THOMAS HARDY AND CONTEMPORARY REVIEW OF
LITERATURE

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2.1 Thomas Hardy: Life and Works

It is necessary to study the biographical aspects of Thomas Hardy’s life prior to discussing his time and his works. It is useful to discuss the details of his life from his childhood until his death—or what has been colloquially called ‘cradle to grave’. Therefore, an attempt is made to complete a few facts about the life and times of Thomas Hardy. His philosophy is to be understood before making an in-depth capitalistic study if his novels.

Thomas Hardy was born on 2, 1840 in Dorset. It was three miles from country town of Dorchester which was located in the South West of England. His family was poor, but Hardy grew up with the sense of hierarchy that was strong in the rural community. His mother was more conscious of status than his father was and was anxious that her son should do well in life. His father was a master-mason and mother came of a family long established in Dorset. Hardy owed much of his parents and their pastoral background, inheriting from his father a love of music, from his mother a love of reading, and from both, strength of personality as well as the permanence with connected him in an age of change with a world vanishing. Thomas Hardy went first to the village school and then to a school of Dorchester. All of his education came from the books he found in Dorchester. He learned French, German, and Latin by himself from these books.

After completing his education at school, at sixteen, Hardy worked as apprentice to a Dorchester architect John Hicks who was a good master, sensible and kind, and a well-educated man. Under Hick’s protection, Hardy learned much about architectural drawing and restoring old houses and churches. He loved the apprenticeship because it allowed him to learn the histories of the houses and the families that lived there. Despite his work, Hardy did not forget his academics. In the evenings, he would study with the Greek scholar, Horace Moule, one who had the profoundest influence upon his mind and his spiritual development. Horace Moule was older than Hardy, a classical scholar of Queens’ College, Cambridge.¹
Hardy also met another scholar, Henry Barstow, and continued intellectual discussions including infant baptism, which later inspired Sorrow’s baptism in *Tess of the D’Urbervilles*. As an adolescent, he became acquainted with the poet William Barnes who lived in Dorset. Hardy was greatly influenced by Barnes.

When Hardy was 22 years old, he moved to London. He was an assistant to Arthur Bloomfield in designing church restoration in his stay at London. Then, he started writing poetry about rural life. In 1867, he left London for the family in Dorset, and worked for a short time with Hicks in Dorchester. Failing to secure a niche for his poetry, he turned to fiction.

His first novel, *The Poor Man and the Lady*, was written in 1868; but many publishers refused the book and he destroyed the manuscript. Writer and the critic George Meredith encouraged him and he wrote a second novel which was ‘entirely action’. The title was *Desperate Remedies* (1871). Desperate Remedies was about murder and suicide. It basically emphasized emotional and sexual repression and the relationship between a Cythera Graye and Aeneas Manston. This novel was followed by *Under the Greenwood Tree*, a pastoral romance, in 1872, and *Pair of Blue Eyes* in 1873. Hardy had the firsthand knowledge of the economic hardships suffered by rural women and their pragmatic attitude to sexual relationships, coupled with his friendship with cultured women in London. It encouraged the development of strikingly unconventional conceptions of women and sexuality in his novels e.g. *Sue Bridehead*.

Gibson remarks in *Thomas Hardy: Interviews and Recollections* (1999) that even the first edition of Greenwood Tree did not sell very easily. However, Hardy began to gain recognition as a novelist. His first book that gained notice was *Far From Madding the Crowd* (1874). After its success, he devoted himself entirely and produced a series of novels among them prominent are *The Return of the Native* (1878), *The Mayor of Casterbridge* (1886), *Tee of the D’Urbervilles* (1891) and *Jude the Obscure* (1895). Hardy’s success with *Far From Madding the Crowd* influenced the plot of *The Return of the Native*.

*Tess of the D’Urbervilles*, published in 1891, came into conflict with Victorian morality. In particular, the society objected to the sub-heading A Pure Woman. They could not agree that Tess is a pure woman. Hardy’s next novel, *Jude the Obscure*
(1895), aroused even more debate. The story dramatized the conflict between carnal and spiritual life. It criticized the institutions of marriage, the church and England class system. Therefore, Hardy was attacked by press as decadent, indecent and degenerate. His wife also took Jude the Obscure as anti-religious. She believed she shared with her husband. It is said that these last two novels were deemed both obscene and immoral.

