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Assertion of FemaleSelf in Paulo Coelho's *Brida*

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By

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Bachchu Tamang has completed his thesis entitled "Assertion of Female Self in Paulo Coelho's *Brida*" under my supervision. He carried out his research from September 2020 to March 2021. I hereby recommend his thesis be submitted for viva voce.

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Abstract

This research entitled "Assertion of Female Self in Paulo Coelho's *Brida*" discusses on female struggle for social role. The novel projects a representative character, Brida, who revolts against all existing patriarchal norms and values. Being a woman from a strict patriarchal society, she has to face gender and cultural restriction as well as discrimination. However, she does not surrender to such values which limit her. Unlike traditional women, she comes in front to define her role and position in society. While exploring self, she has to face with many difficulties and problems, but she decides to confront challenges rather than to accept discriminative discourse. Her desires are self centered and she centers on her choices instead of society and patriarchal values. Brida invokes herself to find the truth and knowledge and her journey to find independence and freedom. As radical feminists believe upon the concept of identity and freedom, Brida never compromises to opposing forces to create own space in society.

Key words: patriarchal, discrimination, restriction, position, challenges, rebellious

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I. Rebellious Character in Paulo Coelho's *Brida*

The research analyses a woman's struggle for creating an individual position in Paulo Coelho's *Brida*. The novel depicts a typical society and a bold woman character from the society. The society is structured by patriarchal ideology and discourse that defines women's role. Patriarchal society confines women's freedom and social space. The protagonist in the novel attempts to break the defined confinement. As she desires to know society and its discourse with the help of teachers, she perceives her position in society. Her consciousness leads her toward forming self identity which is for freedom and social space. By realizing her empowered self, she goes away from submissiveness as accepted woman identity in the society.

Brida, the protagonist of the novel, undergoes dominated and excluded feeling in patriarchal society in which she dares to discover her identity and power. One of the reasons she undergoes internal conflict is she is flirted with Lorens. On the one hand, she has chosen the way of finding truth and knowledge and on the other hand, she is got attracted to a man. This situation invites conflict within her; however she focuses on the way of finding knowledge. She further continues her journey to destination and finding truth and knowledge. She never surrenders with society and finds self and identity.

The novel introduces Brida as the protagonist. She is dissatisfied with the society wherein women's voices are suppressed. Brida has strong passion to know about the world and in order to know the world; she hires two teachers; Magnus and Wicca. Magnus teaches her world and Wicca teaches about rites and rituals. Both of them teach her to know the society and the world. Gradually, she understands society and looks from different perspective. Having deeper knowledge of history and

culture, she wants to write her own destiny. Brida tries to be witch to reveal evil of society and establish her independence. Being abnormal as society thinks she had to fight against societal norms and values which are against her and women.

Paul Coelho is an experimental writer who always seeks new things and taste. His writings are found to have been creative delights and created interest among readers. Having abnormal upheaval in his life, he has drawn his experiences into artistic expression. The writing of Coelho gives us a sense of conversation. We get the sense that a person, whose experience is with us, is instructing us the right way of life. The writing of Coelho can be understood more by the words of Vijay More who writes, "It is impossible to know Paulo Coelho without understanding the part played in his life and work by the feminine element. He admits that women have occupied and continue to occupy a fundamental space in his life. In sympathy with his masculine identity, decided one day to discover the woman who is also within him" (27). Coelho's writing is intensive to focus women's issue as part of his fictional writing. Unlike other subject, he includes women's identity as well as consciousness of them. Likewise, Coelho presents his issue and story into ordinary manner; he explores deeper philosophy of human beings. It is one of the specialty of him that gives readers insight and perspective of life. Most of his fictional texts are embedded with practical philosophy to life.

The purpose of the research is to present a woman's consciousness which raises voice to redefine social space. The fictional society exposes a bold and daring woman character who has been representative voice amidst of women. Having consciousness about freedom and self existence, she chooses a challenged way to meet her objective of life.

The significance of the study discusses about female consciousness as to

personal freedom and societal identity. It is awareness of women that always empower women to be part of society. It shows a path for woman to fight against unfair and discriminatory discourse. The novel exemplifies a woman journey from ordinary to rebellious and the consciousness to fight against evil power is cause of education. The traditional society has weakened position in patriarchal society, it is difficult them to come against establish values but for the sake of self position, Brida is ready to accept challenges. It is irrepressible desire of women which lead toward freedom and dignified position in society.

The novel *Brida* narrates the story of a young female character Brida as a bold and daring one. She dares to seek knowledge and history. In course of finding own existence, she seeks the way of gaining knowledge and history of the world. Being ambitious, she consults with the two teachers who are able to teach about her quest of knowledge. One of the teachers helps her to know about the sun which symbolically represents knowledge about the world. Similarly, she learns about moon which symbolically represents knowledge of rites and ritual. In course of learning about the world and culture, she spends long time. Even she wanted to learn about superstition and traditional beliefs which are rooted in society. For this reason, she asks about false beliefs with the teachers. Being self centered, she does not care about the society and external factors.

The major character Brida has keen interest of knowing society which is unfair to women. To know society and the patriarchal dogmas, she hires teachers who help her to define society and knowledge. Being a victim of the society, she wants to fight against false discourse about women. She changes her identity as witch which symbolically represents her madness which is cause for freedom and self-defined position. It is her consciousness that empowers to stand against society and establish

her freedom and individuality. Her goal is to be free from patriarchal monopoly and repression. Brida's struggle and fight in the patriarchal society is for identity and social space for self and women. She wants to define own identity and individuality. Her ultimate desire is to be free from the chain of society and discourse.

The novel reflects experience of a woman about the world. The novel is read and re-read by many critics who have found many interpretations over it. The critics look over the text and find several interpretations. One of the critics KundanMakwana opines:

Brida is the one of all Paulo Coelho's philosophical works published in 2008.

It is a story of young Irish girl who was in search of knowledge and her gift. In her journey of knowledge and gift she encountered with Magus and Wicca who taught her the 'tradition of sun' and 'tradition of moon'. Through this story, Paulo Coelho gives so many lessons about faith, soul mate, mistakes, risk, emotions, life, opportunity, sacrifice, doubt, childhood (771).

As the critic analyzes this novel from postmodern perspective in which the writer does not focus on single idea whereas it shows layers of themes and meanings. It seems ambiguous novel which carries undefined meaning and themes.

SeemaDutta opines that the novel is philosophical and spiritual chronicle of one man's quest for self-discovery. She writes, "submitted a novel of obsession, this tale is the philosophical and spiritual chronicles of one man's self-discovery. Stunned by his wife's inexplicable disappearance from their Paris home and immediately suspected of foul play by the authorities and the press" (21). This novel has been analyzed from the perspective of philosophical point of view in which religious ideology, learning and process of having knowledge is philosophical and ideal therefore the critic observes its philosophical aspect and shows its dominant meaning.

