

Societal Transformation after Civil War: A Marxist Analysis of O Casey's *Juno and the Paycock*

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Abstract

The selected novel has the revolutionary power in the history of English Literature and accomplished unforgettable fame during every rivalry contest. This study declares the most devastating phenomenon of the Civil Wars in such a beautiful way that even the opponents raised their hands for appreciation. Freedom is the blessing for every living entity and its worth can only be realized by those who are compelled to spend their day and night under the strict commands of their masters. They spend the life even more horrifying than the death. They became answerable to their masters for even breathing if they try to do so by their own will. Therefore, realizing the pissing off condition of those slaves and their miserable life incidents, this novel is full of emotions as well as their struggle to get rid of such type of awful conditions. Furthermore, it declares that how wars effect the families, and they lose their lives in attempts to get free life and become source of fear for those who want to become free. Even then, the brave people dominate their courage over the trepidation. They decide by their heart that freedom is the ultimate solution to remain alive peacefully. Marxism is the perfect theory that explains the social behavior as well as transformation of communities from one state to another by collecting their courage and hard work. Therefore, for the analysis of objective results, application of Traditional Marxist perspective under the umbrella of Marxism has been applied by this research article. Also, this research article is source of inspiration along with embellished with the knowledge of impacts of Civil War on the families and societies.

Keywords: Civil War, Marxism, Juno, Paycock, Families

Introduction

Mankind is at higher rank of supremacy due to being kind hearted, bestowed with love and feelings of affection for other living entities. They feel the pain of other people and try to lessen it (De Montellano and Bernard, 1983; Claessen et al., 2004; Ho, 2019). Similarly, they enjoy the happiness of others and

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participate to increase it many folds. However, sometimes, reverse to this happens and man becomes the foe of the other (Berman, 2016; Das, 2019; Hibbard, 2019). Consequently, they try to snatch the happiness of others, they want to become the owner of other's belonging and for the fulfillment of their personal benefits they cross all the limits of humanity. At that moment of time they forget the difference between the human and monster (Purnis et al., 2016; Brown, 2019; Roby, 2019; Rodríguez, Jesús et al., 2019). Due to this dilemma, destruction happens into the society and people try to save their lives, resources, respect and even their loved ones from the bad temptation of other human beings. "Marxism" is the perfect theory that explains the social behavior as well as transformation of communities from one state to another by collecting their courage and hard work. It is an important as well as proximal approach to discuss such type of flaws in the society (Blurton, 2016; Dubé-Belzile, 2019; Herrmann, 2019; Berrada, 2020). This theory has revolutionized the English Literature and provided the stories and novels a new way of description and explanation of most important as well as devastating phenomenon of the society (Keating, 2016; Lehr, 2018).

"Seán O'Casey" is a well-known and famous writer along with storyteller of his era. He is well known author of the UK and his novels are famous for being used in various films and TV shows (Hallmark, 2017; Alder, 2020; Hill and Laura, 2020; Norquay, 2020). His novels and short-stories are full of attraction, moral lessons and refreshing doldrums for readers along with researcher to analyze his work (Bassett, 2020; Kearin, 2020; Otomo, 2020). "Juno and Peacock" is best novel of "Seán O'Casey" as well as full of food for book lovers (Hoffenberg, 2016; Mellifont, 2017; Joll, 2016; Alexander, 2017; Manfredi, 2018). The whole novel is the clear depiction for expertise of the writer for explaining the most awful situations of the present world in a beautiful way (Milne, 2016; Rita, 2017; McAuley, 2019). The author's way of talk and to explain his work is different from many other authors that are well known as travel writers (Stott, 2004; Larsen, 2015).

"Juno and Peacock" is well documented story of various eras. It depicts the real story of a family living in UK, named as "Boyle". Man is always considered as the responsible and leader of every home and other domestic dealings. However, "Jack Boyle" as the main character of the story spends his life contrary to the terms and conditions of the societies. He does not feel any need or responsibility of his home

rather remain slashed into his own world of fantasy. He considers that wine and other related type of drinking material is the only decorative and luxuries of life (Blurton, 2016; Dubé-Belzile, 2019; Herrmann, 2019; Berrada, 2020). Therefore, he used to remain drunk along with his friend named as “Pal Joxer” and ultimately away from the world of reality. He was told to find some proper work to do some struggle for spending the life in much better way and to support his family. However, none of material ever affected his routine, the only purpose of his life was to find the drink and keep on drinking.

