

“Bode Social Picture Reflected In the Novel Bigrai and Dwisrai”

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Abstract: The novel Bigrai and Dwisrai is written by Tiren Boro in 1992. It is a social novel and reflects Bodo people's realistic picture. The novel mainly focuses on Bodoland movement organised by Bodo Students Union. It represents the social problems against the injustice of the government demanding the right to political, economical and social justice for Bodo people. Bigrai the main character in the novel was handicapped and Dwisrai was raped by the police during the agitation. Many Bodo people died in this movement and there were also many who were handicapped and Bodo women raped by the police.

Keywords: Bodo people, Social picture, Bodoland movement

Date of Submission: 12-03-2018

Date of acceptance: 28-03-2018

I. INTRODUCTION

The novel Bigrai and Dwisrai was written by Tiren Boro in 1992. Tiren Boro was born in 1952 at Rwota Chariali in Assam. His father's name was Umacharan Boro and mother's name was Deobari Boro. He could not pursue higher studies because the burden to maintain family fell heavily on his shoulder before he could complete his matriculation. He never thought of becoming writer but had fascination for cartoon. He played important role in bringing ethnic consciousness of the Bodos, of the then undivided Darrang district. He has tremendous contribution and played active role in literary movement, Script Movement and Bodoland Movement of the Bodos. He was the founder and chief editor of Sijou, the mouthpiece of Rwota regional office of ABSU. He wrote important essays on criticism for various periodicals and newspapers. He wrote for the periodicals and newspapers such as Aronai and Bodosa and still continues to write. He was awarded Sameswary Award – the highest literary award of Bodo Sahitya Sabha in 2001-2002 for his novel Bigrai arw Dwisrai. He was also the chief editor of Jwngni Harimu (Our Culture), the first cultural periodical in Bodo language published in 1977, Rigi--Rigang, the monthly news journal published in 1993 and in 2002, he was the chief editor of Delai, the literary journal in Bodo language. He has published ten books till date and those are JoraseMaldang (Short story), M.L.A. Fwidwngmwn (Short story), Bigrai arw Dwisrai (novel), Fungbili (novel), GswjwngGsw (novel), Deobari (novel), GadangKhujrani Solo (Children literature), MahariariJwhwlaBaliram Boro (Biography), SomniNwjwrti (essays) and Bokhali (novel), Beo Gonge Boro Gami Dongmwn(novel).

II. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Aims and objectives of this paper are as follows:

- a. To display the social picture of the Bodos in the novel.
- b. To highlight the Bodo novel and novelist
- c. To develop the Bodo literature.

III. METHODOLOGY

The present research work is undertaken in analytical research method. Here, the data are collected both from primary and secondary sources. The comparative method is also adopted to make the study more successful. The study deal with the novel 'Bigrai and Dwisrai' of Tiren Boro as a primary sources and published article and criticism Books, Magazines, Journals and Research papers are also taken as the secondary sources. The author has also taken the help of print media and Internet in preparing this paper.

IV. DISCUSSION

4.1 Social Picture reflected in the novel: Bigrai and Dwisrai was the main protagonist in the novel. Bigrai was from Sonapuri village and Dwisrai, from Rupapuri village under Udalguri District. Both of them studied in same school and after completion of school life, they joined in Tezpur College for higher education.

Bigrai and Dwisrai truly loved their culture and Dwisrai always wore the traditional dress ‘Dokhona’ woven by her, even though some Bodo women were ashamed to wear it. Bigrai and Dwisrai fall in love while studying in college but they decide to get married only after participating in Bodoland Movement led by the Bodo students Union.

Bigrai became a leader of volunteer’s force of the District Committee for Bodoland Movement which made Bigrai among the most wanted by the police. Dwisrai too became a leader of women volunteer’s force. Bigrai was regularly searched by police so, he had to leave home and stay in other place. Bigrai, who was son of mother Bengi and father Baoda had one younger brother and sister. Their family was not rich; his family lived their life by his father’s agriculture. Poor Baoda got their child education to make them successful in their life. But his sons left their study to get involved in Bodoland movement.

