

# RECENT TRENDS IN ENGLISH LITERATURE IN INDIA: AN ANALYTICAL STUDY

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## Abstract

A sea change has occurred in the field of literature after independence in India. The impact of pre colonial literature continued for sometime after freedom of India. People preferred to read long novels and stories. But the mindset of the readers suddenly got changed and they started reading short stories and short poems. The genre of literature like Drama, Novels and Poems brought a tremendous change in its texture and appeal. The genuine interest and attitude of the modern people particularly in the 21st century towards reading have changed. Advent of computer and availability of internet made people lifestyle easier and comfortable. They do not have time to read and write. Everybody wants quick and easy methods to get the answer. Students solve the problem by browsing the net and searching the solution in the Google. The elements of communication like reading and writing has been changed to Blogging, twittering, micro blogging and six word novels. Long description has been replaced with the Small and micro description. Lack of grammar and SMS languages are ruling the roost. Anything that is short and interesting has become a fashion for today's generation. No doubt the emerging trends have minimized the time, but these trends have crippled the art of reading and writing. Dalit literature, Biographical literature, Diaspora literature have become the subjects of interest in the recent trends in literature. Recent trends are welcome but it is degrading the classics and conventions of literature

Key words- Micro blogging, Dalit literature, Diaspora literature, Six word Novels

## Introduction

A major trend has occurred in the post colonial literature in India is the original creative writing. After the holy trinity Raja Rao, R.K.Narayan and Mulkraj Anand, India witnessed a number of talented writers both men and women from different walks of life. While Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru as writers wrote on the economic and political development of the country, but the authors like R.K. Narayana and Kamala Markandeya dealt with less complicated rural life in a leisurely fashion. The writers of pre- independence dealt mostly with subjects of nationalism and patriotism in their writings. All the Indian authors wrote about the saga of Indian freedom struggle. People were mesmerised with the

subjects of love for the country, martyrs' and hero-worship. But post independence writers wrote on the challenges of handling the newfound freedom. The framers of the constitution prescribed the constitutional rights and duties for the people of India without predicting the repercussions. People would face the challenges like poverty, illiteracy, Naxalism, women emancipation, Love and war, freedom of speech and expression, Child labour and many more was beyond their imagination. It became the subjects of discussion in the literature of new writers. To name some of the few, Shashi Tharoor, Shashi Despande, Manju Kapoor, Arvind Adiga and chetan Bhagat. If we delve deep into the novels of Salman Rushdie or Amitabh Ghosh, we can find the impact of freedom on the Indians. In the novel "Hungry Tide" Amitabh Ghosh has clearly depicted the atrocities of tribal people by the oppressors after India got its hard earned freedom. Another example can be taken from the Manju Kapoor's "A Married Woman" where the freedom is enjoyed by different members differently within a family. It shows the naked truth behind the freedom of the individual after independence. To be very frank a social freedom struggle is going on in the Indian society. We are enjoying freedom in pen and paper, but the struggle for emancipation is going on everyday in each and every household of our country. We feel ourselves as slaves in our country despite the legal freedom and sovereignty. These social values have been clarified by number of writers in numerous writings. It is represented by a number of writers like Arundhati Roy and Chetan Bhagat and many more. Roy and Bhagat have attracted a large mass among the Indian youth. They have given a clarion call for the value clarification which is the need of the hour. Another trend grows in the the name of Diasporic literature after the independence of India. Mention may be made for the writers like Bharati Mukherjee, Chitra Divakaruni Banerjee, Jhumpa Lahiri and Kiran Desai. They have different look for the Indian society concerning different bodings and bindings. Jhumpa Lahiri's "The Interpreters of Maladies" has smacks of disease. Kiran Desai's "The inheritance of loss" is a sorrowful story of an Indian struggling for survival after knocked out at different phases of life.

## Translation as a new trend in literature-

The strive for translation of regional literature into English became the new trend in literature in the 21st century.

For an example the entire works of Premchand and Rabindranath Tagore, Vijay Tendulkar, or Subramaniam Bharati are available now for the entire world. In Odia literature also the novels of Fakirmohan Senapati have been translated into English. The local culture, the colloquial language and the socioeconomic condition of Odisha of that time is now well-known to everybody. It is a good sign that people in the world are coming closer to each other. An exchange of ideas, traditions and cultures are now possible only because of the translation of regional literature into English. Kessava Reddy's "He conquered the Jungle" Sundara Ramasamy's "Tale of a Tamarind Tree" U.R. Anantha Murthy's Samsara and so on are great contributions to literature in English Translation. At this point of time, a unique trend of women writers emerged in the national scene. Mahesweta Devi of west-Bengal is an activist and writer who championed the cause of marginalised tribal people in west Bengal. He has written a novel called "Draupadi" depicting the exploitation of the tribal women. Another interesting part of the creative translation is the work of Girish Karnad. In the play "Tughlaq to wedding" showing the historical and social problems faced by the country.

