

A STUDY OF MARXISM DEPICTED IN GEORGE ORWELL'S ANIMAL FARM:

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(ABSTRACT):

The political and economic theories of Karl Marx (1818-83) which explain the changes and developments in society as the result of opposition between the social classes. Later developed by his follower to form the basis of *communism*. It originates from the works of 19th century German philosopher Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. The followers of Marxism have certain concepts such as those who are in power will pay their workers just enough for them to return to work. Marxism is an economic school of thought whose aim is to credit capitalism and individualism. It fights for the self-emancipating of the working class. The movement is to subjecting all forms of domination by the bourgeoisie. This paper concentrates on George Orwell's Marxism description in the allegorical novel Animal Farm. He used animal characters to symbolize the Marxism movements and its executions in Russia. How Marxism was failed in Russia and later, how it was destroyed by Marx's followers explained in this novel through animal characters. The main concern of Marxism is class struggle and to dethrone capitalism, which was also included in this novel. Death of the animals, tyrant rule and trade are considered to be important incidents in Marxism period. This novel also depicts the mind of the people and officials in Russia during that time.

Key words: Marxism, Russia, capitalism, class struggle, Karl Marx, animal, workers, Russian Revolution.

A study of Marxism depicted in George Orwell's Animal Farm:

This paper concentrates on Marxism depicted in George Orwell's Animal Farm. In the very beginning of the novel, the novelist confirms that the novel is a fable in the sense that the animals behave like human beings. Like human beings they are led by a leader, Old major, White boar. Old major is a combination of Karl Marx and Lenin who were regarded as a great leader of the communist movement. All animals are human types and they are flat characters.

In this novel Orwell has included many events and process occurred during the existence of Marxism. Animal Farm mainly depicted consequence of Marxism and also the Marxism followers after the death of Karl Marx. The aim and motif of Karl Marx has been modified by the followers and became failure in Russia. Orwell used pig characters which represents the Marxism followers and the progress of Marxism in Russia.

The concepts of Marxism were highly appreciated and ought to be followed. Marx argued that industrial society was capitalist. Capitalists owned the capital invested in factories, and the profit of capitalists was produced by workers. In Animal Farm Old major's speech has several techniques of the great orators. He calls animal 'comrades.' By saying ***“the life of an animals is misery and slavery, that is the plain truth,”*** he awakens the spirit of revolt in animals. As Karl Marx argued for the overthrow capitalist 'tyranny'. Thus the tyranny of human beings stands for tyranny of capitalist.

The Old Major proclaimed to avoid the habits of men, it reminded that Marx who appealed to his comrades to give up the luxuries of capitalist. But this is what happened at the end of the novel. The novelist satirically says that Jones, the farm-owner cares more for a drink than for his farm. Boxer, the enormous horse is presented as very strong and perseverant, although not very intelligent. He stands for the labor class.

“Capitalist, production, therefore, develops technology, and the combining together of various processes into a social whole, only by sapping the original sources of all wealth- the soil and the labourer” -(KARL MARX)

When the animal revolt against the farm owner, then they became free from his tyranny. All the animals were happy at their freedom. After a long survey they planned to change the farm into a museum. They converted the name of Manor Farm into Animal Farm. Moses, a raven who always talks about Sugar Candy Mountain, represents the church. When the animals expel Jones, Moses also leaves the farm. The episode of Moses is a parody of communist Atheism. After the revolution the animals proclaimed the seven commandments which represents the theory of Karl Marx. After the death of Marx his principles were violated by his followers. When the animals returned from their farm they happened to see the milk was vanished before it was filled. The episode of vanished milk represents the violation of theories of Marx by the communists.

“so the animals trooped down to the hayfield to begin the harvest, and when they came back in the evening it was noticed that the milk had disappeared.”

The novel progress pigs take more excuse and enjoying pleasure by saying that they were doing the mental work for that workers benefit. Therefore they need more milk and apples for their health. Thus the novelist insists about the imposing Marxist superiority over the people of Russia. Thus we observe the violation of the commandment. ***“ all animals are equal”*** the novelist points out through this incident, that communism which was established in Russia after the Russian revolution aimed at making lives of communists more prosperous.

