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THE REFLECTION OF PATRIARCHAL HYPOCRISY IN THE LIGHT OF THE FICTION 'TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES' AND ITS BANGLADESH PERSPECTIVE

Mohammad Shah Alam Chowdhury¹, Mili Rahman²

¹ Professor, Department of English, Dhaka International University, Bangladesh

² Associate Professor of English, Dhaka International University, Bangladesh

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ABSTRACT

This dissertation explores the study of the hypocrisy of the Patriarch in Thomas Hardy's novel Tess of the d'Urbervilles, in the light of its attitude in Bangladesh. The study highlights the critical perspective of Hardy regarding the establishment of societal norms in the process of unveiling analogies between the two contexts, one of which was oriented towards challenging the misconceptions and the other towards highlighting the oppressive nature of patriarchy. It discusses the victimization of Tess, the sufferings of Tess and the difficulties she encounters in the society. The novel is analysed in detail showing the oppressive nature of patriarchy. Furthermore, the article looks at the implications of patriarchy within the context of Bangladesh and highlights similarities between women's experiences in them both. Furthermore, the use of language and narrative devices in Hardy's use of them to effectively communicate the underlying themes of patriarchy and hypocrisy is investigated. The value of this article is the insight it provides into the role of gender and the patriarchal systems in various cultural and historical settings, and how this can increase our understanding of these aspects. In the end, it highlights the need to question and question down the patriarchal norms and promotes gender equality in society. This article provides a detailed account of how the patriarchy has been hypocritical in 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles', while drawing some captivating parallels to the point of view in Bangladesh. It helps to clarify the complex nature of the patriarchal system, and to understand how this affects the life of women in both the system and outside it.

Keywords: Patriarchal hypocrisy, Tess of the d'Urbervilles, Thomas Hardy, Bangladesh Perspective

INTRODUCTION

Thomas Hardy was one of the most acclaimed authors in the English language and a highly successful novelist and poet of the 19th and early 20th centuries. He was renowned for his study of human nature, social constraints and what modernization does to rural areas. His first novel, far from the Madding Crowd (1874), delves into themes of love, pride, and the consequences of choices set against the backdrop of the English countryside. His other three books, The Mayor of Casterbridge (1886), Tess of the d'Urbervilles (1891), and Jude the Obscure (1895), are also exceptional examples of his literary works. Among them, Tess of the d'Urbervilles (1891) stands out as his most famous and widely read novel, providing a vivid portrayal of social inequality between men and women in Victorian society. The novel Tess of the d'Urbervilles, which took place in Victorian times, exposes Tess's sufferings from the injustices and hypocrisies stemming from her patriarchal influences. The treatment of female characters is a recurring theme in literature when the subject of female oppression becomes one of male oppression. Throughout literature, there's been a focus on how female characters are treated, and Thomas Hardy's novel is no different. In the novel, Hardy deftly portrays the Victorian prejudices towards women and sex. The story is a commentary on the absurdity of a patriarchal society where women are stigmatised, condemned and punished for having an affair with a man, whereas men can do so without any repercussions. The injustices that women experience in a culture that favours male dominance and control are brought to light in Hardy's work. Tess's story takes place in the Victorian era when societal roles and expectations for women were rigid. For women, the expectation was to follow a narrow definition of femininity and they were under societal pressures and restrictions during this period. The period was marked by the introduction of the "angel in the house" notion, which romanticized women as pure, selfless, and self-giving, whose duty and role was to help and make their husbands and families happy. These expectations for women put them in a disadvantaged position, restricting their choice and avenues for self-actualization. Furthermore, the problem of patriarchy goes beyond Victorian society and is a universal problem with a worldwide impact. It results in inequality and privilege for men and women in terms of political, social, cultural, economic and religious issues. As a system this has continued over the years and the opportunities for women to achieve education, employment

