"Master of the Estate: The Story of the Sinful Woman" & "Faaltu Aurat": A Comparative Study

Dr. Amir Jamal*

There are many issues and concerns regarding woman and her ill treatment in the society by man in different forms. Among the feminist issues mentioned in the novels of feminist writers is a very serious issue which is seen not only in the novels written by Egyptian feminist novelists but by almost all feminist writers across the world and that is nothing but the treatment of woman as sex object. The aim behind writing and mentioning these issues is to make aware the society about the sufferings of woman as well as to find out the ways of how to stop oppression against her. This article focuses on a novel "Sayyid al-izbah: Qissa Imra'ah Khaatiah: (Master of the Estate: The Story of the Sinful Woman)" written by Aisha Abdur Rahman and the novel "Faaltu Aurat (Useless Woman)" by Ajeet Cour. This study will show how woman is treated in Arab culture and Punjabi or Indian culture.

As we know Aisha Abdur Rahman known as Bint Al-Shati is a prolific writer who has more than forty books and one hundred articles to her credit. Although she has written some fiction and poetry, she is best known for her social, literary, and Islamic studies. Her first two books, which appeared in 1936 and 1938 were "The Egyptian Countryside" and "The Problem of the Peasant", which deal with the difficulties facing Egyptian peasants. Her other books deal with Arabic literature (1961), contemporary Arab women poets (1963), In 1944, she published Sayyid al-Izbah (Master of the Estate), and then in the fifties she published three works: Sirr al-Shati (The secret of the coast, 1952), Imr'ah Khatiah (A Sinful Woman, 1958) and "Suwar min Hayatihinna Images from women's lives', 1959" and "Abu al-Ala al-Ma arri (1968 and 1972), and a new reading of Risalat al-Ghufran, 1972.¹

Aisha Abdur Rahman was a vehement defender of the rights of women. Some of the titles of her articles attest to the wide scope of her knowledge and interest: "The woman Loser," "The Lost Woman," "The Woman Stranger," "The Rebellious," "The Dreamer," "The Innocent," "The Sad," "How Do Our male Literary Figures View Women?," "The Image

^{*}Assistant Professor, Department of Arabic, Zakir Husain Delhi College, University of Delhi