

Representation of Diasporic Aspects in *Tell it to the Tress* by Anita Rau Badami

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Abstract:

The main aim of the research is to examine the diasporic aspects in detail with specific reference to *Tell It To The Tress* (2012) by Anita Rau Badami. Anita Rau Badami is an Indo-Canadian author and this novel is a perfect evidence for the Indian diaspora written. In this novel, she categorizes the cross cultural and traditional conflicts and expresses the consciousness of diaspora of the women characters very well. This paper systematically research the diasporic aspects in the novel.

Keywords: diaspora, culture, immigrant, homeland and exile.

The term 'diaspora' came from Greek word 'diasperien.' The word 'Dia' means across and 'sperien' means scatter. According to the Merriam-Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus, 'Diaspora' denotes specifically to Jewish exiles or immigrants living outside Palestine or modern Israel, but now a days 'diaspora' refers to refugee or immigrant people who are living away from their ancestral homeland. The Jewish are using this as an emotional feeling of compulsory exile, suffering, and great desire to back to their native country. The word supported meanings of brutality, destruction, aggression, loss, exile and reappearance, but words and conceptions never stay static and now a day, it is used to describe historical, cultural and social changes and developments. Formerly World War II, the word diaspora was understood to mean the dispersal and migration of Jews after the Babylonian exile to live and work in various countries. It also meant their desire for a homeland, but with the establishment of the Israel in 1948, the desire acquired political and symbolic overtones. After the war the term focused on specific periods of colonial history. Nowadays for immigrant of all countries, this meaning has made the uncomfortable to the people who live and work in other countries but want to make relationship with their native land or mother land. The Immigrant journey leads to many problems of settlement. It forms a significant portion of area studies, cultural studies and ethnic studies.

When we talk about Indian Diaspora as we know that colonization of Indian continent has played a remarkable role in the migration and diasporic movement of the natives. The British Government of India allowed the transportation of Indians to faraway off alien lands to raise their political and economic gains. The collapse in the Indian economy, natural calamities, the demolition of industries, and the increase in the number of the unemployment, dream for the better world abroad were some of the root causes for migration of Indians. However, the Indians faced the painful experience of their migration. They have also received a hostile, inhuman and indifferent welcome from the countries to which they migrated. However, this may not be common but in the wider aspect these unsympathetic situations prevailed.

During the 19th century, many Indians were sent as a labors from different countries such as Srilanka, Trinidad, Fiji, Guyana, Mauritius, Malaysia, South Africa and several other places. It is certainly true that during Second World War Europe was destroyed. They reassembled with the help of labors the Indians and South Asians. In the same way, many unskilled labors from South Asia also helped the physical transformation of the Middle East. Now a days, large scale immigration of Indians is visible in the United State of America, Canada, and European countries.

There are a lot of challenges faced by Indians in the new country due to different norms, values and culture. Indian Diaspora also shows the weaknesses, violence, the achievements, educational progress, economic growth and political accomplishment of Indian immigrant. These topics of diaspora has provided material and opportunity for the diasporic authors to illustrate their history and inheritance, their specific awareness of their society and its difficulties, its achievements and its limitations, and frustrations. A rare have turned their attention to India to evaluate and explore their connection with it by concentrating on how they vary and deviate from various characteristics of Indian society.

This research examine the immigrant characters in the novel *Tell It To The Tress* by Anita Rau Badami. Anita Rau Badami is one of the modern writers in Indian Diasporic writing, born in Rourkela, Odisha, India; emigrated to Canada in 1991. With a robust voice of Modern Indian Diaspora, Badami has engraved a unique position among the group of Indo-Canadian writers who are highly educated and professional in nature. Anita Rau Badami has proud work behind her that speaks of her incredible mind and eye. She has an extraordinary ability to make keen observation of life, lends a thoughtful ear to the cry of pain, and resolves the authentic injustice of the repressed and to append an intellectual insight to her works. It is observed in her masterpiece *Tell it to the Trees*. Suman, the central character, is delicate, timorous and deferential, who is caught in the web of a society that isplanned by her husband Vikram. Anita has a unique style in the way she uses narrators.

