

AMBITION AND STRUGGLE: AN INTERSECTIONAL ANALYSIS OF MAJUMDAR'S A BURNING

Aiman Zahra¹

M.Phil Scholar University of Southern Punjab Multan Pakistan

Dr.Muhammad Nasir²

Assistant Professor University of Southern Punjab Multan Pakistan

legendguy143@yahoo.com

Jannat Fatima³

IELTS and Spoken Instructor, Counslo_Educating Generations Multan, Pakistan

Muhammad Khalid⁴

Principal The Cambridge College System Murad Abad Muzaffar Garh, Pakistan

Abstract

The purpose of this research is to analyze Majumdar's novel A Burning (2020). This research examines Megha Majumdar's novel A Burning through Intersectional perspective to investigate how ambition and struggle are shaped by gender, social class, religion and other socio-political factors. Using the Kimberle Crenshaw's unequally theory of intersectionality, this study analyzes the character's experience to see how because of their gender, social class and religion, they face obstacles in fulfilling their desire in modern Indian society. This study shows the reality of Indian Society, where marginalized communities face struggle to fulfill their dreams and treated. It demonstrates how systemic inequality influences human desire and behavior, and explain the complex interplay between individual ambition and social constraints. This research is descriptive and qualitative in nature. Through close textual analysis of text, it tells how systemic inequalities and prejudice affects characters life and opportunities. Marginalized people need a lot of strength to fight against unfair system to fulfill their dreams. But people who have privilege can move a head easily. This study presents a clear picture of contemporary Indian Society, where ambition is not only a personal drive but also deeply connected to the social a political environment. This study highlights how fiction reflects the realities of power, privilege and marginalized communities in Indian society and how these forces interact in shaping human ambition

Key Words: Ambition, Struggle, Power, Intersectionality, Women Rights

1. Introduction

The purpose of this research is to analyze Majumdar's novel A Burning (2020). This research examines Megha Majumdar's novel A Burning through Intersectional perspective to investigate how ambition and struggle are shaped by gender, social class, religion and other socio-political factors. Using the Kimberle Crenshaw's unequally theory of intersectionality, this study analyzes the character's experience to see how because of their gender, social class and religion, they face obstacles in fulfilling their desire in modern Indian society. This study shows the reality of Indian Society, where marginalized communities face struggle to fulfill their dreams and treated. It demonstrates how systemic inequality influences human desire and behavior, and explain the complex interplay between individual ambition and social constraints.

In A Burning, Jivan, 22 years old Muslim girl from Kolkata, who witnesses a terrorist attack on the train, when it stopped on the station. After that attack on train, she comes to her home while lying on her bed she reads comments on Facebook where people were talking about this terrorist attack. Jivan also posts a comment on Facebook which captures the attention of police, in result she falsely accused of terrorist attack, her fate becomes completely changed and she puts into jail. In the novel second character is Lovely, a transgender woman (Hijra), who aspires to become an actress and a physical education teacher, (PT Sir), Jivan's fate depends upon them. The purpose of this study to analyze the social problems and injustices that Majumdar portrays in the novel. It also examines how Majumdar depictions of these problems can lead discussion about these realities faced by the marginalized by contemporary Indian society.

1.1 Statement of the Problem

Megha Majumdar's "A Burning" is analyzed from Kimberle Crenshaw (1989), point of view in intersectionality. A Burning (2020), the powerful narrative that examine ambition and struggle filled by deep rooted inequalities. This study presents three characters Jivan, Lovely and PT Sir want to rise from poverty but their dreams and ambition are shaped by various intersecting factor such as gender, class, race and political power. This study examines the issue of ambition and struggles are experienced by individual due to their social status. This research deals with the unequal distribution of opportunity and justice based on social issue. Intersectionality is useful perspective to understand how different form of discrimination overlap and intensify each other. However, despite the emerging interest in intersectionality in literary studies, there is a gap in consideration of how these intersecting identities effects the goals of characters and the structural barriers and inequalities they face. This research deals with the problem that how ambition is affected by the overlapping structures of gender and social class and how character's struggles to achieve their goal in the Indian society.

