

Research Proposal for Ph D English

ETHNO-SOCIAL DYNAMICS IN RUSHDIE'S NOVELS: A STUDY

ABSTRACT

My aim is to explore the elements that perk up proliferation and development, or, the changes in society through Rushdie's *Midnight's Children*(1981), *Grimus*(1975), *Imaginary Homelands*(1991) and the *Ground Beneath Her Feet*(1999), and *Shame* (1983). Rushdie's narrative style explores the idea that makes meaningful for the characters in these novels showcase integration and assimilation besides the problems of immigration and globalization. Each part of this seminal work succeeds with judgment based on corresponding theoretical support laden with society and ethnicity. Intertwining the aspects of ethnic and social developments discussed, lurked in the aforesaid chosen novels. For my study on the topic 'ethno-social dynamics', and my keen vivaciousness in Rushdie's authoritative style, this thesis moves on with specific esoteric connotations and carefully evading vagaries. The chapters indexed herein are succinctly crammed with baroque pageants, for which I choose to bring forth the attributes and features needed for the conclusion of this thesis and anticipated outcome. The said novels have been picked up for elucidating ethnicity and social development through shared characteristics that involving culture, language, religion and traditions that contribute to a person's identity and development. As this is a work that supporting with postcolonial theory, my attempts in tracing the ethno-social dynamics through place, time and context from Rushdie's texts.

INTRODUCTION

The much celebrated novels of Salman Rushdie, earned him worthy fame. Hence it is necessary to search for the latent valuables from the works. His first novel *Grimus* (1975) presents an apprehended mundane actuality. This novel plays the part of a creator with his *Stone Rose*, which makes him traverse Time and Space. The author's authoritative statement, the apothegm, that makes the work a seminal record. The grandiose and unanimous reception of *Midnight's Children* (1981) in Britain and in the United Nations is well-known. In this novel, the author takes a task to laud the ethno-social elements so vertiginously exciting manner. The repressive life of the people dragged backward and chained to the middle ages is seen in his *Shame*. Thus, the important role in conditioning the behavior of individuals, their social relations and the geostrategic context within the country will be substantially magnified through this study.

METHOD

This Doctoral thesis will be designed based on my M Phil dissertation and its further activity. Theories of ethnicity and the dynamics of ethnic change in multi-ethnic societies will be suffice to carry out the discussed topic. The characters in the said novels, and their general life cycle from birth to boyhood, initiation, marriage and other relationships, men's business and death etc display the traditional codes

and etiquettes of moral behavior. Food, identity, manicheanism, and ethnicity are the required elements which are abundant in Rushdie's works, and therefore, the same corpuses are chosen for the expected outcome besides postcolonial ethnography.

RESULTS

The thesis comes with a conclusion of ethno-social developments in the citizens through various sources such as politics, turmoil, transitions, employments, migration etc

TIME LINE

Hitherto holding around a dozen books in the relevant domain, sufficient reading, presenting research papers, attending seminars on postcolonial, cultural and aesthetic studies in addition to having many several collections research publications, I can complete the research project in two years.

REFERENCES

Pathak, R. S. "History and the Individual in the Novels of Rushdie". *Three Contemporary Novelists*. R. K. Dhawan(Ed) New Delhi: Classical Publishing Company, 1985. 206-224

Weagel, Deborah. "Picasso, Rushdie and the Fragmented Woman". *Journal of Comparative Literature and Aesthetics* 27.1-2 (2004): 3-15

Rushdie, Salman. *Grimus, Midnight's Children, The Ground Beneath Her Feet, & Shame*

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Word limit: 2500 maximum excluding references/ bibliography/. Normally 1000 words will suffice. Use 12 font size, Times New Roman font type throughout including titles and headers.

Writing Style:

Using MLA 8th Edition writing guidelines.