

SIGNIFICANT ROLE OF MUSLIM CHARACTERS IN R.K.NARAYAN'S NOVELS

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Abstract

A writer expresses what goes through in his mind and heart, whether good or bad, His imagination is the product of his previous experiences.

R. K. Narayan penned down scores of characters belonging to Hindu, Muslim, Christian and Sikh communities.

“Sita, though pure at heart and soul, had to suffer from the allegations of crooked minds. “Ayesha” (Raziallahutala) the wife of Prophet (saw) had to meet the same Fate when some hypocrites raised immoral accusations against her fidelity”.

Keywords: R. K. Narayan, Malgudi Muslims, Religion



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I draw a great pleasure to find that R.K Narayan had characterised various roles from various communities. Either in humourous manner or in exemplary way.

My prime objective of this research is to glorify his intentions to bring harmony and a sense of brother hood among .Indians such major characters he portrayed in his beautiful works Includes,

1. **Gaffur**, the cab driver in the novel “Guide”. Where he was depicted as a Well-wisher of Raju” the following lines defend the fact.

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Gaffur warned me when he got me alone outside the Store, she is married woman, what of it. I said, why do you tell me this?

“Don’t be angry, sir he said, go slow .that is all I can say” in the above lines, Gaffur fairly warns Raju Not to involve too much in Rosie personal life. In the end, It was obvious to everyone has Raju spoiled his life, abandoning his mother

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Though Raju hated Gaffur to be involved in his Affair, Gaffur was very adamant in voicing his views frankly. while the duo was returning home driving the car downhill.

Gaffur said “You are becoming rather stuck-up nowadays, Raju you are not the old friend you used to be”

Despite this fact, Raju brushed it aside.

However, Gaffur was not the one who would give up so soon. again in other Situation at “the Peak House”

Secretly Gaffur gathered some Information from Joseph.

To make not matter worse, Gaffur himself urged Raju “Raju, this is not at all Good, Let us get Away.

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Leave them alone, After all, they are Husband and wife; they will know how to make it up. Come on. Go back to your normal work you were so Interested and care free and happy then over this “Raju admitted that his words were very reasonable (or) Sensible and moral. He later regretted he would have the sense to follow Gaffur’s Advice.

But Raju let him a deaf ear.

Gaffur was such a kind friend that until the incident at Peak House.

Raju used to call him Gaffur, Gaffur but Gaffur didn’t mind it when Raju aggressively called him “Driver” he was very upset.

Even at that moment, he wished for his Welfare.

Gaffur’s joy knew no bounds when Raju left the couple Marco and Rosie at the hotel. He considered it as a new life for his mate.

He exclaimed “Raju Cheerful i ’am senior in years. I think this is the best thing you have done.

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You will be more happy hereafter.

Gaffur valued his friendship so much that he never mentioned a word about the travelling expenses to be paid by Raju.

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At a time, Raju was brought to nothing, he sadly said I had not a friend in the world except Gaffur “And Gaffur was all sympathy for him.

Raju describes him as a man of Good manner. Raju sought his help Gaffur replied humbly.

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“I am not a rich man, Raju, you know how I borrow money for even the upkeep of the car. If I had five Hundred Rupees I would led my Passengers ride on better tyres. No, Raju. Listen to my advice. Send her away and try to get back to Ordinary, Real life. Don’t talk all their Art business it’snot for us.

On hearing this, Raju grew so upset that he said something impolite to hurt him.

But this did not make Gaffur Angry because he was very tolerant of him and forgave him instantly.

Besides swallowing his scalding remarks, Gaffur offered him his cab. services free of cost at any time.

“Call me any time you want the car; it’s always there”.

Gaffur was quite desperate to save Raju from the cunning clutches of Rosie’s glamour a great deal ofhonest effort was put by him to bring back Raju to his normal life.

GAFFUR, The taxi driver and boy hood Associate of Madhu reappears in ”Talkative man” who lives in Idgah of Kabir Street in malgudi when Jayaraj left word on his way home to Gaffur. Gaffur’s ambassador was at the door of “Madhu” the protagonist the next day. By sharing the secret, Gaffur was the indeed saviour of Girija’s life. Otherwise shewould have been the victim in the hands of Dr. rann, the lady killer.

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“I think they are going to marry-the way they are talking in the back seat andplanning, he is taking her to America though it is none of business, I can’t help listening.”

“Shocked with Gaffur’s report, the talkative man Madhu realises it is his job to save Girija and herGrand father.

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Gaffur’s report was invaluable ” I had to base my futureAction on it”.

Fortunately, Girija’s life is rescued by the pandemonium created by the cunning Dr.rann.

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Gaffur being my friend, did not mind wasting time with us he too had known her since child hood, was bewildered by the transformation he saw . It took us time to persuade her to come to the car “Gaffur”carried her trunk”.

PAGE NO- 128: Swami and friends

2. **AKBAR ALI** : Akbar Ali was a Class mate of Swaminathan in board high school. Swami, Impressed by his Curiosity in making a Marvellous camera,praises him before his Friends Mani and others in these lines.

“He is a nice Muhammadan, belongsto our class

“he has a bicycle, he is very fine Muhammadan.

The Good lines above lead us we should maintain the same conduct us our ancestors did.

