



## GLOBALISATION AND MODERN INDIAN LITERATURE

Dr. NABANEETA MUNSI

Assistant Professor, Bhilai Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Bhilai



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### ABSTRACT

We live in an era where content of an individual does not any longer come from within but supposedly from 'outside'. The globalization of the Indian economy has brought forth a surge of development in the nation, that makes India a subject of envy even to the economically developed nations. But at this juncture, we all face a grave question - At what cost? Resurgent India may have outgrown the conventional post box with face book and twitter, but do we remember even the basic ethics of written communication? Globalization has brought along itself, the single greatest bane of mankind- Materialism that is commonly known as 'consumerist culture'. Today success of an individual is determined more by his bank statement rather than the means by which he earned his fortune. Studies show that youths of today access social media more than any other. Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat are the latest trends. Although social life is very powerful temptation , but excess use of social media can make youth addict to it and side-track them from their family and later from society.

**Keywords:** Globalization, materialism, culture, generation, anxiety, development.

He is the richest who is content with the least, for content is the wealth of nature-  
*Socrates*

Parents see their children as vessel of their desire and relentlessly prod them to achieve higher scores in academics so that they get high end jobs and become '*Desh Ki Dhadkan*' (Nation's heart-throb) Unfortunately, what people do not realize that under the burden of these expectations, a degenerative pattern is now becoming more and more prevalent in the younger generation of India. As a result 21<sup>st</sup> century India is quite detached to the qualitative values of life. Instead they are engrossed more in battle against time where it is 'Survival of the fittest'.

The Indian literature of 21<sup>st</sup> century has undergone phenomenal changes in recent times. Although with the advent of technology, the brilliance of Indian literature has waned considerably. One does not need to burn the books

in order to destroy school of thought. Getting people to stop reading them in act enough. This hard truth is facing Indian literature today. In the race for materialistic gains, young India has forsaken the rich cultural heritage that surrounds India. With dawn of deadlines and targets today one has also witnessed a spectacular metamorphoses in Indian literature. Authors such as Chetan Bhagat, Ravinder Singh, Arvind Adige and many more have gauged the Indian psyches pretty well and have brought it out brilliantly in their works.

'All works and no play makes Jack a dull boy'. In other words the monotony of life at work and the extremely stressful work environments today have robbed us off our light heartedness. Perhaps that's why the above authors have now acquired cult status amongst the people of India for instance, if one observes Ravinder Singh's *I too had a love story* or Chetan Bhagat *Five points someone* the one element that has been wonderfully used is

the element of humour. The average Indian always demands variety when it comes to entertainment. The satirical version of the Indian society as portrayed by the authors make their books a good read and at the same time expresses the moral science of Indians.

She Died.I survived.because I survived. I die every day.

Most of the time I found that people themselves have killed their love stories.

They call it 'break up'. (I too had a love story-pg.205,200)

In *Three mistakes of life* Chetan Bhagat's has highlighted the riot infested Gujrat. Even in times of adversity he has put forward the will to excel in the most proficient manner and that is very inspiring. In the novel he has attempted to unite individuals of different culture and religion under the identity of Indian. Another unique aspects of today's novel is increased usage of prose especially in conversation. The novels are presented as first person account for example in Chetan Bhagat *Two States* the story is being narrated by the character whilst one is reflecting on the past. These are techniques that entice the Indian mind because no one likes third person account. In some ways it helps the reader to place himself in the shoes of the narrator thereby gain a deeper understanding of the character and his environment. This infuses life and most of all creativity in an individual, especially an individual, who is always forced to live life monotonous, uneventful pattern. The story unfurls the multicultural realities of the era. The importance of intercaste, interreligious marriages in reaching unity in diversity. Bhagat's love and marriages with Anusha and his multiple ways of convincing the parents to accept spouse from different caste, religion and culture are well interpreted through the jokes about Punjabis and Tamilians.

The present education system of India has created a barrier between children and their parents. Parents are in a constant pursuit of fulfilling their incomplete dreams through their children. In this pursuit they often fail to see what is it that their children want. And it is not just in education, in lives' important decisions such as marriage, one can see parents over shadowing their childrens' dreams

and aspirations under the pretext of 'maturity and logical choice'.

