

Trial and Tribulations faced by women in Perumal Murugan's *A Lonely Harvest*

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Abstract

A Lonely Harvest may be a representative novel written by Perumal Murugan. This paper clearly describes about trial and tribulations faced by widow in society and the way they tackle from it. This also portrays and the way they travelled through the method from becoming a widow and trying their best to measure a cheerful life. Ponna consider as a leading character in this story. She was wife of Kali, Sheerayi also a widowhood who was mother-in-law of Ponna and Vallayi was grandmother of Ponna. After the great loss how Ponna lead their family and how face the problems and struggles in society what are all the big responsibility she need to take and how she tackle it. For the first time in her life without any experience and idea she need to earn money and give financial support to her family and how she overcome from kali's death. She need to face the society problem after she became a widow the surrounding treat her in rude way.

Keywords: decision making, hard work, problem's, rebuilt, sacrifice.

Widows do not have equal inheritance rights, and that they could also be stripped of their land, evicted from their home, or maybe separated from their children. Ponna also suffered tons she was from poor background. After sudden death of her husband, she got lot of responsibility to take care of her child, mother-in-law and grandmother. When Ponna become a widow people from her surrounding disturbed her mentally, physically and also financially. Basically widows facing this sort of problems from day-to-day life. When Ponna's husband was alive she lived sort of a queen's life after the big loss the only step of life is like walk on the throne. The author narrates how Ponna suffer and how to overcome from the huge loss and how to tackle problems in her life to steer peaceful life.

Ponna's big problem is to seek care for her own agriculture land she knows about it and works according . Ponna does cultivation and helps her family. Cultivation helps her a lot in terms of feeding everyone in the family. Ponna began to work as a vessel cleaner in hotel. She was blamed many a times but she never cared about them. She does this work continuously and fullfils her basic needs for survival. But it never enough and she met another problem when the child get grow up and it is time for education. The burden became mounted and financial needs also gone above Ponna's ability. So she asks Seerayi to try for financial support. She also started to do some small work to help Ponna. Ponna got sexually harassed by hotel owner so she stop the work. Ponna suffered to teach her son. He was small boy so it was difficult to know things of their life. Ponna struggled to satisfy her son's need she attempted to compress all the unwanted things and specialized spent some amount for her son's education.

Ponna decided to sell the cow out of which she bought a wheelbarrow and began to do her new work. She began to earn money and it was enough for run the family. She gradually realized the agriculture and found out how to tackle profit and loss. She economized from wheelbarrow and cultivated her land. Simultaneously, she managed her child's education and lookout of her mother-in-law and grandmother. The society never stopped criticizing her but she never lost her hope. She exerting and grown gradually. During the harvest, she mapped out all the mistake what she did first time and applied what she learned. She earned lot of money, after a successful harvest. She rebuilt a house and also her image. Ponna had enough money to graduate her son for higher Education. "Hard Work Never Fails". Ponna gradually increased the family's growth and settled well financial and lead a peaceful life after a lot of

struggle. Ponna faced many problems in a both individual and communal life. After death of her husband ,outer look of the Ponna changed totally. The villagers restricted her not to wear colorful dresses and jewels. Ponna forced to wear white dress in all time.

Ponna's life split suddenly that event could be a life changing moment. Losing a spouse is the most stressful phase that she underwent in her life. That event split her life in half so everytime Ponna needs to remember the cultivation process. Once she became a widow she wanted to have an identity. She has to line amidst the sceptical society where people doubt her work in cultivation. Then she was able to survive and put one foot in front of the others and make it from day-to-day life. She got ready to do agriculture work though she encountered lot of impediments. There is a timeline automatically created in her mind before and after the loss of her spouse.

Ponna faced lot of problems and struggles to steer her life . Ninety percent of happiness got destroyed while she lost her husband. After the death of husband, Ponna need to create identity and stand by her own leg and sacrifice her needs and had a responsibility to built an image. She has taken up a strange and challenging call to line her life among all the obstruents.

A cause of great trouble or suffering human existence is full of trial and tribulations. It is filled with suffering and each person must overcome them. Real wisdom is to accept the inevitable and continue the journey of life. Increasing the strength of faith and resolve in difficult circumstances.

Works cited

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