

## “A Chronicle of True Friendship in 'Two Bullocks’”

**Shankar**

Koneru Lakshmaiah Educational Foundation, KLEF, Vaddeswaram, Guntur- 522302,  
Andhra Pradesh, India

### **Abstract:**

Munshi Premchand has contributed his great literature not only in Hindi but also in English. Most of his writing is translated into English. ‘Two Bullocks’ is the story written by him about two oxen who loved their master very much and had a deep friendship with each other. Both bulls are self-respecting, brave and benevolent. Their owner keeps them with great affection. But once both the bullocks are sent to the owner's in-laws' house. Due to not getting due respect at the new place, both the bulls run away and come to their real owner. They are again sent to the new location. When they try to run away again, they get into many troubles. Eventually, they are auctioned off to a butcher. But both the bulls also manage to escape from that Kanzihaus and finally reach their rightful owner. This story is very interesting and written in simple language. This, the text written by Munshi Premchandra is the mode story of the tale of two bulls’ emotional story. In this story author Premchand has established an emotional relationship between the farmer and the animals. The current work aims to study the spirit of freedom reflected in the story Two Bullock written by Munshi Premachand.

**Key Words:** Two bullock, friendship, emotion, famers, animals, relationship, Kanzihaus etc.

**The Tale of Two Bullock** - Premchand was born in 1880 in Lamhi village of Banaras. Premchandra got a job in the education department after completing his BA, but he resigned from the job to be a part of the non-cooperation movement. After this he started his writer life and wrote many stories which we read today. Premchand died in 1936. Among the many works of Premchand ji, the story of two bullocks is also a wonderful creation. He was born in the year 1880 in Lamhi village of Banaras. His real name was Dhanpat Rai. He died in the year 1936.

Through this story, he has tried to understand the relationship between humans and animals. The Tale of Two Bullock is a story by Munshi Premchand in which Premchandra represents the expressions of a farmer and his two oxen. In this story, he shows that whether animal or human, everyone likes their freedom and then they all struggle for their freedom, as shown in the story of bulls fighting for their freedom has gone. Story writer Munshi Premchand became famous not only in the country but all over the world and was called 'Katha Samrat' means king of story writing.

**The Summary of The Story:** The donkey is considered the most intelligent among animals because it is the most straightforward and tolerant. He remains the same in both happiness and sorrow and loss and gain. Due to this tolerance and straightforwardness, Indians had to bear humiliation in Africa and America. A little less limited animal than a donkey is the bull. His position is lower than that of a donkey because he sometimes gets stuck. Jhuri had two bullocks named Hira and Moti. Both of them were beautiful, graceful and watchful bulls of the Pachhi caste. They had fallen in love with each other for a long time. They always used to get up, sit and eat and drink together. They used to express their love by licking and smelling each other. Both could understand each other's point of view by the gesture of their eyes. Jhuri once sent both the bulls to her in-laws' house. Poor bulls think that their owner has sold them. That's why they didn't want to leave. Somehow, he went with Jhuri's brother-in-law 'Gaya', but he did not feel like there. So, they did not eat fodder there. At night, both the oxen consulted and silently walked towards Jhuri's house. Jhuri was very happy to see the oxen standing on the manger in the morning. The children of the house and the village also welcomed him with applause. Jhuri's wife got angry and started calling him salty. In anger, he gave dry fodder to the oxen. Jhuri asked the servant to mix cake in the fodder, but due to fear of the mistress, he did not mix cake.

On the second day 'Gaya' again took the Hira and Moti. This time he tied them in thick ropes and put dry fodder to eat. He considered it an insult and refused to plow the next day. Gaya hit them with sticks. They broke the plow, the holding, the gamble and ran away, but there were long ropes around the neck, so they were caught. The next day they again got dry fodder. In the evening, the little girl of Bhairon brought two rotis. They were happy to eat them. The girl's stepmother used to trouble her a lot. It came to Moti's heart that he should throw away

Bhairon and his new wife, but seeing the girl's affection, he remained silent. The next night he broke the ropes and made preparations to run away. To weaken the rope, they started chewing it. But at the same time a little girl came and untied the ropes of both the oxen. But then diamonds and pearls did not run away in the love of the girl. Then the girl made a noise, the furry bulls are running away Oh grandfather, run.

