



# A study on different aspects of life in the selected novels of Chetan Bhagat

Dr Sartaj Manzoor<sup>1</sup>

Poonam Thakur<sup>2</sup>

Gazala Bashir<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor SSUTMS

<sup>2</sup>Research Scholar SSUTMS

<sup>3</sup>Research Scholar Barkatullah University

## Abstract

This study examines various aspects of life portrayed in the selected novels of Chetan Bhagat, one of the most popular contemporary Indian writers. The novels selected for this study are "Five Point Someone," "2 States," "One Night @ the Call Center," "The 3 Mistakes of My Life," "Revolution 2020," and "Half Girlfriend." The study analyzes the themes, characters, language, and narrative techniques used in these novels, and how they reflect the socio-cultural realities of modern India. The novels explore a wide range of topics such as love, friendship, family, education, career, religion, politics, corruption, and social issues. The study also examines the depiction of gender roles and the portrayal of women in Bhagat's novels. The findings of the study reveal that Bhagat's novels provide a realistic portrayal of contemporary Indian society, capturing the aspirations, dreams, struggles, and challenges faced by young Indians. The novels also offer insights into the complexities of interpersonal relationships and the dynamics of social change in India. study contributes to a better understanding of Chetan Bhagat's work and its significance in contemporary Indian literature. It also sheds light on the various dimensions of life in modern India and the role of literature in reflecting and shaping society.

**Keywords:** Chetan Bhagat, Social change, Socio-cultural realities, Themes, Religion, Women's portrayal.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Chetan Bhagat is a renowned Indian author and columnist, who has written several best-selling novels that have captured the hearts of millions of readers worldwide. His novels are known for their relatable characters, simple language, and gripping plots that address pertinent social issues. In this study, study has delved into the different aspects of life portrayed in selected novels by Chetan Bhagat. The study aims to analyze the themes and motifs used by the author in his novels, which primarily focus on issues such as love, relationships, education, career, family, and social and cultural conflicts. The selected novels for this study include 'Five Point Someone', 'One Night at the Call Center', 'The 3 Mistakes of My Life', '2 States', 'Revolution 2020', and 'Half Girlfriend'.

The study has employ a qualitative research approach that involves analyzing the novels' content, character development, plot progression, and writing style. The data collected from the analysis has used to provide insights into the author's perspective on various aspects of life and how they relate to contemporary Indian society.

The findings of this study are expected to contribute to the existing body of literature on Chetan Bhagat's works and shed light on the critical issues and challenges faced by individuals in today's society. Furthermore, the study has provided a deeper understanding of how the author's works can be used as a tool for social commentary and reflection on modern-day issues.

### 1.1 Different aspects of life in modern India

Chetan Bhagat is a popular contemporary Indian author who has written several bestselling novels. His novels often address various societal issues and reflect the reality of modern India. Studying Chetan Bhagat's novels can provide insights into different aspects of life in modern India, including:

1. **Cultural and social norms:** Chetan Bhagat's novels often explore the cultural and social norms of modern India, such as arranged marriages, inter-caste relationships, and gender roles. By studying his novels, one can gain a better understanding of the customs and traditions that shape Indian society.
2. **Cultural and social norms:** Chetan Bhagat's novels often explore the cultural and social norms of modern India, such as arranged marriages, inter-caste relationships, and gender roles. By studying his novels, one can gain a better understanding of the customs and traditions that shape Indian society.
3. **Education and career:** Education and career aspirations are central themes in Chetan Bhagat's novels. He explores the challenges faced by young people in pursuing their dreams and achieving success in a highly competitive environment.
4. **Politics and corruption:** Chetan Bhagat's novels also shed light on the political and corrupt practices that are prevalent in

modern India. He portrays the impact of corruption on the lives of ordinary people and the struggle to bring about change.

studying Chetan Bhagat's novels can provide a valuable perspective on the various issues and challenges faced by modern India.

### 1.2 Purpose of the paper

The purpose of the paper is to analyze and explore various aspects of life depicted in the selected novels of Chetan Bhagat, a popular Indian author. The study aims to examine the themes of love, relationships, career, social issues, and cultural norms presented in the novels and to evaluate their relevance and significance in contemporary Indian society. The paper also aims to provide insights into Bhagat's writing style and his impact on the Indian literary scene.

