

Study of Social Systems in Relation to Good and Evil, as Shown in Selected Novels by Chetan Bhagat

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ABSTRACT

The objective of writing this paper is to put evidences to show some social disequilibrium and social Good and Evil in the two selected novels of Chetan Bhagat i.e. *Revolution 2020* and *One Night @ the Call Center*. Bhagat has shaken the sensitivity Indian with his ideas, which invite reflection on the human condition bent on the net of love, corruption and ambition. He has always been very careful and aware of most of the problems associated with society. It deals with issues directly in corporate lifestyle, modern education system, misunderstandings, corruption, exploitation, patriarchal configuration and globalization in his novels. He also gave some ideas for problem solving through his characters in these novels. In *Revolution 2020*, Gopal, the protagonist of the novel will change the traditional education system with the support of MLA Shukla. In *One Night @ the Call Center*, Bhagat attempted to explore the world of call centers and their culture. *One Night @ the Call Center* is a wonderfully written romantic comedy in the corporate office where group of young Indians get bored, questions of meaning of technophobes the call center. The story is moving around interesting characters and their life stories.

1. Introduction

Chetan Bhagat is one of the most famous Indian writers of modern English literature, born on April 22, 1974. He began his journey as a writer in 2004 with his first novel *Five Point Someone*. Bhagat is considered a postmodern writer and has introduced his world of luxury to today's youth. The subjects are vast and different. The Novels represent normal human experiences such as loneliness, strangeness, despair and fear. The protagonists of his novels suffer from modern and unorganized life of disappointment, alienation, loneliness, separation and disorder.

2. Revolution 2020

Bhagat strikes the social corruption of evil directly through the character of Gopal in the *Revolution 2020*. It is a triangular love story between Gopal, Raghav and Aarti but this article shows the corruption caused by a lower middle-class family and the problems they face in the novel. It addresses the subject of how a private training center exploits future engineering students. Education is considered everyone's fortune - families to raise their children, all parents think they have accomplished something in their life. Therefore, they put all their income into life and spend it on the next coming of children. They spend all the money on these trainings so that their children can easily access the engineer certification and change the family norm. In the same way, Gopal, the protagonist of the novel after his failure in the joint entrance exam (JEE), is forced by his father to join a training center in Kota. Here, Bhagat describes Kota and its place as a place for the preparation of the entrance test of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT). The father of Gopal, said, "In fact, now the workshops Kota training little he has to exercise, is the best training. From there, he would form an engineering school" (59).

The father of Gopal spending his retirement savings as the investment costs for the training center. At Kota, Gopal does his best to pass the exam, but fails several times due to his lack of goals. Due to his love for Aarti, he was unable to focus on his studies. The old father of Gopal cannot resist his son dying repeated failures, without having acute fulfilled his last wish. Bhagat has been the real family of the middle class and misunderstandings through the education system introduced by the father of Gopal.

Bhagat evokes the life Gopal of after the death of his father is an orphan. Lenders and creditors urged him to return the money. Debt, two lakhs therefore signed an agreement with local Legislator Shukla, to start a private engineering school on his family's controversial land. Bhagat is ironic that an uneducated Gopal will head a new engineering university called "Ganga Tech College". This shows the reality in most of the country's private engineering universities.

Gopal learns to bribe officials, meets the university government for leadership. He wants to eat while Raghav says, "Not taking everything is not fair ... cutting into two parts. Take one, leave the other" (9-10). Gopal impresses of twisting and loosening the rules. He also bribes to punish professors who enter university as a faculty. Gopal, supported by MLA Shukla, the most corrupt leader in Varanasi, fulfills his ambition of 30 rupees under the name of Ganga Action Plan. In this novel Bhagat represents the spirit of the student, that everything can be done, or any work can be done in the office of the government by corruption. The world is very fast. Everyone wanted to make people without a tail. The officers are bribed and the work is done without pain and without loss of time. Gopal becomes an expert in dealing with corrupt politicians and how to get their work done by them by offering many unethical means.

