

Man's occupies one
day, and takes place
in



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Man's fate is tied with that of society but it is no absolute entity, being susceptible to change in various ways. The relationship between man, society, fate and change can be observed only in the historical perspective.

Anand is not concerned with Untouchability in the abstract as some sociological problem but with the torments, physical, mental and spiritual and all real, experienced by Bakha, a young sweeper in the course of a day. The use of the sweeper's consciousness as the medium through which to comprehend a sociological problem is both realistic and convincing. A detailed analysis of this problem with a number of characters and a large picture would have destroyed the effect and hazy the focus. This choice of a day in the life of Bakha gives to the novel its unity, the unity of classical antiquity. The action occupies one day, and takes place in "a small area". This simplicity of form is the result of Anand's acute awareness of an untouchable's plight and has helped him.

In almost all his writings Anand shows his virtuous and human indignation and "disgust for the cruelty and hypocrisy of Indian feudal life, with its castes, creeds, dead habits and customs and its religious rites and practices." Mulk Raj Anand has a social vision. He has a kind regard for the poor. It is perhaps most striking. The novel *Untouchable* is based on his personal experience in a north Indian State. He had written in this novel what he saw in his childhood and what he learned about the caste system in his later years.

Many people are moved by their memories of the inhuman treatment given to the low caste slaves. As the time passed they came to admit it. Low

castes were essential and inevitable part of Indian social life then Mulk Raj Anand believes that caste-based exploitation can be stopped.

In order to do that, one has to change one's point of view. Mulk Raj Anand's description of the misery of the lower caste people must be critically examined for a social change. The caste system in India is probably the main factor responsible for creating the enormous differences between people. It separates them into different groups or sections like 'Touchable' and 'Untouchables'.

It is widely considered as a source of downward gradation of the poor. It can also generate some social problems. The subordinate status is accorded to such disadvantaged people. In Untouchable we see these minorities living without respect and peace. The difference between the dominants and subordinates automatically increases social unrest in the village. The village Bullashah has India's ugly face with tension, injustice, exploitation, deprivation