



Indian English Novel In Recent Era: Styles and Motives

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Abstract

The Indian English novel has seen a resurgence in popularity in recent years, with a new generation of writers exploring fresh styles and themes. A notable trend in recent Indian English novels is the use of magic realism, which combines elements of fantasy and reality to explore the complexities of Indian life. Another trend is the focus on social and political issues, such as globalization, urbanization, and the cultural impact of modernization. The use of humour and satire is also a common motif in recent Indian English novels, as writers use humour to explore the contradictions and complexities of modern Indian society. These novels offer a fresh and insightful perspective on contemporary Indian life and culture, reflecting the changing political, social, and cultural landscape of India. The significance of Indian English novels lies in their ability to provide a unique and valuable window into Indian society and culture, and to offer a critical examination of contemporary issues facing India.

Key Word: Indian English novel, Styles and Motives, insightful perspective, Indian society and culture

Introduction

In recent years, the Indian English novel has continued to evolve and expand, reflecting the changing political, social, and cultural landscape of India. In the last two decades, the Indian English novel has seen a resurgence in popularity, with a new generation of writers exploring fresh themes and styles. Recent Indian English novels have tackled issues such as globalization, urbanization, gender, and sexuality, and have often been set in India's fast-growing cities. These novels are notable for their realistic and gritty depictions of contemporary

Indian life, and for their exploration of the challenges and opportunities that come with India's rapid modernization.

Some of the notable Indian English novels of the recent era include "The White Tiger" by Aravind Adiga (Cristina Mendes, 2010), "The Immortals of Meluha" by Amish Tripathi (Tripathi, 2014), and "The Palace of Illusions" by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni (Manivannan, 2008). These novels have gained widespread popularity both in India and abroad and have been widely praised for their insightful and imaginative depictions of contemporary India.

In conclusion, the Indian English novel continues to thrive in the recent era, with a new generation of writers exploring fresh themes and styles that reflect the changing political, social, and cultural landscape of India. These novels offer a unique perspective on India and provide insights into the country's modern and rapidly changing society.

Styles and Motives in Indian English Novel In Recent Era

In recent years, the Indian English novel has continued to evolve and expand, and has seen a resurgence in popularity. A new generation of writers is exploring fresh styles and themes, reflecting the changing political, social, and cultural landscape of India. One notable trend in recent Indian English novels is the use of magic realism, which combines elements of fantasy and reality. This style of writing is used to explore the complexities of Indian life and to add an imaginative and otherworldly dimension to the narrative.

Another trend in recent Indian English novels is the focus on social and political issues, such as globalization, urbanization, and the cultural impact of modernization. These novels often delve into the challenges and opportunities that come with India's rapid modernization, and offer a realistic and gritty depiction of contemporary Indian life. The use of humor and satire is also a common motif in recent Indian English novels, as writers use humor to explore the contradictions and complexities of modern Indian society. This allows for a more nuanced and critical examination of Indian life and culture.

The recent Indian English novels are notable for their innovative styles, themes, and motives. Whether it's through the use of magic realism, social and political commentary, or humor and satire, these novels offer a fresh and insightful perspective on contemporary Indian life and culture (Giri, 2018).

Review of literature

Singh (2018), The Indian novel has been a vibrant and energetic expressive space in the 21st century. While the grand postcolonial gestures characteristic of the late-20th-century Indian novel have been in evidence in new novels by established authors such as Vikram Chandra, Amitav Ghosh, and Salman Rushdie, a slate of new authors has emerged in this period as well, charting a range of new novelistic modes. Some of these authors are Kiran Desai, Aravind Adiga, Githa Hariharan, Samina Ali, Karan Mahajan, and Amitava Kumar. In general, there has been a move away from ambitious literary fiction in the form of the “huge, baggy monster” that led to the publication of several monumental postcolonial novels in the 1980s and 1990s; increasingly the most dynamic and influential Indian writing uses new novelistic forms and literary styles tied to the changing landscape of India’s current contemporary social and political problems. The newer generation of authors has also eschewed the aspiration to represent the entirety of life in modern India, and instead aimed to explore much more limited regional and cultural narrative frameworks. If a novel like Rushdie’s *Midnight’s Children* (1981) took its protagonist all over the Indian subcontinent and indexed a large number of important historical controversies in the interest of broad representation, Padma Viswanathan’s *The Toss of a Lemon* (2008) limits itself to a focus on a single Tamil Brahmin family’s orientation to issues of caste and gender, and remains effectively local to Tamil Nadu. There is no central agenda or defining idiom of this emerging literary culture, but three major groupings can be identified that encapsulate the major themes and preoccupations of 21st-century Indian fiction: “New Urban Realism,” “Gender and Secular History,” and “Globalizing India, Reinscribing the Past.”

