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RE-PRESENTATION OF HISTROY IN SALMAN RUSHDIE'S FIFTH NOVEL
"THE MOOR'S LAST SIGH"

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ABSTRACT

Re-Presentation of history is a trend in Indian Writing in English. Most of the writers wanted write the history mixing with fiction of their own views born out of their experiences or the other. In this context I would like to study novel "The Moor's Last Sigh" by Salman Rushdie keeping in the mind the history how he described. The title of the novel The Moor's Last Sigh is taken from the story of Boabdil, the last Moorish king of Granada. This novel depicts the major two harbor cities in India. Rushdie narrates the major themes in the highly populated city Bombay, capital of Maharashtra State as well as Cochin of Kerala. Through this novel Rushdie re collects the wounds of Bombay Blasting, Destruction of Babri Masjid. The Novel begins in Spain and moves to India. Indian History is depicted as he had witnessed in his Childhood days. The novel goes through the first person narration and ending with the third person narration.

Key Words: Bombay and Cochin, Spain to India, Destruction of Babri Masjid, Bombay Blasting.

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The moor's last sigh is broadly divided in to four major chapters. In this fiction, salmon Rushdie recollects his past memories of India from historical point of you. Because of various reasons, Rushdie settled down in the West). . He could not forget the bitter experiences of the result of writing Satanic Verses. Those experiences are once again recollected in "The Moor's Last Sigh". In his second novel, Midnight's Children's protagonist Salem Sinai depicts his own personality as well as Moraes Zogoiby called as Moor, Mores of Spain is also reflection of his own personality. This novel reflects Rushdie's past events of the two Indian Cities, One is Cochin and the other one is Bombay. The two cities are major business cities as well as harbor cities, link

between India and the rest of the world. The entire novel reveals the history of India and its subcontinent.

The title of the novel is received from the story of Boabdil. The major character, Boabdil was the last ruler of Granada. Moor himself retold his story to his mother. His mother was a great painter. She painted beautiful paintings; they are called as The Moor's Last Sigh. The moor's last sigh is four generations of life of the narrator Moraes zogoiby called as Moor. Through the character of Moor, Rushdie used Magi Realism where the physical characters are more than normal length of the common people. Rushdie applied his magic realism element in his character Moor. The moor role is very much associated with

his mother Aurora Dagama an artist. He is also liked his tutor, first love sculptor Uma. The novel begins with the first person narrative, 'I' the letter 'I' represents Moraes Zogoiby (Moor) speaks his story grave, e.g. Soul speaking from Spain

Rushdie explains the real life of an original individual Zogoiby's mother Aurora Dagama an artist and grate talented woman. Moor takes a tour of India to Spain, he introduced himself of Spanish through he was a native of Cochin, India. He belonged to Indian merchant, De Gama Zogoiby dynasty. Moor exclaimed that Aurora my mother and Uma my love were the main source behind the success the connection between the east and west started with a great voyage from the Portuguese employer Vasco de Gama introduced Indian sub continent coastal areas, first to Calicut and later to Cochin which was the beginning of discovering India. Moor recollects his situations, occasions in first few chapters of this novel. At 13 Zogoiby grandmother Aurora Da Gama, tall and thin girl who was living with her grand parents Aurora's grandmother's name was Epiphania 60 yrs of age on an aged woman grandmother became hurdle for Aurora, so she was preparing a plan of killing the old woman. She waited for several days, months, years, to finish her. Aurora had grate patience. She open up windows in winter night, thorough small ornaments, wooden wages of her Dr. Francisco Dagama was the narrator's late ,great grandfather. He was an intellectual ,artist ,idealistic and a not a successful businessman he is a future seer he was for much inspire by Bertrand Russell and his powerful essay religion and science, he was strongly believed that Cochin, Travancore, Mysore, Hyderabad were not part of British India they were Indian states , having their own princes when Jawaharlal Nehru hoisted the flag in Mysore princely state ,the local people leaders destroyed not only the flag but also the flag pole it was the condition of the state .from scico was a portrait , he also joined the home rule movements organized by Annie Besant and the Bal Gangadhar Tilak he was arrested for protesting against British imperialism in India from scico prepared a paper later send it to all leading journals. The article entitled towards a provisional theory of transformations fields' conscience Francisco had divided his property and