Likewise, Sharon Corera reads the novel as a social realism as it has been reflected contemporary time when the world was in crucial time period. As it develops dissimilar to previous reality then people find aversive situation to adjust into new settlement. The contemporary society has been developing with new set of beliefs which shakes rooted tradition and ideologies. Therefore he views:

It also offers a ray of hope to those who are traumatized by holocaust, wars and violence through its advanced narrative techniques such as reverse narration, time travel sequences, magic realism and many more. This research article is conceived by the researcher with an aim of analyzing Coelho as a magic realist writer, with reference to the narrative technique called magic realism used in his novel entitled *Brida* (66).

This critic basically analyzes it historically and seeks the impact of the time in his novel. As a collective consciousness of his time, the writer draws it as reflection through his writing.

In contrary, David Maree and Claude-Helene Mayer study the novel as magic realism in which she discusses about psychology and core reality of contemporary reality. By blending realism and psychology, the critic analyzes:

Based on a psycho biographical approach, this study addresses magical thinking across the life span of Paulo Coelho. Paulo Coelho, who was born in Brazil in the 1940s, has become one of the most sold and famous contemporary authors in the world. In his life, as well as in his books, which are mainly autobiographical accounts, magic and magical thinking, spirituality, meaningfulness, and the living of one's dream, are key themes. The aim of this study was to explore magic and magical thinking in Paulo Coelho's life and creative works (1).

This critic mainly discusses on writer's narrative technique. Most of the time, Paulo Coelho experiments and works with magic realism and it is one of the features of his writing which explores his magic of writing that always invite readers to find out several meanings.

As many critics have come across with new perspectives or issues in this novel, the researcher goes through feminist perspective which is new idea to be applied in the novel. Along with feminist concept, the research discusses about how women struggle against existing forces of the society.

The present research has put forward issue of a woman's identity by using radical feminism. Feminism is a political movement which aims to enhance the status of women both in theory and practice. Female who were given less opportunities to forward their ideas, now they try to break the prevalent tradition that women are inferior in comparison to male ideology. They develop their own theory through which they establish their own position and status in the society. Feminism defines women as the people who are either oppressed or suppressed by patriarchy of the freedom of self-expression. The growing feminist movement sought to change society's prevailing stereotypes of women as relatively weak, passive, docile, and dependant individuals who are less rational and more emotional than men. Feminists want to achieve greater freedom for women to work, to broaden both women's self-awareness and their opportunities to the point of equality with men. Women are forced to accept the laws and customs that always make them inferior in various ways. Such patriarchal ideology is spread all over the world however it is comparatively stronger in eastern society. When patriarchy creates stereotypical images about girls and women, then it serves a powerful function in our society; and when such patriarchal norms and values have practiced since long, patriarchal are

long time used, then those exaggerated ideas of inferiority and weakness of women are internalized by the women and ultimately, they feel themselves powerless and inferior.

Feminism is the belief in the right of women to have political, social, and economic equality with men. It is a disclosure that involves various movements, theories and philosophies which are concerned with the issue of gender difference, advocate equality for women, campaign for women's right and interests. Feminism has altered predominant perspectives in a wide range of areas within Western and Eastern society, ranging from culture to law. Feminist activists have campaigned for women's legal rights i.e. rights of contract, property rights, voting rights; for women's right to bodily integrity and autonomy for abortion rights, and for reproductive rights including access to contraception and quality parental care; for protection from domestic violence, sexual harassment and rape, for workplace rights, including maternity leave and equal pay, and against other forms of discrimination.

A major aim of feminism has been to reconstitute the society in order to do justice to females. Female patterns of living and dealing with the world have produced in women a point of view different from that of their brothers. This point of view cannot be easily accessible to men because it is conceived by them as being either odd or unimportant, since the norms of our culture are based on masculine experience and adapted to male roles and behavior.

Feminism is concerned with the marginalization of all women: that is, with their being relegated to a secondary position. Feminists believe that as our culture is a patriarchal culture, one is organized in favor of interests of men. Feminists' literary critics try to explain how power imbalances due to gender in a given culture are reflected in or challenged by literary texts. Their goals are to expose patriarchal

premises and resulting prejudices, to promote discovery and reevaluation of literature and literary criticism. Feminist critics therefore study sexual, social, and political issues which were once thought to be “outside” the main stream study of literature and literary criticism.

The marginalization of women itself becomes the crucial issue for females and they try to raise voice against patriarchy. Patriarchy or sexism has always promoted the discrimination to prove that gender role which marks man is superior and woman is innately. This research aims to explore female self but do not want to be puppet of male dominated society. Simone De Beauvoir and Kate Millet's ideas suggest about women's fighting against existing norms and values. While commenting on the patriarchal norms and values, Simone De Beauvoir writes: Patriarchal society for purposes of self – Justification; through the myths, this society imposed its laws and custom upon individual also in a picturesque, effective manner; it is under a mythical form that the group - imperative is indoctrinated into each conscience (1999).

Under patriarchal regime, women are forced to accept the laws and customs that always make them inferior in various ways. Such patriarchal ideology is spread all over the world that advocates the supreme power of male; and it seems to be natural because of its long time use. Such power controls over women by looking them within four walls of the kitchen, giving the role.

Simone de Beauvoir shows that the subordinate position of women is willed in heaven and advantageous on earth. Beauvoir's concept of feminism advocated the individual existence of woman as free from the suppressive relationship with male and thus she wanted to break all the binary relationship like male/ female constituted by male to establish male supremacy over woman. Women had been made to feel that they were inferior by nature and though men paid lip-service to equality, they would

resist its implementation. Some men might be sympathetic to women's issues, but only women themselves knew what they felt and wanted.

Kate Millet notes; "The relations between men and women have always been a matter of politics or manipulation of power" (23). As Kate Millet discusses the position of women is the result of such as symmetrical power relations. Of all the forms of violence, male violence against women in personal relationships is most overtly condoned and accepted because of the acceptance of this dominant-submissive relationship as normal. Millett meant to prove that sex is a status category with political implications. She pointed to male dominance in sex, including intercourse.

Millett describes the approval of the female to this male-over-female paradigm as a process of socialization in which women were constrained to be passive, ignorant, valued if at all for bearing children, a function shared with animals; men were distinguished by the distinctly human characteristics. Women were socialized to accept both the superiority of men and their own inferiority, which was then justified by assertions of male biological superiority: men were physically stronger.

In terms of activity, sex role assigns domestic service and attendance upon infants to the female, the rest of human achievement, interest, and ambition to the male. The limited role allotted the female tends to arrest her at the level of biological experience. Therefore, nearly all that can be described as distinctly human rather than animal activity (in their own way animals also give birth and care for their young) is largely reserved for the male (26).

