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The Development of Indian Diaspora

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ABSTRACT

There is no doubt that 'Literature reflects life' - this is true in the sense that a poet or writer, in composing a literary work, is very often inspired and influenced by some of his/ her own experiences and social surroundings.

So far as the India is concerned, it is a museum of languages and literatures and Indian writing is an experience of its people, their culture, tradition, and chiefly the way they lead their life. The vivid quality of this literature is based on multi-lingual, multi-cultural and multi-racial. The intercourse of Indian literature with other Indian languages and dialects enhances the true essence of the treasure of fiction immensely and as the same, western cultures, literatures, traditions and aesthetics are also placing their position to withstand the role of fiction.

The contribution and combination of the two cultural traditions have made our literature an immortal piece by their expression of unified experience. And their participation makes the world know the cultural values and aspects, mode of living, etc., of people from all walks of life through the various style of writing that aim not only to make the readers feel appealing but also to make one country understand the other.

In fact, contemporary Indian writing in English is gaining momentum and wider currency throughout the world with the emergency of post colonial literatures. Young writers are being recognized these days through various awards like Booker and Pulitzer and this adornment welcomes and encourages numerous young writers of the coming days. The writers are playing a vital role in delivering and spreading not only their identity but also the culture and mode of living of their own country and the other.

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The writers‟ ability of reading, analyzing, evaluating and interpreting of their work, in the light of the eastern and western aesthetic tradition, will imbibe in the students a sense of cultural awareness. The appreciation and insight in the enormous body of the Indian literature will acquaint and familiarize the readers to gain knowledge about the comparative study of literature, linguistics, and so on.

In Indian writing in English there are so many contemporary writers like Salman Rushdie, Vikram Seth, Arundhathi Roy, Rohinton Mistory, V.S.Naipaul, Jhumpa Lahiri, Sashi Tharoor and Upamanyu Chatterjee. Indian Writing in English especially, Indian Fiction in English is a vast area. From Rabindranath Tagore to Chetan Bhagath, Indian Literature has been given a tremendous effect.

Some books are dealing with author‟s biography or his/ her experience and some books are about the present day Indian‟s social, political and economical conditions or current issues. Some writers are living in India and some writers are living abroad, but the concept of their writings talk about India and Indian people. For example, though Salman Rushdie is living in United Kingdom his novel *Midnight's Children* explores the Indian history where he explains and expresses his views about his birth place India. Salman Rushdie says:

My novel *Midnight's child was* really born: When I realized how much I wanted to restore the past to myself….. What I was actually doing was a novel of memory and about memory, so that my India was just that: My India a version and no more than one version of all the …. Possible versions I made my narrator, Saleem, suspect in his narration: his mistakes are the mistakes of a fallible memory and his vision is fragmentarily. It may be that when the Indian writer who writes from outside India tries to reflect that word, he is obliged to deal in broken mirrors, some of whose fragment have been irretrievably lost" (199:10-11).

In this novel, Rushdie tries to revise the history of his home land, his community and family and reveals his diasporic consciousness also. Ironically, an immigrant writer gives an authentic image of his home land as he has distanced himself by migrating to a foreign land and produces defects of every detail that is engraved in his memory. *Midnight's children* are "about India, the country of Rushdie‟s own cherished child hood. What has given the novel its narrative

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amplitude is the connection with autobiography - the baggage that memories that even a migrant carry".

It is a panoramic novel that explicates Rushdie's nostalgic perspective of India's colonial and postcolonial history. It is experimental and confectioner and an ingenious pending of history, political allegory and fantasy and combines the truth and fluency of Mulkuraj Anand, the speculative metaphysical accumane of R.K.Narayanan with it is linguistic wildness, inventiveness and fantasy of G.V.Desani.

The paper approaches on Aravind Adiga *The White Tiger*. Aravind Adiga is a diaspora writer. Generally, how a diaspora writer about his/her mother land; is he/she really writing for his/her nation or his/her fame or money; do they portray the real conditions of India or their imagination about India remains a question.

Etymologically, the term diaspora is derived from the Greek word dia meaning „through" and speiro meaning "scatters". The Collins dictionary of sociology (1995) defines it has the "…. Situation of any group of people disposed, whether forcibly or voluntarily throughout the world, referring particularly to the Jewish experience". This is especially true in the case of diaspora or in between identifies constant negotiation between roots and routes.

