
Contribution of Indian Writing in English Literature

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Abstract

Culture, Tradition and values are the main pillars for the progress of the nation that maintains unity, integrity, and feeling of brotherhood within. They lead the way how the citizens pass their life, do the work, get the chance to meet each other, relish the dishes at different occasions, entertain each other, use the dress codes and decorate the venues, their houses at various occasions. If all the Citizens feel what is going on in the country is well, organized and suit to heart, it becomes necessary to continue the same in the future for the coming generation. For this, we have got a powerful tool- Literature that carries it from one generation to another. But Literature has many fields or divided into various branches. We prefer such Literature that has its impact worldwide and that is English Literature. Writers who are born in India and write in English are key figures to carry Indian culture and tradition worldwide through the power of their pens. The current as well as future generation should be familiar with their names and works. With this point of view, the title 'Contribution of Indian Writing in English Literature' has been chosen to write in the present paper.

Indian Writing in English is important, impressive, beneficial and deep source of Literature that includes the written work of Indian writers, novelists, poets, dramatists, poets, short story writers who are Indian, but wrote in English. Out of them. most important names are: Kamla Das, Aurobindo, Mulk Raj Anand, Raja Ram Mohan Rao, Arundhanti Roy, Anita Desai, Amitav Ghosh, Rabindranath Tagore, Salman Rushdie, Jhumpa Lahiri, Ruskin Bond, Chetan Bhagat, Vikram Seth, Amitav Ghosh, Arun Joshi, Shobha De, Nayantara Sahgal, Kamala Markandaya, and Sarojini Naidu.

Work of these Indian writers has many values like moral, ethical, spiritual, human, intellectual, social, cultural and organizational etc. The present paper aims at detail description of these values, their impact and utilities to the present and future generation.

Key Words: Culture, Tradition, Literature, Unity, Integrity, Indian Writing, social, moral, ethical, organizational, spiritual, intellectual, and social

Literature: Literature is written piece of work used to transmit culture from one generation to another. It includes all genres of writing: short stories, stories, dramas, plays, novels, films, Prose and Poetry. It is Literature that preserves culture and heritage of the country. Culture and heritage are the identity of a country. Literature is important and precious treasure of the country. To enrich literature, all the sources that help broaden its areas should be sought out.

Braches of Literature:

1. Regional Literature: Regional Literature focuses on customs, history, dialect of a particular place.

2. National Literature: A written work that focuses on culture and historical experience of specific country is known as National Literature.

3. Foreign Literature: Literature written in other than one's country's language.

4. English Literature: Written work in English Language from English speaking worlds.

5. Indian English Literature: Indian English Literature (IEL) refers to Indian Writing in English (IWE). It is the Literature we are talking about.

The seeds of Indian Writing in English were sown during the British rule in India. Now the seed has blossomed into an evergreen tree, fragrant flowers and ripen fruits.

It is guarded by a number of writers, poets, dramatists, playwrights, story writers who are trying their best to transmit the treasure of the country from one generation to the other. They are getting awards and recognition all over the world. They are enlisting as the great ideal figures of the nation. They are immortal. They are seen through the pages of the books as alive and as beacon light. Indian writers who wrote in English introduced all aspects: values, traditions, history, culture of India globally. Indian writers like Aurobindo and Tagore open the doors of spirituality globally that was once mainly confined to India as India is said to be the land of great saints, rishies, and munies. As a result, we find, in foreign countries scholars are feeling the pulses of Bhagwat Geeta to give mental peace in the era of economic mind and great competition.

