

Culture and its introspective issues in Chetan Bhagat's novels

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Abstract

This paper focuses on culture issues in Chetan Bhagat's novels. He is one of the most popular contemporary Indian novelists in Indian English Literature. He has portrayed young dynamic and modern Indian youth culture, trying hard making them successful in their lives. He is gifted with an extraordinary ability to deal with various aspects of human life. His popularity as a writer is basically on his intimate understanding of human nature in different perspectives. His novel deals with different postcolonial perspectives from culture issues. He has raised certain culture issues like communal riots, religion, bias, misguiding the youth by politician etc. He writes on dark topic, still hold modern culture. He brings about corporate culture is a term used to describe beliefs and a value system that provides its unique taste and attitude to a friendship in Cosmo-culture the condition of youth is very pathetic. In this world of Cosmo-culture, everybody is involved in an extra marital relationship etc. In his novel "One Night @ the Call Center" bring is modern culture in India. Today in India youngster may keep unsocial hours, neglect his family obligations, drink excessive cocktails and date each other with a casualness that horrifies parents. Everybody wants high salary, fashionable life style. The call center is only a representative place of modern India. The youth is teased by the modern culture and facilities. They are our country's most productive western culture. Chetan Bhagat brings interreligious marriage in India is well known for its varied cultural heritage as it is known for the lively and traditionally various marriage "2 States the story of my marriage" Though the idea is most realistic modern trend, it draws attention to cultural differences in diverse India. India requires a deep understanding of culture and diversely of mankind religious and languages. It's mythical, supernatural often contradicting, yet fascinating journey through western culture. Chetan Bhagat truly captures the spirit of modern culture.

Keywords: Culture of India, Modern culture, Cosmo-culture and culture issues

Introduction

This paper focuses on culture issues in Chetan Bhagat's novels. He is one of the most popular contemporary Indian novelists in Indian English Literature. He has portrayed young dynamic and modern Indian youth and their culture and trying hard making them successful in their lives. He is gifted with an extraordinary ability to deal with various aspects of human life. His popularity as a writer is basically on his intimate understanding of human nature in different perspectives. His novels deal with different postcolonial perspectives from culture issues. He has raised certain culture issues like communal riots, religion, bias, misguiding the youth by politicians etc. He writes on dark topic, still hold modern culture. He is dealing with the harsh realities of life and modern culture of young generation and problems faced by the young generation in his works etc. He is a far cry from the typical author image that lies in the mind of the common man. Chetan Bhagat brings about corporate culture is a term used to describe beliefs and a value system that provides its unique taste and attitude of friendship in Cosmo-culture in which the condition of youth is very pathetic. In this world of Cosmo-culture, everybody is involved in an extra marital relationship etc. The novel chosen for the assessment is One Night @ the Call Center in this the author has portrayed the modern culture in India. Today in India youngster may keep unsocial hours, neglect his family obligations, drinks excessive, has cocktails and date each other with a casualness that horrifies parents. Everybody wants high salary, fashionable life style. The call center is only a representative place of modern culture in India. The youth is teased by the modern culture and facilities... Chetan Bhagat brings interreligious marriage in

India is well known for its varied cultural heritage as it is known for the lively and traditionally various marriages in his novel '2 States the story of my marriage'. Though the idea is most realistic modern trend, it draws attention to cultural differences in diverse India. India requires a deep understanding of culture and diversely of mankind religious and languages. It's mythical, supernatural often contradicting, yet fascinating journey through western culture. Chetan Bhagat truly captures the spirit of modern culture.

Culture of India

India is a mirror to mankind's progress and failure. The mystery, magic and diversity of India have allusion from ancient time. Its holy rivers, challenging mountains, exotic wildlife and unending supply of spiritual leaders make it a favorite destination of life. Modern India freed from British in 1947 after an epic 'non-violent movement' has struggled very hard to live up to the dreams of its founding fathers. Study of India requires a deep understanding of culture and diversely of mankind religious and languages. It's mythical, magical often contradicting, yet fascinating journey through India.

India's languages, religious, dance, music, architecture, food, costumes and custom differ from place to place within the country, but nevertheless possess a commonality. The culture of India is an mixture of these diverse sub-cultures spread all over the Indian subcontinent and traditions that are several multicultural society though cultural assimilation and the erosion of secular values has been a long-term basic objective of the 'Sangh parivas' with its commitment to the ideology of Hindutva and the slogan of "one country, one people and one culture."

