as he wished. The approach of master towards workers is clearly displayed. They wish to oppress them on the economic basis. Alec as a capitalist master persuades Tess to send her family in the garden and brothers to school. Then Tess is oppressed at the hand of Alec (New Capitalist). Hardy has
shown absolute oppression of poorer at the hand of capitalist. Tess’s pathetic condition is expressed as follows. Hardy depicts:

Now command me. What shall I do?"^6

Hardy sheds light on the harassment of workers at the hand of wealthy masters. Tess becomes a victim of upper class people. Alec takes advantage and ravages her and makes exploitation. Class struggle is one of the important factors in the capitalist theory. In Flintcomb-Ash, Tess and other workers do the hardest work but get the smallest reward on the farm with bad conditions. They are badly treated and cruelly exploited and humiliated by the capitalist farmers, people, and businessman. Tess is allotted the most back-breaking work. Thomas Hardy describes the brutality of capitalist farmers like Groby and the hardships endured by Tess and her fellows. Pinion precisely described the conditions of the workers at the hand of capitalist farmers:

“All day he cursed and called us brutes:
Then Time said ‘James, ’tis night!’
Fear floor’d him: Shame pulled off his boots,
And Death put out his light.”^7

Hardy extrapolated the scene of peasantry is particularly important. It is a symbol of the dehumanized relationships of the new capitalist farmers with workers. In another sense, Tess records the disintegration and destruction of the English peasantry and its sphere is the more generalized movement of human destiny during a particular period. Thomas Hardy gave a vivid depiction of the invasion of the capitalist economy and the disintegration of the agricultural economy in rural England.

Rents and profits rose appreciably, but the laborer’s wages did not, and during the winter the family often depended upon the easily exploited labor of the wife and children. In Dorset, one of the very poorest places in England, it was worse and the wages were usually no more than stomach. Women and children are cruelly exploited in the capitalist society.

In Tess of the D’Urbervilles, the hardships endured by women on farms are seen at Flintcomb-Ash. No one was immune from the historical misfortune imposed upon them by social transformation. One who by thrift had survived the first depression succumbed to the second. The countryside had lost many of its most
respected figures. The widespread personal and clan characteristics got lost as well as the humorous simplicity of the men and the unsophisticated modesty of the women. The days of high farming and peasantry were beyond recall. The modest country custom was dying away. The long-cherished stability, security, peace and harmony of patriarchy had become bygones, unable to come back to life again. Fleeing the distress of country life, many people had long been accustomed to the idea of leaving the land; hearsay and the newspapers had suggested their own pictures of the life of the towns; railroads had brought that life within grasp. However, reality was never like the fable they pictured. Their dreams were broken again, setting them into the new sea of misery-out of the frying-pan into the fire!

Tess clearly underestimates the danger and decides against returning home and abandoning the scheme to rehabilitate her family. The ambivalence of Tess’s relation with Alec in these scenes is always complicated, too, by her financial reliance on Alec. To save the situation, she has her body ravaged by Alec—her only economic source. Poverty makes all types of adjustments and submits to wealth. From this perspective, Tess is victimized by the economic situation which closely connected with capitalism. Hardy describes:

“She was more pliable under his hands then a mere companionship would have made, owing to her unavoidable dependence upon his mother, and, through that lady’s comparative helplessness, upon him.”

This economic dimension in Tess’s very complex relations with Alec will figure again in the Chase scene, as well as in the later scenes at Flinctcomb-Ash and Sandbourne. This misfortune is worsened by her father’s death, which means the eviction of the family from Marlott. The fear of homelessness haunts the family. Ever since the occurrence of the event which had such a shadow over Tess’s life, the Durbeyfield family had been tacitly looked on as one which would have to go, when their lease ended. Due to the low status of economic and social Tess her family is expelled from Marlott.

Thomas Hardy’s projection of capitalism in Tess of the D’Urbervilles had been widely presented with the help of main characters such as Tess, Alec D’Urbervilles, Angel and minor characters such as Jack Derbyfield, Joan Derbyfield, Little
Abraham, Prince, Sorrow, Mrs. D’Urberville, The three milkmaids, Mrs. Clare and others helped to study the effects of capitalism on the character individually and on society universally. Tess of the D’Urbervilles introduces many themes and subsequently be fully explored with the central character, Tess. Though, the novel deals with history, it raises the theme of capitalism at the very beginning of novel.

Hardy presents the business scene that projects awesome information to John Durbeyfield, a poor, ordinary haggler that he is heiress of rich family. Now he is doing business of selling eggs. He looks ominous due to the work. Hardy presented John Durbeyfield is one of the minor characters in early stage of the novel but provides very helpful data related to working class people. He symbolically represents poverty. While getting the information that he was heiress of a noble, rich and ancient family filled with a kind of intoxication. His views towards world are totally changed. If we may pay attention towards the thinking of Durbeyfield from capitalist point of view that how a person thinks about himself is a good example. Instead of going home on foot, he sent a message for a horse and carriage on hire to carry him. At the same time, he sends a message to his wife asking a special evening meal.

John says:

“Tell ‘em at hwome that I should like for supper-well, lamb’s fry if they can get; and if they can’t, black-pot; and if they can’t get that, well, chitterlings will do.”

After getting information, Derbyfield, a haggler makes a clear economic distinction between him and a poor boy, to which he sent to place the message. He considers himself as a rich person; he gives him a shilling for the job. Derbyfield says:

“She’s for your labour, lad.”