Gama trading company equally between his two sons. He recollects the memories of the time of freedom struggle with Gandhian way. At that time Gandhi was the only hope for the Indians to fight against British Government in the process of Non-Violence. Gandhi was the leader of masses so everybody was supporting him. People, around him were chatting the religious mantra,

Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram,
Patitha Pavana Sita Ram,
Iswara Allah Tere Nam,
Subko Sammoti De Bhagwan'-

Hare Krishna, Jai Govind, Hare Govind and so on. India is a secular land, but the places and processions were religious based identities. Thousands of people were thronging on the streets by shouting slogans ; Hare Ram' at that time we were scared and locked our doors by hiding ourselves in the houses- These lines are originally Rushdie's feelings and fears at the time of Babri Masjid demolition and its consequences on a particular community. Moor's mother, Aurora Zogoiby was a great painter, she had painted so many master pieces, one of the best named as; 'The Moor's Last Sigh'. Christians, Jews, Chinese are the races; they never bother for their religion. In India, though a secular country, named it as Hindustan Hamara, Bhrat Mata Ki Jai create insecure feeling among other religious people who live in India. Through the character of Moors Rushdie reminds his pain full memories, where particularly he experienced in India and its sub continent. He puts his own character and speaks his ideas and ideals through the character of Moor. Rushdie speaks some important historical movements pre and post Indian Independence. There was an agreement between Britain and India to support England in the Second World War to get India Independence. According to many it was unfair decision taken by the supreme leader of the Congress Party, Jawaharlal Lal Nehru. , Muhammad Ali Jinnah and other Muslim leaders protested it publicly. Then there was a big controversy between Nehru and Jinnah. It is the main cause of origin of two countries, India and Pakistan. The division was happened based up on religious identity. Pakistan was declared as a Muslim country so the majority of

the race migrated to Pakistan. But some of them believed that they are also Indians. They wanted to stay in India rest of their life. The few who were stayed in India are called Minorities. At the time of partition thousands of common people lost their lives in religious clashes. Still horrible memories of the past reveal in every individual's lives. The British took it an advantage and used the weapon 'Divide and Rule'. It is novel of complexities uncertainty, illusions linguistic difference historical events link up with friction caomorns d agama wife Selle had a lost her life if moved caomorns very much she used her entire time for painting even the walls ceiling was filling with her hard made paintings the paintings reflects family history of the past, present and future.

Aurora always said that her paintings reveal four generations of Moorish life experiences in her own paintings in India and Abroad. When Abraham and Aurora reached Bombay to live in, they changed their names as Mr. and Mrs. Aurora changed her name as Zgoiby later it became very popular. The two stayed in a house but not got married. They were irreligious and came out of the religious flavor of the Country. The House Divided is not simply the division of the materials but Men and their Lives in a secular country India.

The next part of the novel is Malabar Masala. It reflects the real images and incidents of Rushdie which happened in the city of Bombay. He is trying to impose his reactions against the religious connotations happened in the name of Idol processions and submerging thousands of Idols in the filthy water. Through the character of Moor Rushdie represents Indian history in literary form of Magic Realism'. ; fat bellied idols by the thousand, papier-mâché effigies of the elephant headed deity Ganesha or Ganapathi Bappa , swarming towards the water astride papier-mâché rats-for Indian rats as well as we know, carry Idols as well as plagues- chapter 9. Page.123.lines;3-6. Rushdie went in to the past history oh the most populous and polluted city in India. ; Bombay of my joys and sorrows-page161, last lines. I mushroomed in to a huge urbane spaced of a fellow; I expanded without time for proper planning without any pauses to learn from my experiences. There is a huge gap between

