

Tribhuvan University

Representation of the City in Hemingway's "Old Man at the Bridge", "Hills like White Elephants", "A Clean Well-Lighted Place" and "A Capital of the World"

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English, Humanities and Social Sciences, Ratna
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Masters of Arts in English

by

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Declaration

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled,
“Representation of a City in Hemingway’s “Old Man at the Bridge”,
“Hills Like White Elephants”, “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place” and “A Capital of
the World”” is my own work and carried out as master’s student at the Department of
English at Ratna Rajyalaxmi Campus except to the extent that assistance
from others in the thesis design and conception or in presentation
style, and linguistic expression are duly acknowledged.

All resources used for the thesis have been fully and properly cited.
It contains no material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for
the award of any other degree at Tribhuvan University or any other
educational institution, except where due acknowledgement
is made in the thesis paper.

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March 2019

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Letter of Approval

The thesis entitled, “ Representation of city in Ernest Hemingway’s “Old Man at the Bridge”, “Hills like White Elephants”, “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place” and “A Capital of the World”” submitted to the Department of English, Ratna Rajyalaxmi Campus, by Anusmriti Poudel has been approved by the undersigned members of the Research Committee:

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Abstract

The research paper is based on examining the presentation of the city as the in the selected stories of Ernest Miller Hemingway; “Old Man at the Bridge”, “Hills like White Elephants”, “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place” and “A Capital of the World”. Besides, I have studied and used the theories of modernism.

The significance of this research is about how the different situation and consequences play a significant role in rendering the life in city for the characters. Most of the modernist writers mention about the city instead of villages in their creations. Hence, what I got to find is that each and every elite from modernist era mention about the city either in this way or that way in their writings. City is seen as the final destination for survival to those who are main victims of the great World War I and European Civil War. The both war played a significant role dislocation of the society. Though city life has many struggles and obstacles, every character fight to get over it and be more enthusiastic on having better life and move on. So, in order to change their life dominated from old traditions and cultural values to the new one they shift themselves in the territory of the city, full of potentiality and prosperity.

Table of Contents

	Page No.
Declaration	ii
Letter of Approval	iii
Acknowledgement	iv
Abstract	v
Introduction: Hemingway and modernist Trend of writing	1
Modernism and Scenes of war	13
City as a Refuge	23
Conclusion: Findings and realization of City Consciousness	29
Works Cited	32

Introduction: Ernest Hemingway and Modernist Trend of Writing.

This thesis makes a study on Ernest Hemingway's short stories with the modernist point of view. This research will make a clear research on inseparable relation between modernism and mentioning the city with reference of three short stories "Old Man at the Bridge", "Hills like White Elephants", "The Capital of the World" and "A Clean, Well-Lighted Place". Initially, the word 'modern' means 'new, to the recent' and 'ism' is about 'ideology of certain ideas (psychological)' so, modernism can be referred as an ideology of being modern or having an idea for the new.

The modernist period can also be related to the sequences of cultural movements that happened in the late 19th and the early 20th century known for breaking old traditional ways of writing in literature and remaking it by adapting new forms and techniques. The movement is taken as an evolution in art and creations which initially started from Europe throughout the world. The famous author M.H. Abrams in his book *A Glossary of Literary Terms* has defined modernism as:

The term modernism is widely used to identify new and distinctive features in the subjects, forms, concepts, and styles of literature and the arts in the early decades of the twentieth century, but especially after World War I (1914-18). The specific features, involve a deliberate and radical break with some of the traditional bases not in only of Western culture but in general. Important intellectual precursors of modernism, in this sense, are thinkers who had questioned the certainties that had supported traditional modes of social organization, religion, and morality, and also traditional ways of conceiving the human self-thinkers

(Friedrich Nietzsche and his co-writers) stressed the correspondence between central Christian tenets and pagan, often barbaric, myths and rituals. (201-02)

Modernism in itself is a vast area of study which brought significant changes in creative arts like architecture, art, music, literature and applied techniques. Modernism was a philosophical movement within a period of English literature. The modernist period of the literature marked the unique and diverse thinking with noble perspectives which were tangled to the traditional ways of understanding the world. It is discussed as literary movement and viewed as literary reflections of recent historical developments. It is widely used to identify new and distinctive features in the subjects, forms, concepts and styles of literatures and the other arts. For further clarification about modernism we can take a look on definition that *Britannica: Ready Reference Encyclopedia* writes:

In the arts, a radical break with the past and concurrent search for new forms of expression. Modernism fostered a period of experimentation in the arts from the late 19th to the mid-20th century, following World War I. In an era characterized by industrialization, rapid social change, advances in science and social science theories, modernists felt a growing alienation incompatible with Victorian morality, optimism and convention...., The avant-garde movements that followed including Impressionism, Post-impressionism, Cubism, Futurism, Expressionism, Surrealism, etc. are generally defined as modernism. (276)

Looking to the both definitions now we can relate the modernism to the ideological revolutionary period in which traditional ways and techniques in the literary fields were abandoned and new terms and forms were adapted. It was the result of frequent and unexpected breaks in the thinking process of great thinkers and their interactions with the

world. The unique approach and the individualist concept and theories let do the lots of experimentation which established them to the significant virtues of the period where in the past they were often discouraged.

