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Jealous to Hauldar charat Singh who gives him a hockey stick. He hates the caste Hindus who look down upon him and detest him and misbehave him. He is quite pleased with the Muslims and Christian fellows, who do not observe caste distinction. He feels highly elated when the Mahatma speaks about the abolition of caste distinction and fair treatment with the untouchables.

Bekha is a real and full blooded sweeper boy. As E.M. Forster said, Beka is a real individual, loveable, thwarted sometimes grand, sometimes weak and thoroughly Indian. Thus it is the finest specimen of Mulk Raj Anand's novel 'The Untouchable'.

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against him. He loves his ² younger brother, Bakha and gives him his old clothes and shoes.

Bakha's mind is full of a conflict of emotion. He wishes to breathe in an atmosphere of freedom but soon he relapses into inhuman servility which he has inherited from his ancestors. He wants to rebel against caste Hindus, who exploit him but social convention and forbearance come across his path. He, like an angry tiger, searches Pt. Kalinath, the priest who advises his sister, Sohini in the temple, but he finds himself weak and unable to violate ancient barriers of caste distinction.

Bakha is the product of his environment. He feels melancholy, isolated and unhappy. He is sick of the unhygienic and unhygienic place where he has to live in. He is overjoyed when he gets an opportunity to go out of odorous smoky world of refuse into the radiant world of the sun. Sex also plays an important role in Bakha's life. When he sees Ram Charat's sister with whom he had played during childhood, quite naked and thinks of embracing and ravishing her.

Bakha has a high sense of gratitude. He is grateful, "haltingly grateful, flatteringly grateful, stumblingly

BA-III (H), ① The Untouchable : Bakha VII paper

Mulk Raj Anand has fantastically portrayed the character of Bakha, the hero of the novel, "The Untouchable". Bakha represents the poor, depressed and exploited segments of Indian society, which were discarded as out castes.

Bakha, a young man of eighteen, is the son of Lakha, the Jamadar of the sweepers of the town and Cantonment. His mother has already expired. He lives in a single room mud-built house in the outcastes' colony, which is situated in the midst of 'ugliness and the misery'. Dr. Anand writes: His dark face, round and solid and exquisitely well defined, lit with a queer sort of beauty. The toil of the body had built up for him a very fine physique. It seemed to suit him, to give a homogeneity, a wonderful wholeness to his body, so that you could turn rounds. Here is a man."

The writer says Bakha is a child of modern India. He is influenced by British style ^{of} living. He wants to imitate them. The simplicity of Indian life has no importance for him. As the writer says, "He did not like his home, his street, his town because he had been to work at the Tommie's barracks and obtained glimpses of another world - strange and beautiful, he has grown out of his native shoes, into the ammunition boots that he had secured as a gift." Bakha is dutiful and punctual to the minute. According to him, "work is worship". He cleans up the latrine regularly. To him, work is a sort of intoxication which gave him glowing health and plenty of sleep." Bakha feels too much insults, humiliation and abuses at his home.

Bakha has fondness and liking for playing hockey. He knows no bound of joy when Havildar Charat Singh gives him a new hockey stick. He is a key player in the hockey match against the 21st Punjabis. He scores a goal. He is also a skilled player of 'Khuti'. He has immense sympathy and love for his father, brother and sister. Although his father abuses him and imposes authority on him but he never shows any reaction