“We pigs are brain-workers.the whole management and organization of this farm depend on us. Day and night we are watching over your welfare. It is for your sake that we drink that milk and eat those apples.”

Napoleon, a boar who uses his trained nine fierce dogs to drive away Snowball, stands for Stalin who expelled Trotsky with the help of secret police. Trotsky, a true follower of Karl Marx. Napoleon becomes a tyrant like Stalin who, after the exit of Tortsy, adopted the policies of Hitler. The sincere

and hardworking comrade Snowball disappears from the farm and Napoleon enjoys his safety. Thus we observe the starting of the establishment of Totalitarianism.

After few days Napoleon declared that the windmill was to be built in the farm. He ordered the animals to work hard otherwise their ration will be reduced. Some animals knew that Snowball's innocent and Napoleon's tyrant activity but still no one open it because they were afraid of his dogs. Squealer who always try to convince labor pigs that everything said by Napoleon is to improve the farm. In Russia, the people realized that after the revolution Trotsky represented the constructive side while Stalin represented the destructive side.

In the beginning of the novel they decided to change the farm into museum but now all the pigs used it as their house and sleeping in bed. Squealer convinced the animals that they were the leader to the farm in order to that they needed a good house to maintain their dignity. Squealer also says that if the animals frequently questioned or opposed pigs then Jones will come back to the farm. So animals not to oppose the pigs. In Russia, Stalin declared for having business relations with the rest of the world while Karl Marx did not permit his followers to contact capitalist governments of the world.

“Do you know what would happen if we pigs failed in our duty? Jones would come back! Yes, Jones would come back! Surely, comrades,” cried squealer

The food problems faced by animals reminded the problem which was created by the failure of Russian economic policies. Napoleon declares capital punishment for hens and ducks. Stalin too executed the many officials in 1930. In Animal Farm Napoleon considered as a true follower of Marx as Stalin considered him. Napoleon took all the advantages and sold four hundred eggs to human beings. This depicts that Stalin who started to contact European countries in connection with trade development. He also started to exporting and importing the products of Russia. All the pigs in the animal farm have wine and party to celebrate. The novelist intends to reveal the fact that the communists began to enjoy the luxuries of capitalists. Wine is the symbol of luxury.

“Four legs good, two legs better! Four legs good, two legs better!”

The novelist presents the impact of totalitarianism very satirically, specially the death of Boxer. It is an important event in this novel which represents how Stalin ignored the labor class. The labor class contributed lot to the country but they couldn't enjoy the fruit of freedom. Pigs became more and more dominant figures of the farm. In the regime of Stalin, only so called communist could enjoy their lives. Thus Stalin and his followers assumed an increasingly higher position. We observe a growing resemblance in their conduct to that of Nicholas II.

“ALL ANIMALS ARE EQUAL

BUT SOME ANIMALS ARE MORE

EQUAL THAN OTHERS”

The novel concludes with the pigs having assumed the place of human tyranny. Even the name of 'Animal Farm' is changed to 'Manor Farm'. The animal lives became more miserable than was the case at the time of Jones. Thus, all the ideals which formed the base of the Russian revolution, were jettisoned. In fact the ironical tone of the novelist who acquaints us with the erring policies of Stalin. Though the novel ends at a pessimistic note, the novelist succeeds in revealing the historical facts about Russian government.

This study presents that increase of power means the increase of social problems, Caste dominates the society. The novelist proves that there was no difference between the policies of communists and those of capitalists. The author's remark, "the creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig and from pig to man again, but already it was impossible to say which was which." Thus concludes the story of the tyranny of Stalin and his followers. Orwell as a political thinker observes that Russian revolution was based on noble hopes and high ideals but, later on, the revolutionaries were influenced by the French Revolution which laid emphasis on the centralization of power into one man.

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