Baoda’s daughter Phaodur also sacrificed her life for Bodoland movement. One day, Assam police arrested some Bodo people without any reason. Those Bodo people were very poor and lived their life by selling fish. They were arrested by the police when they were returning from the river after fishing. During those days, no men were in the village so Bodo women had to take their place in protecting the Bodo innocent men who were arrested. Phaodur was a secretary of Bodo women force so he led the situation. In short time, all Bodo women from the village came to the police station to protect the people. But the police officer did not accept their demand and said them to leave the place or they will shoot them. Bodo women did not leave the place so they were shot and Phaodur was among the many dead. Like Phaodur, many Bodo women sacrificed their life for this movement. Many of them were also raped by the police and Dwisrai was also one among them. Sexual assaults and rapes happened during the time when there were no men in the village.

Bigrai and his supporters, on the other hand, were search by the police and military in his village for many times. Unable to find Bigrai, they destroyed the village by firing and breaking houses. They also looted villager’s valued goods like money, gold and silver along with their rice, duck, chicken and more. Police troubled Bodo people without any reason and also arrested them and punished without any crime. Bodo men had no choice but to run away from their home due to police. Villagers could not cultivate and this situation happened in all Bodo villages in Assam which weakened Bodo people’s socio-economic condition.

Among Bodo people, there were also some who supported the police. In this novel, Madan was one of them and he reported about Bigrai to police and troubled his home and village. People like Madan were selfish and wanted to develop their personal life only.

One day Bigrai was arrest by the police and the police punished him badly. He was falsely accused of murder, bomb blast and more. Bigrai met many Bodo people in the jail who were not guilty. After coming back to home from being in jail for 6 months, he did not give-up on his society and culture. His village was attacked again by police along with other people from Muslim community but this time a bullet hit his leg and made him handicap for life.

In those days all Bodo dominated village in Assam were in trouble. Bodoland Movement was mainly lead by BodofaUpendraNath Brahma. All Bodo people demand their separate state for the political, social and economic right and uplifting the Bodo society to get all round development. In this novel, the novelist, in parallel develops his plot along the events and incidents that happened during the Bodoland Movement led by the Bodo students Union. The agitation has not only imposed the whole effort to establish the values and ideals of the ancient Bodo life but also criticized the contemporary system of governance which has deprived them since time immemorial.

Bigrai and Dwisrai the hero and the heroin of the novel totally dedicated their life for the Bodo movement led by ABSU on the ideology of non-violence. They both sacrificed their individual peace and pleasure as individual member and completely engrossed themselves for the need of social reformation of the Bodo society. Bigrai the hero became handicapped and Dwisrai was raped by the police during the agitation. However, they get united as a married couple at the end of the novel. Tiren Boro, the author in this way emphasizes a new technique and art in this novel as a propaganda novelist. Thus the hero and heroine sacrifice their personal self interest to carry out the greater responsibility of social importance. For the development of the story some events relating to the social life have been incorporated into the plot and the incidents happening at the nook and corner of the Bodo dominated areas like the gang rape upon the Bodo women by the police force and torture by the police force upon the innocent Bodo people in the name of the movement have been presented in detail.

V. CONCLUSION

From the above discussion we can say that Bigrai and Dwisrai novel is a Bodo social novel. In this novel, Bodo people’s real picture is beautifully reflected along with the trouble get from Assam government. Bodo people’s Bodoland Movement, culture, economic condition are shown. Bodo people’s movement is completely non-violence but some bad people have diverted it to controversy. This entire real situation is focused in the novel and Bodoland demand is still going on in Bodo society.

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IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science (IOSR-JHSS) is UGC approved Journal with Sl. No. 5070, Journal no. 49323.

Anjali Narzary " Bode Social Picture Reflected In the Novel Bigram and Disdain". IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science (IOSR-JHSS). vol. 23 no. 03, 2018, pp. 49-51.