and personal fulfilment have been restricted. There is a high level of violence and harassment against women and they are also subjected to unequal treatment within their families and communities. Gender inequality is a feature of the continued existence of the patriarchal system in the country, as Bangladesh is. Traditional gender norms are entrenched in society and men are seen as more valuable, powerful and in control. Although these beliefs are prevalent in all areas of life in Bangladesh, they create many difficulties and restrictions in women's lives. They are denied equal opportunities; they are discriminated against in education and in employment and treated as less important citizens. This is a deeply entrenched treatment and one which impacts women across all aspects of their life, and is hard to be recognised and achieve success. Comparing the societal situation in Tess's story with the situation of women in Bangladesh will help to deepen understanding of the universal struggles faced by women in different cultures. This research is designed to clarify the barriers and progress that affect the lives of women and highlight the importance of the urgent need to work together to achieve gender equality in the world. Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* is a great vehicle for reviewing the manifestation of Victorian patriarchal hypocrisy. In this research, comparing the experiences of women in Bangladesh with other cultural and country contexts, the researcher attempts to offer interesting insights to gender equality issues on a global level, thus highlighting the need for gender equality.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The analytical research methodology and descriptive research design was used in this thesis in accordance with the writing guideline *MLA Handbook*, 9th edition. Thomas Hardy's novel *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* is the main source for the study. To this main source, data has been gathered and adapted from various secondary sources related to the topic, such as journals, articles, online libraries and internet. The researchers have used a comprehensive approach to information-gathering, using both the primary novel and a plethora of secondary sources to support the analysis. This multi-faceted research approach enables a comprehensive analysis of the research topic, using both the primary work and the relevant literature. *MLA* guidelines are followed to ensure the study is academically sound and cited properly throughout the research into the selected topic.

PATRIARCHAL HYPOCRISY IN TESS OF THE D'URBERVILLES

Thomas Hardy was a major Victorian author with a rebellious attitude and a mission to

portray women positively and to question the rigid Victorian norms of the day. In a famous passage in her work, *The Second Sex* (1949), Simone de Beauvoir wrote that “A woman is not born, she becomes a woman”, meaning that women are influenced by society and are being shaped to fit into the patriarchal norms. Therefore, throughout the history women have been oppressed to sustain this ideology. As a Victorian rebel, Hardy revealed his strong feelings on social injustice in his novels, making himself a great social change activist. He is a man who fearlessly challenged the status quo, which was trying to confine the women within the limits outside the reach of society. Women enjoyed few rights during the Victorian Era, and were expected to be mainly housewives and mothers. They were considered to be responsible for the running of the house, and weren't encouraged to work outside of their home. Other women, however, faced difficult situations and had to work because of these, for example financial problems. Not doing housework was not looked upon favourably by society and others judged and disapproved of her. When women entered the employment world they faced negative attitudes, harassment and a lack of acceptance in the workplace and generally in society. During this period, women had a lot of discrimination, such as social class and job limitations. Working class women had a range of jobs, but were invariably paid less than their male counterparts. This reinforced the unequal treatment of women and perpetuated the belief that they were inferior citizens. During the Victorian era, women's decisions to marry were influenced by various factors that had a significant impact on their lives. These outcomes were largely a result of the limited choices available to women during that period. The lack of education opportunities in different areas hindered their ability to pursue alternative paths, leaving them with restricted options. As Thomas Hardy writes in chapter six of the novel *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, “She had hoped to be a teacher at the school, but the fates seemed to decide otherwise” (Hardy 36). Women had no control over their education and were primarily taught about domestic responsibilities, resulting in a limited knowledge base and skill set. From a young age, societal expectations socialized them to view marriage and motherhood as the primary goals for women. Their upbringing and education were focused solely on preparing them for marriage. For instance, her father, John Durbeyfield, insists that she should marry Alec d'Urberville, a wealthy man who claims to be a distant relative. Tess's mother, Joan, also encourages this union, highlighting the pressure placed upon Tess to fulfil her duty as a woman and secure her family's future. The justification for it is evident in the conversation between Abraham and Tess during their journey to Casterbridge, as depicted in Chapter Four of the novel *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*.