Millett blames that all the human activities are largely reserved for the male and this she thinks helps men to rule women. Millett discusses on how our culture encourages "the male to develop aggressive impulses, and the female to thwart her own to turn them inward" which results male "to have aggression reinforced in his behaviour,

often with significant anti- social possibilities” and in case of women, the “feminine virtue of passivity”(31). This gives the license for male to oppress female physically as well as mentally:

The negative aura with which sexual activity has generally been surrounded would necessarily be eliminated, together with the double standard and prostitution. The goal of the revolution would be a permissive single standard of sexual freedom, and one uncorrupted by the crass and exploitative economic bases of traditional sexual alliances (62).

Identifying patriarchy as a socially conditioned belief system masquerading as nature, Millett demonstrates in detail how its attitudes and systems penetrate literature, philosophy, psychology, and politics. Kate Millett declared of Miller as a “compendium of American sexual neuroses” and says that his value “lies not in freeing us from such afflictions” but in “having had the honesty to express and dramatize them" (295). Her study of him in rather sardonically salutes Miller for his contribution to society in articulating "the disgust, the contempt, the hostility, the violence, and the sense of filth" associated with sexuality which "had never so explicitly been given literary expression before" (295-296).

Feminists claim that female existence is still defined and confined into in every sector, they want to redefine their identity but they are loser who hardly make room in patriarchal society. One of the main issues is female always know female from only that old traditional ideology and what has been defined as female in male dominated society but they still apply that old definition to know female. Gilbert and Gubar argue; "the woman is victimized by the interiorized and alternative psychology of women under patriarchy" Women suffer from mental illness because of the patriarchal socialization since they are likely to experience, submissiveness,

selflessness as in some sense sickening” (1237). It is clear that they are suppressed at every facets of life, like education, health, decision making, property rights, religion, culture, society, economy etc. Kristeva recognizes her cultural lack and is concerned with her own subjectivity, as she acknowledges: "These themes, these names: were they chosen by chance, according to mood or desire? Of course; and my own subjectivity is only too obvious" (42).

Since women do not like men, experience gender itself as problem, social attempts to make it a problem for them may cause confusion and anxiety. Regarding female subjectivity, it shows fundamentally problem. Julia Kristeva observes unbalanced relationship between men and women:

No other civilization seems to have made the principle of sexual difference so crystal clear: between the two sexes there is a cleavage, an abyss, which is marked by their different relationships to the Law (religious and political) and which is the very condition of their alliance. Monotheistic unity is sustained by a radical separation of the sexes: indeed, this separation is its prerequisite (19).

In this way, women have been victim of gender discrimination of patriarchy and male ideology which ultimately cause them to suffer from repression, suppression and mental torture. In this sense patriarchal ideology is biased masculine value system which is one-sided and creates false assumptions about women's nature. It is an assumptions designed to dominate women, and it always assigns to them subordinate and peripheral position in the society. In this regard, women for centuries have been mistreated, repressed, deprived and tortured by the males. Masculine value system considers woman as a passive, submissive, intuitive and brainwashed creatures; and accordingly, women's images are distorted by the suppressed ideology of patriarchy.

Such distorted images about women are deeply embedded in the society, as a result, women have to face many inequalities and gender discrimination through the history.

The radical feminists raise the issues like female problems in patriarchal society where they cannot read and write because they have been programmed in that a way. They have to be engaged in domestic work who do not have time to think over public life. The research finds out the female struggles when they are aware of their self identity. Brida strongly raises her voices and goes against what the society thinks to female existence. The research shows female struggle for making self identity in the society. She is guided by her interest and intense desires. Females are underestimated in patriarchal society where female roles are controlled and restricted. The male presence in each concerns of female's existence shows male domination over them. Males remain at the centre to create discourse regarding female existence. The treatment over females in male dominated world exposes weaker and docile state of woman. The ongoing research tries to find women struggle in order to establish their position in the society because the preoccupied concept about female manipulates females and throw them into limited society.

The study exposes female struggle within patriarchal society wherein they are undervalued or manipulated systematically. The age old existing discourses do not allow them to establish their voices therefore they have to face male hegemony. As being a female in patriarchal society has to be victimized and fight with opposing forces. The research goes with female struggles in order to establish their identity. The research goes on along with female attempts to resist patriarchal norms and values who have been threaten. Every patriarchal society constructs discourses which diminish female identity. However the society imposes power upon women, they accept the challenges and redefine them. This is how the research shows female

courage to fight with social injustices over them.

II. Woman Consciousness for Freedom in Coelho's *Brida*

The novel deals with women's consciousness for social space in Paulo Coelho's *Brida*. It presents the story of a woman who is on the way to find self-defined world or it is journey of freedom. The representative character Brida is a bold, daring and rebellious one. Regarding the society of the novel introduces patriarchal and male-centric in which, Brida opposes the patriarchal ideology for ensuring her identity and she is conscious enough to establish own identity and social space. Social space for women is restricted and confined. In patriarchal social system, monopoly of male ideology marginalizes women. Women therefore, are inferior in position and role. The inferiority of women has been forcefully internalized within their mentality. For example the quotes, "Patriarchy continually exerts forces that undermine women's self-confidence and assertiveness, then points to the absence of these qualities as proof the women are naturally, and therefore correctly, self-effacing and submissive" (Tyson 86-87). The fact is that the human civilization is pervasively patriarchal and is systematized in such a way as to subordinate women to men in all cultural domains: familial, religious, political, economic, social, legal, and artistic.

Brida is a pivotal character in novel. Her position in society is true to a woman in patriarchal society. But her thinking is different from other female characters. Under patriarchal social structure, females are subordinated. Having a patriarchal domination and repression, she sees path of freedom from the societal pressure. She grows up in traditional society where she does not find freedom but she minutely observes social tradition. In such manipulative society, she cannot enjoy with her own choices and desires. The patriarchal tradition victimizes her therefore; she breaks relationship with family life for the sake of personal life. In course of searching her complete freedom, she does not compromise with existing norms and

values.

The patriarchal society understands male and female roles as it has been practice since the society formed. Along with birth of either male or female, they are socialized on the basis of prevalent social norms and values. The socialization process employs both male and female and it also distinguishes their roles respectively. It is a gradual process in which the patriarchal society imposes discourses upon females and it is turned as a truth for females. But, it is not natural inferiority of women who are made inferior in society. Similarly, Brida has been victim of the patriarchal society that victimized her in society. But, she does not want to live being dependent in society. Having as such desire, her pursuits own independent stand even when the society restricts her. But, she quests her own passions and desires to get it fulfilled. Women are undermined under the male domination so they are treated as an 'object' which has no identity of their own but on contrary, men are considered as 'subject', the 'self' having independent identity. Women are always defined as subordinate being to man. As Simon de Beauvoir notes:

Woman has been assigned the role of parasite-and every parasite is an exploiter. Women has need of the male in order to gain human dignity, to eat, to enjoy life, to procreate; it is through the service of sex that she gets these benefits; because she is confined to that function, she is wholly an instrumentality of exploitation (626).