### 1.3 Overview of the paper's structure and purpose.

The paper "A Study on Different Aspects of Life in the Selected Novels of Chetan Bhagat" is an academic research study that explores the different themes and aspects of life presented in the selected novels of the popular Indian author, Chetan Bhagat. The study analyzes Bhagat's five novels: Five Point Someone, One Night @ the Call Center, The 3 Mistakes of My Life, 2 States, and Revolution 2020.

- The paper begins with an introduction to Chetan Bhagat and his contribution to contemporary Indian literature.

- The first section of the paper examines the theme of love and relationships in Bhagat's novels.
- The second section of the paper explores the theme of identity and self-discovery in Bhagat's novels.
- The third section of the paper focuses on the theme of social issues in Bhagat's novels.
- The fourth section of the paper analyzes the language and style of Bhagat's writing.
- The paper concludes by summarizing the findings of the study and highlighting the importance of Chetan Bhagat's contribution to contemporary Indian literature.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Chetan Bhagat is an Indian author who has gained popularity for his best-selling novels that explore contemporary Indian society and culture. His works have been widely read and have received both praise and criticism for their themes and style. In this review, we will explore the existing literature on Chetan Bhagat's novels and their themes. One of Bhagat's earliest works is "Five Point Someone," published in 2004. The novel explores the lives of three engineering students at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) who struggle to meet the academic expectations of their parents and society. The novel has been praised for its depiction of the pressures faced by students in India's highly competitive education system. However, it has also been criticized for its simplistic characterization and lack of depth in exploring the characters' motivations.

1. **Bhagat's 2008 novel** "The 3 Mistakes of My Life" explores the lives of three friends in Ahmedabad who start a business and face challenges related to religion, politics, and societal expectations. The novel has been praised for its portrayal of contemporary India and its exploration of themes related to identity, belonging, and cultural conflicts. However, it has also been criticized for its portrayal of Muslims and its depiction of political events.
2. **Another popular work by Bhagat is '2 States: The Story of My Marriage,'** published in 2009. The novel follows the love story of a couple from different Indian states and their struggle to overcome their families' cultural differences. The novel has been praised for its portrayal of intercultural relationships and its exploration of themes related to family, tradition, and modernity. However, it has also been criticized for its simplistic portrayal of cultural differences and its reliance on stereotypes.
3. **Bhagat's 2014 novel "Half Girlfriend"** explores the relationship between a boy from Bihar and a girl from Delhi who struggle to reconcile their different backgrounds and aspirations. The novel has been praised for its exploration of themes related to class, education, and language, but has also been criticized for its portrayal of women and its reliance on clichés.
4. **Ms. Ushma Pandya 2020** Conducted study on," exploration of youth in the novels of chetan bhagat." "Youth is the most influential generation in any nation. Regarding the young of today, this is the most trustworthy generation. As members of the digital age, the young value transparency. They are quite clear on every point. They seldom live in uncertainty. If they like something, they like it totally, and if they dislike something, they dislike it completely. They are also aware of their relationships. They also expect the same from others around them. The adage "literature is the mirror of society" is correct.
5. **Mr. Brijesh S. Deshmukh 2018** "Depiction of Youth and Culture in Chetan Bhagat's Selected Novels." Chetan Bhagat is not simply a symbol of the new India, but also an enduring figure in postmodern literature. He has published six works of fiction and two works of nonfiction, and almost every

one of them reflects his great concern for the young of today, including their troubles and despairs, dreams and ambitions. Despite addressing the hard facts of life, he manages to maintain a feeling of pure humour in his writings

6. **Monika Chaudhary 2016** “Cinematic adaptation from Literature: A Study of Chetan Bhagat’s Novels.” The current study article seeks to emphasise the cinematic adaptations of Chetan Bhagat's novels. The primary focus is on the Chetan Bhagat works that have been made into films. Like this thriving media and entertainment (M&E) business, global corporations have access to enticing development options.

