

Sana Shabir\*

## **Postmodern influences on the artists of Pakistan**

### **Abstract**

In this research, analysis on the contemporary needs for Fine arts education and post-modernist strategies. The progress of art education in Pakistan terminated the last seven decades is reconnoitered through major stages. Fine art education actually has needed to change syllabus. Postmodern slant has clearly seen in Pakistani Art. Contemporary yet important phase the changing perspective of art education can be construed more clearly by tentative the curricula and influences on the artists of Pakistan. In the end, the researcher will give suggestion new approach need as well as postmodern strategies in fine arts education.

**Keywords:** *postmodern, art improvement, art agendas in Pakistan, curriculum assessment, art program, contemporary*

### **Introduction**

In this research, analysis of art education and criticism about postmodern influences. According to critics, Pakistani artwork has influenced by postmodernism. In this perspective, change in fine arts curriculum, collaborative instructional methods, and community action has been analyzed. However, in Fine Art education postmodernism imprint seen very clearly since 1950 to onward. The purpose of this research has to discuss instigating postmodernism and contemporary influences how changing the role of Art administrators in Pakistani Art Institutes.

To understand postmodern art is the reaction of modernism. Because in modern art artist presented directly which creates difficulty.<sup>1</sup> When this movement has changed the artist thought the way of direct working than he bound not to show his ideas about reality. In this reaction, the second movement is postmodernism. The term postmodern art refers to a group of movements that began in the late 1950s and early 1960s, during which artists reject established practices and questioned the importance of their roles in the artistic process. The term originated with a philosopher around 1979. Postmodern artists use familiar images from consumer and pop culture and mass media to confront or question art and society. Their work has an irreverent, almost mocking view, of artistic importance.<sup>2</sup> In this way, the artist began to disclose his interpretations through conceptual art which is postmodern. This postmodern way of alleged trace Pakistani art also. Pakistani art both practice and theoretic influenced a lot. In Pakistan, fine art program was

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\* Sana Shabir, M. Phil Student, Art History session 2018 to 2020, College of Art & Design University of Punjab Lahore.

started in 1940. Since the syllabus and techniques which are using in art influenced a lot by postmodernism.

In Pakistan, Miss Ana Molka Ahmed took fine arts syllabus from England introduced the University of Punjab, Her own work in paintings full of concept and modern slant.<sup>3</sup> In this paper discussed only Famous work of Miss Ana Molka Ahmad who exposed about postmodern impression. Also discussed the contemporary needs and changing which compulsory for the changing of the perspective of current art and theoretical syllabus.

Conceptual understanding of artist is in making an art piece and how it further leads to investigate existing philosophy behind his conceptual works. To investigate this one needs to know existing trends in art, situations and circumstances of the artist he lives in, role and limitations of art and artistic mediums involved in contemporary expressions, ideas and concepts and their semantic representations in artistic visuals. To develop some initiative of dialogue about conceptual understanding in contemporary Pakistani art, it is pertinent to know the socio-religious and political situation of the country after partition in 1947.<sup>4</sup> All those circumstances had a strong impact on the artist and their creations during foundation years. Later, artists investigations about what new ideas or concepts of the new medium of expression lead the artist to post-conceptual phenomena.<sup>5</sup> Artists of Pakistan are playing an excessive rule in conveying a message through paintings by using the postmodern approach. But in a theoretical way need changing the modern, postmodern and current situation.

In University of Punjab, the focus of vice-chancellor was just to articulate the subtle statement on the goal of fine art in the field of teaching and in 1940 when the Department was reserved exclusively for women, the aim was just to train women to be artistic, not artists.<sup>6</sup> With the passage of time pursuit of artistic freedom became a powerful source for communication for the public. This transition paved the way for personal and Cultural Revolution. Overriding Colonial academic practice remained in art curriculum in Punjab University with influences from institutes like Shantiniketan and Calcutta school and was practiced into art classes via Anna Molka Ahmed and Chughtai. Their focus was to make the teaching of art 'Pakistani'. However most contents remained at a theoretical level in art history and the teaching of painting continued restricted to western genres of landscape, still life, portraiture following western manners.<sup>7</sup> These artists were working on postmodern maneuvers in art. It was need of that time but currently, furthest have to introduce new and changing procedures in art education.