The quest for the new philosophical advancements in the writing provided the new possibilities to pursue the ways and trick for revolutionary methods in the literature for literates. Excellents in different fields were seeking for the new and advanced technologies for the development in those area, this way of thinking encouraged the poets, novelists, and other modernist writers to search for a new ways and techniques in their expression of thought. Thus, modernism was born and all the writers created newness in their writings. Basically Ezra Pound's 'Make it New' is taken as the milestone for the modernist era when the previous traditional forms of literary fields and works were felt dominated and outdated. Modernism is said as the sum up of different techniques and characteristics like symbolism, imagism, interior monologue, emergence of city consciousness, revival of traditions etc.

Modernism is an umbrella term which includes different ideologies and new tastes of forms and techniques within it. The modernism came in existence due to the frequent changes caused by the devastation of European Civil War consequently followed by World War I, production and uses of machines, guns and bullets, development of the industries and rapid growth of cities. During the period of war and wary environment, the people who suffered directly and indirectly knew nothing about the future. World War I, development of urban areas and technology had the greatest effects on modernism for that World War I shocked the world and its contemporary writers which made them to write about it. Since the modernism was born, the world was

already connected in the new hues of thoughts, concepts and perspectives. The change in the literary world was there to stay.

The writers of the period who had strong interest and belief in modern point of view often did so quite deliberately and self-consciously. Indeed, the very objective of modernism displays the strong and invisible bond with the inner-self and consciousness. Writers in this period were highly experimental so they declared and promoted new subject matter and techniques for literature. The creations of the modernist period in English literature displayed an instinctive reaction against the Victorian culture and aesthetics. Moving away from the traditions sowed the modernist stunts for modernism which is the discrete historical period and intellectual movement to find itself latest thing. As far as modernism term is concerned as breaking away from old literary rules and conventions over the new one, modernism is age of newness, avant-garde tendencies, creativity and revolt against old tradition.

Though it has been said that modernism began from 19th century i.e. 1890s but it rose up to its peak after the World War I with unexpected range and rapidity of change. The year 1922 is regarded to be only the period that witnessed the remarkable growth of modernism with significant innovations in literature by great thinkers such as James Joyce's *Ulysses*, T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land* and Virginia Woolf's *Jacob's Room*. The experimental works in this time tried to show the harsh and cruel results of postwar world. The catastrophe of war had shaken the faith in moral basis, coherence, chaos and durability of Western civilization raised doubts upon the adequacy of traditional modes of writing. T.S. Eliot and his colleague writers in the contemporary period experimented with the new forms and a new style in their writings that would mainly focus on

contemporary disorder, often contrasting it to a lost order and integration that had been based on the religion and myths of the cultural past.

Major works of modernist fiction following Joyce's *Ulysses* (1922) and his even more radical *Finnegans Wake* overthrew the basic conventions of earlier prose fiction by breaking up the narrative continuity, departing from the standard ways of representing characters and violating the traditional syntax and logical quality of narrative language by the use of stream of consciousness and other innovative modes of narration. Stream of consciousness is the most famous technique in modernist writing which was firstly introduced by William James in his *Principle of Psychology* (1890). It is a literary style in which a character's thought, feelings and reactions are depicted in continuous flow uninterrupted by objective description or conventional dialogue. It is a psychological term in which person's thoughts and conscious reactions to the events, perceived as a continuous flow. In literary criticism, it also can be defined as a narrative mode or method that attempts to depict the mutinous thoughts and feelings which pass through the mind of a narrator.

Going through the definitions and understanding what does the modernism actually mean we can find multiple distinct definitions from different perspectives. As the quality of modernism demands free thoughts, different critics have their own understandings and developed their own theories upon modernism. In his recent work *A Singular Modernity*, Fredric Jameson argues that modernism is not just a historical period but also a narrative category. He writes:

Indeed I want to insist on something more than the simple abuse of periodization:
I want to argue that this operation is intolerable and unacceptable in its very

nature, for its very nature, for it attempts to take a point of view on individual events which is well beyond the observational capacities of any individual and to unify, both horizontally and vertically, hosts of realities whose interrelationships must remain inaccessible and unverifiable, to say the least. (28)

Jameson argues that modernism is not only just ideology but rather is a cultural logic associated with particular mode of production. According to his definition modernism is a narrative category which narrates human experiences of the past and present. Jameson says that it is now merely the method of dealing with the past and often hijacked to restore and register information about human exigencies.

The most recent modernism simply makes an abstract opposition between tradition and the present: and we are, in some kind of a way, still involving ourselves within the era of aesthetic modernity which first appeared in the late 19th century. Since then, distinguishing mark of works which is counted as modernism is the new which will overcome and will become and inspiration for next style. A modernist culture soon learns to respect, even to cherish, signs of its division.

There exists many different understandings regarding modernism. A famous critic and author Peter Childs in his book *Modernism: The New Critical Idiom* clearly defines modernism as the historical revolution in creative writings in 19th and 20th century. He further says:

Very broadly speaking, the vast majority of attempts to offer alternative modes of representation from the middle of nineteenth century to the middle of twentieth century have at one time or another been Modernist, and this applies to literature,

music, painting, film, and architecture (and to some works before and after this period. (3)

He shares his ideas about modernism that it is characterized by more than new values, new institutional structures, new patterns of equality, and new social movements.

Modernism is an ideological revolution in different modes of writing with new ways of representation because societies in the world are growing rapidly in economic, political and in cultural ways. Modernism is characterized by abandoning the conservative ways of thinking and stepping to the world of free thoughts. It is also about redefining and presenting the traditional conventions into the new philosophical trend of way.

