



A review of usual custom of our country in the novel of Vikram Seth “ A Suitable Boy”

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Abstract

A Suitable Boy exists in the form of book which has been written by Vikram Seth and published in the year of nineteen ninty three . It includes subject matter like perfect match for an unmarried female child, discrimination on the basis of religion ,devotion, affection and



wedding .This book is based on the story of 4 families who lived in our country post independence that means after the partion of our country. This book emphasizes on the benifits of Indian culture of racial castes and organized wedding. This book represented an outstanding contract of effort in the form of words on the behalf of those families which put a lot of effort in order to find a perfect match for the marriage of their bachelor female girls. The daughters of our country carry the facilities like shopping in the company of their friends, participation in academic programme etc. But a matter, which becomes a reason of confliction in the middle of these female child and their parents is organized wedding. Lots of diplomatic conspiracies are included in this book whose acceptance becomes a complicated task.

Key words: novel, political, marriage, Religious, members etc.

Introduction

The primary subject matter of this book is "The Suitable Boy" which is also the name of the book. The concept arrives in the mind of author out of usual custom of our country. According to this custom, the parents and other family members of an unmarried daughter discover a perfect boy for her marriage by keeping some essential factors in mind. Out of these essential factors the most important and the primary becomes the religion. Boy and girl should belongs to a same religion. Religion is the main obstacle in the middle of Lata, who belongs to a Hindu family and Kabir, who belongs to Islam . The most ideal choice for them becomes the wedding in the absence of family members. Further consideration becomes racial discrimination or status of the boy and his family. The subject matter of this book also



arises a conflict in the middle of organized wedding and love marriage. A question is raised by Lata when she attends the marriage of her sister whose name was Savita and came to final result that arrange marriage could be good in case of her sister but it is not good in her case. Her sister married to a lecturer of university whose name was Pran Kapoor .

After that incident her mother whose name was Mrs. Rupa consider this matter serious. Her mother told her family members and nearest friends to find out a perfect match for the marriage of her daughter Lata. For maintating silence , her daughter, follows her mother regardless of the fact what her mother is want to execute. On the other hand, she asked questions from herself whether she will marry Kabir in the presence of absence of her family members. It becomes interesting to note that in the end she decides to marry with Haresh Khanna, despite of the fact that Haresh Khanna is not love by her.

Lata's understanding comes to a conclusion that in the end they will love with each other. She gets her husband support in the absence of any effort and she will live a stable married life in the company of her husband. One of Lata's friend , Malati, is completely against the subject matter of this book. She is freedom-loving and said she will married to a guy which she likes. From this perspective the subject matter of this book becomes a hallmark for the customs of our country people.

This book brings in to the notice that the author of this book is very flexible. The author of this book emerges himself in the form of writer which have many different features because he carries a vast amount of understanding in relation to governmental, communal, and ethical issues of our country. In the presence of his governmental point of view, he brings in to our notice the working method of our countries parliament, methods follow for the purpose of solving a case, how laws are made in our country, methode of election campaigning and voting system. In order to create an actual image of our country in her fifties Author explainsbeach and every possible features of our country. He describes the role played by religion at the time of election. On the basis of her socio-cultural point of view, Author forces us to think sincerely how the people who belongs to economical week countries lives their life, think about scheduled castes , female, their miserable condition in the laws of their countries and sex workers in the absence of any appropriate identity and postion inside the community. Author describes a community in which maximum population of female becomes “completely neglected and accepted only as a provider of sexual pleasure to man



and as a producer of his off spring”. The miserable situation of untouchables make some room in the book. A place Kachheru, where the slaves work on the land of Rashid’s father’s in a very sincere manner but his father exploit them because he wants that they remain subservient to him. The females of our country are introduced in the form of women whose life is “like clock-work, performing her duties at home without a question or doubt of any sort” With the help of Saeeda Bai, Author wants to describe the manner in which Maan loves his country and also the continuance of “the tradition that encourages such evils to plague especially the princes, rajas in Indian provinces thereby defaming family’s name and reputation”. The flexibility of author is noticed on the basis of his description in terms of child birth and the painful condition of a woman at the time of birth. Author describes the painful condition of Savita’s when her water bag breaks at the time of delivery. When the head of baby's comes into view, Savita feels “a tearing sensation below, then a sudden warm gush. Then more stretching and such pain that she thought she would pass out”. Author describes the new born baby in the form of: “the red, wrinkled, black-haired, bawling baby, covered with blood and a sort of greasy film”. In addition to description of birth pain, author also describes the Billy Irani and Meenakshi act of . When Billy,s completed his sexual intercourse he lies “panting and pleasantly exhausted, upon her, his head nuzzling her neck” He feels a sense of sorry when her wife says — “but the thing’s slipped off. It is still inside you and when she says that it cannot be as she cannot feel it, Billy says, well, it’s not on me, and I could feel it slip off”. The conversation going on in the middle of Billy and Meenakshi can be understand only by those people which have experience of intercourse .

Religious intolerance

This book is completely filled in the company of subject matters like discrimination on the basis of religion. This is the reason due to which it becomes impossible for Lata and Kabir to fulfill their hearts desires. The Marh emporer becomes famous in the form of inter religious character because he erect the Shiv Mandir which was situated in the close vicinity of Muslim's house of worship. He fails to understand the symbolic meaning of Shiv. He considered that this temple is formed for the purpose of insulting Muslim community. As a result, a situation of riots comes in to existance on the name of spritual values. The character Saeeda Bai, is a prostitute by profession. The people belongs to Hindu, community does not like maily because of her religion not because of her profession. When the holy days of both religions happen to agree, even death results when neither side is willing to give way to the



other. The matter of discrimination on the basis of religion comes in to existence at the point where Maan leaves in order to meet Rasheed's family members. Many family members of Rasheed unwillingly accepted Maan when he said that there is no difference in the middle of two religion. But, sooner their acceptance becomes questionable when they came to know that Maan tried to kill a youngster named Firoz Khan because he belongs to a Muslim community. .

Conclusion

This book is completely focused in the direction of "suitable boy" involving the love stories of different characters who are belongs to different religion and the man to whom author came in contact in Calcutta. At last, Lata leave off Kabir in order to marry a man which is liked by her but she fails to love him. In addition to Lata's had decision of wedding with Haresh , this novel describes the actual reality of intrigues.

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