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Psychoanalytic Feminism And Diasporic Essence In The Works Of Rupri Kaur – An Indo-Canadian Poet

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Abstract :

This paper aims to analyse psychoanalytic feminism , diasporic elements in her poetries.

Kaur's Life :

Rupri Kaur is regarded as a 'Queen of Modern poetry'. She is born in Punjab, India in 1992, October 4. But, immigrated to Canada at a young age with her family. Therefore, regarded as an Indo- Canadian poet. She began performing poetry in 2009 and rose to fame on Instagram, so she also referred to as *Instapoet*.

Kaur's motivation to write poetry along with illustration lies deeply in her roots and her family. When her father lived in Japan , he wrote Punjabi poetry to Kaur's mother, who practiced painting. At the tender age of 5 , Kaur inherit her mother practices of painting .

We see the influence of Poetry blended painting in her later life, where she not only instill this art but also gave literature a **Punjabi -English dominance**.

Her relationship with her parents, particularly with her mother became turbulent in her adolescence. As a part of family's culture her mother distanced herself while Kaur was menstruating , which left her debilitated. There were arguments over mundane activities that Kaur later interpreted as a result of wishing to preserve their own culture.

Kaur's first began performing poetry in 2009. She took the stage with the surname of Kaur because **Kaur** is the name of every **Sikh woman**, and she took it as an empowering tool .From 2013 onward she started writing poetry with a little illustrations, which gave 21st Century poetry a new view to blend it with aestheticism.

Kaur's first book was self -published on **Createspace**. It was *Milk and Honey*.

Next to it is, *The Sun and Her Flowers* published in 2017.Next is, *Home Body* and *Healing Through Words* published in 2020.

In her books Kaur shows the dominance of men over women , and the trauma faced by women in a stark style. Kaur uses the common metaphors and motifs like sun, flowers, honey, home which shows the soft feminine nature loosing their thoughts under the dominance of men.

Psychoanalytic feminism :

Psychoanalytic Feminism is a theory which proposed that men have an inherent psychological need to subjugate women. And the root of this dominance and subjugation lies deep within human psyche. This branch of feminism aims to gain insights into how our psyche shapes the society and clear out the subjugation and dominance .This branch of feminism began in early 2000s, embracing a fourth wave of feminism and addressing to expand the theoretical innovation.

However, psychoanalytic feminism continues to struggle with the inclusion of addressing practical complexities of gender, race, class and other categories of identity within society , particularly via the application of psychoanalytic feminist analysis during periods of great social unrest.

Diasporic Elements:

Diaspora means that a population scattered across regions which are separate from it's geographic place of origin. The word is used in reference to people who identify with a specific geographic location, but reside elsewhere..

Rupi Kaur attempts to show the agapeic towards self- and female-hood. It explores how feminism dominates her poetry with diasporic essence in her style. It attempts to bring out the complexities of intra-personal relationship and Punjabi-English dominance in her writing.

So, to understand the rupi kaur's style of diasporic writing, it is essential to understand the context of poetry- it's structure , dominance , upheaval which gave a new wave to 21st CE poetry.

Seeing, the structure of Rupi Kaur's poetry , we find that the letters are in the lower case only, which is signifying the Gurumukhi Script which is written in lower case. Following, her culture, Rupi Kaur introduces the lower case writing style in her poetries and give it a different nostalgic form for culture in English Literature.

She is Indo-Canadian, and she instill her identity into her work by using English in lower case only signifying Punjabi-English style of writing.

Milk And Honey :

Milk and Honey was published in 2014. The title is in small letters (original : milk and honey), which shows her roots, i.e., the dominance of Gurumukhi Style of writing. Gurumukhi script takes the lower case of wrting, so in order to keep it's essence in her writing, of her roots and culture; Rupi kaur used the lower case in writing her poetry. Gurumukhi – Roman blend poetry gives a very stark style to 21st CE English poetry.

The book was divided into four parts : i) the hurting , ii) the loving , iii) the breaing , iv) the healing.

This breakdown of book into four chapters gives a chronological analysis of human psyche . Kaur shows through this poetry that every person in the world crosses this four phenomena. But , the very sharp turn that she gave to this is she blend with sexual violence , mental trauma .

In the chapter “ the hurting “ , she jotted :

*“ how is it so easy for you
to be kind to people he asked
milk and honey dripped
from my lips as I answered
cause people have not
been kind to me.”*

The book initiates with the physical and psychological trauma affecting the speaker at a tender age.

The book shows the poetry with illustrations giving it a new view and an art form of learning.

Home Body Healing Through Words:

“ after feeling disconnected for so long

my mind and body are finally
coming back to each other”

Here, the book published in, divided into four chapters:

i) mind , ii) heart , iii) rest , iv) awake

“ depression is silent

you never hear it coming

and suddenly it’s

the loudest voice in your head.”

Rupi Kaur explores the mental and memory trauma , which shows the emotional response .”