Hardy described the village Marlott which is a far from capitalistic perspective. There are no roots of earning extra money by charging hire interest. It is shown as the beautiful vale of Blackmoor. The land is fertile and sheltered tract of country. This village lay on the south by bold chalk ridge that embraced the hillocks of Hambledon. Hardy describes the village which is also not excluded from capitalism and its impact led on agricultural field. He writes:
“The village was quite still, it being that motionless hour of rustic daily life which fills the interval between the departure of the field-labourers to their world, and the rising of their wives and daughters to prepare the breakfast for their return. Hence he reached the church without observation, and the door being only latched the entered.”

Hardy has skillfully described the village which is aloof from capitalistic force but not excluded from capitalist impact. The culture is safe and sound and not disturbed because not projection of capitalism in that part. Hardy put forward such idea by presenting beautiful scenes in the novel. He gives a picture of country with old customs. Due to the modernism and occurrence of capitalism a small in number old customs are lingered. The society is rich one who is spending money on their materialistic possession. The dance is celebrated in the form of a festival called ‘club walking’. It is a fun for Marlott. Club walking is also symbol of richness in the society. He also focuses light on a custom of walking in a procession and dancing on each anniversary than in the members being solely women.

The club was holding this function on the day when John got the message of his noble descent. Most of the rich people enjoy in club walking. They dominate it with the help of money and their economic position in the society. Thomas Hardy describes:

“The young girls formed, indeed, the majority of the band, and their heads of luxuriant hair reflected in the sunrise every tone of gold and black and brown. Some had beautiful eyes, others a beautiful nose, others a beautiful mouth and figure: few, if any, had all. A difficulty of arranging their lips in this crude exposure to public scrutiny, an inability to balance their heads and to dissociate self-consciousness from their features, was apparent in them and showed that they were genuine country-girls, unaccustomed to many eyes.”

The chapter second introduces us the heroine of the novel, Tess. She described as a fine and beautiful creature than others. Most beautiful girls are wanting of rich people. She has mobile mouth and large innocent eyes added eloquence to colour and shape. She was only the girl in the whole crowd to wear a red ribbon in her hair. Various people attracted towards her. Hardy depicted her in a gorgeous style. As Hardy adds about Tess:
“The name of the eclipsing girl, whatever it was, has not been handed down; but she was envied by all as the first who enjoyed the luxury of a masculine partner that evening.”

To extrapolate this statement from capitalist perspective, women were considered as status symbols, just as the right make of car is today. For many people even today, female currency remains beauty; in these terms, Tess is regarded as a bankrupt, penniless, broke etc. People in Marlott are considered Tess as their possession. She has neither the social status, nor economic stability, nor money necessary for one. He has only body as a wealth.

Then we have a capitalistic description of Angel and his brothers. They represent the superior class. While they are passing that way with knapsacks strapped to their shoulders and stout sticks in the hands. Thomas Hardy has projected Capitalism with the help of Angel and his brother’s. He described their living standards from high class society.

Hardy depicted their richness that-

“Their general likeness to each other and their consecutive ages would almost have suggested that they might be what in fact they were brothers. The eldest wore the white tie, high waistcoat, and thin-brimmed hat of the regulation curate; the second was the normal educated; the appearance of the third and youngest.”

The richness of Angel and his brothers expressed through their living standard, education and appearance. This also shows man is superior to woman from feminist point of view. Tess presented as a weak, poor and normal girl while Angel as rich Curate. Hardy describes economic condition of Durbeyfield family. It is a sordid and dreary household. Mrs. Joan Durbeyfield is the mother of six children, in addition to Tess herself. However, neither her maternal duties nor her other household work has a depressing effect on her. She rocks the youngest child to sleep a ditty. The following extract express severe domestic and economic condition of the Durbeyfield family. Their poverty is expressed through following extract. He adds:

“The cradle-rockers had done hard duty for so many years, under the weight of so many children, on that flagstone floor, that they were worn nearly flat, in
..., as Mrs. Durbeyfield, excited by her song, trod the rocker with all the spring that was left in her after a long day’s seething in the suds.\textsuperscript{45}

Then Hardy describes Joan Durbeyfield and her business of beehives. At one night Mrs. Durbeyfield woke up her eldest daughter and told her that her father could not undertake the journey. As it was very important that the bee-hives should be delivered, Tess said that she would undertake the task if Abraham give company to her. This presents harsh reality of workers under capitalist society. She represents for the exploitation of all the peasants.

In \textit{Tess of the D’Urbervilles} Hardy depicts the disintegration of the English peasantry and is certainly a capitalist tragedy. Hardy’s emphasis on peasants deals with the decline and destruction of the English peasantry of 19\textsuperscript{th} century. It arouses sympathy for the peasantry. It is true that Tess is a peasant girl and her struggles and misfortunes, to some extent, do represent the sufferings of the peasantry due to the capitalistic structure of society.

Capitalism is connected with not only human beings but also animals too. The accident in which the family horse, Prince is killed symbolizes the struggles of the peasantry. The death of horse created several problems to Durbeyfield family and undertake journey. The death represents the loss of means of earning money. Hardy depicted horse as a symbol of power and working class people. The death signifies the end of English peasantry. This reminds George Orwell’s Boxer in ‘Animal Farm’. The capitalistic and domestic position of Durbeyfield family is described as follows. He adds:

\textit{“It was eleven o’clock before the family were all in bed, and two o’clock next morning was the latest hour for starting with the beehives if they were to be delivered to the retailers in Casterbridge before the Saturday market began, the way thither lying by bad roads over a distance of between twenty and thirty miles, and the horse and wagon being of the slowest.”}\textsuperscript{46}

\textit{“Prince was tumbled in, they gathered round the grave. The breadwinner had been taken away from them; what would they do?”}\textsuperscript{17}

Hardy depicted that the old horse Prince was the only source of life making for the Durbeyfield family and its death plunged the whole family into an economic blind alley. Thomas hardy depicted capitalistic nature of society in the novel. There is the
business of haggling, which had mainly depended on the horse, suddenly became disorganized. The death of the horse, Prince, is a striking symbol of the struggles of the peasantry. It suggests that the means of production on which peasants have been depending is completely defeated. The peasantry disintegrated and the yeoman class of peasants became proletarians. They had to look for a new way out in the capitalist society. The Durbeyfield family was now faced with the problem of a livelihood, due to horse. Then Mrs. Durbeyfield told that Tess should contact the rich lady, Mrs. D’Urberville who was their kinswoman, living on the outskirts. Tess does not want to seek help from anyone in the capacity of a poor relation but the family in need. But there was always great difficulty of earning enough to ensure physical survival for the Durbeyfields. Tess as a worker handed over by her mother under economic stresses, to the life and the mercies of the ruling class.