Hearing the girl's voice, the Hira and Moti ran away. Gaya and others from the village followed. Both of them lost their way. While crossing new villages, they reached the edge of a field. Pea crop was standing in the field. Both ate a lot of peas. Started jumping for fun. Then suddenly a sari came. Both got scared. Couldn't understand how to compete. On the advice of Hira, both of them attacked together. When the Saar attacked one bull, the other bull would put horns in the belly of the Saar. Saar was not used to fighting with two enemies, so he felt breathless. Hira-Moti took pity on him. He left her. In the joy of victory, Moti again started eating peas in the pea field. By then two men brought sticks. Seeing them, Hira ran away but Moti was caught as he got stuck in the mud. Seeing him trapped in the mud, the Hira also came.

The men caught both of them and locked them in the Kanzihaus. In the Kanzihaus, he could not find anything to eat throughout the day. There were already many goats, buffaloes, horses and cows. Everyone was lying like dead. Due to hunger, the diamond-pearl started licking the soil of the wall. At night, a feeling of rebellion arose in Hira's mind. He threw some mud by hitting the wall with his horns. The watchman who brought the lantern beat him with sticks and tied him with a thick rope. Moti teases her. Hira replied that if the wall had fallen, many animals would be free. Moti also got excited after hearing about Hira. He pulled down the remaining wall. All the animals ran away. The donkey did not run. What's the use of running away? Then you will be caught. Moti shooed them away with a horn. Heera asked Moti to run away but Moti did not leave Hira alone in the trouble. As soon as morning came, there was panic in theKanzihaus. He hit the Moti heavily and tied it with thick ropes.

It had been a week since the Hira- Moti was closed in theKanzihaus. They did not get anything to eat. Water was available only once a day. Both dried up and froze. One day there was an auction. He had no buyer. Finally, a butcher bought them. After being auctioned, both the bears went with the butcher. They were cursing their fate. The butcher was driving them away. On the way he saw a herd of cows and oxen. All the animals were jumping. Diamond-pearl

started thinking how selfish they are. They don't care about us. Suddenly the Hira and Moti felt that those paths were familiar to them. His weak body came to life again. He started running. Jhuri's house came near. They ran fast and stood on the spot. Jhuri ran on seeing them and hugged them. The bull started licking Jhuri's hands. The bearded butcher grabbed the ropes of the oxen. "These bulls are mine," said Jhuri, "I have bought them from auction," said the butcher. He took the bullocks forcibly and left. Moti fired a horn at him and drove him away from the village. Jhuri filled cakes, chaff, bran and grains in the nadis. The two friends started eating. There was excitement in the village. The mistress came and kissed both of their foreheads.

**Donkey as A Symbol of Tolerance:** In this story, Premchand has described the donkey as a symbol of tolerance. According to him, the donkey remains neutral in both joy and sorrow. No matter how bad it is with him, he never gets sad and no matter how good the opportunity comes, he remains emotionless like a recluse. Most of the humans do not understand this talent of the donkey and due to their ignorance make the mistake of considering the donkey as a fool. Their licking and caressing each other at the beginning of the story, feeding them together and then turning their backs on each other indicates their deep brotherhood. When they are ploughed in a bullock cart, it is always the effort of one bull to put less weight on the other. When trouble comes to both of them, both of them face it together. This is best depicted during the fight with the bull. When one's life is in danger and all the avenues for saving one's, life is open, even then one should not leave the side of a friend. This thing becomes clear from the incident of kanji house.

**The Story of Two Friends:** This story is about two bulls, Heera and Moti, who were raised with great love by Jhuri. Once for some reason Jhuri has to leave those bulls with her in-laws Gaya. But Hira and Moti feel that their owner has sold them to Gaya, so they want to go to their home to be free from his clutches as soon as possible. At night, when Gaya has slept after giving them fodder, both of them break the rope and come near Jhuri, seeing them, Jhuri is very happy to see them but his wife gets very angry and she considers them to be doodles.