The dialogue goes as follows:

‘Tess!’ he said in a preparatory tone, after a silence.

‘Yes, Abraham.’

‘Bain’t you glad that we’ve become gentlefolk?’

‘Not particular glad.’

‘But you be glad that you ‘m going to marry a gentleman?’

‘What?’ said Tess, lifting her face?

‘That our great relation will help ‘ee to marry a gentleman’ (Hardy 20-21).

Throughout the Victorian era, women were seriously restricted in their ability to take control of their own lives, and frequently were left at the mercy of the decisions and wishes of men. Thomas Hardy's novel *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* follows the main character Tess Durbeyfield, a weak, but alluring woman who is subjected to the blows of the male. Tess is a woman in a Victorian society, and is oppressed and constrained by the norms and expectations of her society. Tess's encounter with her mother in Chapter 12 of *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* is a great example of the oppression suffered by women in Victorian England. Tess vents her frustration to her mother, asking how she wasn't warned about the dangers of men by her mother after she suffers sexual exploitation from Alec. How was I supposed to know?', says Tess.' I was a child when I left this house four months ago. Why didn't you tell me there was danger in men-folk? Why didn't you warn me? Ladies know what to fend hands against, because they read novels that tell them of these tricks; but I never had the chance o' learning in that way, and you did not help me!' (Hardy 67). *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* examines the expectations and roles that are expected of men and women in Victorian society. Thomas Hardy beautifully reveals the hypocrisy of the patriarchy that envelops Tess and other women of her era. Through Tess's experiences, the oppressive burden placed upon women to conform to societal expectations of purity, submission, and financial responsibility is portrayed in the novel.

DOUBLE STANDARDS SOCIETAL JUDGEMENT

The double standards of Victorian society, especially in sexual morality and social judgment, are emphasised by Hardy. Men may be excused or excused for their sexual misdeeds, but the women are harshly judged and condemned, like Tess. Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the d'Urberville* portrays Tess's father as an old man who holds a high regard for his family's acnes Try to identify other instances of the knight's pride in his lineage. Look out for other

examples of how the knight is proud of his family's lineage in Thomas Hardy's novel *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*. Then he hears of this relationship and is overjoyed. He celebrates by indulging in excessive drinking. But he drinks excessively, and on market day he has to drive the cart with beehives, but this overindulgence affects his prowess as a driver. Tragically, as a result of his intoxication, the family's horse, which was vital for their livelihood, dies. John Durbeyfield's double standard is seen when he encourages Tess to approach the wealthy d'Urberville family to claim kinship and seek financial assistance. He believes that this is a chance for Tess to make things better for his family. But later, when Tess hesitantly accepts and ends up in the embrace of Alec d'Urberville, John takes the blame for what Tess did – though he prompted her to do it. John Durbeyfield's character is a prime example of a double standard and a society's condemnation, which Tess encounters throughout the novel. This hypocrisy highlights how Tess suffers from being a woman in a male dominated society, because the same crimes are committed and receive different punishments for men and women. Tess's father's traditional male values have a strong influence on her life. His actions ultimately cause Tess's innocence to be lost and her downfall. The decisions he makes, based on his pride and indulgence, have repercussions on Tess on a far more extensive level. They contribute to her personal struggles and ultimately lead to her destruction. This highlights the profound influence of Tess's father's behaviour and the negative effects of the patriarchal society in which they live. The double standard within Angel becomes evident when he reveals his own past experiences to Tess. He admits that he's been in relationships with other women before he met Tess, even having an affair in London before her. But, when Tess reveals her own past with Alec d'Urberville, Angel is judgmental and rejects Tess at the end. In chapter 35 of *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, Tess and Angel discuss this inequality. Tess pleads with a parched mouth,

‘In the name of our love, forgive me!’ she whispered with a dry mouth.

‘I have forgiven you for the same!’

And, as he did not answer, she said again-

‘Forgive me as you are forgiven! I forgive you, Angel.’

‘You- yes, you do.’

‘But you do not forgive me?’