1.2 Objectives of the research

1. To analyze the impact of Gender and Social class on the characters ambition in "A Burning"
2. To reveal social issues and social class differences in modern Indian society in Megha Majumdar "A Burning"

1.3 Significance of the study

This research is helpful for future researchers in the way that how modern literature can be considered through the idea of "Intersectionality". This study is also helpful that how system like politics, social class and religion are connected and how they affect people's dreams and difficulties in Indian modern society. Through Crenshaw's intersectionality, this study examines how various part of person's identity: like gender, class, cast and religion overlap and create layer of struggle.

This research is also significant because it focuses that how people face inequality and discrimination not for one reason, but due to many reasons at the same time. Many scholars have talked about issues like gender, religion and poverty separately. But this study focuses that how all identities work together. This research will shed the light on the important issues related to ambition, struggles, gender and social class in modern Indian society. It also shows how these all factors interact and impact the lives and dreams of individuals, and also examines that how difficult it is for marginalized community, to achieve their dreams in Indian unfair society. This research shows that intersectionality is important framework to study the real word literature problems. By applying intersectionality to South Asian novel, it shows that intersectionality is not just important for Western contract, it has global relevance. This research is relevant today as the novel addresses current ongoing real problems like religious violence, social division and poverty issues through intersectional perspective of "A Burning", this study asks important question about representation, justice, the nature of ambition and struggle in unequal societies. This research is also helpful because it highlights how narratives from marginalized people can challenge unfair systems in the society and help us look the word from more empathetic perspectives.

2. Literature Review

Intersectionality theory, introduced by Kimberle Crenshaw (1989), it gives a lens through which the interconnected nature of social categorizations such as race, class, and gender can be understood especially in term of how they present to a unique experience of oppression and privilege. This concept has been broadly used in literary studies to examine how characters negotiate complex social structure, especially when their identities intersect in ways that increase marginalization. This framework helps in understanding how social inequality and systematic injustice function across various dimension. The ideas giving rise to the term go

back further in history, coming up as early as the 1850s when American abolitionist and women rights activists highlighted the differences in obstacles facing black women slaves. The concept gained further traction in the 1970s when black, Mestiza, postcolonial, queer, and Indigenous feminists pushed forward social movements and scholarship to recognize previously ignored subject positions and identities.

Crenshaw employs intersectionality to describe the ways that Black women's experiences and identities are marginalized by practices that treat race and gender as mutually exclusive categories not only in anti-discrimination law but also in feminist and anti-racist movements. People have different Ambition based on their income and neighborhood (Dreier et al., 2005). Ambition indicates the strong dream of individuals in "A Burning" is to fulfill personal object or improve their social and economic status, in spite of restrictions they face. Individual ambitions are constructed by their conditions, including their gender, race and social class, which impact the opportunities and restriction they experience. Children in poor society do not see themselves going to college and fulfill their dreams as those in middle income society. Their dreams when they grow up are often tied to the society rather than occupations that span neighborhoods (Kozol, 1995). Additionally, crossing class (and race) lines in America is not easy as dreaming about it (Robinowitz & Rosenbaum, 2000). Recent housing movability programs have highlighted the challenges associated with combined different groups through relocating low-income families into middle class societies (Ludwing et al 2012).

Albeit, ethnographies have long recognized and talked about people's different personalities, Crenshaw's (1989) work was quick to enlarge on his findings and give it the term practical diversity. Crenshaw (1989) practices on social liberties in the US, particularly women freedom and aggressive to prejudice laws, she shows rules at the Collage of California, Los Angeles. Her hypotheses on diversity were roused by research on American people of color's involvement in cruelty. That's what she found, as general rule, aim to address prejudice and sexism there had focused on dark guys and ladies, separately, the most favored of the mistreated inside gathering. Individuals of color were delivered unnoticeable by these practices. Her investigation centers basically around the adverse out comes of a few decreasing personalities connecting with the related savor, overwhelming, or oppressive establishment. Crenshaw (1989), fights that combining the intolerance experienced by individuals of color with the sexism experienced by white ladies does not accurately address the experience of an individual of color (men). All things considered similarly as white ladies and people of color could clash sexism in an unexpected way, intolerance is without a doubt experienced diversely by individuals of color and people of color as well as by white men and white ladies. Reversion reads up that simply control for "orientation" and "race" ignore to successfully mirror the specific ways the people of color's subjection show and is knowledge about a racially and anti-feminist society (Carbert, 2004).

