

An Analytical Study Of "Canvas Par Chenty"

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Abstract:

"Canvas par Chenty" is a fictional collection of 15 stories. where the splashes of feelings, pain, despair, and anxiety lie on the canvas of society. In these stories, life is less about smiling and more about depression. In the narrative of realism, the author's pen creates heart-wrenching pictures. Where, apart from peace and contentment, restlessness becomes a burden on the mind.

Keywords: Fiction, Canvas, realism, imagery, reflection, fantasy world, sadness and darkness, traditional style, criticism, legend symbol, and coldness.

Introduction:

"Canvas Par Chenty" is a fictional collection of Munir Ahmed Firdous. He belongs to Dera Ismail Khan. He also writes prose, poems, and also writes fiction. His fictional collection "Canvas Par Chenty" was released in January 2019. Which

consists of 15 stories. The foreword is written by Muhammad Hamid Siraj.

Literature Review:

Change of time also brings change in topics. Every era has its problems. It is not possible to ignore these problems in daily life. A fiction writer looks carefully at every small or big thing, analyzes it and tries to derive something from it.

In every era, some events happen which the fiction writer makes a place in history by writing. Every era has a different theme of fiction. Whenever an event happens in front of us, we get to know the real life of that time by reading it in the form of fiction. Some fiction writers are so engrossed in the past that they are not quick to adopt new themes but feel proud of their old traditional style. Some writers are realists. They always use their pen realistically. Usually such writers are successful whose stories are based on reality. New topics arise in their mind and they also have the ability to explain new problems well.

An analytical study of "Canvas par Chenty" by Munir Ahmed Firdous:

"Canvas par Chenty" is a collection of Munir Ahmad Firdous's artistic works. In this collection, he focuses on society and its issues. A writer's job is to draw inspiration from society to create literature. However, it's important to note that too much realism in writing can make it dull and boring."

The first story of this collection is titled "In Search of Modern Story." In it, the author has critiqued society and portrayed it with deliberate intensity. The story encompasses various themes corresponding to its title. In some parts, it focuses on "Old Age Home," while in others, it addresses the oppression in the name of religion. Similarly, there are societal complexities in some places, while in others, the narrative successfully portrays the stories of people struggling in the hands of life's necessities.

"Now, who will tell this foolish critic that what society has filled in my eyes, I have always depicted in my stories. Even

though I used to think of myself as a player in the field of critics, who, shining from eras, were busy illuminating themselves from orbits, they never had the chance to enter a different orbit and discover new planets. They consider it futile, thinking that doing so won't benefit them at all. I have resolved that now I will also shut their mouths by writing new stories. The term 'ghissi pitti' will forever be sealed in their throats." (1)

In this short story, mentioning "Old Age Old Age Home," it is explained how people, in their insensitivity, express their cruelty by expelling their parents from their homes and preparing for their own destruction. The author, through his stories, actually portrays the bitter realities of society and teaches us a lesson on how to deal with these issues. He highlights society's insensitivity, illustrating how people gather around a helpless individual, not to help, but to make a spectacle out of their sighs and sobs by recording videos instead of offering assistance.

"din ki muramat" is a story where a play of words is done in a symbolic style, portraying excellent allegorical imagery. The issues are vividly depicted, waving in front of the eyes. The observation is profound and delicate, where the author expresses life and its necessities in a comprehensive manner. "din ki muramat" is written against the backdrop of the current situation, from 1947 until now, depicting a capitalist and political system, besides the people who control this society.

These are the people who initiated this flawed system. If there is a feudal system in society, undoubtedly the feudal lords will prosper, and the poor will live in poverty and destitution. In a society where poverty and bankruptcy are prevalent, conflicts, envy, and problems arise. When poor people refer to their circumstances, in such situations, social exploitation, adversity, and insecurity emerge, leading the nation towards degradation.

"For God's sake, heal our wounded day soon. Understand that it's not just a day; our generations have endured the breaking of their spirits. We cannot bear to witness our own end. Grant us the skill to bring about a better tomorrow.

Let's help each other, and quickly mend our day; otherwise, our generations will wander in the wilderness of the night."
(2)

The story "Kali Shalwar wali" is a story written in the style of Manto. In which seemingly respectable personalities, and writers are ridiculed. The protagonist in this story is addressing his wife:

"Are you crazy? Can't you see that Munna is suffering from an illness? How can I leave her?!" Shazi responded sharply as she tried to comfort her little son in her lap.

"I'll see Munna, don't worry. Don't worry about him. But you, don't miss this opportunity, and don't do anything foolish. After all, it's just a black trouser she's wearing." (3)

The main character, Dilawar, himself presents his wife to others, who are already marked with stains. They sit, unknowingly lost in the intoxication of alcohol, looting the dignity of the poor in the darkness of the night. They compromise the dignity of the impoverished and forget the sins committed in the darkness of the night when exposed to the light of day.

The beginning of the short story "Meekhan" is a delightful conversation that unfolds the most interesting tale in the narrative.

"Manuputr ... run away ... get three-inch nails from the market." (4)

This sentence captivates the reader in its charm and makes it impossible for them to resist finishing the story. The title "Meekhan" opens a door to the past, and the reader, immersed in the narrative atmosphere, finds themselves lost in the return to the past. Piles of memories heap upon the reader's mind, and the art of reminiscence is especially prominent in this short story. The dynamic and absorbing scenes create a captivating narrative.