‘O Tess, forgiveness does not apply to the case! You were one person;

Now you are another. My God- how can forgiveness meet such a grotesque-?

Prestidigitation as that!’ (Hardy 189).

Alec d'Urberville's attitude towards Tess is an epitome of double standard which ultimately results in her tragic fate. Alec constantly uses a double standard, with him and Tess, showing his lack of caring for Tess's welfare. One incident, in particular, that shines a light on Alec's double standard is when he exploits Tess's weakness in the Chase. Here Tess goes to sleep while the chance arises for Alec to seduce Tess. The moment is a good representation of the way in which Alec disregarded Tess's consent and how he manipulated her innocence. Exploits her when she is unconscious, and demonstrates the lack of respect for her autonomy and welfare. Besides, Alec always rationalizes his behavior by claiming his superiority and social status. He is convinced that it is his kindness and attentions that Tess ought to be thankful for, since he feels that he's a benefactor who can raise her up in society. Tess feels no repugnance or remorse at his behaviour, but always tries to assert his control over her, as he says in chapter 47 of the novel, 'Remember, my lady, I was your master once! I will be your master again. If you are any man's wife you are mine!' (Hardy 275). Tess of the d'Urbervilles tells the story of Tess suffering many injustices throughout her life- except she isn't ever given justice. When she does take matters into her own hands and kills Alec, society condemns her to execution, and, in doing so, makes its judgment on her. And it is beautifully portrayed at the end of the novel. In the chapter 59, Hardy says: Justice' was done, and the President of the Immortals, in Aeschylean phrase, had ended his sport with Tess. And the d'Urberville knights and dames slept on in their tombs unknowing. The two speechless gazers bent themselves down to the earth, as if in prayer, and remained thus a long time, absolutely motionless: the flag continued to wave silently. As they grew stronger they rose and took each other by the hand and moved on (Hardy 331). This reflects the faulty perception or judgment of the society and the injustice that has been suffered by the women at the margins and leads to questions about personal agency, and the fairness of the justice system.

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND VICTIM JUDGEMENT

In the novels that he wrote, society is always seen as a destructive force which he, unfortunately, finds himself in, affecting his characters' lives. In Tess of the d'Urbervilles, Hardy explores in particular the influence exerted on human life during his time by the society norms and traditions which were strong and often negative. This article is intended to show how the characters in the novel are victimized by society, as an oppressive force, and how it ultimately results in their downfall, especially for Tess. In the Victorian period,

females were particularly vulnerable to the male-dominated oppression. They had to contend with a lot of difficulties in dealing with the social evils that stemmed from their perceived neglect, seduction and purity questions, etc. The notion of purity was used by society to often victimise women, as in the case of adultery, divorce, or any other perceived sin. This victimization is personified in the novel's protagonist Tess, whose story is one that is often a sad example. She endures immense suffering in her quest to prove her purity after being seduced by Alec. Her journey is a testament to the hardships faced by women in society and the challenges she faced in asserting herself and challenging the oppression of society. Tess finds herself in a series of tragic circumstances, similar to those in the novel *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*. She faces blame not only from her community but also from Angel Clare, and even her own parents. Tess comes from a destitute family and discovers that she is a descendant of the ancient and noble d'Urberville family. Seeing an opportunity to improve their social status, her parents send her to establish connections with the wealthy d'Urbervilles in the hope of gaining financial support. Tess then goes to work at the d'Urberville estate where she meets Alec d'Urberville. Morally corrupt, and exploitative, Alec seduces Tess because he can. Tess rejects him at first, but then succumbs to him and becomes his mistress. Angel Clare enters Tess's life, and she falls in love with him, and tells him her history before he marries her. But, as a strong moralist, Angel cannot stomach what Tess has done with Alec. He condemns Tess, considering her impure and questioning her virtue, lacking understanding and empathy. In this, patriarchal hypocrisy is a manifestation of the misogynistic and non-empathetic attitude of the males towards women who are victims of sexual violence. The blame directed at Tess goes beyond Angel's judgment. Her rural community is steeped in traditional values and norms. Tess's behaviour is inconsistent with these standards, and the community gossips, judges and condemns Tess. The community is extremely critical of the community, adding to Tess's sense of isolation and her feeling of guilt and unworthiness. Her relationship with the d'Urbervilles is something she takes for granted, something she's been hoping for, but when her parents find out she's dating Alec they become their adversaries. They believe that Tess is guilty of tarnishing the family's honour and reputation. Tess's mother places the blame on her daughter for the situation, offering no support and instead emphasizing marriage as the solution. This viewpoint is explicitly conveyed in Chapter 12 when Tess's mother exclaims upon learning about the incident, she reiterated: 'And yet th'st not got him to marry 'ee!' reiterated her mother. 'Any woman would have done it but you, after that!' (Hardy 66). Furthermore, at another point in