Capitalism, to large extent, controls an individual’s fate by determining the way s/he develops. Tess’s tragedy is closely connected with the excessive poverty of her family. After the death of Prince, and under the threat of starvation parents have no choice but to send her to run the risk of going to work for the wealthy D’Urbervilles, which sows the seed of tragedy. Then she came in the contact of Alec. He took her round the lawns, the flower-beds, and the fruit garden, giving her strawberries to eat and giving her flowers to put on her bosom and in her hat. Alec assured her that his mother would do something for the family which was in straitened circumstances. Alec is rich and capitalistic person who want to make use of Tess and manipulate her. Alec says:

“Well, my beauty, what can I do for you? Said he, coming forwardAnd perceiving that she stood quite confounded: never mind me. I am Mr. D’Urberville. Have you come to see me or my mother?” 18

“They are already here. D’Urberville began gathering specimens of the fruit for her, handling them back to her as he stooped; and, presently, selecting an especially fine product of the ‘British Queen’ variety, he stood up and held it by the stem to her mouth.” 19

Many academic disciplines which adopt Marxist theories agree with the Marxist conviction of the interrelationship of word and world, of theory and practice, and of the inequities of the capitalist system in its various forms that makes it more
than fashionable.' Capitalism is ever pervading issue in Thomas Hardy’s Tess of the D’Urbervilles. Alec offers Tess a job on his mother’s behalf.

Mrs. Durbeyfield felt very excited and her happiness was increased by the fact that Alec had himself called personally on horse-back in order to find out if Tess would really accept the job. The job consists in looking after a small poultry farm. In fact the whole household was now in a state of excitement. Mrs. Durbeyfield began to imagine a very bright future of Tess. She thought that Tess will be treated as a chance for making some money, nothing more. There is a conversation between Tess and D’Urberville.

Tess’s response is:

“But I don’t know that I am apt at tending fowls, said the dubious Tess.

Then I don’t know who is apt. You’ve been born in the business and brought up in it. They that be born in a business always know more about it than any ’prentice. Besides, that’s only just a show of something for you to do, that you didn’t feel beholden.”

Tess’s appointed to work at ‘The Slopes’. She worked as a supervisor, purveyor, nurse, surgeon, and friend to a community of cocks and hens. Tess took the lessons of fondling all the fowls every morning from Mrs.D’Urberville. She taught Tess to learn the art of whistling and looking after the fowls. As Englishman were business minded person. They took everything very seriously. Here, we see the nature of Mrs.D’Urberville towards work or business which is very close to capitalistic system. Capitalism is the treatment of both women and nature as resources and limitless commons to be exploited and as sources of extremities to be poisoned and discarded. Mrs.D’Urberville is represented as a rich lady in the novel. It is expressed in the following lines. Hardy adds:

“In a sitting-room on the ground-floor ensconced in an armchair with her back to the light, was the owner and mistress of the estate, a white-haired woman of not more than sixty, or even less, wearing a large cap. She had the mobile face frequent I those whose sight has decayed by stages, has been laboriously striven after, and reluctantly let go, rather than the stagnant miem
apparent in persons long sightless or born blind. Tess walked up to this lady with her feathered charges—one sitting on each arm.”

In the chapter eleven, Hardy presents the seduction of the heroine, Tess. She asked his pardon but Alec became still overriding. He said that he would not tolerate being treated by her in this rude manner. Tess then said that she would leave his mother’s employment and go back home the very next day. After a while, Alec returned to Tess. She was fast asleep. He bent lower till her breath warmed his face, and in a moment his cheek was in contact with hers.

She was fast asleep, and upon her eyelashes there lingered tears. Alec had now found his opportunity, and he made full use of the situation. Hardy put forward the economic and social situation of Tess in the chapter. She is raped by Alec, who thinks that it is natural for a young lord with an affluence of wealth to ravish a poor country girl like her. Due to poverty, she has to travel from place to place as an itinerant worker. The following lines expose the condition of Tess appropriately. Hardy contents:

“Having buttoned the overcoat round her shoulders, he plunged into the webs of vapour which by this time formed veils between the trees. She could hear the rustling of the branches as he ascended the adjoining slope, till his movements were no louder than the hoping of a bird and finally died away. With the setting of the moon the pale light lessened, and Tess became invisible as she fell into reverie upon the leaves where he had left her.”

Alec seduced Tess as he thought that he was a rich and capitalist farmer and right use a woman as a commodity in low rate. The attitude towards women was changed due to the economic dominancy over poor. After seduction Tess leaves her job at the poultry-farm and returns home. She comes home but it proves more pathetic event. All the bright hopes of Tess’s are in vain. She is destroyed by the rich and wealthy people. She blames to her mother for not made guidance. Alec made the use of time to destroy the life of Tess on the basis of his richness. Tess’s grief-stricken reply exposes stirring capitalism:

“Oh, Mother, my Mother!” cried the agonized girl, turning passionately upon her parent as if her poor heart … men-folk? Why didn't you warn me? Ladies know what to fend hands against because they read novels that tell them of
these tricks; but I never had the chance o’ learning in that way and you did not help me.”

