

Psychoanalysis and Transformation of Heroes in Mohsin Hamid's Novels "Moth Smoke" and "The Reluctant Fundamentalist"

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Abstract

Mohsin Hamid is an exponent of postcolonial characterization and possesses a specific touch of today's hero in local Asian context. His pen is fluent on social fiction portraying Indo-Pak culture. Few writers could rise to the height of fame right with only a couple of preliminary works. Hamid secured it through his first novel *Moth Smoke* and the second one *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*. Both these novels depict contemporary Pakistani mindset with a fine transparency of reflection. His treatment of characters, especially the heroes, in these novels is masterful. The objective of this study is to explore the character of both heroes (Darashikoh in *Moth Smoke* and Changez in *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*). Both heroes undergo critical scheme of events and transform into non-heroic pitiable men. This study encircles the outer incidents that happen to the heroes and their inner responses to those situations. This study also attempts to uncover those complexes which are ensnaring the youth of the country and turning them into a generation pressed under complexes. With too few exceptions, there is widespread infatuation for wealth, vehicles, and women in developing societies of postcolonial frames; and Pakistan is also one.

Keywords: Postcolonial, Hero, Psychoanalysis, Power, Wealth, Women

INTRODUCTION

The Reluctant Fundamentalist is all about Pakistani perceptions about the big mishap of Nine-Eleven as presented through a Pakistan professional, namely Changez, working in the US during that span of history. The book starts with a one-way discussion (monologue) between Changez (the US return bearded Pakistani) and a stranger American. The former relates his experiences of living in America for quite many years and how he has lived a grand life in New York working for an elite firm. He enjoyed enviable prosperity in New York. He was proud to be "the product of an American University earning a lucrative American salary infatuated with an American Woman." His way was finely paved to Manhattan society through a rich American lady, namely Erica, with whom Changez developed social and later on personal intimacy. There were all reasons to believe Changez' personal and professional opulence in the America society. But the tragedy of 9/11 took place and everything was hit in the social lives of American Pakistanis. He relates thus, "Nothing troubled me; I was a young New Yorker with the city at my feet. How soon that would change!"

Changez is promising Youngman of Pakistani origin obsessed with living in America as is a general craze among Pakistanis. Changez educated at Princeton found his dreams come true when a stable US firm 'Underwood and Samson' gave him job. He was finely fit in American life and career when suddenly mishap of terror attacks on twin towers happened. A wide destruction occurred and resulted in a vast commotion in the entire world. Americans became only Americans and the rest of the world was considered non-American (Thomas, 2009). Such a scenario destabilized all settlers in America especially those who belonged to Pakistan and around. This collapsed dreams of Pakistani born Changez. Out of sheer disappointment on American contemporary mindset, he was left with no option other than return to Pakistan. This departed two persons, two culture and two souls (Awan & Yasmin, 2015, Awan and & Andleeb, 2015).

Changez is a gentleman of visions, highly qualified, and decently bred. He bears necessary quality assets that give him worth in the corporate world where he is hired by Underwood Samson. During a business tour to Greece, he meets Erica, who is on visit there. She belongs to New York elite class. Changez seeks to secure her company and very soon falls in love with her. Back to US, they stay together in social circles of Manhattan. But by the advent of their respective temperaments, Changez is incompatible with Erica.

Through the beginning, views of Changez about America are of loyalty and support because he believes that American society absorbent and offers a wide range of opportunities. During his tenure of work with the American firm, he realized the contradictory convictions within the professional framework. Later he quits job and cuts off loyalties with America and resorts to his home city Lahore. In the post 9/11 scenario, he promotes greater independence of Pakistan. He abhors America for causing greater damages than were feared

otherwise.