"In the story of the 'Thelay Wala' (The Vendor), the author has attempted to convey that society should appreciate art, whereas in our society, art is often evaluated based on

individuals' status and position. Secondly, it aims to deliver the message that by turning a weak moment into strength, a person can progress. However, on the contrary, if one loses courage, failure becomes inevitable. Instead of feeling ashamed of poverty, one should strive to establish their position through strength and hard work."

"Canvas Par Chhintay" is not only the title of this collection but also serves as an interpretation of the stories within the book. In this short story, instead of focusing on one, several societal images are portrayed. However, the author, rather than highlighting the positive aspects of life, chooses to make a half glass empty, creating narratives around negative perspectives. The theme revolves around pain, darkness, and nature becoming burdensome. Through the visual descriptions of these statements about life, the author wants to convey much more. The underlying story within the story depicts a society where laughter is directed at an individual's indifference, and where there are traces of cruelty, barbarism, and horror on canvas (a symbolic representation).

"Haare Hue Match Ki Jeet" explores the theme of the victory of truth and success. This short story reflects the narrow-mindedness of people in society who harbor class-based thinking, maintaining distinctions of superiority and inferiority everywhere.

"He shuddered at all this. The scene changed once again and now the whole area was shrouded in black smoke. The flames were rising in the broken and abandoned buildings. Buildings were scattered everywhere. In the clouds of dust flying in the streets, the bodies of innocent children, men and women were torn to shreds." (5)

The main character of the story "Band Darwaza" is Arif, who is considered simple-minded and insane in this insensitive society due to his ability to feel. The narrative deliberately portrays an image of insensitivity, where the affluent class not only remains indifferent to the hardships and struggles of the less privileged but also mistreats them. So one day, Allah's punishment descends and surrounds them.

The story "Ek Din Ka Aalt Pher" points towards positive perspectives in life, where the celebration of happiness and the sense of peace begin to rain down like a shower.

"She was watching them jumping with joy. Both the players looked very happy in the presence of their mother. But she suddenly became sad that nature has still deprived her of the essence of Mamta and her surroundings continue with daily activities without the presence of a baby in her life. "
(6)

In the short story "Black Holes," the author, in a scientific manner, brings forth the issues that exceeding the limits in life at any turning point lead to adversity and challenges. In this way, failure, despair, and sin become their destiny.

" The short story titled "White Donkey" is a depiction of desolation and insensitivity. It portrays life in emptiness and silence, adding a bitter taste to existence.

"He comes to college on time, attends tuitions, prays five times a day, hangs out with friends, tell me if he has any bad habits?" My wife missed many qualities of Shiraz that silenced me. The thing I wanted to tell her was that she would never get it, so I didn't say much, but I wasn't satisfied at all." (7)

In this story "Missi Pa" he has made the theme of drought. As a result of which a shocking situation is revealed in human life. This terrible situation is made more heartrending by the writer's realism. While reading the story, the reader feels uneasy. And man feels restless with this horrible image in front of him:

" Due to drought and famine, his cheeks had sunk in, and pointed bones had emerged from places. At first, the chest was covered with dry skin, with the skin hanging from the hands and feet, and shrank so much that it could easily be stuffed into a fist. Pupils protruding from the eye sockets, mouth open and the creature gasping for breath in her lap and she could do nothing but watch him helplessly." (8)

In this short story "Izzat e Nafs ", the characters of life are brought to the forefront, which are not usually discussed in

society. However, it is through their contributions that our everyday tasks reach completion. Through these characters, the author intends to convey the message that we should fulfill our social responsibilities well and appreciate other people. This leads to a brighter and more loving life, and by working together and helping each other, we can achieve various extraordinary goals."

"All class four are our own, I personally respect all of them very much and never let them feel that they are class four. He does not even write a class four post with his name on his mobile because this can hurt his self-respect. I say that morally we should all do the same."(9)

"In *Nachne Ganey waley*,' the imagery is created through words, where words systematically construct a scene. The reader, becoming unaware of his surroundings, gets lost in the narrative. In the context of *Nachne Ganey waley*,' they have written a story of a mother-daughter duo where the plight and helplessness of the helpless and deprived are not felt. They become victims of society's cruelty."

"Without Shabu, Reshmaa's condition had become as if someone had cut off her feet and sentenced her to walk on the path of life. She had never been surrounded by such difficulties. She realized how important Shabu's company was to them, but there was nothing she could do." (10)

"*Dewar e Mehrbani*" In this fable, the indifference of the society has been described, how we have become detached from our relations or human connection. Even while living in the neighborhood, we do not understand the sufferings and deprivations of our neighbors, but we are so lost in the material and worldly life that we do not appreciate our passions and feelings. We focus on material goods and temporal benefits while depriving ourselves of eternal benefits.

There was no one who took the dead body of this old man among those who took various items from the wall. A charitable organization had buried him and the next day the goods recovered from the old man's house were given to them on the wall. (11)

For a short story, the most important thing is for the theme to be as dynamic as possible. The more dynamic the theme, the more interesting the story will be. The theme should be such that it can bring issues under discussion, for example, social, societal, political, psychological, etc. Different situations and events happen in a person's life, and when they express them, a story is formed. In a short story, the realities and truths of society are hidden. Tariq Hashmi says about this book:

“Munir Ahmad Firdous has tried to focus on the life of the common man who is suffering and whose problems are diverse and varied. There are small houses in the streets and people are engaged in small professions. Some of their problems are such that we may not even realize them.” (12)

In his collective work, Munir Ahmad Firdous has made society and its people a subject. He possesses a deep sense of emotion, allowing him to perceive the image of society that often goes unnoticed. His realism about society is quite poignant.

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