



Indian English Novel: Forefront of global attention

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Abstract

The Indian English novel is a genre of literature that emerged in India in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It is written in English and focuses on Indian society, culture, and traditions. The first Indian English novel was "Rajmohan's Wife" by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in 1864. This genre offers a unique perspective on India and provides insights into the country's history, culture, and social norms. Popular Indian English novels include "The God of Small Things" by Arundhati Roy, "A Suitable Boy" by Vikram Seth, and "Midnight's Children" by Salman Rushdie. These novels explore themes such as colonialism, nationalism, identity, and tradition and have gained international recognition and critical acclaim. The Indian English novel continues to be an important aspect of Indian literature and is constantly evolving.

Key Word: Indian English novel, Arundhati Roy, Popular Indian English novels

Introduction

The Indian English novel refers to a genre of literature that emerged in India in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It is written in English and is primarily centered on Indian society, culture, and traditions. The first Indian English novel was Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's "Rajmohan's Wife" in 1864 (Sultan,2013), which was followed by works from writers such as R.K. Narayan, Mulk Raj Anand, and Raja Rao.

These novels offer a unique perspective on India and provide insights into the country's history, culture, and social norms (Morris et al.,1999). They also explore themes such as colonialism, nationalism, identity, and tradition. Many Indian English novels are characterized by their use of Indian words and phrases, as well as their incorporation of Indian spirituality, religion, and mythology.

Some of the most popular Indian English novels include Salman Rushdie's "Midnight's Children," Arundhati Roy's "The God of Small Things," and Vikram Seth's "A Suitable Boy (John, 2006)." These novels have gained international recognition and have been translated into various languages. The Indian English novel continues to be an important aspect of Indian literature and continues to evolve and grow.

The Indian English novel has emerged as a genre that is at the forefront of global attention. It offers a unique window into Indian society and culture and provides a rich and diverse body of work that explores the complexities of Indian life. Through vivid storytelling and insightful themes, Indian English novels have captured the imagination of readers around the world and have helped to bring India to the forefront of global attention (Appadurai, 1995).

The Indian English novel has been recognized and celebrated both in India and abroad, and has gained critical acclaim and widespread popularity. Some of the most well-known Indian English novels include "The God of Small Things" by Arundhati Roy (Bose, 1998), "A Suitable Boy" by Vikram Seth (Seth, 1994), and "Midnight's Children" by Salman Rushdie (Rushdie, 2010). These novels have been translated into multiple languages and have been widely read and studied around the world.

In recent years, the Indian English novel has continued to evolve and expand, reflecting the changing political, social, and cultural landscape of India. New writers are exploring fresh themes and styles, and the Indian English novel continues to play an important role in bringing India and its culture to the forefront of global attention.

The Indian English novel is a genre that is rich, diverse, and at the forefront of global attention. Through its imaginative and insightful depictions of Indian life, it offers a unique and valuable perspective on Indian society and culture.

Review Study on glimpses of Indian English Novel

Midnight's Children

"Midnight's Children" by Salman Rushdie is a widely acclaimed Indian English novel. It was first published in 1981 and is considered one of the most important works of postcolonial literature. The novel is set against the backdrop of India's transition from British colonialism to independence and the partition of India and Pakistan. It follows the story of Saleem Sinai, a man born at the stroke of midnight on the day of India's independence, who has been gifted

with special powers. Through Saleem's life story, Rushdie explores themes of identity, history, and the complexities of modern India (Rege,1997).

The God of Small Things

"The God of Small Things" is a novel written by Indian author Arundhati Roy. It was published in 1997 and is her debut novel. The book won the Man Booker Prize in 1997 and has since become a classic of Indian English literature.

The novel is set in the small town of Ayemenem in Kerala, India, and tells the story of two fraternal twins, Esthappen and Rahel, who grow up in the midst of political and social upheaval. The story is told from multiple perspectives and covers a period of time from their childhood to adulthood. The novel explores themes such as love, family, caste, and politics, and portrays the complexities of Indian society and culture.

The novel is known for its unique narrative style and its use of imaginative and magical elements. Roy uses vivid imagery, metaphor, and symbolism to create a rich and immersive world. The writing is lyrical and poetic, and the characters are complex and multi-dimensional. The book's themes of love, loss, and longing are universal and resonate with readers from all over the world.

"The God of Small Things" is considered a landmark in Indian English literature and is widely studied in academic circles. It has been translated into multiple languages and is considered one of the most important Indian English novels of the 20th century (Raichura, 2014).

"A Suitable Boy"

"A Suitable Boy" is a novel written by Indian author Vikram Seth. It was published in 1993 and is considered one of the most important Indian English novels of the 20th century.

The novel is set in post-independence India and follows the lives of four families as they navigate through the challenges of modern India. The story focuses on the arranged marriage of Lata, a young woman from a middle-class family, and her search for a suitable husband. The novel explores themes such as love, family, tradition, and politics, and provides a vivid portrait of Indian society and culture.

"A Suitable Boy" is known for its sweeping scope, with a large cast of characters and multiple storylines that span over a period of 18 months. The novel is also noted for its intricate plot, witty dialogue, and vivid descriptions of Indian landscapes, cultures, and traditions. The writing is poetic, insightful, and deeply moving, and the characters are complex and multi-dimensional.

These novels were widely praised for its portrayal of Indian society and culture, and have been translated into multiple languages. It is considered a masterpiece of Indian English literature and is widely studied in academic circles. These novels have become a classic of Indian English literature and continues to be widely read and appreciated by audiences around the world (Fernández Sánchez, 1997).

Conclusion

The Indian English novel is a genre of literature that has played a significant role in shaping our understanding of Indian society and culture. With its roots in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, this genre has evolved to become a rich and diverse body of work that explores the complexities of Indian life. Through the use of vivid imagery, imaginative storytelling, and insightful themes, Indian English novels have captured the imagination of readers around the world and have helped to bring Indian culture and society to the forefront of global attention. These novels are considered masterpieces of Indian English literature and continue to be widely read, studied, and appreciated by audiences around the world.

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