

EFFECTS OF GLOBALIZATION ON INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE

Dr. Kuldeep Kaur Juneja

Assistant Professor

Education Department

Nirmala College of Education, Ujjain (M.P.) India

Abstract

This paper discusses the need of promoting moral values and the role of educators in imparting value education to students in higher education, especially in the Indian context. Globalization can be described as a process by which the people of the world are unified into a single society and function together. This process is a combination of economic, technological, socio - cultural and political factors. With globalization English has acquired increased importance as a common lingua franca of the global community. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru remarks - English is the major window of the modern world. English is an international language with a global status. Writing in English and getting published by British publishers, gave the writer an advantage over those writing in regional languages or being published locally. The major English writers of most of the developed nations live in the west. Many English novelists like Raja Ram Mohan Rao, Kamal Markandaya, Anita Desai, Bharti Mukherjee, Salman Rushdie, Amitav Ghosh, Rohinton Mistry, Vikram Seth, etc. reside in the west. Those who live in India like Sashi Tharoor and Arun Joshi are products of different culture, residing in one, educated in another. These writers reflect multi - cultural citizenship in the globalized world. Local traditions of knowledge that resist globalization, nationalism, and specific national identity need to be kept alive in Indian English writing thus creating a post - colonial space which will not be destroyed by the sphere of digital information. After 1950, Indian English novelists concentrated on the search for the self. It is observed that national orientation can be said to be the most distinctive feature of Indo English novel in pre - independence era while that of the post - independence novel seems to be the psychological perceptive of the individual destiny, shaped and molded by arrogant historical and sociological changes. The Indian English writers have been greatly appreciated and they have achieved an identity of their own after the independence of the country. The article concludes by signifying the paradigm shift of Indian English Literature from local to global which gave it an appreciation and independent identity as the main stream literature.

Keywords: Indian English Literature, Globalization, Culture, Value Education, Higher Education.

EFFECTS OF GLOBALIZATION ON INDIAN ENGLISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE

Dr. Kuldeep Kaur Juneja

Introduction:

Industrialization, urbanization, globalization, modernization and feminism and women's empowerment and the changing social dynamics constituted the major theme of modern Indian English writers. The earliest works of Indian Literature were orally transmitted. Sanskrit literature begins with the oral literature of the Rig Veda a collection of literature dating to the period 1500 - 1200 BCE. The Sanskrit epics Ramayana and Mahabharata were subsequently codified and appeared towards the end of second millennium BCE. In 1913, Rabindranath Tagore became India's first Noble Laureate in literature. In contemporary Indian literature, there are two major literary awards; these are the Sahitya Academy Fellowship and the Janapith award. After 1947, Indian constitution was written according to which 22 languages are officially recognized. So, Indian literature was limited to pre - republic India. Bhartendu Harishchandra is known as the father of Indian Literature. The development of the Indian literature started after the 1947. The most important reason behind the development of this literature is because of the Sanskrit language. The Hindu pietistic movement changed its phase and made the literature a common ground for every individual with the introduction of Hindi language. Indian literature gives us a wide range of taste of different languages and all these languages had a tons of writer who are famous for their work. Indian English fiction witnessed a new awareness in the concept of diasporic sensibility which evolved as a result of the globalization. Globalization 3.0 is shrinking the world from a size small to a size tiny and flattening the playing field at the same time. And while the dynamic forces in globalization 1.0 was countries globalizing and the dynamic forces in globalization 2.0 were companies globalizing, the dynamic forces in globalization 3.0 the force that gives it its unique character – it the new found power for individuals to collaborate and compete globally. Now people

can read novels, poetry, short stories, songs, and plays online. Another huge progression is online studying. This opens new doors and opportunities for students globally. A long journey, a sleepless night or a lazy day, a book can be your companion in every mood. Cicero said, *A room without book is like a body without a soul*. And this is true. There is nothing stronger than the power of words. The contribution of Indian writers is remarkable in the field of English literature. This paper discusses the need for promoting moral values in society and the role of educators in imparting value education to students, especially in higher education. Today there is a need to re - introduce the subject of moral values in the curriculum of Indian students, especially in the higher education sector, since society seems to have lost faith in the ethical values of humanity.

