ABSTRACT

George Orwell’s Animal Farm is a modern example of a literary form known as political satire that is a work which blends a critical attitude with humour and wit for the purpose of ridiculing the follies of man’s political behavior and institutions. Such satires existed in early classical writings, and it is only necessary to name authors like Aristophanes, Juvenal, Horace and Petronius to recall something of the rich vein of satire which ran through the literature of ancient Athens and Rome. Animal Farm has frequently been compared with Gulliver’s Travels, not because there if any real similarity of treatment, but because each is a political satire of contemporary institutions, Animal Farm exactly struck the note of public mood. It is a sustained satire as continues as the incidents in the story. And, in pursuance of the time honored convention, each animal character is a Caricature of a human type.

INTRODUCTION

British literature is a literature from the United Kingdom Isle of man and Channel Islands. The other language of Britain focuses on the literature written in the other language that are, and have been used in Britain. The nature of British identify has changed over time. The Island that contains England, Scotland and wale has been known as Britain from the time of the Roman Pliny the Elder. English as the national language had its beginnings with the Anglo Saxon invasion. Britain was a colonial power the use of English spread through the word, and from the nineteenth century in the United States, and late in other former colonies, major writers in English including Nobel Laureates, began to appear beyond the Boundaries of Britain and Ireland. George Orwell was a novelist, essayist and critic best known for his novel animal farm. He was a man of strong opinions who addressed some of the major political movements of his times, including imperialism, fascism and communism. Animal Farm was an anti-soviet satire in a pastoral setting featuring two pigs as its main protagonists. These pigs were said to represent Joseph Stalin and Leon Trotsky. The novel brought Orwell great acclaim and financial rewards.

Animal Farm is a remarkable political satire on the policies of Stalin. During the First World War Nicholas II was an outstanding ruler of Russia. The revolutionaries declared that they were the followers of Marx. These revolutionaries declared themselves as communist and captured the power. Trotsky organized the red army and defeated Bolshevism. But this battle caused a great harm to the economic policy of Russia. The novelist tells about old major who represents Lenin and Marx.
ANIMAL FARM - A POLITICAL SATIRE AGAINST TOTALITARIANISM

Animal Farm is one of the most effective political satires of English Literature. Animal Farm has been presented as animal fable. In fact, Orwell in his attempt of ‘Animal Farm’ has followed Dryden whose The Hind and the panther written on Animal Frolics, was used to satirize the religious and Political Conflicts between Roman Catholics and Anglican Church. The readers become victims of disbelief because of the activities of the animal they can ignore the fact that animals are the symbols. Through the activities of animals, the novelist shows the intention of men. Thus like Gulliver’s Travels, Animal Farm can also be enjoyed at two levels. The readers come to know about the element of satire that has been fused through this animal fable, the novel becomes more interesting. The novelist aims at satirizing the follies of contemporary political institutions, like swift who, did likewise in Gulliver’s Travels. Orwell aimed at the presentation of the soviet myth in ‘Animal Farm’. The thoughts of Karl Marx influenced the people of Russia; and these thoughts gave birth to communism. The followers of Karl Marx who were known as communists declared that their chief aim was to bring equality to the society. The rest of the world was aware of this fact. That’s why the ups and downs at political level became the subject of satire for the writers.

The main object of satire is to ridicule vices and follies of society these vices and follies its attitude remains amusing. In fact, satire is a literary achievement. Richard Garnett is of the view that satire is ‘The expression in adequate terms of the sense of amusement or disgust excited by the ridiculous or unseemly, provided that humour is a distinctly recognized element, and that the utterance is invested with literary form. Without humour satire is invective; without literary form, it is mere clownish jeering. The main characteristics of a satire are literariness disgust at the ridiculous, the ugly and the foolish; humour and a sincere desire to correct or reform. And the main weapons of a satirist are wit, humour, irony and paradox. Satire has been existing in literature since the time of Chaucer. Chaucer has been regarded as the father of this form. Among many remarkable works, some could get their fame because of the element of satires. George Orwell is a great writer of modern era who wished to serve as a journalist and never misses his real goal of attacking the policies of communism. In his novel ‘Animal Farm’ he attacked the rulers of Russia.

Stalin, who had been a ruler of Russia in those days, declared that he was going to establish socialism in Russia. The socialist experiments at which Stalin aimed, was nothing but a way to impress the people of Russia. The novelist does not say that Stalin did not follow the principles of communism but he proves that if Stalin had been a true follower of communism. Many characters and the story of the novel take after the Russian Revolution. Orwell does not criticize the revolution. Mr. Jones, who stands for tyranny, is not an ideal character. Orwell criticizes the situation that was wrought after the revolution. At the end of the novel he concludes that most of the revolutions are inspired by great failures. In this case Animal Farm may be regarded as an elegy written at the death of such great ideals. According to the novelist, the power corrupts the ruler. Old Major, an old boar, makes other animals aware of their rights and also of their exploitation at the hands of Mr. Jones an human being. He says that the other animals ‘’our lives are capable of it, are forced to work to the last atom of our strength’’ (Orwell 75).

Then start the circle of the tyranny Nepolean who becomes Mr. Jones at the end of the novel. Orwell convinces that power corrupts the ruler and all the ideals that make revolution possible, become effective for such rulers.
CONCLUSION

Animal Farm is a very interesting animal fable. Orwell’s Animal Farm has been regarded as one of the most outstanding and the most interesting political satire of English Literature. In the satire of Animal Farm the writers exposes the weakness of human beings. Like a great satirist, Orwell, performs his job very carefully. He adopts the medium of a fable to signify the drawbacks of Stalinism and its effect on the common people of Russia. Animals are treated as the animals in the novel but they are the symbols of human personality. The principles of Animalism are very ideal but they are not presented by the rulers because of the temptation of power. The result is that in place of communism or socialism, totalitarianism takes place. Thus we find two important aspects in the novel. First of all, it reveals the general attitude of the rulers after any revolution. Secondly, it presents the historical facts of Stalin era.

WORK CITED