

Post 1990 Indian English Novel

Dr. Kalyan Shidram Kokane

Assistant Professor of English

Karmveer Bhausahab Hiray Arts, Science and Commerce College Nimgaon,
Tal. Malegaon Dist. Nashik, MS

Abstract:

The present paper attempts to show a brief survey of post 1990 Indian English Novel. The writer of this paper has attempted to have a survey from the earlier novelist Salman Rushdie to the latest novelists like Upamanyu Chatterjee, Ashok Banker, Jerry Pinto, David Davidar, Mukel Kesavan, and Tarun Tejpal etc. A brief account of their works has been discussed in this paper. These contributors have made Indian English Novels readable. Initially very few writers have contributed to the galaxy of Indian Writing in English. However, in the later phase of writing a huge, young people have attempted to write, translate their works into English and provided a variety of literature for the Indian English readers. The paper will help the readers to make a selection for their reading of Indian English.

Keywords: Untouchability, Post colonial, Diaspora, Immigrants, alienation.

Introduction:

Indian Writing in English has a history. This history dates back into the early 19th century. The trio; Mulk Raj Anand, R. K. Narayan and Raja Rao have composed the novels into English in the earlier days as representing the first generation Indian English Novelists. However these writers have produced the problem solving literature. Through Untouchability, Mulk Raj Anand has focused the impact of Gandhi and the problem of caste system prevalent in India. The works of R. K. Narayan too is limited to the Malgudi, the imaginary town from Karnataka. While Raja Rao in his *Kantapura*, has shown the impact of Mahatma Gandhi on India and his nonviolence. The writers of Indian English Novel have contributed a great deal after 1990.

Post 1990 English Novel:

The post 1990s Indian English novel emerged with the award, Booker of Bookers in 1992 to Salman Rushdie. Rushdie has given recognition to the Indian writing in English. He made Indian writing in English readable. The man Booker Prize winner novelist Kiran Desai has

published her second novel *The Interitance of Loss* in 2006. The novel is a fine example of magic realism and a fine blend of portrayal of America and India. The trauma of Indo-Nepal agitation is finely portrayed in the novel. At the same time the derogated mentality of elite class, highly educated people like Judge and the love dilemma of Indian born girl Sai with Gyan, the Nepali guy is smartly portrayed in the novel.

With the publication of *Culcutta Chromosome* in 1998 Amitar Ghosh has shown his mark of imprint on Indian writing in English. He tries to imitate the sifi tradition of Jules Verm in the novel *Culcutta Chromosome*. His other novels *The Glass Palace* 2000, *The Hungry Tide* 2004 and *The Sea of Poppies* 2008 meditate either on Cultural ecology or environmental concerns, Post colonial Indian Society, or East –West encounter. His latest novel *The River of Smoke* 2011 is the second volume of this trilogy.

A person who popularized Parsi Diaspora is Rohiten Mistry. Though Mistry is shifted in Canada since a long period his orientation of writing is India. He holds a photographic Camera to pick out the pics of Mumbai through his novel *Such A Long Journey* in 1990. His point of view was to view from the third party side to the place of Parsi people in Mumbai. He focused the destination of the lives of common people due to the dirty politics and the victims of poor people like Temull Lungra. Some of the regional political parties like Shiv Shena have protested the novel and launched an agitation against Mistry by their demand to withdraw the novel from the syllabi of University of Mumbai.

Once again Mistry has opened the doors of discussion to Western people by highlighting the lives of backward people especially the molestation of schedule caste people in the novel *A Fine Balance* in 1995. The protagonist of the novel Dina Dalal and her struggle to manage her livelihood after the sudden death of her husband whom she married by preferring as a love marriage.

Shashi Tharur by adopting a novel technique for his *The Great India Novel* in 1989 shown new ways of story telling in the novel. Tharur was always was the matter of discussion due to his controvertial statements and remarks in Indian journalism.

Shashi Tharur, who was the India's, parlimentalist, published the post modern novels *Show Business* 1992 and *Riot* in 2001. Though he was known for the essays and his twits on twitter and blogs, he remains always controvertial for his statements and political remarks.

By the publication of the *First had Red Earth and Paving Rain* in 1995 Vikram Chandra has appeared himself as a novelist. His novels are shuffles from Indian to United States.

The man Booker Prize winner novelist Arvind Adiga is known to the world by his publication of word *The White Tiger*. The novel is nothing but the long letter to Wain Jiaboy, the then Prime Minister of China. Adiga tries to represent India in a negative manner to the world through his *The White Tiger* by the same time he focused an Indo-China relations through his novel.

The writers like Arvind Adiga have been much acclaimed and criticised for his bestseller novel *The White Tiger* 2008. Adiga, as a common wealth writer projected India as a fourth world country and marker on the slum India and the corruption in India.

Davidar and Roy have published the novels *The House or Blue Mangoes* which is set in TN while *The God of Small Things* is set in Kerala both the novels focus the problems of untouchability prevalent in India even after 1990.

Shashi Deshpande published *That Long Silence* in 1996. The writers like Shashi Deshpande have composed the novels like *Small Remedies* in 2000, *A Matter of Time* 2001, *The Binding Vine* 2002, *Moving On* 2004 and *Country Beacit* 2008. Deshpande has attempted to deal in man-women relations in her novels.

The post modern Indian writer in English Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni's novels appeared after 1990. Her *The Mistress of Spices* 1998 provided remedy for the immigrants in their illness along with psychological support. Her other novels like the *Queen of Dreams* 2002, *Sister of My Heart* 2004 mirrors the feminine immigrant sensibility in America seen. Her novel *One Amazing Thing* 2011 focuses the lives of Indian Immigrants in America and their experiences after the incidents of 9/11. In *Oleander Girl*, Divakaruni tries to picture the journey of Korobi, an orphan girl whose father is an unknown American. Her journey was to search her father in America.

Other novelists like Sunetra Gupta, Kiran Nagarkar, Upamanyu Chatterjee and Rupa Bajwa have written post 1990 novels.

The other novelist like Upamanyu Chatterjee, Ashok Banker, Jerry Pinto, David Davidar, Mukel Kesavan, Tarun Tejpal have enriched the array of the galaxy of post 1990's novels in Indian Writing in English.

References:

- Dass, Veena Noble. Dhawan, R. K. Fiction of Nineties, New Delhi: Prestige Books, 1994.
- Lorna Sage. The Cambridge Guide to Women's Writing in English Cambridge University Press, 1999.
- Loomba, Ania. Colonialism/Postcolonialism.London: Routledge, 2005.