Thomas Hardy skillfully projected the capitalism and its effects on Tess. She is seduced by Alec but not lost by thoughts. It is poverty that plunges her into the trap of being Alec’s mistress. She decides to accept a job at dairy farm. Tess has changed from simple girl to complex woman.

She is now more reflective than prior. As a woman her thinking was progressive and positive. She felt the pulse of hope warm within her; she might be happy at some place which brought no past memories. To escape the past memories she has to work somewhere. When she got an opportunity, she decided to accept it. A skillful milk-maid was needed at a dairy-farm many miles to the southward, and Tess made up her mind to accept it. She experiences a new upsurge within her and seeks some prospect of happiness. She was a determinate woman.

She contents:

“She waited a longtime without finding opportunity for a new departure. A particularly fine spring came round, and the stir … addressed inquiries long before—a person whom she had never seen—that a skillful milkmaid was required at a dairy-house many miles to the southward, and that the dairyman would be glad to have her for the summer months.”

Thomas Hardy very skillfully projected the capitalistic issues in the novel Tess of the D’Urbervilles. He is adept at describing rural occupations, he here gives us interesting pictures of how cows are milked and the various devices that are used to obtain the maximum yield from the animals. Tess was cordially received by the master of the dairy, Mr. Richard Crick. Tess offered to start work immediately on her arrival, and the dairy master had no objection. It was a large dairy. There were nearly a hundred milchers.

There were a number of milk-maids busy with milking the cows. There was a man too, Angel. He was also busy milking, and from the slow speed at which he was doing his work. Angel was learning the art of milking. Having learnt sheep-farming, Angel Clare was now trying to master dairy-work. Hardy gives a very realistic picture of the Marlott and surrounded towns. The following lines express the techniques of business used in dairy-milk. This is also the part of business.
“Songs were often resorted to in dairies hereabout as an enticement to the cows when they showed signs of withholding their usual yield; and the band of milkers at this request burst into melody-in purely business-like tones, it is true, and with no great spontaneity; the result, according to their own belief, being a decided improvement during the song’s continuance.”26

According to Hardy, love is also considered from capitalistic point of view. In that period, they use to see the social status of the partner instead how s/he is? In the novel, there is a conversation between milk-maids-Retty, Marian, and Izz. They were deeply in love with Angel. But he was not ready to marry any of them, not even Tess. He was a son of gentleman and would marry a woman of his own and equal social status. His attitude towards marriage is mostly practical. As he says he would marry not a fine lady but a farm-woman to help him, in the business of farming which he had chosen as his career. This shows economic and social disparity due the money, business and wealth. Mrs. Crick asks to Angel about his marriage and his reply is:

“Such unequal attachments had led to marriage; and she had heard from Mrs. Crick that Mr. Clare had one day asked in a laughing way, what would be the use of his marrying a fine lady, and all the while ten thousand acres of colonial pasture to feed and cattle to rear and corn to reap. A farm-woman would be the only sensible kind of wife for him.”27

There is disproportion between Angel and his family on the basis of marriage with Tess. He worked as apprenticeship at this dairy was to end, and after a few more months spent upon other farms, he would be fully equipped in agricultural knowledge and in a position to start his own agricultural farm somewhere. But his brothers felt a distance between him and themselves. They found that he was now behaving like a farmer. His family thinks their superiority on the basis of their richness and social status in the society. His father suggested that he should marry Miss Mercy Chant, the daughter of his friend and neighbor, Dr. Chant. Angel replied that he wanted a wife who could milk cows, churn butter, make cheese, and do other various jobs on the farm. He says Tess has every qualification to be the help-mate of an agriculturist. So they rejected such idea of marriage with Tess. They think she is inferior to them in social and economical status.
“But what shall I tell the dairyman’s wife? Said Angel
The truth, of course, said his father.
She is a kind, jolly sort of body, and is sure to ask me directly I return.
You cannot if we did not, Mr. Clare answered lucidly.”  

In the chapter twenty-six, Hardy depicted religious capitalism which is also pervaded all over the world and affected badly and suffer the people. Angel told Tess that he had come back as soon as he could. He said that he wanted to marry her because, being a farmer, he required a wife who knew all about management of farms. This approach of Angel reveals capitalist thinking toward marriage. He is choosy about the future and wife. But Tess said that she could not become his wife. She said that she had not thought of getting married. She made an excuse that his father was a parson and that he would not like to have a girl like her as his daughter-in-law. The disparities between them show the presence of religious capitalism in England. According to Hardy, poor people were thrown away from religious activities. Such capitalist systems are existed in India too. The following extract express persisting religious capitalism.

Hardy writes:

“Yes, yes; Mercy is good and devout, I know. But, Father, don’t you think that a young woman equally pure and virtuous as Miss Chant but one who, in place of that lady’s ecclesiastical accomplishments. Understands the duties of farm life as well as a farmer himself would sit me infinitely better?”

Tess is also not sure about her marriage consent with Angel because she is socially degraded one. When they were returning by wagon from the railway station after having delivered the milk cans, Angel asked her about marriage. She refused him. She thought about her low status in the society. But Angel was not interested in it. However, she told him that she was not a Durbeyfield but a D’Urberville. He told her that he did hate the aristocratic principles. He has a socialist attitude towards Tess. Then he urged her to agree to his proposal. Then she agreed to marry with Angel. We see here, the pressure is created by Angel. Hardy makes the following comment on her agreeing to marry Angel: “She had consented. She might as well have agreed at first. The appetite for joy which pervades all creation was not to be controlled by personal but by the social rubric and status.”
Tess says:

“If it is sure to make you happy to have me as your wife, and you feel that you wish to marry me, very, very much.

