

Chetan Bhagat's Vision of Life: A Study

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ABSTRACT

In contemporary society, social issues and power dynamics are the primary focus of social issues, a subfield of professional and academic criticism. It is also associated with a certain geographical culture. Education, marriage, family, cultural awareness, and other personal and societal concerns are explored in Chetan Bhagat's works. These variables that have an effect on society have been discussed in this paper. He has been bringing these issues into his observation and he draws his weapon; pen and attempts to uncover a few imprudences of society through his books, which mirror the society and impact the young. Chetan Bhagat manages such issues like the social ideas, for example, economy, thin mindset and fracture of religious individuals, absence of valuable education and culture alongside the parts of globalization and consumerism discontinuity of authority and the commodification of knowledge and education.

Keywords: Contemporary Society, modern society, Social Ideas, Mind Set, Consumerism, Globalisation.

The simple meaning of literature is the reflection of society through written work of a particular culture or people. The aim of a few novelists is to represent the society as it is where as others aim at representing as it must be and a radical few bring in a touch of magical realism bringing in creativity into reality. The first half of the century concerned especially with linguistic theories, with form rather than content while the latter half attempted to focus on content and context, history and new historicism. Indian English literature however is very much a twentieth century phenomenon. By

then English had become the language of political debate. Novelists such as Mulk Raj Anand, G. V. Desani, R. K. Narayan and Raja Rao, were resolved to provide a very different view of India to colonial writers. The works of members of Indian diaspora, such as V.S.Naipaul, Kiran Desai, Jhumpa Lahiri, Agha Shahid Ali, Rohinton Mistry and Salman Rushdie, has been a major contribution to Indian English literature. R.K. Narayan was an inspiration who captured beautiful tales about the small town life which remain timeless.

South Asian writers began creating new linguistic paradigms for the English language and won literary prizes. Many of them have been widely translated. But V. S. Naipaul is the only English novelist of Indian extraction to have been a contender for the Nobel Prize. In this connection it is observed that the writer, ChetanBhagat is an author of today's era who wrote several brilliant books that have been published reflecting the changing perspectives, changing paradigms, and changing thematic concerns of society. The arrival of ChetanBhagat with his debut novel Five Point Someone in 2004 proved to be a revolutionary 2 wave in Indian Writing in English in such a context of realism in the context of urbanized settings. ChetanBhagat has been acclaimed as one of the best-selling novelists of the popular literature. One of the reason Bhagat attained unprecedented success is because his work struck a chord with middle-class young India, the India that is not used to reading Indian writing in fiction, that held and still holds English in awe and fear, which belongs to the tier 2 and 3 cities of the country.

Chetan Bhagat contributes routinely and efficiently to social and national issues by writing sections in papers in addition to writing novels. Many of his sections have advanced towards the Indian Parliament and have triggered important talks. To tell the truth, he wrote a letter to Sonia Gandhi featuring the corruption issue that millions in the country are looking at. Chetan Bhagat received the 'Society Young Achiever's Award' in 2000 and the 'Publisher's Recognition Award' in 2005 for his contribution to the general public and the government assistance of individuals. Chetan Bhagat also made it to the rundown of 'World's 100 Most Influential People' on the planet in Time Magazine in 2010, at 36 years old. Since he followed his heart and sought his fantasies, Chetan Bhagat managed to scale unbelievable statures and arrive at the pinnacle of achievement. Chetan Bhagat in his book What Young India Wants recollects his history which allowed him to be the author he has become. It is important to understand the author's life circumstances that not only made him an

author with millions of readership across India, but also a visionary with a passion to impact young Indian minds.

Chetan Bhagat with a stroke of luck made it into IIT Delhi joining Mechanical Engineering, which was the turning point of his life. He did not consider himself a genius among the IIT'ians and was more interested in people than machines. He admitted that like most that was a means to achieve the middle class dream. However, his decision to join IIT was an acknowledgement to his interest in people which seems to be a pattern from his earlier childhood as an entertainer narrating stories to his relatives. Like most IIM Graduates, he was successful in getting a well-paying Job at an Investment Bank in Hong Kong. There are a few young minds who work outside India, seem to put down their birth country in comparison with the adopted country.

However, Chetan Bhagat had questions with pain in his heart as he acknowledges this reality which was made clear once he landed in Hong Kong. The impressive young multi-talented writer has authored twelve fictional works; *Five Point Someone* (2004), *One Night @ The Call Center* (2005), *The Three Mistakes of My Life* (2008), *2 States* (2009), *Revolution 2020* (2011), *What Young India Wants* (2012), *Half Girlfriend* (2014), *Making India Awesome* (2015), *One Indian Girl* (2016), *The Girl in Room 105* (2018) *India Positive* (2019) and *One Arranged Murder* (2020). The works constitute the collections of his news articles and columns, written as a motivating speaker for various leading newspapers. The writings of Bhagat are more influential and impactful as they are even adapted for the films of Bollywood. It is observed that both the literary version and the film version of Bhagat's style of narration makes it versatile and embraces it as a reader novelist.

