

Re-Telling Mythological Story with Reference to History by Shashi Tharoor in ‘The Great Indian Novel’

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The great Indian novel by Shashi Tharoor is a fiction completely based on mythology and all those great and glorious chronicles events of twentieth century India which became the cause to liberate India. To exemplify this fact, the novelist makes use of modern and contemporary political events in the form of ancient myths. The novel throws light to unfold the times of pre-Independence era as well the great events of freedom struggle while recreating the outstanding and exceptional history of colonial and Post-colonial India through fancying caricatures.

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Shashi Tharoor's *The Great Indian Novel* is directly depicting the epic tale of Mahabharata, the great Indian story, it is really modeled and reset in the times of Indian independence movement, and it's all about the first three decades of post independence, written from the point of view of Indian independent history. The great persons who involved in the making of Indian history of independence, and the astounding great personalities are transformed into the characters of caricatures from mythology and mythical tales of India. It was the novelist who tells the tale through the three decades of 1970s, the novel purposefully undermines, criticizes as well weakens certain incidents as well as characters in the novel. It is a work of numerous puns and allusions addressed about famous works (*The Jungle Book*, *The Jewel in the Crown*, *A Passage To India*, *The Rains came*, *The Far Pavilions*, *The Sun also Rises*, *Midnight Children*, *The Autobiography of an Unknown Indian* and *Darkness at Noon*) and great writers who made an attempt to depict India (Rudyard Kipling, Paul Scott, E. M. Foster, Louis Bromfield and M.M. Kayes) and the ironical part of showing disrespect with irreverent tone towards all those historical figures of India such as M.K. Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, C Rajagopalachari, Jayaprakash Narayan, Subhas Chandra Bosh, Morarji Desai, Vallabhbhai Patel and great woman personalities like Kamala Gandhi and Indira Gandhi for their pitfalls and shortcomings, besides, who are considered as the builders of the nation, who are advertently and inadvertently treated out of great respect and contempt for the time immemorial in India.

Even the phrase 'Great Indian Novel' is an illusion or implied reference to the long standing notion of the 'Great American Novel' coined to give the meaning for some great American novels which are set to represent it's life, race, gender and history, in it simple terms, it discusses thorough national development of America, it includes great events like American Revolution, American Civil War and its Democratic Spirit it's also a phrase employed by critics for contemporaneous literary contribution of novels in America, meanwhile, in the same way, the term Mahabharata, it is the great Indian novel which stands to portray the great and rich heritage of India and the form of epic work, the novelist actually retells it, de-emphasize on the actions of the two great families like the Kauravas and Pandavas.

Epics are the works which begin with geological detail, in the same way, the Great Indian Novel Dev Datta was born to Shantanu and Maharaee whereas the Ved Vyas is the narrator who was the son of Satyawati and Parashar. while narrating Ved Vyas talks about Sir Richard who lives at Hastinapur, he mourns for the spread of radicalization in Hastinapur by the regent, Ganga Dutta who is also referred as Ganga Ji he is also raising Dhritrashtra Pandu and Vidur Dharmaputra Ganga Dutta protests the suffering of his people in Motihari he was arrested despite of it, the peasants in Motihari experience victory because of his protest. Sir Richard become angry about what happened in Motihari it's all because of Ganga Dutta's protest, the rule of Hastinapur is taken over by the British, meanwhile, Dhritrashtra married Gandhari she is devoted to him that's why she covers her eyes with a blindfold so that whatever he cannot see she cannot see either, Pandu joins Ganga Ji in his protest while Gandhari has given rise to a daughter named Priya Duryodhany.

The people who live in Hastinapur decided to make revolt against the British presidency of Marabar which was take over. Sir Richards actions escalate tensions leading to a message that claims about four hundred lives and left more than thousand injuries, in the meantime, epidemic strikes Calcutta and women named Sahara More convinces the jute mill manager to take his workers a bonus when the workers refused to give up that bonus they are locked out. Ganga Ji starts his first hunger strike in protest and the Mill owners' Association gives way

into the direction of the British Raj. Dhritarashtra and Pandu are in disagreement, they both want independence of India but Pandu wants to take a harder approach than Dhritarashtra and Pandu can do the British host a round table conference which Ganga ji attends and which promotes him to lead a great mango march in protest of a tax on mangoes. Pandu leaves the cover party; the great mango march is called by Ganga Ji after violence in Chaurasta. The narrator Vyas discusses how the politics enforced by British rule divided Indian people and how it affects in the formation of Muslim groups which is led by Ganga Shah who eventually offers leadership to Karna, the son of Kunti and Indradev becomes a lawyer and member of Kaurava part.

Besides making politics of caste and power, Pandu became the leader after winning election, and also step down right after not having vote of confidence, he made organization which joins Nazi and Japanese to fight against the British in Burma, he died because of heart attack.

After second world war, mass resignation of Kaurava party take place, Muslim groups came to prominence, the British announced to leave India, after independence Ganga ji is assassinated, Dhritarashtra become prime minister of India, Priya Duryodhana trying to undermine and destroy Pandavas, at the same time, Karna because the governor- general of Karnistan, political turmoil continues in which war, bank nationalisation and other developmental works are taken place, Priya Duryodhana lost her power after losing in election, she gains power later, right after the fall of previous government,

It has become common practice to take up tales from myths and mythology to recast them in a different framework of time, this act of writing a new versions of Grand narratives reinforces the national heritage in the people's perspective and remains as great work of art, it all about glorious past and great tale which shortly implies that it has to be continued in the future, but it does not mean anything in terms of imagining even the nations, which does not really exist anywhere, numerous creative and intellectual works already proven that it is an imaginary boundary, that subverting everything in the modern world. At the same time, unlike the defining features of the human being like gender and sex which is highly unstable, in terms of creating life of metamorphosis along with voluminous context, where everything far-reaching into implications of immeasurable time and spaces while gulping viciousness, and making way for amity and humanity.

Still the political and economical system of systems are considered in making of modern nation in the world, its nationalism which makes the nations, hence those passionate feelings make a great story of timelessness as their own in preserving their cultural stability, that to preserve, to propagated and to practice.

And still the meaning and existence of these tales are often seem doubtful and unreal, only when time frame is not founded, groups of people assume it as their legacy and history to store, to propagate in terms of oral tradition as well as written records so that it can provide a pathway of their own culture and tradition, and they also think that it will offer a pathway for the future.

The Great Indian Novel, a great creative art of greater imagination in which the very word 'Great' stands for legendary, historical as well marvelous events and personalities of a remarkable country called as 'India' by narrating its tale in the form of great Indian tale in which the novelist subside it by a selective word 'Novel' as an excellent and super fabulous imagination.

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