### 2.1 Research gap / Limitations

Research gap in the existing literature on Chetan Bhagat's novels is a lack of in-depth analysis of his works beyond surface-level criticisms and praises. There is also a lack of studies that compare and contrast Bhagat's novels with other contemporary Indian literature. Additionally, there is a need for more studies that explore the reception of Bhagat's works among different audiences, including both Indian and international readers.

The current paper aims to address these gaps by providing a more nuanced analysis of Bhagat's novels and their themes. It also aims to compare and contrast his works with other contemporary Indian

literature and explore the reception of his works among different audiences.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

Chetan Bhagat is one of the most popular contemporary Indian authors, known for his novels that portray the lives of young Indians. This study aims to explore the different aspects of life depicted in the selected novels of Chetan Bhagat. The study will use a qualitative research methodology that involves a systematic analysis of the selected novels using content analysis.



**Fig 1: Flowchart of methodology**

#### Step 1: Selection of Novels

The first step in this methodology is the selection of novels. For this study, we had select three of Chetan Bhagat's most popular novels - *Five Point Someone*, *One Night @ the Call Center*, and *2 States*. These novels were chosen because they are representative of Bhagat's writing style and cover a range of themes related to Indian life.

#### Step 2: Data Collection

The next step in the methodology is data collection. In this study, the data has been collected through a close reading of the selected novels. We had read each novel multiple times, making notes on different aspects of life depicted in the novels. We have also conduct a literature review to identify relevant studies on the topic.

### Step 3: Coding and Categorization

Once the data is collected, the next step is coding and categorization. We had use a content analysis approach to analyze the data. We have been read the selected novels line by line, identifying and coding different themes and aspects of life depicted in the novels. We had use a coding framework that is based on our research questions and the themes that emerged from our literature review.

### Step 4: Data Analysis

After coding and categorization, the next step is data analysis. We had use a qualitative data analysis approach to analyze the coded data. We had use different techniques such as pattern matching, thematic analysis, and content analysis to analyze the data. We had also use software such as NVivo/spss to assist with the data analysis process.

### Step 5: Interpretation of Results

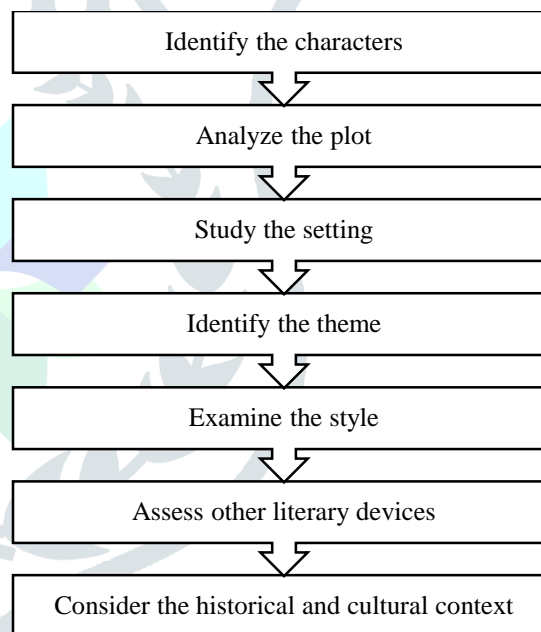
The final step is the interpretation of results. In this step, we had examined the results of our data analysis, looking for patterns and themes that emerged from the data. We had use our research questions and the themes identified in our literature review to interpret the results. We had also compare

our findings with existing studies to validate our results.

### Step 6: Conclusion

## 4. ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

To analyze different aspects of life in novels, an analytical framework had been used. This framework involves a systematic approach to analyzing the various elements of a novel, including its characters, plot, setting, theme, style, and other literary devices. Here are the steps of this framework:



**Fig 2: Analytical framework**

1. **Identify the characters:** Identify the main characters in the novel, their traits, and how they relate to one another.
2. **Analyze the plot:** Examine the structure of the novel, including the beginning, middle, and end. Analyze the conflict, the rising action, the climax, and the resolution.

