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## *Golden Research Thoughts*

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## EXPLORATION OF VIOLENCE'SIN CHITRA DIVAKARUNI SHORT STORY WITH REFERENCE TO ARRANGED MARRIAGE COLLECTION.

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### ABSTRACT

Chitra Divakaruni is a prominent writer of diasporic literature. Divakaruni born and brought up in India and later completed post-graduation from Wright States University at Drayton, Ohio and PhD from university of California. Now she is settled along with husband (Murthy) and two sons (Anand and Abhay) in Huston, America. She teaches in University ofHuston. She has established an organization named 'MAITRI', which works as a hotline for south Asian Women's. This organization works for Asian women's, who are victim of domestic violence in America. She has interest in solving problems related to the issue of women and refugees. Her writing explores issues related to women i.e. Arrange marriage, domestic violence of abortion.

**KEYWORDS:** Diasporic literature , Asian women's, organization works .

### INTRODUCTION

All these issues are highlighted in ArrangedMarriage collection. Divakaruni in Arranged Marriage (1995) focuses on Indian brides, who migrate after getting married to America. In fact it explores problems faced by newly bride as they are caught in two different cultures. In true sense many problems are raised due to traditional

arranged marriage because this relation are more tyranny and oppressive than live in relationships. However small clashes or misunderstanding in relationship can leads to various violence in house and society. This violence has connection with behavior and attitude of men and women in the house. This violence might be in terms of cultural or legally that rely upon power relationship between men and women. In short violence is behavior and attitude that harms others, either physically or emotionally. This violence

includes act of physical harassment, sexual harassment, rape, verbal act of sexualized and racialised abuse. Many feminist has identified violence as a key mechanism to subordinate women in the house and society.

Divakaruni in 'The Bats' and Maid servant story explores similar issues of violence. In The Bats story small girl narrates the story about mother's miserable life due to violence in the house. She tells father use to quarrel with mother after arrival in the



- As we studied two stories from collection of short stories "Arranged marriage" by Chitra Divakaruni Banaraji in M.Phil English course Sem 1...and we had watched this movie Babul,directed by Ravi Chopara we were interested to compare both works...

night to house. He used to shout and beat mother for very small reasons. Unfortunately this small clash would lead to violent act where mother is beating. The little girl uses to come across this violence marks on the face of mother. The little girl before going to school use to meet mother but that time she use to see *a yellow blotch with its edge turning purple* (Mukherjee,1997:2). In true sense this is not the end of violence but as the day pass the girl use to see this time even *bigger and reddish blue* (Divakaruni, 1997:63). Each and every time father beats mother for silly reason and this leads hatred towards father. Mother never opposes to this violence but curses own destiny. She has to suffer the bear and pain given by father. In 'The maid servant story' maid (Sarala) is victim of domestic violence. The maid is beaten by mother-in-law and husband. The maid undergoes different ways of tortures given by husband and in-law. Maid tells about torture given for earning money. She tells *her [mother-in-law] sends men to my room at night her and Biru for the money* (Mukherjee, 1997:138).It makes aware how difficult and painful life maid is bearing. It is becomes very difficult for her to survive. In true sense it is very shocking that husband Biru sends men to sleep along with own wife. Finally maid escapes from clutches of husband and in-laws but is caught in violence at workplace. There maid sleeps alone in store room. Unfortunately she faces another problem when Dadababu wife is admitted in hospital for delivery. That night Dadababu enters forcefully into maid room. The Poor begs for stopping it but he says *don't act so virtuous, once a where, always a whore* (Mukherjee, 1997: 145). It is very hard for maid to get rid from violence and torture given by own people and by outsider. She suffers for whole life. Finally she became a prostitute in real life. In Ultrasound story author explores psychological mindset of Indian people towards male and female child. Its story of cousin sister Anjali and Arundhati of Calcutta, India. Later Anjali gets married and settles in America but Arundhati gets married to Ramesh and settles in rich Brahmin Bengali of Calcutta. However both are pregnant after five years of marriage. Anjali's husband Sunil takes care and love her very much but Ramesh doesn't love her very much as he is always outside of house due to job. Arundhati being pregnant never stops working but one day she makes a phone call Anjali to tell that *they want me to have abortion* (Divakaruni, 1995:223). In fact Anju stand still after hearing about abortion. Every woman wants to celebrate motherhood and as it bind mother child relations with delivery pain. Even Ramesh doesn't oppose to mother wish for having baby boy wish. He suggests Arundhati to take second chance after abortion. Everyone in the house is unhappy with the news of baby girl and suggests her to do abortion. In laws wants baby boy to continue family name. However Arundhati doesn't accept abortion but gives birth to baby girl and settles in America. This abortion gives strong message how deep roots of violence are there still in India.

To conclude Mukherjee has explored the real condition of bridal still suffering in patriarchy family structures. In true sense there is need to eliminate patriarchy family structure and treat women equally. Henceforth when this happens then there will less cases of violence related to women's.

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### E- Resource

[www.chitradivakaruni.com](http://www.chitradivakaruni.com)

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