Modernism as a historical category marks the significant developments in every field of the new world. It supports the movement from feudalism towards the capitalism and secularization. The search for new forms is not the result of mere boredom, nor the energy that activates it merely feverish. It is the very necessary adjustment to new conception of reality and the mere effort to provide a scheme of orientation. Some of us could think it as sowing of the seeds of the splendid new era with fertilization and some could think this experiment will bring nothing. In many ways modernism has gifted us the most talented and genuine scholars and authors who see and present the whole world and worldly things in an intellectual way.

Modernist literature is basically characterized chiefly by rejection of late 19th traditions and of other consensus between author and reader. The traditions of realism were abandoned by Franz Kafka and other novelists and by expressionist dramatists. And poets rejected traditional meters in favor of Free Verse. Modernist writers tended to see themselves as avant-garde disconnected from bourgeois values and disturbed their

readers by adapting complex and difficult new forms and styles. In fiction the tradition of chronological development was upset by different novelist by attempting new ways in tracing the flow of character's thought in their stream-of-consciousness styles. In poetic writings, poet Ezra Pound and T.S. Eliot replaced the logical exposition of thoughts with collages of fragmentary images and complex allusion. Similarly, the trend of realist and naturalistic representation was displaced by the new forms of abstraction in the drama and the themes.

Modernist writing is predominantly cosmopolitan and often expresses a sense of urban cultural dislocation along with awareness of new anthropological and psychological theories. Modernism favored techniques of juxtaposition and multiple point of view challenges the readers to reestablish a coherence of meaning from fragmentary forms. It is quiet difficult to grab the accurate message from different views and writings. We can also find ideology of Cubism, Futurism and Abstract Expressionism in the modernist paintings and sculptures and with the representation of melody, harmony and rhythms in the creations of modernist musical composers such as Stravinsky, Schoenberg and their radical followers. Amongst the other influential American and European writers there are couple in numbers who also can be taken as central representatives of modernism such as: Thomas Mann, Marcel Proust, Andre Gide, Franz Kafka, Dorothy Richardson and William Faulkner as novelists, W.B, Yeats, Stephane Mallarrim, Rainier Moore, William Carlos Williams and Wallace Stevens in poetry and Eugene O'Neill, Luigi Pirandello, August Strindberg and Bertold Brecht as dramatists.

Not so far Ernest Hemingway is also considered as the modernist writer. His writing basically follows the rules and tendencies of modernism. During the work as

foreign correspondence in Paris he got to be engaged with contemporary modernist writers and following their footsteps he also created several numbers of modernist pieces. He also sharpened his writings with modernist features in various collections of short stories. Amongst them “The Old Man at the Bridge”, “Hills like White Elephants”, “A Capital of the World” and “A Clean Well-Lighted Place” can be taken as masterpiece of modernist writing.

As a modernism demands traditional revolution and rapid change, in the stories we can find every character life changing from old life to the new one though it could be positive or negative. We can find scents of guns and bullets from bloody war, scenes of bull-fighting and image of clean and light place which are the characteristics of the modernist writing. Hemingway has carefully put the modernist features to make his writing significant.

Hemingway through these stories primarily focuses on the modernism period European society which was advancing towards new development and new world. World War I, growth in urban spaces and technology had the greatest effects on modernism. World War I shocked the world and its writers, who used to write for money and living as if creations were products to be bought and sold. After World War I, the writers were startled from its fearful results and awakened for new way to show the reality of the war and its devastation. Urbanization affected the location and made people and writers constantly moving, and technology was a major theme of modernism which we can find in these stories where the old man is suffered from war and had to left his home, the young waiter at Madrid dreamt of bullfighting and kills himself while practicing and in the third story the old deaf man in clean café, once tried to kill himself

by hanging in despair. The stories present all the characters moving towards the city area in order to have a better life.

Hemingway has chosen city as key technique to show his writings as modernist piece. As we see use of different forms and techniques instead of traditional ways in the past, the stories deal with the present Madrid city. Modernity finds its form in cities. The implication of this is that modern experience takes place inside an urban space. In modernity we find new ways of experiencing and we also find new ways of forgetting the old ones. Cities have a way of talking on a life of their own—contracting and expanding according to the needs of a person as it changes. The character's old rural life is dominated by city Madrid, with sufficient facilities and full of opportunities. *Britannica: Ready Reference Encyclopedia* defines city as:

Relatively city is a permanent and highly organized centre of population, of greater size or importance than a town or village. The first cities appeared in Neolithic times when the development of agricultural techniques assured surplus crop yields large enough to sustain a permanent population. Ancient Greece saw the creation of the city-state, a form also important in the emergence of the Roman Empire as well as the medieval Italian trading centers of Venice, Genoa and Florence. After the Middle ages cities came increasingly under the political control of centralized government and served the interests of the nation-state. The industrial revolution further transformed city life, as factory cities blossomed rapidly in England, northwestern Europe and the Northeastern U.S. (256)

Regarding the above definition we can see the city or urban space as the large human settlements with lots of facilities and grown technologies. It distinguishes the human

territory governed by a ruled government and with the industrial revolution and better opportunities for life rather than village or rural area. Cities are the advanced form of town. Cities generally have systems of housing, transportation, sanitation, good academic possibilities, utilities, land use, and communication. The facilitation of interaction between people, government organizations and business and sometimes benefiting different parties in the process defines city.