Beauvoir further insists that since the human civilization, women are nicely treated as the subordinate to men. Women are taken as 'parasite', which is dependent on others, body just for its living life. So in such a way women are objectified and colonized by men in order to exploit and dominate them. In this way, women are suppressed.

The research shows female struggle for making self identity in the society. A

has to face problems because of being female that caused the preconception of patriarchal society. A woman is guided by her interest and intense desires but social understanding about woman makes her situation problematic and feels defeated because of inferior position in male dominated society. Females have been marginalized in patriarchal society and their roles are controlled and restricted. The male presence in each concern of females' lives interferes in private life as well.

The novel *Bride* deals with women's predicament in society and it shows a woman struggle for freedom. Being a woman, one should struggle and fight against social evils and attitudes. The society has ready-made concept with which it observes a woman. To have freedom for woman needs strength, power and daring heart. The novel introduces a dynamic, powerful and rebellious character who advocates woman's position, their own insight, innate power and self-motivation.

The novel presents a dynamic woman character who has the spirit with honesty and intellectual power. Having strong and self-determined power, she questions over society and her independent existence. Self-motivated power is a weapon for her to fight against society. Her nature is distinct from traditional types of women. Due to her open manner, innate power and self-confidence, she is able to move forwards in the society. In her life, she does not hesitate to face hardship and difficulties. Her strong will power, patience, sincerity and honesty lead her toward an independent woman. So women cannot escape from the trap of male created ideology and can never resist against it though they are highly suppressed and depressed from it. Regarding this issue, Beauvoir says:

She has been taught to accept masculine authority. So she gives up criticizing, investigating and judging for her and leaves all this to the superior cost.

Therefore the masculine seems to her a transcendent reality, an absolute. 'Men

make the god, says Frazer, 'women worship them'. Men cannot kneel with complete conviction before the idols they have made; but when women encounter these mighty statues along the roads, they think they are not making with hands, and obediently bow down (611).

Beauvoir assumes that the prejudice ideology is constructed in such a way that women feel it as immutable and immanent ideas. They neither criticize it nor evaluate it critically rather they accept it silently as truth. Even if they reject such one sided assumption of male ideology then they are either punished or pressure to follow it.

Brida as a conscious woman character denies male oriented society. To find self position and space in society, she studies social structure and male dominated power. Her stance is to study society that is based on male ideology. As she comes out from the society, she takes challenging role in society. Though, her challenging role in the society, she fights against rooted society. She encounters problems in patriarchal society. She goes under patriarchal torture which force her to go against the traditional roles. Her personal strength, consciousness and awareness motivate her to stand against the society.

Brida, in novel is a representative one who is conscious, aware and independent woman. She faces a difficult context in which a woman has to surrender and compromise own life. However, she decides to take challenge and fight against such forces. In order to fight against the existing forces, she studies social structure and tradition. Her role and stance in society reflects her consciousness and awareness which leads her toward freedom and self dependence. On the basis of her personal idea and thought, she is guided herself as she is found, "Brida had understood. The Tradition of the Sun was the night, the trees, the cold gripping her body, the stars in the sky. And the Tradition of the Moon was that man before her now, with the

wisdom of the ancestors shining in his eyes" (12). Brida searches her place in society. This all thinking and reality make her individual self is very complex. She always thinks about asking question to herself about her life.

Brida decides to be changed. As society thinks as to her, she is not ready to accept the societal knowledge. The existing knowledge and women position in society is not acceptable for her. The society treats her as weak and docile. As she is prepared mentally, she makes decision to leave society in order to establish her own bold identity as an independent as the following quotes explains:

She was pleased with herself and, at the same time, surprised at how quickly it had all happened. Not that she had ever doubted her abilities, she was proud of herself and of what had brought her there. She was sure that the Magus was somewhere nearby, watching her reactions, to see if she was capable of learning the first lesson of magic. He had spoken of courage, and so even if she felt afraid—images of the snakes and scorpions that might be living underneath that rock began to rise up from the depths of her imagination. She must be brave. In a while, he would return to teach her the first lesson (12).

Brida seeks her path of being away from society and her traditional thought. It is symbolically freedom from patriarchal control and discourse. The society where Brida lives is based on patriarchal norms and values. Lorber conveys:

In some societies, women control significant economic resources and so have a high status. In contrast, in societies with patriarchal family structures where anything women produce, including children, belongs to the husband, women and girls have a low value. Development feminism's theory is that in any society, if the food women produce is the main way the group is fed, and women also control the distribution of any surplus they produce, women have

power and prestige. If men provide most of the food and distribute the surplus, women's status is low (22).

Brida realizes that she should behave as a perfect lady. However, this meant that she should behave according to the manners and customs of the middle and upper class to which she belongs. Yet, in her attempts to defy her community, she behaves not so much as a man, but as someone belonging to the working class, very common.

To get redemption from the patriarchal society, Brida decides to find out history and tradition of society. For this reason, she meets teachers who are Brida wants to be an independent woman. The society is based on patriarchal mechanism in which gender roles have been defined. It clearly announces patriarchal discourse. The woman character advocates her desires and self interest. As she appears as a normal woman, she gradually becomes abnormal and revolutionary. When she raises her personal desires, she has to face and challenge society and existing tradition. To break the societal oppression against her, she has to fight to establish her individuality. In order to establish her -self position in society, she keeps voice strong. Brida being decisive, she takes help of a teacher to know about the world and knowledge. Her choice and desire to study the world of knowledge pushes her and she hires a teacher Magnus. The teacher teaches her about the tradition and history. Her interest of finding reality is to know patriarchal society and its social structure. To understand it, she says:

I'm a strong, determined woman," she repeated to herself under her breath.

She was privileged to be there with that man whom other people either loved or feared. She looked back on the evening they had just spent together and recalled the moment when she had sensed certain tenderness in his voice.

"Perhaps he found me interesting. Perhaps he even wanted to make love with

me.” It wouldn’t be a bad experience; there was, however, a strange look in his eyes (13).

Brida's tells her experience with the teacher as they firstly meet each other. Brida introduces herself as a bold and daring woman however, she does not know much about the existing society and its tradition. In fact, her desire to live apart from the society is further choice but she wants to know society before it.