The initial phase of Changez stay in America is characterized with his deep inclinations towards America where limitless opportunities of making progress are available to potential professionals. His personal dream is served in America where he enjoys first class international flights, house at Hamptons and Erica with Penthouse apartment (Thomas, 2009). He enjoys a merger into the American society, but not for long. The attacks on World Trade Centre push Changez into a position of Pakistani. He meets prejudices in corporate settings and faces alienation in the social circles as well. terror attacks along with their fallouts brought gross discomfort through America and Pakistan. Morey (2011) mentions that Changez' inner and outer configurations were heavily changed and he grew more a Pakistani than American. He faces discriminations everywhere and detects the American character through personal experiences. (Shlezinger, 2008)

About Changez, Thomas (2009) mentions that he is somewhat reflection of the author in context of his origin (Pakistan), living (America) and education (Princeton). Both the protagonist (Changez) and the author (Hamid) share intellect, skills and sophistication and exposure to American culture. The Changez whom readers come to know in the onset is a gentleman in middle twenties - American-return. His prospects in America were very high but diminished because of terror and turmoil in the two countries i.e. Pakistan and America. The account of incidents as told by Changez apparently suggests that Changez is a fundamentalist but through further details we come to know that his fundamentalism is not shaped by his religious convictions; rather he stands fundamentalist in context of his personal experience and assessment of America. His main relation in America is with Erica. For Changez, she is a source to elite social circles of Manhattan which fascinated him much. This represents his hunger to stay patched with America where he believed to find his high prospects of career and economic success. Saeed (2007) points to his effort to mitigate the presumed impression of the American and he asserts in these words, "I was the product of an American university; I was earning a lucrative American salary; I was infatuated with an American woman. So why did part of me desire to see America harmed?"

Almost at all tour destinations, Changez found that being American could bring him more honour so he 'attempted to act and speak like an American 'as much as his dignity would permit'. So he had to pretend to be American to earn necessary prestige (he was not happy on it). After 9/11 had taken place, he found himself under serious discriminatory treatment. He found himself "very much alone" in the evenings. He believed America and Erica to be everything to him but ironically neither Erica owned him nor did America accept him. He could hardly believe that too vast New York could become too narrow for him.

Changez needs his identity in America which is everywhere denied. All developments led to Changez's constrained acceptance of his real origin and his ultimate decision of return to home (Nazar, 2013). This is his pursuit of identity because long since he came to America he had been estranged with his Pakistani lineage and later he stood lost when Americans disowned him (being Pakistani, suspiciously lackey of attackers). Who was he then? A grave question which made him fall back to his original identity where could never be disowned. His experiences in America were illuminating for him and he had to believe that home is the ultimate resort for him. As such it was not under sway of any fundamentalistic approach or religious repose. He had lost sense of belonging with America; thereby the strong impulse of being alien pushed him back. The severe crisis of identity presses him to say that

"I lacked a stable core. I was not certain where I belonged, in New York, in Lahore, in both, in neither..."

The other book *Moth Smoke* is projecting the internal social frame of Pakistani life and more so the very Lahori set of life. Darashikoh is the central character here. The brought-up of Darashikoh happened on peripheries of elite class. But he suffered lack of influential connections for good career and better life in society. He finds a huge gulf between haves and have-nots. It is ironic that his fondness for all luxuries is contrasted with low-resourced work profile and that makes his state worse. His decline is wheeled further and forward from the loss of his job. He loses company of the rich with whom he would proudly spend his evenings. Here the novelist suggests to light-up how the rich are receptive to the rich only and those who undergo any crisis or fall into poor domains are no longer welcomed among the rich circles.

Despite his brilliance and all academic achievements, Daru could find no good placement in a society where money could bring better jobs than merit could warrant. It is so pathetic to know how merit stood helpless against money through the story. His classmates (with comparatively lower academic achievements) went to foreign universities but he had no means to study abroad despite better achievements and brighter intelligence. This made him first realize the unfair character of communal and material life and he starts feeling aggravated against the rich resourceful circles. One cannot miss the feeling of his sheer agony when he shares that in the university his girlfriend left him in pursuance of bigger economic prospects with Pajero guys. Daru is a prey to usual frustration of the poor in a poor country where opportunities are occasional and unequal. In such situations one's faculties are esteemed with no value if a person belongs to the lower layers of society. Those who belong to the poor class are frustrated for corrupt law, vague truths and unfair justice.