Rao (2019), The Indian struggle for independence from the British rule showed a strange paradox: an intense but understandable dislike of the British occupation of the country and an equally strong but puzzling sentimental attachment to the English language. In fact, the departure of the British from India produced a near-violent campaign to retain English as a national language and a unifying tool for the country. The birth of a new nation also generated a new impulse to create new literary works in every language of Indian origin as well as in English, which some claimed as an Indian language. Those who had been writing in English before the country won her independence now took to writing in that language with redoubled vigour, as it were, and many newcomers joined them, with the result that, although the English-speaking Indians were, and still are, a minority, the number of Indian writers who write in English is an impressive one. Of this group of writers who write in English, the Indian novelists are the most conspicuous both for the quantity and quality of their output. Such an output will impress us as an even more remarkable achievement if we bear in mind the fact that there is no such thing as a tradition of novel writing in India dating from the ancient times.

Rahman et al. (2020), Shashi Tharoor's *The Great Indian Novel* is an example of a post-modern historiographic metafiction that takes the relationship between reality and fiction into consideration. This novel also depicts the 20th century political past by reviving events, incidents and characters of the myth of Mahabharata. The current paper aims to explain how Tharoor rebuilds the twentieth-century past by drawing on the great Mahabharata classical epic. Additionally, it examines the common relationship between fiction and history as it progressed along and continuous processes through the use of self-reflexivity and metafiction approach. In *The Great Indian Novel*, Tharoor adapts a metafiction tool which is the most fitting way to tackle this novel as a postmodernist study. Tharoor blends fiction and fact through a self-reflective narrative and the use of several metafiction devices by adapting the myth of Mahabharata to construct the distance between the past and the present. Tharoor takes the ancient myth as the basic structure with contemporary group of political characters for a real and ironic review of recent Indian history and representation.

Das & Sen (2021), The British Government established English as a language in India. As a result, English would almost certainly perish as a language in India. It grew into something more. From a historical standpoint, Indian English literature has gone through many periods, including IndoAnglian, Indian-English, and Indian writing in English, and, most recently, Indian English literature. Despite the diversity of its languages, races, and faiths, Indian writing in English has effectively grasped and embodied the multi-cultural, multilingual community. The present study focused on the development of the Indian English Novel of Pre & post-independence period. The main objective of this study to find out the rise and development of the Indian English Novel of multilingual India. Methodology Employed based on qualitative research.

Batra (2021), The purpose of this study is to locate in concrete terms the true identity of Indian English Fiction (IEF). Most studies conducted on this subject are focused on the linguistic/formalistic aspects. Also, many novels belonging to IEF category represent Indian identity by virtue of representation of apparent cultural traits like attitudes, relationships, norms, practices, traditions, problems, etc., or socio-political problems. I argue that these two dimensions project the Indian identity only partially. There is the covert part at the base of the superstructure that is the most important element but has not been explored seriously by most writers due to ignorance or disinclination. This core is reflected in Indian philosophy, values and worldview. While explaining various ideas – both supportive as well as critical of Indianness, several novels have been cited to make the point clear which makes this study unique and promises to be helpful to future researchers.