As she invites her teacher Magnus to go through tradition and history of society and social structure, Magnus guides her and teaches of the history. Her anger behind tradition and history is to establish her individuality as she advocates:

What an idiotic thing to think. There she was, in search of something very real—a path to knowledge—and suddenly she was thinking of herself as a mere woman. She tried not to think about it again, and it was then that she realized how much time had passed since the Magus had left her alone. She felt the beginnings of panic; she had heard contradictory views about that man. Some said he was the most powerful Teacher they’d ever met, capable of changing the direction of the wind, of piercing the clouds, purely by the power of thought. And Brida was as fascinated as everyone else by such prodigies (14).

As she reflects anger, she does not accept as a traditional woman. Her nature of revolutionary character is revealed and she exposes her character to Magnus. To convince her teacher, she clarifies her personality and individuality. It is against the society and she mainly criticizes patriarchal society in which women are submissive and docile.

Brida stands in opposition to the roles given to them by the traditional system and act accordingly. Her activity against patriarchy is not directed to oppose males but

to raise the status of females in modern society. Feminism represents one of the most important revolutions of modern times. It is a voice against the illusion, distortion and the so-called ideologies that the males have been created to suppress woman. Power is always with the males either in domestic life or in a civil life. Women have been suffering economically as well as socially. In order to expose prevailing female anxiety and restriction in the society, Feminism came in practice as a movement to liberate women from domination, suppression and subordination. In *The Second Sex* Beauvoir has established the fundamental question of modern Feminism. While defining herself she says; “I am a woman” (15). Beauvoir further says:

You think thus and so because you are woman but I think that my only defense is to reply: ‘I think thus and so because it is there’ thereby removing my subjective self from the argument. It would be out of the question to reply. And you are a man; for it is understood that the fact of being a man is no peculiarity. A man is in the right in being a man; it is the woman who is in the wrong (16).

According to Beauvoir, women have been made infectious in comparison to men, and their representation has been multifaceted by men’s belief that women are inferior by nature. The girl’s father, absent throughout most of the story, will be focalized in her novel.

It depicts the tension between the patriarchal and the feminine and sheds a new light. As such, the story of emancipation has often been romanticized on screen, to the extent that the novel’s most significant theme, the tensions between society and the feminine which the girls experience, seems to be ignored.

The process of forming patriarchal norms internalizes the discourse as a truth. Similarly, women living in patriarchal society internalize male discourse as truth.

Simon De Beauvoir asserts that women can rebel if they are empowered. She gives examples from the history and explains how women have been defeated in the past. This she says is “woman’s sole defense against the domestic slavery” in which she is bound and it is this “economic oppression” to which she is subjected (86). She declares that women cannot emancipate themselves only by equal right in law. This is possible only when she is economically powerful and she can be emancipated only when “she can take part on a large social scale in production and is engaged to domestic work only to an insignificant degree” (86). Nevertheless, it is not possible to consider woman simply as a productive force for she has multiple work to carry out in order to satisfy her man. A major aim of feminists thus has been to reconstitute the society in order to do justice to females. Female patterns of living and dealing with the world have produced in women a point of view different from that of their brothers. This point of view cannot be easily accessible to men because it is conceived by them as being either odd or unimportant, since the norms of our culture are based on masculine experience and adapted to male roles and behavior.

The journey toward freedom leads her to company with her teacher Magnus who teaches her about the world and tradition. Brida's open discussion with her teacher Magnus, she gradually understands society and social structure as they discuss: “The Magus made a sign for her to follow him. They set off together through the forest, in silence. “She’s pretty,” he was thinking as the shadows cast by the trees rapidly lengthened and shifted as the sun sank lower on the horizon. “But I’m twice her age. This, he knew, meant that he might well suffer” (4).

The patriarchal society considers Brida's bold step of decision as the matter of humiliation and shame. Brida dares to go against patriarchal society. Brida is portrayal of bold and daring character. Magnus is a teacher for her and he shows her

path of enlightenment and knowledge.

Brida wants to be changed her-self as she insists on being away from confined world. Magnus understands her desires and even Brida shares her thought and concept with him:

I learned about the Dark Night,” she said to the now silent forest. “I learned that the search for God is a Dark Night, that Faith is a Dark Night. And that’s hardly a surprise really, because for us each day is a dark night. None of us knows what might happen even the next minute, and yet still we go forward. Because we trust. Because we have Faith (15).

Brida is much more conscious about her self-identity as she views that one is shaped by her faith and love for action. Being an independent thinker, she wants to have own life freedom. Brida has convictions to change her-self and dissent with traditional gender roles. Because traditional gender roles posits women as passive, unintelligent, meek and silent as their feminine qualities but Brida's activities seem quite opposite to the projection of traditional feminine gender role. In this way, she such bold and intellectual ideas about the quest for autonomous identity reinforce the challenging attitudes of traditional patriarchal definition of gender roles.

Feminism is concerned with the marginalization of all women: that is, with their being relegated to a secondary position. Feminists believe that as our culture is a patriarchal culture, one is organized in favor of interests of men. Feminists’ literary critics try to explain how power imbalances due to gender in a given culture are reflected in or challenged by literary texts. Their goals are to expose patriarchal premises and resulting prejudices, to promote discovery and reevaluation of literature and literary criticism. Wollstonecraft denied that women are, by nature, more pleasure seeking and pleasure giving than men. She writes, “And how can they then expect

women, who are only taught to observe behaviour, and rather than morals, to despise what they have been all their lives" (396). Traditionally gender roles advocate women as inferior creature which is internalize patriarchal programming. It is said that "traditional gender roles cast men as rational, strong, protective and decisive; they cast women as emotional (irrational), weak, nurturing and submissive" (Tyson 85). For centuries, women have been confined within false or wrongheaded imposed set of requirements of patriarchal ideology which is completely based on myth and ignorance. She redraws and overthrows such all false sets of patriarchal stereotypes by refusing to be stuck in traditional kinds of gender roles.

Being critical towards patriarchal ideology, Brida does not accept the cultural images of women as incompetent, petty, irresponsible and weak. She questions as to women and society. Magnus teaches her about society and social practice which has been practiced for years. She rejects the attitudes that regard the traditionally masculine characteristics of aggression, power and competition as good and desirable; and the traditionally feminine characteristics of compassion, tenderness and compromise as weak and ridiculous. Rather she affirms her capacities to be strong, capable, intelligent, successful and ethical human being:

She was missing out on something very important in life and that if she carried on as she was, she would simply continue to repeat the same experiences over and over. And yet she didn't have the courage to change. She needed to be constantly struggling to discover her path; now that she had experienced the Dark Night, she knew that she didn't want to find her way through it. And although she was sometimes dissatisfied with herself, she felt unable to go beyond her own limitations (19).

Brida is bold, educated and very daunting woman, she always thinks about society.

She is free from male domination and domestic world. Superiority of male position is definition of male ideology. It always shows female as weaker and meek. Similarly, patriarchy has objectified women like and objects of sexual and sexist oppression and dominance on the part of the males in the society.

