

# [The in their hands so he try](https://assignbuster.com/the-in-their-hands-so-he-try/)

The Colony has number of mud-walledhouses situated in two rows which is situated near to the town and the armycamp. Workers such as sweepers, leather workers, washer man, barbers, watercarriers, grass cutters and other out casters from Hindu society has leaved inthat colony. A brook followed nearby. The brook water very clear at once upon a time but now it wascontaminating by human wastes from the public latrines   nearby it. The corpse of animals was thrown near brook side added to the rottensmell which came from the dirty and smell was mad even more hated by the wasteof animals.  The ugliness soiled and thesorrow which made locality hateful.            Lakha was the head of all sweepersin the town and the army camp.

He wasformally in charge three rows of public latrines which lined in the extreme endof the colony. Bakha was the son Lakha who was a sweeper boy of 18-year-old. Hewas strong boy who watched the style of the British soldiers placed in the armycamp where he worked for time in the barracks of those soldiers. He had beentreated very well by them. He was deeply attracted by the Glamour of whitemen’s life. He was being always with his friend chota and Charan. Charan alwaysimitates Bhaka and chota.            The night was very cold in the townsof Bulandshahr.

Even though he had it did not cover his body fully, hesacrifices everything for his family. He likes to dress like English soldierswearing Trousers, socks, coat and boots. He sees the daily works of Englishthat they are eating  eggs, drinking teaand wine, going to the parade and walking in the buzzers with cigarettes intheir mouth and canes in their hands so he try to copy them. He gets an amountof ten rupees as tip from English soldiers. Then he went to bazaars to buy ablanket, an over coat and a jacket. Then he has four Ana as balance amount sohe buys a red lamp cigarette. His father becomes very angry on seeing behaviorof Bakha.

Because of new change in his dressing his friends nick named him as pilpalisahib. He thought himself that there was nothing English in his life.            Bakha still in the bed he wasthinking that his father was giving him a lot work every time. He did not havetime to take rest. In the early morning he thinks about her mother after hismother death there’s no one to take care of him, he hate his father because hewas a bully.            Then another voice also called himto clean latrine for him. Then Bakha came to the door he saw a thin man whosename is charatsingh who is a hockey player in a 38 regiment.

He shouted Bakhato clean the latrine because he was zippering from chronic piles.  Due to unclean of latrine then Bakharespectfully replied that he could clean the latrine immediately. He was efficientworker he moved from one latrine to another he was indeed a right-hand work hedid not were his clothes while working in the latrines. Charatsingh thought howBakha works in the latrine for an hour without feel of dirty or ashamed thenCharatsingh asked about the English men dress worn by Bakha. He replies that heworn this dress by the kindness of havildars.

Charatsingh got impress on hearing the words of Bakha and he presentedhim a hockey stick Bakha become very happy and he thought it was gift for hishonest and he fulfilled his long-cherished dream. Charatsingh went off fromthat place and start to sing a song for mod joy but his work not a completerother wascoming to latrine and Bakha continues his work of clean the people whouse that latrines where Hindus and sometimes Mohammedan also comes to use thelatrine. For Bakha the end of one job means the beginning of another.

Bakah didnot try to escape from his work he had an intoxication which was the secret forhis good health and for his sleep also. He worked continually without a gap forbreathing Bakha his going to clean the latrines in third row for the secondtime and he feels tired.  The Hindus werehurrying to visit the latrine in the early morning with their half naked bodiesand then they were take bath in the bank stream. Bakha feels verybad on seeing the Hindus chew the neem stick and spitting in the streams. Bakhadid not like the act of Hindus who went for the squatting in the open spaceoutside of the town. Bhaka asked himself why the people didn’t use the latrinesand he felt very happy for those people who didn’t use the latrines it becomesheavy work for him. Then Ramanand shouted towards Bakha he was not doing hiswork properly. Ramanand was a nasty old Bama and wore a pair of gold rings inhis ears.

Bakha respectfully reply that he did his work immediately. Aftercompleting the work of Bakha he went to his hut. Sohini his sister try to makefire between two bricks. Bakha helps her to blow on the city then he found nowater in pot. Then sohinni went out to fetch the water. The outcastes were notallow to mount on the platform surrounding of the well because, if they weredraw water from the well, the hindus of all the upper caste would think thatthe water had been polluted. No one the outcastes allowed to go to the nearbystream.

As their use of it would contaminate the stream. They had no money todig the well in such a hilly town as Bulandshar. They had no alternative, butto collect at the foot of the hindus well and wait for some hindu to come andfour waters into their pot.            Sohini reached the well to fetch thewater, but already about ten outcastes waiting there no one should give waterto her.

