



SELINA HOSAIN

The name Selina Hosain is indistinguishable from the literary arena of Bangladesh. Being a renowned novelist and television personality, she earned all major national awards including: Bangla Academy Literary Award (1980), Ekushey Padak (2009), Independence Day Award (2018) and many more. Her major works include 'Jalochchwas (1972)', 'Josnay Surjyo Jala (1973)', 'Hangor Nodi Grenade (1976)', 'Magna Caitanye Shis (1979)', 'Japito Jibon (1981)', 'Podoshobdo (1982)', 'Neel Moyurer Joubon (1983)' and 'Chand Bene (1984)'.

She earned an MA Degree in Bengali Language and Literature from Rajshahi University in 1968 and won a scholarship from the Ford Foundation for her novel 'Sandhya Gayatri' in 1994-95. She is the former director of the Bangla Academy and has served as a member of the National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh, while also being the representative of the Government to the Executive Board of UNESCO. In 2014, she was appointed as the Chairman of the Bangladesh Shishu Academy.

INSPIRATION

My first inspiration is the empyrean beauty of nature. I must say that I got the chance to absorb the colossal beauty of art in the lap of nature and that inspired me a lot. The dazzling waterfall, the chirping of birds and the pleasant sound of dried leaves; they all have their own rhythm and a unique melodious flow. Since childhood, I used to climb on trees, pick up water lilies and so much more! I was also very fond of collecting bird eggs and fishing. These elements were inspirational in my writings. Later on, I deeply observed the relationship between men and women, and the sufferings of women; especially the poor women in our society. These observations greatly motivated me to write.

PHILOSOPHY

Humanity has always been the center of the philosophy of my life. Therefore, my motto is to be a good human being and not to hurt anyone. I think, writing can be a way to serve the people of our society as well as the nation. Through writing, happiness, sorrows and sufferings can be

expressed to all. I would love to serve more for the people of our country through my work. This thought steers me toward the moral path.

VIEWS ON HER PROFESSION

To me, writing is irresistible; whenever I get new thoughts in my mind, I cannot but refrain myself from giving it a frame by writing. Since childhood, writing has been my passion. Back then, it was quite risky to take writing as a profession. Still it is not considered as main profession in our country's perspective. Therefore, many renowned writers of our country were involved in multiple professions for livelihood yet passionately continued writing. Our young generation should also follow their footsteps. In my point of view, to write for the nation is a service because writings can still be alive and thus widen the thoughts of the reader. Our young generation should focus more on reading literature to preserve our rich culture. Together we should take necessary initiatives to motivate them to read more.

BOOKS

Since childhood, I am very fond of read-

ing story books. Among all books, *Chinnapatra* by Rabindranath Tagore is on the top of my favorite list. It is an amazing book in which we can find the story of nature as well as the story of the people of our country and their livelihoods.

FILMS

I watch a lot of movies. *Pather Panchali* by Satyajit Ray is my most favorite Bengali movie. Besides, I love to watch movies starring Uttam and Suchitra. *Harano Sur* and *Shilpi* are some of my favorite movies. A Bengali movie titled *Hospital* is also my favorite. *Sutorang* by Subhash Dutta and *Guerilla* by Nasiruddin Yousuff are my favorites as well. Moreover, *Two Women* and *Roman Holiday* are some of my favorite English movies.

MUSIC

I love listening to various kinds of music. But my thirst for Rabindra Sangeet is eternal. *Amar Shokol Dukher Prodip* is my most favorite song which never fails to amaze me. It gives me an inner peace by reminding me of my beloved daughter Faria Lara.

FUTURE PLANS

I love to work with passion. Therefore, I always remain busy with my writing. And I would love to continue with it as much as possible. Currently, I am busy with a research for my next writing. In that book, I will portray the sorrows and sufferings of our refugees at the time of the Great Liberation War of Bangladesh. The readers will see a clear image of how the refugees were forced to leave the country and spent days in India, their dream for freedom and their sufferings. This is my next plan.

IDOLS

I cannot mention a specific name as my idol. Hence, I have a few idols considering the various aspects in my whole life. Therefore, the writings of Marx-Engels have left a deep impression on me. I have learnt a lot of things from their writings. Additionally, I greatly admire Fyodor Dostoevsky for his astounding writings. I have learnt a lot and got very much inspired by the unique style and amazing presentation of his writings.

By Shawreen Rahman