

An Evaluation of the Partition Narratives: A Special Focus on Psychological Trauma

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: *Indian literature in English has dealt with partition for a long time. Many heartbreaking stories and accounts of partition continue to be written and discussed, and the blame game is still not over. The event was an unparalleled catastrophe in recent history that affected Sikhs, Sindhis, Hindus, Punjabis, and Bengalis in particular. This article discusses the extremely complicated topic of partition, which includes politics of greed, the abdication of authority, and male and female suffering during and after the split. The topic has been the subject of numerous regional and English-language books. The goal of this research paper is to examine literary works on the topic of partition. It examines selected texts that shed light on women's lived experiences of the traumatic events that occurred during Partition. In an effort to comprehend the diverse nature of the trauma women endured during Partition, it attempts to connect these texts.*

Design: *The information for the article comes from secondary sources like national and international publications and peer-reviewed journals. For the purpose of determining the research gap, online resources and research resources like Google Scholar, Research Gate, SSRN, Elsevier, Academia, and Shodhganga are utilized. ABCD analysis is used to draw attention to the most important aspects of the research. To carry out the proposed research, data are gathered from research journals, doctoral theses, scholarly articles, and websites. The methodology relies primarily on gathering, analyzing, and interpreting prior knowledge, with an emphasis on the keywords Partition Literature in India. Trauma Theory, Traumatic Stress and Women trauma of the chosen topic. The APA Manual was used to conduct the study's analyses in accordance with its requirements.*

Findings: *It has been comprehended the dynamics of partition and its impact on disadvantaged groups, particularly women. It discusses how novels about Partition depict trauma.*

Originality value: *The proposed study focuses primarily on the psychological trauma of the partition victims.*

Paper Type: *Research Article*

Keywords: Partition Literature, Partition Novels, Trauma Theory, Partition Trauma, Holocaust, ABCD Analysis.

1. INTRODUCTION :

1947 marks a crucial occasion with inside the Indian subcontinent because it witnessed the Partition of India that's taken into consideration as one of the maximum devastating activities with inside the annals of history. This marked occasion resulted in stop of the British Raj with the advent of impartial states, India and Pakistan. Thus, the areas with inside the provinces of Punjab and Bengal have been divided into West Pakistan (Punjab) and East Pakistan (Bengal), constituting the newly created kingdom of Pakistan, with India with inside the middle. It resulted with inside the exodus of humans throughout the divide with Muslims moving into Pakistan and Sikhs and Hindus into India. This primary upheaval with inside the sub-continent brought about mass killings, abduction and rape of women, inhuman killing of kids with hundreds of thousands of households being pressured to leave their houses and numerous others being separated from their cherished ones. The violence among extraordinary non secular

agencies led to innumerable casualties. Partition opened a brand new vista of battle for folks who migrated, both with inside the shape of locating a safe haven or earning, with girls being at risk of prostitution and begging. The unmarried or widowed women additionally confronted predicament of rehabilitation, including to it the trouble of kids whether or not born out of rape or, orphaned or separated from their parents. Instead of bringing peace with inside the region, the Partition served to intensify the hostilities among communities. Civic anxiety persevered for months, heaps of households have been break up apart, houses burnt down and villages abandoned. Thus, Partition is replete with the reminiscence of this painful tragedy [1].

Partition become the underbelly of independence. Ordinary Muslims, Sikhs, Hindus have been worried with survival and escaping violence in place of in lofty state-building projects. 10 million humans crossed the border on this change of houses and countries. Conservative estimates kingdom that 75000 girls have been raped and abducted. The woman frame will become the web website online of geopolitics, will become a territory to be mastered, whilst the territory of the state is being redefined and snatched far from them. Violence perpetrated become man or woman in addition to communitarian and the cultural narratives testify to this [2].