### **Postmodern Intangible slant in Contemporary Art of Pakistan**

Here is a discussion about Miss Ana Molka Ahmad who has worked on painting and used postmodern slant. However, the fact remains that artists doing conceptual art productively redefine the concept of a work of art so that their concepts are extensively accepted as art. Pakistan's first generation of artists illustrated the initial muddle after partition that also proved as a new foundation when many painters arrived from various aspects. The first quarter of the twentieth century provides the remarkable artistic contribution of the artists like Anna Molka Ahmed (1917-1995), Abbasi Akhter Abidi (b.1930), Nasim Hafeez Qazi (1931-1995), Zubaida Aga (1922-1997).<sup>8</sup>



Figure 1 Flood by Anna Molka Ahmed

Source:( <https://www.google.com/search?q=anamolica+work&oq=>)

Accessed January, 3 2019.

Young and confident artists looked for new ways to communicate their thoughts and concepts with new expression and language without shortcoming of the past.<sup>9</sup> She was enthusiastic to change the somewhat patronizing *cliche* art according to which there is a classification of conceptual art. In her painting presented the reality of society in a postmodern conceptual way. In contemporary art of Pakistan, with a more intense description of the argument is that there are as many descriptions of conceptual art as there are conceptual artworks. When looking back into the last decade every decade came to know that practice work has changed in modern, postmodern, contemporary and visual art but the theory courses have not changed as the education scenario changing. The implement of postmodern strategies in paintings practice work has visible but in theory, courses are misplaced, there is a need to develop theoretical curriculum according to postmodern contemporary theories. There should be a more challenging approach towards art education in order to meet the standards of 21st century skills. Art has vast boundaries to be explored, especially contemporary art.

#### **Analysis of practice and theory in Fine Arts in the perspective postmodern and contemporary approach**

Substantiation from this research is only one of many causes education and commitments in fine arts are beneficial to the educational development. One must grasp that these systems often take months and even years to modify but in subjective besides theoretical approach, nothing improves further. Behind every artwork and every movement, there is an idea that defines it and constructs it on a level above the visual. Philosophers and critics as well as other artists have long sensed this and tried to define it, inspiring much discussion and creating the field known as Aesthetics as well as these overarching questions, thinking about art in this way allows studying the specific motivations and meanings behind individual artworks and movements. Throughout this research, the work of artists from all periods, from symbolism to the contemporary to explore and understand some of the most important questions and ideas about art. However, in theory, courses need

some more outlines to have to include according to philosophical aesthetics. Some of the philosophers will be engaging with include, the Ancient Greeks, the Romantics, Nietzsche, the Theosophists, Karl Marx, Theodor Adorn, the Postmodernists and many more. Now new philosopher, style, in art or any critical creative practice that is keen to expand perspectives in the world of art.<sup>10</sup>

When study the Higher Education Commission policies there are two times changing the curriculum of Fine arts scheme of study in (2009 and 2014). Higher Education Commission has included Bachelors and Masters foundation year for those students who are new in Fine Arts.<sup>11</sup> But the syllabus has not changed according to contemporary requirements of the time. By contrast, contemporary art is absorbed in the immediate and the present.

## **Conclusion**

In this research, paper after analysis came to know that there is an enormous change in art education but only in vast cities like Lahore, Karachi and Islamabad. Postmodern influenced are need of early decades which seen in Ana Molka Ahmad and other artists. However, there needs an immense change in education which is only happen when the government takes the step because educationists thought that every country government has a vital rule in changing the perspective of education. If the government will provide grants and all kind of facilities and introduced art education international level than this is possible. Secondly, the influence postmodernism is only need of foundation of art education. Now need current theories and practices in art. In instantaneous, art education has continuously been in the facility of nationwide uniqueness, national standards, and opulence of the country. It has been a professional education in the global development and discrete castigation in the academies everywhere the world. In Pakistan, it still authorizations underneath strain and disagreement in the instructive format. The commission of Curriculum Review for Fine Arts program organized by NCRC in 2010 strokes the need for this in the sanctions complete. Presenting to this generates current requirements in Fine Arts. Now need more change which is need of day its look Art education perspective is only change in copying the western world. It is difficult to precise that Art is a vast field its need only new ways and influences instead of postmodernism.

## Notes & Reference

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<sup>2</sup> Department of Art & Design, AJ&K University, Muzaffarabad  
<[www.ajku.edu.pk/DepartmentofArtDesign.php](http://www.ajku.edu.pk/DepartmentofArtDesign.php)>

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