

Bhaskar Hazarika's *Kothanadi*: Use of Disparate Tales and their Unifying Effect

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Abstract

Bhaskar Hazarika's *Kothanadi* is a movie in Assamese, based on four different tales taken from Lakshminath Bezbaruah's widely circulated *Burhi Air Xadhu* (Grandma's Tales). The tales included into the text are of different tastes dealing with the folk beliefs and practices of the people of Assam. This is perhaps one of the unifying threads that bind the otherwise disparate tales. In fact, the movie seems to have achieved a harmonious or unifying effect as far as unfolding the folk life is concerned. However, it is also observed that the movie establishes a connecting link among the tales; indeed an innovation done by Bhaskar Hazarika. There is no denying the fact that the technique of montage is skillfully used in which the short shots are arranged sequentially to attain the ultimate agenda of showcasing the folk life of the State. In addition, the link that is established among the tales with the engagement of characters is another attempt at scaling the unifying effect in the movie. It is true that all the tales are not connected to one another, but the interconnection among the tales is a reality. This paper intends to focus upon this aspect and see whether such approach is really useful to unify the different tales selected in the movie. Besides, the paper also examines whether the interconnection in the tales leads to the attainment of technical excellences in the movie.

Keywords : *Kothanadi*, Tales, Folk life, Disparity, Unity.