In 1896 disturbed by the public uproar over the unconventional subjects of two of his greatest novels, Tess of the D’Urbervilles and Jude the Obscure, Hardy declared that he would never write fiction again. He returned to the composition of poetry-his first literary love which he felt would afford him great artistic and intellectual freedom. During the last years of his life, he wrote several collections of poems. His first volume of verse- Wessex Poems appeared in 1898. It was followed by Poems of the Past and Present (1902). His gigantic panorama of the Napoleonic Wars, The Dynasts was composed between 1903 and 1908.

It was mostly in blank verse. Time’s Laughigstocks and Other Verses was published George Meredith to the presidency of the Society of Authors in 1909. King George V conferred on him the Order of Merit in 1910 and he received the gold medal of the Royal Society of Literature in 1912.

He wrote satires of circumstance and moments of vision during the era of the World War I (1915). The war had its effect upon him, as it had on T.S.Eliot, who was in London at the time. However, the best known poem of hardy’s career, an epic masterpiece which was completed in 1909, was The Dynasts. Notes concerning this piece suggest that in addition to chronicling Britain’s role in the Napoleonic war, it expressed hardy’ philosophical bent; a mysterious term appeared in the work- ‘phantom intelligences.’ Hardy’s last book published in his lifetime was human shows (1925).

During (1920and 1927) Hardy worked on his autobiography, which was disguised as the work of Florence hardy. If appeared in two volumes in 1928 and 1930 respectively. At the turn of 1928, Thomas hardy died at a ripe old age. After his death, Florence published hardy’s autobiography in two parts under her own name.

Hardy had no children but his marriages were extremely significant factures in his life. They had a strong effect on his literary works. Several times he was in love.
He was engaged once to Eliza Nicholls before meeting Emma Gifford, his first wife. Hardy met Emma in 1870 and married her in 1874. Her family didn’t like the marriage and considered hardy inferior to Emma. Their married life was unhappy. But it continued until her death in 1912. Throughout his life, hardy became infatuated with seemingly unattainable women. A relationship was developed between Mrs. Flounce Henniker and hardy as she greatly influenced him. After Emma’s death, hardy married Florence dug dale who had been his secretary and literary aide for several years. This second marriage proved happier.

After a long and highly successful life, hardy died in Dorchester on January 11th, 1928, at the age of 87. His ashes were cremated in Dorchester and buried with impressive ceremonies in the poet’s corner in Westminster abbey.

2.2 Thomas Hardy’s Philosophy

Thomas hardy’s philosophy of life found itself at odds with the unfounded optimism of the Anglican church of his lifetime. He was a die-hard realist both in life and in work. The attitude of the church at that time, and for many years, was “god is in his heaven; all is right with the world.” Hardy held that “there was no active intelligence, no just and loving god, behind human destiny but that creation was swayed by an unconscious mechanical force, sightless, dumb, mindless and equally indifferent to either the sufferings or the joys of mankind.”

Thomas Hardy’s religious life seems to have mixed with agnosticism, deism and spiritism. He states his views on the traditional Christian God as follows.

The Christian god-the external personality-has been replaced by the intelligence of the First Cause... the replacement of the old concept of God as all powerful by a new concept of universal consciousness. The ‘tribal god, man-shaped, fiery-faced and tyrannous’ is replaced by ‘unconscious will of the Universe’ which progressively grows aware of itself and ‘ultimately, it is to be hoped, sympathetic.’

As the researcher has pointed out, since “the rime of the ancient mariner” by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, the outlook has bordered between ‘cruel and emptiness fate’ and retribution. It is not a really new concept; nor is it the concept of only one religion. Frequently interpreted as “retribution of past actions,” it has been explained by all established faiths and many writers have borrowed it. To the same extent, Thomas hardy had also insinuated at retribution. His major characters demonstrate
this belief; Gabriel oak becomes careless and loses his flock, flock, forcing him to look for work; yet, his intelligence and industry leads him to a high position for Bathsheba Everdene, whom he finally marries. Michael Henchard pays for the sale of his wife, Susan and their daughter; but he develops into a true “man of character.” He stops drinking alcohol for twenty years and becomes a mayor of the town caring for the elderly and the destitute; he wisely seeks the advice of Farfrae and uses him. But his ignorance leads him to fail in business and he turns to Farfrae, who accepts him as a servant. Jude the obscure is the tragedy of unfulfilled aims due to Jude’s own weaknesses.

