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THE REPRESENTATION OF TIMELESS CIRCULATION OF POLITICAL HYPOCRISY IN 'ANIMAL FARM'



Shaikh Gulab Yusuf

Department of English , SSGM College Kopergaon.

Short Profile

Shaikh Gulab Yusuf is working as an Assistant professor at Department of English in SSGM College Kopergaon. He has completed B.A., M.A., M.Phil., SET., NET.



ABSTRACT:

It needs to introspect when author like Jonathan Swift expresses his feelings regarding human being that " I heartily hate and detest the animal called man"². Though his thought, somehow, sounds true but it has another facet too; because one cannot judge others with only parameter. It is natural that human being behaves according to its design which was created by nature/ creator itself. Every living things struggle for its existence. Man too struggles for his own existence and strives to seek the secure place in the society which caused self-centered nature of human being. The world of twenty first century is at the edge of havoc because of self-centered nature of an individual, evils of powers and greed for money, narrow minded mentality, lust, sexual violence, women's oppression, corruption and

deception.Thoughs/he remains involved in 'self', but pretends as if social devotee.Hypocrisy of human being is being raised everywhere more or less in amount.

KEYWORDS

Political hypocrisy, Policy makers, Corruption, Deception, Violence, Oppression, Greed for power,equality, Dystopia

1. INTRODUCTION

The present paper highlights the timeless circulation of political hypocrisy with special reference to Orwell's *'Animal Farm'* (1945). It is a political dystopia, represents the spoiled system of every government. The tyranny of policy makers and violent, ferocious and chaotic situation in the domain of government caused a disorder everywhere in the world. The present novel satirizes the power, treachery, corruption, selfishness, greed, violence, right for equality, and hypocrisy of human being. The fundamental and of universal ideas have been explored through this literary work which is quite applicable to timeless boundaries of every country. If we take an account of Indian Subcontinent, the threads of similarities are also found in *'Animal Farm'* which presents the timeless political hypocrisy of shrewd policy makers.

George Orwell in his epoch making Novel, *'Animal Farm'* (1945), originally assumed as a fairy story or fable for children, uncovers the hypocrisy of human being through animal imagery. It explores the story of the emergence and development of Soviet communism and allegorizes the rise to power of Stalin and Trotsky in Europe. Though this novel focuses on the history and rhetoric of the Russian Revolution, Stalin era, Spanish Civil War, the brutal dictatorship of dictators during the World Wars, it also handles the universal ideas which are being raised in the form of dreadful cruelty and the bloodthirsty nature of human beast. In short, the novel Portrays the picture of oppressed as well as oppressors of every system.

The present novel, *Animal Farm*, deals with the rebellion of the animals of Manor Farm against the human oppressor, Mr. Jones and overthrows his realm. After the death of Old Major, two young pigs, Snowball and Napoleon, prepare for the rebellion because it is their duty to struggle for their rights. They remind the message of Old Major, "That is my message to you, comrades: Rebellion! ... sooner or later justice will be done" (30) When Jones forgets to feed the animals, the revolution occurs. The animals revolt and drive the drunken and irresponsible farmer Mr. Jones from the Manor Farm and rename it as "Animal Farm". In order to get their own constitution, they introduce Seven Commandments of Animalism² which are painted on the barn wall and '*beast of England, beast of Ireland*' (32-33) as a national anthem.

After the triumph of rebellion, animals become the complete owner of farm. The credit of success of rebellion goes to intellectual (shrewd) group of animals. The pigs, considered as an intellectual, become the supervisors of the farm much like the Soviet intelligentsia. The greed for power pursues two rising political leaders i.e. Snowball and Napoleon. Both of the leaders worship different ideologies for government. Snowball teaches the animals to read and write, while Napoleon educates young puppies in order to create the favourable atmosphere for himself to be a supreme commander. The pigs establish themselves as the ruling class in the new society and the so called democratic power comes at the hands of pigs and pretends themselves as if a Messiah for an oppressed. Napoleon proves to be a power-hungry leader who steals the cows' milk and a number of apples to feed himself and the other pigs. He also enlists the services of Squealer, a pig with the ability to persuade the other animals that the pigs are always moral and correct in their decisions. The thought percolates into the mind of Boxer, one of the honest and hardworking horses, that pigs (his companions) are honest. Even he used to utter two slogans "I will work harder" and "Napoleon is always right" (75)

In the course of the time, Napoleon's greed for power increases and becomes an autocratic dictator, forcing innocent animals from the confessions of his cruelty. Napoleon and his keen (the pigs) move into the house of Jones and begin sleeping in beds which Squealer gives the fine excuses with his logic. Napoleon and Snowball struggle for supremacy. When Snowball announces his plans to build a windmill Napoleon has his dogs chase Snowball away and subsequently declares himself the leader of