PAGE NO-90: MY DAYS

3. **ANWERUDDIN**, An obedient though naughty plays a good role in R.K Narayan Autobiography “My Days”.

PROOF: In spite of the giggling ,I felt relieved at the Prompt manner in which Anweruddin had obeyed me” .

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Suddenly hefty Anweruddin turned up with a couple of his followers and stood before me, his eyes full of Surprise. I could not pretend not to notice him he saluted me courteously and grinned.

I asked, what are you doing here instead of being in your class?

“We had no class, Sir, the teacher was absent. You had to teach us this hour” He appeared grateful that I had helped him to wander about freely, why sir, where are you going?

“To Mysore. I am not coming back. Go and tell the head master that you saw me going away “Anweruddin looked unhappy at the parting and mumbled sometimes he lifted my baggage and placed it on the bus when it arrived and stood aside morosely until the bus started.

“Good bye, Sir he said rather subdued and made a deep Salaam.

My Author Narayan had given a role who was obedient, Considerate and Anweruddin felt very sad When R.K.Narayan had to return to his home town owing to personal reasons, he missed a good teacher and hence he stood morosely.

4. **RAGMAN**: In the Man-Eater of Malgudi Narayan had Showed the Ragman as a man who showed a lot of Concern for his family. The Ragman feels his responsibility to earn some penny in order to meet his family expenses.

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I have to make one or two Rupees every day in order to bring up my Family of

5. SULEIMAN

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Another character one can find in the same novel the Man-Eater of Malgudi, Vasu, the Antagonist ,admires his master Suleiman who taught him the art.

“I came across a Master there, One Suleiman when he stuffed a lion, he could make it look more terrifying than it would be in the Jungle, He sighed at the thought of Suleiman, his master he was a Saint He taught me his art sincerely”.

Though, Vasu was the funny Villian he frankly admits he was a sincere master.

6. **AZIZ**, The Peon of Albert Mission Collegein “THE BACHELOR OF ARTS” depicts poor and sincere peon who is obliged to execute his duties without fear or favour . However, when he was offered an old Coat, he relents, when he was jokingly teased by Chandran, he even assists him to the arrangement of the chairs tables on the dias.

Proof: “When he passed Aziz, he said” what a bad fellow you are you would not let me in !

Master I do my duty and get a bad name what am i to do ?

7. **PASHA**: The Fruit Vendor in the novel” Talkative Man” Pasha runs a fruit stall in the market road where he displays all kinds of fruits on its rack .R.K.N describes him as the fruit vendor who would get apples straight from Kulu valleys , grapes from Hyderabad , dried Fruits from Arabia and so on . This shows that Pasha would put enormous efforts to bring all kinds of quality fruits across the country. Thus, he served best in terms of providing good service to the citizens of Malgudi town.

Finally, R.K.N. bestows him the Prize for the best display of fruits at the Market.

8. **Sir Mirza Ismail**, the (Prime Minister) of Mysore; one of the few characters shown in the dark shade . Sir Mirza through the Government of Mysore Commissioned him to write a Travel book on Mysore state. On his orders, R.K.N travelled and explored every nook and corner of the then Mysore state with a hope that all of his Financial Troubles were out day and night. But, the Moment he Submitted the finished copy of the Travel Book of Mysore, he had to suffer from Running Pillar and post to get his Honorarium for whom it meant a Solution for all his financial worries, he had to bear the Comments by his wife” Rajam” Whether my beloved author got the honorarium or not , it is sad to note that the Passion with which sir Mirza Ismail displays to get the Travel book written by him ,is not shown in the same way as to pay the amount to my Author.

“He should have given his due in due time”

9. **MOHIDEEN**; Another Muslim face in Swami and friends, Swami brings to the notice of Rajam that There is a strong player in the opposite team called Mohideen, a dark fellow. Swami fears that Mohideen is a Critical one who can turn the match to the Opposite team

also he praises Mohideen he plays like Bradman , and reveals Rajam that he is not able to maintain steadiness on the leg side.

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They are not bad players, there is one Mohideen, a dark fellowoh, you know -you will have to keep an eye on him.

He bats like Bradman. You will have to watch him. but there is one weakness in Mohideen. He is notso steady on the leg side.

10. **KABIR STREET:** One of the most prominent locality found in the enchanting world of Malgudi town. In a way, nearly half of the works takes place in Kabir Street . The protagonist too hails from the Kabir Street. Nataraj , the Protagonist of the man-eater of Malgudi,” lives in his Ancient ancestralhome in the Kabir Street.

The choking kabir street reappears again in the painter of signs” where the consulting office of thelawyer is found.

“This Kabir Street is Choking, he said to him self,How do you people live here?”

“The Grand opening Ceremony of lawyer’s office takes place in KabirStreet.

THE GUIDE: The Childhood of rail way Raju was spent in Kabir Street All the primary studies of rail way Raju happened over the pyol. his old teachers house in the samestreet [one who lived in Kabir Street .]

The Bachelor of Arts” hero, Chandran too lives in a small rented-room in Kabir Street.

CONCLUSION: Narayan in his novels has rendered enough importance to Malgudi Muslims. They all were depicted in the same way as others. Though limited in their scope, all of them carried out the morality one should have towards another. Barring a few,they all were honest, sincere and kind. We, as present generation muslims should inculcate such principles and be a part of the coming literature.

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