Chapter 6 - Conclusion

Literature is a global surveillance on the dilemmas of human existence. Literature is neither an establishment for certain power nor a socially fashionable item. It has its own value: its aesthetic eminence. Aesthetics based on human emotions does not turn out to be archaic even with the persistent changing of fashions in literature and in art. Literature transcends ideology, national boundaries and racial consciousness. Literature is a mirror which provides a place where in the principal matters of apprehension are particulars of the human race, individual human time, human feeling and human response. Literature is an outcome of human minds thus literature and human world are deeply co-related with each other. Literature reflects the age in which it is written. Literature is nourished by the cultural soil of the place where it is born and bred. Literature is a picturesque depiction of reality in all its trivialities. Literature presents truth of a much elevated sort. The writer deals with reality, but with a reality which is reflected of the particular and the non-essential. In this way, literature is permanent and global. The writer deals with the eternal and global facts of nature, he idealizes reality. Through the search of reality and quest for utopia, literature has always become instrumental in accelerating social change. Histories of various nations are full of such records that revolutions were carried away successfully with the help of literature. Literature is most influential unifier of humanity. Literature is a true manifestation of fusion of people, religions, cultural and societal issues, nations, gender a Since the novel as a literary genre is of later origin than drama or poetry it is still budding and does not have any predetermined laws of its own. For the reason that of its liberal aspects, it can give a picture of the social reality very well as reality itself is amorphous, transitive, and sometimes even difficult to perceive it. Selections of the genre novel provide a good opportunity to analyse various socio-cultural and psychological issues which is the core of present research. The novel highlights the various aspects of human life better than any other literary forms. The beginning of novel writing, in English and non-English languages dated back in the late of nineteenth century in India. The first novel in India was written in Bengali in the year 1858 under the title *Alaler Gharer Dulal* which means *The Spoilt Child*. In 1864 Bankim Chandra Chatterjee produced the first Indian English novel
Raj Mohan's Wife. In India the form novel grow with the emergence of middle class which ultimately resulted into individualism. In Europe also birth of novel took place due to individualism. Due to Indian renaissance and reformation, old social and religious dogmas were broken and thus favorable atmosphere gave boost to the spirit of individuality and basic rights of the marginal's and downtrodden. The vitality of the genre is shown by the wide variety of novels-social novels such as those by Mulk Raj Anand, Bhabani Bhattacharya, and Raja Rao's Philosophical-metaphysical novels, Anita Desai's Psychological studies, or entertainment, pure and simple, as provided by Manohar Malgonkar. Novels dealing with partition amply illustrate the psychological crisis of the nation. Indian English Novelists have dealt with various socio-cultural and psychological issues with innovations. Where marital relationships are concerned, it is examined from different angles by novelists like Nayantara Sahgal, Anita Desai and Manju Kapur. On the other hand Bye-Bye, Blackbird deals with the psychological trauma of exiles. Arundhati Roy's The God of small Things reflect colonial consciousness and reveals a feminine question for identity. In A handful of Rice, Kamala Markandya addresses herself to the harrowing issues faced by free India: poverty, breakdown of joint family system and the failure of rural, agrarian economy. In her The Nowhere Man she deals with the problems of alienation and rootlessness among the NRIs settled in the western countries. So many Hungers by Bhabani Bhattacharya, depicts the social and political situation of India in the 40s and unfolds the pattern of social change in the contemporary India.

Indian English Novels have initially emerged as an offshoot of English Literature. It throws light on the dilemmas, faced by the average modern man. Indian English Novels provides an opportunity to study socio-cultural and psychological problems in a better way than any other forms of literature. They have given the voice to them, who are voiceless, a name to them who are yet nameless. Indian English Novel imposes patterns of language, vision, reflection and imagination and creates values that are ethical and aesthetic at the same time. It is not a confirmation of values and acceptance of authority but a criticism of the world and the way of looking at the world. Under the impact of modernism, artists switched on to various-isms, they make bold technical experiments for receptivity and perceptiveness and express what is happening to modern man and to his world. The form of art itself became complex which was the result of a complex sensibility of modern man. The main theme of
Modern English Literature is a feeling of loneliness, feeling of alienation including despair, anger, disgust, belief in 'absurdity' and anguished humanism. Incessant jobs, which people belonging to the general mass have to do in an industrialized society, dehumanized people and snatched away their individual identity. Due to industrialization and urbanization, feeling of rootlessness becomes so strong among people. In comparison to urban life, in rural world and agricultural community, there is no strong sense of alienation.