When considered at this juncture, it is hardly the working of a cruel and unjust fate; nor is “all right with the word.” Rather the resulting actions are portrayed as the result of past actions of the characters themselves. If it were truly left to fate, then regardless of the nature of the action, fate would either bestow blessings or crush the characters mercilessly. Each of Hardy’s major characters suffer or develop due to past actions of their weaknesses. Thus, Hardy’s philosophy had a great on his fictional works.

2.3 Thomas Hardy’s Works

Beginning with Desperate Remedies in 1871 and ending with Jude the Obscure in 1895, all his best novels are set in the area he calls “Wessex”, the South West of England. For Thomas Hardy, milieu was very significant. Hardy’s social milieu at the time of his novels ranged from cultivated farmland to endless, inhospitable heath [Egdon]; and the plot of the novels divided between stages as well as by the location of the characters at some time.

Though Hardy wrote poetry, it was not recognized. His first famous novel Far From the Madding Crowd received favorable review and encouraged him to write The Return of the Native, Tess of the D’Urbervilles and Jude the obscure were ill-met.
Architect John Hick’s office and amiable nature allowed Hardy to study and compose poetry. Furthermore, it affected Hardy to the extent that the heroes of his first three works, Desperate Remedies, Pair of Blue Eyes and The Laodicean were architects. Equally influential was Horace Moule, who became a close friend of Hardy. Horace Moule was a reviewer and essayist and supported Hardy’s aim to be a writer. Horace Moule presented copies of several books including the controversial On the Origin of Species (Darwin) to Hardy. The book changed Hardy’s views on men. Henry Knight in Pair of Blue Eyes and an intellectual Clare in Tess are modeled on Horace Moule. Hardy’s stint in London, under the patronage of Arthur Bloomfield, another architect, led to Hardy’s visiting art galleries. He was seriously influenced by Holman Hunt’s portrait of Jesus with a lantern, titled ‘Light of the World’ and at one point in Far From Madding Crowd he has depicted Gabriel Oak standing in similar fashion with a lantern. However, his mother Jemima and John Stuart Mill’s ‘Subjugation of Women’ (1869) proved very influential. The latter led to Hardy’s defense of women, repudiation of strict male-oriented marriage and divorce laws and the unfair treatment of women. Indubitably, Hardy was influenced by his mother as characters based upon her appeared in Hardy’s later works. John Stuart Mill and, perhaps to some extent Charles Darwin, had influenced Hardy’s characterization of Sue Bridehead.

Hardy was substantially influenced by rural superstitions and so the weather prophet entered into The Mayor of Casterbridge. Eustacia Vye was conceived as a witch in the original text. But in the final edition, Johnny Nun such and his mother Susan suspect her and stab her in the church to determine the truth. In an interview with William Archer (1901) Hardy spoke of witchcraft and superstitions still being practiced:

“William Archer (WA): Now tell me, as to rural Superstitions-belief in which craft and so forth-are they dying out?

Hardy: On the surface, yes; in reality, no. People smile and say ‘Of course we don’t believe in these things’-But their skepticism is only skin deep. You will find Women will make an image of some enemy and either melts it before the fire or stick pins into it. The belief in the evil eye subsists in full force.”

Many writers, besides Archer, visited Hardy. Gibson reveals the various encounters, some at Max Gate, which became a shrine for New talent; others were outdoors.