Brida is educated women; she knows the social exploitation and gender difference. She does not want to be freed herself but she wants to empower women as well as other marginalized groups. Therefore, she talks with high-ranked people. She has company with conscious, positioned and educated man of that society. She is deserved with them because she is educated. As Kate Millet notes, "The relations between men and women have always been a matter of politics or manipulation of power" (23). As Kate Millet discusses the position of women is the result of such as symmetrical power relations. Of all the forms of violence, male violence against women in personal relationships is most overtly condoned and accepted because of the acceptance of this dominant-submissive relationship as normal. Millett meant to prove that sex is a status category with political implications. She pointed to male dominance in sex, including intercourse. Millett describes the approval of the female to this male-over-female paradigm as a process of socialization in which women were constrained to be passive, ignorant, valued if at all for bearing children, a function shared with animals; men were distinguished by the distinctly human characteristics. Women were socialized to accept both the superiority of men and their own inferiority, which was then justified by assertions of male biological superiority: men were physically stronger:

In terms of activity, sex role assigns domestic service and attendance upon infant to the female, the rest of human achievement, interest, and ambition to the male. The limited role allotted the female tends to arrest her at the level of

biological experience. Therefore, nearly all that can be described as distinctly human rather than animal activity (in their own way animals also give birth and care for their young) is largely reserved for the male (26).

Millett blames that all the human activities are largely reserved for the male and this she thinks helps men to rule women. Millett discusses on how our culture encourages “the male to develop aggressive impulses, and the female to thwart her own to turn them inward” which results male “to have aggression reinforced in his behaviour, often with significant anti- social possibilities” and in case of women, the “feminine virtue of passivity”(31). This gives the license for male to oppress female physically as well as mentally:

The negative aura with which sexual activity has generally been surrounded would necessarily be eliminated, together with the double standard and prostitution. The goal of the revolution would be a permissive single standard of sexual freedom, and one uncorrupted by the crass and exploitative economic bases of traditional sexual alliances (62).

Identifying patriarchy as a socially conditioned belief system masquerading as nature, Millett demonstrates in detail how its attitudes and systems penetrate literature, philosophy, psychology, and politics.

Brida is a self-made, self- guided and self- dependent women. She has high position in the society. She is a woman in patriarchal society and she seeks her fortune and future. The position is not free from social bonds. Brida does not come under this definition of women because she is demonstrating as a dynamic character who struggles and challenges the patriarchal norms and values for her separate niche in the society. Being an independent and studious character, she goes against existing position of woman as she claims:

Apart from looking at the books, Brida had another important reason for going to the shop—to observe the other customers. Sometimes she would pretend to be reading some respectable alchemical treatise, when she was, in fact, scrutinizing the men and women, usually older than she, who frequented the shop and who knew what they wanted and always went to the right shelf. She tried to imagine what they must be like in private. Some looked very wise, capable of awakening forces and powers of which mere mortals knew nothing. Others appeared to be desperately trying to rediscover answers they had long ago forgotten, but without which life had no meaning (20).

As Brida advocates her private life, she decides to find her path ahead. To decide her path, she studies various books and finds her final destination. Her reading and observation of society empowers her ahead. Elaine Showalter urges, “As we see in the analysis of the feminist critique is that it is male-oriented. If we study stereotypes of women, the sexism of male critics, and the limited roles women play in literary history’ we are not learning what women have felt and experienced, but only what men have thought women should be” (1227). Feminists claim that female existence is still defined and confined into in every sector, they want to redefine their identity but they are loser who hardly make room in patriarchal society. One of the main issues is female always know female from only that old traditional ideology and what has been defined as female in male dominated society but they still apply that old definition to know female. Women are victimized by the interiorized and alternative psychology of women under patriarchy; women suffer from mental illness because of the patriarchal socialization since they are likely to experience, submissiveness, selflessness as in some sense sickening. It is clear that they are suppressed at every facets of life, like education, health, decision making, property rights, religion, culture, society,

economy etc.

The novel *Brida* shows impact of evil patriarchal society that entraps women from freedom. As Brida goes for exploration struggle and identity, she realizes it as challenge. Brida comes to contact with another teacher Wicca which shows her path of freedom and world of pleasure. As Wicca explains about world, she is fascinated by her words of pleasure as Wicca explains to her:

There was little point in making her usual comment about ballerinas, and so Brida said nothing, waiting to hear what the woman would say next and meanwhile wondering what such a modern design was doing inside an old building like that. Her romantic idea of the search for knowledge had once again been shaken (24).

Brida wants to go away from family and human society to consume human freedom. To escape from her angst she wants to escape from her social and cultural life. Therefore, she points her visions towards life as well as she presents her present condition. Every patriarchal society constructs discourses in favor of male and rephrases them at the centre. Society imposes power upon women; they accept the challenges and redefine them. This is how the research shows female courage to fight with social injustices over them. Brida grows up in patriarchal society; however she is not submissive and docile. She accepts all kinds of challenges and difficulties in the society to establish her voices. The radical feminist raises the issues like female problems in patriarchal society where they cannot read and write because they have been programmed in such a way. They have to be engaged in domestic work who do not have time to think over public life. The research finds out the female struggles when they are aware of their self identity. Brida raises her voices and goes against what the society thinks to female existence.

As Brida observes the male dominated world, she has been imprisoned by strict values of society. Brida is depicted as a daring figure in the novel who refuses to conform to society's expectations for women. She reacts by going against the traditional social norms and values that always compel women to accept patriarchal orders. In the novel, Brida revolts against traditional social structure by rejecting traditional kinds of system where women are forcefully imposed patriarchal ideologies without their interest and desires. She believes:

However, the woman kept hold of the deck. She shuffled the cards, and then placed them facedown, in no particular order, in the glass table. This was a method quite unlike any Brida had learned in her courses. The woman sat looking at them for a moment, said a few words in a strange language, and then turned over just one of the cards (27).

Brida observes woman role in each and every sector. Women have narrow world. Women are embedded with several moral characters with which they are tied within. Female are not known by their own self existence because that has credited only for male. Unlike such traditional women she views the world differently. In this way, women have been victim of gender discrimination of patriarchy and male ideology which ultimately cause them to suffer from repression, suppression and mental torture. In this sense patriarchal ideology is biased masculine value system which is one-sided and creates false assumptions about women's nature. It is an assumptions designed to dominate women, and it always assigns to them subordinate and peripheral position in the society. In this regard, women for centuries have been mistreated, repressed, deprived and tortured by the males. Masculine value system considers woman as a passive, submissive, intuitive and brainwashed creatures; and accordingly, women's images are distorted by the suppressed ideology of patriarchy.

