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Literature, with its remarkable artistic expressions and aesthetic composure, contributes to humanity the perfect ideals of life and truth aiming at reformation. Latin American literature reserves a place of prominence in the world literature with its host of meritorious writers and of them, Isabel Allende is one whose works are paradigms of her immense knowledge ranging from mystic philosophies down to current politics. Her effective use of magical realism is yet another milestone in her career. As a modern picaresque writer, she not only employs antique and contemporary measures but also explores the underlying current of divinity. Her protagonists may be termed as modern picaroons who undergo radical transformation with time and space.

The current research project explores the underlying concepts manifested through the picaresque elements as handled by Allende in the seven novels, The House of the Spirits, Daughter of Fortune, City of the Beasts, Kingdom of the Golden Dragon, Forest of the Pygmies, Zorro, and Ines of My Soul, under scrutiny. The conceptual framework of the research focuses on the physical journey, inward development, and magical realism culminating in the research findings. The research findings are enumerated with reference to journey motive in general and individual movement in particular. Travel becomes the training ground to enhance the protagonists’ physical endurance and as a trial ground, it attempts at their mental perfection. The inner development of the protagonists underlines Allende’s sound message on the importance of the assimilation of rectitude. Her concern on humanity and ecology is echoed through the valid proclamation of her characters among whom Nadia may be epitomized as the
personification of the natural driving force of humanity to attain perfection which ultimately leads to liberation. Fusion of the opposites is one of Allende’s favourite arguments and it reserves a significant place in the research findings. The physical journeys of Allende’s protagonists culminate in turning inward propelled by magical realism which stands at a crucial point of the fusion of the opposites; physical and mystical. Man’s stance at the tenuous line between the two completes his mission of life wherein he beholds the material world with spiritual ecstasy.