Contrary to the routine of the “Jack Boyle”, his wife “Juno” was hard working as well as responsible to support his family as well as to fulfill all their needs. The sad painful behavior of her husband makes her hurt and she feels the end of humanity, deeply indulged in darkness and suffocating environment. However, she decides that she will not give up; she will continue her struggle to save the existence of family. Therefore, she remains finding some sort of job and work hard from dawn to dusk. Coupled with all this, their son known as “Johnny” becomes disable after losing his arm in the horrible events of Civil War. This incident hurt “Juno” and she feels her at the verge of death. However, she defeats death and once again survives to spend a marvelous life. Nonetheless after this incident she feels herself lucky enough and considers this heartbreaking confrontation as the message of Creator Who wants to make her role that she has to do some rudimentary tasks before she ends her life. Therefore, after getting back her established heath she decides to do something bigger than all and for this purpose, she decides to change the fate of her family.

Similarly, their daughter “Mary” follows the footsteps of her mother and decides to spend a marvelous life in the darkness of poverty and senseless situations all around her. The story turns another twist when the “Boyle” family came to know about some sort of pretty good inheritance from one of “Jack Boyle’s” relatives. This news broke through by the “Charlie Bentham” who is the fiancé of the “Mary” and shows his hearties concerns about the family of “Mary” along with “Mary”. However, their happiness got a full stop when they came to know that every cousin of “Jack Boyle” will get the portion of the inheritance. Therefore, in great anger the “Jack Boyle” discontinues the engagement of her daughter with the “Charlie Bentham”. However, “Mary” came to know that she is pregnant and thus,

started avoiding his relative and other members of family to meet openly and comfortably (Berman, 2016; Das, 2019; Hibbard, 2019).

Furthermore, upon the wretched aftermaths of the Civil War, their neighbor got murdered by the army. However, when they came to know that “Johnny” the already disabled son of the “Boyle” family is the witness of this murder and have the secret information relating to it (De Montellano and Bernard, 1983; Claessen et al., 2004; Ho, 2019). They forcefully, take him away from his family and then, later on, he also got murdered. This heart breaking news shatter the “Juno” and she decides to leave the “Jack Boyle” and start residing in the house of her sister along with her daughter “Mary” to provide the shelter to the new born baby. She was thinking that this awful incident will let the “Jack Boyle” to feel the pain and change his routine to cope with the hardships of life (Bassett, 2020; Kearin, 2020; Otomo, 2020). Contrary to this, he indulged himself in the addiction of the alcohol and start drinking with the much more quantity as he used to do earlier. Therefore, the Civil War broke the whole family and shatters the persons of the “Boyle” family. However, the author is of the view that this is the part of few people who were discussed in the story and there are bulks of people all around the globe who are suffering and compelled to face the aftermaths of the Civil War in the horrible form (Hoffenberg, 2016; Mellifont, 2017; Joll, 2016; Alexander, 2017; Manfredi, 2018).

It enlightens the significant rationale for devising the whole research work. Thus, our research can be concluded that wars, terrorism and oppression are the incidents that destroy the families, engulf the loved ones of family members and shatter the foundation of peace and harmony. Sometimes, to cheat and deceive the others give the destruction to the sustainability of peaceful and happy community. Therefore our study is being conducted under the idea of Traditional Marxist Theory. In this play Irish Civil War is represented as base and members of Irish society (characters) as superstructure. These characters and their life happening events are very close to Marx concept of materialism as well.

Literature Review

Marxism is a ‘political’, ‘economic’ and ‘social philosophy’. It criticizes the outcome of capitalism on toil, yield, and fiscal growth. It contends for an

employee upheaval to capsize capitalism in order to assist communism. *Marxism posits that the struggle between social classes, specifically between the bourgeoisie, or capitalists, and the proletariat, or workers, defines economic relations in a capitalist economy and will inevitably lead to revolutionary communism.* (Chappelow, 2019)

Marx assumed that in a Capitalist structure, on the basis of economics the society is made up of three classes: 'the bourgeoisie', who control the means of production, 'the peti-bourgeoisie', who is used by elite class for their own benefit and 'the proletariat' who renovates unrefined commodities into antique economic goods. The bourgeoisie's power of the means of production gives them authority to control over the proletariat. It grants them to confine the laborers capability to fabricate and acquire what they demand to sustain. Marx concluded that capitalism is placed on 'commodities' and an employee's labor is a form of 'commodity'. The bourgeoisie utilize societal associations as tools and weapons against the masses in order to preserve their place of supremacy and privilege. It employs private property rights for the sake of means of production.

“Workers in capitalist society do not own the means—machines, raw materials, factories—which they use in their work. These are owned by the capitalists to whom the workers must sell their "labor power", or ability to do work, in return for a wage” (Ollman, 2014, p.3).

