



Social and Human Impacts in Mulk Raj Anand's Writings

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ABSTRACT :

As an Indian novelist, reformer, essayist, handicraft commentator, editorial manager, writer of short stories, columnist, and political lobbyist, Mulk Raj Anand is extraordinarily exceptional. A writer's opinions and dispositions are shaped by many factors that impact them from early life till their death, and Mulk Raj Anand is no different. His scholarly, social, and cultural background all influences his work and demeanour. Anand's books make this point more clearly. We witness a profound knowledge of the advantages and disadvantages of the traditional Indian way of life, as well as the effects of modernity on it. India is the setting for the majority of his stories. Anand's tone is ruthless, bitter, sardonic, and satirical as the subject and the situation demand, while also revealing the limitations of tradition. His recurrent themes include religious prejudice, hypocrisy, the feudal system, East-West encounters, women's roles in society, superstitions, poverty, pain, misery, hunger, and exploitation. The subject matter of author Mulk Raj Anand is human nature. Like a piece of coloured glass, his works embrace human experiences and exude a feeling of life and character. He has been fully submerged in the vivid, flowing essence of mankind, and he is deeply affected by its sorrow. Anand, a humanist, has skillfully captured the harsh and heartless Indian society that betrays the plight of the underprivileged. According to Anand, humanism is the use of reason, logic, and reasoning to the greater welfare of all people. Anand views humanism as a manner of thinking and acting rather than a philosophy. It is, in essence, about living a purposeful and productive life.

Keywords Humanism, Socialism, Untouchability, Rationality,

Introduction :

English-language Indian author Mulk Raj Anand gained notoriety for portraying the life of the lower castes in conventional Indian culture. He was among the first Indian-based English-language writers to reach a global readership, along with R. K. Narayan, Ahmad Ali, and Raja Rao. He is considered one of the pioneers of Indo-Anglian fiction. Mulk Raj Anand is a socially conscious author of over a hundred books, including several essays and articles on a wide range of subjects. He has also published over twelve novels and around seventy novels. His writings may be divided into two groups: social fiction and autobiographical fiction. He concentrated on the pain, suffering, and misery that the impoverished endured as a result of being exploited by the downtrodden class in Indian society. Anand is respected for his novels and short tales, which have become classic pieces of contemporary Indian English writing because of their insightful portrayals of the lives of the downtrodden and their insightful critiques of poverty, exploitation, and bad luck. A family tragedy sparked by the inflexibility of the caste system marked the beginning of Anand's writing career. In response to his aunt's suicide, he wrote his first written essay. Her family had excommunicated her for dining with a Muslim woman.

Published in 1935, *Untouchable*, his debut work, was a terrifying depiction of the daily existence of an individual belonging to India's untouchable caste. It tells the tale of a single day in the life of a toilet cleaner named Bakha, who by chance runs upon someone from a higher caste. With this straightforward work, which effectively conveyed the power of Punjabi and Hindi vernacular in English, Anand gained widespread recognition and the moniker "India's Charles Dickens." The first book written by Mulk Raj Anand, *Untouchable*, is an intensely cerebral discussion of the karmic illusion of untouchability and work. The dialogue in *Untouchable* summarises the Western and Gandhian ideologies of social and moral progress between the lawyer R.N. Bashir and the youthful, moderate poet Iqbal Nath Sarshar. The first book written by the renowned Mulk Raj Anand, *Untouchables*, is a singular masterpiece of literature. Joycean uses a style known as "Stream of Consciousness" to narrate a single day in the life of Bakha, the novel's protagonist, in the city of Balushah. The untouchable boy Bakha is a victim of a caste-based society.

Mulk Raj Anand's *Coolie*, *Two Leaves and a Bud*, his second and third novels, are mostly focused on the negative aspects of the class structure. These books demonstrate that class inequality is more detrimental than caste hierarchy. A humanist who discusses human labour is *Coolie*. The tragic tale of human suffering in *Coolie*. Munoo's ordeal and suffering serve as crucial markers of the man's heinous delight in hurting domestic children. Munoo stands in for the innumerable kids whose childhoods are wasted due to ceaseless physical labour. To her, words like money, love, and caring seem weird. Mulk Raj Anand returns again and again to the subject of human misery. Anand believes that Munoo might have lived a happy life and been spared his terrible demise if the corporation had shown a little more compassion and understanding. Numerous English-language Indian writers have addressed the subject of segregation and untouchability. However, Mulk Raj Anand was inaccessible to everyone. Numerous authors of Indian Writing in English have addressed the subject of segregation and untouchability. However, no one has even managed to get close to Mulk Raj Anand.

Through his literary prowess and unique viewpoints, he has made every effort to instill sound human values and bring about a profound social revolution in our society, one where everyone may live happily and experience the joys of brotherhood, peace, love, and justice. Anand attempts to capture the social reality of the struggle between the powerful and the weak in his book *Coolie*. The unbridgeable divide between the ruled and the

oppressed, and the exploiters and the exploited, is shown in the narrative. It tells the tale of Munoo, a little hill lad who, in his misguided quest for freedom, is thrashed from pillar to post.

Two Leaves and a Bud, the third book, is devoted to exposing the wrongs of exploitation and the British class structure. The misery of Assamese tea plantation labourers is discussed in the book. It expresses the never-ending suffering of the tea plantation workers under the incredibly egotistical British owners who saw the male workers as bound slaves and their wives and daughters as objects of sex. The protagonist of the book, Gangu, loses his family property, gets taken advantage of by avaricious lenders, and was drawn to the British-owned Assamese tea plantation by Sardar Buta, the coolie catcher. In the estate, Gangu looks forward to a better future. However, it doesn't take him long to realise that he's entered a true hell. There is no water supply or sanitary amenities on the site. dreadful infections are nearly always a hazard to coolies. In an attempt to start again, Gangu travels to Assam, but he ends up dead. The labourers are exposed to a brutal militaristic organization and are denied basic freedoms.

The idea of the high caste taking advantage of the lower caste remains the same, despite changes to the décor and people. The story of the street centres on a single event in the untouchable's small-town existence. The rivalry between the Hindu caste and the weak, inviolate castes stems from the episode when a road was constructed to assist the transportation of Govardhan's milk to Gurgaon, a nearby town. Although the road's development shortens travel times, it widens the divide between the two social strata. Because of the issue with untouchables accessing temples, the tale opens with a fight between Hindu high-caste youths and the lower caste, or Bhikhu.

Bhikhu becomes enraged at his mother's humiliation. The teenagers stutter nasty obscenities as they flee until a kind-hearted man steps in. In summary, social justice might be considered Mulk Raj Anand's primary priority. The long-standing traditions and norms of Indian culture have made all of his heroes victims. The readers feel pity for them because of their passive suffering. This compassion forces us to consider social reform while also ensuring fairness for all societal segments. Anand's concept is thus fully fulfilled when his hero inspires readers to consider social fairness.

Conclusion :

We have reached a specific conclusion based on our current analysis of Anand's works, which pays particular attention to the several themes that his books are built on. Anand is maybe the most interested in the finer points of literature and society out of all the Indian creative authors who write in the English language. His opinions on the matter are dispersed among several writings and publications. His life's work is now to discover the reality of human and social interactions.

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