

WOMEN PSYCHOLOGY IN ROMA DAS'S SHORT STORIES

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Abstract: The Awahon era is important among the eras of modern Assamese literature. The short stories of Awahon magazine had a strong background. This background was mainly gained from three directions. The first was the political consciousness gained through Mahatma Gandhi's independence movement; the second was the education system in Assam and the third was the ideology of various western literatures. Some short stories of Awahon magazine were influenced by the short stories of American short story writer Edger Allan Poe, French short story writer Maupassant, Anton Chekhov etc. Freud's psychological views of life are taken into account at first in some short stories of Awahon magazine. Roma Das's short stories are important in this regard. Roma Das had written some short stories about the mental world of men and women. In his short stories, the psychological sides of women are beautifully expressed. His short stories reflect love, pain, sadness, desire for death, affection etc. which are related to women psychology. This will be highlighted in this discussion.

Index Terms: Assamese literature, Awahon era, affection, desire for death, love, women psychology.

INTRODUCTION: Roma Das was a powerful short story writer of Awahon era. His various short stories show different aspect of women psychology. Roma Das's short stories reveal many hidden truths of women mind. Psychology is the process of working in minds. Emotions such as anger, pride, stubbornness, remorse, abandonment, hope and so on are controlled by mind. Roma Das had skillfully brought to light many of the mysteries, complexities, simplicity, compassion etc. of women's emotions which are related to women psychology. This article will discuss different aspects of women psychology in Roma Das's some selected short stories.

PURPOSE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY: The main purpose of the study on women psychology reflects in Roma Das's short stories is that to learn about the women psychology of Roma Das's short stories.

The study of women psychology, reflects in Roma Das's short stories will cover different aspect of women mind. So it is important to study the subject.

METHODOLOGY AND THE SCOPE OF THE STUDY: Analytical method is mainly used in the study of the subject.

This discussion covers the women psychology of Roma Das's two selected short stories. The short stories are Ruddha Jauban (Closed Youth) and Abuj Maya (Unknown Attachment).

SOURCES OF THE STUDY: Both primary and secondary sources are used in the discussion.

Ruddha Jauban and Abuj Maya are the primary sources. The various critical discussions about these two short stories have been taken as secondary sources.

A BRIEF DISCUSSION ON RUDDHA JAUBAN AND ABUJ MAYA: Roma Das was a popular writer of the Awahon era of Assamese literature. His one of the remarkable short story is Ruddha Jauban. This short story is related to women psychology. The short story, published in the form of a letter, tells about the story of a lonely girl. The girl writes letters to her one sided lover to get rid of her loneliness. She is reading in the girls' high school. She is overwhelmed when she finds out that her one sided lover is teaching in a school. She tells everything about her life to her one sided lover in her letter. She also wrote about her love affair with a boy named Satyen. But when she realizes that he is cheating her, she distances herself from the relationship. The girl of the short story is lonely even she is with people. So she explains everything in the form of letters to her one sided lover to get rid of that loneliness.

Another notable short story by Roma Das is Abuj Maya. The story is about a woman (who is abandoned by the society) and a teenager. In the eyes of the society, it is a crime to go to the woman's home whose name is Seuti because she is abandoned by the society. Seuti loves the children very much. So some teenager secretly go to Seuti's home to feel her happy and forget the loneliness of her life. The central character of the story is Hun. His family members scolded him because he went to Seuti's home. But he secretly goes to Seuti's home regularly. One day when Hun is returning from Seuti's home, he is frightened because he saw something horrible. That's why Hun is suffering for fever. His condition is improved after a month. Seuti was humiliated by Hun's family members for his sickness. Unable to bear the humiliation by the Hun's family members, Seuti committed suicide. On hearing this heartbreaking news from Mukut, Hun is starting to cry in agony. Abuj Maya is a heart touching short story of Roma Das.

WOMEN PSYCHOLOGY AS REFLECTED IN RUDDHA JAUBAN AND ABUJ MAYA: The world of the human mind is very diverse. Psychology is the study of the mental processes and behavior. The contributions of Freud, Young, and Adler in the field of psychology are significant. Freudian psychology is reflected in Roma Das's short stories. Freud's psychoanalysis theory is related to human mind. He divided the human mind into three parts – conscious, subconscious and unconscious. These three states of mind are named by Freud as Id, Ego and Super Ego respectively. Freud said that the primitive instincts of human are Id. The Ego is the level between the conscious and the unconscious stage of human mind. The developing stage of the Ego is called the Super Ego. Unwanted desires and various thoughts in the human mind are completely hindered by the Super Ego.

Freud's one of the best books is The Interpretation of Dreams, which was published in 1900. In this book, Freud described dreams as a mental process. The suppressed biological desires are satisfied by the dreams. Such suppressed biological needs Are libido. Libido was named by Freud. In Freud's point of view; lust, love, affection etc. are different forms of libido. The desire for life and the desire for death are also related to Freud's libido analysis.¹

A notable branch of psychology is women psychology. In this branch of psychology, various hidden aspects of the women mind are revealed. Roma Das's the two short stories, named Ruddha Jauban and Abuj Maya also revealed various aspects of women psychology. The central character of Ruddha Jauban was seen to be attracted by a man. It is how described in the story given below –

Meanwhile I see you coming to the road in the rain. I am fascinated to see you in the rain.²

The girl is attracted to the man because of the inborn innate behaviour of human being to opposite gender. In this case, the effect of libido is also being mentioned.

The girl had a love affair with a boy named Satyen. But when she knew that Satyen is having an affair with a girl, she leaved the relationship with him. No woman can tolerate the relationship with other women of the man she loves. Ruddha Jauban is not exceptional in this regard.

Pain is also related to women psychology. The pain of the central character is revealed in Ruddha Jauban.

One of the most important aspects of women's psychology is affection. In Abuj Maya Seuti has a deep affection for Hun. Seuti's affection for Hun is expressed in the story in this way –

I don't know if it is a sin to give a little care and affection to me by a child like you.³

Seuti has not have child. So she feels mother like affection for Hun. Seuti's affection is related to women psychology. The story of Abuj Maya also reveals the pains of Seuti. Seuti's mind is full of sadness because she is abandoned by the society. But there is no end to that sadness and pain. One of the facts discovered by Freud through the analysis of libido is the desire for death. People choose the path of suicide for the desire for death. Abuj Maya's Seuti is significant in this regard. Seuti was mentally humiliated by the family members of Hun. It is the reason of Seuti's desire for death. She finally chooses the path of suicide in the story.

This is how the women psychology can be judged in both short stories.

CONCLUSION: Psychology is the process of working in human minds. Love, compassion, pain, desire for death etc. are controlled by the minds. Love and emotional anguish are expressed through the leading character of Ruddha Jauban. Women are compassionate. The love and compassion have seen in Seuti of Abuj Maya. One of the facts discovered by Freud through the analysis of libido is the desire for death. Abuj Maya's Seuti is notable in this regard.

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3. *ibid.* page no. 153

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