Sohini understand the feelings of her brother Bakhalooks very tried and he felt thirsty. She felt like a mother when she leavesthe home to fetch water, because a mother always cares for everyone in thehome. Gulabo the washerwomen who were the mother of Ramcharan friend of Bakhaobserved Sohini came towards the well. Gulabo thought Sohini was a potentialconflict. She hates the girl though she wouldn’t confess that she was jealousof her. Sohini joined with the group waiting for the water. Gulabo asked Sohinito go back to her home, because so many persons were already waiting for thewater. No one should ready to give water to her.

Gulabo told that Sohini was animmodest girl due to her laughing. Waziro the weaver wife say that Sohini feelashamed on thinking about herself. Gulabo scold Sohini in a very bad manner.

Sohini asked Gulabo not to abuse her argument begin at this place Gulabo saidthat this was her daughter’s marriage day and it was spoiled by Sohini. Theoutcastes were waiting for Hindu to fetch water from the well. After a longtime a Hindu pasted the way the outcastes requested him draw some water fromthe well. He was the soldier lives in the regiment and he didn’t pay attentionon their words. After sometime the Hindu whose name called Pandit Kalinathpassed the well, outcastes repeated the same thing to him and he refused thathe was suffered by chronic constipations and he thinks that if he helped todraw water from the well for the outcastes it would be the exercise for hisdisease.

He would help to the outcastes not by his kindness but self motive ofhim. He suffered by stomach upset because of irregular food habits; at last hestarted to draw water from the well.             Gulabo asked Pandit to draw waterand pour water in her pot because she came first to the well. The little boythat he came first before Gulabo and another lady appeal that she would camefirst before the small boy. Pandit was in a confused manner and everyone cameforward towards him. Pandit was ready to pour water for a pretty face. Sohinibeauty attracts his intention initially he asked everyone to go back and callSohini to come forward.

Sohini puts her pot in the platform. Pandit askedSohini came to his house in the courtyard of temple for cleaning. The beautifulface and the structure of Sohini make him a sexual desire on her. Pandit askedLakha to send his daughter for cleaning in his home. Lakshman , a Hindu watercarrier arrived  to the well when Sohinireturns to her home. Lakshman was a Brahmin who earned his living by washingthe vessels of Hindu caste and he cooked foot, fetched water and did some smalljob to their homes.

Lakshman was 26 years old young man with intelligent andfeatures of Brahmin, but somehow he did lowly works and he fell in love with Sohini. Lakshman felt ashamed of himself to draw water from the well. First he filledthe Pandit brass jug and he filled the Gulabo’s pot and at last he filled theremaining people those who are waiting.

After reached her house Sohini wasbadly abused by her father. Old man Lakha told that he was dying of hunger forthat he needs a tea and a piece of bread. He ordered her to prepare and ask herto send the pigs Bakha and Rakha to him. Sohini obeyed her father words andshouted for her brother and she put tea pot on the fire. Sohini said to herfather the priest of the temple had asked to clean his family temple at thecourtyard.

Lakha replied to Sohini you must go  to your work without any worries. Bakha arrived to his father and askedto him that if he wants to rub his body with oil, but Lakha said that you mustgo to attend the duty in the town, because he was not feeling well. Sohini preparedtea at last she poured it into mud bowls.

Bakha took one glass and gave it tohis father and he took another one for him. His father drinks the tea withoutsipping Bakha hates his father’s behavior he learned these things in the armycamp he ate the piece of bread and then he drinks the tea. He went out towardsthe town with the big groom and a basket for sweep the roads as asubstitute    for his father.        Ina mocking manner Ramcharan invites Bakha as brother in law and Bakha repliedthat he was very happy to become a brother in law for Ramcharan. Every knowsthat Bakha had an affection on Ramcharan sister. Bakha express his desire toRamcharan about his love, but Ramcharan said that he was very late, becausethey already fixed marriage to her with someoneBakha got angry on hearing thisnews he again make few jokes about Ramcharan clothes and his jewels.

Ramcharanfeel very shy and Chota laughs very silently for exchanging jokes between them. Bakha walks towards the town that he had the remaining work which was not doneby him, because his father was suffered by ill. Bakha asked Rakha to go backhis home because his sister waiting for him with tea. But Ramcharan try to stopRakha to go back his home, Bakha told to Ramcharan don’t delay Rakha. Bakhawas call by Chota to play some games with him, but Bakha replied he wants tocomplete all of his remaining works, otherwise his father scold very rudely.

Bakha had some principles within himself that duty was the first in his lifeand the remaining things are second. Bakha was the champions in all the games. Chotaasked Bakha to join in the hockey match of thirty first Punjabi Regiment. Bakhareplied that his father should allow him to the game. The two boys who wherethe elder one and the younger one coming towards the Bakha.

He respectfullyinvited them by his saluted. Bakha had desire to land English to read andwrite. Bakha asked to the elder one to teach English for him. For that Bakhaready to pay anna for teaching lessons to him every day.