However, the term intersectionality has become famous in women activist examination. It has not as of not long ago widely used in any clear sense between those checking out at direction and backwoods. Additionally, most women's activists and assistants of direction get it, and some buy into its key perceptions. Davis (2008), keeps up with that its request stays "uncertain and unassuming", which she interprets as definite component. Nash (2008), seems to explain variety from one view point calling it a famous expression. Additionally, at that point explains it as "the highest quality level" interdisciplinary framework for demolishing subjects clash of both character and mistreatment (Nash, 2008).

Al Areqi (2022) examines the class conflicts and the ideologies after these conflicts, and he also examines how these ideologies control the various classes' behavior and dominate the form of connection between them. Using Marxist framework, the notions of class conflicts, ideologies and economics are superstructure domination and hegemony. This research

indicates main character Jivan, a poor Muslim girl who is living an unhappy and depressed life in the Kalabagan slums of Kolkata, who is blamed for terrorism in the result a train burning; other main character is transgender Lovely, a hijra wants to become an actress in film industry. And the third main character is PT Sir, a physical education teacher. This research explores that the class conflicts appear from religious and political ideas. It also shows the discriminative system of upper class in the community and corruption and inequality. Being a Muslim and a poor girl, Jivan faces many challenges and struggles for survival. The upper-class forces Jivan and her family to leave their place, close to the Kurla mines and move to another place where the essential facilities are not available, like clean water, electricity and health care etc.

Joshi and Vyas (2021) argue India is country where diversities are to be found everywhere and that reflects in its art for art has tendency to reflect the world around. India, with its emergence in industries and technologies, has become the cynosure for the many authors to portray in their literary masterpieces. One of the such masterpieces *A Burning: A Novel* (2020) by Megha Majumdar, it is a stark commentary on the devastating state of contemporary India which assimilates the concept of American dream with the publications of many such sharp and realistic literature of representing modern India, one can definitely put them in the category of Literature of Indian dreams. *A Burning* novel covers the components of literature of marginalized nurturing big dreams in a country captioning towards extremism. Examining the lives of three different characters which are interrelated with each other, Majumdar has shown how every individual is struggling with their own quests of power, fame, and self-determination.

3. Research Methodology

The research methodology for this study is qualitative in nature. It aims to describe and understand the subjective experiences of the characters as depicted in *A Burning*. Qualitative research method is more suitable for exploring social issues, personal emotions and emotional struggles. Qualitative research method includes textual analysis, thematic analysis and intersectional analysis of the novel. These methods provide help in identifying how different themes such as gender inequality, religion inequality and political injustice intersect and impact the people's ambitions and struggles.

3.1 Critical Theory/ Framework

This research is qualitative in nature. The sample of the study is the text of the novel, "*A Burning*". Kimberle Crenshaw is an American civil rights advocate and legal scholar to give the concept of intersectionality theory in 1989. In her paper "De-marginalizing of intersection of race and sex". She states that "System of oppression and discrimination such as racism, classism and homo-phobia do not act independently of each other but combine to create unique experiences of discrimination and inequality". Through the intersectional framework, we can understand how various social identities like gender, race, class and religion overlap to create complex layer of discrimination and privilege. By using intersectional framework, this research examines how ambition becomes a struggle when identities intersect in complicated ways, and how society's structure affects each character's fate differently. This study explores the social inequality and deep-rooted injustice that were present in modern Indian society

4. Textual Analysis

"I admired these strangers on Facebook who said anything they want to... They were not afraid of making jokes. Whether it was about the police or the ministers.....I hope that after a few more salary slips.....I would be free in that way too"(A Burning,2020,p.8)

These lines are taken from the beginning part of the novel, when the terrorist attack occurs at Kolabagan railway station. When people are talking about it on social media and mocking the

police and the government. Jivan comments on these people and express a kind of personal desire. These people can say whatever they want. They are not afraid of make fun police and ministers because of social freedom. This is due to their strong social position in the society. The line “wasn’t that freedom?” reflects that their privileged social status gives them all kinds of freedom due to their economic position. In contrast Jivan is a girl from a lower-class background and she has no power to express her opinions, which is why she remains silent. She does not have courage to say anything. That’s why she says that after a job promotion, she too will have that kind of freedom and will express her thoughts. Because then she will economically strong.