2. RELATED WORKS :

The keywords used to search the literature are Partition narratives, Partition trauma, Trauma Theory and women psychological trauma ranging from the years 1999-2021. The search engines used for the search results are SSRN, Research Gate, Academia and Google Scholar. Keywords are Partition narratives, partition trauma, trauma theory, and women trauma.

Table 1: Related works on partition and Trauma theory.

S. No	Focus/Area	Contribution	References
1.	Partition and Trauma	Discusses the political and communal aspects of the partition.	Butalia, (2017). [3]
2.	Partition literature and Trauma theory	Evaluates the trauma of the 1947 partition.	Butalia, (2015). [4]
3.	Partition literature and Trauma theory	Examines the dominant ideology of the partition holocaust.	Barenscoot, (2006). [5]
4.	Analysis of trauma in the background of partition literature	Discusses the psychological trauma and past memories of the victims.	Caruth, (2016). [6]
5.	Use of trauma theory	Provides a detailed overview of the psychological trauma of the partition holocaust.	Clearly, (2002).[7]
6.	Use of partition literature	Evaluates the psychological trauma of Women during the time of partition holocaust.	Jan, et al., (2021). [8]
7.	Examines trauma theory and Partition narratives	Analyses the post-traumatic stress disorder of women.	Kapur, (1999). [9]
8.	Evaluates partition holocaust and Trauma	Discusses the effects of partition on psychological conditions of the people.	Khan, (2017). [10]

3. RESEARCH GAP :

According to the literature review, many studies have been conducted about the Partition Literature of India, but very few works talk about the psychological traumatic condition of the people.

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY :

The major objectives of the paper are as follows:

- (1) To analyze the psychological trauma and war memories in the partition novels.
- (2) To evaluate the occurrences of despair in the partition narratives.
- (3) To discuss the experiences of trauma, vehemence and displacement.

- (4) To analyse the partition trauma through the ABCD framework.
- (5) To examines the qualitative approach of the study through the ABCD analysis.

5. METHODOLOGY :

The research paper titled ‘An Evaluation of the Partition Narratives: A Special Focus on Psychological Trauma’ is an exploratory study that aims to investigate the issue of third-generation Indians being subjected to discrimination despite the country's legal protections for them. Even though many people talked about laws for this area, very few studies show how different it is to exploit transgender people. As a result, the article is an exploratory study that searches authentic records using search engines like Google Scholar, Research Gate, SSRN, and Academia.edu to uncover this irony between what is believed to be about transgender people in light of laws and what they actually feel in society. The methodology will make use of textual analysis and the comparative method. A close reading of a few Transgender authors’ works will be followed by discussions of related topics. Additionally, the goal is to attend conferences and write research papers.

6. ANALYSIS OF THE STUDY :

6.1 Partition Literature:

Partition also looked at the trauma women experienced as a result of the partition using Trauma Theory. Because the selected texts cross over literary and cinematic representation, theories of adaptation, comparative literature, theories of inter-semiotic translation, and trans-media adaptations will also be taken into consideration. The primary sources for the study were films and novels. Interviews, testimonials, victim memoirs that have been recorded and published, author interviews, critical readings, journal articles, and other relevant secondary sources will be consulted.

It examines the various depictions of Partition, dismantling official discourses that fail to acknowledge the underlying trauma that resulted from this upheaval. This section gives an outline of a few scholarly messages and movies made on the subject of Partition, to address a thought of how partition is introduced in writing and film. As a result, the works of literature and film presented in this chapter are part of a larger collection of “unofficial” narratives that portray the traumatic effects of Partition.

This paper will study novels that address Partition with unique focus at the topic of women and their traumas resulting from this horrible upheaval of the redrawing of borders and the advent of wonderful nations: India, Pakistan – West and East Pakistan (later Bangladesh).

Moreover, epochal activities which includes Partition of the Indian Subcontinent have not figured as prominently as they have to with inside the subject of Trauma Studies. Partition constituted a critical bankruptcy of post colonialism, unleashing untold struggling on humans. Postcolonial research have targeted on compelled migration, slavery, racism, political violence, segregation, genocide, and Diasporas. But the violence that the humans of the subcontinent suffered, mainly girls, remained hidden off with inside the annals of partition history.

