

The in their hands so
he try



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

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 rotten smell which came from the dirty and smell was mad even more hated by the wasteof animals. The ugliness soiled and the sorrow which made locality hateful. Lakha was the head of all sweepers in 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 a blanket, an over coat and a jacket. Then he has four Anna as balance amount so he buys a red lamp cigarette. His father becomes very angry on seeing behavior of 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 was thinking that his father was giving him a lot work every time. He did not have time to take rest. In the early morning he thinks about her mother after his mother death there's no one to take care of him, he hate his father because he was a bully. Then another voice also called him to clean latrine for him. Then Bakha came to the door he saw a thin man whose name is Charatsingh who is a hockey player in a 38 regiment.

He shouted Bakha to clean the latrine because he was suffering from chronic piles. Due to unclean of latrine then Bakha respectfully replied that he could clean the latrine immediately. He was efficient worker he moved from one latrine to another he was indeed a right-hand work he did not wear his clothes while working in the latrines. Charatsingh thought how Bakha works in the latrine for an hour without feel of dirty or ashamed then Charatsingh asked about the English men dress worn by Bakha. He replies that he wore this dress by the kindness of havildars.

Charatsingh got impressed on hearing the words of Bakha and he presented him a hockey stick Bakha became very happy and he thought it was a gift for his honest and he fulfilled his long-cherished dream. Charatsingh went off from that place and started to sing a song for his joy but his work not

a completerother was coming 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 to dig the well in such a hilly town as Bulandshar. They had no alternative, but to collect at the foot of the Hindu's well and wait for some Hindu to come and pour water into their pot. Sohini reached the well to fetch the water, but already about ten outcasts were waiting there and no one should give water to her.

Sohini understood the feelings of her brother Bakha who was very tired and he felt thirsty. She felt like a mother when she left the home to fetch water, because a mother always cares for everyone in the home. Gulabo the washerwoman who was the mother of Ramcharan, friend of Bakha, observed Sohini came towards the well. Gulabo thought Sohini was a potential conflict. She hated the girl though she wouldn't confess that she was jealous of her. Sohini joined with the group waiting for the water. Gulabo asked Sohini to go back to her home, because so many persons were already waiting for the water. No one should be ready to give water to her.

Gulabo told that Sohini was an immodest girl due to her laughing. Waziro the weaver's wife said that Sohini felt ashamed on thinking about herself. Gulabo scolded Sohini in a very bad manner.

Sohini asked Gulabo not to abuse her argument. When the argument began at this place, Gulabo said that this was her daughter's marriage day and it was spoiled by Sohini. The outcasts were waiting for a Hindu to fetch water from the well. After a long time a Hindu passed the way the outcasts requested him to draw some water from the well. He was a soldier who lived in the regiment and he didn't pay attention to their words. After some time the Hindu whose name was called

Pandit Kalinath passed the well, outcastes repeated the same thing to him and he refused that he was suffered by chronic constipations and he thinks that if he helped to draw water from the well for the outcastes it would be the exercise for his disease.

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

Sohini puts her pot in the platform. Pandit asked Sohini came to his house in the courtyard of temple for cleaning. The beautiful face and the structure of Sohini make him a sexual desire on her. Pandit asked Lakha to send his daughter for cleaning in his home. Lakshman, a Hindu water carrier arrived to the well when Sohini returns to her home. Lakshman was a Brahmin who earned his living by washing the vessels of Hindu caste and he cooked food, fetched water and did some small job to their homes.

Lakshman was 26 years old young man with intelligent and features 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

filled the Pandit brass jug and he filled the Gulabo's pot and at last he filled the remaining people those who are waiting.

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

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

Bakha took one glass and gave it to his father and he took another one for him. His father drinks the tea without sipping Bakha hates his father's behavior he learned these things in the army camp he ate the piece of bread and then he drinks the tea. He went out towards the town with the big groom and a basket for sweep the roads as a substitute for his father. In a mocking manner Ramcharan invites Bakha as brother in law and Bakha replied that he was very happy to become a brother in law for Ramcharan. Every know that Bakha had an affection on Ramcharan sister. Bakha express his desire to Ramcharan about his love, but Ramcharan said that he was very late, because they already fixed marriage to her with someone Bakha got angry on hearing this news he again make few jokes about Ramcharan clothes and his jewels.