Many characters of Hardy’s novels are aware of education and class in a society. The most significant among them are Jude Fawley and Clym Yeobright. Williams remarks that in the migrant group in society, ‘culture and affluence come to be recognized as alternative aims, at whatever the cost to both, and the wry recognition that the latter will always be the first choice, in any real history. The relationship between a migrant and his former companions is complicated thus; he acts in ways unaccepted by his group. This is borne out in The Return of the Native by Mrs. Yeobright’s criticism;

‘After all the trouble that has been taken to give you a 
Start, and when there is nothing to do but keep straight 
On towards affluence, you say you……..it disturbs me, 
Clym, to find you have come with such thoughts…….’

Hardy was thinking very seriously about writing as a career while in London between 1862 and 1867. He once met Charles Dickens in London.

Dickens was among the many writers of the period who was writing about the effects of the Industrial Revolution upon the Inhabitants of London. Disgruntled after years of controversy dogged his novels, Hardy returned to poetry, his preferred form, quite late, with Wessex Poems in 1898.

Tess was spreading its influence throughout Europe and Asia as Well as the English speaking colonies such as America; translations of it appeared too. Prior to concluding the criticism of Hardy’s Works, it would be worthwhile to add noteworthy commentary of His art from Lionel Johnson (1994). The comment is as follows:

‘He chooses to present the play of life, tragic and comic, first of all, in a definite tract or county of England….Secondly, he takes for his chief characters, men of powerful natures, men of the country, men of little acquired virtue in mind or soul; but men disciplined by the facts and by the necessities of life, as a primitive experience manifests them. Thirdly he surrounds them with men of the same origin and class. But men of strongly less marked a
power, of less finely touched a spirit: the rank and file of country labour.
Fourthly, he brings his few men of that stronger and finer nature, his rustic
heroes, into contact and into contrast with a few men, commonly their
superiors in education, and sometimes in position, but their inferiors in
strength and fineness of nature. Fifthly, he makes this contact and this
contrast most effective, through the passion of love; to which end, he brings
upon the scene women of various natures; less plainly marked in character
than the men; for the most part, nearer to the flashy prigs and pretty fellows in
outward sentiment, fashion and culture; but nearer to the stronger and finer
men, in the depths of their souls. 

While commenting on the work of Hardy, Lawrence describes ‘typical
characters’ like Michael Henchard, Jude Fawley, Tess Durbeyfield etc. as ‘aristocrats
and individuals,’ and ‘against the mass.’ Lawrence defined them as the ‘individuals,’
as ‘a man of distinct being, who must act in his own particular way to fulfill his own
individual nature’ rather than a selfish, greedy person.

At first he published anonymously, but when people became interested in his
works, he began to use his own name. Like Dickens, Hardy’s novels were published
in serial forms in Magazines that were popular in both England and America.

Over the years, Hardy had divided his time between his home Max Gate in
Dorchester and his lodgings in London. In his later years, he remained in Dorchester
to focus completely on his poetry. In 1898, he saw his dream of becoming a poet and
realized it with the publication of Wessex Poems. He then turned his attention to an
epic drama in verse, The Dynasts; it was finally completed in 1908. Before his death,
he had written over 800 poems, many of them published while he was in his eighties.
In the last two decades of his life, he had achieved fame as great as Dickens’ fame.
In 1910, he was awarded the Order of Merit. New readers had also discovered his
novels by the publication of the Wessex Editions, the definitive versions of all
Hardy’s early works. As a result, Max Gate became a literary shrine.

Late Victorian fiction is dominated by two major writers - Henry James, an
American expatriate who lived in England for twenty years, and Thomas Hardy. But
Hardy’s fiction cannot be replaced easily. He is not the same as the realistic writers
such as George Eliot or Antony Trollope, or the type like Sir Walter Scott. Although
he did match Scott’s feeling for natural settings. His novels, at some point, reflect the eighteenth century but lack the optimism of that period. “Hardy is very much his own man.”

In fact, many recent critics have felt that readers have tended to ignore the extent to which Hardy is a social novelist, concerned with vital issues of the day, such as working class education, capitalism, agricultural conditions, the marriage laws, and so on. It is true that Hardy touches on these things, and many more. The trouble is, that one never gets the sense that he believes that reform in these areas will improve the human condition more than fractionally.9

Like many other male Victorian authors of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Thomas Hardy tended to portray his male and female characters differently, instilling a sense of helplessness and overall lesser value in the women based on his real-life experiences with the female gender, as can be examined in two of his most renowned works, The Return of the Native and Tess of the D’Urbervilles.