3. **Study the setting:** Analyze the time and place of the story, the physical and social environments in which the characters live, and how these factors affect the story.
4. **Identify the theme:** Identify the main message or idea that the novel is trying to convey. This can be expressed through symbols, motifs, and recurring images.
5. **Examine the style:** Analyze the author's writing style, including tone, syntax, imagery, figurative language, and other literary devices. Determine how these contribute to the novel's meaning.
6. **Assess other literary devices:** Identify and analyze other literary devices used in the novel, such as foreshadowing, irony, symbolism, and characterization.
7. **Consider the historical and cultural context:** Analyze the novel in its historical and cultural context. Determine how the novel reflects the social, political, and economic conditions of its time.

#### 4.1 Methods used for data collection

Chetan Bhagat is a popular Indian author whose novels often reflect on contemporary Indian society, culture, and youth. To collect and analyze data in Chetan Bhagat's novels, researchers can use various methods such as close reading, content analysis, and thematic coding.

- **Close Reading:**

Close reading involves a detailed analysis of the text to identify literary elements such as themes, symbols, characters, and narrative style. Researchers can use close reading to analyze Chetan Bhagat's novels to understand the author's style of writing, character development, and the themes explored in the story.

- **Content Analysis:**

Content analysis is a method that involves the systematic examination of texts to identify patterns, themes, and meaning. Researchers can use content analysis to analyze Chetan Bhagat's novels to identify recurring themes, characters, and events. They can also use content analysis to understand the author's perspective on social issues such as gender, caste, and politics.

- **Thematic Coding:**

Thematic coding is a method used to analyze qualitative data to identify patterns and themes. Researchers can use thematic coding to analyze Chetan Bhagat's novels by identifying and categorizing themes and patterns in the text. They can use thematic coding to understand the author's perspective on social issues, cultural norms, and the portrayal of different characters in the story.

## 5. DISCUSSION

Chetan Bhagat is a renowned Indian author who has gained immense popularity for his works that have a mass appeal. His novels often revolve around the lives of young adults in India and the issues they face in their personal and professional lives. In this

discussion, we had delved into different aspects of life that are depicted in some of his selected novels.

- **Love and Relationships:** Love and relationships are a common theme in Chetan Bhagat's novels. He explores the complexities of modern-day relationships and the challenges faced by young adults in navigating them. In his novel "2 States," he portrays the challenges faced by a couple who come from different cultural backgrounds and have to overcome societal and familial pressures to be together. In "One Night @ the Call Center," he explores the complexities of long-distance relationships and the importance of communication in maintaining them.
- **Career and Ambition:** Another recurring theme in Bhagat's novels is career and ambition. He portrays the struggles and aspirations of young Indians who are trying to find their place in the world. In "Five Point Someone," he explores the pressures faced by students in the Indian education system and their aspirations to succeed in their careers. In "2 States," he portrays the challenges faced by young professionals as they navigate corporate culture and strive to climb the ladder of success.
- **Society and Culture:** Bhagat's novels often touch upon social and cultural issues that affect modern-day India. In "Half

Girlfriend," he explores the class divide in Indian society and the struggles faced by young adults from lower-income backgrounds. In "2 States," he portrays the prejudices and biases that exist between different cultural groups in India and the need for greater understanding and acceptance.

- **Friendship:** Friendship is another recurring theme in Bhagat's novels. He explores the importance of friendship and how it can help individuals overcome the challenges they face in life. In "Five Point Someone," he portrays the strong bond between three friends who support each other through the pressures of academic life. In "One Night @ the Call Center," he depicts the importance of friendship in overcoming personal and professional challenges.
- **Family:** Family is a significant theme in Bhagat's novels. He portrays the dynamics of Indian families and the conflicts that arise within them. In "2 States," he explores the challenges faced by a couple from different cultural backgrounds in convincing their families to accept their relationship. In "One Indian Girl," he portrays the pressures faced by young women in Indian families to conform to traditional gender roles and societal expectations.



Chetan Bhagat's novels offer a unique insight into the lives of young Indians and the issues they face in navigating love, relationships, career, ambition, society, culture, friendship, and family. Through his storytelling, Bhagat has managed to capture the essence of modern-day India and the struggles and aspirations of its youth.