The city formed the central focus in modernist writers' world. Whether they are celebrated or complained about the city, it was generally a major feature of their work. In modernist literature city is taken as a key motif. Numerous of novels and poems reflect the ways in which cities generate state of shock, exhilaration, anonymity, confusion or thrill. Imagination and the city are mutually dependent and interconnected with each other in a inseparable ways. Cities become symbols in their own right representing a particular society as a whole, how characters react to this as much about them as a society itself.

In the above stories we can find the use of city as a spatial-temporal setting which creates the idea where the story happened. The setting in the fiction includes time, location and even the place where the story took place. It includes context and culture within. Hemingway has presented the Madrid city in the stories in order to make clear about the adaption of new customs and conventions leaving the old traditional facts.

Since the publications Hemingway's writings have invited large numbers of critics and analyze. Although his literary status is secured, he remains a highly controversial writer and his novels and short stories have invited an enormous amount of cultural commentary. Different critics have analyzed Hemingway's work in different

perspectives. The famous writer Timo Muller in his book *Text and Theorie: The self as Object in Modernist Fiction* writes:

Most of the Hemingway's protagonists are self-objectifications, they are inspired by the author's biography and are surrogate writers either directly or metaphorically, but Hemingway does not usually identify with them to a great extent, let alone in the naïve, self-pitying manner Knowles insinuates. On the contrary, he regards them rather coolly and neutrally, deploying them in carefully constructed fictive environments to test their ability to maintain self-control and a dominant posture in whatever situation may occur. (221-22)

According to his analysis, we can find that most of the creations of Hemingway are inspired from his personal experiences. He implies all his knowledge and bearings which he had undergone through his life in the characters of his stories. We can see all his emotions, situation of mind, attractions towards bull-fighting and devastations of war that he encountered in World War I and many more through his plot and characters in his stories.

Besides, different critics have different perspectives of views about Hemingway's story "Old Man at the Bridge" and his themes on war. Imed Ounis in his research paper *The Centrality of War in Ernest Hemingway's Old Man at the Bridge*, describes how the lives of common people who are really innocent about the war and the politics is randomly shattered by the destruction of the war. He further writes:

The most predominant and prevailing theme in this story is the brutal impact of the war on neutral innocents. In fact, the old man in the story is a refugee from the

village and the war has affected his state of mind and destroyed the love of life in him. Through the character Hemingway is actually making an example of the old man with aim of describing the effects of war on the state of mind of innocent civilians. Neither his tired body nor his confused mind seems capable of grasping or coping with the sudden collapse of his world. (1)

War in itself is destruction. Though it brings pride and victory but most of all it brings loss, humiliation, wounds, despair, enmity and depression. It destructs society, city, nation as well as families with physical and mental scars which are unbearable and never supposed to be healed.

Another short story “A Capital of the World” written by Hemingway during his foreign correspondent in Spain portrays the culture of bull-fighting, toreros and Cicero. Hemingway during the visit in Spanish bull-fighting festival was so much attracted by it so he was encouraged to write another story “A Capital of the World” introducing the Spanish bull-fighting festival where he tries to show the adaptation of new culture. For him, the values of bullfight embody the values of the real Spain, courage and pride.

Modernism and the Scenes of War in “Old man at the Bridge” and “Hills like White Elephants.”

Modernism aroused with a rebellious mood against the old traditions and conventions of writing. It rejected autonomy of moral and religious principles in writings and tried to revitalize the trend with new approaches whether it could be in arts, literature, paintings, politics, sciences or philosophy. It also can be taken as a literary movement and broad cultural force which has marked its significance and has had its impact in literature.

Modernism specially gets birth from World War I, urbanization, industrialization and subsequent technological inventions. The European Civil War and World War I are generally considered as the most effective cause for modernist movement in literature so almost all modernist writers tried to show the effects of war and effects of technology in one way or the other.

We can find reflections of modernist elements and features in most of the writings of Ernest Hemingway as he was one of the famous modernist writers in his time. We can find notable characteristics of modernism like self-consciousness, self-centered creation and composition, use of symbols as a structuring device, emergence of city consciousness and irony concerning literary and social traditions in his writings. Furthermore, we could find themes of destruction, alienation, fragmentation of self, loss and exile, social evils, psychological sadness, humiliation, despair and hopelessness in the stories “Old Man at the Bridge”, “Hills like White Elephants”, “A Clean Well-Lighted Place” and “A Capital of the World” caused by spontaneous changes.

Mostly, from the earliest stories to the latest ones, the heroes of Hemingway’s stories end with a pathetic situation. Lisa Garrigues in her article “Reading the Writer’s Craft: The Hemingway Short Stories” writes “Besides, being a literary persona his life created much sensation as his fictions and his protagonists do. He was a boxer, fisherman, wartime correspondent, war hero, bullfight appreciator, safari game hunter and a heavy drinker.”(60) So, his characters always are from the field which he experienced. He saw the devastation of war during his services which lead him to write its aftermath into his creations. “Old Man at the Bridge” is one the many stories with the theme of war, loss and exile, alienation and psychological sadness. Working as a foreign

correspondence in Europe he came in contact with many of modernist writers and got influenced with their writing styles. This is how we can find modernist features in his writings.

Hemingway puts his bearings on the characters of the story and makes them suffer as he did which produces sympathy in reader's heart and mind. War has devastating consequences for a country, including death, displacement of people, and destruction of public infrastructure as well as physical and psychological effects. Hemingway's characters always seem struggling for self identity and to assert the integrity of self. The conflict in the plot is intense, the rules of battle becomes merciless and strictly enforced. We can find scenes of loss of love, bloody war, bullfighting, migration, suffering of protagonist and sports in his almost writings. For example, his significant novel *Farewell to Arms* is about war, another story "Death in the Afternoon" reflects game of bullfighting.