Under these circumstances, youngsters attempt to fill this void of sensitivity by pursuing relationships with the opposite or same sex of their age group. In Sumit Sahi's *Just friends* and Chetan Bhagat's *Three mistakes of my life*, both Aaryan and Govind seek solace in company of Boza and Ish and Omi respectively. Their parents have been portrayed as people of a different set of mentality. This clash of opinion causes them to distance from each other. In *just friends* by Sumit Shahi, Aaryan is a boy who loves to flirt because he wants attention. At one stage his own best friend Boza Korbi called him 'womaniser'(pg.108).He mistook it for jealousy. Only when he found Boza's note in the book of the girl he wanted to marry, he realized what he was going to forsake for a lost cause. Perhaps this kind of distressful situation could be avoided if his parents were close to him. Instead, they just packed him away to a boarding school at the age of twelve (pg. 17).

Mature yet unshackling unchained guidance is required in the life of youngsters. Because not every friend is like Sumer or Taneer who found out that her lover Rehaan was cheating her behind her back having emotional? Physical relationship with another girl (pg. 237). To put it to summary, parents need to involve themselves in the lives of their children, not in an authoritative way, but as a friend. It takes a split second to become a wild fire, showering inferno on one's feelings and psychology. But it is through perseverance that same fire could be used as a beacon to guide the frail mind of teenagers in this dark, oppressive world. Only then, in the words of Oprah Winfrey a T.V. personality, they will be able to 'Turn their wounds into wisdom'.

Modern Indian literature has portrayed Indian women in the most elegant style possible. In all the novels women have been shown to be outgoing, to the point and sometimes even bolder than their male counterparts. Although they suffer equally as the male character upon making wrong decision. (Chetan Bhagat *one night in the call centre*). The way the female persona has been exhibited clearly indicates that Indian women have

evolved. Long gone are the days of the 'calm innocent' 'washing the legs of their husband' type classic Indian women draped in a sari. The women of today are as street smart as their male counterparts. They demand luxuries of life and want to make good of all opportunities that come their way. Just like boys, they too dislike oppression and make the best of whatever 'freedom' they get during college/ hostel/ professional life.

One of the best point of Modern Indian literature is that they present the Indian society in such a way that makes it very easy for readers to comprehend. There is no hidden agenda. Clarity of the message is the essence. Globalization has resulted in brain drain in Indian economy where as many Indians are working and studying outside. In Anita Desai's *Bye -Bye Blackbird* through Dev she highlighted certain aspects of life that we have taken granted when we are in India. But when we set foot in a foreign nation we desire to do those very things in a desperate manner:

At home you would just take carrot halwa for granted but when you are abroad you go ga-ga for it.(pg.18)

Despite Adits blind admiration for England, he feels alien and his heart is full of nostalgia reveries of his native land. He express his desire to visit India with Sarah:

I will go. My mother will cook hilsa fish wrapped in banana leaves for me. My sisters will dress Sarah in saris and ornaments. I 'will lie in bed till ten every morning and sit up half the night listening to the shehnai and sitar(pg.48).

When Dev feels disgusted to see a couple hugging each other under a lamp post and remarks about the obscenity of these people as :

A bunch of exhibition (pg.66)

Who exhibit themselves to catch attention of people and retorts disdainfully whether he could imagine an Indian couple behaving like this. The roots of his nostalgia are hidden hatred for England and inward longing and love for his native country. Indirectly, Ms Desai highlights the rich cultural heritage imbedded deep within our souls. It is on a foreign soil where we are reminded of an illustrious culture and how we are 'unique' in our ways of life. Though

England could make our career yet it is India where we belong to and may achieve selfcontentment. Anita Desai dives deep in the subconscious mind of expatriates to reveal their nostalgia , longingness for their native land. Her protagonists cherish the love hate relationship with their adopted land.

Thus if one observes today authors have expressed a unique aspect of the Indian society in their work. Chetan Bhagat has expressed the common dilemma that plaque the minds of young India; Anita Desai brought forth a new sense of nationalism in *Bye- Bye Blackbird*. Ravinder Singh has portrayed love and its' interpretation by young India; Sumit Shahi exemplifies relationships in *Just friends* especially in college life . They have focussed their attention on the college going and job stressed youngsters unlike Rabindranath Tagore who was universal in approach. His poems inspired young and old alike in the struggle for Indias freedom because he believed that they will forge the shape of our nation tomorrow. Though India is getting a global recognition and slowly moving towards to become a major economic and political strength, still many basic problems like rural poverty ,corruption and political instability remained unsolved. People should learn to book that a nations' development can't be gauged by annual gross development percentage but also in the demeanour and attitude of the younger generation towards everything in life.

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