Bhagat has always been very careful and aware of most of society's problems. This is why he writes in his article in The Times of India:

Many of us quite unhappy as trained and emotionally involved in our country, feeling the pain of being these days. We see that our nation has been looted and mismanaged by the ruling leaders (3).

Bhagat always wanted this type of corrupt and immoral society to change. Therefore, he introduced his second character, Raghav, a childhood friend of the protagonist Gopal in Varanasi. In *Revolution 2020*, Gopal, Raghav and Aarti all the three characters are belong to the Sunbeam school in Varanasi. The goal of Raghav was to sensitize society that creates without corruption. He joined the Indian Institute of Technology at the Hindu Banaras University (IIT-BHU) in engineering to not only get a diploma but also to realize his ambition as a journalist. After finishing her studies, she joined the daily as a future journalist. Bhagat answers the question of Diksha Sahni of *Revolution2020*:

Revolution 2020 is above all a love story, in fact a love triangle, since Gopal and Raghav love the same girl. Corruption, particularly in the education sector, is the last drop in history. Like all his novels, the best-selling author tries to show the problems of the young generation and ultimately offers the best possible solutions. The author is trying to display the current status of the three friends. In this novel, the characters Gopal and Raghav yearn for love, fame and success.(3)

Raghav begins his life as an idealist and believes that everything can be changed. He tried to reach his goal with the power of his pen. He started a newspaper called *Revolution 2020* and tried to educate people against corruption. The *Revolution 2020* suggests that a revolution is only possible thanks to the efforts of people and their internal dynamism. Firm determination, honesty, commitment to work and persuasion in the right direction can lead to the desired goal and the impossible may be possible. Gopal tells in the novel:

Revolution 2020 is their goal. India must have a complete revolution by 2020. Power will be with the young. We will dismantle the old corrupt system and replace a new one. (197)

Raghav intended to develop the attitude of reincarnation in the society in which the next generation can live in society without social imbalance. Raghav came on a mission to eradicate corruption and he wants to help the poor and wants to bring a change in the society. In his writing, Bhagat Shukla MLA demonstrated to the most corrupt man; Shukla therefore had to give up his post as MP. Aarti stood behind Raghav as moral support for his plan. Aarti is another character who goes to Gopal for momentary joys and collects all the information from him and reveals Raghav and finally marries Raghav Aarti. Gopal wants to prove that he is the most successful man in life by earning a lot of money, power and even love

for Aarti. The words of Innocent Raghav in the newspaper change head in the world and realize that Raghav is a better person than he. Mr. Arvind has said in his article that:

Corruption is the burning problem of the world. All countries of the world face the problem of corruption in one way or another, but the youth of today is against corruption in all areas of life. (3)

The Raghav newspaper frightened the corrupt leader and that is why they started to change. It is only the beginning, at the end of the novel, he reaches his ambition of a society without corruption. In the novel, Gopal, Aarti is handedover to Raghav wholeheartedly, with a change of heart, Gopal gains the mass sympathy of the reader. Convert all negative things into positive things for the good of society.

3. One Night @ the Call Center

The questions of Bhagat's socio-political and literary factors dominate in his works. He made a serious effort to discover the state's lucrative private education business. It is the only hope for millions of people in all villages who cannot pass the engineering school entrance exam. His novel *One Night @ the Call Center* describes the pros and cons of society. Through this novel, Bhagat depicts the life of the bourgeois family in the capitals of the country. It is a story of emotions, love, sadness and pity.

The One Night @ the Call Center in Chetan Bhagat is about six people who work in the call center and also describe their problems and a call from God a good night at their place of work. Human expectations are limitless and if they are not met, they become frustrated and accuse God. Three men and three women work in groups in a call center. Each character has their own problems in the background and is fed up with their life. Shyam is the storyteller; he is the main character in this novel. He is in love with Priyanka, dedicated to Ganesh, a boy from NRI who is living in NYC. Varun, the friend of Shyam, is not interested in the job because he and Shyam think their boss; Mr. Bakshi has cheated in various aspect of the job of characters who are working at the call center. Varun is only used for the state. Priyanka becomes engaged due to pressure from her mother with Ganesh, although they love Shyam. Esha Singh remains without her family at their destination as a model to reach. Radhika is married, even though she loved her husband very much, she returns from her family life thanks to her stepmother. She thinks her husband is having an affair with another girl, so she is fed up. And the last sign is that the person the older of the appeal of the Military Uncle at the callCenter, this character of uncle is also upset that the contact of his little son has ceased, and is upset by his solitude.

