



A New Vision Of Ram Kumar In Banaras With Special Reference Of Landscape

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ABSTRACT

This study defines the experience of Ram Kumar who was an eminent Indian artist and showed a pervasive new style of art, simultaneously he introduced abstraction, modernization, thoughts, new techniques, freedom, and aesthetic sense in Indian art. He explores spectacular, splendid talent with distinctive themes of abstract landscapes despite realistic landscapes. All the challenges came through Progressive artists which were accepted by Ram Kumar and many more artists during the post-independence. The importance of nature painting has increased by the applauded evolving Ghat scenes in Banaras city.

Keywords: Banaras, Landscape, Abstraction, Independence, Ram Kumar

Introduction

It is not only about Indian painting even the entire world is always connected to nature but through the artist nature represented his art where the depiction of rivers, lakes, mountains, trees, and animals in different styles by different artists. Similarly, Ram Kumar also had a genius artist in India who showed his interest in landscape but the style of Ram Kumar has been abstract. Pre-independence the semi-abstract landscape seemed rare but post-independence the freedom of the Bombay Progressive artists group brought a massive change in Indian art. This time, artists promoted abstract trends and introduced new styles and techniques. Simultaneously Kumar's nature paintings had a close affinity with real nature but he distinct nature as an abstract landscape.

It was very strange that from the beginning Ram Kumar went back to figurative painting thoroughly but nature's depiction brought new ideas in his life. The most significant aspects of his style have changed according to place and thought whereas his earlier abstract landscapes depicted some specific color variations such as brown, grey sophisticated tones of yellow with golden ochre and ultramarine blue which were beautifully applied. Fortunately, a great personality was born on earth in 1924 in Shimla, who had a postgraduate in economics and was one of the most remarkable. Ram Kumar was a good writer, and author also. After publishing his magazine 'Hans' and 'Prateek' he continuously showed his interest in Hindi literature. He worked at many places but the Banaras was his favorite one of all. Where he expresses freely his emotions and every painting showing calmness, peace, spirituality which mostly seem in Kumar's nature. These sentimental ways connect the interest of Ram Kumar which shows his passion as he wanted to take him to Paris because Paris was the main center of art. Indian art was fully dependent on European art which could not be possible without European style as well as other side due to some postmodernist artists changing the scenario. During this time he also came into contact with many significant artists such as Harkrishna Lall, Pran Nath Mago, Progressive artists group, Delhi Shilpi Chakra, B.C. Sanyal, Kanwal Krishna, and his good friend S.H. Raza were also included.

After many achievements, he approaches the expense of many formal forms and different perspectives. He was inspired by the beauty of the Greek landscape. He tried and explored his skills in various ways. As he beautifully abstract in Greece. During 1959 Ram Kumar visited Varanasi which is known by the name of the holy city Ganga City and symbol of peace where Lord Shiva and Maa Parvati. The holy river confluence of Ganga is situated. Ram Kumar belonged to the Hindu religion perhaps he souly connected with the religious place and finally he chose Varanasi which is called Banaras city also. Ram Kumar says that Banaras is very

important to develop spiritual thoughts, optimism perspective and vision as he agreed that Banaras is important also for me both as an artist as well as a human being. he collected many no. of the places that he represents on canvas as well on paper with different types of medium and a kind of bird's eye view he destroyed reality and found a new direction for abstract. His experience from ingeniousness had a different kind of language and style which emerged during the painting of Banaras ke Ghat.



Fig.1 Title-Varanasi 1960,Medium-oil on canvas, Size-94x 134cm

These paintings showed the interest and passion for applying new morals, thoughts, techniques, style, and imagination, and expressed feelings of a particular Banaras city.(Fig.1)(Fig.2)

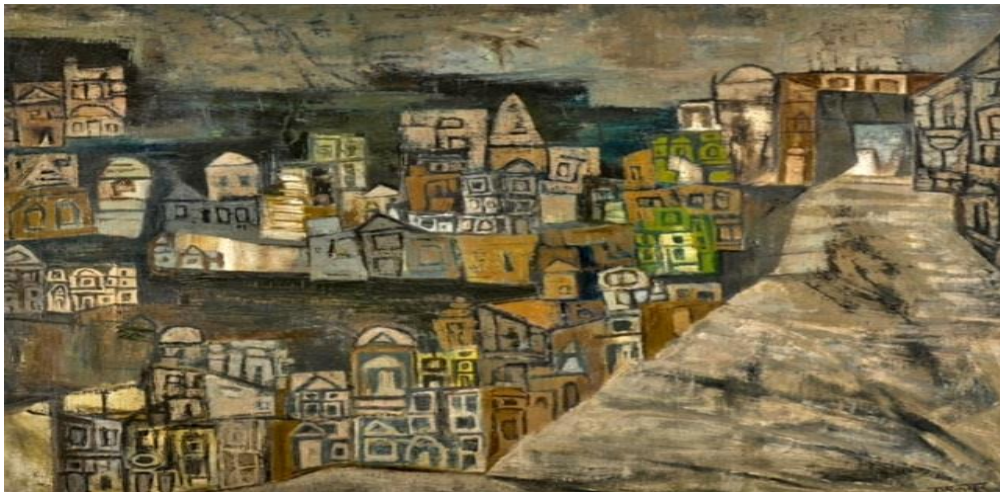


Fig.2 Title-Varanasi 1967,Medium-oil on canvas,Size-76.1x96.8cm

Apart from it Banaras was a burning point for Kumar as he got experience of visual and psychological. He highlighted the beauty of Banaras with his own vision and traditional things converted into modern style. The abstraction style is not new for Ram Kumar because of the impact of abstract running from primitive. Overall it was a new trend that old traditional, real beauty changed into a new version which is called Ram Kumar style. He depicted small streets, hills, Ghats, rivers, temples, boats, and stairs of temples. Knee deep in water, moreover a city of myriad sounds, which symbolized in abstract forms and captioned all beauty in a frame. Such as – Land, rocks, hills, houses, buildings, birds, sky and clouds nature. Ram Kumar's creation spreaded in the entire world because he visited new places and searched new subjects for the cubist style, abstractionism, geometrical shapes and pattern and mostly he used knife and spatula in his Banaras paintings. The number of paintings used for monochromatic composition and he takes the gestural, silent sentimental and conversation. The series of Ghats works of Ram Kumar's paintings, Banaras Ke Ghat has a great example of Indian art whereas the abstraction had on great and high mode.(Fig.3)



Fig.3 Title-Varanasi, Medium-Oil on canvas, Size-69x58.5cm

Conclusion

The Banaras Ghat's scenes became the linear tenderness and winsomeness of abstract landscape by Ram Kumar. In the whole study comparatively Ladakh series came into the limelight after Varanasi but the value and the interest of the artist seem clear that the period was resplendent for Ram Kumar's vision and two trends amalgamated traditional and modern, which is the great examples of abstract landscapes.

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