## Emergence of Dalit and Biographical Literature.

Dalit literature and Dalit writers are the new trends found in post independence period. A work of distinction can be made in this regard is Ompuri Valmiki's "Jootham" and Bama's Karukku. These writers removed the gap between fact and fiction. They have presented their Autobiographies so vividly that it appears to be great fiction. Another remarkable play of Mahesh Dattani and Manjula Padmanabhan portrays the character far from the mainstream of literature. The Autobiographical work of Abdul Kalam's 'The Wings of Fire' become an inspirational turning point for the youths. No doubt it is considered as a political overtone but a guiding spirit for the Indian youth for a better India. Besides Kalam every Indian president and PM of India has a certain story on him or her. Industrialists like J R D Tata, Dhirubhai Ambani and Aditya Birla and Actor like Rajanikanta too have also found a special place among the Biographers. Their Biographies have become popular among the modern generation today. The title (22-point, bold, small caps) should be centered in one column format.

Author's name and affiliation (9-point) should be listed consecutively if there are multiple authors. See the example at the top of this page. Repeat the same procedure for the next author. Do not create a table or text box and place the "Author and Affiliation" information horizontally. Do not list the author's e-mail address; instead, list it at the end of the author's biography (see Biographies Section).

## Recent trends in writings.

The high speed internet and busy lifestyle of modern society have made the literature short, boring and not acceptable. In the hurly burly of rat race competition of the materialistic world, no one has time to stand and read for a while to the writings of different Authors. It is assumed that the highest publications of America have got a jolt because of the alternative media that is Internet. Cybernetic reading has replaced the solitary and closed reading of the people. Kids of modern generation today do not prefer the long drawn spaces, never ending paragraphs or the detailed long descriptions. The most popular pages of Thomas Hardy have become a disruptive reading today.

Literature has faced a lot of challenges catering to the needs of the modern youths today. Modern tools and Gadgets have equalized between the Haves and Have-nots. SMS has created a special place for urban quotations and poems. Earlier people used to read for hours together to get the information, now it is available with a click of the mouse with help of the search engine in the Google. Oxford dictionary which was considered to be the bible of literature is now available in all the mobile phones. The trend of reading books for a long time is no more required. Another new trend found in the recent novels is the six word novels. It is a new trend as well as a field of research to be explored. The novels like "After she died, he came alive" by Rebecca James and "One gun, two shots, three dead" by Marcy are examples of six word novels. This is a new fashion of writing that is challenging and creative. Blogging sites have given a new opportunity for the upcoming writers. It has restricted the words and the idea has to be catchy and attractive. The example can be taken as Aesop's Fables. It is quite popular because of its abridged form and implicit moral. It is expected that Hypertext reading may survive as an art form but the subject itself is losing importance today. Diary writing as a fashion of the people has become a habit of the past. Everyone is busy in social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter and Whatapp. They relieve themselves by browsing the Nets and uploading pictures in the Facebook. It helps men to save time and energy instead of taking care of the Albums or the autographs as it used to be. Grammar is lost and has almost vanished from the writings today. SMS languages have ruined the present vocabulary and spelling. Missing vowels from the word has become benchmark in the writing today.

## Conclusion-

The above mentioned data taken from different sources are signs of changing faces of Indian English literature. The world of literature is getting richer by words, concepts and signs. It is uncontrollable and unpredictable. One thing is sure that English literature is not the sole prerogative of England only. It has its ramifications not only in the British

colonial countries but also in the rest of the world. When the English colonizers went to America, they began to write their own literature of the Americans. A new literature came into existence in Asia and Africa known to be the commonwealth literature. Excluding Indian writers, the works of the SAARC countries are the works of noteworthy. Recent novel "I am Malala" (an Autobiography) by Malala Yousafzai from Pakistan has become the most popular today. The recent trends in literature may be dangerous for the society or bring a new era in the field of writing in the future. No one can predict now about the future of literature today.

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