



Indian Women Writers in English Literature

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ABSTRACT

Indian women writers have given a new direction to the Indian literature. They have made an everlasting mark in the field of English literature to change the point of view from the long hold of male over them. Now we can see a new awareness in women in all walks of life. Since ages women have been the point of acrimonious remarks. All the negative views find place in the form of myths, stories, legends and history. "A man's life without a woman is like a flower without fragrance, a ship without a rudder or a body without spirit." A woman plays a pivotal role in her family. Both man and woman are congratulatory to each other. Women are showing their spirit in every field, and in some respect, far better than the men. Now, women are not a marionette in the hands of men. They are equaled efficient like men. Our Indian English literature has gifted numerous enthusiastic women novelist as Arundhati Roy, Shashi NayantaraSahgal, Rama Mehta, Geeta Mehta and many more. All of these female novelists are famous for their bold point of view that they tried to reflect through their novels. Their contribution not only flourishes the English literature but also colored the life of women in particular. In a nutshell, it can be said that their novels focused on the women characters as a protagonist who are isolated in the male dominating society. So that in general their contribution is commendable.

I. INTRODUCTION

Since the beginning of time, women have been viewed as an inferior member of society. Yes, it is disappointing to see that they have not had access to the same chances that men have. The condition of women in our largely male-dominated culture has been terrible. As a result, individuals encounter additional challenges in their daily lives. Women gradually came to understand that they had the same rights and opportunities as men in terms of basic human rights. Even in the world of literature, they have never been treated with respect in the patriarchal societal structure. We are now the targets of gender discrimination. That idea inspired the feminist movement. It grew in popularity during the 1960s. The campaign is primarily aimed at achieving equality with men in overall spheres of life in terms of opportunities, freedoms and participation. Growing no. of women writers in their work began to project the plight of women. Freedom and emancipation of women became significant. Mary Wollstonecraft, Elaine Showalter are the leading authors of this field who have created praiseworthy works and need to be listed. We talked frankly about women's plight and issues and redirected attention to women as readers and women as authors. Discrimination against sex has been openly discussed.

Not far behind the Indian woman poets, they have expressed their views on the wretched condition of women under male dominance. Today, women writers' importance and plays are known and remembered worldwide. Indian women novelists have offered Indian literature a fresh perspective. Writing in English did not begin overnight, and Indian English literature has evolved over time. Indian literature includes short tales, poems, and novels in addition to novels. Several female writers produced songs, short stories, and short plays before novels became popular. Women are still credited with preserving the rich Indian legacy of stories, storytelling, and other oral traditions. Because of several patriarchal presumptions, Indian women authors' work has historically been underestimated. Indian cultures placed a high value on the value of masculine experiences. Women then used to write on their perceptions of and experiences in the domestic sphere. More and more women actively participated in India's reformist struggle against British rule in the 19th century. Women's writing was regarded as a potent vehicle for modernism and feminist views in the 20th century. Feminist writings in Indian English literature have achieved tremendous popularity during the past 20 years. In the 20th century, women's writing was considered as a powerful medium of modernism and feminist statements. The last two decades have witnessed phenomenal success in feminist writings of Indian English literature.

Literature in Indian English is now a fact that cannot be ignored. It has attracted widespread interest in both India and abroad over the past few decades. What started as a "hot-house plant" has now reached a luxurious development, branching off in a number of directions. An idea of true potential of this type of literature in India can be obtained by contrasting Indians' early novels with recent arrivals in same literary field. In Contemporary Literary Scenario, however, Indian writing throughout English enjoys equal status with other countries' literatures. Indian women authors in particular have made their voice heard in the Indian way around the world, expressing it too artistically. In addition, Indian women writers have also been able to excel in all areas of literature in English in recent times and have achieved global recognition.

The Indian women authors, through their writings in English, articulated the role and status of the woman, illuminated literature with its value and vividness. Yes, it reflected culture, history, & overall variants needed to enrich the literature around the world. Yes, after the USA and UK, India is 3rd largest producer of novels. Although the writings deal deeply with regionalism, universal themes crossed the natural boundaries. India, with so many languages, religions, races and cultures, is land of diversity. That multiplicity offered authors a great opportunity to deal with different topics. Indian women authors' voice also discussed historical, social, philosophical and much more focused their themes around humanity. It based their themes on sociological, Diasporic aspects, feminine topics, science and technology, and much more.