Such distorted images about women are deeply embedded in the society, as a result, women have to face many inequalities and gender discrimination through the history. The age old existing discourses do not allow them to establish their voices therefore they have to face male hegemony. As being a female in patriarchal society has to be victimized and fight with opposing forces.

The life of Brida has quite freed from her social ties and she is a defiant, independent woman. Brida makes her identity by breaking traditional roles of female which has been given by patriarchy. She is a rebellious individual with freedom in society. She does not like any interference of social value only she can enjoy her life. She wants her own identity in the society. As she further says:

She was aware of the unpleasant feeling of the dusty floor beneath her bare feet. Somewhere, a friendly voice was guiding her. She knew it was Wicca, but she knew, too, that she no longer had any control over her imagination.

She was conscious, and yet she could not disobey what was being asked of her (50).

As Brida steps outside of her home, she does not like to live in her house. As she says, "Walk over to your left. Somewhere you will find another door, but this time, it will be a very small one." Brida walked through the cathedral" (50). She also disregards women social values of morality. She observes her life from own perspective instead of social perspective. She has been undermined as being female but Brida explains the evil practices of patriarchy and she reacts against patriarchal ideology. Brida is freedom lover; she does not want to be guided from any social norms and values. She is always guided from own self desires and motive.

Brida was engaged with Lorens and he is a representative of patriarchal society. Lorens does not want Brida as an independent woman. His nature is

coercive and repressive. When Brida' leaves family life, he becomes angry with her. Lorens' intention to have a submissive woman and he expects the similar nature in Brida.

Brida looked at him tenderly. She had asked him not to come to her apartment for two weeks, and he had agreed, protesting just warmly enough for her to know how much he loved her. In his way he, too, was seeking to understand the mysteries of the Universe, and if, one day, he were to ask her to stay away from him for two weeks, she would have to say yes (33).

Brida's escapement from home is taken as revolutionary and great resistance against the patriarchal system. For patriarchal society, women's abandon of home is considered immoral. It reinforces about the patriarchal social structure that creates a kind of ban where women are confined within an unnecessary restriction of patriarchal values. In traditional society, women are not allowed to go wherever they want to go and whatever they want to do because the society is based on patriarchal norms and values where women are only limited within a narrow domestic confinement; and their feelings, desires and interests are suppressed and subjugated by the hands of men. Even if a woman dares to overcome from such confinement, then her activities are taken as shameful and humiliating matters in the society.

But on the contrary, Brida changes all these patriarchal norms and values through her strong revolutionary activities. In the novel, she dares to escape from the domestic confinement in order to challenge the traditional marriage system as well as to prove her as a strong and dynamic figure. In the novel, one of Brida friends suggests that Brida has social freedom, she has decision making power. In her family she can decide whatever she likes. She is able female character who is

free from any kind of societal bonds, obstacles. It is possible that she is bold, fearless and daunting female characters. Whatever society imposes her she dissents with such views as she thinks, "May she bless us because we are women and live in a world in which men love and understand us more and more. Yet still we bear on our bodies the marks of past lives, and those marks still hurt" (103). Even she realizes patriarchal social structure where women have suffocated life experiences. She further shows her despair of living in dominating patriarchal society rules and regulation. In traditional society women do not have public role or public appearance. It was taken as negative connotation. The patriarchal ideologies misinterpret such women voices into public arena but Brida has dominant voice in the society. She participated into public discussion and her voice is heard. She is a bold and fearless woman character; everywhere she is ready to face any challenges. When she comes to understand society and people, she imagines a different world from the society as she considers:

She knew what the Tradition of the Sun was. She knew that its Teachers taught through space and time. She had thought about this before she first searched him out. She had imagined that they might one day be together as they were now, with no one else near. That is how the Teachers of the Tradition of the Sun were—always teaching through action and never giving theory undue importance. She had thought all this before ever coming to the forest, but she had come anyway, because now her path was more important than anything else. She needed to continue the tradition of her many lives (122).

This extract shows her desire of liberation. She ever imagines a complete freedom where she lives. This instinct drives her, but she does not find such place in the

earth. Therefore, she decides to commit suicide by thinking that it may take her toward complete freedom.

Simeon de Beauvoir and Kate Millet's ideas suggest about women's fighting against existing norms and values. While commenting on the patriarchal norms and values, Simon de Beauvoir writes:

Patriarchal society for purposes of self – Justification; through the myths, this society imposed its laws and custom upon individual also in a picturesque, effective manner; it is under a mythical form that the group - imperative is indoctrinated into each conscience (999).

Under patriarchal regime, women are forced to accept the laws and customs that always make them inferior in various ways. Such patriarchal ideology or misogynist ideology is spread all over the world that advocates the supreme power of male; and it seems to be natural because of its long time used. Such power controls over women by looking them within four walls of the kitchen, giving the role of child minders and providing works which do not have any surplus. When patriarchy creates stereotypical images about girls and women then, it serves a powerful function in our society; and when such patriarchal norms and values are long time used, then those exaggerated ideas of inferiority and weakness of women are internalized by the women and ultimately, they feel themselves powerless and inferior.

Being a rebellious Bridget Jones to find her own existence in the society. She goes against patriarchal ideologies; it is because she desires to establish her own female identity. As being female character, it is hard enough to find own her identity in the male authoritative society. But, she thinks radically and goes against all values of society. Patriarchal eyes can see her as a slut, as an undisciplined lady or something else. But, with feminist eyes, she is a complete rebel, struggling to stop males'

violence over females. So, she keeps her view, Look, I know you don't believe a word of what I've told you," she retorted. "You think it was my unconscious mind, that I just remembered things I already knew, but no, Lorens, I had never heard of the Cathars before. But you, of course, have an explanation for everything" (71). Being single she always dares to fight with society and system of society. She assumes herself where she is a wild woman that she is born to be or she is a harnessed woman that is accepted by her family and society. She keeps on struggling with these drives. She faces lots of disturbances in her life: from her own life, from her own inner self, from her family and society. Brida puts a question to herself as:

Brida had to reserve one relatively unused corner of her house for a kind of miniature oratory in which a candle should be kept burning day and night. The candle, according to the Tradition of the Moon, was the symbol of the four elements and contained within itself the earth of the wick, the water of the paraffin, the fire that burned, and the air that allowed the fire to burn. The candle was also important as a way of reminding her that she had a mission to fulfill and that she was engaged on that mission (92).

Brida searches her place that keeps her safe and comfortable or who she actually is, it is her own living but she does not understand self. This all thinking and reality make her individual self is very complex. She always thinks about asking question to herself about her life, she cannot make any sense regarding her life.