time, she adds, 'You ought to have been more careful if you didn't mean to get him to make you his wife!' (Hardy 67). Though Tess is obviously a victim, the society that she lives in is hasty to judge her and to refuse giving her compassion and understanding. This attitude of the victim blaming and patriarchy in Tess's experiences reflect the overall cultural and social perspectives of Victorian England. In Tess of the d'Urbervilles, Tess suffers from the unfairness of the community, unwelcome marriage, and from her own parents because of society's expectations and judgments in Victorian England. This blame contributes to the tragic trajectory of Tess's life. The sexual exploitation and victim-blaming experienced by Tess in Tess of the d'Urbervilles powerfully expose the deep-rooted patriarchal hypocrisy of the society depicted in the novel.

BANGLADESH PERSPECTIVES

Unmasking the Patriarchy: A Cultural Exploration":

Fostered by the social construct of patriarchy, this is present in all aspects of one's life, in the household environment, the workplace, and in society. Deep-seated cultural and historical norms are part of the reasons that women's status is generally subordinate and hard to change and that women continue to be subservient to men despite these changes. It is, however, noteworthy that Bangladesh's symptoms of patriarchy do not exist in a singular form. They are complex and multifaceted, and come in a variety of forms which impact women in various ways. The dismantling and challenging of these systems of oppression need to be understood in the context of multiple layers of patriarchy, indeed concerted efforts to create the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women in all sectors of life. Changing this cultured attitude towards gender inequality in Bangladesh is difficult because the Bangladesh government attempts to establish meaningful goals to achieve gender equality but fails to do so due to the influence of the traditional culture. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have the intention of reducing the gender disparities in education, employment, health, and nutrition. These global goals are meant to drive protection, peace and prosperity for all people, without discrimination on the basis of sex. Yet women are clearly the weaker sex in which male play a dominant role in the society and in the patrilineal and patri lately, women continue to be economically and socially less empowered than men. Women are therefore mostly dependent on men to earn their living, and suffer from a low status as their providers. Socio-economic implications of unequal access to education leads to dependency, which hinders women's economic empowerment and contributions to their families and

