

IMMIGRATION,MIGRATION AND ALIENATION OF EXILE IN THE WORKS OF RIENZIE CRUSZ

South Asia has rich and varied heritage in terms of ethnicity, religion, language and literature. Its native as well as diasporic writers penned these in varied colours – the natives about themselves, about the homeland or about a foreign land; an immigrant about themselves, their homeland and about the host land. In the case of an immigrant, ‘home’ has different levels of meaning – ‘the culture of origin’ and ‘the culture of adoption’.

The word ‘diaspora’ literally means ‘scattering’, carrying within it the ambiguous status of being both an ambassador and a refugee. The requirements of the two roles are different, one requires a projection of one’s culture and the ability to enhance its understanding, whereas the other seeks refuge and protection and relates more positively to the host culture.

Rienzi Crusz, the Sri Lankan – Canadian Poet (1925 - ) born in Galle, Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) belongs to the first group. Like Jayanta Mahapatra , he published poetry at the age of 40. In 1965, Crusz immigrated to Toronto, Canada. He worked there as a senior reference and collections development librarian. His literary works especially poetry include, *Flesh and Thorn* (1974), *Elephant and Ice* (1980), *Singing Against the Wind* (1985), *A Time for Loving* (1986) , *Still Close to the Raven* (1989), *The Rain Does not Know Me Anymore* (1992), *Beatitudes of Ice* (1995), *Lord of the Mountain : The Sardiel Poems* (1999).

Crusz is best known for his poetry that illuminates his experiences of immigration, migration and alienation of exile. His poems such as *Rice*, *City Without A Name*, *Song of Myself*, *Dark with Excessive Bright* and *Love Poem for Anne* are some of the best

examples. *Rice* is a nostalgic thought of an immigrant in a foreign country reminding the son that it is 'Lankas's first and sold sequel to mother's milk'. *City Without A\_Name* is written about a multicultural setting. *Song of Myself* shows his helplessness as a poet and as an immigrant "to sing again about the pain in a shattered bird". *Dark with Excessive Bright* deals with the dualities of life as the title indicates. *Love Poem for Anne* offers an immigrant land to the beloved.

The relevance of the topic *Immigration Migration and Alienation of Exile in the Select poems of Rienzi Crusz* is based on the ulterior truth that anywhere in the world diasporic groups are immigrants with plural language, plural cultures, plural identities and plural roots, in a fractured way. Immigrants and their language is as R. Parthasarathy says, "a tree (that) loses colour under another sky". The research is based on the common themes in Diasporic literature---immigration,migration and alienation of exile—can these be the only themes?Do the writers represent their homeland in true colours?How will they represnt Native land?Do they yearn to come back?Will they be able to do justice to foster motherland?are some of the research questions.

Conclusion is Crusz is an ambassador of his country rather than a refugee.