Brida would like to have new insights in the society. The notion that women are weak by nature was universally accepted in patriarchal society and it is a means of controlling women in every sphere-social, political, and even literary. Focusing on this aspect Beauvoir says, "Femininity is cultural construct. One is not born a woman, one becomes one" (209). The role of women in society is cultural construct because

female infants do not know what they are: they are just clay and it is the society which shapes them as females. Feminists view that 'feminism' is a second and cultural constructive form of women. When women reach a certain age and understand their gender, they are loaded with concept of feminist which is set of cultural norms reserved for females. Society considers women as objects rather than human beings of flesh and blood. She understands the world from a new changing perspective. The new changing societal norms and values attract her. As being women in particular society, she wants to adopt these new way of living.

Brida tries to make aware and conscious to the women about their equal status in the every sphere of the society as men have. In such a way, Brida motivates the entire woman to move forward according to the changing socio-political atmosphere where the representation of women in every sphere of social activities is must in current situation. It clearly indicates social position of Brida who supervises workers condition in the society. She is not tied with any kind of social ties whereas she wants to liberate other people from the society. Brida's struggle to achieve the independent life is also a kind of challenge for traditional patriarchal society. Traditionally, it is believed that woman should be depended on man because they are the subordinate creature to man. In this sense, women are made inferior as the subordinate of man who is assigned the role of parasite to be dependent on other's body just for the living life. But in the novel, she raises a big question against such patriarchal ideology that considers women as object and an instrument of exploitation. She insists that:

I felt really useful and started telling him everything I knew, feeling that the many years I'd spent in the region at last had some meaning. Before me was a man who had studied peoples and societies, who might hold in his

memory, for the benefit of future generations, everything I'd heard or discovered when I was a child. That man sitting on the steps made me understand that I was important to the world and to the history of my country. I felt necessary, and that's the best feeling a human being can have (166).

These gender roles have been used very successfully to justify inequalities where women are excluded from equal access to leadership and decision making position. "Patriarchy continually exerts forces that undermine women's self-confidence and assertiveness, then points to the absence of these qualities as proof the women are naturally, and therefore correctly, self-effacing and submissive" (86-87). As Judith Butler notes:

While their methods of seduction are often described in terms reminiscent of feminine wiles such as charming voices, poisonous kisses or long, luxurious hair, these redheaded women conversely have taken on historically masculine characteristics by incorporating control, choice and freedom into their sexuality (321).

The modern society has brought different change but old traditional concept does not address this change of society.

Female have more consciousness for their self however there are many obstacles in the society. It will be strong step for female to oppose such rooted values in society. All female cannot do it and they accept hegemony. Janet Price argues, "Identity is more readily affected by powers that are not entirely rational. Thus, the well-heralded fragmentation of society, coupled with renewed interests in a collective identity, myth, religion, and cyclical time all demand an idea more complex than the "death of the private self" (71). The long established social structure is reformulated

the old structure where new marginal groups are addressed. In fact, the social war is fought to change for people have been suffocated from domination. These common people lived their lives with scarcity, lack and dire poverty. The entire lives they had is very miserable therefore it outburst in the society. Brida reveals her inner self:

Then you came, and I understood all of this. You came to free me from the slavery I myself had created, to tell me that I was free to return to the world and to the things of the world. I understood everything I needed to know, and I love you more than all the women I have ever known, more than I loved the woman who, quite unwittingly, exiled me to the forest (193).

It describes an opposition woman feel between essential aspects of the self, between what is socially prescribed on the basis of gender and what is defined on the basis of the self, between what a women feels she should be and what she feels she is. She demonstrates a continuity of theme and expression concerning central division of the self. She rejects masks and roles and refuses to accept the limitations of social ideologies. It represents her own mutilated self' tormented by both past and present and resulting in deep sense of crisis. She feels exploited and cheated by the society of which she is a part. She protests limitations of world and social injustices therefore, she searches her salvage.

Brida's feeling changed in her life after she studies society. The two teachers teach her and show the way of living. It leads her toward personal freedom and meaning of life. Even she can feel autonomous life which always gives her happiness and satisfaction. As a self conscious woman, Brida wants to enter the struggle. Unable to bear the terrible responsibility of his nominal freedom, she gives herself up to the struggle, seeking redemption perhaps through seeking escape from the fear of angst. As long as she lives on his own, he will never break out of his isolation. This

led to the idea that people have to create their own values in the world in which traditional values no longer reign. The old values concerning human existence ceased to operate.

III. Voice for Identity in Coelho's *Brida*

The research has explored struggle off female identity as presented in Paulo Coelho's novel *Brida*. The major character Brida strives in society in order to establish her position and identity. Brida redefines her role and identity through her changed perspective. As she appears an independent and individual with consciousness regarding gender construction and male domination, she chooses her destiny. This study pinpoints Brida as rebellious character; seek her personal and social freedom to establish her identity. She grows up in traditional society where she does not find freedom but minutely observes social tradition. In such manipulate society, she cannot enjoy with her own desires and choices. The patriarchal tradition victimizes her therefore; she breaks relationship with family life for the sake of personal life. In course of searching freedom, she does not compromise with against opposing forces. She does realize sense of freedom but she has a freedom of choosing right path for it.

Brida is a bold, daring and decisive character. Her decision making power is symbol of self governed woman. When she remains away from family and society, she is taught by teachers. Her intention of finding knowledge about tradition and social structure makes her conscious. It means she fights against social bonds which lead to her social identity. Brida is guided by her self-desire and consciousness. She is an independent thinker and a rebellious character. Being dependent on male orientated society, she defies rooted society. Brida is not ready to accept all biasness. Patriarchal social structure always weaken them to grow with own social identity. She is guided from her self-desire and self-conscious woman. Brida is a representative an independent thinker and a rebellious character as well in this novel it makes her revolutionary character. In fact the patriarchal society defines women's destiny. Being dependent on male oriented society, they cannot be beyond from males' world.

In this way, revolutionary women characters want to establish own independent world. Males define female world but modern females are not ready to accept it all bias definition and imposition. The author has projected such rebellious character who dissent with society. Patriarchal social structure always weaken them to grow with own socialidentity and dignity.

Brida experiences social oppression therefore, she decides to be separated from others. In course of searching freedom, she does not compromise against opposing forces. She does realize sense of freedom but she has a problem of choosing right path for it. However, she thinks it would better leave rather than endure patriarchal domination or social harassment. The social situation suffocates to her and she quests for freedom. By guiding with her aim she searches better life situation however, she realizes it that it is difficult in the society.

The novel projects rebellious voices of woman for equal treatment and individuality. Her struggle leads her toward social dignity as being female having social reputation. Brida is a representative character who stands for all revolutionary character. The single power or her persistent attempt is insufficient to establish her identity because she does not get any support from others in the society. The established patriarchal ideology does not let her come out from defined area. Though Brida has rebellious nature, patriarchal society entraps in female domestic world.

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