Hindu and Muslim Community. The two Religions are quite different. Even though they are united to live in a vast populated Country, India because India is a Secular Country where all kinds of Religious People are free to live as well as promote their Religions. In the year 1947, August 15 midnight India got its Independence. For years all kinds of people who belong to different religions feel that they are free to expose their Religions. It is the main idea Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism, Islamism spread all over India. The real sensitivity began with the Minority people with the demolition of Babri Masszid in Uttar Pradesh. The Baja rang Dal, Viswa Hindu Parishad and some other group activists destroyed the Muslim Shrine to re- build Sri Ram Temple where Lord Rama was born. Rushdie narrates these issues in his Novel through the major character Moor.

The third part of this novel reveals his memories of the most populated city Bombay. He took it as Bombay Central. Rushdie speaks through Moraes Zogoiby about Bombay of the past and present. 'For streets in Bombay are never silent, and never, never empty'- page285 line10. This chapter begins with the prison where Moor was staying and was reminding his mother Aurora, Sisters, Relatives and his beloved. Bombay is business capital city of India where all kinds of people and races meet for business transaction. It is the bridge between North as well as South. North Indians believe it as their own city so as the people of South feel that it is their own. Rushdie used his favorite literary concept Magical Realism in this novel excessively. Mores travelled to the ages, cultures, places and religions through his master piece The Moors Last Sigh. Rushdie went in to the previous ages to pickup the basic concepts of people and their lifestyles, and mainly he looked at the previous poetsnovel13, 14 and 15 century writers, specially 18, 19 century World class Writers as his role models. He was very much influenced by Latin American authors , specially Gabriel Garcia Marquez's One Hundred Years of Solitude and its theme is based upon reality with fiction, is like imaginary settings for real life settings and situations..

The last part of the book reveals the complete view of an Indian and its identity. Bombay is the centre

for business as well as communal clashes. The religious fundamentalism is the main cause to the disturbance of peace. Rushdie created historical characters for his narration as well as used English words in a magical way. Is the most important from Rushdie's point of view? This chapter begins with personal views of Degama Zogoiby the protagonist of this novel. The Moors Last Sigh is the ending part and the major theme of the Fiction. Through this character Rushdie narrates his life, feelings, emotions, pains, reflections and his own reactions about Bombay and other side of the City.

Rushdie witnessed the killings of hundreds of innocent people by the bomb explosives. He felt that if he hadn't left India he would have been died in the massacre. Moraes Zogoiby met a woman while he was travelling on a flight. She offered him food and drink. He accepted both. He had also a bottle of red Rioja wine which was so delicious. He asked for more. The lady who offered him food and wine was Eduvigis Refugio and she had Psychology Degree from the Completeness University of Madrid. He memorizes the place, Language, people and customs are his past glories but not present state of mind. Through this character, Rushdie speaks to us his lonely life in the west and his pains regarding his own family away from him for so long years. ; I must remember that I knew nothing, understand nothing; I was alone in a Mystery- page-383-lines-28-29. Moor reminds his mother, her portraits, her feelings and emotions she shared with him when he was a child as well as a Teenager. Mores Zogoiby retold his entire life events, feelings through this novel. Through this work Rushdie used Ancient History as his theme for his own real life situations through factious roles. Especially Spanish Kingdom and it's rulers in the ancient times. The novel ends with Zogoiby's strong emotional feelings to his mother. The last sentence of the novel "I went back to my table, and wrote my story's end.

Through these Novel Rushdie portraits his own personal experiences in India and Abroad. The ending sentence of the Novel reflects his own identity and individuality. The Novel begins with I, it represents Rushdie's past memories in India. Through the character of Moor, he speaks out his own voice against The Religious Shrine of Babri

Masjid Demolition Incident, Bombay Blast Killings and its consequences for a long time insecure feelings of the Minority as well as Common people and their life styles.

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