The typical Thomas Hardy plot places a female protagonist in a love triangle with two male protagonists who are portrayed as opposites. In the former, we see Eustacia Vye in a triangle with both Damon Wildeve and Clym Yeobright; in the latter, it is Tess with Angel Clare and Alec D’Urberville. The male protagonists here are quite at polar opposites of each other. Hardy’s female characters are repeatedly depicted as the centre of their novel’s fictional world. It may seem that Hardy was a sexist and had little regard for the importance of women, while in actuality, just the opposite is true. When writing about women, Hardy took a keener interest and created beloved, tender characters, such as Tess Durbeyfield and Eustacia Vye. 10

Hardy’s society is the next point of consideration.

2.4 Thomas Hardy as a Poet

Thomas Hardy was a great Victorian poet and started his from 1898 until his death in 1928. Hardy published eight volumes of poetry. He had published one thousand poems in his lifetime. Hardy describes the dark, rugged landscape of his
native Dorset. In a recent biography on Thomas Hardy, Claire Tomalin argues that Hardy became a truly great poet after the death of his first wife, Emma, beginning with the elegies he wrote in her memory, calling these poems, “one of the finest and strangest celebrations of the dead in English poetry.”

Hardy's collections of the poetry are as follows:

1. The Photograph (1890)
2. Wessex Poems and Other Verses (1898)
3. Poems of the Past and the Present (1901)
4. The Man He Killed (1902)
5. Time's Laughingstocks and other Verses (1909)
6. The Voice (1912)
7. Satires on Circumstances (1914)
8. Moments of Vision (1917)
9. Collected Poems (1919)
10. Late Lyrics and Earlier with Many Other Verses (1923)
11. Human Shows, Far Phantasies, Songs and Trifles (1925)
12. Winter Words in Various Moods and Metres (1928)

2.5 Thomas Hardy as a Dramatist

Thomas Hardy is remained unknown as a dramatist. Hardy himself described “The Dynasts” as “an epic-drama of war with Napoleon, in three parts, nineteen acts and one hundred and thirty scenes”. Not counting the Foescene and the Afterscene, the exact total number of scenes is 131.

Hardy describes the life of ordinary peoples concerning with the principle figures of the age and concentrating on their desire to preserve their power. The Dynasts presents the hope that human action could make life better.

2.6 Thomas Hardy as a War Poet

Thomas Hardy was a famous English poet in Victorian literature. Most critics think that Hardy as a novelist but he is originally a poet. He wrote a number of
poems and subjects for his poetry are including nature, love, and war. Major themes of Hardy’s poetry are the brutality of War. He wrote poems at times of the second Boer War and the Great War. Hardy’s war poems are majorly deals with a great diversity of attitude. We cannot identify a clear opinion of war.

His some war Poems are as follows:-

1. The Going of the Battery
2. Drummer Hodge
3. The Man He Killed
4. The Breaking of Nations
5. Channel Firing

The poems are very significant and deals with war, waste of war, ignorance of the land, soldiers cause is worth fighting etc.  

**2.7 Hardy as a regional novelist**

Wessex is an important name associated with Hardy’s novels. It is the place where the actions of his novels occur. Dorset is the core of the Wessex of the novels which, according to Hardy, is practically identical with the Wessex of history and includes the counties of Berkshire, Wilts, Somerset, Hampshire, Dorset and Devon. Hardy paints this Wessex as powerfully and instinctively as Scott painted the Tweed or as Morris paints the color and scenes of Thames.

Hardy’s ancestral lived in Dorset for centuries and they believed that his family had descended from Jersey, which is just across the channel from Wessex. By the time, Hardy was born, his family, in his own words, and gone “down, down, down.” He depicted many old families such as Durbeyfield or D’Urbervilles and Paridelles have degenerated into peasants and farm-labours and all this he does without touch of unreality. His father was a master mason and at times employed up to twelve or fifteen men, but like his father and his son, the novelist, he “had the characteristics of an old family of spent social energies.”