In this way, all the characters in the novel are turned upside down in their lives, wanting something magical to happen to them and for all their problems to change. Bhagat presents God as a character who calls everyone overnight. Give everyone an idea to solve their problem over the phone:

It takes four things to succeed: a medium level of intelligence, a little imagination, self-confidence and failure. (134)

He motivates everyone to learn and courageously face his problem, and also says that this world is full of problems, so everyone should learn to face it. God advised them to make every effort to reach their goals.

4. Bhagat and God

Chetan Bhagat has uniquely shown God speaking through mobile phone in the novel unlike other writer. The God said:

Once you have failed, you will not be afraid. It is easier for you to take risks. Then you no longer want to curl up in your comfort zone - you are ready to fly. And success means steal, no cuddling, said God. God sighed before speaking again. I think you have to understand how my system works. You see, I have a contract with everyone. I am doing my best and time he follows me to give him an extra boost. But he has to start with you, because I can't say who else my help is most needed. (134)

After receiving God's call, everyone's life changes. They begin themselves to deal with their problems. This solves their problems. All represented by Bhagat characters are both common problems and personal problems. They discuss the current situation in which people are facing their problems today, such as: work stress, love problems, night shifts, friendship and legal restrictions. Despite all the problems, the middle-class family tries to comfort themselves in a luxurious life, so they spend proudly and save less.

In *One Night @ Call Center*, Bhagat addresses the issues that women face in patriarchal society. They have a lot of problems at work, working in double shifts, one at home and the other at the office, to earn money and status and enjoy a luxurious life. People work all the time and cannot courageously face small problems. They only cannot understand the feelings of others, they do not look at other people's problems. They have no real friends because they are not real and share their reality. They just act like machines in the office and their only goal was to be luxurious. This creates stress and they cannot cope with their own problem. They want someone to solve their problems.

Bhagat gives the solution to the problem by God. His advice to modern youth is to believe in God and believe in the highest. Only belief in God can change your life from all kinds

of stress and psychological problems. Motivate the young man to follow God's way. This applies to everyone. Bhagat is focused also on the western influence issues in modern society, such as misunderstandings among young people lead to divorces, breakups, stress, frustration and ultimately suicide.

5. Environment in Call Center

Bhagat portrays the present life of the call center with great clarity. The boss, Mr. Baxi from the call center, did not want to call the character with his own name. Hence the name is changed to West Indian. For Radhika, her name Regima Jones, Varun as Vroom and Esha Singh as Eliza throughout the novel. This shows how western culture is influenced in India and how it treats people as resources. The operating corporate is made by Bhagat in the treatment of humans in the work of the call center.

The *One Night @ the Call Center* in Bhagat also deals with topics such as alcohol consumption and smoking as a style. Although they are polite, they know the side effects of such things, although they use them as a style for fun and amusement: "Six irresponsible agents found dead, alcohol in the body" would be the title" (128). When asked whose answer was they wanted relief from stress, these business sectors offer vacation to enjoy and influence Western culture of the Indians, and the young people working in these business sectors consider themselves Western and follow their culture. As a fashion, you only speak a foreign language, you are addicted to drugs, alcohol and tobacco and even to a higher social life without getting married. Bhagat shows all the imbalances social in society and how the tradition and culture of India are influenced.

6. Conclusion

The novels of Chetan Bhagat show the social imbalance. *Revolution 2020* and *One Night @ the Call Center*, these two selected novels highlight and focus upon the issues such as the corporate way of life, the modern education system, misunderstandings between them, corruption, exploitation, patriarchal configuration, globalization, and social and personal issues. Bhagat had tried to solve this problem through his character; in *Revolution 2020* Raghav has shown as change agent whereas, in *One Night @ the Call Center* GOD is performing this duty.

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