Modern culture

The culture of modern India has evolved many folds since the ancient ages. The history of India has played a significant role in shaping up the Indian culture. In the historical past, India has been invaded several times and this brought in a mix of cultures. The other factors that contributed towards shaping the culture of India are its unique geography and different religions. The modern Indian culture is more evolved version of the ancient cultures in India. Also the modern Indian culture has been profoundly influenced by the western culture. Post-independence the culture of India began to evolve further to what is called the modern Indian culture. There can be clearly seen in its architecture, performing arts, food, clothing and festivals etc. "Cultures are not a matter of being but of becoming" (Bhabha). There are no cultures that come together leading to hybrid forms instead cultures are the consequences of attempts to still the flux of culture hybridity. Therefore cultures come after the hybridizing process rather than existence of culture.

Chetan Bhagat's novel *One Night @ the Call Center*, he brings modern culture in India. The themes involve the anxieties and insecurities of the rising Indian middle class, including questions about career, inadequacy, marriage, family conflicts in a changing India, and the relationship of the young Indian middle class to both executives and ordinary clients whom they serve in the U.S.A. It's the story of a group of people working at a call center. All of them have personal problems in life, however, they are friends rather than colleagues working together. Their call center is under the threat of closure because of the economic slowdown and other reasons. "They are our country's most productive western culture".

It is true in the context of Bhagat's novel too. Even after the fall down of the British Empire the domination of the Whiteman continues most prominently the American call centers dominate India. As seen in *One Night @ Call Center*, the Indians at call centers work all night for their white masters on the other side of the globe. Bill Gates's Microsoft has given a new avatar to the third countries especially India. Now these computers have colonized an Indian people. Chetan Bhagat narrates the episode of 'God' when all characters are at climax when they are near to death. The characters apparently listen to their inner voice and suggest them the way on that they are moving irresponsible and not successful. There is no network but there is a call from God and after that there is a radical change in everybody's life.

Chetan Bhagat brings interreligious marriage in India is well known for its varied cultural heritage as it is known for the lively and traditionally diverse marriage '2 States the story of my marriage' which as simple as it's can get, yet so elaborate. It is a well-known fact the marriages in India are more of a family affair where the brides and the grooms' families approve of one another before the couples tie the knot. '2 States the Story of My Marriage' about an IIM couple's struggle to marry over the cultural differences. They get married. Welcome to 2 States, a story about Krish and Ananya. They are from two different states of India, deeply in love and want to get married. Of course, their parents don't agree. To convert their love story into a love marriage, the couple has a tough battle in front of them.

Krish in 2 States the Story of My Marriage is north Indian Punjabi boy in love with Tamil Brahmin girl Ananya. (Chetan Bhagat too is Punjabi and his wife is a South Indian.) The only

catch is, Krish and Ananya don't want to elope or be separated to their families, and therefore, they choose to convince their parents for the marriage. Both Ananya and Krish take turns to win over each other's families and then they try to make both the families like each other. After all in India, one does not marry the guy or girl of his or her choice. Though the idea is most realistic in modern trend, it draws one's attention to cultural differences in diverse India.

The story revolves around Krish and Ananya - hailing from two different states in India and their simple love story laced with details as they decide to take the plunge. The families do not approve of the diverse traditions and think low of the future of their marital harmony. The book is a take one inter-religious marriages and their alleged ambiguity in modern Indian culture.

Chetan Bhagat says in India, when a boy and girl love each other there is a sequence of events that arise before the marriage. The family needs to approve of the each other and the events that proceed are fodder for drama, verbal arguments etc. Love marriages in India are often a bumpy ride with arranged marriage being the families' preference parent's opinion does matter to youngsters and Bhagat is one of those to whom it matters a great deal with modern Indian culture.

Chetan Bhagat's novels touch an emotional chord of the modern generation of India. His metro-novel displays the ambition of the youth which is mixed with fears and tinged with tears. His men and women are stayed from morality and their only motto in life is - eat, drink, and enjoy life. Behind their happiness existential trouble is hidden about their future and unrelenting presence of their past. This admixture of humour, pathos, hopes and fears and success and failure brands his work of modern generation India. Two generations after independence, one of the essential characteristics of the new India is that the educated middle class who once turned to English for business applications now see it in a different culture.

He is dealing with the harsh realities of life and modern culture life of young generation and problem faced by the young generation in his works etc. He brings about corporate culture is a term used to describe beliefs and a value system that provides its unique taste and attitude to a friendship in Cosmo-culture the condition of youth is very pathetic. In this world of Cosmo-culture, everybody is involved in an extra marital relationship. He selects subject which he reader can associate with modern culture. He has fiction with a mix of sentiment, romance, religion relationship, culture, economic and family relationship and also social message depicted in Chetan Bhagat novels several have objected to the relations as either too simplistic or perpetuating patriarchal value and also he truly captures the essence of modern India culture.

Reference

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