

THE DELINEATION OF DARK SOCIETY IN CHETAN BHAGAT'S SELECT NOVELS

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Abstract

The bribe is a prime element in every part of the contemporary world. It is also known as a corrupted practice. The habit of bribes affects the wealth of the country and ruins the economy too. The unlawful to exchange some kind of significance, like money as a part of a bribe. The unethical things in our society happen on another side (corruption). It is frequently regarded as an immoral and unlawful practice since it violates the ideals of justice, impartiality and fairness. The root cause of bribery is complex and can change depending on the situation. Chetan depicts some of the evils in our society through his writings. In his novel *2 States*, he shows the evils in current society. The novel has evil elements like bribes, which nowadays took a prime role worldwide. In *Half Girlfriend*, the author highlights the negligent mindset of political people and portrays political scams. This paper depicts how bribery affects society and is rooted in the minds of people. Several consequences rise due to bribery affecting both society and people in the entire globe. Entire individuals work towards ensuring that everyone has a bright and equitable future by combating bribery.

Keywords: Society, Bribe, Economy, Scam, Politics

Introduction

The current society has numerous conflicts and issues from the ancient era. Some of the evils in our society are corruption, bribery, unlawful factors, exploitation, injustice etc. Money is a prime factor in our part of daily day life. Without money, no one can live in the current globe. Everyone in the nation runs towards money to lead their life. Some of them earn money for survival, a harmonious lifestyle, a comfortable lifestyle etc. Money sometimes became a different role according to the situation. Unlawful things, it is considered bribe and corruption. In marriage ceremony, it is called dowry. Even in some of the incidents it is called debt, ransom, salary, donation. offerings, fines, loans, wages etc. The prime dark side of our system is due to the unlawful pieces of stuff that happen by term bribe.

Author Introduction

Chetan Bhagat throws some of the dark sides of the system in some of his works, such as *Half Girlfriend*, *Revolution 2020*, *2 States: The Story of My Marriage* etc. He always used to bring out the contemporary setting in his writings to attract the minds of readers. Now he is one of the leading authors in India.

Select Works

2 States: The Story of My Marriage (2009): The tale is about the young couple Krish and Ananya. They are from various places and various cultures. This couple has faced numerous problems with their marriage approval from their parents. In this novel, Chetan Bhagat also depicts some dark side of societal evils like bribes, dowry etc.



Some of the incidents have bribes as a prime role in a liquor shop, police, wedding ceremony and cooking department.

Half Girlfriend (2014), in the tale Bhagat highlights the scams in political conditions through the character MLA Ojha. The story concludes with the character Madhav Jha overcoming and dealing with challenges and reuniting with her girlfriend Riya. The corrupted mind of Ojha towards the school welfare scheme is highlighted in the work.

Review of Literature

Isomiddinov Yunusjon Yusubboevich [2022] in his article *Anti-Corruption Culture: Reforms and Main Directions Socio-Philosophical Analysis* states the emergence of demerits and defects from the Indian states. Several definitions of corruption are depicted and connected with various factors. Isomiddinov depicts that stability of the corruption depends on the stability of society, the stability undergoes transformation due to the changes. The rise of the entire society people against bribery is very crucial. The framework of the bribery system is framed by officials in all sectors. Though, corruption leads the unethical relation between individuals.

Isomiddinov Yunusjon Yusubboevich [2022] in his paper titled *Corruption: A Philosophical Analysis of Causes, Consequences, And Methods of Control* elucidates the involvement of corruption in different levels, people, business, positions, power etc. There is none of any kind of borderline for corruption. In the dark side of life, corruption took a significant role. Both corruption and power walk together from the ancient to the modern era and they developed together with the state. Even in the previous era, the reference to corruption is seen in ancient writings. Isomiddinov depicts about one of the significant problems in international view is corruption. The formula made by some of the researchers in different universities is depicted in the article. The phenomenon can be demolished by the support of the whole society.

Goto, Jun, Takashi Kurosaki, and Yuko Mori [2021] in their research paper titled *Distance to news: how social media information affects bribe-giving in India* depicted the distribution of bribes as part of corruption. These authors conduct the related experiment in the lab and depicted the data and results. BribeWatch is the application developed by the researchers used to get more articles related to corruption. The crucial features in the application are individual move, officials move and the move from the third individual. The authors depicted a formula to calculate the bribe. They suggest that entire individuals stop paying bribes from their side and praise the news channel's role in political corruption.

Paikaray, Jharasri [2022] in her paper titled *Corruption in Public Offices in India: Problems, Challenges and Remedial Measures* deals with the flaws in different sectors and the emergence of corruption. According to the year, the percentage of people involving in corruption is increasing rapidly. It leads the conflicts in the way of development and defective effects in significant factors in the nation. The notable prevention methods of corruption are implying the law in private industries, avoiding the delays in system, perfect evidence and witness etc. Some crucial remedies are awareness, strict law, values and moral life and finishing the cases in a particular time. To demolish corruption is a crucial duty of the entire people in the nation and need to change the corrupted thoughts of people.

