
❖ Aims and Objectives:

- (1) Every one has to pay attention and respect to all cultures.
- (2) To show the importance of culture in relation to the individual
and his belongingness to that culture.
- (3) It is necessary to defend and maintain of old culture even if
one does not follow its principles customs and conventions.

❖ Hypothesis

Any old or new culture can be easily affected by another with
keeping of some conventions and customs of one's former
culture.

Abstract

For every man on this earth, culture represents the bread and butter of his life, his\her custom, language, religion and the way of living. Without being related to a culture is something almost difficult or impossible. The representatives of each culture have their reasons and justifications to like and defend of it as they believe in, but the problem is that some representatives of a culture thinks that theirs is the best and the fit one and others are wrong to follow another one. In this paper, "The conflict between the old Hinu culture and the Alien western culture in V.S. Naipauls' 'A house for Mr. Biswas' " we have two cultures in the same country and in the same house; the first one is the old Hindu culture which represents the old and restricted thoughts, customs, habits and system opposites to the Alien western culture which represents the new and open thoughts, style, fashion and new generation. The conflict between the two cultures raised when the representatives of the two cultures lived together in the same house and each one wishes to enforce his openion and thought to others. We tried to clarify the most important features of the two cultures and the way by which the representatives proved that they were loyal to their culture.

مستخلص

تعد الثقافة التي يعتقد بها الماء والهواء لحياة كل انسان يعيش على سطح هذه الارض، فهي تمثل بالنسبة لهذه التقاليد واللغة والدين وطريقة العيش. بحيث لا يمكن او ان من المستحيل لفئة او لشخص ما ان يعيش بلا ثقافة يؤمن بها. وان اصحاب هذه الثقافة لديهم اسبابهم ومبرراتهم ليجبوا او يدافعوا عنها لانهم وبكل بساطة يؤمنون بها، لكن المشكلة تكمن في ان بعضهم يتعصب لثقافته ويعتقد انها هي الافضل والانسب لهذا المجتمع وان الآخرين على خطأ في اتباعهم لغيرها في هذا البحث الموسوم " الصراع بين الحضارة الهندوسية القديمة والحضارة الغربية الاجنبية في رواية ف س نيبول 'بيت للسيد بسواز' " لدينا ثقافتين في نفس البلد بل وفي نفس المنزل، الاولى هي الثقافة الهندوسية القديمة والتي تمثل الافكار والتقاليد والاعراف والنظام القديم والصارم تقابلها الثقافة الغربية الاجنبية والتي بدورها تمثل الافكار والاسلوب والموضة والجيل الجديد والمنفتح. وقد شب النزاع بينها عندما عاش الممثلين لكلا الثقافتين في بيت واحد وكل واحد منهم يريد ان يدير البيت على نهج الثقافة التي يعتقد بها ويسير عليها ويجبر الآخرين على احترام ارائه. في هذا البحث، حاولنا ان نوضح السمات الاكثر اهمية لكلا الثقافتين والطريقة التي من خلالها اثبتت الشخصيات التي تمثل كلا الثقافتين انهم موالين لثقافتهم.

Introduction

Vidiadhar Surajprasad Naipaul was born in Chaguans, a small town on the Caribbean island of Trinidad, in August 1932. He was the grandson of Hindu immigrants from East India. During Naipaul's six years,

his family lived in this maternal grand parent's imposing home, which was known as Lion House and which formed the model for the Tulsi home in a house for Mr. Biswas.

V.S. Naipaul, the writer of the novel A House for Mr. Biswas was a good student, so he won a scholarship to Trinidad's finest high school and later government scholarship to study abroad. He passed graduation from Oxford University. He has won Nobel Prize for literature, in 1961 A House for Mr. Biswas became Naipaul's fourth published work and brought him international attention (James, 1976: 56).

The novel takes place over a period of almost fifty years. The life time of Mohan Biswas during the first half of the twentieth century, the setting is the Caribbean island of Trinidad, which is part of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

The story of the novel is about Mr. Mohan Biswas in a poor Brahmin family. From the first moment of his birth, the pundit foretells that he will be a spendthrift, a liar and a lecher, but he becomes an unlucky person, his father died his family is break up and he went with his mother to his aunt Tara. Then his aunt Tara takes him to a Hindu

priest, pundit Jairam to become a pundit.

