**IJCRT.ORG** 

ISSN: 2320-2882



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

# EXISTENTIALISM: SELECT WORK OF AMOS OZ

RATNAM RAJU BATTULA, Research Scholar (PhD)

Department of English,
Acharya Nagarjuna University,
Guntur(dist).
Andhra Pradesh-522510

Abstract: existential inclination and existential freewill is a exploring factor in the works of Amos Oz. his characters are continuously suffers from their decisions and situations, sometimes there are bold and dare to question the exiting knowledge and structures, some time they are ultimately suffers, most of time they are rebellious in every expression. Oz captures the Israel heart into his works and characters. His characters loneliness, sad and isolated from society, the complexities of human behaviors and emotions are drawn in the shadow of the political situations of Israel, political absurdities, political unconsciousness, people indecisiveness, crude realities of relationships, structured believe systems, the question to the religion is his characters reflect though his work that existential philosophy.

Keywords: Existentialism, Knowledge, unconsciousness, Isolated, individualism, freedom, exploring, alienation.

#### Introduction

Existentialism is a movement in philosophy and literature that emphasizes individual existence, freedom and choice and try to take rational decisions out of their own act of will. No one ever owned existentialism. It has always meant different things to different people. It was never a single doctrine that was laid down definitively by one power or group. Each piece of writing about it is different. Each one has their unique individual stamp. It never fit into a single writing. So, its definition has always blurry edges. It grows up in the public domain. And it is drawing the new way of things about life that emerged at a particular movement in history.

The list of existentialists is very diverse, ranging from devout Catholics, protestants and Jews, Agnostics and Atheist. There greatest similarity may be their own strong devotion of individualism and their emphasis of the individual conciseness which also reflected in the literature. By thinking of it not a coherent system of philosophy. Existentialism is a widespread rebellion against the traditional philosophy. Which may feel out of touch with real life. It is a new way of understanding of world and it representing the intellectual and moral evolution of human civilization in the experience of existence.

#### The origins of existentialism and development

The origin of the word existentialism is itself controversial. The first days of liberation after World War II the imagination of the world captured the new word existentialism in the colorful cafe culture of post war France. It spread rapidly, even though few had a clear idea what it meant.

Most of the time it attributed to Jean Paul-Sartre but most scholars trace this philosophy to Soren Kierkegaard, the troubled Danish writer in the nineteenth century. Losing religion, man lost the concrete connection with a transcendental realm of being. He was set free to deal with this world in all its brute objectivity. After that its take so many forms and meaning with central meaning of existence of man with completely individual consciousness.

They are many writers, philosophers and philologists developed this theory. like Heidegger and Carl jaspers 'atheistic existentialism', Martin Buber's dialogic existentialism, Stare's semi consciousness of modern existentialism, this writer works lead us test existential themes of hopelessness, death, absurdism, passiveness, supine, indeterminate, anguish, anxiety, a generalize uneasiness, a fear of dread, nothingness and void, alienated conditions and estrangement by an act of will.

Some of main associated existential writers and philosophers are Albert Camus, de Beauvoir, Maurice Merleau-Ponty, Franz Kafka, Martin Buber Paul Tillich, Harold Pinter, Samuel Beckett and more, their themes, Literary pieces and characters are disused about our life purposes, meaning of life, how decisions are fundamental to our existence and bring out meaningless and nothingness of life in this subjective world.

Every age of history had colorful painting of existential thought in There works. Own existential thinking to enhance the meaning of essence to being of consciousness and individual freedom from through literature and philosophy. Present age existentialism we may find Every Where. Being yourself is nothing but having consciousness about their existence.

According to Tillich," when most people identified existentialism with Sartre, it is now common knowledge in this country that existentialism in the western intellectual history starts with Pascal in the seventeenth century, has an underground history in the eighteenth century, a revolutionary history in the nineteenth century and an astonishing victory in the twentieth century. Existentialism has become the style of our

period in all realms of life." He was the first Israel writer who advocated the solution of Israel- Palestine is a two-state solution in modern era and peace dreamer among to states. Oz works are written in the Hebrew and most of the works are translated into English by Nicholas de Lange. he brought the original soul of texts into English with same rigor and life.

He told about Israel-Palestinian conflict as right against right. Oz said that "they think that the ultimate evil in the world is war, I think the ultimate evil in the world is aggression" and aggression sometime repelled by force. as a soldier he knows better about horrors of war in the life people.

### **Existentialism in The Works of Amos Oz**

The human heart of the Israel. The lifelong advocate of the two-state solution. The most celebrated Israel author of 21 century. His works exhibits the characteristics of existential struggle and personal crisis which is very often a reflection of a broader social crisis. Individual agony, as community its failure to get a peace existence of Israelites in their dreamed land.

