

# ***PORTRAYAL OF INDIAN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY IN THE SELECT NOVELS OF ARAVIND ADIGA AND CHETAN BHAGAT***

**A.MATHAVI,**

Research Scholar,

Department of English,

A.V.V.M. Sri Pushpam College (Autonomous)

Poondi-613 503.

## **Abstract**

Aravind Adiga and Chetan Bhagat have become the most eloquent authors in Indian writing in English. Both Aravind Adiga and Chetan Bhagat assume marxist point of view while describing the social reality in India. Both the novelists highlight the problem of contemporary Indian society. They have deftly brought out the socio, economic and cultural issues of the society in detail. Hence this study focuses on both Adiga and Bhagat's portrayal of Indian contemporary society in their select novels.

## **Key Words:**

**Social reality-contemporary Indian society- socio-economic-cultural**

Aravind Adiga and Chetan Bhagat have become the most famous and celebrated novelists of India. Their care for the society is endless. Chetan Bhagat has always been new in his writings. His writings have exposed the actual problems of the society. His writings have reached the minds of the youngsters. The writings of Aravind Adiga largely focuses on the social life of an ordinary man. He has brought out the follies of the society in his writings. He has touched up on certain themes like threats, exploitation and problems of underdogs. The characters of Arvind Adiga are real and natural. One can find his thought for a better society and better future. He mainly focuses on the social issues of the contemporary Indian society.

He deals with the religious, cultural and educational issues of India.. Like Chetan Bhagat , Aravind Adiga too has picturized the light and dark sides of India. People are gradually changing and adapting to the modern materialistic world. They fail to recognize their culture and convention. Chetan Bhagat and Aravind Adiga, the famous Indian novelists are gifted with an extraordinary competency to deal with various issues of human life. They have vividly described the vital and modern Indian youth culture. Aravind Adiga become popular in his debut novel, "The White Tiger" where he talks about the social groups, upper class.

Adiga self-consciously exposes how people use English language to maintain their status in India. They believe that they need English languagebolster their social image. Supremacism is an ideology which holds that a particular class of people is superior to others. Hence cultural supremacy is actually an economic and scientific creation. A developed nation determines and influences the othe nation's cultural and economic deveopments. The whole world is becoming a common cultural centre, same kind of fashion, literature, technical products and same kind of rustic culture is fashion, bought and sold from our culture, but we love to follow them. In the novel "The White Tiger" Balram learned some terms from Pinky Madam without knowing the meaning of those terms. Adiga talks about the people, half- baked Indians, who love to follow Indian culture and its customs without having profuse knowledge about it.

Adiga stringently mocks at the habit of people, whose taste for external beauty and their desire and longing for the white skin and golden hair. Millions of products are coming from the West to change the skin tone of Indian accumulate. There are millions of Balram who are using these skin creams to look fair. By this way people are not trying to change the colour of the skin only but they are giving them one more chance to rule us. After analyzing Adiga's novel it is clear that he eases for the prevailing society and the condition of youth in the society. People want to blindly follow the western culture and life style. In Balram, Adiga clearly presents the modern attitude of people, they want to come up in life on any means, even indulging in immoral activities. Balram tries to breakout of the rooster coop but ultimately he is unsuccessful. This novel White Tiger portrays India's class struggle. Aravind Adiga has effectively brought out a man's quest for freedom. To climb up the social ladder Balram overcomes the social obstacles. This novel also condemns present day capitalist Indian society with free market and free business. Through Balram Aravind Adiga has vividly portrayed the materialistic attitude of prevailing society.

The materialistic attitude is assumed in the novels of Chetan Bhagat. Original comfort has spread to strata of population who were formerly quite untouched by it. With the advent of globalization, multinational companies, call centers and Outsourcing services immense chance to middle class people were offered which eventually altered the life conditions in all levels. Chetan Bhagat has relevantly picturized the condition of contemporary youth.

Chetan Bhagat censures the present day educational system which puts an ends to the individual talent of the students. It gives more importance only for their marks and not for any knowledge acquisition, mainly teachers judge students based on their marks which causes unwanted mental stress. It is the marks that decides over future.

In Five Point Someone, Chetan Bhagat clearly portrays the condition of students in the present day education system. Through this novel Chetan Bhagat brings out the limitation of institutions mainly the IIT. It is about simple running a race for four years. It questions everything, the dream about education makes them think that degree alone will help them lead a very comfortable life. But the fact is that education must aim to develop good character, good and logical mind. Students should believe in their selves, they should not let marks or job to define them. They should understand that there is more to life then these things. Education system of India is still a tool in the hands of the people.

Chetan Bhagat in Five Point Someone, vividly presents how the social, political and religious circumstances prevent the Indian youth from realizing their aim.

Chetan Bhagat's novel exposes the problems of the handicapped society such as exploitation and corruption. Hence after a careful analysis of their novels one can identify a pattern among their novels. One can understand their care for their society. As a responsible citizens of India they have exposed the real picture of the prevailing society. Though both writers have been writing on artistic and social issues, they also deal with love, marriage and a strong desire, hope, premarital relation and struggle of Indian youth. Thus, Indian youth made these two writers India's ever best seller. They were well used the social sites, contraption in their novels. It is apparent that not only Indian youth but also the youths in worldwide, feel that both Aravind Adiga and Chetan

Bhagat are expert writers. Both the novelist feel greatly concerned about the decline of traditional culture under the impact of westernization.

## REFERENCES

Agrawal, Beena, Chetan Bhagat: A voice of seismic shift in Indian English Fiction, Jaipur: y King Books, 2013.Print.

Ahuja, Ram Social Problems in India 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition New Delhi: Rawat publications, 2003. Print.

Singh, Krishna," Aravind Adiga's The White Tiger: The voice of underclass- A post colonial Dialectics", The journal of Literature, culture and media studies, 1.2(jul-dec,2009)

