

CONCLUSION

This Side That Side : Restorying Partition by Vishwajyoti Ghosh is a fascinating anthology on the Partition of India that has come out for the first time in a graphic format. I have conducted the research on the narratives of partition in *This Side That Side* to find out the application and result of the verbal-visual narratives in the context of stories of this anthology. The research was also conducted by comparing the textual anthology of literature on the Partition of Indian Subcontinent to the graphic anthology and by bringing out the similarities and differences between the two. I used verbal-visual narrative strategy to find out the relationship between the text and the images depicted in the graphic anthology to understand the technique for its presentation of the narrative. My research also applied the concept of 'graphiation' and 'narratology' to study the illustrations on the graphic page.

The first chapter of the research explains the definition of the Graphic Novel. It also explains the differences between Comics and Graphic Novels. I then proposed the hypothesis by mentioning the strategy of the proposed research. The research statement put forward the research questions and to find its solution highlighted the research methodology for the research. The researcher also highlighted the brief history of graphic novel in India and also explained its present status.

The second chapter defined the narrative and narratology and its different forms. It also explained the visual and textual term and concepts used for the verbal-visual narrative strategy. The researcher also explained the methodology of verbal-visual narrative strategy. The chapter also discussed the Partition of India, Partition of Indian in Indian Literature and Media, briefly

outlined the stories of Partition in *This Side That Side* and *Orphans of the Storm* and at the end made a comparative study of the two.

In the third chapter the researcher has applied his research methodology to bring out the result of his hypothesis. I am convinced that my hypotheses have been productive and his research will add more understanding to the studies of Graphic Novel in the classroom who study stories of political issues. The research applied the visual-verbal narrative strategy on the proposed research and these were his findings:

(1) The verbal-visual tensions created by conflicting visual and verbal narrative, the reader requires more complex mode of reading which negates the notion that reading a graphic novel requires less imagination while reading compared to the textual novel.

(2) The Graphic Novel, through its use of images, is a powerful mode of learning and is at par with the textual novel. The Graphic Novel has an edge over the textual novel as its imagery attracts the readers.

(3) The meaning of the images are limited as the reader doesn't imagine much while reading a narrative on a graphic due to the pictorial descriptions which seize the readers' imagination whereas the textual narratives let the reader imagine the way he or she wants to perceive. Textual imagination is an infinite process.

(4) The stories of *This Side That Side* are completely different from the *Orphans of the Storm* as is evident from the experiences of the contributor in both the anthologies. The writers and artists in *This Side That Side* are generally 3rd generation writers of the victims of partition. Most of the stories contained in this anthology are memoirs or post memory that are third hand narrative of the partition stories. These are the stories most of the writers have heard from their grandparents. So, they can't make a connection with the trauma of these narratives. There are

writers who are born after the events of 1947 or 1971 and so they can't even make a connection to 'That Side'. They are partitioned even in their minds now. These writers can't make a connection with the Liberation War or the mass migration and, so, their stories don't make a concrete connection to it. This could be the reason that the stories presented in *This Side That Side* are different from the other anthologies of Partition produced in India. The stories in the *Orphans of the Storm* are written by the 1st generation writers who witnessed the horrors of partition through their eyes and narrated it in their stories. While the stories of violence, rapes, riots feature prominently as the core theme in the textual anthology, the writers of the graphic anthology have completely 'negated the tales of violence' in their stories.

Graphic Novels are now being used as an important medium of education tool in India. Though literature studied via graphic novels has been successful in the U.S.A and Japan, India is still to catch up with them. These novels are a powerful medium as they attract a non-reader of literature because images create curiosity. The research was conducted to critically analyze the quality of work that has gone into representing the historical events. The style and technique of the presentation by these writers are notably praiseworthy and should be applauded by the critics of literature studies. The reason that led me to go for this topic was that Comic book readings were never promoted to us during school. Graphic Novel is different and so does its subject matter. Earlier, Comic book readings were outrightly rejected by Indian parents simply because they had a notion that they spoil the kid and affect his/her studies. But with the coming of the Graphic Novels the kids are interested in them and the parents have been supportive to them since they know the content of a graphic text which is no less than any other informative book. This way even a large portion of India will get to study those topics which they were not interested in earlier. Graphic films like '*Batman*' are now winning 'Academy Awards'. This was

not possible some 30 years back, but now it certainly highlights the change in perception of people in regard to comics and graphic studies. Art Spiegelman, the Pulitzer prize winner, and the writer of *Maus* which happens to be the first graphic novel to win any literary prize, has once said in an interview that while experimenting on his first work of graphic novel i.e. *Maus*, he was nervous as he thought how would people react to it as serious comic literature was something that was unheard of at that time. The story was based on the 'holocaust' survivor and to his surprise became an instant hit as soon as it was published. Since then the graphic novels have touched upon various historical events on war, the 9/11 attacks and finally this, the Partition of Indian Sub-continent, that was long awaited and was worth the wait. The narratives are not only creative but are of much better standard. The Graphic Novel in India is here to stay.