

IDHAYA COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, KUMBAKONAM



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MULK RAJ ANAND - COOLIE

BORN : 12 December 1905, Peshawar, NWFP, British India

DIED : 28 September 2004, Pune, India (age 98)

Occupation : Writer

ALMA MATTER : Cambridge University, University College, London.
Khalsa College, Amritsar.

NOTABLE WORKS: Coolie, Untouchable

AWARDS : Sahitya Academy Award(1971), Padma Bhusan (1968),
International Peace Prize (1953)

Characters

- 1) Munoo - Protagonist
- 2) Daya Ram – Munoo uncle
- 3) Babu Nathoo Ram - Sub-accountant of the imperial bank, bibiji wife.
- 4) Seth prabha Dayal - owner of pickle factory
- 5) Ganapat – Prabha partner, cruel nature
- 6) Tulsi – Munoo friend, one of the employee in the pickle factory.
- 7) Hari Har – Employee in white cotton Mills. Lakshmi wife.
- 8) Jim Thomas/ chimta sahib - supervisor at sir George white cotton Mills
- 9) Ratan - Munoo friend, Member of Indian National Trade union
- 10) Mrs. Mainwaring - Anglo-Indian.

PLOT SUMMARY

- Munoo's father agriculture profession, once he borrowed money from Bilaspur Landlord, but he unable to pay money.
- Landlord took Farmland and cattle instead of Money. After a few days later Munoo's father died, Munoo's Mother take cares Munoo and Daya Ram. Munoo grew older, now he is fourteen; One day Munoo's mother died.
- Daya Ram(Munoo's uncle) working in Imperial Bank, profession of Chaprasi. Daya Ram arrived Bilaspur and he took Munoo to sham Nagar Bank But they walked nearly 10 miles to reach Bank(such a Wicked uncle).
- Babu Nathoo Ram sub-accountant, he urgently needed Boy servant, He took Munoo to Home with Three Rupees salary.
- Bibiji wicked Babu wife, welcomed Munoo. Munoo work hard but he didn't get respect from Bibiji.

- He some time plays with Bibiji children but she scolds Munoo. Day-by-day torture increase so he decides to leave the house.
- Munoo reached railway station and boarded a train. A passenger name, Seth prabha Dayal took pity on Munoo he decided took Munoo with him, further he said am an owner of large pickle company at Daulatpur.
- Next day Munoo explored the factory with the help of worker Tulsi. Munoo worked hard on the company, prabha cared him a lot. Another employee name Ganpat, who was cruel nature, who dislikes Munno.
- It was spring time, one day Ganapat went out for collect the money from the customers, 800 rupees totally he collected but he wasted the money over a dancing girl.
- Ganapat returned to factory with 50 rupees. Prabha asked the money, he not replied properly. He leaves the place Ganapat spreaded the rumour that, prabha abusing the customers and he was bankrupt now.
- Police arrested prabha, Munoo and Tulsi arrived police station they asked please release the master, Nothing happened. Munoo and Tulsi began to work in the grain market, they earned very less amount.
- Days later prabha released he sold the factory and pay his debt. He gave a rupee to Munoo, he leaves the city with tears.

- Munoo saw the advertisement of circus of Tara Bai. He went to the circus with empty hand, he meet elephant driver.
- Munoo convinced the driver he would not disturb him anytime, driver impressed by Munoo service to him. Elephant driver took Munoo with him, they reached railway station.
- Train moves slowly from the track. Munoo reached Bombay he started to explore the new city. Munoo walking on the heavy traffic road. He saw the little girl stuck on the middle of the road, he rescued the girl.
- Hari Har and Lakshmi parent of the girl thanked Munoo, Hari Har promised to get a job in the Textile factory for Munoo.
- Chimta sahib(Jim Thomas) agreed Munoo to work in the factory of 15 rupees per month. His job was unite the thread, the Bombay life was so hard it was unimaginable for Munoo.

▪ One of the employee name Ratan, who was hard worker, Ratan and poor Munoo become friends. Chitma sahib not like Ratan attitudes in factory, one morning chitma said to Ratan that you are thrown out of the job. Poor Ratan and other employees are striking.

▪ Rumour spread on the time, Hindu children oftenly kidnapped by Muslims. Coolies/Employee fight with each other, Hindus and Muslims killed each other. Munoo to wounded on the head, some men of the social service league took him to the school and gave first-aid.

▪ After conscious, he walks on the road, suddenly car hit the Munoo. Mrs. Mainwaring is driving the car, she checked Munoo pulse; it was good. Suddenly she decided take Munoo to Simla with her, job of servant.

▪ Mrs. Mainwaring Anglo-Indian. Munoo job was servant and rickshaw puller. Munoo both physically and mentally ill, Munoo lungs affected by pulling rickshaw.

▪One night Munoo health was too serious, she called Dr. Major Merchant, doctor advice he was to weak and need complete rest. Munoo wants to return Bombay and join with Ratan. Some more days gone, but Munno body not recorved, Munoo died lap of Mohan.

THEME OF THE NOVEL

The main theme of Coolie is the exploitation of the poor by the rich in early twentieth century India and the human suffering that this brings about.

In his descriptions of Munoo's experiences after leaving his village, Mulk Raj Anand offers the reader a vivid portrayal of the shocking treatment meted out to those who are socio-economically disadvantaged by those in positions of power and privilege.

THANK YOU