communities. Even educated parents have an overwhelming desire to marry their daughters to 'good men' to establish families, a desire that may sometimes overshadow other desires they might have. Thus, the general problem of women, which includes issues like shortage of engagement in employment, women wage gap, and women's frequent prominent face of sexual harassment. They remind us of the urgent need to deal with and combat the systemic barriers contributing to gender inequality and discrimination in Bangladesh. This clear division of labour highlights the lack of equality women experience with respect to their patriarchal norms that places the burden on their unpaid care work as their relatives are mostly oriented to the paid work. This inequality and the burden imposed will need to be mitigated through the redistribution of household duties and caring responsibilities. This is a step towards eliminating such inequalities and striving for a more balanced society. This article also explores the issue of society's vulnerability for women and amongst others takes into account the alarming figures gathered in different sources. It refers to a report by Ain o Salish Kendra that between January and July of this year, there have been 353 rape cases, while 80 were attempted. The article mentions the Manusher Jonno Foundation, sex harassment claimed 86 women and 134 women died at the hands of their husbands. Further, it states that 560 girl children were raped and 98 attempted a rape in the country in 2022. Sadly 12 girls died as a result of rape (Islam). These figures highlight the serious nature of gender-based violence and the gender vulnerability in society. Incidents of rape, sexual harassment, intimate partner violence are indeed a big concern and require immediate concerns with joined action for security and welfare of women and girls in Bangladesh. In addition, non-identity of status between women and men may be witnessed in Bangladeshi society which is patriarchal in nature. Although progress has been made, women in Bangladesh still have many obstacles and discriminations in accessing certain areas such as education, employment and leadership. In many aspects of life, women in Bangladesh are constrained by traditional norms and stereotypes about women and their capabilities. This gender disparity needs to be resolved and women need to be given equal opportunity with men to flourish and secure success in communities across Bangladesh. Furthermore, the frailness and oppression of women due to cultural norms in Bangladesh is very similar to Tess of the d'Urbervilles as found in Thomas Hardy's novel. Tess, like countless women in Bangladesh, is stifled by a system of male privilege that denies her access to resources diminishes her worth and exposes her to all manner of injustice. Tess is afflicted by the oppressive hand of culture and society as are the women in Bangladesh. In Tess's case, as

they were poor themselves, her parents wanted to rise to a higher position in society and so directed her to take on the d'Urberville family for her adoption. This is a result of pressure from society to conform to certain norms and opportunities to make economic growth. Likewise in Bangladesh, some families like to marry their daughters into stable families, even if it compromises their educational goals and/or dreams. Tess, due to low access, is facing similar restrictions as girls do in rural Bangladesh. Although Tess is bright and is ambitious to learn, her family view education as unimportant for a girl. Likewise, the prolonged failure of Bangladesh women entrepreneurs in equal access to schooling and empowerment illustrates the socio-economic constraints which women face in rural areas. Similarly, the vulnerability of women in Bangladesh emphasizes the challenges facing girls in rural areas, due to their education deprivation back on the old ascription. In the first instance, gender inequalities in educational access contribute to a vicious cycle of dependence, whereby women are denied the opportunity to make meaningful contributions to their own societies, or to achieve economic independence. As in Bangladesh, Tess is also a victim of child marriage. In the article, Mim's suicide-washer betrayed marriage is a measure of the shocking rates of child marriage in Bangladesh, where a high proportion of young women enters into marriage as children. Tess also feels the heartbreaking impacts of early marriage, when she falls into an infelicitous and unhappy relationship with Alec d'Urberville. Tess and the girls in Bangladesh both lack agency and become victims to marriage that hamper their goal and can cause them physical and emotional abuse. Moreover, the article has emphasized the gender discrimination in employment, wage gap and sexual harassment problem. Equally, Tess faces discrimination and exploitation in her work due to this society that views male labour over female involvement. Victorian England: Men were paid more than women. Sexual harassment occurs for her when she is taken advantage of by Alec and the impact of gender-based violence occurs when she is sexually harmed. The experiences highlight the common gender-related issues in Bangladesh: women's low participation, wage disparity and gender-based harassment in work. The experiences reflect the lack of participation of women in the workforce, wage differentials and harassment by males in the workplace as prevalent issues facing women in Bangladesh today. Tess's adventures in Tess of the d' Urbervilles provide a poignant example of how women in Bangladesh are vulnerable and oppressed as a result of their culture. Tess's life and the lives of the women in Bangladesh are both affected by a culture rooted in patriarchy, where they are both given lesser opportunities and value and both are subjected to various inhumanities. Their narratives point to the need for action to

tackle and transcend entrenched barriers, for gender equality and to enable women's lives to be lived without discrimination and oppression.

