

Analytical study of Vinod Kumar Shukla's novel 'Noukar ki kamij'

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Poet, novelist and narrator Vinod Kumar Shukla is one of the distinguished creators of the second half of the twentieth century who has given a new direction to contemporary Hindi literature. Pleased with diverse qualities, Vinod Kumar Shukla's personality is characterized by happiness, sensitivity, simplicity, simplicity and mythology. Vinod Kumar Shukla has lived the simple life of the middle class, so his works have a subtle and lively depiction of the reality of life. Vinod Kumar Shukla is identified in Hindi literature as a strong storyteller. He has made a special identity in the field of novel, story and poetry. Human novels prevail in his novels. He gives a message of morality, non-violence, love and compassion to a society riddled with violence, malice, selfishness, immorality. Born on 1 January 1937 in a middle-class family of Radnandgaon, Madhya Pradesh, Vinod Kumar Shukla got inspiration from literature from home. His uncle Pandit Kishori Lal was associated with politics and his cousin Bhagwati prasad himself was interested in literature. Due to which Vinod Kumar Shukla got to learn the first lesson of writing in the home school.

Vinod Kumar Shukla's first novel 'Noukar ki kamij' was published in 1979. 'Noukar ki kamij' is a novel presenting the reality of Indian life. The film has been produced by Manikoul in 1999 on the novel 'Noukar ki kamij' and 'bozh' story. His novel has also been translated into a theatrical. This novel has been translated into some languages of India. He has also been in English and French. As a novelist, he has composed the material of the lower middle class life of Chhattisgarh. In the words of Vishnu Khare - "Vinod Kumar Shukla's In novels there is no great event, no great struggle, no age-truth, no clear purpose or message visible, because in him that low middle class life is present in such a perfect way that he has no faith in it. There is also no main villain in these novels, whose conduct can again underline the universally accessible reality."¹

In all the novels of Vinod Kumar Shukla, there is reference to a society which is controlled only by the power of power. Weak and unarmed people only suffer under the power of this power. Novelists depict this enjoyment in their own unique style. The context of 'Naukar ki kamij' is where Santu, instead of doing his job, remains as a servant peeling the grass in the garden of the Sahib. There are many forms of pressure in 'Khilega to dekhte'. They are not direct, but indirect, but dominate the whole life like spirit.

Vinod Kumar Shukla's novels have many moments of happiness and sorrow in the lives of the lower middle class. The depiction of the status of the lower middle class is clearly reflected in Vinod Kumar Shukla's novels. In which a person constantly struggles with his time and situation and this is the truth of

his life. He accepts this truth very easily. Because in the struggle of life, he is not disappointed even after losing, but with new hope he is ready to fight again.

Vinod Kumar Shukla's novel 'Noukar ki kamij' is deeply identified with the reality of the lower middle class family. 'Noukar ki kamij' is a novel presenting the reality of Indian life and the man's misdeeds. In the context of this novel, Jyotish Joshi writes - "In this novel, showing the torture of a clerk of a lower middle-class Indian family, the irony of the Indian system has been stifled. At the same time, this novel not only directly strikes ungrateful, but also creates an atmosphere in the satirical style with the help of short sentences."²