Ramcharan feel 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 done by him, because his father was suffered by ill.

Bakha asked Rakha to go back his home because his sister waiting for him with tea. But Ramcharan try to stop Rakha to go back his home, Bakha told to Ramcharan don't delay Rakha. Bakha was call by Chota to play some games with him, but Bakha replied he wants to complete all of his remaining works, otherwise his father scold very rudely.

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

He respectfully invited them by his saluted. Bakha had desire to learn English to read and write. Bakha asked to the elder one to teach English for him. For that Bakha ready to pay anna for teaching lessons to him every day.

Bakha would have desire to read the newspaper and he wants to talk with the soldiers in their own language. Bakha tried to join in the school for gaining knowledge. But there was no school admitted the outcastes people, because the upper caste Hindus should not allow their children to study with the outcaste boy. Bakha's father told to him that schools are only for the upper castes, not for their lower castes. You are the son of outcaste. The teachers in the school should not willing to touch the outcaste student and his books,

because they thought gets polluted. Bakha had a desire to study on his own. He thought that Hindus were very cruel on seeing the outcaste people.

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

The shop keeper asked him to put money at a certain spot and he spit some water from the jug on the coins. He feels that the coin gets polluted. The shop keeper threw some packet of cigarettes on the street. Bakha feels butcher throw bone to a dog. Bakha picks up cigarettes from the pocket and he forget to buy a match box. So, he searched 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 his cigarettes.

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

First his eyes were on Gulab jamuns and Rasagula. He had only four annas, so he wants to buy a cheap one. He chooses jalebi as a suitable for his money. The sweet meat seller scaled the jalebi and threw like a ball. Bakha didn't mention that and he continue his walk on the street. Bakha eats the jalebi and walks on the street and he felt amazed and seeing a paint on the

window looks like a real woman sat the window. A man shouted at him and tells abusing him.

The man shouted that he was polluted while the outcaste boy crosses him. He abuses Bakha in a rude manner as swine, son of bitch. Bakha stunned and his mind was paralysed on hearing the abuse words from the man. Bakha feels that a fire burning in his heart. He thought that he would think about his mistakes what he done. He was beaten by cowards in the streets as he lost all of his jalebi and he asked sorry to them.

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

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

Then he enters into the busy street with full of English musical instrument and the uniform of the band set. He remained the soldiers practising the

musical instruments plays in their camp. And then Bakha enter into another street which contains full of jewellery shop. Bakha had a admire on rings and he like to wear on his fingers, but he thinks about the English people they don't like jewels. A Hindu lady bought some clothes in the middle of the street in a three-wheel cart sold by a cloth dealer.

Bakha didn't able to move in that streets. A shop keeper gives a stunned look towards Bakha with a basket at a broom stick on his hands. And he asked Bakha to move on after few hours the crowd should move and leaves way for Bakha. He entered into the temple for cleaning and he had many doubt about the god in the temple. He made him courage and he try to enter into the temple. At the time people started singing a song about a god. The song makes Bakha moved towards the temple and he prayed inwardly about the unknown god.

Bakha prays very deeply with closed eyes and he don't know what happens around him. Suddenly he heard the voice as polluted. The priests shouted loudly and call all the worshipers to assemble at the temple.

The worshipers scolded Bakha and asking to get away from the temple and they want to purify the temple because of the low caste boy enters in. Bakha didn't enter into the temple he should stand only on the outside of the gate. Sohini tells about her abuses which was done by 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 he killed not only the priest, the people who were support for the priest also.

Bakha recollects the news a girl was abused by a person and the same person was killed by her brother with an axe.