Bakha would havedesire to read the newspaper and he wants to talk with the soldiers in theirown language. Bakha tried to join in the school for gaining knowledge. Butthere was no school admitted the outcastes people, because the upper casteHindus should not allow their children to study with the outcaste boy. Bakha’sfather told to him that schools are only for the upper castes, not for theirlower castes. You are the son of outcaste. The teachers in the school shouldnot willing to touch the outcaste student and his books, because they thought getspolluted. Bakha had a desire to study on his own. He thought that Hindus werevery cruel on seeing the outcaste people.

The two boys from the upper castewould make arrangements for teaching English to Bakha, and he feels like a freebird. Herecalls his mother’s words if we saw a dead body, andthe day becomes very lucky. Bakha saw a dead body when he goes to the gate of the town. Bakha had a desireto buy a red lamp cigarette, so he stand in front of the betel-leaf shop. Hefeels very hesitate to ask cigarettes to the shop keeper.

The shop keeper askedhim to put money at a certain spot and he spit some water from the jug on thecoins. He feels that the coin gets polluted. The shop keeper threw some packetof cigarettes on the street. Bakha feels butcher throw bone to a dog. Bakhapicks up cigarettes from the pocket and he forget to buy a match box. So, hesearched every match box, it was an offence of outcaste smoked in the public. Finally, he found Mohammedan who was a hookah smoker, he asked match box to light up hiscigarettes.

He feels freely and walked on the streets happily. He smokescigarettes breath out throw his throat. Bakha walks into streets of the city, he saw a sweetmeat-seller who sells sweets in the street. Bakha flirted onseeing large amount of sweets.

First his eyes were on Gulab jamuns andRasagula. He had only four annas, so he wants to buy a cheap one. He choosesjalebi as a shoutable for his money. The sweet meat seller scaled the jalebiand threw like a ball. Bakha didn’t mention that and he continue his walk onthe street. Bakhaeats the jalebi and walks on the street and he felt amaze and seeing a paint onthe window looks like a real woman sat the window. A man shouted at him andtells abusing him.

The man shouted that he was polluted while the outcaste boycrosses him. He abuses Bakha in a rude manner as swine, son of bitch. Bakhastunned and his mind was paralysed a hearing the abuse words from the man. Bakhafeels that a fire burning in his heart. He thought that he would thing abouthis mistakes what he done. He was beaten by coward in the streets as he lostall of his jalebi and he asked sorry to them.

He moves like a dog afraid ofstones. Bakha thought that Hindu people are very cruel.  The sweepers are always abused by the Hindupeople every time, but their Muslims and Sahibs did not mind anything fortouching the sweepers and latrine cleaners. The Hindu people hated theoutcastes, because they were clean the dung in the latrines. Bakha feels thathe was an untouchable at this moment. There was an old bull stand near Bakhawith half closed eyes the bull extracted dung ina liquid form.

Bakha knows thathis duty to remove the dung from the streets. The upper caste Hindu came nearto bull and touch it by his forefinger. Bakha things why the people are always avoidingthe buffaloes which gave large amount of milk and why they pray cow as a motherof god. There was a cart enter into the street with full of vegetables. Theygrounded all the vegetables in the street. Bakha eagerly forward to the basket ahe thinks about his past and he shouted move away the swapper boy coming.

Thenhe enters into the busy street with full of English musical instrument and theuniform of the band set. He remained the soldiers practising the musicalinstruments plays in their camp. And then Bakha enter into another street whichcontains full of jewellery shop. Bakha had a admire on rings and he like towear on his fingers, but he thinks about the English people they don’t likejewels. A Hindu lady bought some clothes in the middle of the street in a three-wheelcart sold buy a cloth dealer.

Bakha didn’t able to move in that streets.  A shop keeper gives a stun look towards Bakhawith a basket at a broom stick on his hands. And he asked Bakha to move onafter few hours the crowd should move and leaves way for Bakha. He entered intothe temple for cleaning a he had many doubt about the god in the temple. Hemade him courage and he try to enter into the temple. At the time peoplestarted singing a song about a god. The song makes Bakha moved towards thetemple and he prayed inwards about the unknown god.

Bakha prays very deeply inclosed eye and he don’t know what happens around him. Suddenly he heard thevoice as polluted. The priests shouted loudly and call all the worshipers toassemble at the temple.

The worshipers scolded Bakha and asking to get awayfrom the temple and they want to purify the temple because of the low caste boyenters in. Bakha didn’t enter into the temple he should stand only on the outside of the gate. Sohinitells about her abuses which was done the priest who was working in the temple. Bakha enters into the courtyard of the temple and he was in search of priest.

