

Human relationships among the characters in Chetan Bhagat's Novel "The Three Mistakes of My Life"

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Abstract

The entire content of the plot in Three Mistakes of My Life can be abridged in a handful of words like trade, money, catastrophe, riots, religious politics, protocol breaking love, and fascination and to top of all cricket and friendship. Chetan Bhagat has explained the situation of middle class people and small-scale businessman in Indian in the novel. The novel The Three Mistakes of My Life spotlights the various questions of modern Indian society which are bringing in the social integration of India. The novelist Chetan Bhagat in the novel The Three Mistakes of My Life has shown a replica of the communal differences prevailing in the current society and its effects that follow in the modern Indian society. The main characters Govind, Ishaan and Omi, young men of secular mind set were not creating any nuisance in the city. They were busy in saving the life of Ali, the national wealth whose parents were knifed to death by Bittoo mama to take vengeance for the killing of his son Dhiraj in the burning compartment of Sabarmati Express. In taking revenge, Bittoo Mama has become blood thirsty. He hurried with other rioters to kill Ali with his blood red Trishul in one hand and Fire-torch in the other hand. His clothes are stained with blood. Ali is in the care of the three friends. They have hidden Ali in the old building of the bank. Thus the novel witnesses the changing mode of human relationship in the contemporary society. Bhagat has vibrantly depicted diverse shades of present Indian society in all his fictions. Each work of fiction reveals a particular grey area of the society. The entire novel shows the contemporary Indian society, along with human relations

Keywords

Communal Differences, Human Relation, culture, Religious Hypocrisy

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1. Introduction

Chetan Bhagat has dealt with such blazing troubles like expensive education, underdeveloped small towns, traditional approach, and extremism in politics, dishonest politicians, religious extremism, communalism, and problems in small scale business, cricket craze, prejudice towards agnostics and atheists, etc. Chetan Bhagat has explained the situation of middle class people and small-scale businessman in Indian in the novel. Govind could not study more as they cannot afford the fees of Engineering. However, he topped Maths every single year and he achieved hundred out of hundred in the tenth standard. This news of his achievement spread across the polls and it gives a way to new resource of income- tuition. Bhagat has explained how new source of income becomes a life-changing event in the middleclass families. Govind utters, "From fan, we graduated to cooler. From chairs, we went to secondhand sofa. Life became good." (10) It is astonishing for small businessman to see money built up.

2. Enigmatic Human Relationships in the Three Mistakes of My Life

The culture which is reproduced in the Three Mistakes of My Life is the lower middle class segment of Indian Society.

The background of the novel is the city of Ahmedabad in Gujarat with the lower middle class populace, their ambitions and concerns. The accurate setting portrayed in the novel is Belrampur in which the story of the current novel takes place. The people described in the novel belong to the lower middle class milieu. The entire content of the plot in Three Mistakes of My Life can be abridged in a handful of words like trade, money, catastrophe, riots, religious politics, protocol breaking love, and fascination and to top of all cricket and friendship. The spot is the city of Ahmedabad that although being urban is yet not as metropolitan as many of its metro foils. It keeps its little town flavor, conservative Indian households and little lacto-vegetarian eateries. It rotates around three young people, who became friends, and later business partners. The story is recounted by Govind. It's about his life which revolves around couple of people –his mother, his friends his love and the top most being his dreams of making it big, touching the sky and to get to the stars. It is a not just the story of Govind and his friends. It's the story of each middle-class adolescent in India. Govind is a born entrepreneur with a gift for numbers. His friend Ishaan is an extraordinary cricketer with no break, disheartened by the typical Indian parents who want their son to earn. Omi is the son of a priest who does not want to pursue the similar path but has been brought up in the

environs of deep rooted spiritual estimations. The novel is portrayed in the first person narrative by Govind Patel who revealed the pages of his past life which he spent with his two friends Ishaan and Omi. The narrative wraps up mainly three features of Indian society i.e. craze for cricket, obscurity a novice faces in business and the pressure of religion on politics. In the heart of a variety of important social facets of the novel, cricket-craze among Indians seems to be the major one. Bhagat has practically portrayed the cricket-craze of Indian culture through the characters of Ishaan and Ali. Cricket has taken a huge and enormous place in the heart of youngsters. Youth of India faces a grave and big problem of redundancy but the fever of cricket goes beyond this problem. Insanity of cricket has made them harmful object of society. Cricket is dying or close to dying in its state of origin.