Then take a look at of Partition profits from testimonial literature, however additionally from literary works at the topic of Partition. Alternative histories that stories and fictive narratives provide us permit us to create a multifaceted repertoire of the sufferings of humans in the course of instances of notable upheavals. Epochal activities, ancient activities occur on a huge scale. History offers with them on a corresponding scale. It is stories and fiction that provide us the imprints of those epochal activities on characters lives. The renowned partition novels like Khushwant Singh's *Train to Pakistan*, Chaman Nahal's *Azadi*, B. Rajan' *Dark Dancer*, Attia Hosain's *Sunlight on a Broken Column*, Manohar Malgonkar's *A Bend in the Ganges*, Raj Gill's *The Rape*, Manju Kapur's *Difficult Daughters* [11].

6.2 Khushwant Singh's *Train to Pakistan*:

It is the first novel written on the theme of partition in Indian English literature. This excellent work of fiction is the contemplation of social and cultural milieu of Punjab and its people which contains the events just precedent to the partition. It acquaints the viewpoint of common people on the political scenario of the time very close to reality. The work is notable for its description of the dignity of a man sacrifice for his beloved which delineates diverse grim accounts of death, torture and rape in India. The work is also remarkable for it is an elusive emotional delineation of trauma and frenzy among the dislocated minorities. It portrays the life of a remote village Mano Majra which have always known for its railway station. The novel uplifts the core incidents from a night of August 1947. The novelist portray

image of commonality in complex Indian culture and civilization when he writes. The village which narrates in the novel *Mano Majra* stands as a microcosm of typical Indian village where all people in various religions like Hindu Muslim Sikh had have lived with peace and harmony. The esteem honour regardless of various race and religion implanted esteem respect in the mind of the people [12].

6.3 Chamannahal's *Azadi*:

Chaman Nahal employs a wider canvas to portray the impact of partition of human life which mainly focuses on a Hindu family affected by the ordeal. Partition is a strong quest for an identity. *Azadi* meticulously depicts the effect and sufferings of the partition on Lala Kahshi Ram's, a two time victim of the partition whose family firstly endures traumatic experiences from the sudden effects of the partition in newly created nation called Pakistan; latter the aftermath of the partition in free India. The significant enigmas faced by the family in Pakistan are loss of property, friends and relatives and psychological trauma. This novel mainly treats two major themes of the partition are the theme of exile and the theme of a quest for identity. The novel includes three parts like 'The Lull', 'The Storm' and 'The after Math'. The setting of the novel is in Sialkot, a place in Pakistan after the partition. Novel throws light on the public mourning through the distress and agony of a private family [13].

6.4 Rajan's -*The Dark Dancer*:

This novel tries to remark on the partition as a national tragedy. Cultural conflict and partition are the central themes of the novel. The protagonist of the novel is Krishnan that a true Indian direct victim of the tragedy or not, experiences the trauma and Kamala's sacrifice hold the values of love. *The Dark Dancer* is a tragic novel which portrays the communal massacres at the time of the partition in Southern India. After ten years from England Krishnan has returned to India. The culture of the two nations merged in the character of Krishnan. The events in the novel have been presented with intense emotions. This eminent in the novel presents Krishnan's alienation with his strive to intermingle contradicting systems of thought. He cognizes the infringement between the Hindus and Muslims over the partition. His wife Kamala is an appropriate victim of the partition, while attempting to save the life of a Muslim girl. The author acquaints the character of Cynthia as the new spirit of the west who challenges the tradition and customs of the society. The novelist does not determine himself only to the personal tragedy of Kamala but also connects it with the national tragedy of partition [14].