Indian English Literature:

Also referred to as *Indian Writing in English (IWE)* is the body of works by writers in India who write in the English language and who's native or co - native language could be one of the numerous languages of India. Famous writers of the period were Henry Louis Vivian Derozio and Michael Madhusudan Dutt followed by Rabindranath Tagore and Sri Aurobindo. R.K. Narayan, Mulk Raj and Raja Rao contributed to the growth and popularity of English fiction in the 1930s. Indian English Literature displays an honest enterprise of the very rare gems who were widely appreciated by everyone all over the world. In the modern time, it is guarded by a number of writers who are getting awards and accolades all over the world. These writers enriched their work within a new form of Indian culture and voice in which India converses regularly. Indian Writers - poets, novelists, essayists, and dramatists have been making momentous and considerable contributions to world literature since pre - independence era, the past few years have experienced a gigantic prospering and thriving of Indian English Writing in the global market. India's substantial contribution to world literature is largely due to the profusely creative literary works generated by Indian novelists in English. Their works reflected a wide range of issues like nationalism, freedom struggle, social realism, individual consciousness and the like. English is not an alien language to us. It is the language which leads to our intellectual development like Sanskrit or Persian was before but not our emotional make up. We all are bilingual, many of us write in

our own language and in English. We cannot write like the English. We should not. We can only write as Indians and our method of expression should be distinct and colorful as the Irish or American.

Indian Writing in English has commended unlimited admiration in both home and abroad, is now in its full swing. It has carved out a new track, a new vision – a vision that has un- answering faith and hope, myths and traditions, customs and rites, etc. If we dive deep into the themes of Indian writers it is revealed their work is not an imitation of English literary pattern but highly original and intensely Indian in both theme and spirit. They have given a new shape and color to English literature in their respective countries. Prof. M.K. Naik remarks, “One of the most notable contributions to English literature to India is prose fiction for though India was probably a fountain head of story - telling, the novel as we know today was an importation from the west.”

Contribution of Indian Writers in English Literature:

English is a foreign language but the contribution of Indian writers in English literature can be witnessed in several fields such as social, cultural, education, literary effort and as a medium of communication. Mr. Rishabh Puri is one of the best early writers made a mark and his novels are about the life in Hope and Love are just awesome. He is a good story writer and has written only two novels yet, but they are significant. From having numerous major surgeries at a young age to directing all his experiences, hope, delight into a book that will help others in a similar situation. That is why he wrote his first book, *Inside the Heart of Hope*, and it is also the message of his second and forthcoming novel, *Flying without Wings*. Not only does the process of writing free him from the sufferings in his daily life and helps him to align on the path of joy, but also allows him to reach people he might not otherwise speak to. His message to all such people is – *Hope is within you. Joy is possible, no matter what your circumstances. Choose them, wherever you can.* His contribution for Indian literature and culture in the form of books is highly creative as well as scholastic works, all in English. His writings have influenced Indian writing in various languages.

Globalization is shrinking the world from a size small, to a size tiny and flattening the new found power for individuals to collaborate and compete globally. The cultural heritage of India has influenced the Indian English Writers to write beautiful poems, short stories, novels and modern short stories of our great epics like Ramayana and Mahabharata. Though Raja Rao started his writing career in Kannada he has proved himself to be great writer in English. He has many novels to his credit and to quote a few Kantha Pura, The Serpent and the Rope, The Cat and the Shakespeare, Comrade Kirilov, The Chess Master and His Moves. He has not only written novels but also short stories. Raja Rao proved himself to be a unique stylist because of his novel Kantha Pura's puranic quality. Kantha Pura deals with the impact of Gandhi's teaching against non - violent resistant against the British. He wrote in his preface of the Kantha Pura that since we are not native speakers of English we cannot write like the British. We should not. We cannot write only as Indians. We have grown to look at the world as part of us. That is why instead of writing in Standard English he wrote in common English, which could be read and understood even by common man. He published Gandhi's biography, *Great Indian Way A Life of Mahatma Gandhi*. He received the prestigious International Neustadt prize for literature. The Serpent in the title refers to illusion and the Rope to reality.

