

A Biography of Parijat

Marna man lagchha mayalu,
Seet sangai asina sangai
Jamna man lagchha mayalu
Hiun sangai tusharo sangai

Parijat was born in 1937 at the hill station of Darjeeling. Parijat, played an important and well-appreciated role in strengthening Nepalese literature. She completed part of her schooling in Darjeeling, she came to the Kathmandu Valley in 1954. She completed school at Padma Kanya School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree. Suffering early on from physical ailments, at 26 she became paralyzed and was supported for much of her life by her sister. The publications from Sikkim and other parts of India published Parijat's complete writings in six parts in the year 1997 calling it, "Parijat Ko Sankalit Rachana Haru". In 1959, Parijat's poem was first published by Dharti. She published three poetry collections: Akanshya, Parijat Ko Kavita, and Baisalu Bartaman. Her first short story was "Mailey Najanmayeko Choro". She is, however, best known in Nepal as a novelist. Altogether, she wrote ten novels of which Siris ko Ful gained the greatest popularity. In 1965, she was awarded with the Madan Puraskar for the novel. She also received the Sarwashrestha Pandulipi Puraskar, Gandaki Basunahara Puraskar, and Bridabrit.

She was elected a member of the Tribhuvan University and was a part of Ralfa literature movement. She also played an important role in the establishment of Pragati Sil Lekhan Sangh and worked for Akhil Nepal Mahila Manch, Bandi Sahayata Niyog, and Nepal Manav Adhikar Sangathan.

Parijat's personality was the brightness of her face though she was tied down with various kinds of diseases. Yet, there was joy, enthusiasm and cheerfulness in her face. She had a big forehead, large and bright eyes, beautiful nose, elegant lips and a long and wheatish complexioned face. Parijat used to tie a colored scarf covering half her head. She used to part her hair right through the middle of her scalp. Parijat looked modest when she wore her spectacles that had a thick frame. She had a sweet voice and was short statured. Her body was short, quick and active. She had an appearance that made her look physically active.

Though she was weak, thin and crippled physically, Parijat was mentally strong and intelligent. She was bright, amiable and a good speaker even though she was in pain. She was never hard and cruel but at times, she would soften. Parijat was herself a wonderful and an unbelievable personality.

There are many traits of Parijat's personality. Analyzing her multidimensional personality, Iswar Ballav said "Having the power to honor the special qualities of man, Parijat is regarded as the thinker of Nepali literature. The biggest trait of her personality is humanity". Twenty-three years prior to making this statement, the same humane litterateur had sarcastically analyzed her work. "Shirish Ko Phool" had enhanced the literary personality of Parijat. Her other writings due to the charm of her personality, physical condition and political situation. But the writings that were published had been the subject of talk in the literary circles. Although her writings were being discussed, the language, style and conception of these writings could not compare with "Shirish Ko Phool". It might be possible that having been written under intense mental and physical pain, her "Shirish Ko Phool" had become an epic. After that, her physical and mental pain increased but the expression, style and presentation of "Shirish Ko Phool" could not be surpassed and improvement in her writing style was not to be seen post "Shirish Ko Phool". But she had given high priority to her writings after "Shirish Ko Phool". She was a litterateur having a lot of faith in psychology.

Parijat wrote novels, stories, poetries and essays. These four different methods of her writings used to be discussed in the literacy circles. Iswar Baral had utilized much of his intelligence in the context of Parijat's stories and poems. Baral had labored hard editing Parijat's poems. "Parijat was very sensitive but she was never lacking in humor. Once, she told me that my zodiac sign was scorpion and if a man born under such a zodiac sign gets hold of any body, he would not leave that person even after death." I had made an immediate response –that is why I have not let go of you. She used to laugh at that. Anyhow, she used to love me without any self-interest and condition.

Parijat's Writings

Total of twenty-one of Parijat's writings (books) were published. Among those writings there were ten novels. Her Published novels are Shirish Ko Phool, Mahattahin, Bainsh Ko Manchhe, Tori Bari Bata Ra Sapana Haru, Antarmukhi, Parkhal Bhitra ra Bahira, Usle Roje KoBato, Anido Pahar Sangai, Paribhasit Ankha Haru and Boni. Parijat Published four story collections. Adim Desh, Sadak Ra Prativa, Salgi Ko Balatkrit Anshu and Badhshala Janda Aunda. Her essays were Dhuppi Salla Ra lali Guransh Ko Phed Ma, Auta Chitramay Suruwat, Andhi akash and Adhyan Ra sangharsha. Besides, three poetry collections of Parijat were published Akanchha, Parijat Ko Kabita Haru (edited by Dr. Ishwar Baral) and Bainsalu Bartman.

Parijat's literary Principles

"The country cannot develop unless there is development of literature. Its future is bright and the future of Nepali literature is also bright. To create literature is not my interest but my compulsion. When time disturbs my peace, only then does my pen move. I am a woman who seeks accepts and worships geniuses. The duty of a literature is not to create a hero. The work of a literature is to pick up and present heroes. I take myself to be an honest writer. My honesty might have made me anarchical and disloyal at times. I am not the type of person and I do not have the habit of getting confused when one calls a black object white. This is not my sense of pride. In the form of literature, I feel myself so honest that at least I know the limits of my capabilities and the importance of my social responsibilities." Parijat had said. She said "

Parijat's attachment with Shankar Lamichhane

"Parijat is the last writer and the first poetess of my era" Shankar Lamichhane had sung the glory of the literary personality of Parijat for the first time. Parijat has faith, affection and love for Shankar Lamichhane, but had no sexual relationship with him. They were just close friends from the literary circle, but there was no other relationship.

"I love Parijat more than sister, probably like a lover with whom the intimate relationship, with whom the feeling of sexual relationship becomes insignificant and mean. Without actually performing the actual act of sex, if the imagination of an orgasm is possible, then this could be the only definition of love and relationship which I have with her". Shankar Lamichhane had said.

It might be that Lamichhane had a one-sided love for Parijat and it might also be that Parijat was in love with Shankar Lamichhane and it also might be that they created a picture of not being in love with each other to avoid the wagging of tongues in the society. Parijat had kept Lamichhane safe in her heart with great faith till the day she died.

Parijat's Love and Sex life

"Love is a sovereign experience in human beings only. Sex is a necessity like hunger and sleep for man. The sexual relation is a natural process after love with one another. A man can have a sexual relation with anyone at any place if the opportunity comes his way, but love is not so easy. I still have the physical desire for my first love with me but I do not want to be dishonored. I feel good if he only holds my hand but now a days, I will digest the early desire by weeping before him. This

pain is not one sided, he had also lived in grief and agitated like me. He is civilized so he cannot encroach upon my prestige. Now there is the question of my social status. Parijat had said.

-Kamala Sarup