

March 2019

① B.A. II (Sub.)

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Friday

The Allegory in "Animal Farm"
by
George Orwell

"The Animal Farm" by George Orwell is an allegory in the form of a fable. It has been subtitled as "A Fairy Story", that indicates its nature and character. There is Mr Jones, who possessed a Manor Farm in which many animals like pigs, horses and donkeys, work as beasts of burden. Their life is miserable. They are chafing under the yoke of their cruel master. So they conspire to revolt against their human master. A white bear called old Major inspires the animals and instigates them to rise in revolt.

16 ^{Saturday} He is a sort of prophet who is sure of a successful rebellion by the animals against the man. His vision of a better future is very tempting. His disciples Napoleon and Snowball lead the revolt. Man is defeated and chased away. Animals becomes the masters. The Manor Farm is renamed as Animal Farm. Man is declared the enemy. The farm is isolated from the human world. A revolutionary policy is adopted. But very soon the leaders of the animals become their new masters. Then there is a conflict between the two leaders. Napoleon wins and Snowball runs away. Napoleon assumes absolute powers and he, along with his associates lives in luxury. A caste of rulers dominates the farm. Terrible dogs are trained to maintain discipline and loyalty among the

2019

APRIL

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Sunday

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animals. Gradually the whole policy is reversed. The ruling class of the Animal Farm not only converses with the ruling class of the human world but the leaders of the animals grow into the shape of human being.

The story is a copy or caricature of Soviet Russia under communism. Mr Jones is none else than the Czar of Russia. The old Major is Lenin. Napoleon is Stalin. Snowball is Trotsky. The revolt is the Communist conspiracy and civil war in which the Bolsheviks were victorious. The isolation is the iron curtain thrown round Communist Russia. The enemy is Western Europe and America. The dogs are the agents of a police state, which Stalin established in the Soviet land. The animals are the labourers or the workers called proletariat. Absolute power is the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Thus the allegorical nature of the story is quite evident. All the animals, leaders and the followers speak and act like human beings. Their characters are revealed by the roles they play in the story. Orwell has successfully used the old form of fable which he has developed into a most devastating political allegory of modern times.

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