Women are no longer men's puppets in the modern world. They have come to understand that they are capable like men and are not helpless and weak. They are now fully independent, make the same amount of money as men, and are not simply limited to household duties. In nearly every discipline, they have established their individuality. Arundhati Roy, Shashi Deshpande, Anita Desai, Shobha de, Bharati Mukherjee, Kamala Markandeya, Ruth Praver]habvala, NayantaraSahgal, Geeta Mehta, Rama Mehta, and many others are among the many female English writers in India. They experimented with practically all literary genres. Their writings have influenced male thinking to some extent. They tried their hand almost every genre of literature. Their writings have to some extent change the mentality of males. Basically, their novels are the novels of protest and outburst of emergent and contamination. They explore the feminine subjectivity and apply the theme that ranges from childhood to complete womanhood. They spread the message of what feminism actually is by the help of their novels. Most of the female novelists are known for their bold views that are reflected in their works.

One of the Indian women authors to receive the Booker Prize was Arundhati Roy in 1997 for her book "The God of Little Things." She used the female characters in her book. With her unique perspective on society, Arundhati Roy has successfully established herself in the academic community through this book. "Women's knowledge of their status as a minority and their rights violations group; that their subjugation is not inherent, but rather a socially determined state; and that they must work along with the other women to right these wrongs. Victimization of women or gender oppression has extended from life to literature.

Shashi Deshpande began her writing with short stories that later developed to novel writings. There are five novels to her credit: "Roots and Shadows" (1983) the Thirumathi Rangammal prize for the best novel of India. Shashi Deshpande's novels are concerned with a woman's quest for self. She has projected this aspect of Indian women with more sensitivity and instinctive understanding as she belongs to this category. Her novels deal with the Indian middle class women suffering, frustration, social agitations, and their stillness as a means of communication. To Aristotle, "Women is an inferior to men".

[Jhumpa Lahiri](#) has achieved international applause for her writing which mainly deals with Non-resident Indian characters, refugee issues and problems people face in overseas lands. [Mira Nair](#) directed a film based on her first novel '[The Namesake](#)' in 2006. Her book 'The Lowland' was a nominee for the 2013 Man Booker Prize and the National Book Award for Fiction.

[Kamala Das](#) is considered as the mother of contemporary Indian English Poetry. She was the first Indian woman writing in English language, who talks about the sexual incidents of Indian women. Her first book of poetry, 'Summer in Calcutta' was famous in [Indian English poetry](#). She wrote primarily of love, its faithlessness, and the resulting distress. Her second book of poetry, 'The Descendants' was even more open. She was nominated and shortlisted for Nobel Prize in 1984. She was awarded with the 'Sahitya Academy Award', 'Kerala Sahitya Academy Award', 'Kent Award for English Writing from Asian Countries' and many more.

[Shobha Rajadhyaksha](#) also known as Shobha De, she is an Indian columnist and [novelist](#). She has come to be celebrated as the "Jackie Collins of India". She mostly deals with the issues concerning the contemporary society. She also focuses on the different faces of the metropolitan Indian society. She tries to project the large society as a whole throughout her characters.

Women writers in India are moving forward with their strong and sure strides, matching the pace of the world. We see them bursting out in full bloom spreading their own individual fragrances. They are recognized for their originality, versatility and the indigenous flavor of the soil that they bring to their work. Nowadays, people enjoy reading the anglicized novels presented by the new age women writers. Their novels consist of the latest burning issues related with women as well as those issues that exist in the society since long. Our women writers have grappled with complex issues such as sensuality, servility, subjugation and society. They have handled them with a sense of balance, never disregarding our Indian traditions, yet discovering that there is more in the offing. Women writers in India can no longer be claimed as the exclusive property of India. Their work and their art belong to the world. Majority of the Indian readers comprising both male and female read the novels of the Indian women authors with certain expectations. They look for some "Indianness in the write-ups. Only the women novelists of India are capable of conveying the messages of feminism in an Indian way. In India, the women writers are doing very well and their contribution is immense.

II. REFERENCES

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