The main character of the novel is Santu Babu. The story of Santu Babu is a story of helplessness and the meaninglessness generated by it. Santu Babu works as a clerk in a government office in Chhattisgarh. They get married a year ago and live with their wife and mother in a rented house. Due to the low salary, he fulfills his requirements of life. They say - "My salary was a stockade, which I could not afford to break." This stockade fit into me like a shirt. And I was getting my salary to the extent of being weak with all my strength."³ However, Santu Babu's landlord is a big doctor of the city. The roof of the house is tiled and water drips from the roof. He tells the landlord about this problem but the owners do not talk about repairing the roof. Santu Babu does not drown in despair even in moments of absence, humiliation, guilt but draws life force from within and develops the same values in his wife. He tells his wife - "It is good that we are both husband and wife. There is only one bunk space where we will be able to sleep comfortably for the rest of the night. If she had been a mother, she would have fallen asleep on this bed and would we have spent the rest of the night talking and standing in the corner?"⁴ The doctor's wife also makes Santu Babu's wife get her housework done in awe of her richness. Santu Babu does not like seeing all this. The doctor's sister works as a foursome but due to her not being well, Santu Babu's wife has to go there every day to work as an outpost. Husbands and wife have to suffer in front of this system of upper class. One day Santu Babu came and said to his wife - "The doctor was telling me to sit on the chair the whole time. He has blood pressure. Therefore, it does not enter the foursome. They feel dizzy with the smell of smoke and burning coal. There is a lot of panchayat in their household work. The doctor takes out a lot. I must have said at least ten times that my sari is very dirty. Work around the saree. His chowk is very big and clean. There is a lot of stuff. I pity the doctor's sister. She would act like a maid. She lives like a maid."⁵

The degradation of human values along with class discrimination is clearly present in this novel where a sister has to live like a maid in her own house. How can a person who keeps his sister like a maid give food to his clerk. In the words of the doctor - "I am not an advocate of giving even the leftovers of the house to the servants. The taste that we know, we should never know. If this happens, there will be discontent among them. Later, our people's suffering will increase. Give them the food they eat. Don't give the rest what we eat."⁶

Santu Babu's inauguration of life's amazing ability to live life in spite of lack of expression and tragedy. Inhumanity, corruption, selfishness have shaken the life of the common man due to the prevailing immorality in the society. In place of gaiety, hope, peace and patience, sadness, discouragement, sadness, resentment and fear etc. have surrounded the common man's state of mind. He is constantly struggling with all these situations. This demand of Santu Babu in the novel is not only his wish but also a call to the suffering of the suffering middle class of this country.

The harsh moment of insult of Santu Babu comes when he is forcibly put on 'Noukar ki kamij'. Their souls groan and they too become helpless like Rama and are held in a chain of meaninglessness. It is not that Santu Babu does not have anger, but in front of the situation, all his consciousness becomes cold and he keeps on smiling inside. In this novel, Santu Babu wants to live every moment of life and move forward, covering every single moment of life, but he gets trapped in this social order and irony. Vinod Kumar Shukla described Santu Babu's nemesis as little sutras, mutual conversation, whisper, coworkers behavior, domestic troubles, rain crisis, burning of shirt by Santu Babu and his co-workers, Santu Babu and his wife changing houses Thinking about and finally breathing liberation is the circle of this novel.

Vinod Kumar Shukla dissolves the dimensions of novel art in his compositions. There is no color in his writing, but he has presented a living image of reality in his novels. From the point of view of the old classical novels, it would not be appropriate to find a miracle in the formation of the plot, plurality of events, poetry, early development and extremes. In the novel, Vinod Kumar Shukla has marked the mindset of the lower middle class who, despite being intellectually enlightened, could not get rid of their frustrations. In the novel 'Noukar ki kamij', the author has a very poignant portrayal of the small deprivations, aspirations and the battles fought for them in the lower middle class life.

Vinod Kumar Shukla is a common story writer in Hindi literature. In the end, it can be said that Vinod Kumar Shukla in his literature has marked the reality of lower middle class life. There is a belief in the life of the characters of his novel 'Noukar ki kamij', enduring the lack of life. The 'reality of scarred life' is an important link to their lives. Bearing his constraints, shortages and problems, he collects moments of happy and beautiful life in the same life.

Reference book –

1. Dr. Sannukh Nagnath Muchache - Vinod Kumar Shukla ka rashana Sansar, Aman Prakashan, Kanpur, first edition - 2011, Page No. - 53-54
2. Same Page No. - 38
3. Vinod Kumar Shukla - Noukar ki kamij, Aadhar Prakashan, Haryana, Second Edition - 2011, Page No. - 15
4. Same, Page No. - 48
5. Same, Page No. – 68 - 69
6. Same, Page No. - 103