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A Study of “Train to Pakistan” Through a Different Perspective of Love and Sacrifice

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Abstract – *Train to Pakistan* also titled “Mano-Majra”. Khushwant Singh gives a detailed structure of love and affection of Sikhs and Muslims who lived together in peace for hundred years. The partition of India and Pakistan was one of the unfortunate and bloody religious clashes event in India. The people who love one another starts hating each other. Train is the most important symbol in the novel. With the changing description of train the tone of the novel also changed. After the news of the partition of India and Pakistan the killings started in Mano Majra the question arises who is responsible for this killings Hindus said that the Muslims had planned and started the killings followed by rape. But Muslims said that hindus were to blame. The fact was that both sides killed, both shot and stabbed, speared, chubbed, Tortured and raped. But in all this hatred some characters were there who live for humanity and who sacrifice their life only because to save life of others and the name of the character who live for humanity and died for others was Juggu. (Jaggut Singh)

Unlike other partition Novels, the major focus of the novel is not the killings. It is the feelings of love and compassion that we see and read on the pages of train to Pakistan.

Key Words – Partition, Killings, Hindus, Muslims, Love, Hatred.

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INTRODUCTION

In the summer of 1947 ten million people crossed border what was known as “the partition”. Due to religious and ethnic hatred, two million people were killed. Mano Majra is situated on the declared border between the still to be formed nations of India and Pakistan, turned into uncontrollable violence and horror in the name of partition, inspite of the repeated peace keeping efforts by many people in the village Khushwant singh was himself surprised that how a peace loving village become so bloody village where no one is there to calculate the value of blood. Blood is blood no matters whose.

After sometime an act of dacoity in the village causes a lot of tension. Later on the arrival of a ghost train from Pakistan spoils everything and the killings started from this point.

Khushwant singh has used the character of juggut singh to highlight the importance of love in saving humanity and compassion. His relationship with Nooran, who is the Muslim girl, hints at the futility of the differences and enmity on the religious basis. His love for nooran makes him to go against his community who were trying to kill innocents. It was his love who make him sacrifice his life for humanity and he make it possible and save the life of thousands of innocents.

Khushwant singh divided the novel into four parts. When in fourth parts the juggu sacrifice his life for other Muslim brothers. It was the moment which jmake this novel different from other partition novels. When Nooran heard that her parents has decided to go to Pakistan she gets bewildered at it as she was in love with juggu and wanted to live with him forever but she couldn't do anything in these prevailing's conditions. Nooran goes to her mother and tells her that she is pregnant with his child and doesn't want to leave him but all in vain.

Towards the end of the novel, people makes a plan to ambush the train taking the Muslims including those of Mano Majra to Pakistan. The people of Mano Majra specially sikh who were ready to sacrifice their life for Muslims a day before now ready to take the lives of other in view of the prevailing condition. Khushwant singh was himself very surprised that how a man can change in aday. Is it the effect of the situation But when juggut singh came to know about all this planning about the train, he performs the act of supreme self sacrifice to save the life of people. There were other people also who know about the plot and wanted to fail it but they were unable to do so but on the other hand juggut singh not care for his safety and sacrifice his life for this that the train may go rolling to his body he did not care he only wants that the train should reach Pakistan.

Juggut singh in spite of knowing the possible consequences of his decision, does not change his mind. The love become dominant and he forgets other things. His self-sacrifice is motivated by his love for Nooran. When he came to know from his mother that Nooran visited her before leaving for the refugee camp and she carries his (Jaggu's) child in her womb, he cannot bear the separation from his beloved. On the day when the train was attacked by the planners juggut singh appears on the bridge and cuts the rope, Stretched to sweep off the people sitting on the roof when the train passes through the bridge. The leader of the gang fires shot at jaggu and he falls down.

There was a volley of shots. The man shivered and collapsed. The rope snapped in the centre as he fell the train went over him and went to Pakistan. Juggut singh follows the granth and try his best to save the life of other people and do not care about the caste, religious and colour. A hatred never came to an end by the hatred whereas hatred ends with love. Love is the only light who can vanishes all the darkness of the world. From this point of view whether millions of people die but theme of love and sacrifice also get success. The time of partition is very tough but people like jaggu make it a little honourable.

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