



## Multi-facetedness and female consciousness: Shashi Despande's 'The Binding vines'

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### Abstract:

*This paper focus on multi- Facetedness and female consciousness of protagonist in the Binding Vines. In this novel we have seen that how some female characters became silent on Social taboos just likes sexually abused rape etc. Many feminist issues are made in our society Nowadays. In India has patriarchal society so sometimes female is become victims of it. But Traditionally female remain in rigid rules whom made by our patriarchal society. We have Needed change our thoughts because all male and female are as equal. If we shall bring change in our society then we don't make difference between girl and boy. Shashi despande here given Voice by her protagonist Urmila and creates new world. So, this paper focuses on consciousness of female and raise voice against social taboos.*

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**Keywords:** *Consciousness of female, Multi- Facetedness,*

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### 1. Introduction

Shashi despande interpreting this novel female point of view. In male dominated society Female has been represented spineless in India. There are some rigid rules for female only not For male. But here despande shows to us two side of society. One side is Urmi who has voice And other side her mother-in-law Mira who is silent of sexually violence in marriage and silently Written diary. Feminism is remembered here because day by day, increased social taboos of female in our society. Our society believes in binary opposition just like male/female, superiority / inferiority, white/black etc. In India woman became victim in patriarchal domination. simone de Beauvoir states, "One is not born, but rather becomes a woman. It is civilization as a whole that produces this creature...which described as feminine."(p.295)

The patriarchal domination thinks female must be subordinate. They bring concept of gender in our society. In India, Marriage is believe institution in which woman became enslave of male. Shashi despande represented the protagonist Urmila has multi-facetedness and helpful to other female in The Binding Vine. Her one-year old daughter has died and she doesn't forget to her. Her daughter's memories haunt to her. She has one son kartika whom need to her but she remains in anxious about memory of her daughter. Anu is her daughter who has died. Whenever Urmi's father died she could bear the shock easily. After she has shocked her daughter's death. When Anu's photograph kept on the wall, she reacts against and says angrily, "I don't need a picture to remember her; I can remember every bit of her, every moment of her life. How can you imagine I need a picture...?" (p.68) Deshpande Portrays the plight of young woman, Mira is the victim of marital rape in the binding vine. Urmila is the narrator of the novel. Urmila disconsolate over the death of her one-year old daughter Annu, she plunged into three other victims who made. One is her dead mother-in-law Mira, kalpana who made victim of rape then kalpana's mother Shakutai. When Akka shows to Urmi photograph of Mira then introduced as "kishore's mother, Kartika's grandmother." Mira had written many books and diaries. The poems are in Kannada and the diaries in English. Urmila ask to Akka about Mira. Akka tells her that her brother saw Mira at a wedding and fell in love with her. Their marriage was arranged. She

died while giving birth to Kishore. Akka says, 'these jewellery are kishore's mother's and I kept them for his wife.' But when Akka hands over books and diaries of Mira then Akka says, 'Take this, its Mira's.' (p.48). This indicates that a woman loses her identity after her marriage. After reading the writing of Mira, Urmi realizes suffering of Mira "the woman who wrote those poems in the solitude of an unhappy Marriage, who died giving birth to her son at twenty-two" (p.48). Mira's diary is not routine life of his but communion with herself. Mira reflected forced sexual activity by her husband in her Diary. One matter she wrote, "Love! How I hate this word. If this is a love it is a terrible thing. I have learnt to the last 'no' at last, but it makes no difference, no difference at all. What is it he wants from me? I look at myself in the mirror and wonder, what is there in me? Why does it have to be me? Why can't he leave me alone?" (p.67) there is a cry of rape and anguish and there are feelings she spends in every day and every moment. Mira was subjected rape in her marriage. How Mira become silent on this matter? But whenever Urmila reading Mira's diary, she thinks it would be published. Urmila decodes Mira's loneliness from the fact that the latter rarely mentions her family in her poems. This loneliness was a part of her being.

As Mishra, Saurabh & Singh, Servest have cited Thornily, R. and Thorn hill, N. "Women who are raped by their partners are likely to suffer to severe psychological Consequences as well. Some of the short- term effects of marital rape include anxiety, shock, Intense fear, depression, suicidal ideation and post-traumatic stress. Long- term effects often include disordered eating, sleep problems, depression, problems in establishing trusting Relationships, and increased negative feelings about themselves. Psychological effects are likely to be long lasting."(p.2)

The same kind condition represented Shashi despande by her protagonist of The Dark Holds No Terrors:

"A wife must always be a few feet behind her husband That's the only rule to follow if you want a happy marriage.

Don't ever try to reverse the doctor-nurse, executive-secretary, principal-teacher role." (p.124) Urmi decides Mira's writing must be published then Vanna know about this matter then She is enraged. Vanna thinks Urmi will destroy our family's honour and if the knowledge of What her father did and what he was. But Urmila nourish women in such a way and interpreting It and published it against the world. So, here Urmi become helpful to all female who tolerate This issue and made to other women conscious. Urmi shares the anguish of kalpana – a girl who became victim of rape by her own relative. Shakutai is Kalpana's mother. Kalpana is intelligent and ambitious girl. Shakutai was proud of her daughter because she was so delicate and so fair just like a doll. Kalpana is so smart girl and learnt to speak in English. When Kalpana was raped then Shakutai blames not on culprit but instead blames on Kalpana. Shakutai says, 'she was raped because she flaunted herself.'(p.149) When Shakutai approaches to Urmi and Vanna who is medical social worker, the letter tells her that Kalpana has been wronged by someone. Kalpana has severe injury and verge of death.

**Her mother request not to inform the police in the hospital: "No, no, no. Tell him, Tai, it's not true, don't tell anyone, I'll never be able to hold up my head again, who'll Marry the girl, we're decent people."(p.58)**

It was the man who did this to her be blamed who is wrongdoer. But girl (kalpana) was not Doing wrong but people always point at her in Indian society. But her mother concerned about Marriage of her so she always request to all not to tell no one this matter. Urmi is surprised to see Shakutai, whose husband has deserted her for some other younger woman. Urmi feel wonder if Shakutai is not secure after marriage then why she concerned about kalpana's marriage after her rape? At least they are "safe from other men" (p.88). Marriage is sacredness but such like a woman it become only symbol of shelter and strong weapon of male who made use silence of woman. Shakutai lived with the Sulu and

Prabhakar of her relative. Shakutai had thought of marrying Kalpana to Sulu's husband Prabhakar who was mad after her. Kalpana rejected this matter and she wishes to marry the boy of liking to her. But she was raped by someone. When revealed Prabhakar is culprit then Sulu was in shocked. Sulu avoid to him and commits suicide because tell a lie to save her husband from the police and this way she immolates herself. Her suicide is decided she is anguished typical Indian female. In India every girl child born with stigma and she has performed many rules in Patriarchal society. Some women become silent just like Mira and Shakutai. This is not solution of our problems but it creates more social issues in our society. Here Urmil is accused of being a "traitor" to Mira and kalpana but she raises voice against the silence of women which are suppressed in society. If women raise her voice against social taboos then it removes slowly\ slowly in our society. Indira Nityanandam observes: "The hope for Indian woman lies in the happy fact that though here are Miras and Kalpana's and Shakutais we also have our Urmila". (p.66)

## 2. Conclusion

Shashi despande creates different Protagonist Urmila who shares other female's problems So our society has come improvement and day by day female comes have voice against their Problems. We have need female like Urmila because she has multi-affectedness and conscious About problems of females and shares it. In India female tolerate social taboos so patriarchal Society made strong and their tyranny increased day by day.

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