

# Quest for Identity of the Novel “THE WHITE TIGER” by ARAVIND ADIGA

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## Abstract

Aravind Adiga's *The White Tiger* is the reflection of Modern India. He mainly focuses on the effect of Globalization. The themes are very noteworthy in this novel. The language and style of the author have been higher in rank. Feudalism, Caste system, untouchability, marriage are also portrayed in this novel. The novel is a shocking disclosure of the Indian Political System and corruption. He also showed the unspoken voice of people from darkness, the poverty-stricken areas of rural India. Balram Halwai was the protagonist of the novel who lives in the outskirts of the rural India. He suffered from poverty and lower caste as well. He wanted to change his social status. Avarice and rapacity took over his personality. This novel mainly described the two parts of India, one was dark and another was Light.

**Key words:** Globalization, Untouchability, Poverty-Stricken, Freedom, Political system.

Aravind Adiga was born in Madras and he has lived in India, Australia and the UK. His debut and best novel *The White Tiger* fetched him the so called “Man Booker Prize” in 2008 and he was in the lime light. The novel has magic realism. *The White Tiger* is a compelling, angry and darkly humorous work. It's an unexpected journey into a new India. Balram consider himself as an entrepreneur. There is no trace in Balram's story and he begins his life in the rural poor background. He confesses that his formal education is little. He is a self-made man. He tells that he was employed by one millionaire Mr. Ashok. Ashok comments to his wife Balram Halwai is a low class fellow and he can read and write but he doesn't get what he's read. He is half-baked. The country is full of people like him.

The novel reads like a science treatise. Balram divides mankind by income. He calls the rich as India of Lightness and the poor as India of Darkness. His father pulled an auto, his mother died young; and he has a big family around him. The Halwais seem to be a poor lot. Balaram Halwai narrates his story in a flashback mode. He is learned, he is wise, he is materialistic, and he tells all this after he killed employer Ashok. Bodh Gaya district where the Buddha had his enlightenment.

His village is a paradise. The bloody landlords are named, according to their quality, as Buffalo, Strok, Wild Boor and Raven. It is said,

*“All the four of the animals lived in high-walled mansions just outside Laxmangarh-the landlords quarters” (p.25)*

The village poor are always in misery. Balram is political minded too, and he does not work properly. The he learns car-driving, and goes in search of a employer. Luckily Ashok employs him. After that, Balram kills Ashok for his money. Balram recounts the story of election in Laxmangarh where the great socialist, the boss of the Darkness contested with others.

After Balram killed Ashok he moves towards Bangalore. Dharam his relative is with him. The master's red-bag of money is also with him. In the Railway station at Hyderabad, he notices the police poster for his posture. He bribes a police inspector and starts to serve outsourcing companies as their transporter. The novel concludes with The White Tiger's meditation about the business called life. This novel is highly critical of all aspects of Indian society.

## References

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