The major themes of the presented stories are alienation, dislocation of characters who struggle to find the meaning and self- identity in the rapidly changing world. Along with these, the narration of violence, chaos, sufferings, conflict, sacrifice for pride and honor were supplementary themes. Several things like industrialization, urbanization, warfare, technological change and new philosophical ideas were the main causes for germinating modernism. The great authors like Stephen C. Lubkemann shows the visible impacts of war in his book, *Culture in Chaos: An Anthropology of the Social Condition in War*. He shows how a war changes social lives into refugee, migratory and homelessness. He writes:

Migration, like most other war-time behavior, tends to be seen as motivated by reactive panic that is devoid of strategic calculation and driven by an immediate imperative of sheer survival. If the pressing conditions of armed conflict are believed to suspend most normal social projects and supply all the factors necessary for understanding the motivation, organization and dynamics of war-time behavior, it is unsurprising that war-time migration is treated as a process unrelated to the labor migration patterns that preceded conflict. (45-46)

Migration is a strategy that plays a significant role which challenges social and political struggles well before and after the war erupts. Migration is said to be a war-time behavior which is motivated by the conditions of armed conflict and gives full sorrow, grief and pain in social life. It can be related to the struggle for the identity of self in the changed land and environment. It is the hope for better tomorrow within the consequences of panic and hatred.

The same theme is shared in Hemingway's short story "Old Man at the Bridge" and "Hills like White Elephants" through the images of landscape. The stories were written in the period of 1930s, so the temporal setting of the stories could be traced back to 1930s, the time when the European Civil War and World War I had just happened there was fear about possibility of American Civil War and World War II. The spatial setting is city of Europe, i.e. Ebro and Madrid City. Hemingway using some essential crafts in his stories like 'hills' 'bridge', 'river', 'mountains', 'road' and 'valley' tries to show the decline of European culture and society in war dominant situation. The main theme of the story could be seen as the loss of self-identity and walk in search for better life which alienated the characters and led to loneliness by the occurring of war. The first

story starts with the landscape in itself. The story shows how artillery forces peoples to migrate from one state to another. It starts with:

There was a pontoon bridge across the river and carts, trucks, and men, women and children were crossing it. The mule-drawn carts staggered up the steep bank from the bridge with soldiers helping push against the spokes of the wheels. The trucks ground up and away heading out of it all and the peasants plodded along in the ankle deep dust. But the old man sat there without moving. He was too tired to go any further. It was my business to cross the bridge, explore the bridgehead beyond and find out to what point the enemy had advanced. (200)

There is a little confusion between author and the narrator because once he was in service of civil war. The extract from the story describes about the people migrating towards Ebro, an African country in search of identity in the new world. The occurrence of war separated them from their own nation and society and is pacing towards unknown world in search of their own existence. They are insisted to leave their native town by armed forces. And the narrator was helping them to cross the bridge and checking how far the enemies had come as well. As Lubkemann says migration is pressure for survival created by conflict, here we can see the people are the victims of it and they are crossing the bridge for their survival. In the story ‘the bridge’ is a medium for shifting life from old to the new one.

Similarly, we can find the same theme in the first paragraph of the story “Hills like White Elephant.” It begins with:

The Hills across the valley of the Ebro were long and white. On this side there was no shade and no trees and the station was between two lines of rails in the

sun. Close against the side of the station there was the warm shadow of the building and a curtain, made of strings of bamboo beads, hung across the open door into the bar, to keep out of flies. The American and the girl with him sat a table in the shade, outside the building. It was very hot and the express from Barcelona would come in forty minutes. (15)

The expert from the story shows a boy and a girl waiting for a train sitting at a table in the shade in the side of the station as it was very hot day. The hills in front of them were barren, without greeneries and were pale white. Through the representation of barren hills and hot sunny day writer tries to show the fierce, aggressive war and its destruction. Waiting for a train to Barcelona portrays the homelessness and exile of girl and boy. The people could not tolerate the heat of war and like to sit under the shade.

These stories highlight the facts about the social struggles, despair, self-fragmentation, destructions and humiliation due to the war. Peter Childs, a great author in his book *Modernism: The New Critical Idiom* clearly discusses about the modernism and its consequences. He charges modernism as a literary movement in 19th century making a radical break with old traditional hegemony of writing and adapting new styles and techniques with free ideas. He also presents how modernism tries to demonstrate the war as actual historical backdrop for social displacement and migration. He further writes:

In terms of the trauma of the war itself, the effect of modern consciousness cannot be understated. It resulted in the invention of new weapons, such as submarines, aeroplanes, poison gases and cannons with range over 75 miles, and produced more than 33million military casualties, and an additional 5 million civilian deaths, not counting the millions of war-related influenza deaths. With

devastation on such a scale, it became absurd to celebrate noble ideas like human dignity in art, or blithely to assert belief in human progress. (20)

War is never celebrated with humankind while it results in deaths, miseries, separation of families, separation of nations; it affects millions of people directly and so on. So it can never be mentioned with dignity in arts and literature. Instead it is always remembered with heavy hearts for its violence and cruelty over millions of people, and also for production of destructive equipments.

The story shows the meaningless of life in horror environment devastated from the conflict. It shows that attempt of yearning honor, pride and dignity creates always a bad feeling by mentioning war in art while it always creates chaos and horror which we can see in the story.

