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PREFACE

I have been irresistibly drawn to Arun Joshi, one of the distinguished Indian English novelists, by his evocation of human condition. Reading and studying Arun Joshi with deep interest over a period of four years, I have attempted to analyse his novels and these years of study have lent a new dimension to my own perspective of the behaviour of the Indian youth. My growing admiration for this extraordinary narrative skill of Arun Joshi has spurred me on to a greater in-depth study of his novels and commentaries on his work. The novels of Arun Joshi provide me an ample scope to interpret his observation of the younger generation of Indians who found themselves caught between the traditional ethos of their old culture and the demands of a modern progressive way of life.

It has sensitized me to the complex structure of the human mind, its reactions in a closed circle of personal problems and situations in the wider world.

Writing against a background of post-independence India within a rapidly changing socio-political scenario open to various alien cultural influences, Joshi dealt with the dilemma of the younger generation in a candid way. His fiction delineates the modernity of human condition and explores some fundamental problems of human existence.

The complexity of thought and the issues that he raises in his work have posed a serious challenge to scholars to penetrate the depth of his meaning.

I have attempted to substantiate Joshi's fiction as an articulation of an Indian voice - an Indian sensibility which is unique in the international context. What is more captivating in Joshi's fiction is his corrective prescription for the ailing Indian youth which warrants immediate attention.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

T.F	:	The Foreigner
T.A	:	The Apprentice
T.S.C.B.B	:	The Strange Case of Billy Biswas
T.L	:	The Last Labyrinth
T.C.R	:	The City and the River

Introduction
