

Summary Of the Minor Research Project In English

Indian English literature is at its peak and becomes independent and outstanding. It is well established on international horizon. It attracted many critics. In the early days, many of Indian writers tried their hands in poetry and fiction. The practice of poetry and fiction bear good fruits. Drama was not a regular practice. It is only in the last few decades Indian English Drama started blossoming.

There are some dramatists who, instead of following the established path, reshaped the traditional path to give way to human problems. The notable among them are Girish Karnad, Vijay Tendulkar, Mohan Rakesh, Badal Sirkar and host of other playwrights. All of them brings forward various issues related to human beings. Their plays are the mirror of contemporary Indian society.

Mahesh Dattani keenly observed the issues of the contemporary society and provided a platform through his plays. He has successfully registered his name on the international plane and remained as outstanding playwright of the recent times. Based on the contemporary issues, his plays are considered as the fresh arrival in the last decade of twentieth century. He projected the contemporary issues in his own style and manner. For the purpose, he selected the marginalized communities in urban and metro cities and gives voice to their suffering, insecurity, longings and desires. He has projected the challenging issues in the contemporary society with humanistic approach.

Dattani has maintained a serious tone in his plays. He, with his unconventional approach, launches a psychological inquiry into the human mind. With his philosophical outlook, he explores that part of human mind which has human sensibility. He forces us to understand the human experiences and to think about it. He, very carefully, handled the social and familial relationship using experience as a great tool.

Mahesh Dattani is one of the most serious contemporary dramatist. He usually deals with some serious problems prevailing in metro and urban India. He successfully presented, through his plays, the problems of the marginalized people. His contribution helped to raise the status of Indian English Drama.

Family is one of the favourite subjects for Mahesh Dattani. It remains a core part of his plays. He presented his characters with every possible colour. In most of the plays, he explores the tensions that are the part and parcel of Indian metro and urban families. He also throws considerable light on the patriarchal code, gender discrimination and the place of women in the family. His plays such as *Where There's a Will*, *Bravely Fought the Queen*, *Dance Like a Man*, *Tara*, *Final Solutions*, and *Do the Needful* revolve round family.

In his play *Final Solution* he has brought forward one of the burning issue of communalism. The relationship between the Hindus and the Muslims has always been a sensitive issue. But the answer to all these problematic communal relationship lies in the statement of Alque Padamsee, "The demons of communal hatred are not out on the streets... they are lurking inside ourselves". The same strained relationships will continue for the attitude of the people and society. The society should change its attitude and approach towards each other.

Communal hatred is the result of psychological thinking. Mahesh Dattani is of the opinion that it is the result of our prejudiced mind. Dattani has made sincere attempt to analyze the cause of communal disharmony. As the title of the play indicates, the final solution can be possible if the people of both the communities are ready to eradicate prejudiced mind. Communal disharmony can be avoided with the help of love and mutual trust.

To conclude, the main focus of Dattani is on gender and sexuality in the contemporary urban society. His characters are usually conscious and familiar with contradictions in their identities, like Bunny Singh of *A Muggy Night in Mumbai* or Alka of *Bravely Fought the Queen*, but still they are the part of their self-created world. His characters are often found struggling with the consciousness and reality. Most of his character are from upper middle-class urban and metro families. They represent the urban upper-middle class subjectivity. Dattani skillfully handled the unexplored and marginalized dimensions of subjectivity. Indeed, Dattani has brought into light the stark reality of contemporary Indian society.