I was watching the bridge and the African looking country of the Ebro Delta and wondering how long it would be before we would see the enemy, and listening all the while for the first noises that would signal that ever mysterious event called contact, and the old man still sat there.

“What animals were they?” I asked.

“There were three animals altogether,” he explained. “There were two goats and a cat and then there were four pairs of pigeons.”

“And you had to leave them?” I asked.

“Yes. Because of the artillery. The captain told me to go because of the artillery.”

(200-01)

The characters show their fear of the wars – the one that is gone and the other impending. We can clearly find the domination of war upon local citizens who have gone

through it and are badly hurt. The experiences of war show psychological and physical illness of the characters. Enemy, noises, signal, mysterious event, these are the words which directly shows that war has happened or could happen. Here narrator is concerned about the upcoming possibility of conflict but he sees the old man not caring about it but only thinking of his pets which he left behind. The sentence creates the image of war in readers mind while reading this story. The effect of war could be clearly seen in old man's case because he is not thinking about his bright life ahead but only caring his animals and their survival.

We can also see the state of loss and alienation in the case of story Hills like white Elephants. The story describes the place after the civil war occurred in Europe. Though Hemingway has not mentioned any war in the story but we could find the traces and evidences of war through the naked hills.

The girl was looking at the line of hills. They were white in the sun and the country was brown and dry.

“They look like white elephants,” she said.

“I’ve never seen one,” the man drank his beer.

“No, you wouldn’t have.”

“I might have,” the man said. “Just because you say I wouldn’t have doesn’t prove anything.” (153)

The boy and the girl are talking about the hills which look like white elephants in the sun. Without any green trees, no lives there totally out of existence. Hemingway successfully projects the society fully degrading, fragmented, and disjunctive with the human civilization going to be collapsed in the fire of the war. The brown and dry country

describes how a war could destroy the existence of green and wonderful place into naked, brown, dry and infertile land.

Though Hemingway tries to show the images of green fields full of grains, trees and green mountains but he also says they were far beyond, out of touch. Going through conversation we find the boy and girl is going for an operation, maybe its abortion of a baby. Green field and green trees can be connected to the imagination of fertilization of new creation or production but its distance keeps the fertility away.

The girl stood up and walked to the end of the station. Across on the other side, were fields of grain and trees along the banks of the Ebro. Far away, beyond the river, were mountains. The shadow of a cloud moved across the field of grain and she saw the river through the trees. (156)

The girl sees fields of grain and trees, clear river flowing, and there beyond river were mountains full of trees, greeneries and multicolored flowers. This generates the beautiful feeling in readers mind but it was far away from the station that means far from the characters. We can see it but cannot touch; it is far way from access. It also could be said that the hills which was now white, naked, without green trees and animals was once green, full of grain fields, with the rivers and its heart soothing sound. And it is all because of war it turned dead and infertile.

Hemingway generates the message in reader's consciousness that war is never good by mentioning old man's tragedy with his loved ones as he was forced by artillery to leave home. Though the word 'bridge of delta' creates hope for better future but psychological scars could never be healed. Besides, there are lots of notable effects which could be counted as pre and post war results. Peter further writes: "the war was a defining

moment in terms of both society and the individual, such that the fracturing of minds that came to be known as shell-shock seemed to represent in miniature what was happening to societies and nations, as much of the world went to war.” (21) According to Childs war is a defining character for both society and the individual’s existence. War changes the territory and also boundary of nation or a state. It defines the destiny of the society, nation, city and its people. It changes the smooth and common life and creates uncertainty about their future.

Though, war also brings development, prosperity, honor and pride for defeaters but it brings terror and trauma itself. Hemingway projects cruelty and brutality with the use of landscape in given extract. “It was nothing to do about him. It was Easter Sunday and the Fascists were advancing toward the Ebro. It was a gray overcast day with a low ceiling so their planes were not up. That and the fact that can know how to look after themselves was all good luck that old man would ever have.” (202) Borrowing Peter Child’s words again, war determines the future of individual and society. Here the narrator is also worried about the old man who is not willing to go across the bridge and survive. Narrator is sure that pets will care themselves but curious about the old man’s situation if he remains here. ‘The gray overcast day’ shows the psychological sadness of the old man, his bad luck and as well as dark shadow of war.

Likewise, “Hills like White Elephants” too portrays the themes of war and its dark sides. Though war is not mentioned directly in the story but we could find the effects and images of war through the barren hills and hot sunny day.

War in the earth is never invited intentionally by anybody. It takes the pride and self-respect away from every citizens of defeated kingdom or a nation. Though could

be an honorable thing to the winners but it's completely a worst thing for the defeated ones. War does not signify peace instead it results in inventions of new weapons, brutal killing, deaths, poisons, gases military and civil casualties, handicaps and migration. The devastation of war never lets to flourish and celebrate ideas of dignity and respect in art. Leaving your own home by war and go for somewhere for existence is something like living without your own heart.

The modernist literary movement was driven by a desire of overturning normative modes of representation and expression in literature and art both. Moreover, modernist writers experimented with new way and ideas of expression and representation in field of art and literature according to the demand of time. As modernism is characterized by a self conscious break with the traditional style and forms into new. Unlike other modernist writers, Hemingway experimented in the form and context to express the ideas in new way.

City as a Refuge in “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place” and “A Capital of the World.”