Untouchable by Mulk Raj Anand is a Manifesto of Indian Socio- Political Realism. It presents the most comprehensive and logistic outlook on the problem of untouchability. Bakha is a latrine cleaner. He is born in the family of Lakha, the Jemadar of sweeper. Anand reveals how lower caste people were humiliate like

Bakha when he passed through the streets for sweeping or in the market to buy anything or visit any fair (Mee sweeper is worse off than a slave, for dirtmay change his master). “As one of Mr. Anand’s Character’s says: ‘They think we are dirt because we clean their dirt...ThHe had to announce his arrival, “Posh keep away , posh, weeper coming, posh, posh sweeper coming” (Untouchable, 42). Such words uttered by Bakha show his mental agony. How humiliated Bakha felt while going to market and all of a sudden he touched someone born of high caste. People of high caste ran after him and he ran fast to defend himself. He thought in a great distress, “The cruel crowd, all of them abused, abused, abused. Why are we always abused.... them I am a sweeper, sweeper, Untouchable! Untouchable! That’s thee word ! Untouchable! I am an Untouchable!” (Untouchable, 43).

Bakha

Aurobindo’s short poem, ‘*Life and Death*’ is a romantic poem and it deals with romantic theme as ‘*life and Death*’. The following lines of the poem ‘*Life and Death*’:

“Life, death,--death, life; the

words have led for ages

.....

Life only is, or death is life disguised,--

Life a short death until by life

We are surprised”.

Deal with two opposite words- ‘*life*’ and ‘*death*’. These two words are reconciled properly. Through this romantic poem, Aurobindo has discovered long hidden truth. In this poem, Aurobindo points out that there is no death at all. There is life after death. Sri Aurobindo follows the ideals of ‘*Bhagavad Gita*’. Just as Lord Krishna advocates for ‘*life after death*’, similarly Sri Aurobindo justifies the ‘*life after death*’. The poet follows positive and affirmative attitude while describing this poem. At last, he admits that if there is death, ‘*it is merely life disguised*’. Death is ‘*life disguised*’ appears to be death which is another kind of life. It means ‘*death is life*’. Sri Aurobindo clarifies that there is ‘*new life after death*’. He believe in ‘*rebirth theory of Gita*’. Aurobindo’s famous epic poem ‘*Savitri*’ reveals that it is death itself which ‘*reveals its true face*’.

It is Tagore who lit a lamp in the dark corner of the people of India about the blind worship through the power of his pen. Lines of Geetanjali reminds the power of art that has gone above science.

Tagore’s third poem ‘*Leave This Chanting*’ is equally important in World Literature due to his exposing the pseudo-zeal of worshippers everywhere. Tagore thus glorifies the life of the humble labourers and rejects the ascetic way of life. The poet advises the priests to give up their counting of beads and their singing and chanting of mantras. He urges

them to stop the worship of God in a secluded corner of the temple, with their eyes half shut. He sharply states, ‘*Open your eyes and see God is not there before you.*’ God is not to be found in this way. God lives with the humble and down-trodden like the tillers of the land and path-makers who work hard at breaking stones. He lives with those who toil in ‘sun and shower’ and whose clothes are soiled with dust. If the priest wants God, he must come out of his temple, give up his holy robes and work with the humble tillers of the soil in rain and the sun.

Song 11

**Open thine eyes and see thy God is not before thee! He is there where the tiller is
tilling the hard ground and where the pathmaker is breaking stones. He
is...(Gitanjali, 20)**

Indian English Literature is an honest enterprise to demonstrate the rare gems of Indian Writings in English. Indian Writing has turned out to be 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-Independent Era.

The past few years are witnessed a gigantic prospering and thriving of Indian English Writing in the global market. Indian English Literature has achieved an independent status in the realm of world literature. Wide range of themes are dealt with in Indian Writing in English. This literature continues to reflect Indian culture, tradition, social values and Indian history through the depiction of life in India and Indians living elsewhere. India’s substantial contribution to world literature is largely due to the profusely creative literary works generated by Indian Novelists in English. Their works are contemplated on multifarious range of issues like nationalism, freedom struggle, social realism and individual consciousness. This literary movement is fortified by the novelists’ overwhelming output. This has been achieved by novelists who sought to prove their inner creative urges in English language. Indian writing in English has commended admiration in both home and abroad. That is now in its full swing.

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