I do, dearest, of course!”

In Tess of the D’Urbervilles Capitalism not only deals with major characters but also with minor characters too. These characters are also aware of capitalism, business, and their social status. The news of Tess was going to marry with Angel produced an electric effect on the tree milk-maids. Though she is superior to them, they thought that Tess is a low class woman in relation with Angel. Hardy made the characters to participate innovatively in the social matter. Thomas Hardy gives us a realistic account of the feeling of the three maids. Their pathetic conditions come out through the conversation between Tess and other three milk-maids. Tess told about her marriage to other maids. She says:

“He’s going to marry her!” murmured Retty, never taking eyes off Tess.

When?

Some day

The above lines express capitalism through the dialogues. It provides important data of social and economical distinction. Thomas Hardy pointed the conversation between Tess and other maids and has a discussion about marriage. This depict that women don’t have equal rights in wealth, marriage and at home too. Hardy had given secondary position to the women in marriage, home and society. After the marriage, Angel took Tess to the lodging which he had taken on rent in the village of Wellbridge where he had decided to stay for some time in order to learn the work connected with the flour-mill situated there. Angel was a man who is ready for persisting business in according to does earn money and serve to the people. The occupied the house on rent. He gives her golden ornaments. It represents his aristocratic and superior status to her.
Angel says:

“I do remember, said Clare; but I had quite forgotten.”

Unlocking the case, they found it to contain a necklace, with pendant, bracelets, and ear-rings, and also some other small ornaments.

Are they mine? She asked incredulously.

“They are, certainly,” said he."^{32}

_Tess of the D’Urbervilles_ is generally regarded as Hardy’s most ambitious tragic novel. The story deals with how economic status of the characters influence on their life style. The novel deals with not only a simple story of Tess’s seduction. It exposes her suffering due to low economic condition. So Tess has to work at farm and at dairy milk. The novel deals with a business of dairy-maid in an agricultural atmosphere. Tess having completed her own narrative, Angel made no reply. Angel believes in a double standard, one for himself and the other for Tess. His own misdemeanor, he speaks in a very casual and care-free manner, expecting Tess’s forgiveness as a foregone conclusion. As a masculine, he sees Tess’s case in a different one. Tess contents:

“I thought, Angel, that you loved me-me, my very self! If it is I you do love, oh how can it … forever-in all changes, in all disgraces, because you are yourself. I ask no more. Then how can you, O my own husband, stop loving me?”

“Another woman in your shape”^{33}

Hardy’s all characters are running after money. Considering money is an important mania in the life, Angel made it clear to Tess that she was not to try to contact him and that she might just write to him if she needed anything. He gave her a packet containing a fairly good sum of money so that she should have no financial difficulties. He is considered a practical man. He knows without money and business nobody can survive. Before leaving for Brazil, he deposited thirty pounds into the bank to be sent to Tess in a few months, as she might require.

He wrote to her at her parent’s house informing her of the provision he had made for her in addition to the fifty pounds he had given her previously. After eight months of parting of Tess and Angel, her economical situation becomes worse. She
left her home at Marlott and was now working as a dairy-maid near Port-Bredy. Tess’s job at this dairy was not a regular or permanent one. Sometimes she was without work, and when it becomes necessary to make use of the money given to her by Angel. When almost all her money was gone, her mother asked her twenty pounds. The balance was just enough to meet herself own pressing requirements. Tess asks:

“May I write to you?”

“Oh yes—if you are ill or want anything ... know best what my punishment ought to be; only-only-don’t make it more than I can bear!”

Tess’s separation from Angel is not the only severe condition of her. She is now without a job, and without financial resources. For getting job she went at an upland farm. She walks the entire distance of several miles. Tess worked in the fields by the side of Marian. For Tess the labour was very tiring. But she patiently slaved in the morning frosts and in the afternoon rains. Sometimes her work was swede-grubbing, and sometimes it was swede-trimming. We know due to the scarcity of money, she finds herself in a totally uncongenial environment. Her troubles are now multiplying. The delicate and severe condition of Tess is expressed through the following lines: as Tess contents:

“Under foot the leaves were dry, and the foliage of some holly bushes which grew among the deciduous trees was dense enough to keep off draughts. She scraped together the dead leaves till she had formed them into a large heap, making a sort of nest in the middle. Into this Tess crept.”

Hardy presents Angel’s approach toward business is that it can make or break a life. Angel was real pursuer of business. After three weeks of the marriage, Angel went home to his parents in order to consult them regarding a plan that he had formed. According to him, in Brazil land was at cheap rates. He was strongly inclined to go there and launch his farming project.

Angel says:

“In going hither and thither he observed in the outskirts of a small town a red-and-blue placard setting forth the great advantages of the empire of Brazil as a field for the emigrating agriculturist. Land of Brazil offered there on exceptionally advantageous terms. Brazil somewhat attracted him as a new idea.”
There is description of Tess working as a slave. She was working at the new threshing machine which was under the charge of an itinerant engineer who travelled with his engine from farm to farm, and from country to country, because the threshing machine was as yet not owned by many farmers the duty that Tess had to perform was very taxing. Her work was a non-stop, continuous labour throughout the day. Alec had given her humiliated treatment. Her reply is:

“No, punish me! She said, turning up her eyes to him with the hopeless defiance of the sparrow’s gaze before its captor twists its neck. “Whip me, crush me; you need not mind those people under the rick! I shall not cry out. Once victim, always victim—that’s the law!””

Above lines express the failure of Angel’s project in Brazil. He becomes severely ill. And he had almost decided to give up his hope of farming in that country. His failure symbolizes the death and dehumanization of new capitalist and business holder.