In contrary to the previous stories, we could find the significance changes in writing of the “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place”. We can see the dramatic change in the setting of the story. The setting of a fiction is a term employed which refers to the coordination of spatial-temporal (space and time) invoked by a written article. It can be referred as a historical time and social circumstances in which its action occurs. It is also the particular physical location in which the plot or scene of the work takes place. In the story “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place” Hemingway sets the plot in a clean and pleasant café somewhere in the city of Madrid, whereas the setting of the previous stories was the native village area dominated by the war though the themes remain the same.

With the predominant themes of the story loneliness and despair, the story focuses on the scene where the plot takes place. Peter Childs mentions about the presentation of the city as a characteristics in modernist writings. He clearly mentions the characteristics of modernism in this way:

Modernist texts often focus on social, spiritual or personal collapse and subsume history under mythology and symbolism. Other characteristics are a focus on the city and a championship as well as a fear of technology: technical experimentation allied with radical stylistic innovation: a suspicion of language as a medium for comprehending or explaining the world: and an attack on nineteenth century stalwarts such as empiricism and rationalism. (19)

Texts in the modernist writings often pace with the concentration on social and personal experiences in relation with historical background. We can find the emergence of city consciousness as well the development of technology with the technical experimentation followed by the new inventions through human experience and knowledge.

In the story “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place” Hemingway characterizes the consciousness of the city by its contemporary urban subject matter and its portrayal. The café in the story is clean which the dominant feature of a city. We find features of the city like clean, pleasant, streets, café, and light in the story. The title of the story itself tells about place which is clean and well-lighted but it is empty.

They sat together at a table that was close against the wall near the door of the café and looked at the terrace where the tables were all empty except where the old man sit in the shadow of the leaves of the tree that moved slightly in the wind.

A girl and a soldier went by in the street. The street light shone on the brass number on his collar. The girl wore no head covering and hurried beside him. (93)

The story starts with the narration about two waiters and an old man sitting in the late night in the café. The old man is drinking liquor and two waiters are talking about his last week's suicidal attempt. Despite having plenty of money old man seems not to be happy with his life and like to spend his time late in the cafe and doesn't want to go home. Here, the empty café resembles the old man's emptiness, loneliness and despair.

Though the setting of the café is clean and pleasant but its emptiness shows the situation of older waiter and the old man. The story clearly presents the characteristics of modernism; psychological sadness fragmented self, alienation and dejection too. While going through the story and the conversation between two waiters all the characters except younger waiter are unhappy with their own life.

“You have youth, confidence, and a job,” the older waiter said.

You have everything.”

“And what do you lack?”

“No I have never had confidence and I am not young.”

“Come on. Stop talking nonsense and lock up.”

“I am of those who like to stay late at the café,” the older waiter said. “With all those who do not want to go to bed. With all those who need a light for the night.”

(96)

The excerpt shows the lack of confidence and fear of darkness of the older waiter. As he says he is not young anymore, it seems he compares himself with the old man. So, he is also tired from his own life and likes to spend time in the light in order to avoid the

darkness. The younger waiter is hurrying to go home but the old man and the older waiter. The light in the café is presented as a comfort giving material to the characters to forget their despair and fear of darkness.

The other notable characteristic in the story is disillusionment and irony concerning literary conventions. Here the old waiter is clearly disillusioned by the notion of death which seems to be parallel with the sleep and likes to remain awake in order to escape from the fact of the death. Hemingway implicates the irony of the death by using the case of insomnia which is also an illness and fear of death. "He disliked bars and bodegas. A clean, well-lighted café was a very different thing. Now, without thinking further, he would go home to his room. He would lie in the bed and finally with daylight, he would go to sleep. After all he said to himself, it is probably only insomnia. Many must have it."(97)

The older waiter did not like bar and wine shop because they were not as clean as the café. So, he will go to his room and tries to sleep but he may not feel asleep unless it is daylight. This shows the fear of darkness and the darkness refers to the death but he does not like show his fear by saying it a disease of insomnia while he could sleep only in the daylight.

Hemingway significantly plots the scenes of the story in clean and lighted café of Madrid City. It could be the period of postwar because the old man is suffering but city is fully developed into clean and well-lighted place. The setting of the story clearly characterizes the establishment of urban areas, development in the technology of electricity, paved streets, and soldiers returned from war and spending his time with his loved ones, these all shows progress of society through modernism.

City is a place with special rights and where the fundamental needs could be fulfilled. Cities are the developed and advanced place with the features of inclination of civilization could be found. Hemingway presents the city as a shelter for war victims almost in all stories. The characters from “Old Man at the Bridge” and “Hills like White Elephants” are going to the city after the war happened. City is a perfect place for their exile. Likewise, the story of “A Clean, Well- Lighted Place” itself takes place in the city itself.

Hemingway had traveled different cities of different countries of the world so he was influenced by its features so that his creations always mention cities rather than rural areas. Moreover, modernism was born due to rapid growth of urban areas so unlike many modernist writers Hemingway too puts city as a place where plot occurs. While emergence of city consciousness is one the influential feature; it is the prominent key of the fictions. Peter Childs clearly describes how the city dominated modernism and modernist writers. He writes:

Modernist writers struggled, in Ezra Pound’s brief phrase, to ‘make it new’, to modify if not overturn existing modes of representation, partly by pushing them towards the abstract or the introspective, and to express the new sensibilities of their time: in a compressed, condensed, complex literature of the city, of industry and technology, war, machinery and speed, mass markets and communication, of internationalism, the New Woman, the aesthete, the nihilist and the flaneur. (4)

Modernist writers struggled for the advancement and the modification of the society to make it new from the old traditions. In order to show it they expressed it through the literary writings. The process of evolution is the people who help to design the urban

spaces. The writers wrote about the city, industry, technology, war, machines, capital markets and mass communications to motivate the development of the society.