From Intersectional framework, this is how people face a lot of discrimination and inequality due to their gender, class and religion. People from marginalized community experience discrimination in the society due to different identities. They cannot fulfill their dreams easily and struggles a lot for their ambition. In the novel it clearly shows how various factors like gender, class and religion effect people’s lives and shape their ability to express themselves. From intersectional perspective, protagonist’s silence is not due to just one factor, various factors like gender, social class and religion intersect and shape their lives in that way in which self- expression feels impossible. Because when Jivan shows her ambition about freedom, it is not just about money but it is about power or courage to raise their voices.

They are clapping and clapping my fans. My bookkeeper fan, my ointment-seller fan, my insurance-clerk fan. Even when I am waving my hand, smiling too broadly, saying, "Stop it!" they are going on clapping”.(A Burning, 2020,p.15)

Lovely is very ambitious to become a movie star. She never gets a real opportunity; therefore, she always performs on train and roads. She performs there to fulfill her basic needs, because she has no other choice. But becoming a movie star is her dream, and she struggles hard for it. Lovely is a transgender woman, so because of her gender and class she faces a lot of discrimination. When she goes to give an audition to Mr. Debnath for the first time, he does not let her inter in his house. He makes an excuse, saying the house is being painted and everything is messy. So, he takes Lovely’s audition right there on the street. This is how lovely gets chance to move one step closer fulfilling her dream.

From Intersectional analysis, marginalized people face a lot of discrimination due to their identity. They cannot get access towards opportunities easily. Lovely also faces discrimination because of her identity. She faces many hardships to fulfill her long-life dream of becoming an actress. Lovely believes that one day, when she becomes a great actress, people will finally recognize her talent. She will have her on identity. The same people who once hated her or did not even want to talk to her she will stand in front of them, and will clap for her. They will keep clapping for her and appreciating her talent. Lovely says that even if she asks them to stop, they will continue clapping for her.

“And I was moving up. So, what if I lived in only a half-brick house.....I had a smart phone with a big screen, bought with my on salary..”(A Burning, 2020, p.39)

These lines indicate that Jivan, an ambitious girl, tries to lift herself out of poverty and dreams of living a better life. She leaves her studies and starts working to earn money and support her family. Through this effort, she manages to escape extreme poverty to some extent. When she says, that i have changed my life so much. I have grown so much, that in the past i used to each cabbage but now i eat chicken. She has struggled a lot, which is why she has been able to rise, even if just a little. Jivan supports her family with her salary, and saves money to buy a big-screen smartphone on installments. This phone connects her to the world beyond her small neighborhood. Jivan sources was limited, but she made such a progress that she was going to connect to the outside the world and the people beyond her immediate community.

From intersectional perspective, how different social categories intersect to create unique experience of discrimination. For marginalized people life is not easy, they face inequality due to their identity. They make a lot of struggles to survive in society, and to live a better life, because they not given many opportunities. The same happened with Jivan. She belongs to a lower-class family, which is why she does not get fair chance to move up in life. She faces difficulties not only because of poverty, but also because of her gender and religion. As a result, she faces many obstacles in order to fulfill her dreams. Despite all this, she works hard to get financial freedom, respects and rights in society. She buys smartphone with her salary, so can stay connected to the outside world, for expression and information.