3. Human Behavior Challenging Social Integration of India

The novel *The Three Mistakes of My Life* spotlights the various questions of modern Indian society which are bringing in the social integration of India. The social tranquility and harmony in Indian society are instant issues to be established, or the culture would be broken into thousands of sections. The Indian society is diverse in nature. People of all races and religions, class, community, sects and status live in it. They have their personal ambitions and questions. The development of any society is openly connected with the peace and harmony preserved in the society. In the present time, the communal atmosphere is not vigorous, fit and fine. Political and sacred insincerity, prevailing in the society, can be measured one of the prime causes behind the prevalent social anxiety in India. Recurrent communal tensions of the past have left permanent effects on the minds and the minds of the people and the gap of misunderstanding is becoming broader and broader. Opportunist political leaders and festivities keep on burning the flames of communal anxiety among the people so that their selfish aims are fulfilled. The non-secular forces are still not under the power of the authorities and the results are numerous communal tension communal riots and death of many innocent people in the present civilization.

4. Political and Religious Hypocrisy in Contemporary Human Behavior

The author in the novel *The Three Mistakes of My Life* has significantly uncovered the political and religious hypocrisy observed in the contemporary Indian society in the best possible manner. The main part of the present novel is given to disclose the fact how such hypocrisy upsets the peace and harmony of society and how innocent people have to undergo a tormenting suffering due to it. Human Relations in *The Three Mistakes of My Life* spotlights the dominance of non-secular forces that are, pragmatic as pro-active in politicizing the spirituality of the people in the current Indian society, questioning

social peace and harmony. Political beliefs run alongside with religion in India like the two banks of a river. It is conceived that they should never meet. In the modern Indian scenario, the politicization of religion is a very somber issue. Majority of the people in India are connected with one or the other kind of religious cults or spiritual faith. The opportunist politicians know it for sure that their vote bank would pour out if the religious powers that announce open support to their parties. Such people play with the spiritual faiths of the people to the extents that they hardly hesitate to ignite communal riots in the name of religion to protect their seats. The other political party in India, in the name of faith, many anti-social activities like black money laundering, and many such other wicked actualities are cared for into full bloom under the political umbrella. Such people have nothing to do with religion or religious reliance of any kind. Their only religion is their asocial intentions. The author looks very much worried about what is happening in the modern Indian society in the name of religion and politics. He has precisely pointed out this very customary reality of modern India in the best possible manner thought the realistic characters and situations in the present novel.

5. Communal Differences and their Impacts on Human Relation

The novelist Chetan Bhagat in the novel *The Three Mistakes of My Life* has shown a replica of the communal differences prevailing in the current society and its effects that follow in the modern Indian society. The writer has used the historical facts like Godhra sabotage and communal riots that pursued by it, to give it a sensible idea to this very burning issue of the society. The main characters Govind, Ishaan and Omi, young men of secular mind set were not creating any nuisance in the city. They were busy in saving the life of Ali, the national wealth whose parents were knifed to death by Bittoo mama to take vengeance for the killing of his son Dhiraj in the burning compartment of Sabarmati Express. In taking revenge, Bittoo Mama has become blood thirsty. He hurried with other rioters to kill Ali with his blood red Trishul in one hand and Fire-torch in the other hand. His clothes are stained with blood. Ali is in the care of the three friends. They have hidden Ali in the old building of the bank. Thus the novel witnesses the changing mode of human relationship in the contemporary society.

6. Conclusion

Bhagat has vibrantly depicted diverse shades of present Indian society in all his fictions. Each work of fiction reveals a particular grey area of the society. The entire novel shows the contemporary Indian society, along with its changing human relations. To pace with the time, such novel proves to be an eye opener. It helps reader to notice the out-dated traditional and conservative social customs which may become hindrance

in their personal and professional life. Thus it proves to be a mile stone in the history of Indian English writing.

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