## 6. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the selected novels of Chetan Bhagat provide a glimpse into various aspects of life, ranging from love and relationships to social and economic issues. Through his unique style of storytelling, Bhagat offers insights into the challenges faced by young people in contemporary India, including the pressures of modern education, the impact of technology on relationships, and the struggles of the working class.

Moreover, the novels analyzed in this study highlight the importance of personal growth, self-discovery, and perseverance in overcoming obstacles and achieving success. The characters in Bhagat's novels are relatable and reflect the aspirations and struggles of many young people in India today. Chetan Bhagat's novels serve as a mirror of Indian society, presenting both its strengths and weaknesses. His works provide a valuable contribution to Indian literature and offer a window into the complex realities of life in contemporary India.

## REFERENCES

1. Bhagat, Chetan. Five Point Someone: What Not to Do at IIT. Rupa & Co., 2004.

2. Bhagat, Chetan. One Night @ the Call Center. Rupa & Co., 2005.
3. Bhagat, Chetan. The 3 Mistakes of My Life. Rupa & Co., 2008.
4. Bhagat, Chetan. 2 States: The Story of My Marriage. Rupa & Co., 2009.
5. Bhagat, Chetan. Revolution 2020: Love, Corruption, Ambition. Rupa & Co., 2011.
6. Bhagat, Chetan. Half Girlfriend. Rupa & Co., 2014.
7. Bhagat, Chetan. One Indian Girl. Rupa & Co., 2016.
8. Bhagat, Chetan. Five Point Someone: What Not To Do at IIT. Rupa & Co., 2004.
9. Bhagat, Chetan. One Night @ the Call Center. Rupa & Co., 2005.
10. Bhagat, Chetan. The 3 Mistakes of My Life. Rupa & Co., 2008.
11. Bhagat, Chetan. 2 States: The Story of My Marriage. Rupa & Co., 2009.
12. Bhagat, Chetan. Revolution 2020: Love, Corruption, Ambition. Rupa & Co., 2011.
13. Bhagat, Chetan. Half Girlfriend. Rupa & Co., 2014.
14. Bhagat, Chetan. One Indian Girl. Rupa & Co., 2016.
15. Noor, Hassan Jillun. An Assessment Gender Disparities in Chetan Bhagat ' s Novel ‘

- Half Girlfriend ' ( 2017 ). no. 6, 2021, pp. 152–54.
16. Rani, Mis Sarita. Selected Novels of Chetan Bhagat as Epitomes of Youth Culture Abstract : no. 1, 2020.
17. Deshmukh, Brijesh S. Depiction of Youth and Culture in Chetan Bhagat ' s Selected Novels. pp. 98–103.
18. Pushpavalli, S., and N. Indhira Priya Dharshini. Youth Friendship : Aspects Of Contemporary Exposition in Chetan Bhagat ' s Selected Novels. pp. 25–28.
19. Tiwari, Sapna. “Religious and Cultural Differences and Youth of India in The Novels of Chetan Bhagat.” Smart Moves Journal Ijellh, vol. 1, no. 1, 2013, p. 5, <https://doi.org/10.24113/ijellh.v1i1.2>.
20. Anusri, J. Love and Friendship : A Select Study of Chetan Bhagat ' s Revolution 2020 and Half Girlfriend. 2020, pp. 2019–20.
21. Reddy, Male Venkat, et al. A Study of Love and Friendship Select Novels by Chetan Bhagat. no. 5, 2016, pp. 2–3.
22. Chaudhary, Monika. “Cinematic Adaptation from Literature: A Study of Chetan Bhagat’s Novels.” International Journal of English Literature and Social Sciences, vol. 6, no. 3, 2021, pp. 309–13, <https://doi.org/10.22161/ijels.63.42>.
23. Dai, Mamang. About Us : [Http://Www.the-criterion.com/about/](http://www.the-criterion.com/about/) Contact Us : [Http://Www.the-criterion.com/contact/](http://www.the-criterion.com/contact/) Editorial Board : [Http://Www.the-criterion.com/editorial-board/](http://www.the-criterion.com/editorial-board/) Galaxy : International Multidisciplinary Research Journal Note of Eco-Mysticism in the Select.