Daru has underwent an incessant struggle to secure high social status. His mom was killed by a blind

bullet and he grew without the usual serenity of motherliness. In his belief to have everything through money, he chased wealth blindly. The second obsession of Daru was love – love of Mumtaz, his best friend's wife. She was enjoying all luxuries and galore but her fall to Daru signifies the hollow pleasure of rich life of the community. (Mohan, 2013) Daru's closeness with her posed a contrast and his interestedness made her respond with even inclination. This ignited a forbidden and obsessive relationship which blinded Daru even further. It was through this relationship lighted to Daru the actually two-faced personality of Ozi. Daru faced utter destruction through illegitimate affair, using and selling of drugs. The circumstances through which Daru passes coax the reader to feel sorry for him.

The very title of the novel is an allegorical suggestion of Daru-Mumtaz relationship and ultimate destruction of both. As Rizvi (2004) has remarked 'It reflects an expression of self-destruction fatal for them like that of a moth'. The moth of the story is Daru who circles round the candle (Mumtaz) and reciprocally Mumtaz also serves as the moth around Daru (the candle). Both invite mutual destruction through their illicit relationship. The story of Daru Ozi and Mumtaz is filled with omni-receptive concerns like passion for money, jealousy in relations, rivalry among friends, adultery outside marriage, de-stability of economy, desperation of future and lust for materialism.

Darashikoh meets utter destruction at the hands of his brother-like friend Aurangzeb with whom he was brought up since childhood because fathers to both were friends in pre-story scenario. Darashikoh of Moth Smoke has been shaped as a middle class gentleman, brilliant, intelligent, educated, and decent - and a middle ranked banker by profession. His life since childhood is on mercy of the rich and he seems to experience severe blows caused by the rich people around him.

Ashcroft (2007) remarks that the poor living of Daru is a despicable scene of underworld – he lives in scorching darkness. In sheer contrast, Orangzeb and Mumtaz represent a fashionable urban class with Pajero and Mobile snobberies. Downfall of Darashikoh run through devastating monetary lust, irresistible drugs, and delightful Mumtaz. Daru attempts to reach all luxuries beyond his means and this lust for lot leads him to total loss.

The tragedy of Daru is a sort of social and personal tragedy as the term has been interpreted by Williams (1992) in context of modern literary traditions of tragedy. His social bearing and personal temptations can be potentially met through money. Through the character of Daru, Hamid portrays that money has corrupted the Pakistani society badly. This is a tool for the rich to steer clear off any traps and troubles. Daru has witnessed throughout his life that money can get one everything possibly wanted, even though material or emotional. Loss of job is a gravest blow to him and throws him into depths of despair and anger. His morals collapse and he resorts to corruption so as to get everything back. It is in such a state of affairs that he notices hollowness in Ozi's personality whose fake sweet impressions are only covering his inner nastiness. Indeed, he is a jealous proud and callous man who takes himself above everyone. At the same time, reader is aware of duplicity of Mumtaz (Ozi's wife and Daru beloved) who reflects similar traits of her husband.

