Contents

Chapter I:

Introduction (1-38)
- The Life and Works of Gurdial Singh 1
- The Conceptualization of Heroism 10
- The Conceptualization of Heroism in the Context of Legendary Heroes of Punjab and Gurdial Singh’s Protagonists’ Assimilation to It. 20

Chapter II:

The Last Flicker: A Tale of Metaphysical Rebellion (39-63)
- The Projection of the Protagonist 43
- Identification of the Protagonist 48
- Rejection of the Situation 55
- Resistance of the Protagonist 60

Chapter III:

The Survivors: A Narrative of Resistance (64-113)
- Bishna and Daya Kaur in the Context of Heroism of Punjab 71
- Bishna and Daya Kaur in Mythical Context 87
- Bishna as an Existential Hero 101

Chapter IV:

Night of the Half Moon: A Heroic Journey of a Peasant (114-152)
- Modan’s Fight against Injustice: An Issue of Self-Respect 118
- Modan’s Rebellion and the Legitimacy of Murder 132
- Modan and His Existential Situation 143

Chapter V:

Parsa: An Expression of Stoicisim (153-206)
- Parsa and His Anarchist Visions 156
Chapter VI:

Conclusion

(207-213)

Works Cited

(214-220)