“Now PT Sir has to speak, or else faint. He must speak or else surrender all hope of moving up in life by Bimala Pal’s grace.”(A Burning, 2020, p.117)

This line reflects PT Sir’s ambition. When he goes to the court to give false testimony on Bimala Pal’s (Leader of right-wing Nationalist), instruction about a person he does not know because he is ambitious about entering in politics. He wants to gain power in order to live a better life. For this reason, he compromises on his ethics and becomes ready to lie in court to climb the ladder of success. As he stands in the courtroom, the lawyer question him whether he really saw that man committing theft. This is the moment when PT Sir thinks ether he must speak or faint. It is an extremely difficult situation for him because he is there at the Bimala Pal’s request and now cannot back out. He knows that if he refuses to testify now, all his hopes of progressing in life which depend on Bimala Pal, will be destroyed. He wants to be part of politics and gain power, and this is the only chance he has to earn Bimala Pal’s trust. PT Sir is a lower middle class teacher, so he is ambitious about politics in order to gain more respect and power in the society. PT Sir, being a male Hindu, benefits from his gender and religion which makes it easier for him to access opportunities and moves towards success. Even though he does not know the man personally, he still testifies against him in hope of gaining respect and power to moving up in life.

From intersectional perspective we see how intersecting identities affect a person’s life and dreams. PT Sir was a Hindu male teacher, so he did not have to face as many difficulties due to his gender and religion, unlike Jivan and Lovely in the novel. Because of his gender and religion, PT Sir easily got the opportunity to move up in life. That is why, he wanted to take advantage of it.

“For so long I am dreaming of delivering dialogue in front of a real camera, and now I am in front of three!”(A Burning, 2020, p.216)

These lines reflect Lovely’s long-time dream. She says it is her wish to perform in front of real camera, just like famous actresses do. She wants to become a movie star and act in front of real cameras and now, her dream becomes true. Not just one but three cameras are in front of her and she is performing confidently. Lovely faces many obstacles in her journey to become an actress. Because of her gender, social class and poverty, she faces a lot of discrimination and rejection. She does not get many opportunities to fulfill her dream. But she works very hard and finally her dream becomes true. Her videos have gone viral, and now many people with cameras come to record her.

According to intersectionality, for marginalized people like Lovely, fulfilling their dreams is not easy. They have to face many challenges because society does not give them value. Lovely faces a lot of discrimination during her journey to achieve her dream. As a trans-woman who belongs to a lower class, her identity makes the journey even more difficult. But after going through so many hard ships her long life dream finally comes true and she is performing in front of real cameras.

"At some point, a car filled with boys and sped by, and I heard whooping and cheering. They were coming from night club..... They did not slow down. They were not afraid. Their

fathers knew police commissioners.....how would I get out of this? Who did I know?"(A Burning, 2020, p.17)

This passage shows social issues and class difference. Jivan, who is falsely accused of terrorism, is actually innocent, but still the police go to her house and arrest her. While going towards the police station, she sees a car on the road which is filled with rich boys. They are returning from a nightclub at that hour of the night and are making a lot of noise, screaming with joy. They are not afraid of the police, even though the police could punish them for behaving like this. Those boys have no fear, that old police van means nothing to them, and they are not scared at all. Because they belong to a rich family and in society, there are no laws for the rich. They can solve any problem; they have so many sources that they can make such problems disappear. Rich people are not afraid of the police because there are no laws for them all the laws are made for poor people like us. Jivan says, "I am innocent, but how will I get out of this? I don't have any source, nor do I know anyone who could help me get out of this problem."

From an intersectional perspective, marginalized people face a lot of injustice due to class difference, they face severe inequality. Like Jivan, despite being innocent, she is arrested. She belongs to a poor Muslim family. That's why she is targeted as a Muslim. There is no justice in the Indian legal system, where all the laws are made for poor people and there are no laws for the rich because they have sources. The Indian legal system is completely corrupt, where people are not treated equally.