With the advancement of story through some turns, the gentle man Darashikoh stands explicitly devoid of any morals and transforms into a wicked character. Despite his intelligence he blames of not being given any chance. But watching the other way it come out that his deterioration is obviously caused by the factors that obstructed him in way of securing a foreign degree and factors that pushed him into the gully of joblessness. He is typical efficient young man who went wasted because he fell short of necessary political and material support wanted to avail any good chance of doing his part. This is a widely existing problem in the country and Hamid has un-mistakenly diagnosed and described it in his novel. Unlike Ozi, Daru could not 'conditionalize' the settings of life in accordance with his aspiration because of the structural barriers prevailing in the country, whereas Ozi under the sway of his power and riches escaped out through all jeopardies that encountered his life (McLeod,

Daru is powerless because of his poverty. Daru has witnessed that submission to law is only bound upon the poor only, because the rich are the law-making class. They hold all powers upon the society and suffer no worries of jobs because they are always employers not employees. The poor have no powers, no influences, no connections, and no jobs. They are destined to live all the way in poverty and suffer unceasing conflict of needs and nothingness. All suffering segments of society want a change in social order but still it remains long to wait for any radical changes. Notably here, Daru evades to attend a meeting of 'like-minded brothers' convened by his school friend Mujahid. It transpires non-conformity of even the poor with forces of change; the poor are unfortunately passive as well.

Hidden between the lines is yet another fact that Daru is suffering from a bruised sense of honour since childhood. Through many flashbacks from Daru and Ozi, the readers come to see some of their familial glimpses. It is notable that fathers of both were also friends. Daru's father was in army, in middle ranks, honest and average class, died in war-prisoners camp (Chittgong, 1974, after Bangladesh Liberation War) when Daru was only two years old. On the other hand, Ozi's father was in higher ranks in military, then joined civil service and made money through big government deals with foreign companies. Rizvi (2004) describes that the gap of

socioeconomic status was inherited in Ozi-Daru friendship and Daru seems to suffer a sense of inequality and injustice since long. Even further, it is known through these flashbacks that Ozi's father was giving money for Daru's schooling (and also for running of the household); this was for keeping his affair with Daru's mother (as suggested in recollections of Ozi). Even Daru's bank job was also on courtesy of the uncle (Ozi's father). Thus readers sense the bruised sense of dignity for Daru throughout his life at the hands of those who were economically superior.

Darashikoh is revenged through incrimination and imprisonment. The readers witness that Daru is prey to Ozi's plot. Contrary to Daru, by the advent of brought-up Aurangzeb is stiff-headed also because he is America-return in Pakistani society. He is a part of elite class in the city as he is 'dressed in elegant evening wear, chin held aloft' and thus displays the Lahori 'ultra-rich jet set'. He is above the bounds of law and limitations of the social life. His impatience with traffic laws resulted in of killing of a boy under his Pajero. Still he escaped all bounds of law and incriminates Daru who is not rich, not influential, and not resourceful. They are exponents of the rich and the poor; their relationship transpires the mutual hypocrisy inflicted upon each other by both the groups. Daru is innocent in context of the hit-and-run killing yet on the other side he is flagrant reprobate for making sexual relationship with Ozi's wife. Here readers' typical association with hero falls nowhere because no one is displaying heroic character and capability (Rizvi, 2004).

Ultimately Daru is imprisoned, isolated in the dirty cell, cut away from the outside world. His advancement toward his own destruction continue throughout the novel because he cannot resist the attractions of enflaming sex, drugs, money, and ease. He is thoroughly trapped in the snare of criminal living and is unable to make wise choices. Despite his education and intellect, he stands misfit everywhere. Daru loses everything, even Ozi stops inviting or accompanying him to parties. Daru's loss of foothold with Ozi is coupled with his apprehensions of leakage of secrets with Mumtaz which come true and Ozi avenges upon him in his own way and entraps him in hit-and-run murder which was actually committed by himself (the former). He manages to imprison Daru vice his act of running his Pajero over a boy. Thus Ozi cuts Daru's line of access to Mumtaz. As widely known practice in Pakistan, the police and the judiciary give favours to the rich and Daru's blemished history (fired from bank job, selling narcotics, keeping unlicensed arms) is used unjustly to the benefit of Ozi and Daru is sent to jail.

