

"Comparison Between Early And Modern Day Feminism"

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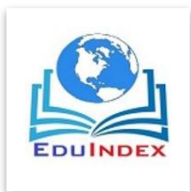
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ABSTRACT: The paper deals with "COMPARISON BETWEEN EARLY AND MODERN DAY FEMINISM" prevailing in the society through a translated work of a Kannada playwright and Indian actor - Girish Karnad, in the play "Nagamandala" in Kannada to "Play with a Cobra" in English. The author of the play uses a shadow of feminism in the work which goes unnoticed, through two characters Rani and Kurudavva. These characters depict two levels of feminism exist in the early and modern society. In current scenario; feminism is dealt in different connotations. They emphasize on equality through domination on others. This difference is interpreted through the characters Rani and Kurudavva in the play. Furthermore, the paper has adopted case studies to validate the issues put forth.

Keywords: early and modern day feminism, domination, society.

INTRODUCTION: Girish Karnad a renowned Kannada play writer, translator and Indian actor. His translated work "PLAY WITH A COBRA" deals with superstition and feminism. His other works are famous for ancient myths & fantasy. Yet "PLAY WITH A COBRA" emphasizes on feminism, perhaps the paper concentrates on select characters Rani and Kurudavva to showcase the impact of early and modern day feminism. The select characters Rani and Kurudavva portray the different types of feminism prevalent in the ancient and modern day society. Moreover the focus is on dominance incorporated in the society by feminism. The paper leads us to the world of suffering and dominance encountered by characters of the text and real life characters. In addition, it gives us the details of the criminal offences of the society which is imbibed to safeguard female gender but it turns vice versa.

OBJECTIVES:



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- To examine the dominance acquired by the females in the society.
- To uncover the injustice pursued by the male gender in the name of feminism.
- To unfold the torments exist in the society.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Revolution happens in the society, but not with the problems of the people. At earlier stage, it's adored by females and in current by most of the males. The similarity is that both are subjugated for the needs of predators. In order to up bring the female gender, male gender is suppressed in modern days. The issue is that threads are large for males compare to females in the modern society. The inequality in gender is the main concern in this paper. And also to reveal the issues confront by the male gender in the modern society, which goes unnoticed as like to female gender.

METHODS:

CASE STUDY:

Two cases are undertaken for comparative study between ancient and modern day feminism with the text. One deals with patriarchal society and the other deals with the matriarchal society. Both examine the torments encountered by the victims of the society. Twenty five-year-old pregnant woman Madhu died in Bishanpura on June of last year. She is harassed by her husband and his family members harassed her for dowry. At last she dies in a hospital in Delhi. In the case of an IT Professional Manesh Nair, and his parents saw a fake profile of the bride Sowmya in the matrimony and are falsified. The forgery is identified when Manesh examines the profile in the matrimony. Moreover the issue comes to light because of the reluctance of Sowmya to have child. And also within months she accused his father, for stealing her jewellery. In order to enhance the issue "she filed a complaint against her husband and his family under SECTION 498A of the IPC for physical violence against her". Later he experienced a mental and physical stress for past six years because of marriage alimony and SECTION 498A of the IPC.

ANALYSIS:



CASE STUDY-1- In the play, Rani is subjugated by Appana (meaning any man in the society) in the name of marriage. According to myth and tradition a woman should accept the evils and cruelty of her husband. And henceforth it's picturized in the character of Rani in the play. She has no right to speak out her voice in front of Appana and anyone else in the village. She is suppressed like a caged bird in the prison of marriage.

“Appana: Well, then, I'll be back tomorrow at noon. Keep my lunch ready. I shall eat and go.

Rani: Listen-please-.....

Rani: Listen-(fumbling for words) listen –I feel- frightened-alone in night-

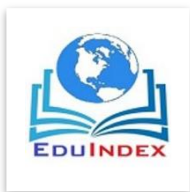
Appana: What is there to be scared of? Just keep to yourself. No one will bother you. Rice!

(Pause)

Rani: please, you could-

Appana: look, I don't like idle chatter. Do as you are told, you understand?...”(Naga-Mandela Play with a Cobra, pg. no6-7)

Despite of enduring such ruckus she is devoted to Appana. On the other hand, she is emotionally, physically, and psychologically traumatized. Likewise in the case of twenty five year old pregnant woman Madhu died because of dowry. Similar to Rani's character, Madhu also get through several physical and mental depressions in her marriage life. Fortunately, Rani has overcome her issues through snake ordeals in front of the village elders. Even it could not be applied for Madhu. She is projected to death by her husband and his family members. The problem of Rani and Madhu are close to one another in dominance by patriarchy and in the cage of marriage. Both the characters are oppressed for several reasons; Rani is targeted for fidelity and Madhu for dowry. They are the examples for the early life of married women in the society. This is highlighted in the text as well as in the media. To uplift the women and the torments faced by victims is the ultimate aim of early day feminism.



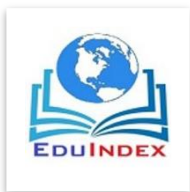
CASE STUDY-2- In the play the character kurduvva, blind women who dominates her son Kuppanna, dark man besides, he is fair. Likewise, present day feminism is showing the darker side in opposite to its real face. This is to benefit them in the name of feminism. In many instances kurduvva dominates kappanna in both verbal and non-verbal connotations.

“Kappanna: I knew I shouldn’t have told you. Now you have insomnia-And I have a backache.

Kurudavva: who’s asked you to carry me around like this? I haven’t, have I? I was born and brought up here. I can find my way around.” (Naga- Mandala Play with a Cobra, pg. no 8)

Likewise, in the case of IT professional Manesh Nair who married sowmya through matrimony turned to be forgery. She has created a fake profile in the website to woo Manesh and his family. When it’s identified she tries to manipulate them through fake complaints in the court. Sowmya also accused her father-in-law as he steals her jewelry to Manesh. The case is filed under the section 498A of the IPC, which made Manesh to undergo stress and tension for half-a-year. The thing which is stated in character of Kappanna is reflected in the character of Manesh. Even the forgery is examined only when she becomes reluctant for child and insisted for using contraceptive. In play Kurudavva uses sentiment as a weapon, in Manesh case law is used as a weapon. In order to acknowledge her mother’s word she resisted his tortures. As like it’s repeated in the case of Manesh, first he adjust to her words later he becomes stressed of her words. She neglected to have child and insists him to use contraceptives. When he identifies her fraud she starts to accuse his father for stealing jewelry. Later she also filed case against him for physical violence under section 498A of the Indian Penal Court. The main drawback is the reluctance of men to open up their trauma in the society. The main plot line of the play focuses on modern day feminism and not highlighting the issue of suppressed male gender in the society. This remains that there is other gender to be noticed in the society. They also undergoes misery in their life which goes unnoticed.

CONCLUSION: The paper speaks out the issues faced by people in the early and modern day society through translation studies. Hence it put forth the issue and justified the issues occurring in the society. Thereby to beware and consider the consequence of the issue is



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significant. The thought of dominance should be eradicated to bring the equality among individuals.

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