Thomas Hardy’s grandfather and father preferred their musical activities to their business. They spent their spare time in playing secular music at the local country-dances and weddings. The description of the bowing of Thomasin’s father in
The Return of the Native was a humorous exaggeration of the traditions concerning his musical triumphs.\textsuperscript{17}

Thomas Hardy sometimes used to dance alone in the middle of the room to “the endless jigs, hornpipes, reels, waltzes and country-dances that his father played of an evening…”\textsuperscript{18} His early works continued interest in folk dancing provided the source for his brilliant dancing scenes on Rain barrow and at East Egdon in The Return of the Native and at Chase borough in Tess of D’Urbervilles.

Above study shows Hardy as a regional novelist. He presented every scene and setting from Wessex. His all major as well as minor novels concerned with Wessex. So he is majorly considered as a Wessex Novelist.

\section*{2.8 Thomas Hardy’s Society}

England changed during this period from an essentially agrarian nation to the wealthiest industrial and imperialist power in the world, but the shift was attended by massive poverty and attendant social problems: rate, illiteracy, immoderation, unrest and repression. While civil society in urban London was changing rapidly in the period of his life, Thomas Hardy remained en-trenched in rural Dorset. Hardy returned to Dorset with the impression that his creative powers were “going to waste” in London. “He was drawn back irresistibly in 1881 as he felt his creative powers atrophying in London.”\textsuperscript{19}

In 1851 London had opened a Great Exhibition at the Hyde Park Crystal Palace under Prince Albert’s suggestion. The French had criticized London as somber and this supposedly led to the exhibition. The Crystal Palace has been compared to two famous Roman Cathedrals: St. Paul’s and St. Peter’s.

In the 19\textsuperscript{th} Century, Britain was beginning to “shrink” from overpopulation. In Hardy’s day, the total British Isles, including Scotland, Wales, and also Ireland had totally 21 million people in 1851. By 1901, it increased to 38 million.
2.9 Capitalism in Contemporary Literature

A thorough review and survey of related literature is an important part of research. It deals with the critical examination of various published and unpublished works related to the present study. The knowledge of related research enables the researcher to define the frontiers of his field; it helps in comparing the efficiency of various procedures and instruments used in research. Further review of literature avoids unintentional reproduction of previous studies and also places the researcher in a better position to interpret the significance of his own results.

This chapter presents an overview of previous work on related topics that provide the necessary background for the purpose of this research. It provides a general idea of previous research on knowledge sharing and intranets. It introduces the framework for the case study that comprises the main focus of the research described in this thesis.

Charles Dickens’s ‘Oliver Twist’ (1839) views the rise of capitalism during industrial revolution. In that period, individualism was in vogue. Capitalists believed that society would run softly if individuals looked out for their own interests. Many capitalists operate in the illicit business. The group’s interest considered main target. Thus clash between oppressed and oppressor is shown clearly.

Charles Dickens’s ‘David Copperfield’ (1850) deals with orphans, women, and the mentally disabled to show the exploitation, not pity or compassion. It is the rule in an industrial society. He describes a child’s severe situation, the inhumanity of child labour and debtors’ prison. Characters suffer from the forces which are larger than themselves. It also describes the sufferings of innocents, a wine – bottling factory as a child. Children deprived of the care of their natural parents suffer at the hands of their own supposed parents. Thus this novel is closely related to my study area.

Charles Dickens’s ‘Hard Times’ (1854) appears about the crisis of capitalism and democracy. It is the sharp criticism of industrial capitalism seems which thought-provoking novel. He depicted the ill-effects of industrial capitalism. It also reveals the global capitalism and it sweeping across the world.
Charles Dickens’s ‘A Tale of Two Cities’ (1859) deals with the revolution and its causes. It points out the evils of revolution. The novel deals with the plight of the peasantry and emphasizes their need.

