

Recent Trends and Concerns in Indian Writing in English**Dr. Satyawan Suresh Mane**Assistant Professor in Communication Skills,
Gharda Institute of Technology, Lavel, Ratnagiri, Mumbai University (M.S.)**Abstract:**

Indian Writing in English captures societal issues and situations. We have authors who are writing, translating, and trans-creating works into English. The growth of creativity, translation, Dalit Literature, Diasporic writing, as well as postcolonial, postmodern, and feminist writings is rapidly accelerating in Indian English. Since the post-independence period, Indian English Literature has experienced numerous transformations in poetry, drama, and fiction. This paper addresses the gap to some degree by examining, from various viewpoints, the different relevant themes across the diverse genres of Indian English Literature and also explores emerging trends and advancements in Indian writing in English.

Introduction

Indian Writing in English literature has always functioned as a center of fascination, showcasing a diverse collection of characterization and depictions of India and its way of life. India was ruled by the British government for more than two hundred years, during which time there was an encouragement and backing for patriotism, nationalism, native language, and culture. Consequently, the authors aimed to portray an authentic representation of India to the global audience through the use of English language and literature including both fiction and non-fiction works. Indian writers writing in English have introduced various terms associated with this literary form, such as Indo-Anglian Literature, Indo-English Literature and Indian Writing in English. Indian Writing in English has created a captivating hub and offered a diverse array of characterizations where they rightly depicted India and its culture.

The first four decades of the nineteenth century witnessed the start of Indian Writing in English and were seen as the incubation phase in the history of Indian writing in English. Indian Writing in English rightly provides an opportunity to study Indian society, culture, thoughts and sensibility. This writing is becoming the voice of India by accurately

depicting Indian society in the works of Indian writers writing in English. The literature of Indian English roughly can be divided into two sections, namely, the pre-independence era and the post-independence era, and further into two more categories like: classical and modern. Indian life is portrayed idealistically in classical writing, which also discusses the splendor and grandeur of the Indian people. A fair portrayal of Indian society is presented in contemporary literature. With the rise of Nationalism, Indian writing in English multiplied its popularity in the later part of the 19th century.

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, the composer of *Vande Mataram* which is written in highly Sanskritized Bengali, personifying India as a mother goddess and inspiring activists during the Indian Independence Movement, is considered as the first novelist, poet and essayist in Indian Writing in English. He was the author of the 1882 Bengali language novel *Anandamath*, which is one of the landmarks of modern Bengali and Indian literature. In addition to writing in their native tongue, Mahatma Gandhi, Sri Aurobindo, Sarojini Naidu, and Jawharlal Nehru all used the English language to express their ideas. The founding fathers of Indian English novels are R.K. Narayan, Raj Rao, and Mulk Raj Anand, who wrote in the late 1930s. This trio contributed significantly to the evolution of Indian novels. A sample of Dalit literature in

Indian Writing in English may be seen in Mulk Raj Anand's '*Untouchable*'. Mulk Raj Anand was the first Indian author to introduce Hindi and Punjabi terms into the English language. Raja Rao is regarded as a nationalist author. His novel '*Kanthapura*' painted the struggle and exploitation of Indians under British rule. '*The Guide*', a novel published in 1958, by the regional novelist R. K. Narayan, received the renowned Sahitya Akademi Award. Modern Indian English authors are concentrating on current topics such as gay relationships, family matters, martial affairs, cultural conflict, the topic of alienation, social issues, and other commonplace affairs related to the general public. By producing a variety of obscure topics that lie beneath the surface of Indian culture and tradition, the writers of this style of writing portray a panoramic view of India. This style of writing was praised both domestically and internationally, ushering in a new consciousness in the field of global literature.

Trends in Indian Writing in English

Indian Writing in English provides its readers an opportunity to determine Indian roots, culture and sensibility. Following are the main trends and concerns in Indian Writing in English as:

a. Family and Values

The bond or relationship between Husband-Wife, Son-Mother, Father-Daughter, and Sister-Brother are commonly regarded by the code of conduct to form a family institution in any society. Indian authors in English have depicted such themes in their works. Family and Values is one of the major themes of Indian English Fiction. Kamala Markandaya, Sudha Murty, Anita Desai, Shashi Deshpande, Chaman Nahal, Jai Nimbkar, Chetan Bhagat and Manju Kapur have depicted the theme of family and values in their fictional works.

b. Individual and society

Literature acts as a mirror and societal norms, values and beliefs get reflected in the writings of the authors. Indian English literature is also not an exception to it. The individuals in a social context are precisely described in detail in Indian Writing in English. In Raja Rao's

'*Kanthapura*', Moorthy, a protagonist of the novel, spoke out against British rule and challenged societal norms and superstitions. Similarly, Mulk Raj Anand depicted Bakha's, a teenager sweeper boy and protagonist of the novel, lamentable situation in the novel '*Untouchable*', as well as how he began his day and how his father refers to him as "Get up, oh you Bakha, you son of a pig."

c. Women and their Sufferings

It is said that God's most exquisite creation is woman in this world. She is the source of all life and the ultimate reality and rightly considered as the *creator*. She is the cornerstone of a loving family. Everyone is a recipient of her boundless love and care. Indian authors writing in English have made several attempts to describe the complex universe of women from diverse perspectives and viewpoints. They have acted responsibly, addressed many challenges and difficulties faced by women, including their: agony, pain, and suffering. Authors like Jai Nimbkar, Khushwant Singh and Chaman Nahal have unquestionably stated their perspectives and worries through their work. Rama Mehta's non-fiction writings include *The Western Educated Hindu Woman*, *The Hindu Divorced Woman* and *From Purdah to Modernity* through which she has penned down the sufferings and plight of women in Indian society.

d. East-West Encounter

The East-West encounter is a major and recurring theme in Indian English literature. It explores intricate relationships and conflicts between Western and Indian cultures. Frequently, it is depicted as a struggle between tradition and modernity, spirituality and materialism and communal identity and individualistic ideals in the society. This frequently illustrates the clash between traditional Indian values. The protagonists of much of Indian English literature struggle with their identity in the face of Western influence, trying to balance their cultural past with the allure of Western modernity.

e. Voice of Marginalized Class and Identity Crisis

Indian English authors through their writings provide inclusive minutiae of marginalized and tribal people whose rights were exploited and humiliated in Indian society. As discussed earlier, in the work of Mulk Raj Anand's 'Untouchable', Bakha represented the downtrodden class of sweeper. Bakha is only the representative of such families whose rights are ignored where they are not even considered as human and the part of their society. This remarkable novel describes a day in the life of a sweeper in an Indian city with every realistic circumstance. As one of the characters from Mr. Anand's writing says: '*They think we are mere dirt because we clean their dirt.*' Mannu from 'Coolie' is another example of oppressed community. Authors like Arvind Adiga, Mahashweta Devi, Chaman Nahal, Jai Nimbkar have depicted the conditions of poor, oppressed and marginalized class as well as women from colonial times to the modern-age.

It is seen that Indian writing in English language is a source of reality, antiquity, philosophy where it is regarded as an emerging as one of the most promising and prolific literature of the world. It has a potential to turn out to be a new arena of study of Indian society, its culture and a voice of a common man where wide range of novelists, dramatists and poets everyday making a significant contribution to reflect the real picture of Indian society, culture, social values and contemporary issues through their writings.

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