Diasporic subjects must keep a collective memory of their past and keep their links with the mother land alive so that they can qualify for a Diasporas identity. Roots are very important, but when they prevent people from adjusting to new and endlessly changing condition they may become chaotic. Therefore, it might be a fundamental notion for Diaspora writers that, they need to be conscious in depicting the details about their homelands. It is obvious that the diaspora condition can be rather dynamic and ambivalent, but this should not always be interpreted in an exclusive negative way, since the sense of alinetion from the host society often co-exists with a sense of belonging.

Many Diaspora subject may make the writers feel like going back to their mother land, and this natural desire may well become a perceptual and utopian longing. On the other hand, strict alliance with co-ethnic members in the host land may lead these people to turn their backs against the reality of the country they are living in with contradictory feelings such as, loss and

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gratitude, prostration and hope or joy and sorrow that may lie at the core of the diasporic position.

The Indian diaspora is one of the most outstanding and a complex-socioeconomic phenomenon of our contemporary world and this study undoubtedly contributes in generating the transitional networks in the contemporary world of fiction. Migration is the phenomenon that has been taking place for millions of year and even prevails today all over the world. When an individual can no longer acquire the necessary resources to sustain themselves at their locations they migrate to a place where the resources are available. In the earlier period, people moved either because of the social and economical condition of the home country or attracted by the images of destination with greater socio-economic opportunities.

The Diaspora Indian is "like a banyan tree, traditional symbol of the Indian way of life he spreads out is roots in sebral soils, drawing nourishment from one when the rest dry up. Far from begin homeless, he/she has several homes, and that is the only way he has increasingly come to feel the home in the world"(qtd in *Indian Diaspora* 10).

Aravind Adiga was born in Chennai in 1994. He had completed his schooling partly from Karnataka rest from Sydney (Australia). He went to Columbia University, New York, to pursue higher education in English literature. He began his career as a financial journalist with the financial times. Later he was hired by *Time* where he remained as a south asian correspondent for 3 years before going into freelance. This is the time when he wrote *The White Tiger* the book which won him the Man booker prize 2008. He is also the fourth Indian to receive this honor. Currently he lives in Mumbai.

The White Tiger is the debut novel written by Indian author Aravind Adiga. It was published in 2008 and won the Man booker prize for the same year .The novel studies the contrast crushing rural poverty. Other themes include corruption endemic to Indian society and politics, familiar loyalty versus independence, a religious tension between Hindus and Muslim, the experience of returning to India after living in America and the tensions between India and China as Asian superpowers.

The novel takes the form of a series of letters where late at night Balram Halwai writes to Wen Jiabao, the premier of the state council of the people‟s republic of China, on his eve of

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visiting India. In the letters, Balram describes his rise from downtrodden origin to his current position as an entrepreneur in Bangalore; he has also stated his views on India‟s caste system and its political corruption.

The protagonist Balram lives in the village of Laxmangarh, a fictional village in Bihar, a community deep in the "Darkness" of rural India. The son of a rickshaw-puller; his family is too poor for him to be able to finish school, and he has to work in a tea shop, breaking coals and wiping tables. Balram‟s society taught him life and other things that deal with it. This education helps him to gain knowledge on various aspects.

After learning how to drive, Balram gets his break when he meets a rich man from his village. The stork , hires him as a chauffeur, allowing him to live in Delhi and these experiences act as a Light in his dark life that help him to move towards revelation. As he drives his master and his family to shopping malls and call centers, Balram becomes increasingly aware of human wealth and opportunity all around him.

As Balram broods over his situation he is misguided. His situation makes him feel that there is only one way for him to face and walk along this glamorous world, that concentrates on wealth and fame, is to murder his master‟s son Ashok. Having recently returned from a stint in America Ashok is conflicted by the corruption and harshness of life in India. His complicity in corruption leads to his demise and Balram‟s chance to become an entrepreneur. The opening lines of the novel establish this fact. Being an Indian, Adiga has based his novel on his country.

The language is full of satiric overtones and high sarcasm. The novel manages to put forth some of the serious issues in apparently lighter mode. One can also trace irony and mockery through the tone of language. Terms like "Darkness", describing the rural villages, and "Light" for the city life are significant in putting forth the nature and condition of the two places. The book not only makes the readers laugh at its dark humour but also the issues behind.

The literary work attempts a thematic study of Aravind Adiga's novel *The White Tiger*. It aims to look into the issues in the Indian society as presented by Arvind Adiga. The literary work on the whole tries to consolidate the views of the writer about the contemporary Indian society.

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