**The Emotional Relationship between Animals and Humans:** Through the story of two bullocks, the author has described the emotional relationship between animals and humans. This story talks about the value of freedom. Premchand has expressed the emotional relationship of

man and animal in the life of the farmer through Hira and Moti, two oxen. Heera and Moti are both bullocks of a farmer named Jhuri who loves his oxen very much and being captivated by this love, Hira and Moti do not want to leave their master Jhuri and live anywhere else. It is clear from this that even animals are hungry for affection. By receiving love, they also express love and by receiving anger and insult they also express dissatisfaction.

To be free is the birthright of any living being, whether it is human or animal. Freedom never comes easily. We have to fight for it. In this story, Premchand has repeatedly put this ethical value in front of us through oxen that whether such an animal is an animal or a human being, everyone needs love and we should treat everyone with love. We have no right to harass anyone.

**The Spirit of Freedom in Two Bullocks:** Premchand is a pre-independence writer. Its influence is also seen in his works. The story called "The Tale of Two Bullocks" is also not untouched by this. Whether human or animal subordination is not acceptable to anyone. Everyone wants to be free. The plot of the present story is also based on these thoughts. Premchand has expressed the atrocities done by the British on Indians through man and animal. In this story, he has also said that freedom is not easy, one has to struggle continuously for it. Just as the people suffering from the atrocities of the British expressed their anger in the form of rebellion, similarly the anger of the bullocks towards Gaya also flared up in the form of struggle. In this way, this story is indirectly related to the spirit of freedom.

**Deep Friendship of Heera and Moti:** Heera and Moti both bulls had a deep friendship. This is clear through some episodes of the story – both used to express their love by licking and smelling each other. When these two bullocks were plowed in a plow or cart, both would try to bear the maximum burden themselves and give less burden to the other. After the chaff fell in the sound, both of them used to put their mouth in the sound and sit together. After removing one's mouth, the other would also remove it. When some people surrounded both of them to take them away from the field, then the diamond came out, but when the pearl was caught, he also returned himself to be held hostage. When Hira refused to run away when the wall of Kanjihaus was broken, Moti did not run away despite having the opportunity.

**The Feminist Approach in Two Bullocks the Story of Premchand:** Premchand had a feeling of respect for the female caste in his mind which can be reflected with the line, 'But you

forget that it is forbidden to blow horns on a woman's caste'. The place of a woman is paramount in the society, she is revered. That's why attacking women is said to be inhuman. Premchand has presented the ideal form of female character in his works and he has also done women-oriented compositions. It is clear from this that Premchand's attitude towards women is very broad.

### **Conclusion:**

Thus, Usually the word fool is used for donkey. But according to Premchand, the donkey has the qualities of virtue and saintly saints. Because animal or human anger comes to everyone, resentment towards injustice is often in everyone. But the donkey is the only animal that can bear all the atrocities silently. We have never seen him happy, a permanent nostalgia always on his face, never dissatisfaction with injustice. Despite all these qualities, he is called an idiot. This is a disrespect to the virtues, that is, straightforwardness is not suitable for the world. Further, the author refers to the mutual affection of animals with the story of Hira and Moti. Animals understand each other's thoughts, feelings and words so easily which is not seen in humans. Man is an intelligent animal and is the best among all living beings, but still, awareness of love and emotional relationships is seen more in animals.

### **References:**

- [1] – Premchand, Two Bullocks : Do Bailon Ki Katha
- [2] <https://www.hindianz.com/magazine/literature/9/two-bullocks-premchand.html>
- [3] <https://storyweaver.org.in/stories/152767-a-tale-of-two-oxen#:~:text=Meet%20Hira%20and%20Moti%2C%20two,love%20and%20juicy%20oil seed%20cakes.>
- [4] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CnbuBCLemzc>
- [5] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cu4ntCeUBj0>