Daru, jailed for undone offense, wins readers' favour to some extent because he stood innocent in the case and also because Mumtaz still stand on his side making her endeavors to bring the truth to light. In disguise of Manto, she writes story of Daru in her paper and publishes interviews of his professor who affirms that Daru was a brilliant and talented student. She manages access to the family of the killed boy and makes them know that the boy was run over by a Pajero (Ozi's) not by a Suzuki (Daru's). Manto's Trial (written by Mumtaz under proxy name) keeps the readers adhered to the ultimate clearance of Daru's innocence in the matter through media.

COMPARISON OF TWO HEROES.

Studying the characteristics of Darashikoh and Changez leads to disclosure of personal and situational traits of the two heroes and below points come to light.

- Both Daru and Changez come from middle class lineage and both were supported by certain other relations or by means of stipends for making their way through higher education.
- Both are well educated and both had good jobs, but both were sacked (upon individual grounds); still both have potential prospects in job market because of their fine enough qualification.
- Both are industrious and have ample capability to work hard. Both have worked in corporate sector (Changez in a US Audit firm and Daru in a local Corporate Bank).
- Both are confused, fall in complex and both are facing psychological challenges.
- Both are not rich; yet both are passionate about staying in rich circles and both like to look rich and to keep high (though it's moke in case of Daru).
- Both are under pressure of circumstances and both are unable to secure or regain their prestige of career.
- Both are tempted towards rich ladies and both are prey to inferiority complex.
- Both the protagonists face crisis of freedom in their respective cities and both have to sacrifice their freedom.
- Both revisit their respective views and both face a sense of mistake but both reach at a point of no reversal & no return.
- Both are cautious about careers; both have to quit their jobs; both switch to new means of earning.

RESEARCH QUESTION

The heroes of Moth Smoke and The Reluctant Fundamentalist are educated and sensible gentle men. Readers

initially see them in good prospects of their respective professions. But under the economic circumstances and personal temptations they fall from their respective seats. Their positive qualities are suppressed under their wishes and constraints. This study is chiefly based upon following concerns:

1. Socio-economic failures adversely hit lives of Hamid's Heroes
2. Lust for riches blinds all visions and blurs all wisdom.

OBJECTIVES

This study has been carried out with following major objectives:

- To draw similarities between heroes of both selected novels.
- To adjudge the author's thematic approach in characters and events.
- To understand Hamid's portrayal of Pakistani mindset.

DISTINCTION OF THE STUDY

This study is distinct in respect of its focus on fiction that addresses specifically Pakistani context. Pakistani origin of Mohsin Hamid has given him enough excuse and insight for writing on local perspective. Besides this, the heroes under study here are very close to real characters in today's living society and the events they undergo are in personal observations of today's readers in Pakistan. The cited topic is justifiably distinct and important because it is all about our own society our own country. A Pakistani author writing about Pakistani mindset in Pakistani context is obviously worthwhile for Pakistani readers and scholars to study.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design:

Research Studies in literature are most often carried out in descriptive design because that suits it most. This study has been carried out on Descriptive Design. It deals with textual elaborations and literary discussions.

Data and Type:

The data wanted and related to this study is all text content. However, with a view to modern tendency of picturizing fiction, certain visual content can also be a part of data for literary studies. So a couple of video presentations of the novels under study are also included in data consulted for this work. The data for this study is qualitative and accordingly qualitative explanations of the subject matter have been made.

Research Method:

This study has been carried out through a concentrated reading of the selected novels. Related reviews and commentaries appearing in papers and books have been taken into consideration. And also, various other research attempts appearing in journals have been consulted where found in paper or digital resources. Video versions of the selected novels have also been watched for better understanding of the concepts in line with the author. Thus keeping in view the nature of work, descriptive / qualitative research method has been employed for this study.

Analysis and Interpretation:

This study is an analysis of the characters of heroes in both novels and the scheme of incidents and actions which proceed along the stories. This analysis has been presented in detailed textual elaborations.