“The crowds of agricultural laborers’ who had come out to the country in his wake, dazzled by representations of easy independence, had suffered, died, and wasted away.”

Then Hardy exposes close relation between opportunity and capitalism. Tess is victimized by Alec on the basis of capitalism and opportunity. And coaxed by her mother, by her sense of guilt and pressed by the hard economic realities of her family. She decides to go at home. Hardy describes:

“Well, as I killed the horse, mother,’ she said mournfully …you must leave it to me about asking for help. And don’t go thinking about her making a match for me—it is silly.”

Tess’s mother sends her at D’Urbervilles’ estate. Her arrival at the D’Urbervilles’ estate represents a new crucial stage in her life, for she is confronted for the first time with wealth. Her response is predictably ambivalent. The Club-walking had already revealed her attraction to men of a different class from her own. Alec d’Urbervilles represents a new world of capitalists.

Then, Hardy relies on subtle and indirect techniques for building ambiguity, the scene in The Chase, on the other hand, reveals Tess’s confusion about Alec on the economic basis. Though she admits she does not love him, she has remained
there for about three months. When he rails at her for playing with his feelings and wants to treat her as a beloved. Tess was unsure and unsecure about how to respond? She says-

“We know each other well…Mayn’t I treat you a lover?

She drew a quick pettish breath of objection, writhing uneasily on her seat, looked far ahead, and murmured, ‘I don’t know-I wish-how can I say yes or no when-

He settled the matter by clasping his arm round her as he desired, and Tess expressed no further negative.”

Tess’s subsequent account of their relationship confirms her ambivalence with Alec on the economic basis is strikingly exposed by Thomas Hardy. Tess’s education at Trantridge at Alec’s hands throws her relationship with her family into conflict. Tess got cruel experience. Hardy expresses the tension in the concluding sentence to the First ‘Phase’. Hardy adds:

“As Tess’s own people down in those retreats are never tired of saying among each other in their fatalistic way. ‘It was to be’. There … personality thereafter from that previous self of hers who stepped from her mother’s door to try her fortune at Trantridge poultry-farm.”

Tess worked at poultry-farm on low wages due to starvation of the family. Money made her to forget past oppression done by Alec. Tess now begins to reconsider her life more detachedly. Her powerful vitality struggles against her despair. Urged by the pulse of hope, she tries to forget the past:

“Almost at a leap Tess thus changed from simple girl to complex woman. Symbols of reflectiveness passed her face and a note of tragedy at times into her voice … To escape the past and … get away. Was once lost always lost really true of chastity? She could … power which pervaded organic nature was surely not denied to maidenhood alone.”

Tess’s decision off leaving shows the complex woman. On one point she was resolved: there should be no more d’Urberville air-castles in the dreams and deeds of her new life. She would be the dairymaid Tess and nothing more. For all the wisdom of such a resolve, it is simply impossible for one with her economical nature
and intellectual potential to achieve. Though she wishes to quit the job she can’t. On the basis economic condition she has to penetrate the trouble from capitalist farmer.

It is now that Hardy explicitly introduces the agricultural and economical crisis that has overtaken Wessex and turned families, like the Durbysfields, into migratory ‘labour’. The last phases of the novel are dominated not only by Tess’s consciousness but also by money, changing methods of work and migration of families. The social and economic conditions in Wessex give a new dimension to Tess’s consciousness about money.

These social and economic conditions produced people like Alec who is associated with the world of Flintcomb-Ash and the threshing machine. This world is ‘inseparable from nineteen century capitalism’- it is the triumph of the individual bourgeois ethic, what is wanted can be bought.

Thomas Hardy’s central characters are more burdened, like Dickens’s and George Eliot’s characters, with a set of social values that hampers their self-realization. Tess is partially responsible for her fate because she shares others’ evaluations of herself throughout most of the novel. Society, to Hardy, and to George Eliot, is not only an environment outside the individual but an internalized texture of attitudes and opinions. Tess caught in the capitalist system.

“It only means a change in the weather,” said she; “not what you think; ‘tis impossible!”

Hardy seems to explore the ways in which Tess is both victim and agent of her own doom due to economic crisis. There is opposite description of nature and human engines which are closely attached with money based society. Hardy describes rural world verses urban world, serve as contexts to explore the action of society on character. Tess is both a child of nature and of society. Hardy’s description is both the rural world with its customs, traditions, and superstitions, and the urban world, with its industrialization, progress, and education, constitute society in Tess of the D’Urbervilles. Hardy recognizes the destructive effect of social norms on an individual, which often operates on the society. According to the narrator, the novel is a composition of social ‘substance’. It reflects social opinions that society is woven firmly into the fabric of individual’s relationship among the people. Hardy depicts:
“I was only thinking that I was born over there,” murmured Tess.

“Well—we must all be born somewhere.”

“I wish I had never been born—there or anywhere else!” 44

The above quotation describes the pathetic condition of Tess from capitalistic point of view. She has born in poor family so she has to work for money and food.

Economic poverty washes Tess into the ocean of hardships and calamities. Due to the economic instability the six powerful creatures are “compelled to sail into difficulty, disaster, starvation, disease, degradation, death.” 45

Tess is a poor peasant girl and struggles to live. After the death of horse, Tess’s surrendered to Alec D’Urberville is symbolic of the historical process at work. The poorer are oppressed on the basis of affluence of wealth by rich farmers and capitalist system. Poverty is the inevitable result of the destroyed rural economy and particularly of Tess. The poverty stricken situation of the family leaves Tess no space for her free choice. To help her family, she can do nothing but satisfy the Alec sexually due to poverty. Alec ravaged Tess on the economic basis. Poverty submits to wealth.

