**Nayi Kahani (New Story)**

Nikhil Govind

The New Story in Hindi literature is associated chiefly with the names of Nirmal Verma (1929-2005), Rajendra Yadav (1929-), Mohan Rakesh (1925-1972), Kamleshwar (1932-2007), Mannu Bhandari (1931-) and Bhisham Sahni (1915-2003) among others, and the period referred to is approximately from the late 1950s to and end-date in the early 1960s that remains unclear and open-ended.

The stories dealt chiefly with problems between the sexes, especially with the emergence of the working woman. The newness was compound by the fact that the context was a newly independent, rapidly urbanising and industrialising India. Independence had solved none of the problems of unemployment or underemployment, housing and petty corruption that plagued the growing but still small and unprotected middle class.

The style of the prose mirrored this sense of the difficulty of everyday negotiations of urban life and work. The movement in this sense defended its middle-classness against a certain hectoring from the Party Left that required them to write more on the problems of the peasantry and organized or unorganized labor. To validate middle-class difficulties, and especially ones related to gender and family, was itself no easy task. The critique from the Right was that the *nayi kahani* movement was impatiently disbelieving of the potentialities of tradition in moderating their sense of anomie.

**Timeline**

1954: Literary journal *Kahani* comes back into publication.

1956: Naamwar Singh, in an essay published in *Kahani,* suggests emergence of *Nayi Kahani* based on literary innovations set in motion by *Nayi Kavita*

1957: The term *Nayi Kahani* acquires legitimacy and the critics hail *Kahani* for publishing mostly young authors.

1958: Publication of Mohan Rakesh's play *Aasadh Ka Ek Din (1958)*

1959: publication of Nirmal Verma's pathbreaking collection of short stories titled *Parindey* andLakshmiNarayan Lal's play *Maada Cactus (1959)*

**Bibliography**

Mohan Rakesh:

Stories:

*Insan ke khandhar* (1950)

*Naye Badal* (1957)

*Jaanwar Aur jaanwar* (1958)

*Paanch Lambi Kahaniyan* (1960)

*Ek Aur Jindag* (1961)

*Phaulad ka Aakash* (1966)

*Ek Ek Duniya* (1968)

*Meri Priya Kahaniya* (1971)

Novels:

*Andhere Band Kamre Mein* (1961)

*Na Anewala Kal* (1968)

Plays:

*Asaadh Ka Ek Din (1959)*

*Lehron Ke Rajhans (1963)*

*Aadhe Adhure (1969)*

Travelogue:

*Aakhari Chattan Tak* (1953)

Rajendra Yaadav

Collection of Stories:

*Devtaon Ki Murti*

*Khel Khilaone*

*Jahan Lakshmi Quaid Hai*

*Abhimanyu Ki Aatma-Hatya*

*Chote Chote Taajmahal*

*Kinare se Kinare Tak*

*Prateeksha*

*Tootna and Other Stories*

Novel:

*Saara Akash* (1951)

Kamleshwar

Collection of Short Stories:

*Raja Nirbansiya Aur Kasbe Ka Aadmi* (1957)

Manu Bhandari:

Collection of short stories:

*Main haar gayi* (1957)

*Ek plate sailaab* (1962)

*Teen Nigahin Ki Ek tasveer* (1966)

*Yahi Sach Hai* (1966)

Novels :

*Ek Inch Muskan* (1962) co authored with Rajendra Yadav

*Aapka Banti* (1971)

*Mahabhoj* (1975)

Bheeshm Sahni:

Collection of Short stories:

*Bhagya Rekha* (1953)

*Pehla Paath* (1956)

*Bhatakti Raakh* (1966)

*Nisachar* (1983)

Novels:

*Tamas* (1974)

Plays:

*Hanush* (1977)

*Kabira Kada Baazar Mein* (1981)

**Criticism:**

Kamleshwar, *Nayi Kahani Ki Bhoomika* (1966).

Surendra, *Nayi Kahani Prakriti Aur Paath* (1968)*, Nayi Kahani Dasha Aur Dish, Sambhavana* (1970).

Naamwar Singh, *Kahani: Nayi Kahani* (1973, second edition).