Contributions of Women’s To 20th Century Assamese Novel

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Abstract
A healthy society is being formed by the equal efforts of men and women. Contributions of both are important to create a real society. In country like India, women in parallel with man faced difficulties in the old days. But now it is seen to be the opposite. Now a days both men and women are bringing pride to the country by achieving a high level of success. In this way in the context of the North-East India, women’s of Assam have significant contributions to Assamese literature along with the various aspects of knowledge, Cultures, Science etc. This study attempts to discuss contributions of women’s to the Assamese Novel of the 20th century.

Keyword : 20th century Assamese novel, women’s contributions, women’s views.

0.0 Introduction :
Women’s have been facing difficulties in moving forward in parallel with men in society since ancient times. In this way, the skills that previously Assamese women had shown in the social, cultural field; in addition to the entire responsibility of children and families were not socially recognized. Rather than women were tied up with some religious discipline. But reforms the 19th century, the circulation of female education under the initiative of missionary in Assam changed the previous tradition for women.

In the light of education Assamese women were able to establish their own in all social fields by gradually expanding their family ties. In that case Assamese women also have to enrich the field of literature. This study provides a discussion on how women have contributions to the Assamese literature of the 20th century novels.

0.1 The objective of the study
The main objective of this study are :–

- To find out the contributions of women’s to Assamese literature.
- To determine the nature of the 20th century novel.
- Base on the novel of the female novelist to find out their social views.
0.2 Methods and scope of the study

Assamese women’s have lot of contribute to Assamese novel. This study has been included in the 20th century novel only. In this study applies descriptive and analytical method.

1.0 Main Discussion :

Assamese novels have been influenced by Western literature specially, English literature. In the 19th century, the Assamese novel was started by missionaries in the ideal of Western literature. Stories like ‘Yatrikar Yatra’ by Nathan Brown, ‘Olokeshi Besyaar Bisai’ by A.K Gurney; ‘Phulmoni aru Karuna’, ‘Kaminikantar Charitra’ by Mrs. Gurney, ‘Sudhormar Upakhyan’ by Pabmavati Devi Phukanani etc published in the magazine ‘Arunudoi’ opened the way for Assamese novels to be essayed. Later the 19th century, the novel ‘Bhanumoti’, ‘Lahori’ by Padmanath Gohain Baruah; ‘Padum kunwori’ by Lakshminath Bezboroa were really started the trend of Assamese novel.

1.1 The 20th century Assamese novel

The trend of Assamese novels established in the 19th century was nourished in the 20th century. Rajanikanta Bordoloi’s novels enriched the novels of the first half of the 20th century. Rajanikanta Bordoloi based on the social thoughts write the novel ‘Miri Jiori’ and his novels ‘Rohdoi Ligiri’, ‘Ringili’, ‘Nirmal Bhakat’, ‘Manumati’, ‘Dondua Droh’ enrich the genre of historical novels. In addition, Dandinath Kalita, Dinanath Sharma, Doibya Chandra Talukdar, Hiteswar Boro, Lakshminath Bezboroa, Sintaharan Patgiri etc author has written various novels and enriched the Assamese novel of the first period of the 20th century.

From the 40s period of 20th century, the new genre of Assamese novel began. In this way, Bina Borua (Birinchi Kumar Barua) wrote the novel ‘Jivanan bata’ at that time. Later on, the people of Syed Abdul Malik, Prafulla Dutta Goswami, Birendra Kumar Bhattacharya, Jogesh Das, Nabakanta Borua, Bhabendra Nath Saikia, Homen Borgohain, Lakshmi Nandan Bora and other people established the foundation of modern novels by writing novels on the basis of the contemporary incidents, social situations etc.

1.2 Contribution of Female Novelist to the Assamese Novel of the 20th Century


Nirovdhi’, ‘Iparor Ghar Siparor ghar’ is a river based and regional novel. Her novel ‘Iparor ghar Siparor ghar’ is a life of unwed, absorbed women in the village area. It may be mentioned that women are more prominent than men in her novels. Her novels depict the mentality of the woman’s, the different family problems of women’s life, effects on women of new era thinking. Her novels like ‘Anya Jibon’, ‘Champabati’ and ‘Mar Proti Morom aru Sradhare’ have a wide spread of feminism thoughts. Again, the novel ‘Anya Jibon’also contains Marxism thought.

Another powerful female writer Mamoni Raisom Goswami has written several important novels. They are – ‘Chinabar Srotā’, ‘Neelakathi Braja’, ‘Ahiran’, ‘Mamore Dhora Taroval’, ‘Datal Hatir Une Khowa Howda’, ‘Nangath Sohor’ etc. In her novels some important issues have been thoroughly discussed in the form of a visual experience. Sympathy for the neglected classes of society can be seen in her novels. Her novels ‘Chinabar Srotā’, ‘Ahiran’, ‘Mamore Dhora Taroval’ etc expresses sympathy for the misery, deception, and human relations of such a society. Her novels like ‘Datal Hatir Une Khowa Howda’, ‘Neelakanthi Braja’ clearly shows the misery of widow’s life, the cruel policies of society towards them, superstition, the loss of human values etc. Some of her novels have also revealed the feminism thoughts.


Another novelist Tilottoma Mishra wrote the novel ‘Swaralata’, bseed on the story of the daughter of Gunabhiram Barua, one of the important person of the Assamese Romanticism movement. In addition in that novel intellectual and cultural world of Assam and Bengal in the 19th century also historically highlighted.

Another women Swarna Boruah’s novel ‘Diyung Nodir Geet’ (1985), ‘Simsangor Hahi’ (1987), ‘Meghor Jomuna’, ‘Thams’ has been a collection of societies and cultures in hills and valleys and their unity. It should be noted that besides these, several woman have also been able to contribute to the creation of one-two novels. But not everyone was able to put a long time in Assamese novel.

In recent times, 21st century many women’s have been able to create a lot of popularity by writing Assamese novels. In this case the name of writers Rita Chowdhury, Arupa Patangia Kalita, Anuradha Sharma Pujari, Purobi Bormudoi, Juri Bora Borgohain, Monikuntala Bhattacharya, Sarmistha Pritam etc are notable.

2.0 Conclusion :

Women’s novelist of 20th century has attempted to see society and life from a self-contained perspective through their novels. Their novels have beautifully revealed contemporary events, human social status, new theory of literature, writer’s philosophy of life. In this way female novelist has contributed significantly to the prosperity and development of Assamese novels.
End notes
1 Lila Gagoi, *Adhunik Asomia Sahityar Parisai*, p.321
2 Nogen Thakur, *Axo Basoror Asomia Uponyakh*, p.72
3 Hemanta kumar Sarma, *Asamiya Sahityat Dristipat*, p.266

BIBLIOGRAPHY