"This Muslim women is charged with assisting terrorists who plotted this heinous attack" (A Burning, 2020, p.33)

This line reflects social issues and class differences in Indian society. A false accusation is placed on Jivan, and she is arrested because she is a poor girl belonging to a Muslim family. That's why the media and people are targeting her due to her religion, saying that she is a Muslim girl who joined hands with terrorists and betrayed the nation and the country. Since Jivan belonged to a minority, it was very easy for society to target her. She was made a scapegoat because of her religion. Jivan belongs to a marginalized community and is a Muslim, so due to her religion, she is declared a terrorist without any proof. Secondly, she has no power, no sources, so she cannot fight against India's unjust legal system. The police declare her a terrorist only on the basis of a Facebook post. Through this, Majumdar shows that all the laws are made only for the poor and marginalized people, while for the rich, there are no laws. They can do whatever they want and no one questions them because they have power and sources. This shows how corrupt Indian society and the legal system are, where the poor are not given justice, marginalized groups are not treated well, and they are treated unequally.

From an intersectional perspective, Jivan faces discrimination in society due to her class difference, religion, and gender. It shows how society badly treats marginalized people and minorities, and how they are treated unequally. Jivan is innocent, but the media and people target her because of her class, gender, her religion, she is declared a terrorist. Because of these overlapping identities, she is not given justice and declared a terrorist.

"The Times of India"! Hindustan Times! The Statesman!" she says. Name any paper. All are offering money, so much money, just for one interview..... But Uma madam is forced to say not to all of them. There is pressure from above." (A Burning, 2020, p.51)

These lines show social issues like class differences or inequality. Jivan is arrested and labeled a terrorist despite her innocence. She is easily targeted because of her social class and minority religion. Later, when the Indian newspaper "The times of India" and other major newspapers want to take her interview, the powerful people and the government stop them from interviewing Jivan. This shows Indian legal injustice and class difference, how, despite being innocent, Jivan is not allowed to speak in her defense. She cannot even raise her voice for

herself so that people may not come to know her side of the story. Even though Jivan is innocent, she cannot speak for herself, she cannot prove her innocence. She is not even given the chance to speak, Jivan is powerless because she belongs to a marginalized society and she has no sources to take a stand for herself. This shows how powerful people have the control over the lives of marginalized people, and how poor people are unfairly treated in the Indian legal system.

According to intersectionality, marginalized people in society are suppressed because of their identity. Marginalized people are unfairly treated due to the intersection of various identities like, class, gender, and religion. In the same way, despite being innocent, Jivan was unable to fight for herself. She was stopped from giving an interview. Jivan is unfairly treated because of her religion and class difference. She faces discrimination because of her identity.

“Then we hear that Sonali Khan is being kept under house arrest, which means that she lives, as before, in her own house. Even the meaning of “prison” is different for rich people”. (A Burning, 2020, p.66)

This passage reflects the inequality in the Indian legal system and the class-based differences in Indian society. Here, Jivan expresses her frustration, because some days ago she finds out that Sonali Khan, a famous film producer, has been arrested due to a serious crime, and she will be kept in jail as punishment. But nothing like that happens, later Jivan finds out that Sonali is kept under house arrest in her own home. That means she will continue to enjoy her life as before. Jivan says that for rich people, the meaning of prison is different. This passage clearly shows class-based differences in Indian society. Even though Sonali Khan is a criminal, she is given privilege because of her social status, while Jivan, who is innocent, is being punished. This shows that the Indian legal system is not equal for everyone. People are treated unequally, based on their class and status. In this passage, Majumdar clearly portrays the social issues in modern Indian society.

From an intersectional perspective, we see that because of class differences, marginalized people are always treated unequally in society. They are denied justice, while rich people, even if guilty, are not punished. Instead, they are given full privilege due to their social status.

5. Findings and Conclusion

In the novel “A Burning” the character’s gender and social class deeply affect their ambitions. Jivan, the central character of the story, is a twenty-two years old Muslim girl who belongs to a marginalized community. Jivan is an ambitious girl who wants to escape from poverty and move forward in life so that she can live a better life like others. Jivan comes from a very poor family, so progressing in life is not easy for her. That’s why, after her matriculation she decides to quit her studies so she can support her family. Jivan works at a cloth shop in a mall where she sees rich woman and observes their luxurious lives. This makes her desire for a better life grow even stronger. With her first income, Jivan buys a smart phone on installment. Like others, Jivan also shares a post on face-book about a train incident, in which she criticizes the government and the police. Because of this post she is falsely accused of terrorism and arrested. Due to her Muslim identity, she is labeled a terrorist and accused of betraying her country. This destroys Jivan’s dream of moving up in life, as she is unjustly trapped because of her religion, social class, and gender without any solid evidence. Lovely belongs to a marginalized community, but society does not accept her because she is a hijra. She wants to become a famous actress. But wherever, she goes to give an audition, she faces rejection every time because of her social class and gender. Even though Lovely has talent, but she is not given any opportunities. No one looks at her talent, people judge her only on the bases of her identity. In society’s eyes transgender people only live by begging on the streets. On the other hand, PT Sir is a middle-class teacher who belongs to the Hindu community. He wants to enter in politics because he is ambitious to gain a high social status and more respect in society. Unlike Jivan