6.5 Attia Hossain's *Sunlight on a Broken Column*:

Attia Hossain's *Sunlight on a Broken Column*, an artistically successful novel, narrates a different experience of partition. The novel describes the impulse of partition on a Muslim family thereby giving a Muslim viewpoint of the partition. This novel reveals an objective description of the psychological dilemma of the Muslims during the period of the riot. The competence of the Two- nation theory is interrogated by the author.

Many families were displaced during the disaster of partition which was the tragedy mainly faced by them because most of them were separated in their life. This novel recounts the degeneration of the feudal Muslim family. It encounters the problem of displacement rehabilitation, exile and the question of Identity crisis in free India. A great transformation brings to the family as a result of the partition is that the members lose their communication competency [15].

6.6 Manohar Malgonkar's *A Bend in the Ganges*:

A Bend in the Ganges views partition from political and historical point of view which attempts to place the upshots of Gandhian national movement in partition. Malgonkar depicts how the dichotomy of Gandhian dogma of non-violence fetched up in the violence of partition. This novel demonstrates that the joint endeavour of Hindus and Muslims against imperialism but ended up in the separation of the nation. It is mainly executed through the character of Shafi who is a staunch nationalist in the beginning but later turns as a communalist. Different shades of Jinnah's personality is visible in him. This novel focuses partition brings about a tragic disintegration of an aristocratic family called Teckchand's family whom are not prepare to face the effect of partition. Sundari is the only one survivor of the whole family because the others are the victims of the holocaust. The agony of this victimized family represents the sufferings and agony of hundreds of families [16].

6.7 Raj Gill's *The Rape*:

Raj Gill's novel *The Rape* pictures the degeneration of human values during the partition which narrates the story of a girl raped by her beloved's father. This novel describes the animosity between the Sikh and the Muslim community. Partition was the biggest crisis for the Sikh community which dramatized in this novel how the Sikh community suffered during those days. The novel gives a glimpse at one of the most agonising events in history, the dehumanization of life and disintegration of human values. The love story is intertwined with the agony and suffering of the partition. The novel observes how the calmness of the tiny village is changed by the Politicians. The leaders from the cities attain the small and calm village and pollute the air of harmonious village and stimulate the villagers to fight against the Muslims. Protagonist of the novel is Dalipjit rescued his Muslim girlfriend Leela and provided shelter for her but she has been raped by his own father Isher Singh whose immoral and inhuman behaviour creates a shock in his mind [17][18][19][20].

6.8 ManjuKapur's *Difficult Daughters*:

ManjuKapur's first and foremost novel *Difficult Daughters* imparts the themes like problems of women, their education, patriarchal authority, freedom of women set against the background of the partition. The novel creates the issues of an upper middle class urban Punjabi family in Amritsar. The backdrop of the novel is at the time of 1940's in India which communicates a graceful account of Indian Independence. The noble mainly narrates the story of three generations –Kasturi, Virmati and Ida with their views, principles, struggles, agonies and relationships. The author distinguishes the various experience of people in different times like nation under the British rule and the time of partition [21][22][23].

The novel recites the story of the protagonist Virmati, born into an ascetic family in Amritsar, who does not wish to live her mother's life which focuses on marriage childbearing and household activities. Virmati's daughter Ida begins a journey to know her mother's past who is elucidated as a new women of colonial India. The theme of the novel denotes Virmati's yearning to obtain education and freedom hold as mirror towards India's pursuit for identity and self-government. The novel does not delineate about the mental agony and the sufferings of the 'difficult daughters' Virmati, Ida and Shakuntala only, but also denotes the various other difficult daughters who have left the confinements of their family and entangled themselves in the partition holocaust [24][25][25].