Dickens successfully paints a picture of a vicious aristocracy that shamelessly exploits and oppresses the poor. Dickens reveals the oppression and also condemns the peasants’ strategies in overcoming it. He shows the struggle between poor and rich. According to Dickens education is primarily used as a means to employ people not educate children. Thus, this novel is closely attached with my research.24

Charles Dickens’s ‘Great Expectation’ (1860) deals with capitalist society and its impact on the peasants and children. It depicts an orphan rises to wealth. It describes that England was becoming a wealthy industrial world power. Machines were making factories more productive but people lived in awful conditions. The suffering of country-people due to capitalism is the basic idea of the novel.25

Charles Dickens’s ‘Our Mutual Friend’ (1865) appears the professional class novel. It clearly differentiated itself from the capitalist class with an immense business class. The novel deals with market, commodity, profession and services which are closely attached with business. So, this novel is intimately attached with my study.26

George Orwell’s ‘Burmese Days’ (1934) views poverty is one of the major elements which play vital role in the life of workers. He decided to explore the nature of poverty with mixed feeling of adventurousness and guilt. Orwell believed that capitalism restraints the individual and denies him of free thinking, poverty isolates the poor from the society by preventing any healthy relations. Thus, this novel is related to my topic.27

George Orwell’s ‘1984’ (1949) also deal with capitalism. He expressed the complicated employs due to ride of mechanism. It created large-scale control on economic production and sources of information, and fearsome machinery to inflict torture upon those. According to him, technology generally considered as working toward moral good, can also facilitate the most diabolical evil.28

George Orwell’s ‘Animal Farm’ (1974) also deals with the projection of capitalism. He has expressed his views on the development of class tyranny and the human tendency to maintain social equality. He illustrates how classes that are
initially unified in the face of a common enemy are divided. There is division of intellectual and physical labor quickly to express projection of capitalism.\textsuperscript{29}

George Eliot `Middlemarch’ (1869) expressed her views on capitalism. Debt spears throughout the novel Middlemarch. In it money indicates a character’s personality. The story of the novel is driven by characters worrying about money or asking others for money. Many characters ask other people for loans. There is the open description of exchanging money and the passing debts. Thus this novel is closely related to my study area.\textsuperscript{30}

Gissing Gissing’s `The Nether World’ (1889) is a remarkable novel which views about poverty and economic struggle. It deals with the bitter personal experience of poverty. It is a tale of factory-girls, and slum-dwellers, documenting an inescapable world devoid of sentimentality and steeped with people scheming and struggling to survive. He lays bare attention on the economic forces which determine the aspirations and expectations of those born to a life of labor.\textsuperscript{31}

D.H. Lawrence’s `Sons and Lovers’ (1913) is a remarkable novel which deals with industrialism and capitalism. He expressed the life of workers under industrialism. The modern industrial capitalist world manifests the effect on mining culture. Dickens aptly exposes the suffering of mine workers under capitalist structure. So this novel is closely attached with my study.\textsuperscript{32}

D.H.Lawrence’s `The Rainbow’ (1915) expressed his views on capitalism. He focuses light on the individual’s struggle to fulfill his aspirations. Lawrence exposes the structure of English social life and the impact of industrialization and urbanization on the humanity. Capitalism works on the behavior of characters.\textsuperscript{33}

D.H.Lawrence’s `Lady Chatterley’s Lover’ (1928) deals with class system and social conflict on the basis economic condition. He describes social insecurity and arising upper middle class. The novel states about coal pit workers, the colliers and the coal industry. There is the preoccupation of capitalism, union and strikes of workers.\textsuperscript{34}

W.M.Thackeray `Vanity Fair’ (1847-48) expressed his views on capitalism. It reveals the middle class, and the middle is the mercantile, capitalist society. It
focuses light on the predominant middle class value is money. The novel depicts about business, management, material objects, wealth and many others. It aptly exposes the suffering of the middle class people under capitalist structure of society. So this novel is closely attached with my study.35

Samuel Butler’s ‘The Way of All Flesh’ (1903) deal with capitalism in relation with the middle class family of the Pontifexes. It deals with business of contemporary matters. It exposes the thinking of contemporary bourgeois people. So this novel is closely attached with my study.36

Charlotte Bronte’s ‘The Professor’ (1857) deals with the influential rise in modern professional transcends. She depicts the unwaged work at the home and severe oppression of the people. It also deals with the professional class and the market dilemma. The novel exposes the class distinction between aristocrat and the middle class.37

Charlotte Bronte’s ‘Jane Eyre’ (1847) views the industrial revolution and class divisions were constructed to rule the labor force. It deals with clash between lower and upper class social injustices.

