

Postcolonial exploration and impact of Pakistan on identity in Kushwant Singh' S "Train to Pakistan"

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Abstract

Train to Pakistan is a novel by Kushwant Singh that unfolds against the backdrop of the partition of India in 1947. The story revolves around the fictional village of Mano Majra, exploring the impact of communal tensions and violence on its diverse inhabitants. As the arrival of a train filled with corpses exposes the brutality of the partition, the novel delves into the complexities of human nature, love, and societal upheaval. Singh weaves a poignant narrative that captures the harsh realities of historical events while examining the moral dilemma faced by individuals caught in the tumultuous tide of change. Kushwant Singh explores the aftermath of colonialism and the impact of partition on identity in India. The novel delves into the complex conflicts faced by individuals caught in the crossfire. Singh skillfully examines how the partition disrupts established identities leading to a profound reevaluation of culture, religious, and national affiliation. The abstract nature of identity becomes a central theme, as characters grapple with shifting allegiances and the erosion of long standing communal bonds. Singh' s narrative serves as a poignant reflection on the enduring consequences of colonial exploration, offering a nuanced portrayal of the human experience amid the tumultuous events of the partition. This Particular paper mainly focuses on the partition of India and postcolonial exploration and its impact on identity.

Keywords

Kushwant Singh, Partition, Exploration, Identity, Cultural displacement

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The Post-colonial partition refers to the division of territories after the end of colonial rule. Examples include the partition of India in 1947 and the separation of Sudan in 2011. These events often had profound socio-political consequence, Shaping the identities and conflicts of newly independent nations. The novel is set in the backdrop of postcolonial India, just as the country gained independence from British rule. It delves into the challenges faced by a society in transition, grappling with new found freedom and the responsibilities that come with it, Kushwant Singh captures the uncertainty and chaos that prevailed during the period, as communities were tom apart, and people struggled to redefine their identities in the wake of a partition that sought to divide on religious lines.

The India is divided into two nations, India and Pakistan based on partition, led to mass migrations, communal violence and a profound sense of displacement. The characters in the novel grapple with questions of belonging as their identities and redefined by the political and religious forces at play. Kushwant Singh humanizes the effects of partition by weaving a narrative around the existence of commoners in the fantasy village named Mano Majra. Through the characters Juggust Singh, Iqbal and others presents a microcosm of the larger socio political upheaval, This presentation underscore the witness of personal struggles, friendship and tragedies that unfolds as people attempt to navigate the turbulent waters of partition adding deep emotional and personal dimension to

the historical event.

Kushwant Singh' s narrative technique is also critique to the political and religious divisions that led to the partition. The novel highlights the arbitrary nature of these divisions and challenges of simplistic categorization among people based on their religious identities. are interested in delivering similar themes related to post colonialism, partition, and societal changes. Unlike "by Salman Rushdie, A rich narrative that spans from India' s Independence to the declaration of the Emergency in the 1970s, amplified the personal identities with historical events.

Train to Pakistan is a stunning and realistic account of political animosity, bloodshed and public passions in the turbulent and fatal days leading up to and following British India' s division. When the country' s division was eventually proclaimed, the entire country became a battle field, either Sikhs, Hindus or Muslims fighting for the blood of their brethren. While India gained freedom, the world saw the rarest even in Indian history: the birth of India and Pakistan was like twins. It was a difficult painful birth. Zar, Zaru and Zamin (money, women and land) all beloved by men were savagely raped. Riots broke out in town such as Calcutta. Singh' s long held beliefs were broken. He realize the inherent of the people. However, the Partition of India coincided with the most savage massacre in Indian history. He believed Indians were peaceful, caring and nonviolent.

After his experiences in the fall of independent year, he

could no longer support this viewpoint. Meanwhile the Colonialism laid the foundation for heightened religious and cultural tensions during the partition. Britain' s colonial in India, marred by divisive policies such as divide and rule, sowed seeds of distrust in local community. The fiction explores how the colonial legacy affected relations between Hindus and Muslims in the fictional town called Mano Majra. This dissertation explores the post-colonial themes extend to the characters individuality and struggle for self-identity outside the colonial framework. The main character symbolizes marginalized people and reflects broader postcolonial struggles over identity and subjectivity.

This particular fiction portrays the train ride is a potent metaphor for the turmoil and relocation brought about by colonial actions. The story' s depiction of forced migration reflects the greater historical background of mass migrations during partition, emphasizing the profound scars left by colonial control.

This presentation critically investigates the role of municipal governments and their complicity in preserving the colonial heritage. Hukum Chand, the magistrate, epitomizes the ambivalence of those in authority who continue to operate within the mechanism established by the British perpetuating a status quo that ultimately adds to the catastrophe unfolding Mano Majra. It is a stunning statement on colonialism' s long term influence on the social fabric of a newly sovereign nation.

The story emphasizes the importance of introspection and reconciliation in the post-colonial era, as communities deal with the ramifications of a divided past. The novel depicts the impact of colonialism in the form of economic disparities. The consequences of this postcolonial exploitation may be observed in the rural community of the particular village, where poverty and hardship continue. The protagonists entangled in a web of historical circumstances battle for survival in a colonial influenced world. Thus it may concluded that Kushwant Singh presented the as an important social and political document. Its inherent features produces a super story, captivate the reader and Arthur Lal in his analysis to this book, gives credit for the popularity of novel. The action continues to rush along. The characters are incredibly believable and realistic. This paper concludes with the impact of partition and colonization on a small village. Where it also reflects on the brutal consequences of communal violence, highlighting the complex interplay between exploration and impact of post-colonial world.

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