BREAKING THE SILENCE: EXPOSING VICTIM-BLAMING IN TRADITIONAL CONTEXTS

The survivors of sexual exploitation and rape in Bangladesh are facing a lot of difficulties in their path to heal and take forward. There is certainly a strong stigma attached to it - it is one of the more powerful barriers. Many people end up blaming victims, further dissatisfying them and making them feel more isolation. Unfortunately, in many cases the responsibility for a rape is on the shoulders of the woman who has been raped. Despite being innocent, they're rendered socially outcasts for life. As a result of this stigmatisation and the culture of victim blaming, women suffer throughout their lives. Additionally, there could be an element of shame with it that women don't want to reach out or report it to any authorities. Bangladeshi women who have been victims of sexual exploitation or rape have encountered a range of issues that stifle their healing and moving forward. One of the HARDEST challenges is social stigma. A lot of people mistakenly focus on victims and cause the anguish and isolation to increase for the individuals. Sadly, in most cases, the responsibility for the crime is thrust upon the individual who was sexed and forced to have sex with the rapist or rapists. Yet they are discriminated against by society for their entire lives just because they have sinned, even though they didn't. This stigmatization and the current culture of 'victim-blaming' therefore cause a lifetime of suffering for women. Additionally, there is the stigma attached to the incident, which can deter women from asking for help or reporting the matter to the police. It is deeply concerning to the plight of the women-victims of sexual abuse in Bangladesh. Al Jazeera's report details the precarious position that survivors fall into, such as Rehana (pseudonym). A women's rights activist, Rehana, 26, who hails from Mymensingh from north of the capital, Dhaka, revealed that she had been raped by her husband's relative two months ago in her village. My husband won't have me as his bed mate, my in-laws won't sit with me for a meal, my parents won't let me near, and nobody in the community will recognize me, but everyone knows the truth about me, how can they do otherwise? Is it living worth his life? Still as Khan, "what he has done to me is worse than murder, I am alive but I am not living." Rehana's story is just one of many such narratives to demonstrate the sheer difficulty in the lives of people suffering from sexual abuse and Bangladesh victims' vulnerability. It's a comparable storyline when Tess comes back to her

home in Marlott after she spent time in Trantridge in Thomas Hardy's novel *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*. When Tess tells her mother about her disturbing time, Tess' mom comments on what it has been like, referring to how taboo sexual abuse is within society. While relating this story, Mrs. Durbeyfield makes two statements which are ridden with the stigma of his society: "But yet th'st not got him to marry 'ee!" repeated her mother; "After that—after that," continued Mrs Durbeyfield, "any woman would have done it but you." (Hardy 66). Tess's mother, following what we would consider now to be victim-blaming, urges Tess to marry rapist Alec. Tess's mother encourages Tess to marry her rapist (Alec) in a victim blaming manner. Besides, her mother chides her to be more careful, otherwise she wouldn't have been married, but to his wife." (Hardy 67). The elements of the incident that seem to clearly point to a victim blaming attitude are emphasized. The flashback of Tess' treatment once she arrives home from Trantrike richly conveys the harshness the narrator suffers upon her return. Speaking for Hardy she says, "There was no fear of shadows in her; the only idea that she seemed to have was to evade mankind - or rather the cold accretion that is called mankind, so terrible in the mass, and so unformidable, even pitiable, in its units" (Hardy 69,70). As Tess's isolation and lack of acceptance is so extreme, one can view how this has caused her to hide away and spend her time among the "lonely servants" of the world instead of being out in their society. The speaker's response highlights the controversial effect of which society moral violations may have on an individual.

CONCLUSION

Thomas Hardy's novel *Tess of the d' Urbervilles'* Reflection of the Patriarchal Hypocrisy and Analogical Study with Bangladesh Settings reveals a similarity between the novel and the society in Bangladesh. A theme investigated in the thesis is the omnipresent nature of patriarchal hypocrisy and its consequences for women's lives in both contexts. The comparisons are used to highlight the commonness of these issues. The study shows the effect of literature to stimulate discussion and to change society. Analogical approach gave new outlook on the novel and the context of Bangladesh and added to the full grasp of the male/female relationship. It is always at the point that the thesis demands Patriarchy's destruction to shift towards an inclusive and equitable world.

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