Mr. Biswas leaves the training and goes to work in the rum-shop which is belong to Bhandat the brother of Tara's husband. But soon Mr. Biswas leaves him because he found him a cheater and also he accuses Biswas of stealing money.

Mr. Biswas again gets a job in painting. He paints sings for Tulsi store, on the ground floor of Hanuman House. He starts meeting Shama and feels attracted to her, Shama is the daughter of Mrs. Tulsi. Then Biswas gets marry of Shama and become one of the sons-in-law of Mrs. Tulsi and a member of Hanuman house in the capacity of being the husband of Shama.

In a short time, Shama and Biswas start quarrelling, blaming each other's families, Biswas blames even the relatives of Tulsi. Seth the brother of Mrs. Tulsi's husband, Govind who is one of Mrs. Tulsi's sons-in-law and others tried to persuade Biswas to stay there.

Directly Biswas moved to the village to work or run the Tulsi food-shop there (Lall, 2009:36).

From that time on, Mr. Biswas starts thinking of his independence, he does not want to be an dependent on any one even if they are the

family of his wife. In fact Mr. Biswas was not, in his desire to get his independence and get a new house representing himself only but everyone in any society searching for identity and independence. So, in this study we'll focus on the struggle of Mr. Biswas to get this independence and a new house and also the conflict between the two cultures at that time, the old Hindu culture and alien western culture (ibid:76).

What is Culture A culture is way of life of a group of people; the behaviors, beliefs, values and symbols that they accept, generally without thinking about them, and that are passed along by communication and imitation from one generation to the next (Wikipedia).

The culture of any people includes everything about, their life, their customs, their religion, their conventions and their language which is their way to transfer their culture to other cultures in this world. So everyone has to recognize and respect the culture of the other, because as we said it represents his; language, customs, religion and conventions, even if that culture seems to you that it is something funny, but we

have to respect it and do not dispraise it at least in front of the concerned
(Triandis, 1994: 105).

2- Traditional Hindu Culture

The Hindu culture is a one of the most ancient cultures in the world
especially the old Hindu culture, so dealing with such subject needs
a great effort to gather all the needed information which will clarify
the main articulation to this culture (Triandis, 1994:63).

With about 750 million believers, Hinduism is one of the world's
major religions. Hinduism developed in India around 500 B. C and is the
religion of the majority of Indians, Hindus also live in many other
countries, including Nepal, Malaysia, Guyana, Suriname and Sri Lanka.
More than 1.2 million Hindus live in the United States (Walker,
1968:84).

Hinduism differs from other religions in being polytheistic, the other
religion activities are done in a public group activities whereas the
Hindus practice many private rituals, either at home for important
events like marriage, birth and deaths or at temples which are a places
for worship.

The Hindu society has traditionally been divided into groups called

castes, based on heredity, which determine a person's occupation and status.

However the influence of caste has been weakening and discrimination based on caste, is now frowned upon in democratic India (Smith, 1923:78).

2-1- Hanuman House

Hanuman house is the house of the Tulsi family. After the death of Mr. Tulsi, Mrs. Tulsi becomes the head of the family with the assistance of Seth brother of Mrs. Tulsi's husband. All the sons-in-law live in the house.

They have to obey the orders of Mrs. Tulsi. After his marriage from Shama, Biswas becomes one of the sons-in-law of Mrs. Tulsi's. But because Biswas does not like to obey the orders especially from his mother-in-law and his self-respect, Biswas was unable to live with Tulsi's family (Tridib, 1994:91).

Hanuman house in a house for Mr. Biswas is as the "Lion House" where the family of Naipaul lived and it is also the house of Naipaul's maternal grandparent's. Hanuman House represents the old Hindu culture in this house everything is controlled by a number of rules and

nobody can break these rules for traditional and religious considerations.

Each one of the sons-in-law has to do specific work and he will get his food and dwelling.