His first novel, *Five Point Someone*, is set between 1991 and 1995 at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, and the choice of subjects for his books by Chetan Bhagat is very significant. It's a story about the journey of three engineering students, Ryan Oberoi and Alok Gupta, the storyteller Hari. With the IITs' grading system, they fail to cope. Ryan is intelligent as well as an outspoken boy, while Hari and Alok are relatively introverted personalities. The front liners aren't that bright, and five GPA points are always safe, which is very low. Things are always getting worse for them, even though they are trying to improve their grades. While in this book, the grim side of some education systems, which is praised by the elite, is both directly and indirectly discussed, the focus is on the life of those modern youth in the institutions and the journey from feeling alone in the struggle, to finding the inner strength to do everything required to take control of their lives. When parents, teachers and the

society label the five pointer students as losers, Chetan Bhagat has given hope for the young minds of India that it is a passion with the right attitude towards life, which will lead one to success.

Bhagat's second novel, *One Night @ the Call Center*, is a story about the events that occur in a call center over one night. The story revolves around six main characters: Shyam, Varun, Priyanka, Esha, Radhika, and Military Uncle. A story of love and conflict, exploitation at work, the absence of family affection, the darker side of the modeling world, identity crisis, unfulfilled ambitions, and a globalized office's working environment. Through the perspective of Shyam, the protagonist, who works as a call center agent, *One Night @ the Call Center* is told. Every character has some ambitions in *One Night @ the Call Center* that they want to fulfill during the course of life, but don't know the right path to fulfill their purpose. So, Chetan Bhagat introduced the episode of the call from God to direct them in the right path and focus on their inner purpose and to show them the youth of India have everything they require to succeed and that when they focus on their purpose, the life would become more joyful and impactful.

The Three Mistakes of My Life is a remarkable hat-trick by Chetan Bhagat after his debut *Five Point Someone* and second novel *One Night @ The Call Center*. Bhagat seems to continue the same passionate zeal in presenting hopes and aspiration as well as failure and frustration of this generation in remarkable fashion. The novel ironically unfolds some of the bitter truths of human life which is now more influenced by passion rather than emotion and ambition. Chetan Bhagat is more vibrant in this novel because of his growing maturity and sharpening sensibility. Adolescent is an important stage in terms of psycho social development particularly in their identification of their Self. The novel revolves around three friends who portray the passionate ambition to succeed in life. Each of these protagonists has their own core values and attachments, with business, cricket and religion governing their lives. The motive for Govind is to make money to be a successful businessman; Ishaan wants to train Ali to be a technically perfect batsman, while Omi just wants to be with his friends. As the novel continues, the characters have to deal with various incidents that spoil their lives, such as an earthquake, community riots, religious politics, and their own mistakes. Govind is the narrator of the story, and during the course of the novel, it is Govind who commits three mistakes. While it is easy for youth to mourn on the mistaken they have committed, Chetan focuses on the internal

growth of these protagonists through their journey and finally their path to finding purpose in their life, which is in most aspects beyond their own selfish needs.

The fourth novel of ChetanBhagat, *2 States: The Story of My Marriage* is inspired by the true story of ChetanBhagat and his wife Anusha, respectively, from Delhi and Tamilnadu. It's a love story about Krish, a Punjabi boy, and Ananya, a Tamil girl from South Indian state in India who wants to get married. Their parents do not agree with their marriage, and with their parents' consent. The couple has a tough battle to get married to each other. Through *Two States: Story of My Marriage* Bhagat exposes Indians' backward mentality, regional and religious nuances, and how inter-caste marriages are still seen in India as a social stigma. While the novel focuses on how two young lovers overcome obstacles in bringing their family together in their marriage, it is also a testament of modern urban youth with the right intent can influence their parents into having profound mindset shifts and focus on the importance of love and humanness rather than Ego and selfish motives.

Revolution 2020 is foremost a love story, in fact a love triangle, as two main characters in the novel love the same girl. Corruption particularly in the education sector is the back drop of the story. Like all his novels the bestselling writer shows the reality of problems the younger generation face and also, gives them confidence they are the masters of their own destiny and they can find solutions to the problems. Chetan Bhagat rakes upon the sensitive issues which concern to the society in his novels, ranging from the romantic love story to a deplorable condition of the present educational system. He has started a crusade against eradicating the evils of the society by his 'sugar coated novels'.

Chetan Bhagat, in almost all his novels, highlights the problems faced by the youth. He presents before the readers a world which is full of optimism and comic elements. Chetan Bhagat has acumen of giving comic treatment to a very serious theme. The main objective of this paper is to bring out the Voice of Youth in Chetan Bhagat's writing along with the way in which he presented his characters.

The paper will also discuss the concept of social reflection and the concept of modernity and how through the delineation of the various characters he portrays the contemporary reality. Chetan Bhagat is not someone who just shares his ideology through his books with his young readers but also someone who lives by his values to be the change that he desires in this world. He had completed his studies from the

top university in India, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) and Indian Institute of Management (IIM). He got a high paying Job in Hong Kong along with his family and worked as an investment banker with the famous Goldman Sachs. Even though Chetan Bhagat was successful, he had a deep sense of belonging to India.