Bribery In India

Same as every nation, bribery is dealing a crucial role in India. It indicates the actions such as receiving and offerings, supplying money, delivering gifts, making favours etc. These kinds of factors involve people with

power, politicians, government officials and individuals. As per Indian law, it is regarded as an instance of corruption and is prohibited. The crucial concern and the enduring problem in India are bribery, it ruins the quality of administration and the nation's wealth. In different sections, bribery is circulating, including education, industries, government sectors, business etc. Bribery practices change the decision of individuals, fall of public trust, and keep alive the corruption culture. The Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, is the primary law in India that deals with offences relating to bribery and corruption. The prime aim of the law is to prevent corruption and bribes and give punishment to the individuals involved in those practices. The elimination of bribery, despite legal restrictions and initiatives to do so, is still a difficult issue and continual efforts are needed to establish a more open and responsible system. According to Loughman *et al.*, (2011) opines "Bribery and corruption has a very detrimental effect on an economy. The World Bank has estimated that 0.5 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) is lost through corruption each year".

Bribery System

The reason for bribery spreading to the entire nation is caused by every individual in society. In general factor, some individuals in any commitments don't wait for a particular duration. Instead, they offer bribes for the rapid process of their work. Even in any formation, the bribe can able to do any work in an unlawful manner. In tale 2 *States* bribery is depicted in various aspects in different circumstances. The meeting between Krish and her girlfriend Ananya in Marina Beach portrays the bribery conditions. They both plan to spend some time at Marina and they shared their experiences in their jobs. Ananya depicts her family conditions in Chennai and describes the IIT exam preparation of her brother. Ananya explains that the only way to interact with her family is by tutoring her brother for exam preparations. After some communication, Krish accepts the plan. In between the communication, Krish kisses Ananya at Beach. These kinds of activities or behaviours are strictly restricted in public places and it is considered unlawful. Police have seen the activities of both Krish and Ananya. They shouted at them and the police communicate in Tamil, Krish didn't get a single word from the police. Ananya translated the conversation of the police to Krish, the police say to walk towards the police station. In this condition Ananya states "Shut up and pay him off" (2 *States*, 98) this depicts the mindset of Ananya to pay a bribe to the police. The bribery conditions are not only on the side of higher officials, the entire public is also a reason for the rising level of bribery. In this part, the police didn't demand any bribes from them, only Ananya signal Krish to offer them. When Krish offer twenty rupees to them, the police screamed at Krish and hold his hands. Finally, Krish offers fifty and they give a warning for both of them. This is the condition loading still now in the entire nation, offering bribes and hiding the mistakes from the law. This situation depicts the system's failure, taking bribes and leaving them. This small number of bribes can make tremendous consequences in society. Bribery leads to the mindset of everyone with money can able to do whatever apart from the law. In the same scenario, if the police didn't accept the bribe or Ananya and Krish accepted their mistake, there is no chance for a term bribe among the people. So, the step needs to take from both the offering side and the accepting side,

Some of the sectors also involving in the practice of bribery to get more cash. Ananya demands chicken and beer from Krish. So, Krish gets chicken and heads to a liquor shop to buy beer. There are some rules by the government to run liquor shops. Like, age restrictions are a prime role in the selling of alcohol. The restriction of age changes depends on the state rule such as Rajasthan, Mizoram, Kerala and Sikkim set the age limit of consuming liquor above eighteen. Goa, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana provide liquor above the age of twenty-one. So, each state decides the restriction in age for consuming the liquor. The research by Luca, Dara