Animal Farm. Gradually, the animals receive less and less food, while the pigs grow fatter. After the windmill is completed in August, Napoleon sells a pile of timber to the neighboring farmers who pay for it with fake banknotes. Frederick and his men attack the farm and blast the windmill but are eventually overcome. Bit by bit the Seven Commandments of 'Animalism' are broken by the pigs and the language of the Commandments is revised. For example, after the pigs become drunk one night, the Commandment, "No animals shall drink alcohol" is changed to, "No animal shall drink alcohol to excess." The misuse of power raises the dreadful violence. Lord John Acton rightly says in his *'A Letter to Bishop Mandell Creighton'* in 1887 regarding power and its misuse. He says, "Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great Men are almost always bad men."³

As time passes and Animal Farm enlarges its boundaries after Napoleon purchases two fields from another neighbouring farmer, Pilkington. The life of all the animals, excluding the pigs, is harsh. Eventually, the pigs begin walking on their hind legs and adopt so many qualities of their former human oppressors. The novel ends with Pilkington sharing drinks with the pigs in the house of Jones. Napoleon changes the name of the farm back to Manor Farm and quarrels with Pilkington during a card game in which both of them try to play the ace of spades. As other animals watch the scene from outside the window, they cannot tell the pigs from the humans. The Seven Commandments are reduced to a single law:

"ALL ANIMALS ARE EQUAL BUT SOME ANIMALS ARE MORE EQUAL THAN OTHERS" (133)

Through the present novel, it is analyzed that oppression of commons, cruelty of policy makers, hypocrisy of political leaders have been noticed everywhere which has the timeless/ endless boundary. The novel, *'Animal Farm'* is not only quiet applicable to Europe-Russia but also to Indian Subcontinent too. The countries like, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan are not exception for the abiding political hypocrisy. Before 1947, most of countries of Indian Subcontinent were ruled by British and was dethroned and removed from homelands by natives as Mr. Jones; the owner of Manor Farm in the novel has been dethroned and removed from the Farm. As Old Major, stands for Karl Marx and an allegorical combination of Lenin, describes a dream he had about a world where all animals live free from the tyranny of their human masters. He resembles to Indian Socialist thinkers like M.K. Gandhi, Patel, Gokhale, Maulana Azad, Tilak, Tagore and Nauroji, Comrade Dange who had shown the dream of freedom to the people. The things changed a lot after the Independence in Indian Subcontinent. Those who have the true feelings for country were left behind and vanished in course of time. Some of the intellectual leaders took the place of British and tried to govern the country as Napoleon, Snowball and Squealer did in the Animal Farm.

The wind of freedom was blowing all over the country and the workers, common men were giving the honest devotion for India as Boxer sacrifices his all strength for his farm and offers his strength to help for building a new windmill, but when he collapses, exhausted, Napoleon sells the devoted horse to a knacker. Squealer tells to the annoyed animals that Boxer was actually taken to a veterinarian and died peacefully in the hospital. He represents the common man of every country who becomes the puppet/ pawn in the hand of ruling party. On the other hand, the characters like Mollie is a self-centered and remain involved in luxuries life where as the characters like Benjamin remains passive for each government and the life of beings and says, "Life would go on as it has always gone on—that is, badly" (65). Similarly, some hypocrite politicians took the disadvantages of illiterate people of India as they pretended to implement the policies of education for commons as Snowball tried to teach to the rest animals in the Farm. Boxer was sold to the knacker that resembles the 'Use and Throw' mentality of politicians. The greed for power pursued the rising political leaders as Napoleon and Snowball become

the rivals and starts to pull down to each other. It seems as if they were following the 'crab mentality'⁵ which resulted the fruitful policies, debarred by the rivals.

The historical development of politics since ancient India to present days, the ruling government is refused by others in order to get freedom from the tyranny of policy makers. In 2014 a large upheaval took place in India in order to get rid from tyranny of earlier government and people thought that definitely this time they will get better days (*acche din aayenge resembles to Old Majors words "sooner or later justice will be done"*) but it seems, the enthroned government also runs the same policy as earlier government did. Similarly in 'Animal Farm' the life of all the animals, excluding the pigs, is harsh; and adopted so many qualities of their former human oppressors. They develop the relationship with their neighbouring farmers but eventually are deceived. Likewise, Indian policy makers were also deceived by neighbouring countries like China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka.

In the present novel, it is focused that the hypocrite leaders change the seven commandments for their own benefits.

1. *Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy.* (48)
2. *Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend.* (48)

The commandments have been changed into as (*Four legs good, two legs better*) (132)

3. *No animal shall wear clothes.* (48)
4. *No animal shall sleep in a bed with sheets.* (79)
5. *No animal shall drink alcohol to excess.* (113)
6. *No animal shall kill any other animal without cause.* (98)
7. *All animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others* (133)

Similarly, the policy makers of India also change the constitution according to profits of their keen (people) as well as for their own sake and implement their policies for their better and luxuries life. In short, the novel presents the symbolical journey of hypocrite policy makers. The orthodox group of political leader and their policies should introspect in order to get rid from the deception.

NOTES AND REFERENCES:

1. Orwell, George. *Animal Farm*. New Delhi: Peacock Books. 2007. Print.
2. Jonathan Swift's *A Letter to Pope*.
3. Acton, Lord John. *A Letter to Bishop Mandell Creighton*. 1887
4. *Animalism* - an allegoric reference to Communism.
5. Crab mentality – to pull down the competitor.

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