Portrayal of Major Social Issues in Vihang A. Naik’s Poetry

Dinesh Kumar
Asstt. Prof. of English, Dyal Singh College, Karnal
dineshkarnal1@gmail.com

Abstract

Without any shadow of doubt, it can be alleged that Vihang A. Naik has exhibited the true nature of modern poetry, which appears to be simple but carries deep meaning and message for the readers. His short lines attract with images and phrases that speak themselves to the reader. ‘All the poems of this collection are specimen of his unparalleled poetic adroitness.

Overall the poems in the Collection titled 'Poetry Manifesto: New and Selected Poems' by Vihang A. Naik is full of energetic expression of modern poet on the things that is happening around. The poems are clear expression of the imagination and feelings of the poet in form of free form style of poetry which appears to be simple but has deep inherent poetic meaning which readers will discover after reading his poems.

Paper

Vihang A. Naik is the new shining star in Indian writing in English who has contributed to Indian literature by highlighting diverse aspects of
modern life in his poetry. The language used by Naik focuses on construction of language that vividly manifest the different aspects of modern life. Naik has been hailed as the spokesman of different aspects of modern India. In his poetry, we come across a strong denouncement of cultural aspects that powerfully expose the human situation in modern scenario. In his poetical works, we get an amalgamation of both the art and life. It is through the magic realism that the poet expresses the intended meaning and a strong note of impulsiveness and imagination in his poems. His poetry, on the apparent level, is simple, but if we go deeply, it reflects the visionary themes of poetic creation. Beauty and joy are the two fundamental aspects that are to be found at the core of his poems and these are related to the agony of suffering and modern life. Naik’s poetry is associated with the realistic portrayal that inevitably speaks of the drab realism of environment resulting in to the futility and meaninglessness of human life in modern scenario.

There is no doubt in denying the fact that Naik’s perception and exposure of the adverse human experiences deepens
his human feelings as well as sharpens his mind to study human life and situation in all varied manifestations.

In Naik’s poetry, we can witness some social, cultural and economic problems, and without any shadow of doubt, we can conclude the fact that his poetry deals with the contemporary issues of human life. In the poetry of Naik, we come across the Freudian impact as his poetry exposes Freudian internal conflict which are the parts of post-modernist literature. His poetry is a great achievement as it is full of imagery, symbolism and structural economy that portrays life vividly. His poetry gives an intellectual standing as it consists of the economy technical innovation with a common purpose and philosophy. That material that he provides the readers in his poetry is the result of his wide and thorough understanding of social spectrum. In his poetry, Naik deals with serious subject and complex structure. In his poetry, we come across subjectivism as well as the contemporary realistic portrayal of life. One of the chief characteristics of Naik’s poetry is that it switches from the external reality into the
study of inner state of consciousness and without any shadow of doubt we can witness the logical coherence in narration as well as the psychologically explained characters in a realistic manner. The boldness with which Naik portrays his feelings and emotions is really praiseworthy, and this boldness really away from the narrow and conventional world. In other words, Naik expresses his ideas in a spontaneous manner which means as soon as any idea that strikes the poet’s mind, is at once pen down.

In Naik’s poetry, we can witness beneath the chaos of the world, an order which is one of the recurrent themes of his poetic craftsmanship. The readers can come across some exceptional description if they go deeply Naik’s poetry as Naik is pre-occupied with his emotional commitment with which the poet delineates beautifully the ideas of technoculture and hyper reality.

The basic undercurrent that flows through Naik’s poetry is the alienation of characters which is portrayed through his uninterrupted sequence of events, characters development and actions. In his poetical
works, Naik emerges to be a keen observer of modern life where he focuses mainly on human nature to present the harsh realities of life. Irony is the chief tool that is employed by the poet and through this he shows his absorbing interest in the problems of modern life. His poetry provides the readers with a panoramic view of different facets of contemporary life. In other words, we can say that through the philosophic view life, Naik represents the contemporary situation of modern man as it exposes powerfully the detailed examination of human condition. Moreover, deep psychological analysis of the characters is another aspect that contribute to the structural design of his poetry as is evident through his poem, self-portrait where the readers can witness the psychological struggle of the mind and there is a complete transformation of self.

In this way, after making a hurried and close survey of different aspects of Naik’s poetry, we can safely and rightly aver that in one way or other, Naik’s poetry is a reflection of different facets of modern life with all its problems and shortcoming and
where human life has been presented authentically. Modern alienation, predicaments of man’s life, meaninglessness, rootlessness, and loneliness are some modern problems that are presented vividly in Naik’s poetry.

Work Cited