Industrialization and specialization caused alienated man from other human being. Modern psychology is also the other modern powerful force. Human predicament and existential elements are reflected in modern writings. He can no longer fit himself with the same faith into the scheme of the earlier religion-based ethics which postulated him totally responsible for his actions and so thought him capable of earning an entry into heaven or hell. For many people Psychology has also poisoned the atmosphere in which they live by creating in them suspicions regarding hidden motives, jealousies, and pettiness in their friends, and especially in family members, and also in them, psychology has helped much in burking the heroic in literature and in life. Not only it stifled the heroic in modern life, it has also made suspect any heroism to be found in the past. Modern literature presents existentialism. In existentialism, modern western sensibility finds a noble and fine expression. Extremely sensitive to human sufferings, and acutely aware of the human predicament, the existentialists reveal a depth and mellowness in their tone.

Indian renaissance is the cause of modernity in Indian society. Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Bankim, Tagore, Aurobindo, Gandhi and Vivekananda are the examples of them. The modern sensibility reflected in Indian Writing in English and regional languages. Portrayal of realism is a challenge to traditional orthodoxy and image of Modern India remained the central theme of the literary world. The novels which appeared between 1856 and 1920 were poor, mediocre imitations of Victorian novels. For example, The Hindu wife written by Raja Laxmi Debi (1876), a long narrative poem, obviously reminds us of Milton’s Paradise Lost. But on the other hand there are writers who gave individuality to Indian–English novels with their geniusises and sense of belonging to Indian tradition. Raja Rao’s Kanthapura (1938) is an example of creativity with its seminal fusion of myth and history. During colonization Indian society was undergoing a transformation. All the new ideas and new consciousness
which were beginning to take hold of the Indian society were the mere manifestation of the rationalistic urge created by the impact of western culture. This was also a period of rationalistic reaction against established traditions. The impact of western learning embarked Indian classical learning and the introduction and study of the European arts and sciences gave rise to an unprecedented awakening in India. This social reformation was an outcome of western education which simultaneously encouraged novel writing. Indian English Novel have their own kind of modernism which is an outcome of external struggle- the socio-cultural and exertion within – the psychological. The chief aim of novel, as it is mentioned in the first chapter is to portray society which can be called the aim of all the literary forms. But the reason behind, popularity of novel form is simple that it represents the life, milieu, customs, traditions, dogmas as they are. A novel always represents society, a background in which it is settled, through individual characters. Every age and culture has their own respective issues. The novel in Indian English has always been dominated by the strong desire of Indian writers to utilize the facts of sociological and psychological tension to which representative individuals are subject. Impacts of colonization, partition, industrialization, devastation of villages influenced the general social life at all level. As a result old Indian virtues and values were shaken utterly. Even the loyalties within a family started proving to be strain which was the most important support for the human existence previously. Because of evolutionary Freudian and Darwinian theories, selfish biological necessities and mean economic gains were discovered behind so called “loyalties” which also left their imprints on Indian society. And these large scale debunking, disturbances and havocs became the subjects of fiction. Indian society with its constant transformation provides the raw material to which novelist give an artistic expression. Under the British rule and under the impact of modernization, a common Indian psyche went through radical changes. Challenging question regarding age old tradition, spirituality, religion started knocking. The Indian – English novelist successfully recognizes man in relation to society and is engrossed in the portrayal of various problematic aspects of social life like poverty, hunger and disease, conflict between tradition and modernity, social evils and tensions, inter-racial relations, changing values of modern civilizations and so on.
Tradition is one of the most vital factors that impart identity to humans across the world. Indian society is a highly traditional society which has gender-based standards for all. Without any exception, Indian culture and tradition are male-dominated. Here, societal norms and traditions act as major determinants in individual’s life, especially when it is the case of Indian women. In the name of societal norms and tradition, they are discriminated ruthlessly for ages. Sociologists have studied that the nature of the social and cultural processes and beliefs determines the working of patriarchies in the daily lives of women. Indian tradition and society are hierarchical, where incurable and indelible gender inequality prevails. Under such patriarchal social system, women’s existence is confined to the four walls. The whole of women’s identity and individuality both are constructed under the great influence of society which is guided by treatise of tradition, religion, and mythology. Mythical female characters demonstrate hierarchically subordinated images of women. Society compels women to tag onto those images rigorously. If she fails to follow those established standards, she is criticized bitterly or is excommunicated. Hence her parents brought her up in such a way that right from the childhood, she learns to obey and not to order, to answer and not to question, to accept and not to reject. Rama Mehta’s *Inside the Haveli* (1977), Raja Rao’s *The Serpent and the Rope* (1960) are the novels that reflect the issue. The life of women as portrayed in the novels narrates the influence of tradition and societal pressure on individual. First novel under the study represents various major and minor female characters caught in a conservative family. Even though purdah gives women seclusion that is on physical level only, it has long-lasting effects on thought process. Deprived of outside world and resources, women’s world is dismissed to household. Under the name of safety, women are not granted to have education or higher education. This leads to the lower status of women. Limited preview of outside world has a crippling influence on their psyche that these women become unceptive to the changes and any kind of modifications. Single motif of senior ladies in household becomes to suppress other inferior female members of the family. Rama Mehta's *Inside the Haveli* narrates the wind of changes, a smooth conflicting yet strong and swift change from tradition to modernity. The novel elaborates vivid description of a life, especially women's life living behind the four walls of Haveli. Traditions, customs, etiquettes are cleverly crafted in the narrative design of the novel that prevails in a Rajput family, once having a glorious history of feudalism. Through the character of Geeta, the protagonist of the novel,
Rama Mehta has triumphantly exemplified that one cannot survive without traditions in India. Even though a close study of female characters and their way of living, thinking in the novel indicates that sometime age old tradition can be hurdle to individuality, to progress, and to emancipation specially at the part of women. This study also focuses on the life of minor female characters which help to note that how society and tradition suppresses individuality of women. Geeta, a Bombay bred and highly educated girl has to marry Ajay Singh of Udaipur who himself is a professor and yet rooted deeply in the tradition of Haveli. The very first tradition she encountered was of keeping veil, "Purdah" in front of either ladies or men. Centuries of traditions have made women most scarifying, unselfish and self-denying, ultimately losing their individuality. They are so much absorbed in following blind folded tradition, which are patriarchal mainly, that without realization they become vehicle of exploitation of other women especially the younger generation. Geeta found these haveli women domesticated, superstitious, family oriented, religious, uneducated and victimized. Manohar Malgonkar A Bend in the Ganges (1962), Chaman Nahal’s Azadi (1975), Khuswant Singh’s Train to Pakistan (1956) Bhisham Sahani’s Tamas (1988) are the novels which recreates the trauma of partition. Noteworthy thing is that even though these novels have similar themes, their exposure, context and events are varied. While Train to Pakistan deals with Indian Scenario, Nahal’s Azadi deals with the condition that was created in Pakistan with news of partition. Nahal has woven many crucial aspects of freedom within a single thread. The novel reflects the massacre, migration, sexual-violence and condition of refugees after reaching India. At the beginning of the novel, Nahal has deliberately portrayed the peaceful life of Sialkot, harmony and unity between the two communities and above all highly established life of Lalakashi Ram. A detailed description of his fixed routine, minute and beautiful portrayal of household is given which reflects the life before partition and enhances torments crated by it. Partition, at individual level, affects various relationships. At first place comes the innocent romance of Arun and Nur who fell prey at communalism with the news of partition their identity, was restricted to 'a Hindu' and 'a Muslim'. Undoubtedly, Nahal has inclined to the Indian Philosophy of 'Karma'. Man's deed leads him/her to Ultimate salvation. Whirling of Sunanda's Machine can be read as a symbol of this philosophy. However big the trauma can be, wheel of life keeps on moving ahead. Childhood, as an early stage of life, plays a vital role throughout the person's life. Parental warmth
and security should be nourished with physical growth otherwise a child can grow into scornful manner. Parental harmony is necessary for the good development of child. Agonies and strained relationship of parents can create bitterness and disillusionment in a child. Anita Desai sheds light on the issue of familial conflict, in respect to parents and consequent predicament of children in such atmosphere. Anita has explored these modern Indian issue, unfolded various aspects of sensitivity of a child.