The priest was not there. Bakha feels that if he stays in the courtyard hekilled not only the priest, the people who were support for the priest also. Bakharecollect the news a girl was abuses by a persons and same persons was killedby her brother with an axe.

Bakha enquires her sister how long the priest did thisthing and how long he behaviours with you. Bakha gets angry ahe tells that hewas going to kill that priest. He entered into the temple with lot of courage, but he felt weak on seeing the image of god. At last he took his sister awayfrom the temple and goes towards to home. Bakhaand Sohini where reached their home and Bakha find out there was no foodavailable in their home, so Bakha left Sohini in their house and he went insearch of food in the street which was his father went for work. He started towalk door by door and call the house wives and ask food as beggar. No oneshouldn’t hear his words and their never mind about his words, Bakha walks solong to every house in the street for asking food, but no one ready to providefood to him.

Bakha felt tired and he sat down in the door step of one house. He   feels exhausted and tired also. At the timea sage walk through the street and asking for his needs. A lady should come outof his house immediately and he full fill the sage needs. The lady got angry onseeing Bakha sat on her door step and she shouted that her house was pollutedby an untouchable boy. She abuses Bakha in a very bad manner and ask him tomove away from his house.

At last Bakha got two chapatis, one was given by awoman and the another one was throwing by a woman from the fourth floor. Thesecond chapati fell on the road side, and Bakha picked up that chapati and hewalk towards his house. Afterreached his house Bakha would saw his father and tells about the incidents thathappened to him in the streets.

Bakha tells many incidents that makes him feelas an untouchable. Lakha tried to change his son mind set and he tellsmanythings happen in his life. His father told that the Hindus are treated verybadly, because of their compulsion in their religion. Lakha told that there aresome few kind-hearted Hindus were present and they show their kindness towardsthe untouchable. Bakhawent Ramcharan house for attending his sister marriage at evening. Bakha didn’tallow to enter into the Ramcharan’s house, because Bakha was lower caste thanRamcharan.

So Bakha stand outside along with Chota. After few hours Ramcharanjoined with them stand outside and gave some sweets to them. Without his mother’sknowledge. Bakha went to the military camp to see Charat Singh, who gave sometea and hockey stick to him.

Bakha feels proudly about CharatSingh, because hetreated Bakha as a human being not as an untouchable. Nextday Bakha joined with Ramcharan and Chota to play hockey match against regimentof 31st Punjabis. Ramcharan throw a stone on the head of highercaste hindu boys head, because of a small problem happens in between the twoteams. The boy head was broke and the blood was started to bleed. Bakha lift upthe boy in his arms and run towards the home of the boy. The mother scoldedbakha rudely that he polluted her son lifting by a outcaste.

Bakha felt stunnedon seeing the women scolded him without heard anything that what happened inthe ground. The women scolded Bakha and ask him to move away from his home. Bakha felt worried and move away from that home. Bakhaexperienced another thing happened in the same day that was a meeting withColonel Hutchchinson who was the local army soldiers.

He was a very kind heartand a good person try to convince Bakha to come over from his depression. So, the Colonel try to convert Bakha into Christianity. For that he spokes aboutthe power of god and the confession for sins and forgiveness of the sins. Bakhadidn’t understand the things which was spoken by the Colonel. He didn’t like toconvert in to Christianity, but Bakha feels proudly about the kindness speechof Colonel to him.

Bakha leaves the Colonel house and walk away towards therailway station. Therewas large number of crowd gathered in the gol-bagh for listening the speech ofMahatma Gandhi about untouchability. Bakha also happy to hear the name ofGandhi and he also joined in the crowd to hear the speech of Gandhi. TheMahatma reached the place and started his speech about the problems for the untouchablesreceiving from the high caste Hindu peoples. Gandhi has a wish to reborn asuntouchable not as a Brahmin or any other high caste. Mahatma tells the thingswhich are schools, wells, hospitals are announce as common for the everyoneincluding untouchables. Gandhi said that he didn’t feel ashamed to cleanlatrines, because in his Ashram, there was a 18 year old Brahmin clean thelatrines. Bakha got so impressed by hearing the speech of Gandhi and he feelproud to be an untouchable.

Lateron, Bakha heard the discussion between Mahatma’s view by the two mens were poetand journalist Iqbal Nath Sarashar and the another one was Rnbashir. They bothof them discuss about the machinery used in the latrines. The flush systemshould be used in the latrines there is no need to clean the latrines by man. It should clean automatically without a mans help. Bakha feels happy to heardthe development in the latrines, but he don’t know how the flush machine worked.

Bakha had gone through several experiences at end of the day. Feel happy tohear the Colonel company and he got impressed by Mahatma views on untouchable. Lakha told Bakha to not come back to his home, but instead of that Bakha goback to his home and told to him that what Gandhi said and the poet said. Bakhafeels very great and proud to be untouchable after hearing the words ofMahatma.