Madhvi & Sharma (2021), It is only novels in which the greatest powers of the mind are displayed, in which the most thorough knowledge of human nature, the happiest delineation of its varieties the liveliest effusions of wit and humor are conveyed to the world in the best-chosen language." This definition of novel has been given by Jane Austen who has beautifully described the meaning and importance of novel in one's life. As we know that literature is the mirror of society and a form of art. Study of it allows everyone to gain access to deeply imagined lives other than our own. It helps an individual to present himself or herself as an educated member of the society, it entails the contemplation of the essence of the society and how people work within the confines of the structure of the society. This paper attempts to present the saga of the Indian English Novel stands as the lovely tale of transforming tradition and customs, the tale of a transforming India.

Ashfaq (2018), Through an analysis of the postcolonial fiction emanating from acts of violence unleashed in India during the anti-Sikh massacre of 1984, the demolition of the Babri Masjid in Ayodhya in 1992 and the explosion of violence in Gujarat in 2002, this essay examines how literary representation impacts communalism or religious minorities. It underscores the narrative strategies and techniques that fictional constructs use to articulate as well as to challenge the physical, emotional, and psychological dimensions of the marginalization and the exclusion of minorities in India. Emerging as a powerful and radical critique, these fictions can be read as counter-narratives or studies in resistance that interrogate and unravel the politics of suppression that governs nationalist discourses thereby challenging the secular underpinnings of

Chaudhury (2019), Feminism has played a significant role in shaping the Indian - English novel. Since it came rather late in India, has spread its wings in all spheres of Indian-English Literature. Feminism is a voice of suppressed and downtrodden woman. The feelings of anxiety, aversion and boredom have been part of feminism. The present section aims at clarifying the concept of womanhood (feminism) as it emerges from the works of eminent Indian writers in English. A consistent picture of the changing social realities has been presented and it is still being tabled by the Indian-English novels. The writers who appeared in Indian-English literary scene are of great importance. They gave birth to a new era which held out for the Indian woman opportunities for a dynamic participation in social life. Indian-English novelists, especially women novelists have made themselves as a significant entity by making the novel itself an instrument of social reform. They have sociological and reformist motivation with their invariable theme that is woman.

Roy (2020), Indian English Literature refers to authors' body of work in India whose native or mother tongues might be one of India's several languages. It is also related to the work of Indian Diaspora members. It is also named Indo-Anglian literature. As a genre, this development is part of the larger spectrum of postcolonial literature. This paper discusses about Indian English novels after 1980.

significance of Indian English novels

The significance of Indian English novels lies in their ability to provide a unique and valuable window into Indian society and culture. These novels offer a rich and diverse body of work that explores the complexities of Indian life and provides insights into India's political, social, and cultural landscape. Indian English novels are significant because they showcase the diversity and depth of Indian culture and society. Through vivid storytelling and insightful themes, these novels offer a nuanced and nuanced depiction of Indian life, capturing the imagination of readers around the world and bringing India to the forefront of global attention. The significance of Indian English novels also lies in their ability to provide a critical examination of contemporary issues facing India, such as globalization, urbanization, and the cultural impact of modernization. These novels often delve into the challenges and opportunities that come with India's rapid modernization (Singh, 2012), offering a realistic and gritty depiction of contemporary Indian life. In conclusion, Indian English novels are significant because they offer a rich and diverse body of work that explores the complexities of Indian life, provides a unique and valuable window into Indian society and culture, and provides a critical examination of contemporary issues facing India. They have captured the imagination of readers around the world and have helped to bring India to the forefront of global attention.

Conclusion

The recent era of Indian English novels has seen a renewal of interest and creativity, with writers exploring fresh styles and themes. The use of magic realism, the focus on social and political issues, and the use of humor and satire are all notable trends in recent Indian English novels. These novels offer a unique and valuable window into Indian society and culture, and provide a critical examination of contemporary issues facing India. The significance of Indian English novels lies in their ability to showcase the depth and diversity of Indian life and culture, and to bring India to the forefront of global attention. With a new generation of writers emerging and exploring new styles and themes, the Indian English novel is poised for a bright future and will continue to be a significant source of insight and inspiration for generations to come.

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