Impact of Globalization on New Generation & Culture:

The religious aspect of R.K. Narayan is explicit in his *Ramayana*. The values have always been emphasized in Indian epics, which were orally learned in the past. His admiration of Ram as a cultural and social ideal is clear throughout the book. Later versions present Ram as an incarnation of Lord Vishnu, the principal Hindu deity who helps preserve moral order in the world, giving epic literature a sacred dimension and helping make *The Ramayana* part of the cult of Vishnu, one of the major cults of popular Hinduism. The Ramayana was composed by Valmiki in the classical language of Indian – Sanskrit. He composed the whole work, running to twenty - four thousand stanzas in a state of pure inspiration. It may sound hyperbolic, but every individual among the five hundred million's living in India is aware of the story of the Ramayana in some measure or the other. The impact of Ramayana on the poet, however, goes beyond some personal edification, it inspires

him to compose the epic again in his own language, with the stamp of his own personality on it. The Ramayana has thus been the largest source of inspiration for the parts of India throughout the centuries. We have centuries old Ramayana in Hindi, Bengali, Assamese, Oriya, Tamil, Kannada, Kashmiri, Telugu, Malayalam, to mention a few. As India is a land of many languages, each predominant in a particular area, and in each one of them a version of the Ramayana is available, original and brilliant, and appealing to the millions of readers who know the language.

Mahabharata a shortened modern prose version of the Indian Epic written by R.K. Narayan opens the eyes of the world blinded by ignorance. As the sun dispels darkness so does Bharata by its exposition of religion, duty, action, contemplation, and so forth. As the full moon by shedding soft light helps the buds of the lotus to open, so this Purana by its exposition expands the human intellect. The lamp of history illumines the whole mansion of the womb of Nature. When Vyasa had the epic well complete in his mind, he invoked Brahma, the Creator, and explained that he had composed a poem which is vast and of all-pervading universal spirit. At that time Brahma suggested to call Ganesh to take down his poem as Vyas could recite it and Ganesh was the fittest to take down his poem. Vyas kept up his dictation at breathless speed, and Ganesh took it down with matching zest. When at one point his stylus failed, he broke off one of his tusks and continued his writing. The first version of the epic was composed, consisting of twenty - four thousand stanzas, the authorship was contributed to Vyasa. In 1980, R.K. Narayan was awarded the A.C. Bason Medal by the Royal Society of Literature and in 1981 he was made an honorary member of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. Many of his books are published in Penguin.

R.K. Narayan aims at exploring the literary shifts in Indian English Writing and bring forth to the world, the culture of India inhibiting the life of the great Lords, kings and warriors of the ancient Indian civilization and rich cultural heritage of India. The writer has tried his best to bring out a better interpretation of life in discourse with the change of generations. The epic reproduces the social, cultural, psychological, economical and historical life of human beings.

Quotes of Wisdom by Lord Krishna – *It is better to live your own destiny imperfectly than to live an imitation of somebody's else life with imperfection.* The great epics *Ramayana and Mahabharata* brings to light to the new generation different art forms, the philanthropic, compassionate, altruistic personality of the great Lords and kings in various events. Globalization which is shifting the world closer to each other exhibited different art forms that have transformed nature and understanding of Indian literature. There has been a spurt of writings that not only depict interdisciplinary nature of Indian literature but also provide an effective interpretation of religious ethics and a deep sensitization of the culture and tradition of India. The 21st century, new forms of Indian literature has proved that our literature is no longer a product of the manifestation of the west but depicts the ethics, traditional cultural ethos and sowed the seeds of cultural integrity in other parts of the world, The new generation is aroused by the great epics which depict India's culture, tradition and an emotional attachment to our Gurus and elders. The lost sentiments of the new generation are aroused due to the great literary efforts of our Indian writers who display our rich cultural heritage and has its own independent identity from local to global.