CONCLUSION

The two story reflect that the heroes pass through critical situation and thereby they go significantly transformed. Here, transformation is meant to reveal how the character changes under impact of the events they meet and how they define their own versions of actions and incidents. Obviously the forces which play around the heroes cause an inescapable psychological commotion in their lives and thus transformation of character takes place.

He believes that money would bring him all powers and pleasures for a great life. This is what Hamid has captured in these novels and through a depiction of what happens to the impatient seekers of wealth, he projects a lesson for all ambitious youth to nurture rational approach and seek gradual progress in the life through diligent and committed working in their respective disciplines.

Hamid's heroes in the selected novels undergo significant transformations. Turned from America, Changez takes up working for subsistence and serves as a lecturer in a local institute. His demeanour is adored among the students and he makes moves for stirring public opinion to insist upon the need that Pakistan play at its own and must have necessary power and potential as a full scale nation. In similar anti-American activities one of his students is arrested for links with an assassination plot and this makes him feel concerns about his own security.

Not only transformation of career, Changez has transformed into a patriot. His homecoming is resulted out of a reciprocal estrangement – America disowned him despite his attachment with American life and culture; in return he detached himself from America and 'converted to be Pakistani and Muslim'. Obviously he had nowhere else to resort other than his own country. Fallen from his American status, he staggers in finding his

real identity, he chooses to bear a beard. He is now exponent of Pakistanism willfully associating with his home.. His beard is significant in terms of return to original culture (Los Angeles Times, Feb. 20, 2015).

Daru displays a serious degeneration of his visions when he seeks refuge in drugs and says, “ with the heroin come clarity. And a certain cruelty, a calm disregard for consequences”. He grows apathetic about others, and nurtures antisocial tendencies. Daru underwent a heavy twist through his life of wrongdoings when he committed murder of a boy during robbery in a boutique; this act of robbery involves his hatred against the upper crust who are actually ‘the ultimate hypocrisy in a country with flour shortages. Once treading on false line, Daru fell deeper into the labyrinth of drugs and crimes. It give him empowerment and he feels in control of his life and is no longer scared of fears.

The initially free gentleman, Darashikoh, steadily goes enslaved around the mock light of money and Mumtaz. He is the visual symbol of moth displayed on title of the book. He falls to burn in seduction of enflaming Mumtaz and thus stepping forward to his destruction. The irresistible temptation for accessible sex and easy money drives him to ultimate misery. The intelligence and brilliance of Daru suffer a corrosion and the smart Daru ends in smoke.

Hamid has reflected social negativity with literary positivity. The heroes of both novels are men of real social frames having their human flaws and fallibilities. Both the heroes believe in their specific set of situations around them and respond in realistic manner. On one side, Changez is bound to turn home, and on the other side, Daru is left with little option except having a handshake with Murad. Daru’s loss of job, inability to embark a big career, lack of resourceful influential connection and life long irritations caused by the wealthy and powerful people of the society lead him to revolt and he grows a criminal. This situation is in consonance with the concept of tragic despair and revolt projected by William (1992).

He shows that Changez love for Pakistan ignites only when love for America stops lighting his life. So return to home is like an essential alternate available to him (Kirn, 2013). In the other case, Daru joins Murad in bad business only when he finds no good job (lacking influential support of wealthy links). So the characters continue to move towards conflicts without control on forces and factor that take place around them – obviously that’s natural and real. Overall, the universe of Changez is Erica plus Manhattan and universe of Daru is Mumtaz plus money.

Through the case of Daru, Hamid describes that unemployment (despite good education) provides a conducive ground for turning to unethical (if not criminal) means of earning. Lombroso (1911) testified that frustration breeds criminal outlets. Injustice and inequality cause irritation among the affected youth who have not social links and political influences to help them find good placements; and the gaps are filled by mafias with drugs and kalashnikovs.