7. EVALUATING THE EFFECT OF PARTITION :

It highlights the reality that seeing that those locations had been one earlier than the partition, however how after one stroke of department via way of means of the colonizers brought about a innovative power of one of a kind views from erstwhile unified locations. The department made them the "others" in connection with themselves. And how every enjoy of the partition became one of a kind even in a comparable place. Furthermore, now no longer best the differences, the texts help in collating a view of the reports of the partition and the way struggling became common along. Whether that struggling changed into the bodily factor of abduction or the mental trauma of ostracization and displacement or the separation from households or the exploitation of younger girls with the aid of using their very own humans. This series of Texts consequently highlights and brings those differing stories of violence and trauma felt with the aid of using the girls with inside the subcontinent. Not simplest that, additionally they display how women succumb or live to tell the tale and emerge triumphant amidst the attempting circumstances surrounding them. Partition changed into an upheaval of a humongous nature and its effect is consequently made seen with the texts.

8. ABCD ANALYSIS :

After selecting a number of issues to be analyzed in novels, a qualitative analyst can list the most important advantages, benefits, constraints, and disadvantages of each identified determinant issue. This can be thought of as the predefined condition for ABCD analysis and is referred to as an ABCD listing. It will also provide the fundamental idea. A qualitative approach to discussion is the ABCD listing variation of ABCD analysis. The ABCD list includes a list of the systems or model's advantages, disadvantages, constraints, and benefits. Using a novel method of qualitative analysis of a system or concept known as ABCD analysis/listing, this study will examine these five indices. Breaking down the arranged review with the ABCD Examination system is a decent idea. That needs some serious idea

[26] [27]. The ABCD analysis framework/listing, a qualitative analysis of a system or concept developed by Aithal, P.S., is used in this paper to investigate these five indices to determine the research's advantages, disadvantages, constraints, and benefits[29][30]. An ABCD Analysis-based qualitative analysis of the proposed research is provided below.

Table 2: ABCD listing the Partition trauma.

ADVANTAGE	BENEFITS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilisation of the ABCD framework. It is used to evaluate the findings of their research projects in a wide range of academic fields regarding trauma theory. It helps to examines psychological partition trauma with ABCD analysis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the use of several partition research indices. It attempted to analyze trauma indices in this study. It is used to evaluate the present and future significance of the Partition trauma.
CHALLENGES	DISADVANTAGE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of medical reports during the time of partition. Classification errors while predicting psychological trauma. Scarcity of sources regarding the treatment of traumatic victims 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It needs high computation time. Difficulty to implement this through the character analysis. Sometimes lost to implement current relevance of the topic.

Advantages: The paper is aimed to be advantageous to the psychological trauma of the characters in the Partition novels.

Benefits: The paper aims to be useful as an accurate representation of the plight of the victims of the partition. And of the legality of the Indian constitution in the eyes of various minority groups.

Constraints: The primary obstacle to the research was a scarcity of trustworthy and abundant sources regarding the recorded cases of traumatic victims during the time of partition.

Disadvantages: Even though a lot of research has been done in India about partition trauma. Very little has been done to address the current relevance of Psychological trauma due to the holocaust.

9. FINDINGS :

It provides the fundamental outline of the partition of the subcontinent, focusing on the violence that people, particularly women, endured. It also considers how feminist historians brought women's trauma, which had been hidden from view, to the forefront [30].

10. SUGGESTIONS :

(1) It explains the significance of analyzing the texts within this parameter and the application of trauma theory to partition history. It also shows why it's important to study the works of Partition to bring the nuances of that upheaval to light and serve as a surrogate memory and testimony for cultural memory.

(2) Even though the traumatic event will always be remembered, the recall of it becomes blurry. The memory is denied and suppressed, despite the awareness of the need to recall and move on.

11. CONCLUSION :

These historiographical accounts, on the one hand, preserve the Partition violence as a reminder of the bestiality men can exhibit during turbulent times; On the other hand, they provide the opportunity to comprehend, and as a result, to come to terms with and overcome the trauma that was brought about by Partition. By acting as a bridge between the historical and the individual, they also mediate the shock of trauma and the charge of suffering that trauma carries. The sense of self is also severely and adversely affected by trauma. The various forms of pain, the various political and social contexts in which women were subjected to trauma, and the distinct personal histories of these women will be examined [31][32].

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