Moreover, at the core of Marx's theory of alienation this structure of labor exhibit four associations. Firstly, the laborer is detached from his or her dynamic activity. The capitalist situates the situations and tempo of work and determines if the laborer is to be licensed to work or not. Secondly, the laborer is detached from other mortals with respect to antagonism and communal indifference and as a result he puts back most forms of collaboration. This is not only affects the relations among capitalists but also to relations among individuals inside each class for better survival. Thirdly, the worker is detached from the artifact of that commotion. He has no jurisdiction over what is contrived or what transpires to it. Finally, the laborer is detached from the distinctive potential for creativity and community. As a result the laborers increasingly mislay their capability to extend

the better individualities. (Ollman, 2014)

The estrangement and misuse of the proletariat class, compels the labor class to rioter against the bourgeoisie in order to takes hold of the resources of fabrication. Hence he anticipated that the capitalist system essentially accommodated the seeds of its own devastation. As a result of this upheaval, Marx envisaged that 'private ownership' of the means of production would be recouped by 'collective ownership'. Similarly, Very less literature is available for explaining the most important phenomenon of society that how people are exploiting each other by adopting various prohibited acts. Most of the literature is available for explaining the love stories and romantic features of the novels and short stories. However, no one has embellished the English Literature with the most demanding and necessary fact related to social behavior of human beings.

Throughout the history of world, many writers with their philosophy of lives and their artistic languages have defined the nature of human beings with the help of different genres of literature; thus literature has to be considered as the mirror of the society (Akhtar et al., 2019; Sheikh et al., 2019). World has produced numerous writers for instance William Shakespeare, Thomas Hardy, Jane Austen, Oscar Wilde, Robert Browning, Christopher Marlowe, E.M. Fosrter, Thomas Gray, and so on who contribute their lives to solve the issues of common people through their literary works which are the production of their keenly observation. Similarly, Pakistani society has produced several writers such as Fatima Bhutto, Kamila Shamsie, J.J Baloch, Azhar Noonari, Allama I.I. Kazi, Amar Jaleel and so on, who share their philosophical knowledge in their works to give voice to the suppressed people. "Seán O'Casey" had also born in UK and thus, a great writer who talk about devastating phenomenon of society such as wars, terrorism, unjust and unbearable behavior of society as well as the poor and sad condition of the affected persons. He is of the view that people lost their lives, their loved ones and even their happiness of life just after the ending of wars, disputes and other oppression incidents (Bashir and Guzzo, 2019; Iftikhar and Awan, 2019). In every class, people face many socioeconomic and political problems and have great influence on them.

Malkawi, (2019) is of the view that Civil Wars and other such type of phenomenon

have devastating impact on the lives of the common people. Similarly, he has used the reference of the novel "Juno and The Paycock" for the explanation of his words by saying that due to the incident of Civil War the only son of the Juno lost his arm and became the disabled person for the whole of his life and after that he was murdered for the crime he has not done. Therefore, she although remained tired and heart mourning, however, with the passage of time she becomes the strong and courageous lady who sees no difference with further pains and hardships coming to her life. Furthermore, the author is of the view that people must take care of the humanity and there must be peace and harmony all around the world. Otherwise, he further states that the political leaders and higher authorities even could not feel the dilemma and pain through which the affected families pass.

Similarly, McAteer, (2020), performed a detailed study to evaluate the impact of life shattering incidents on the social behavior of the common people and he found that it is not related to one person or one family. The impact of injustice, cruelty and oppression change the whole community and their life pass through the most horrible states of life. They become jobless, poverty and hunger snatch their dignity, name and even sense of responsibility. They feel darkness and disappointment at every corner of the life. They lose their loved ones and this pain, change them from common people into despondent and even sometime the criminal. Therefore, it is the utmost need of hour to do something for the sustainability as well as harmony of the societies throughout the world.

Marxist Analysis of *Juno and the Paycock*

As our research comprised of novel that is written in context form, following the descriptive data analysis technique of Hakim, (2004), descriptive analysis was made to enlighten the various characters and actual thinking of writer for devising such type of stories. Additionally "Marxism" is philosophical theory; it contains different aspects such as awareness of socio- economic, political and basic rights of human beings in endocentric society. Furthermore, Traditional Marxist theory has been selected to study the fact that societal transformation occur when some sort of life changing incident such as War may accomplish and it would be called destruction rather sometimes unethical social and moral behavior of human beings with other mankind also pushes the society towards destruction and deterioration. Dishonestly, cheating, theft, dishonor, devious and hurting the feelings of others

are the major attributes that brings the societies at the verge of destruction and deterioration. Above mentioned novel is selected to enlighten such type of behavior keeping in view the theory of “Marxism.”