and Lovely, PT Sir's social class and gender do not become obstacles in his path. PT Sir is given privilege because of his identity. Since he is a Hindu and a man, it becomes easier for him to climb the ladder of success.

Majumdar, in this novel, reveals issues like class difference, where the poor are not given justice or opportunities, whereas rich people are given all kinds of privileges and can do whatever they want. As shown in *A Burning*, Lovely and Jivan have to struggle a lot because of their social class and gender, while people like PT Sir easily achieve everything.

A Burning clearly shows gender discrimination in Indian society. Lovely's character clearly shows gender discrimination in Indian society. For a transgender person, living in society is very difficult; no one accepts them. As in the novel, Lovely's character is looked down upon by people with contempt.

This novel shows the reality of Indian Society, where it is shown how marginalized communities face struggle to fulfill their dreams. In this, Majumdar has shown how marginalized people face discrimination based on their identity. In this story, the struggles of Jivan and Lovely are told how both of them face difficulties because of their identity. And on the other side, PT Sir gets privilege to some extent because of his social class, gender, and religion. However, PT Sir faces a moral struggle in the politically biased system.

The story of this novel revolves around three characters and their desires. It tells how characters struggle to fulfill their dreams and how many difficulties they have to face due to their gender, class and religion. In this story Jivan is one the central characters of the novel. She is 22 years old Muslim girl who wants to rise up in life. After a train -incident, she posts on Facebook in which she criticizes the government and the police, and on the basis of the same Facebook post she is wrongly accused of terrorism, which leads to a tragic point in Jivan' fate that makes her life completely changed. . This novel shows the reality of Indian Society, where it is shown how marginalized communities face struggle to fulfill their dreams. In this, Majumdar has shown how marginalized people face discrimination based on their identity. In this story, the struggles of Jivan and Lovely are told how both of them face difficulties because of their identity. And on the other side, PT Sir gets privilege to some extent because of his social class, gender, and religion. However, PT Sir faces a moral struggle in the politically biased system. The story of this novel revolves around three characters and their desires. It tells how characters struggle to fulfill their dreams and how many difficulties they have to face due to their gender, class and religion. In this story Jivan is one the central characters of the novel. She is 22 years old Muslim girl who wants to rise up in life. After a train -incident, she posts on Facebook in which she criticizes the government and the police, and on the basis of the same Facebook post she is wrongly accused of terrorism, which leads to a tragic point in Jivan' fate that makes her life completely changed.

5.1 Recommendations

- New researchers can study *A Burning* from a feminist perspective to explore how women like Jivan and Lovely face injustice due to their gender, and how they are consistently treated unfairly in society.
- Future researchers can study the novel from a Marxist perspective to see how poverty, economic inequality, and social class affect the character's life.
- Future researchers can also study other Asian novels from the Marxist perspective where class-based differences are shown.
- Future researchers can also study *A Burning* from a postcolonial perspective to see how state violence, nationalism, and religious division reflect post colonialism in Indian society.

- Future researchers can study other Asian narratives through this approach where unfair treatment and inequality towards minorities is shown due to their identity.
- Future scholars can do a comparative study of *A Burning* with other novels from Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh. This will help in better understanding religious issues, inequality with minorities, the role of media, and the flawed legal system.
- Future researchers can analyze *A Burning* from a psychological perspective to see how false accusations, social negligence, and systematic bias leave an impact on marginalized communities.

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