Even the daughters whom they are the wives of the son-in-law have to work for the same purpose.

In the view of the fact that Mr. Biswas is one of the sons-in-law of Mrs. Tulsi and becomes one of the members of Hanuman house, he has to do whatever Mrs. Tulsi and her brother-in-law, Seth, want to but Mr. Biswas

does not like this and starts quarrelling with his wife, Shama. He starts blaming her family and even the relatives of her family. Shama returns to his speech with the same words or even than them (ibid:101).

Life in Hanuman House was consisting in red-tape or routine, doing the same work daily and nobody says "thank you" for you and not only this but they may scold you and treat you like a slave. Do your work to get your food and dwelling in return, like the military life, you have to say "yes, sir" no more, even if you do not like to do that work, do it without any discussion or objection.

Mr. Biswas as he represents the opposite side to Hanuman House or

the traditional Hindu culture upraised to reject that culture and tries to scatter or send his message to the societies search for identity and his love for independence during his thought about rejecting the enslavement of the other and his desire to get a new house, Mr. Biswas represents all the poor young men who have recently married and have the ability to live in an independence house, either because they follow the desires of their wives or mother-in-law (Walker, 1968:76).

2-2- Mrs. Tulsi

Mrs. Tulsi is the wife of Mr. Tulsi who was a very rich man in a village named Arwacas, he dies in a motor car accident. So Mrs. Tulsi becomes the head of the family after his death. It is a big family, so she has to do her best to run the house as it should be. Mrs. Tulsi is a strict and sly woman. She runs the house with worldly wisdom, she gives the orders and all have to obey. She sets out to make the sons-in-law work like slaves and receiving the orders from her and to do whatever she wants to be done. She also makes her daughters whom they are the wives of her sons-in-law work like their husbands to get food and dwelling in return (ibid:89).

Mrs. Tulsi represents the old Hindu culture which is the culture of

the old Indians, the old men and women who believe in superstitions and also thinks that everyone in their society has to be ideal in his behavior and has to follow the instructions of the religion and the community. They reject the new ideas of the young men and women in food and clothes and even in their behavior and talking. So Mrs. Tulsi does not like the style or the behavior of Mr. Biswas in blaming the Hanuman house and his search for identity. She scolds him and hates him for this and does her best to move him away from her house so as not to affect on the others who are the sons-in-law to stay and spread his ideas to the others, because these ideas may affect on the others and make them rebel against her and against the old Hindu culture. The confrontation between Mrs. Tulsi and Mr. Biswas represents the conflict between the old Hindu culture and the new one. When Biswas started his struggle to get his independence and his search for identity, Mrs. Tulsi feels that Biswas may destroy everything, he may split the whole family he may break the Hanuman House into pieces, so this means that he will demolish the old Hindu Culture.

The confrontation between the two cultures continued and Biswas

still searching for his identity and for independence, he always tries to get a new House, he sometimes borrows some money to get a new house or build one as he does not like the life of the dependent and wishes to have his own house, goes, comes, sleeps, wakes up, shouts and eats as he likes. For Mr Biswas a new house or your own house means that you can do whatever you want to be done, talk, walk and even wear, it means the freedom space where you can express your feelings and emotions and reactions. But for Mrs. Tulsi you have always to be subordinate and obey orders and you do not have to express yourself, only obey no one has to reject her orders (Karma, 1990:77).

2-3- Seth

Seth is the brother of Mr. Tulsi, brother-in-law of Mrs. Tulsi. He becomes the right hand of Mrs. Tulsi after the death of Mr. Tulsi. He assists Mrs. Tulsi and supports her in managing Hanuman House. He is responsible not only about helping her in managing the house but also about the Tulsi animals, the Tulsi lands, The Tulsi estates and shops (Lall, 2009:85).

Seth is the second one in Hanuman House and this means that he also represents, the old Hindu Culture. He advocates and supports Mrs.

Tulsi inher ideas and help her in practicing them.