Impact of Globalization on Higher Education:

The study of literature is valuable for the student of any faculty and for each and every person. When students learn a foreign language like English, it serves multiple purposes. It introduces students to new ways of thinking and viewing the world. Works of English literature provided to the students in Indian universities is either in the original version or sometimes produced by the publishers in simple English. Teaching English literature gives the opportunity for the teacher to compare and contrast the two cultures and civilizations. The comparative study of literature expands the understanding of students from national to international – from individual to universal, from local to global. Students are attracted towards the new ideas and views of English literature and are able to draw significant inferences and thereby enhance their insight of the subject. The goal of English literature teaching should be to increase proficiency when English language is used across India.

Conclusion:

Values have been at the heart of universities across the globe, since their formation and remains an essential tool in dealing with the challenges, offering universities guidance for their conduct and decision making. Living Value Education exercises enables a university to enhance its performance in teaching, learning, and research and strengthen its sense of community. This will also depend on the starting point and particular circumstances of each university. The exercise helps to demonstrate to the outside world why the university makes certain decisions and which values it hopes to instill in its graduates. Some values that develop over time and may include are integrity and fairness, equity, creativity, innovativeness and excellence, social responsibility, community service, diversity, pluralism, inclusiveness and health, well – being and a caring community.

Suggestions:

In selecting values institutions are advised to be quite clear about the conceptual and practical differences between high – level (different from operational) values and how they may manifest in mission, politics, behaviours, processes, and structures. Adopting a small number of values is recommended; fewer values tend to be more memorable and thus more effective. Every teacher should aspire to strengthen students' minds, fortify their hearts, vitalize their thoughts, and help them crystalize their principles. Teachers' must help students clarify their values so that they can make wise choices when faced with confusing options. Colleges must become the training grounds for students to become better – adjusted, tolerant and neighbourly citizens. This should be backed up by professional guidance and counselling sessions. India – as any other country is going through an identity crisis – its rich past and present values. It is necessary that the educators should come forward as mentors to guide the new generation.

Works Cited :

Agarwal, M. & Agarwal, B. Paradigm Shift in Indian English Literature: From Local to Global. Aadi, 2011. Print. ISBN 13:9789380902678.

Garg, S.R. & Gupta, D. The English Paradigm in India: Essays in Language, Literature and Culture. Research Gate. Palgrave Macmillan, 2017. Print. ISBN: 9811053316.

Hawkes, Neil. "Living Values Education Research." Association for Living Values Education International. All Rights Reserved, 1998- 2020.

Lakshmi, C. "Value Education: An Indian Perspective on the Need for Moral Education in a Time of Rapid Social Change." Journal of College and Character 10 (2009): 1-8. Print. ISSN: 2194-587X.

M, Sarpparaje. "Literary Globalization." An International Journal in English 3 (2018):1-8. Print. ISSN: 2454-3454.

Naathi, N.B. "Paradigm Shifts of Novels in Indian English Writing." International Journal of English Language, Literature and Humanities 6 (2018): 643 -648. Print. ISSN: 2321-7065.

Narayan, R.K. The Ramayana: A Shortened Modern Prose Version of The Indian Epic. London: Chatto and Windus, 1972. Print. ISBN: 978-0-14-004428-7.

Narayan, R.K. The Mahabharata: A Shortened Modern Prose Version of The Great Indian Epic. London: Heinemann (UK) Viking Press (US), 1978. Print.

Narayan, R.K. Swami and Friends, The Bachelor of Arts, The Dark Room, The English Teacher, Omnibus Volume 1. Everyman's Library. 1906 - 2001.