Bakha enquires her sister how long the priest did this thing and how long he behaved with you. Bakha gets angry and he tells that he was going to kill that priest. He entered into the temple with a lot of courage, but he felt weak on seeing the image of God. At last he took his sister away from the temple and goes towards home. Bakha and Sohini were reached their home and Bakha finds out there was no food available in their home, so Bakha left Sohini in their house and he went in search of food in the street which was his father went for work. He started to walk door by door and call the housewives and ask for food as a beggar. No one should hear his words and they never mind about his words, Bakha walks so long to every house in the street for asking food, but no one ready to provide food to him.

Bakha felt tired and he sat down on the door step of one house. He feels exhausted and tired also. At the time a sage walks through the street and asking for his needs. A lady should come out of his house immediately and he fills the sage's needs. The lady got angry on seeing Bakha sat on her door step and she shouted that her house was polluted by an untouchable boy. She abuses Bakha in a very bad manner and asks him to move away from his house.

At last Bakha got two chapatis, one was given by a woman and the other one was thrown by a woman from the fourth floor. The second chapati fell on the road side, and Bakha picked up that chapati and he walks towards his

house. After reached his house Bakha would saw his father and tells about the incidents that happened to him in the streets.

Bakha tells many incidents that makes him feel as an untouchable. Lakha tried to change his son mind set and he tells many things happen in his life. His father told that the Hindus are treated very badly, because of their compulsion in their religion. Lakha told that there are some few kind-hearted Hindus were present and they show their kindness towards the untouchable. Bakha went to Ramcharan house for attending his sister marriage at evening. Bakha didn't allow to enter into the Ramcharan's house, because Bakha was lower caste than Ramcharan.

So Bakha stand outside along with Chota. After few hours Ramcharan joined with them stand outside and gave some sweets to them. Without his mother's knowledge. Bakha went to the military camp to see Charat Singh, who gave some tea and hockey stick to him.

Bakha feels proudly about Charat Singh, because he treated Bakha as a human being not as an untouchable. Next day Bakha joined with Ramcharan and Chota to play hockey match against regiment of 31st Punjabis. Ramcharan throw a stone on the head of higher caste hindu boys head, because of a small problem happens in between the two teams. The boy head was broke and the blood was started to bleed. Bakha lift up the boy in his arms and run towards the home of the boy. The mother scolded bakha rudely that he polluted her son lifting by a outcaste.

Bakha felt stunned on seeing the women scolded him without heard anything that what happened in the ground. The women scolded Bakha and ask him to

move away from his home. Bakha felt worried and move away from that home. Bakha experienced another thing happened in the same day that was a meeting with Colonel Hutchchinson who was the local army soldiers.

He was a very kind heart and 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 spoke about the power of god and the confession for sins and forgiveness of the sins. Bakha didn't understand the things which was spoken by the Colonel. He didn't like to convert in to Christianity, but Bakha feels proudly about the kindness speech of Colonel to him.

Bakha leaves the Colonel house and walk away towards the railway station. There was large number of crowd gathered in the gol-bagh for listening the speech of Mahatma Gandhi about untouchability. Bakha also happy to hear the name of Gandhi and he also joined in the crowd to hear the speech of Gandhi. The Mahatma reached the place and started his speech about the problems for the untouchables receiving from the high caste Hindu peoples. Gandhi has a wish to reborn as untouchable not as a Brahmin or any other high caste. Mahatma tells the things which are schools, wells, hospitals are announce as common for the everyone including untouchables. Gandhi said that he didn't feel ashamed to clean latrines, because in his Ashram, there was a 18 year old Brahmin clean the latrines. Bakha got so impressed by hearing the speech of Gandhi and he feel proud to be an untouchable.

Later on, Bakha heard the discussion between Mahatma's view by the two men were poet and journalist Iqbal Nath Sarashar and the another one was Rnbashir. They both of them discuss about the machinery used in the

latrines. The flush system should 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 heard the 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 to hear 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 go back to his home and told to him that what Gandhi said and the poet said. Bakha feels very great and proud to be untouchable after hearing the words of Mahatma.