He writes about people of two lands, landscapes, tranquil society, un happy families, windows, Dreams, politics, Jerusalem, homelessness, hopes, loneliness, alienation, anguish, fear, hatred etc. but all the characters of his works are just reflection of the political unstabilised situations of Israel. his themes and characters are examining the indecisiveness of Israel power. The realities of life in newly formed state are always depicted in his characters as unsolved puzzled. Isolation and fear that many Israelis feel partial as a country in a state of siege. All is literary works are depicted the state of Israel plight with relation to Palestine.

As Kibbutzian he learns his revolutionized thinking in the kibbutz. As a one of worker, he writes his first stories collection 'where the jackals howl'(1965), Oz uses the jackals as symbol of forces that threaten the stability of an isolated kibbutz. the story takes on an omnificent viewpoint as the narration travels through and around the kibbutz. the relationships, confusion state of children about their fathers, watching setting sun etc., the common, general and serenity life of kibbutz was narrated in the backdrop of emergence of Israel.

In his novel 'My Michel (1968). it searches 1960's Jerusalem and it use the physical and political landscapes of the city as Gonen's inner struggle, the psychological disintegration of a young Israeli women, Hanna always reflects the situation of Arab-Israel relations. Hannah 's inner struggle, fears, unstableness, depression and her imaginations, her control over her husband Michael reflects the people lives in Jerusalem. Two characters who deals in different ways with crises in their life and marriage. Two different ways of Israel-Palestine policies towards peace in Israel. Two hearts continue to beat as two.

As OZ describes his novel 'suddenly in the depths of the forest (2005)'. As 'A fable for all ages'. It is a story about three village, villagers and children. whose village is gray, sad, guilt, no animals, no adventurous events even though it is a story of children. may be its one of its own kind, distractive nature of village image.

no animals were left in the village except the memories of Almon and Nimmi. His illustrations are clearly reflecting the how deep Oz works are and how much they reflect the political situations of the Israel. little Nimi, Maya and Matti all the three characters are alienated from the understanding of main stream society [village]. the novel express existential inquiry in every character, situation and themes.

The authors life of eight hours is a *Rhyming Life and Death* (2007). It's an experiment novella in it he put all his political indirect questions and concentrate on existential question of his own and find emptiness and nothingness of his fame, writing and recognition. it depicts about life, death, sex, women, writer life, love. all are combined by writer to create real life and fantasy begin to become in separable in the relation.

Judas (2014), the novel set in 1950's Jerusalem to portrays the error, desire and un requited love. it is a story three major characters conversations turned into most rational discussions of religious views. He brings alive the mysterious Atalia, the frustrated Shmuel ash and the argumentative Gresham before our eyes to destroy our core belief systems by powerful narration. As Shmuel declare that 'Judas is the first Christian, The last Christian, The only Christian'. the whole story is an allegory to the state of Israel and his 'two-state solution' bring him to his own nation as traitor as Amos Oz said that traitor is the pathfinder. Judas as misguided idealist who in advertently triggered the salvation of mankind in a same way Oz also misunderstand by his own people by his two-state solution.

## **Conclusion:**

Amos Oz was the greatest writer of his age, his works are manifestation of individual freedom, alienated families, and existential nothingness. He tries convey through his character how important that Israel should live side by side with Palestinians to save the next generations. He never loses hope for his dream of two-state solution for the sake of humanity. Amos Oz said that "Compromise seen "as weakness, as pitiful surrender" thinks about in the lives of families, neighbors and Nations, choosing compromise is in fact choosing life" Not holy places, not national interests, not resources but life and freedom.

#### REFERENCES

- Oz, Amos. Rhyming life and Death. Translated by Nicolas de Lange, Random House uk,2009.
- 2. Cogswell, David. Existentialism for Beginner. Red Wheels/Wiser P,2008.
- 3. Ben-Dov, Nitza, comp. and ed. The Amos Oz Reader. London: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2009.Print.
- 4. Oz, Amos. Judas. Trans. Nicolas de Lange, vintage books, 2016.

- 5. Oz, Amos. Scenes From Village Life. Translated by Nicolas de Lange. New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2009.Print.
- 6. Oz, Amos. Where The Jackals Howl and Other Stories. Chatto&Windus,1981.
- 7. Crowell, Steven, editor. The Cambridge Companion to Existentialism.CUP,2012.
- 8. Oz, Amos. My Michel. Trans. Nicolas de Lange. London: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1972.Print.

