

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

Minor Research Project

Socio-cultural Perspective in Changing Indian Sensibility in Select Indian

English Poets

An Executive Summary

The present Research work has successfully been brought out the role of socio-cultural perspective in changing Indian sensibility in the select Indian English poet's, viz., K.D. Singh, R.K. Singh, Suniti Namjoshi, Rukmini Bhaya Nair and Mamta Kalia. The research work has been arranged in such a way that the important work of the concerned select poets is planned chapter- wise. The work has been carried out in four major chapters.

The very first chapter, that is, Introduction, sets the tone of the work. A swift review of the early Indian English poetry has been taken in his chapter. The key concepts such as Indianness, sensibility and Indian sensibility have also been made clear. How the sensibility of modern and postmodern age was reflected in the contemporary literary scene was fairly brought out. The most important point, the main burden of the project work - socio-cultural background and its impact on Indian English poetry - was further taken on anvil. Here it is made clear that how the socio-cultural background affected Indian English Poetry. Pre- independent as well as post- independent background was considered in this regard the most

important point was also brought to notice that Indian sensibility has changing nature and this changing nature has been taking it to perfection and maturity. To prove this point the second chapter has been arranged. In this chapter, the poetical works of Kanwar Dinesh Singh was fairly discussed. K.D. Singh being a twinkling star of the horizons of Indian English Poetry emerges with his postmodern sensibility in the early nineties. His cited work in this project proved him a poet of absolute human experience and sensibility. Simplicity and straight forwardness of his poetry was brought out in this chapter. His psyche was also coming out which is absolutely engrossed on the reliance of ethics and morals. The greatness of the poet was brought out by focusing his poetic works presenting suggestive meaning. In the hands of K. D. Singh Indian sensibility has been altered and taken shape of modernity. His Mini Poems as well as Haiku Poems were also taken into consideration. After the fair discussion of K. D. Sing's works, Suniti Namjoshi's poetical work was taken in to consideration in the third chapter. The chief work from her volumes was taken into consideration to prove the point that is socio-cultural perspective affecting the Indian sensibility. The modern as well as postmodern qualities of her poetry were taken in to consideration from her poetical works. It was brought to the notice that her sensibility differs greatly to that of her predecessors and the contemporaries because of her changed socio-cultural background. Her Diaspora of UK affects her sensibility greatly. Cross-

cultural influence has been witnessed in her work. Like K.D. Singh she also tried her hand in Japanese Haiku poems. The Major traits of her work such as speech rhythm, pyramid like verse structure were also taken into consideration. The postmodern tendencies affected her work wherein her sensibility flew freely. The repercussions of two cultures - Indian and Western were traced out in her works.

In this way, the chapters concerned with the poetry of Kanwar Dinesh Singh and Suniti Namjoshi revealed contemporary socio-cultural set up . In their works the Indian sensibility has been changed due to the post modern tendencies.

In the chapter four the researcher opted the prominent everlasting stars from the galaxy of Indian English Poetry. They include R. K. Singh, Rukmini Bhaya Nair and Mamta Kalia to focus the changing scenario of Indian sensibility. R. K. Singh was the deliberate choice of the researcher. R. K. Singh's poetry has itself been the example of this changing nature of Indian sensibility from the 80s till now-a-days. His poetical work was considered in its socio-cultural set up in this chapter. The voice of his poetry lauded post-modern frustrated socio-cultural conditions. This sensibility has been traced here as hooping high into the several post-modern socio-cultural aspects such as loneliness, sex, moral declining, broken socio-political condition, mixture of fear, despair and emptiness, etc.

In the same chapter two more poets were taken in to consideration, they are Rukmini Bhaya Nair and Mamta Kaliya . They are appreciated whole- heartedly by

the critics. Nair was eulogized as the author of first significant volume of postmodern poetry written by an Indian. Her sensibility was found refined and filled with allusions and verbal vigour. Her ability to combine social , personal and mythical together. She is appreciated for her poetry which reflects postmodern sensibility. One more example of a poet was opted by the researcher to draw a flood of light on the contemporary family break-down. The opted poet here is Mamta Kalia who gave a great blow to familiar bondage in her Plathenian poem. Intergenerational tensions in our middleclass families and decaying of traditional bondage between parent and child was also brought out.

The last chapter that is chapter five put forth the overall observations of researcher regarding the research topic. The main burden of the present research work is to focus the nature of changing Indian sensibility. The socio-cultural background plays a very important role in keeping sensibility changing. For instance, sensibility found in the early Indian English Poetry was consciously Indian. The major pursuit of the poets engaged in presenting nationalistic themes in their verses. They desired to explain India to the Western world. Indian Mysticism was found in the works of these poets. There were restricted socio-cultural and socio-political circumstances. Society was filled with the moral values and culture and it was observed very strictly by almost all the Indians. Revolt against societal values was looked with suspicious eyes. In the set up of this society women were

more restricted. When the socio-cultural set up changed latter, Kamala Das had to revolt against all these traditions in her poem 'An Introduction', she had taken the categorizers to the task. At the same time restrictions were bundled on the women in regard of sex. Again, Kamala Das revolted against all these burdens and coming out very freely on the topic of sex in her verse. The investigator, in the present project, attempted to draw a flood of light on socio-cultural conditions affecting the poets' sensibility causing enrichment in Indian English Poetry ever before.

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**Project Submitted to : University Grants Commission
Savitribai Phule Pune,University**