In *Tell it to the Trees* also there are many narrators who reveal facts from their transformed insights. Suman is one of the important narrators whose form adds sense and value to the story and reinforce the connectivity with the readers. The story is interwove around an Indo-Canadian family, the Dharmas, who are established in Merrit's Point, a small town in Northern British Columbia since two generations. They live in that place with no grievances though it is totally inaccessible and standoffish from the rest of the inhabitants. The inauguralact of the novel itself shows the author's mastery of consuming various methods. It is highly fascinating and secretive which arouses the interest of the readers and withstands its right courage. The frozen dead body of a woman is found in the courtyard of the Dharma's house. It is recognized to be the body of Anu Krishnan, the occupant in the Dharmas' House, who is dead of Hypothermia. Anita Rau Badami's adept in recitation the conspiracy and the unknown of the death forms astimulatinginterval of the secret of the house. Vikram Dharma, the oppressive head of the family is a dictatorial father and an uncharitable son.

Suman Dharma is a short woman with long wavy hair and concerned brown eyes. Though she is not lovely to look at, she is very gentle, respectful and a loving woman. She willingly agrees to be the second wife of Vikram and enthusiastically accepts to take the responsibility of the family. She shows great concern for Varsha (Vikram and Vikram's first wife, Helen's daughter) and offers motherly love and care to Varsha and Hemanth (Vikaram and Suman's son) in the most neutral manner. She is a marvellous cook who feeds her family with delicious diversities of food. She keeps the house spic and

span and attends to Akka, Vikram's mother, with utmost endurance and broad-mindedness. But Vikram neither loves nor states his liking and care to her.

Furthermore, he hounds her to that magnitude where she even overlooks to smile. She misplaces all her liveliness that used to be with her when she trod into the Dharmas' House. She sings whenever she does some work; but of late she stopped to do so. She bears with all the harassment and invectives caused by Vikram noiselessly. She stands all the grief without running away from the house. But it is Suman, who cannot make a decision. And keeps adjourning of course, for a few valid reasons of her own. Varsha, a grown up step daughter to Suman, understands her pure heart and decides to possess her forever. Varsha's obsessive loves reaches to such an extent that she takes hold of Suman's Passport and keeps it very secretly; lest she should run away from their house. Anu Krishan, the tenant in the Dharma's House, also finds the dictatorial attitude of Vikram. Anu tries to help Suman to escape from there. But Varsha came to know about it and she implements her plan of getting rid of Anu Krishnan enduringly. Thus the novel has an open ending, leaving the predicament of Suman to the preference of the readers.

Suman always outlasts the difficulties that she has met in her house till then. So she could be careful a prosperous woman even at the end as Hemanth is almost out of the controls of Varsha and has occupied the side of Suman. This is one of the optimistic notes that can be experiential. These women demonstrate that they are psychologically stronger and demonstrate their inner forte to the readers with their broad-mindedness, consistence and stillness. They find explanations to the problems their families happenstance and become trailblazer and basis of concord, comfort and respite. Hence they can be likened to the enjoyable Moon that determinations away all the fatigue and tediousness of the members of their families. Even in the hot noon of sorrow and harassment, a woman delivers the nippiness of the Moon to her individual families and lulls them to pleasant sleep and makes them for fresh morning.

In Short, this study explains many traditional Indian circumstances which are all really sensitive to explore. Though Badami is an Indian-Canadian writer she has gorgeously represented the Indian aspects in a seamless manner. This novel also proves that Badami is from an Indian family. It also shows a receptive attitude headed for regional writing and homesickness as the author is settled somewhere far away from India. This novel explains her desire for her origin also the home country from the host country. Anita Rau Badami appropriately demonstrates through the character of Suman that Indian woman is desire for freedom, identity and solace. She seems to reply the society that a woman should not be preserved as a non-living being but as a human existence that has a mind and heart. Suman agonizes a lot only to learn how to come upon the harsh realisms of her life. Authors imagines that more and more woman like Suman should turn into independent and declares their self to the maximum and recuperate their original form like phoenix that comes to life from its ruins. The difficulties and bitter involvements are their ruins from where they make their journey for a successful and glorious life ahead.

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