ChetanBhagat was more interested in writing books and having his book reach millions of young readers, who were able to connect with his style of writing and his ease of allowing them to connect with his books. In the next few years, Chetan Bhagat decided to quit his high paying job and become a full time novelist and his passion allowed him to further explore other aspects of his writing. Later , he become a columnist, script writer and also a motivation speaker. In the researchers' opinion, he is one of the very few others who has reached millions of young minds and impacting them positively by means of his novels. The psychological tendencies of youth and their ethos, aspirations, emotions and alienation in life are mainly exposed in his novels. The different reflections of contemporary young society are focused and carried out in each novel. Though taking hardships in their lives, Bhagat creates his characters as good human beings, responsible citizens, and cultured individuals. This kind of representation of young people by him reveals in a positive way his ambition to bring about a change in present modern youth society.

SOCIAL CONCERN IN CHETAN BHAGAT'S WRITINGS:

Chetan Bhagat, the name itself developed as a youth icon of India, has made a history in the English fiction and earned an extremely critical spot in the hearts of the youth today He involved a situation as well known writer through his top of the line and furthermore shared spot among the 100 most persuasive individuals on the planet as expressed in the Times magazine. He is most respected writer by celebrated big name A. R. Rahman, Oscar Award Winner in music as "Numerous writers are effective at communicating what's in their hearts or articulating a specific perspective". ChetanBhagat was born on 22rd April, 1974 in a middle class Punjabi family in New Delhi. His father was an Army official and his mother, an administration representative. He finished the significant piece of his training at Delhi. During the years 1978 to 1991 he considered in the Army Public School, Dhaula Kuan, and New Delhi. Later he entered in Mechanical Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.

All of his books has been bestsellers and has increased gigantic readerships around the world. His books have known to shake Indian sensibility, by giving interesting bits of knowledge as a result of diving into the regularly changing ideal models of

human conditions that think that it's trapped in the labyrinth of affection, corruption and desire in his novel, *Revolution 2020*. Chetan says that however writing in a creating nation youngsters are neglecting to get decolorize ChetanBhagat the inventive writer in the field of Indian English Literature has depicted the mechanical existence of youngsters in his novel *Revolution 2020*. This delivers the compassionate existence of youngsters and the political issues in a clear way. It shows the life of the protagonist and the weight looked by them through relatives and society. A. Gayathridevi and T. Deivasigamani (2017) this paper shows the breaking down of social ideas talked about in the chose novels of Chetan Bhagats, i.e, *One Night @ the Call Center* and *Revolution 2020*. As social affects, he chiefly centres around the love, corruption, aspiration, human disaster, culture, tradition, religious differences, discouraged perspective and suicide endeavours, which are winning in the society. His language is easier and effectively justifiable adapting to the young ages beat. The novelist much worried about the connections: the manner in which it is to be made, communicated and kept up out of sight and storm cellar of social, and traditional substance.

This paper investigates the effect of globalization on Chetan Bhagat's novels. Bhagat watched the progressions in social, traditional ways of life of the people in view of globalization and he reflected in his novels. He investigates the impacts of globalization on Indian culture. Bhagat uncovered and clarifies the issues of India after globalization. These issues are the issues of multi-social, multi-etymological, multi-ethnic and modern society. Corruption: A Deep-Rooted Poison. Corruption in education system may be the most exceedingly awful revile for the people of any country. It is the education which can make or blemish the fate of the entire nation. 'Unrest 2020', extremely down to earth to the present situation, uncovered all the escape clauses of our modern education system. In the event that a similar system proceeds with longer, the enormous number of youth will be jobless. Without a doubt these establishments will give the understudies the best degrees which will demonstrate all futile.

Corruption In Chetan Bhagat Novels:

Chetan Bhagat, in his novel *Revolution 2020* discusses how good for nothing education has become. In any case, it additionally features that everything in life isn't that discouraging. *Upset 2020* is an account of a young individual's desire and love out of sight of corruption in Indian society and how youth respond to these other significant features – aspiration and sentiment. Bhagat competently outlines the

issues of contemporary Indian society which influence Indian youth through his characters in this novel: The way different characters and situations are developed by the novelist against complex socio-cultural practices offers the readers an opportunity to see people and social institutions in an interactive mode. Whether it is the characters that are being in even a shade of change in the social practices or the social practices which facilitate or thwart the growth of human personality avenues for social criticism are opened.

Conclusion

In the entirety of Chetan Bhagat's novels, the tales rotate around the young individual. His novels have achieved prominence among this area of society as he can weave in an extremely consistent manner everything that is going on in the present India from the point of view of the young individual. Simultaneously, he can mix enthusiasm for the peruser by featuring on the different difficulties that a young individual faces – anger, competition, bitterness, romance, sacrifice and rash basic leadership. *Unrest 2020: Love, Corruption, Ambition* (2011) is over-burden with the topic of social authenticity. It reveals insight into social shades of malice and unjustifiable practices. The author has demonstrated the social stratification through the focal characters.

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