

A STUDY OF THE IMPACT OF THE ASSAM AGITATION AS DEPICTED IN ARUPA PATANGIA KALITA'S THE STORY OF FELANEE

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ABSTRACT

*The ordinary people of third world countries often undergo intense pain and mental agony as a consequence of the recurring civil wars and insurgency. The lives of the people living in North East India: indeed, is trauma filled as they face war-like situations, regular bloodshed, massacres, ethnic tensions, communal pogroms, and other violent conflicts. The authors belonging to the North East Indian literature have impeccably grasped these wounds inflicted upon the psyche of these people during several violent bloodsheds. Arupa Patangia Kalita is one of the most famous writers of Assam. As a writer she has more than ten novels and several short stories to her credit. Her novel *The Story of Felanee*, originally written in Assamese was translated into English by Deepika Phukan in 2011. This novel unwraps the hidden agonies and mental tortures of a group people which were concealed by authoritarian powers for centuries. The novel unravels the life of Felanee, a woman traumatized by the murder of her husband and the loss of her unborn child when her whole village was burnt down during the language riots in Assam. She is left alone with her only kith and kin, her son, to fight against the odds that these ever growing ethnic conflicts have brought upon her life. This novel also portrays the lives of several other women, on whom unending cruelties are unleashed during such protests. Rape, molestation poverty etc doom their life from everything to nothing. Arupa points out how women have become the greatest victims of all the aggressive conflicts that have occurred in Assam during the Assam agitation movement. She fruitfully depicts their struggle for existence in such times. The intention of the paper is to analyze the sufferings of these people, especially that of women during such movements.*

KEYWORDS: *Third World Countries, North East India, Ethnic Conflicts, Trauma, Arupa Patangia Kalita, Assam, Language Riots, Violence, Plight of Women*