Alec is not a D’Urberville at all, but the son of a family which has newly acquired wealth and which has bought its way into the gentry. Tess’s cry when she sees the D’Urberville estate:

“I thought we were an old family: but this is all new!” 46

Tess carries a world of irony. Tess herself does not want to go to Trantridge and when she does finally agree to go, she dresses in her working clothes. But her mother insists on her dressing up for the occasion. She added:

“Very well, I suppose you know”, replies Tess with calm abandonment. And to please her mother the girl puts herself quite in her mother’s hands, saying, “Do what you like with me, mother” 47

Again, the moment is symbolic. Tess, prepared to become a worker, is handed over by her mother to the life and the mercies of the ruling class. In Trantridge, under the pressure of poverty, Tess is molested by the rich scamp, Alec. Financially assisted by him, Tess succumbs to his harassment at the cost of her dignity. With his economic power, Alec preys upon her purity and rural innocence.
Alec takes advantage of her while alone in the chase forest and rapes her. Falling in his well-prepared trap. Ass becomes the prey in his hunting. He deprives Tess of her virginity. In fact, Alec's victimization of Tess is the humiliation wealth imposes upon poverty.

Alec aims at Tess’s most vulnerable point - desperate economic need of her family and concern for little brothers and sisters. He helps Tess financially to accomplish his plan of sexual conquest. This helps to reveal the severity of capitalism in social system. The excessive pressure of poverty pervades her life and drives her into the tragic trap. Tess is victimized by the economic situation at the hand of capitalists.

Hardy shows that losing the dependence and facing the threat of poverty, Tess had to go out to look for a work. She became an employee of the d’Urbervilles, representative of capitalist class. So the ruin of Tess by the hands of Alec is the ruin of the peasantry by the capitalist. After the seduction, Tess lowered at social scale. She started working on farming. Tess worked with other women at red tyrant.

At the farm at Flintcomb-Ash, she and the other girls become fully proletarianized, working for low wages in the hardest and the most degrading conditions. The scene at the threshing is here particularly important: it is a symbol of the dehumanized relationships of the new capitalist farms. The threshing machine is representing importune, inhuman and insatiable towards peasants, workers and women. The oppressed, humiliated and suffering condition is described in chapter 43. Hardy writes:

“Well, well, I know you do. But ’pon my body, it is a rum life for a married couple! There-I won’t say another word! Well, as for the weather, it won’t hurt us in the wheat-barn; but reed-drawing is fearful hard work-worse than swede-hacking. I can stand it because I’m stout; but you be slimmer than I. I can’t think why maister should have set ‘ee at it.”

Hardy presented capitalism through the encroachment of machinery, streamline, red tyrants, and hissing of railway. The threshing machine is as repetitious and as powerful as Alec. The scene symbolizes the dehumanized relationships of the capitalist farmers at peasants and working class people. Thomas
Hardy was aware of the changes in the countryside. Machines affect on economic change in society.

Tess is the tragedy from capitalist perspective. Due to the introduction of the threshing machine the traditional shape of the English farm changed. Workers were forced off their land and turned into proletarians and commodities. In another sense Tess is the record of the dehumanization of the English peasantry and its sphere is more generalized movement of human destiny. At Talbothays there had at least been some possibility of pride and interest in the labour as well as certain kindliness in the common kitchen at which the dairyman’s wife presided. Here is nothing kind or satisfying and the emphasis on Marian’s bottle is not casual. Hardy in Tess of D’Urbervilles illustrates the “ache of modernism”, and this is notable in Tess, which, as one critic noted, portrays “the energy of traditional ways and the strength and forces that are destroying them.”

The above lines depict capitalism exposed through the ‘red tyrants’ Hardy’s description of the threshing-machine illustrates his view that the encroachment of industrialism upon rural life is the cause of much unhappiness. This description is censorious rather than commendatory. The labourers had faced unemployment for a number of years due to the widespread introduction of the threshing machine and the policy of enclosing fields. The threshing-machine is -

“the red tyrant that the women had come to serve”. “The threshing-machine”, whilst it was going, kept up a despotic demand upon the endurance of their muscles and nerves.

The machine keeps on working in its way regardless of the fatigue of the women, whose lives are more miserable under the harsh Victorian social laws and moral codes for women. At threshing, their work is arduous and distasteful, especially feeding the threshing-machine and keeping up with the steam tyrant. As the assistant of the cruel capitalist, the threshing machine keeps on running for a higher profit regardless of the women’s fatigue. Hardy describes:

“D’Urbervilles retreated over the sheaves and descended the ladder, while the workers below rose and stretched their arms and shook down the beer they drunk. Then the threshing-machine started afresh.”
The agricultural description represents capitalism and ill effects on economic and agricultural system. Industrialization breaks the peace, tranquility, stability and harmony of the rural areas. Capitalism and industrialism turned human into machine. Hardy writes:

“He served fire and smoke; these denizens of the fields served vegetation, weather, frost, and sun. he travelled with his engine from farm to farm, from county to county, for as yet the steam threshing machine was itinerant in this part of Wessex.”

In other words, instead of eliminating human labour, the machine makes human labour more taxing. The old men working in the field “talked of the past days when they had been accustomed to thresh with flails on the oaken barn-door; when, everything, even to winnowing, was effected by hard-labour which, to their thinking, though slows, produced better results.” For Tess particularly the machine proves to be a severe ordeal. Her task, which is to hand over the untied sheaves’ of corn to the man feeding the machine, is ceaseless:

“The women on the corn-rick could stop to drink ale or cold tea from the flagon now and then, or to exchange a … of straw and husk from their clothing; but for Tess there was no respite.”