In the story “A Capital of The World”, writer presents the Madrid city as the fertile land for every characters of the story. The main character Paco goes to the Madrid city leaving his hometown in order to fulfill his dreams of being bull-fighter. The story presents the village as similar to the old traditional styles used to create the writings.

He came from a village in a part of Extramadura where conditions were incredibly primitive, food scarce and comforts unknown and he had worked hard ever since he could remember. . . He was fast on his feet and did his work well and he loved his sisters, who seemed beautiful and sophisticated; he loved Madrid, which was still an unbelievable place, and he loved his work which, done under bright lights, with clean linen, the wearing of evening clothes, and abundant food in the kitchen, seemed romantically beautiful. (186)

The story deals with the boy named Paco working as a waiter at the hotel of Madrid city. He had abandoned come through his village in search of good life. Unlike, the Modernism is characterized by its break with the old traditions and pacing towards the new ideas and values the presentation of the Madrid city in the story also depicts the domination upon the old country side villages.

Madrid in here is a symbol of freedom and presented beautifully in a sophisticated way. It is shown bright under the lights, clean linen, and abundant food in the kitchen and romantic atmosphere shows the characteristics of the city. And everybody is attracted by its bright lights, clean environments and availability of everything desired.

Hemingway successfully presents the city as a fertile land for everything and everyone. Through the conversation of two priests in the story we can find every people from abandoned country like settle in there in city. “We are from the abandoned country. When the money runs out we can return.” (193) The given line shows the fact that city is the best place to survive in when someone is abandoned from their own country.

Cities are not just the meeting places and crossing points. They are generally a fertile place which provides environments for the new arts, focal points of intellectual community, indeed of intellectual conflict. It is a shelter for those who are abandoned and expatriated from their own country.

Modernism is very much phenomenon of the city. Writers from the modernist era usually mention urban space, different cities such as London, Madrid, etc. in their writings rather than village and rural area. Unlike other writers from that generation Ernest Hemingway’s characters in the story can be seen clearly affected by the experience of urban life. The characters and plot take place in the city area.

Conclusion: Findings and realization of city consciousness

The core finding of the research is to explain how the urban consciousness emerged intentionally in the creations of intellectuals and people’s idea in contemporary modernist society. The city and its context have always been a source of inspiration and motifs for artists and writers. City or an urban place considers wide space or a large place of human settlement along with sufficient facilities for basic human needs and growth in technologies in additional which makes human life much easier. In Ernest Hemingway’s short stories, “Old Man at the Bridge”, “Hills Like White Elephants”, “A Clean Well-Lighted Place”, and “A Capital of the World”, it is noticeably clear how the different

situations and circumstances leads people's life into mysterious world of city life. The wars which have occurred and the impending ones are seen as the factors to determine the fate of the main characters in the stories. The local people banished from their own land advance towards the city in order to forget all sufferings and to pursue their self-identity for betterment of future. On the other hand all the characters face physical and psychological trauma from devastation of war. War has played a very significant role in changing the lives of characters either in best or the worst way.

The image of the city has been developing and changing in literature since the writers from modern period are concerned on revolution for establishment for newness and enlighten the world with novelty and dignity. The western society and its way of life has changed dramatically especially after World War I and Civil war. The elites tried to show the make people bad effects of war and make them aware in their writings.

The emergence and conceptualization of the city has been always in the foremost choice of the elites and also the people while they see great potential in the city for good settlement. They are attracted by its bright lights, clean clothes, abundant food, romantic and sophisticated lifestyle, affordable housings, good governance, sanitation, efficient transportation, affordable education, safety and security and so on. The stories "Old Man at the Bridge" and "Hills like White Elephants" allows the readers to understand how brutal a war could be and how it makes people's life so complicated in their own land and how their identity shifts as migrants for other land. As a result, old man is heartbroken due to the separation from his loved ones and hesitates to cross the bridge for another region. Similarly, the hills from "Hills liked White Elephants" are barren, naked, brown, and dry, without trees and no sigh of living animals. It depicts mass destruction of war

and unveils how it eliminates the human existence and living beings on the earth. The presentation of the hills in the story perfectly exposes the harsh reality of war and its instant outcome.

Similarly, other two stories “A Clean Well-Lighted Place” and “A Capital of the World” show the distinctive features of the city and its influence on people. The main protagonist from “A Clean Well-Lighted Place” likes to spend his time in clean and pleasant café until late night. He tries to be far from the war and forget all the sufferings from his past life which made him to attempt suicide in depression and despair. He is suffering from sleeping disorder ‘insomnia’, but the reality is that he is shattered from his war activities and his experiences from it so he is afraid of darkness and as well as death. Paco, young apprentice waiter at Madrid City leaves his hometown and comes there in search of better future. He is attracted and impressed from the sights and facilities of the city. He is passionate about bullfighting and being a matador is one and only dream of his life.

Hemingway puts his efforts and is undoubtedly successful to convince his readers from his projection and presentation in the stories. He makes readers to concentrate and engage themselves in the stories to find out the real message. He primarily focuses on the idea of the city as a shelter, protection for war-victims and homeless ones, domain for self-identity development and other remarkable achievements. The close relation between literature and cities are the result of cultural conflicts and its influences as well as the ultimate results of experiences.

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