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### Depiction of Marginalization in Bapsi Sidhwa's *Water*

#### Abstract

Literature is witnessing different multitudes and it is creating a rampant discourse in the academia which is the need of the hour. Marginalized voices have so many untold truths and these truths are vibrant which challenges the power structures too. The novel *Water* by Bapsi Sidhwa portrays the plight of women as widows as in the ancient period and the male domination in the society. Thus the title 'water' can be referred in two different ways that is the tears that comes out from every widows to attain their liberty, the nature.

**Keywords :** Marginalized, Tears, Truths, Power Structures

Literature, it means depicting the life of the people in the society. Bapsi Sidhwa in her novel "Water", she mainly focused on the marginalized things through the voices of women, by naming it feminism. It shows the tears of the widows appeared in her novel associated with that of nature. This, it has been termed eco-feminism.

Mainly, Bapsi Sidhwa adapts Deepa Mehta's controversial film into a novel, which indicates the plight of the women as widows. The novel, 'Water' follows the life of Chuyia, an eight year old girl, who has been abandoned at a widow's ashram after the death of her husband. Being a small girl, she was unwilling to accept the fate which comes during her child age and finally she becomes a catalyst.

Later, she has been friendly with another beautiful widow, Kalyani, who falls in love with a young, upper class Gandhian idealist. Kalyani was later pulled her in the prostitution for more expense. By knowing this, the Gandhian idealist, boldly challenges the Hindu tradition and threatens to undermine the ashram's delicate balance of power.

The novel deeply focuses on the plight of women as widows. But, being a child it was the time for enjoying and gaining knowledge through education and not for

marriage, becoming widow at their younger age. It shows that the emotions and tears which comes out of any women may be of their suppression and attaining liberty.

Being in the male dominated society, what will be the status of women in the society?

The title *Water* also portraits in two different ways. The tears which comes out of every women to attain liberty from the widow's ashram and the nature. It shows the tears coming out of every woman was like the river flowing. Bapsi Dishes shows the status of widows in the society. It can be concluded by saying that the status of women will remain the same by following the ancient traditions or there will be a solution for women for their safety and attaining liberty. The suppression and emotions of women of every widows must come to an end in the male dominated society, by means of preaching Gandhian.

Water has become one of the predominant themes in literature and the beauty of water is that it showcases the birthplace of civilizations . The cradle of cultures are being foregrounded through water and women. Both can be equated in a similar level . Water and Women have the same characteristics and they have the art of tolerance. Culture studies have transgressed and traversed the marginalities in the literary text and it is a welcome augury too. Marginalized voices often indicates the unhidden histories and these histories often questions the manipulated truths which acts as a threat to the power structures.

Literary texts blurs the line between personal and political so that the manipulated truths will be made known to the unknown. Aquatic Literature is gaining momentum in the academia and the beauty is that these literatures often determines the textuality in history and historicity of the text. Water has become the determining factor in the literary texts and it also determines the literariness of the text too. Truths and History have made people re-membered instead of being remembered. The supreme irony is that history books often talks about the importance of an individual person and it never spoke about the collective self . Books are said to be the repository of cultures and literature is said to be the tool which will keep the wounds alive. Ecocriticism encompasses all spheres of life and it is a well known fact that it is the study of relationship between the literature and physical environment. It is highly proactive and this discipline showcases the fact that ecocriticism broadly attacks the political monopolization and in a way it challenges the Truths.

Bapsi Sidhwa a pioneer in the marginalized writings boldly portrays the fact that these writings deliberately shows the suppressed voices and these voices often so many multitudes and these multitudes create a rampant discourse in the academia. Voices play a predominant theme in the academia and it is multifarious and these writings often questions the oral traditions. Authenticity is being questioned and how authentic is authentic ? is the need of

the hour. In Eco critical studies women are given higher importance and eco critics compare land with women. Their view is that land and women are being exploited for the welfare of men and land is being personified in the form of women and women's feelings are personified in the form of literary writings. This paper on the whole stresses the fact that literature is Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary and theoretical discourses has paved way .

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