Seth is shrewd like Mrs. Tulsi and he shows his shrewdness at the very outset when he lures Mrs. Biswas into agreeing to marry Shama. So he has an important role in the marriage of Biswas and Shama, and he is responsible for bringing Biswas to Hanuman House (ibid:104).

3- The alien western culture represented by Mr. Biswas.

The Tulsi represents the mother country, Great Britain, which strictly controlled the colony's daily life and development. Mr. Biswas represents the colonized people so Mr. Biswas is dependent in this case, he calls Mrs.

Tulsi "the old queen" who may mean "Queen Victoria". Then Mr. Biswas starts his struggle for independent and freedom but slowly (Adams, 1989:56).

Early in his life, Mr. Biswas develops unorthodox ideas. In spite of his training under the supervision of pundit Jairam, he does not influence of the orthodoxy, Mr. Biswas had also spent several years under a Christian teacher, Lal who also had a Christian friend boy called Alec, this has developed his new ideas about society and independence, then, when he comes into contact with Misir and meets a missionary

preaching the ideas of Arya Samaj, he adopts these ideas (ibid:79).

Mr. Biswas has grown in a more liberal environment. So he starts his rebellion against the Tulsi after he gets married of their daughter Shama.

He discovers that they represent an old culture which calls the power and authority upon the others. He starts searching for his independence and his identity even in Hanuman House. He blames the family of Shama and called it with names.

Mr. Biswas calls for freedom. He wants to be independent by having his own house, he thinks that having a new house means that you are free and independent. So he tries many times to get his own house. First, he decides to build a new house for himself (Parag, 2008:47).

The builder begins the work but the construction remains incomplete because Biswas has not got enough money, only for one room, But Biswas did not submit and live in that completed room only to feel that he makes something and that he is independent. But unfortunately, Biswas gets a mental shock and is taken to Hanuman House (Ramchand, 1996:87).

Thereafter Mr. Biswas builds a house of his own at short hills. He goes there to live with his family. But the house catches fire and is

partially destroyed and again he and his family return to live in Tulsi's House.

Later on Mr. Biswas has taken a loan from Ajodha who is the husband of Biswas's aunt, Tara. He bought a house for his own himself. But he loses his job of reporter of the newspaper "the Trinida Sentinel" and become very difficult for him to pay back the loan. He gets two heart-attacks and has to live in hospital for some days. At that time Savi returns and gets a job at a big salary. So Biswas feels relieved, but soon he dies at the age of forty-six (Naipaul, 2003:34).

Hence, A House for Mr. Biswas can be read as an account of Naipaul's father's struggle to make a life for his family, as an autobiographical account of how Naipaul came to be an author and an outcast from his homeland, or as a personalized account of the experiences of thousands of Indian immigrants in Trinidad.

4 – The effect of the alien western culture on the old Hindu culture

It is obvious that the alien western culture has made a great affect on the old Hindu culture. Being the Tulsi's are the representatives of the Old Hindu culture, at the end, most of the Tulsi daughters have gone to live with their husband's families. Also some of them have their own

houses. So the signs of change have been shown on the life of the Tulsis (Clemens, 1982:121).

The Tulsis start sending their children to city schools, and they begin speaking in English more than Hindi. They listen to western songs, and eat western food. Most of the customs and conventions have changed and the Tulsis have to accept it. Even Mrs. Tulsi starts to accept this change, she does not oppose her sons to marry Christian girls. Thus during the time, Tulsi changes into a mixture of old and new culture (ibid:145).

Conclusion We can not say that old Hindu culture is the perfect culture or not or the alien western culture is the needed culture for this world. Each culture has its own customs, conventions. The people take pride on their culture and consider it as the perfect one and it is the suitable of all the world, simply because it is their culture, and they believe that there is no culture better than their culture.

Thus the old Hindu culture has influenced clearly by the alien western culture represented not only by Mr. Biswas, but also by some of the members of the Tulsis.

We get to see a perfect blend of the Hindu and the western culture.

The Indian immigrants in Trinidad after spending more than 100 years
chose to adopt a bit of western culture to cope up with the changing
scenario of the place. Especially the Tulsis who welcomed certain names
of western culture keeping their innate Indian culture intact.

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