Textual Analysis

With the application of “Marxism” theory and use of qualitative analysis technique, our research data can be analyzed as follows. In the story of “Juno and The Paycock”, the narrator explains the nature of human being as well as his observing power towards the surrounding. He explains that how people see the world with love and gratitude, however, this world is also full of bad people who want to exploit the others by fulfilling their worse intentions.

“I'm going' to tell you something', Joxer, that I wouldn't tell to anybody else - the clergy always had too much power over the people in this unfortunate country... Didn't they prevent the people in '47 from seizing' the corn, and they starving'; didn't they down Parnell; didn't they say that hell wasn't hot enough nor eternity long enough to punish the Fenians? We don't forget, we don't forget them things, Joxer. If they've taken everything else from us, Joxer, they've left us our memory.” (Juno and The Paycock by “Seán O'Casey”).

The above explained text citation is the clear depiction of the application of the “Marxism” theory. The writer describes the poor and unlucky condition of the common people after the end of the Civil War. He is of the view that great societal change occur when some famine or warriorcondition persists for long duration of time. In addition, in the above mentioned text citation, the author explains the Irish people's condition when they used to deal with corn and severe scarcity of potato prevailed all around for the year of 1847. However, even under such type of devastating conditions, some people were bestowed with high ranks of supremacy in the form of political power such as Charles Stewart Parnell. However, the people snatch such type of blessings from others soon after indorsing some sort of blame such as his divorce scandal.

“Jack Boyle” did not show any concern towards his family and that's why does not

go to find out any type job or work. However, he was the good friend of the Charles Stewart Parnell and they use to remain discussing the historic alterations due to famine in 1847 and now the cruelty and poor condition of the common people as the aftermaths of the Civil War.

“Ah, you lost your best principle, me boy, when you lost your arm; them's the only sort o' principles that's any good to a working man.” (Juno and The Paycock by “Seán O’Casey”).

The above text citation describes the poor condition of the common due to the continuation of the Civil War. “Johnny” the only son of the “Boyle Family” had lost his arm in the discomforts and shattering condition of the war. However, his mother “Juno” is of the view all these patriotic behavior and other such type of theories and social behavior is of no use as when she is in need to feed the every member of her family she has to work from dawn to dusk. She doesn’t find any type of support from any one. Thus, implication of the “Marxism Theory” is the best way to justify our results about the societal transformation after being affected by the Civil War.

“Juno! What an interesting name! It reminds one of Homer's glorious story of ancient gods and heroes.” (Juno and The Paycock by “Seán O’Casey”).

The above mentioned text citation is related to the naming history of the main character of the story “Juno”. The author says that “Boyle” has given her name as “Juno” as most of the life incidents have occurred in the month of June. However, one of his friends says that this is very beautiful name that may remind us the memory of the goddess of love. He compares the routine activities with that goddess, who used to be considered as the symbol of love and sacrifice. He says just like that god, “Juno” loves her family a lot that even the poor conditions and prevailing hunger in the family couldn’t let her down. Her love and determination for her family remained the same even after the devastating and heart mourning incidents of civil wars.

“Maybe I didn't feel sorry enough for Mrs. Tancred when her poor son was found as Johnny's been found now - because he was a Diehard! Ah, why didn't I remember that then he wasn't a Diehard or a Stater, but only a poor dead son!Sacred Heart o'

Jesus, take away our hearts o' stone, and give us hearts o' flesh!
Take away this murdherin' hate, an' give us Thine own eternal
love!" (Juno and The Paycock by "Seán O'Casey").

The above explained text citation is perfect example of love and thus, explains the pain of being away from the loved ones. Furthermore, it is clear that there is supernatural power in the love. The author explains that to being away from our loved ones is the most dynamic dilemma that has the ability to destroy the whole community, however, the strength of love is above all. The author explains well that when you are embellished with the power of love, you will see the light in every dark situation. However, the above explained context enlightens the true spirit of love. He beautifully describes that love is the more profound power; it has the ability to cope every type of hardship and to fight with the whole world for the sake of happiness and peace of our loved ones. Contrary to this, if someone says that she / he love to someone, however, at the moment does not have the ability to protect it, then the author says that is not the love rather time spending situation.

Conclusion

Conclusion is the most important and necessary attribute of every research work. It enlightens the significant rationale for devising the whole research work. Thus, our research can be concluded that wars, terrorism and oppression are the incidents that destroy the families, engulf the loved ones of family members and shatter the foundation of peace and harmony under the umbrella of traditional Marxist perspective. Sometimes, to cheat and deceive the others give the destruction to the sustainability of peaceful and happy community. In our novel the narrator explains the social behavior of common people and explains well that societies pass through unbearable pain during the prevailing situations of wars and then, ultimately many changes occur in the lives of the common people.

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