It sheds light on the oppression of a capitalist world. There is description of capitalistic corruption and industrial revolution. The novel exposes the tyranny of a capitalist society as the young woman meets with a variety of characters from a number of backgrounds.

Oppression has been upheld with a ruling class over a lower class by religious devices to deceive the masses. They are suffered due to economic tyrants in the society. The novel exposes relation of poor in wealth, the lower in class and the lowest of the low.38

Emily Bronte’s ‘Wuthering Heights’ (1847) views capitalism and industrialism are changing not only the economy but also the traditional social structure and the relationship of the classes. It destroyed farming class by the alliance of the newly wealthy capitalists and the traditional power holding gentleman. The marriages are based on the capitalist base. The desire for wealth is shown largely. Money plays vital role in challenging the traditional criteria of breeding and family. The relationship is described between the landed masters and aristocrats, the traditional power holders, and the capitalist, industrial middle classes, who were pushing for social acceptance and political power.39
Jane Austen’s ‘Pride and Prejudice’ (1813) is not strictly following capitalistic views but we get some elements. It deals with class related reputation and the middle and upper classes in Regency England. He described the Bennets, who are middle class, may socialize with the upper class Bingleys and Darcys, they are clearly their social inferiors and treated as such. There is the clear exposition of class distinction.\(^\text{40}\)

Jane Austen ‘Emma’ (1815) views structure society. Their marriages are based on equal social status. Social status is determined by wealth and one could raise one position. Money, trade and wealth play vital in the novel.\(^\text{41}\)

H.G. Wells’s ‘The Time Machine’ (1895) appears a social critique on Victorian England. Wells was a socialist and argued that capitalism was one of the great ills of modern society. Capitalism created rapid growth in technology, education, and revolution. England was a leading country in the world. Capitalism revealed unbound wealth, young children toiled long hours for meager wages in dirty, smoke-filled factories. Wells chose to incorporate a number of scientific arguments against capitalism. According to him capitalism will split into two distinct species, the ruling class and the working class.\(^\text{42}\)

Rudyard Kipling’s ‘Kim’ (1901) allows to clarify that the Marx’s capitalist relation to commodities. Kim deals with the case of exchange of commodities. His desire exceeds any of its objects. The novel exposes monopoly in business to earn much more than whatever. It reveals severe capitalism to suffer people.\(^\text{43}\)

Upton Sinclair’s ‘The Jungle’ (1906) view about the poverty and its relation with capitalism. It shows the immigrants struggle to survive, that they come to realize that it’s a hopeless battle. They work in packing houses which take advantage of their slave-like labor while bringing poverty, disease, death, injury, rape, jail and hopelessness. The book describes a thousand men clamoring at the gate for their job, they are held in their position who no chance at improvement or escape.\(^\text{44}\)

2.10 Conclusion

The present chapter examines the life and works of Thomas Hardy and sheds light on his philosophy, society. The study explores Hardy as a novelist, poet and dramatist. The study exposes Hardy is a social novelist, concerned with vital issues
of the day, such as working class education, capitalism, agricultural conditions, the
marriage laws, and so on. It is true that Hardy touches on these things, and many
more.

The present study looks at various contemporary novelists such as Charles
Dickens, George Orwell, Jane Austen, D.H.Lawrence, George Eliot, Charlotte Bronte
and others. Their works are filled with Capitalism, modernism, liberalization and
many aspects. Their works explore about labour, business, peasantry, serviceman,
and others. Charles Dickens's works exposes the exploitation of children under the
rise of capitalist and industrial system. Orwell and Lawrence had presented the plight
of workers due to the impact of capitalism in their works. Thackeray exposed
capitalist society in relation with the middle class people, mercantilism, business,
management and sufferings of the common people. Bronte sisters expose the
picture of class distinction on the basis of economic and social status.

To conclude, the present study explored Capitalism into the works of
contemporary novelists. It is the integral part of their works. This study will be helpful
to analyze successive chapters.

REFERENCES


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