Hardy, in the novel, truly represents the social reality in the rural area in the late Victorian age. The panorama of the English countryside society experiencing drastic transformation is reincarnated in Tess of the D’Urbervilles. Hardy reveals that remote backward Dorset has somewhat been industrialized by the introduction of machinery and the railway which brings the towns nearer to rural people and profoundly influences their life there. Dorset has been touched by modern civilization and technology with city as the center, industry as the power. The light of the new era has slightly uncovered the mysterious veil of the secluded agricultural areas still sleeping in another world—the ancient patriarchal world. Villagers have dimly realized the sharp change of the world with a strange feeling. Either the train or the threshing-
machine in Tess of the D’Urbervilles reflects the invasion and destruction forced upon traditional agriculture by industrialization.

In “Tess of D’Urbervilles” Hardy presented the ‘hissing’ of the train brings to mind the massive and noisy pieces of machinery which must have made such a deep impression on those seeing and hearing them for the first time.\(^{55}\) As an intruder in the countryside, the train produces a sound not to be found in nature. The machine, as the symbol of change and modernity, is the strangest object Tess has experienced. The contrast between ‘streak of steam’ and ‘a dark green background’ symbolizes the contrast of two worlds and two epochs, the industrial age and the agrarian age.

The industrial civilization is replacing the agricultural civilization, by undermining the traditional farming and the rural culture. Hostility towards machinery prevailed among the countrymen, which is revealed in Tess of the D’Urbervilles. The threshing-machine as the hint of industrialization is described as an indifferent intruder into the harmony of the natural scene.

The women lives were more miserable than men under the harsh Victorian social laws and moral codes for women. At threshing, their work is arduous and distasteful, especially feeding the threshing-machine and keeping up with the steam and keeping up with the steam tyrant. As the assistant of the cruel capitalist, the threshing-machine keeps on running for a higher profit regardless of the women’s fatigue. The engine-man is also the alien in the natural world with his eccentric appearance, turned in thought, and strange northern accent. His indifference towards the agricultural world matches that of his ‘red tyrant’ partner. The agricultural scenes symbolize the conflict in concept between the north and the south, between the capitalism and the patriarchy. The scenes make no distinction between human and machine. Towards the end of Thomas Hardy’s Tess of the D’Urbervilles (1891) the steam threshing-machine makes it appearance on the ‘starve-acre’ farm of Flintcomb-Ash:

“Close under the eaves of the stack, and as yet barely visible was the red tyrant.”\(^{56}\)

Hardy had presented a crystal clear description of capitalism through the scene of ‘red tyrant’. That the women had come to serve-a timber-framed
construction, which straps and wheels appertaining-the threshing-machine, which, whilst it was going, kept up a despotic demand upon the endurance of their muscles and nerves. In *Great Expectation* Charles Dickens writes pathetic condition of the workers. He says “Suffering has been stronger than all other teaching, and has taught me to understand what your heart used to be. I have been bent and broken, but-I hope-into a better shape.”

The machine’s operations are directed to the engines which are functioning in the world. The engine-man embodies tallness appearance. The narrator observes that in the agricultural world, but not of it. The steam - threshing machine is the itinerant part of Wessex. There is the clash between poor and rich persons. The field-labours hated to machinery, the work proceeds apace. Industrialization was too harsh and cruel for his simple good-natured countrymen. Capitalism and industrialism is the root of poverty for people. Poverty is the root of peasant’s tragedy. Tess is the tragedy of English peasants due to the present capitalist system. Peasants rooted in soil are destined to suffer under the powerful impact of industrialization. This projection of capitalism no longer was needed to tend the crops. With few jobs, lower wages and no prospects of things improving for these workers the threshing machine was the final snap to rural people.

Capitalism is replacing the agricultural civilization with the help of machinery. It also changed the traditional farming and the rural culture. Capitalism plays very important role in encroachment of industrialism and this led towards destruction of the peasants in rural England.

**6.3 Conclusion**

The present chapter explores the effects of capitalism on characters, business, and an agricultural field. The Capitalism is projected through the agricultural activities. Capitalist farmers introduced various equipments in the industry and agricultural field. It made the traditional disintegration of agricultural economic mode. It made peasants to work hard and remain in poverty. This fierce revolution in agriculture impoverished peasants.
The study examines Tess’s miserable condition which represent of all the English peasantry. It shows profound sympathy towards miserable heroine and peasantry. This tragedy is based on the economic condition of Tess and other peasants. As in 19th century England, agricultural labourers were the worst paid. The poverty of the agricultural laborers, the inflated price of basic foods and the misery that had always accompanied widespread employment were close facts to Hardy during his childhood.

Tess become victimized by extreme poverty of her family and ruined by the cruel capitalist system. Her family was totally depended upon her. The death of Prince deprives her family starvation. The death of Prince symbolizes the death of English peasantry. Capitalism plays dominant role in the ruin of Tess’s life. Under the threat of starvation, she works for the wealthy Alec which oppresses her totally. This shows the unequal representation of capitalism made poor to suffer till the death. Hardy’s introduction of the threshing machine in farming shows the projection of capitalism and its effects upon social milieu. More intensive farming destructed jobs and often created widespread poverty of peasants. Capitalism had created seasonal labor, new mechanized techniques in farm, new accounting of in business, gradations and differences between the employers and the employed. The growth of capitalism in agricultural field widens the gap between rich and poor people. The poorer are suffered at the hand of Capitalist people.

The study examines that the projection of capitalism affected men as well as women of the agricultural part. Hardy shows that the remote and rural part of England also not excluded from the introduction of machineries and the railway which brings the towns nearer to rural people and profoundly influences their life. It also exposes a struggle between wealthy capitalist and working class people. Capitalism is the fundamental part of the novel.

To conclude, the use of undeserving Capitalism created sufferings, starvation, and oppression, and pathetic plight, mental and physical harassment of the people. So I feel that farms and businesses should belong to all the people not individuals.
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