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शोध-पत्रिका में प्रकाशित आलोचना, लेखकों, संदर्भों से हैं,
अतः आलोचना होना अनी कि संदर्भ में डाला इसके सर्वस्तर हो।

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Sensitive illustration of pain and agony of Black Americans in the novels of Toni Morrison

* Priya Chaturvedi

Toni Morrison is one of the well known and powerful writers of African American contemporary fiction. African American literature is basically written by and about for African American. Mostly African Americans are descendants of captive Africans held in the United States Caribbean, whose ancestors migrated to US, are known as African American, as they show a common history of central African roots and of slavery. African American literature is the form of literature, produced in United States by writers of African descent. The period began during the 18th and 19th century with writers such as poet Philip Wheatley, Orator Fredrick Douglas, reached at the high point with Harlem Renaissance and continues today with writers such as Toni Morrison, Maya Angleou, and Angela Devis etc.

Among those African American writers, Toni Morrison gain a powerful and dominant position for herself, as she is the only Nobel laureate black female American writer, who illustrate the truth of black life of alienated black Americans in a very realistic way. Her novels deals with the themes of slavery, migration, rootlessness, feeling of homesickness and alienation, search for self identity, self respect, feminine sensibility, relationship of men women and blacks - whites etc. The lack of roots and disconnection from the community and the circumstances rises up due to past, cause an individual to feel alienated. In her first novel 'The Bluest Eye', Morrison analyzed that if a person became alienated from his or her society, he/she became destroyed. Quest for self-respect and self-identity are the major factors of Morrison's novels. Her novels also points out the contentions and conflicts of black Americans. The first of the contention is that of racism. Morrison reveals out all the drastic racial fear felt by whites and blacks alike. Differences, prejudices, ups and downs, conflicts between whites and blacks in the community, between men and women also between blacks of the home in social values. Her novels also concerned with the discovery of black self with endless flow or becoming. The cause and factors by which someone has lost his identity has its roots in the surroundings of slavery responsible for the removal of this selfhood in the first place. Therefore, the black individuals search for new self-identity, lost by the trauma of past experiences. Only by affirming personal individuality, one is able to be reborn and regain in the community. In her fiction, Morrison is specially concerned with the way that African American individual and communities are expressive or silences with a dominant culture which historically has been intolerance of racial difference. It is admitting that race determines if not how one perceived

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the world, then at least how is one perceived by the world. Being black, she herself feels the pain of blackness.

As she said, *I feel personally sorrowful about black white relationship a lot of the time because black people hence always been used as a buffer in this country between power to prevent class wars, to prevent other kind of real conflagrations*. If there were no black people here in this country, it would have been Balkanized. For Morrison, all good art has been political and the black artist has a responsibility to the black community. She thinks that one characteristic of black writers is the quality of hunger and disturbances that never ends.

Her novel Beloved, in inspired by a true story of Margaret Garner, who killed her infants to save them from the pain of slavery. In the novel, Morrison explores the painful feelings and emotions black society. This novel creates the record of success and popularity and won the precious Pulitzer prize for her. All of Morrison's novels begin with the individuals who have an unsatisfied relationship with others. In her novels, she discussed about the damaging components of racist and sexist oppression of black women. As she said, The concept of physical beauty as a virtue, is one of the dumbest, most pernicious destructive ideas of the western world and we should have nothing to do with it. Physical beauty has nothing to do with our past, present and future. Her novels are closely related to that quest of identity and place, which makes an individual become alienated from his/her society. Migration does not left the problem behind, instead they bring them to everywhere you go, which causes isolation and separation from family, society and community.

In all of Morrison's novels, she illustrate that each and every human being is always influenced by his/her community. She has always portrays an individual within the context of the community or society, which performed a crucial part in the formation of an individual. Morrison presents the true picture of black life. Migration creates desire for home and own society and if one is unable to found his own society, he/she began to feel distrusted, alienated and isolated. Toni Morrison occupies a different place in the realm of English literature. She raised the position of black women writers in American literature. Due to the success of her work, Mr. Clinton, the ex-president of U.S.A., invited her for a dinner at white house and honoured her by the words *Through your work, you have stimulated our imagination, celebrated our diversity, tested our beliefs and connected us to each other and our common humanity*. She is undoubtedly, one of African's finest writers. Her novels are always deals with the pathetic conditions of black Americans who are native of America but they always feel disconnected from the roots of America. Morrison, in her novels, points out the worst impact of racial shame on the construction of African-American identities. In her novels, she explores
that race matters not only in the cultural experience of African-American society, but also in the development of any individual. She presents the true picture of black life, she deeply feels the losses which Afro-Americans have to experience from the rural South to urban North from 1930 to 1950. They lost their sense of community, their connections to their past and their culture and being migrated from community. Morrison exposes the hand of the past in contemporary political geographical, economical, and social relations, and in the more deeply hidden psychological, emotional, and spiritual lives of slavery's inheritors. The visionary approach is apparent in all of Morrison's literary works, which demonstrate a deep concern for validating and enriching and African-American culture that has long been attacked by both external and internal forces. In a wider sense, her subject matter is none less than human psychology and the aspects of despair, alienation, isolation and rootlessness. Her novels, however, are always deals with these themes of alienation and rootlessness and the pain of being black. Toni Morrison's fiction shows that there are very few full length studies on the thematic issues of alienation and affirmation in the novels of Toni Morrison. However, books like 'Critical Essays In Toni Morrison' by Nellie Y. McKay, 'The Identifying Fictions Of Toni Morrison: Modernist Authenticity And Postmodernist Blackness' by John N. Dovall, 'The Novels Of Toni Morrison: The Search For Self And Place With In The Community' by Patrick B. Bjork and few authors analyze the fiction of Toni Morrison in a particular manner. As a result of her literary and artistic abilities and competence, Toni Morrison stands in the Vanguard of contemporary fiction writers. One must note, however, that her success as a writer transcends both her racial identity and gender. She is not only a leading African-American woman novelist, though this is most noteworthy, she is one of the most significant and relevant writers on the literary scene. Today her acclaim is international, her novels are translated into many languages. Scholars and doctoral candidates all over the world have critic and access her works, seeking to unravel the complexity that Morrison prides. As Ann Geracimos aptly notes, 'Her life is the stuff of which legends are made, beginning with her childhood growing up poor but proud in the blue-collar town of Lorain, Ohio, where she had a job cleaning houses of her school.'

REFERENCES: