

PREFACE

Like other women novelists the novels of Shashi Deshpande stand in sharp support of feminism, but the greatest achievement of this novelist is that she imbues the practices, theories and tendencies of modern world literature while dealing with female protagonists. The need to read her novels at wider scale and parameters is felt deeply.

For his survival man not only needs bread and butter but in true sense he needs some sort of belief in whose light he must interpret to himself, the nature of universe and his place in it. It is his system of beliefs which affects his total consciousness and determines his course of action. It is a part of human nature to live by some convictions which are the concretized formula of belief. In the present study I have strived to reach and analysed that concretized formula of beliefs which the novelist Shashi Deshpande has explored. She wrote novels as individual part of society that has more concern about Indian sensibility. She wrote novels when country started developing in each sphere. She is still writing. So majority of her works demonstrate the change in Indian Psyche. It was the time of woman empowerment, emphasis on education, scientific development etc. and she deals them in her novels. She writes when Indian scenario is engulfed in gender discrimination, increasing forces of agnosticism, exploitation and corruption in values that existed in twentieth century. Like a true human being she shows values which is going to loss in the field of material prosperity, scientific discoveries, personal ambitions and aspirations.

The aim of this study is to trace out the elements and practices of modern world literature. In this *exploration of Human Psyche*, an effort has been done to show man's journey of survival in the world and the Indian Scenario rapidly changing with the advancement of science and technology. Man's sojourn which starts from the initial phase where he was free and the need of society and religion felt and imposed has also been considered. That instinctual demand of freedom always lies in human psyche and in present we sense the echo of this sound. The result of this echo is absurdity, pragmatism, existentialism, materialism, agnosticism and sexual promiscuity which are globalised.

Shashi Deshpande traces the same factors in Indian contemporary society. The objective of the present study is to explore human psyche in the circumstances and conditions as one faces in one's life. In Indian context people are perplexed with fractured psyche and they feel unable to decide where to go? In this study I have tried my best to explore all the causes that are amenable for eroding human happiness and mental piece. I explore all the facts in Deshpande's novels with a view to give an overall pattern, making it appear as a complete entity and forming an organic whole.

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