Hamid’s heroes act on lines of contemporary trends in their societies. Both the under study heroes are representatives of typical Pakistani mentality. One is over ambitious about living and working in America, and the other is obsessed with ‘looking rich’. So for materializing their respective dreams, both seem ready to go any length. Daru, despite being an educated and energetic gentleman can shake-hand with a drug peddler (Murad, rickshay’wala) to join him in ‘easy and big paying’ business of drugs. He was not, but he became a man of cheap morals. He gets stuck with Ozi and Mumtaz to keep himself among the rich of the society and thereby to enjoy a mock satisfaction of ‘being high’ in society. He is comfortable in relationship with Mumtaz which is neither worth declaring nor worth accepting; but for him (and for her as well, with her own specific reasons) that is not a problem. He is fine to keep her relation for his sexual and social un-fulfillments.

Both Changez and Daru come from middle class families and therefore both of them bear a touch of mock ‘superiority’ (actually inferiority complex). It is notable that what Changez is proud of (living and working in America) is mere a petty common thing in the US environment, but among his social circle back at home it sounds big. So it is safe to say that Changez is satisfying his mock sense of ‘being high’ (among his familial and social relations back in Pakistan). In his case also, love for Erica bears more of socio-economic prospects than amorous attachment; because he is overjoyed to be her friend in Manhattan socialites.

While one protagonist (Changez) denies his very self and enjoys the opportunity under disguise of her (Erica’s) former lover, the other (Daru) avails the entertainment with total disregard fraternity with Ozi. It is also worth noting that the relationships which they develop are prompted more because of their aspiration for looking rich and less because of their manly instinct. Hardly an evidence has been found to see the men’s emotional loyalty towards their respective women, rather they are stuck with them for socioeconomic reasons. Daru is clearly knowing that Mumtaz is not his permanent future partnership. Similarly it is known to Changez that Erica indelibly belongs to her passed-away lover, Chris, and she would never shower her sentiments upon Changez. Only because both the ladies possess better profile, better personality and better position in comparison with their respective lovers (Daru and Changez), the men feel high-headed in having won a relationship with them. So both the characters transpire a mentality that is struggling to raise higher than where it actually is. Both the heroes attempt to ‘look rich’ and ‘act rich’ but the actual rich circles hardly permit them for long because both of them do not continue to meet the parameters of rich social elite in their respective places. Thus they are

ultimately discarded. But the dilemma is that they are not ready to acknowledge their lower class (psychologically unable to fit in their real levels). This is which allows them to fit nowhere finely and they stand confused.

Hamid's heroes undergo a confusion of social bearing, out of which Changez has managed to exit with his new approach and new line of action but Daru is badly shattered in it. He remains nowhere among the rich and nowhere among his own class. Aspiring to make a high flight with small wings has disabled him from flying low as well because he is discontented all time. In contrast with Daru, Changez can compromise and reset himself (although in somewhat lower economic profiles). Changez seems to fight back for his survival. But Daru wrongly supposes that Ozi and Mumtaz could liberate him from worries of the material world. Obviously his faulty perception leads to his utter gloomy fate.

Under the sway of chained mishaps and misconceptions, Daru took refuge in drugs and draws pleasure which ignites him to go further into this malpractice. Rizvi (2004) points that Daru suffered long in socioeconomic desolation which inflicts him psychologically as well. From the phase of doing a reasonable job in banking, losing the job at the hands of a rich annoyed client, joining Ozi family, enjoying elite companionships, falling to drug and crimes and ultimately exiting the rich circles and conviction for killing are all putting a heavily adverse impact on the character of Daru which would disallow him to rise back. The readers witness a banker go jobless, a friend go treacherous, a gentleman go adulterous and an educated go addicted. Eventually, in the other place, Changez is transformed into a lecturer, a patriot and a totally new man with new convictions and new spirit to manage survival. So a corporate professional turns a lecturer through a fight-back struggle and a decent banker turns a criminal behind bars because he loses necessary spark to fight-back and rests upon undependable crutches instead of looking for his share of good fortune.

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