Lee *et al.*, (2019) in their paper defines "The range of alcohol policies vary substantially both across Indian states and within states...the MLDA ranged from 18 to 25 years across the country, and some states had blanket prohibition policies". When Krish head to the liquor shop, the dealers are perplexed by Krish's age. Due to the restrictions, the dealer didn't hand over liquor to Krish. Now, Krish depicts the bribery mindset "Even if I pay ten bucks extra a bottle?" (2 *States*, 99), at the moment the dealer hand over three bottles to him. This conversation delivers how a small number of bribes can change the entire law in our system. The disease of bribery is spreading rapidly to each and every individual in the entire nation. If the restrictions and laws are strictly followed, the tendency of bribery thought would get down from these strict rules. While comparing the situation, if Krish doesn't offer a bribe to the dealer and somehow if the dealer rejects the bribe from Krish. In this interpretation, if any one of them is genuine and acts according to the law, the transaction mindset of bribery doesn't happen in the situation. Somehow the above lines happen in society, definitely the tendency of sharing bribery decreases. Each minute part of the entire globe a bribe can deal with anything. Even some unlawful adjustments also consider genuine by the factor of bribes. In the pre-wedding ceremony of Krish's family, the traces of bribery play a role. In the ceremony, there is a controversy between Duke (groom) and the bar dealer in the function. The drinks practices at the Punjabi wedding are a common factor, although it's a part of their wedding norms. The controversy happened because of the low quantity of pegs in the bar. The same brand of whisky is running out in the section, it was noticed by a family member of Krish's side. Rajji mama, who noticed the whisky section and, in this condition, "Rajji mama took out a wad of notes and gave it to the hotel staff" (2 *States*, 206). This statement concludes the mindset of individuals to get anything rapidly with the help of bribes. Offering the bribe to the hotel staff to the rapid need for whisky in the function. The staff get the bribe and went to the Delhi border to collect the same brand of whisky for the function. This incident portrays the power of money anywhere or everywhere. In this contemporary era, people consider that bribes can solve everything rapidly, but they get knowledge about the future consequences of bribery practices. Practically people need a temporary solution to everything, and the circulation of bribes gives rapid relief to the people. They cannot wait for anything in the time duration, by offering bribes the time duration of any particular work be done rapidly and done before the time. In the ceremony situation, both the Rajji mama and hotel staff accept the bribery system. If the hotel staff didn't accept the bribe or Rajji mama plans to do any alternative for less amount of whisky, there is no need for bribe transfers. People are living flexibly according to the changes in the socio system. Bribery culture nowadays is followed by the maximum number of individuals. In the marital ceremony of Krish, the bribe deals with a role between Krish and the chef. All members of Krish's family assembled to have breakfast, and the chef was busy arranging tiffin for the bride's side. In this confused condition, the thought of Rajji mama "Bribe him" (2 *States*. 252). Any of the factors can be solved by a bribe, this is deeply rooted in the thoughts of humans. The prime problem in the bribery condition is people accept the cash because without money no one can survive in the globe. Krish offers a hundred bucks to the chef and the chef starts to prepare breakfast. This scenario depicts how the conditions change due to the bribe. The interpretation in this scenario is why Krish doesn't plan any other matters to convince the chef apart from offering the bribe. In reality, if Krish didn't offer the bribe to a chef, there is no breakfast for Krish's family. Even some situation changes the thoughts of individuals.

Political Challenges

Many significant factors circulate inside politics and political parties. Government initiates various welfare schemes for people and society, and the entire scheme getting into the public is crucial. Every particular scheme

is forwarded to the needful area and the area politician. Politicians need to establish the scheme towards the public, but some of the politicians make a huge cut from the government schemes. For the popularity of their name, politicians imply the schemes without quality and genuineness. The traces of evil politics are highlighted through the MLA Ojha. When Madhav came to know about the absence of facilities in school, he approaches MLA for help. Ojha states that he has no funds for the development of schools, apart from that need to look at electricity, water pumps, road etc. Ojha points out the proposal from Bill Gates Foundation, so he communicates with Madhav and his mother about the arrangements. All politicians aim to gain more popularity. In this same condition, some politicians show negligence towards their duty and the schemes. Ojha only needs popularity in front of Gates, so that he can get promotion tickets in politics, the positions in the political parties are much more crucial. Rani Sahiba's statement "You will get press coverage. The minister will give you a pat on the back...Ojha ji" (*Half Girlfriend*, 116).

The total absence of facilities in the school is highlighted, but Ojha focuses on temporary arrangements for the function day. Politicians' priority is to gain popularity and higher positions in their parties. If Ojha has done his duty genuinely, the entire village's problems will decrease. The welfare funds from the government side need to reach directly to the people. If Ojha considers the school and the village students, the student's family leave their children at school and the quality of education also get evolved. The dark side of the political view is depicted through the character Ojha. Once he didn't consider the flaws in the village school, when the proposal was received from the Gates Foundation, Ojha arranges the temporal facilities for the particular day of function. Even negligence is also a crucial factor which affects the system. After the function day, the sarcastic talk of Ojha "Its okay. Now are we sharing it or what?" (*Half Girlfriend*, 187), delivers the thoughts of Ojha towards the money. If the political side delivers genuine factors towards the public and society, definitely the growth of the nation and people is reflected. Ruining the development and interacting with illegal activities in public schemes ruins the entire nation.

Summation

The bribery thoughts are deep-seated in the minds of humans. Some situations are also crucial reasons for the changes in mindset among individuals. Everywhere in the globe, the bribe mindset among individuals gets increasing rapidly. People use the bribe system to escape from the law and to get rapid solutions for their work. The demolition of bribery is in both the hands of the public and officials. If anyone among both rejects the bribery system, it leads to the bribery level decrease. The support of each and every individual is needed to decrease the level of bribery in the nation. A bribery-free nation is only in the hands of the entire people around the globe. Same in the political side, political leaders need to analyse every scheme from the government towards the public. Scams and corruption within government schemes need to be noticed to avoid unlawful factors. The crucial suggestion is to avoid bribery and dark politics can be done by the support of the upcoming generation.

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