ABSTRACT

This thesis is entitled ‘Reconceiving Conflicted Spaces: A Scapic Study of Nationalism in Select Literature’ and divided into six chapters: Introduction; Nation and Nationalism: A Theoretical Framework; Conflicted Ethnoscapic Nationalism: Memory, Trauma and Exile; Mediascapic Configuration of the Nation: Performing Identities; Ideoscapic Re-Presentations; and Conclusion

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

The introductory chapter discusses the prerequisite to map the interplay of literature and nation and gives an overview of the thesis. It elaborates on ingenuity of the ‘discursive formations’ and how they modify percepts of national consciousness. As these vicissitudes of nation and national identity are essentially altered by globalisation the chapter charts out the mechanisms of global conditions that result in a postnational condition. A consolidation of theoretical paradigms on globalisation and postcolonialism is inevitable to study the select texts. Hence to comprehend this ‘nature of power’ in a decentralized space a brief overview the relevance of nation and basic tenets of the postcolonial theory have been included. It justifies the need of using Appadurai’s scapes to read the select texts as they delineate the production of identity in glocal spaces. This chapter also comprises the chapter division of the thesis
CHAPTER II: NATION AND NATIONALISM: A THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The second chapter traces the genealogies of nation and the debates contiguous to it. While examining the intricacies in defining the nation state it also looks at the diverse viewpoints that have affected the process of nation-making. The socialist, modernist, ethnosymbolist and postnational perspectives of nation have been deliberated. Religion and media have become the decisive factors in the realisation of national forms, therefore conceptualisations of Juergensmeyer and Castells have been reviewed. Nationalist discourses have always been constructed on claims of rescuing the woman therefore this chapter also read the relationship between gender and nation which will used in further chapters.

CHAPTER III: CONFLICTED ETHNOSCAPIC NATIONALISM: MEMORY, TRAUMA AND EXILE

Using Appadurai’s notion of ‘ethnoscape’ this chapter probes the select texts (novels and memoirs) emerging from conflict ridden zones. The select literatures examine the lives of the individual caught in perpetual power struggle of their nations and the trauma they face living in liminal spaces. Employing Abeer.Y.Hoque’s memoir Olive Witch (2016), Ghada Karmi’s Return: A Palestinian Memoir (2015), Kamin Mohammadi’s The Cypress Tree: A Love Letter To Iran (2011), The Kite Runner (2003) and And the Mountains Echoed (2013) by Khaled Hosseini the tensions and problems regarding culture, gender and nation are resolved. The last section of the chapter aims to
read the appropriation of gender in ethnoscapes to explain the idea of gendered
nationalism in the postnational scenario.

CHAPTER IV: MEDIASCAPIC CONFIGURATION OF NATION: 
PERFORMING IDENTITIES

The chapter analyses movies - *Terrorist* (1998) a Tamil film, *Forsaken Land* 

CHAPTER V: IDEOSCAPIC RE-PRESENTATIONS

The chapter reads a compendium of select news articles from various sources. It locates the operation of ideoscapes in fashioning the ethnoscapes. It uses the theories of Said and Bhabha to read the production, misinformation and manipulation in framing specific news. The chapter explicates the role of print media in perpetuating the dominant ideologies.

CHAPTER VI: CONCLUSION

This is the conclusive chapter that sums up the research work. It incorporates the findings of the previous chapters. Further scope for research is also enumerated in this chapter.