

AN EVALUATIVE APPROACH ON SUFFERINGS AND EXPLOITATION OF UNDERPRIVILEGED SECTIONS IN MULK RAJ ANAND'S 'COOLIE'

Lopa Das

Assistant Teacher, Bhabanipur Trigunamoyee Primary School, Murshidabad, West Bengal, Kolkata, India

Received: 15 Mar 2018

Accepted: 22 Mar 2018

Published: 27 Mar 2018

ABSTRACT

Mulk Raj Anand is considered to be a doyen of Anglo Indian literature. With him, India has received an unceasing champion of the cause of poor and lowly whose writings arrest the critical attention of the learned people towards the inhumane, hatred and unjustified conditions of downtrodden and deprived of Indian society. Anand's 'Coolie' is one classic example of the story of the underprivileged class of the society and of the oppressed people. The novel 'Coolie' presents the picture of exploitation, caste-ridden society and the sufferings of the underprivileged section. It takes us to different places and cities showing the inhuman and degrading treatment that the poor Munoo, the protagonist gets at the hands of the socially, economically and politically affluent and higher classes of Indian society and how he copes with all circumstances alone. Anand was able to strike a chord in the heart of the conscientious Indians with the beautiful and real to life portrayal of the downtrodden masses of Indian society, the so-called 'have-nots'. The portrayal of the sufferings of the underprivileged section is found throughout this novel as well as in 'Two Leaves and a Bud'. We may point out such causes behind this problem such as society's responsibility of such a bad condition, the lack of power of the downtrodden people, the oppression of the higher class and capitalistic society etc. The sufferings and exploitation of Munoo are the sufferings of millions of downtrodden people of India. The novel named "Coolie" explores the societal, psychological exploitation of underprivileged class. The picture of exploitation of the underprivileged is depicted in Anand's works. The exploitation of the downtrodden section is epitomised by focusing on the sufferings and exploitation of the protagonist of the novel "Coolie" named Munoo who represents all underprivileged Indians.

KEYWORDS: *Exploitation, Downtrodden, Sufferings, Social and Economic Disparity, Poverty, Underprivileged Section*