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NATIONAL AWAKENING IN BANKIM CHANDRA CHATTERJI'S *ANANDAMATH*



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ABSTRACT

National Awakening is a term which used in broad and varied manner in India, because it interconnected with and concerns whole Indian phenomena in historical and political scenario of that time. The term 'National Awakening' was first used by Bankim Chandra Chatterji, who is one of the key founders of Hindu nationalism in Bengal in his path provoking novel *Anandamath*. This novel deals with people's emotional and psychological attachments towards the nation. It represents sanyasis rebel against the British, who was the enemy of the country. The story of this novel is based on the historical incident took place in the year 1770 in near Calcutta. Bankim's intellectual idealism has raised the issue, when the country was struggle for existence. *Anandamath* contained *Bande Mataram* 'Hail Motherland' which is the national song of India and it

used as a freedom song or patriot song during national movement. Hindu nationalism is major agenda of Bankim's writings, indeed it significantly used in this novel.

Bankim Chandra detailed the story with his idea and concept of Hindu nationalism at the first time in Indian literature. The 'Hindu' word generally used to refer nationality or nationalism. The saga begins with the explanation of the landlord of Padachina village, Mahendra Singh and his wife Kalyani. They have been starving; it takes them to disease, destruction and death. Bankim advocated a story of heroism and bravery based on the historical substantiation which found in Bengal.

KEYWORDS

Bande Mataram, Hindu, Ashrama, Charaka, Pariah