

# Post Modernism in Chetan Bhagat's *Two States*

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## Abstract

Chetan Bhagat is a noticeable writer among the contemporary Indian writers in India. Portrayal of the characters in the novel gives an overview of the diverse culture in India. The two main characters represent two different cultures from two different states one from the south and the other from the north. The novel throws light on the cultural differences between these two main characters of the same nation. His works focuses on offering moral messages, spiritual guidance and technical suggestions; his works can be defined as post modern projects of parables.

Key words: Post modern, Culture, Conflict

Chetan Bhagat's writings mainly deal with reality in current trends like marriage, work, relationships etc. he gives the real picture of the Indian life. Post modernist writers always go against all forms of rules and seek alternative principles of composition to their continental of existentialist thought. Post Modernism seeks to capture human situation in its stronger form and tend to employ a form which can fully assimilate human existence which is capable of accommodating the meaningless, absurdity, and despicableness of human existence. The present novel *Two states*, the story of my marriage is atypical novel of Chetan Bhagat dealing with the complex human relationships. The novel tells about the two lovers who strive hard to succeed in their dream.

Krish the hero of the novel falls in love with Ananya at first where he sees her in IIM Ahmadabad. But Ananya wants to be just a friend with Krish. He wonders why a boy and girl can just be friends. He says, "Why would any guy want to be only friends with a girl? It's like agreeing to be near chocolate cake and never eat it. It's like sitting in a race car and not driving it. Only wimps do it. (TS 9)

Ananya, being a Tamil Brahmin and a bold girl consumes beer and non vegetarian food to the great surprise of Krish. Ananya doesn't hesitate to do things in order to fulfill her desires. The effect of Post Modernism is depicted clearly through the characters of Krish and Ananya. Both enjoy their college life to the fullest by messaging and hanging out, until the campus placement. Both decide to invite their parents to the convocation ceremony so that they can introduce each other. But their plans didn't work out.

Krish mother wanted him search for a job in Delhi but Krish opts for Chennai as Ananya has accepted to work in Chennai. Krish's struggle in the new place is marked through series of incidents that happened as soon as he entered Chennai. He escapes from a group of auto men surrounded for extra fare with the help of a man from Punjab he finds everything different in the new environment but still adapts himself to win Ananya as his

wife. Test of patience continues to Krish when he wake up early in the morning which he has never done before. He helps Ananya's brother Manjunath in his studies and also her mother Radha to present herself at concert, organized by his own bank. Radha by singing in the concert gets praised by the famous singer SPB. Though Krish takes lot of serious effort in getting success in his love, his inner mind always questions him whether he will succeed in his mission. His fear sprouts now and then which is vivid when he thinks "SP sang tree mere eech mein from ek duje ke liye. I looked at Ananya. Our struggled resembled that film's story. I only hoped our end wouldn't resemble that movies climax. (TS 183). Krish arranges a dinner party and proposes to accept him as their son in law he says, "I Krish Malhotra would like to propose to all of you. Will all of you marry me?(TS 183) Swami Nathan understands the real love of Krish for his daughter and accepts his proposal On a demand of assurance that ananya should be treated well by his parents. Through this, readers get a clear idea that even elderly people try their level best to change themselves for the sake of their children's happiness. Krish gets transferred to Delhi as his mother asked for and takes Ananya with him to convince his family and relatives by attending a marriage. .

Somehow Ananya also wins the heart of Krish family and the two family is yet to be united so Krish arranges for a trip to Goa with the two families. But their attempt fails due to bitter conversation. Krish on trying to convince his mother speaks in favour of her, letting Ananya down. Krish tells her that,

Mom, she is with her parents here. I am only marrying her, once she comes to our house, we can control her you only say no, that south Indians are docile and scared, I said whatever my mother needed to hear. I don't want to my daughter in law to raise her voice or answer me back. She has to be under my thumb. (TS 229)

Ananya is broken at heart and leave for Chennai leaving Krish. the lovers so far strong love gets broken in seconds. Ananya's frequent avoidance made Krish insane. Krish loses his sleep and gets inner conflict as, I hated money, I hated City bank, I hated my job and I hated all human beings on earth (TS 242)

The novel depicts the love and affection for each other they have. Both are loyal towards their commitment. As life has ups and downs they two undergo mental torture, melancholy, loneliness, conflicts which changes Krish in to a psychological depression. The older generation is totally care less to such kind of spoilage of younger generation.

On seeing the helplessness of the son, Krish's father secretly flees to Chennai to meet Ananya's parents he convinces them get the approval for marriage only after this incident Krish comes to know about his father's concern for his son who has lost his interest in his life is brought back by his father. Though Krish's father hesitates to attend the marriage, he gives a surprise entry a day before the marriage the final speech given by Swaminathan shows the post modern culture of parents changing their mind set for the children and children who wanted their parents to understand and support them in every circumstances. As Swaminathan puts it,

We did our best to discourage her. We didn't treat Krish well even though he moved to Chennai for us. We even showed her Tamil boys. But you know kids of today they do what they want to do. Actually the choice is simple when your child decides to love a new person, you can neither see it as a chance to hate some people---the person they choose and their families, which is what we did for a

while. However, you also see it as a chance of love some more people. And since when did loving more people became a bad thing? (TS 266)

The author has expressed the problem of multicultural India in a light hearted way. He wants to look at their mistakes realize and clarify them. The humorous technique used by the author fascinates the reader.

Work cited

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