In the novel, Raka, a little girl, a great grandchild of Nanda Kaul, is introduced as an intruder and a mosquito who will bring anxieties and burdensome responsibilities on the part of Nanda. Anita Desai sheds light on the issue of familial conflict, in respect to parents and consequent predicament of children in such atmosphere. Anita has explored these modern Indian issue, unfolded various aspects of sensitivity of a child.

In the novel, Raka, a little girl, a great grandchild of Nanda Kaul, is introduced as an intruder and a mosquito who will bring anxieties and burdensome responsibilities on the part of Nanda. But Raka was born to it and one of the reasons behind it is her troubled childhood. Ever since she has observed her mother to be ill. When Nanda Kaul informed about Tara's illness, Raka did not respond at all. 

*Morning Face* (1970) by Mulk Raj Anand is one of the novel that traces growth of a child from infancy to adolescence and highly acclaimed as a bildungsroman. Through this novel Anand has criticized contemporary education system. Throughout the novel, Krishan, child protagonist of the novel is presented as a victim of education system, teachers and society. Here Anand insists on imbibing wisdom in one's own way through making Dev Dutt his mouthpiece. He has portrayed the issue of qualitative education which is not imparted by the masters. Anand has described the bitter reality that how teachers are after earning money. Master Bishan Singh, enraged with complaint done against him, beat pupils black and blue. As soon as more students from, the class begin to protest against master's beating, he lost his temper. Mulk Raj Anand has portrayed the psychological conflicts that child faces at the time of development through the character of Krishna Chander in the novel *Morning Face*. Portrayal of the character of Krishna allows to have glimpses at inner labyrinths of child's psyche. From the very beginning, Krishna is attracted towards worldly pleasures. He is very much attracted to all motherly figures around him. He is attracted to Devki his
paternal aunt who is almost his second mother. He is attracted towards Shakuntla, his sister-in-law, who also is equal to mother as per Indian culture.

Freud's concept of Oedipus complex can give insights to understand the character of Krishna and also what kind of psychological conflict is felt by him can be apprehend. Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory on Oedipus complex is one of the most influential and controversial theories. However, theory of Oedipus complex gives new insight to understand psycho sexual conflicts that child faces at some particular stage of his life. It is important to note that the particular age when Oedipus complex occurs can be vary as per the cultural milieu, family atmosphere and social surroundings. Hostility towards same sex parent or desire to "Kill him" does not actually imply killing. On the contrary, this hints that the child can become rebellious at this stage and he is able to insert his own ideologies and judgments. Krishan, at Jhelum, participates in a demonstration against British Government. Even though his father and teachers were very much against participating in such rally, he acts as per his will. He bravely faces punishment and also goes for a hunger strike. Oedipus complex is also a biological phenomenon. MulkRaj Anand may not have created character of Krishan with an intention to display Oedipus conflicts but he might have felt such conflicts during his boy hood, during his psychological journey from a child to adolescence as this novels has semi-auto biographical elements. Any how Anand has successfully portrayed the process of creativity that a human mind phases arising out of conflicts and extra ordinary energy of Oedipus stage. Novels like memories of Rain or The New World looks like an artistic exploration in form of poetic prose but at the same time these novels portray contemporary issues like ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and stressed relationships while Rich Like Us portrays the live picture of the Emergency which was imposed during the crucial years of 1975-77. These years were the return of repressive colonial era for a common Indian. Memories of a welfare state and Rich Like Us, are the novels which raises doubt on efficacy of democracy in India. In a disguise of ideal of democracy common man is always exploited and elite class in benefited by various means. Thus the rift between weaker and stronger; richer and poor is still open and ever expanding. Rich Like Us, Memories of a welfare state explores the issue of corruption in our bureaucracy where survival becomes a question for a middle class, Issue of "Connection" becomes churning in most of the selected novels. For the Indian people it was a burning question to establish relevance between
western educated elite and the common masses of people tradition bound rural Indians Modernism, democratization, industrialization and individualism have exacerbated the issues of "Connecting" especially in a family. Selected novels provide innumerable examples of familial conflicts where a person cannot find his identity in the family or even outside the family. These novels present the modern protagonist as a permanent exile, decanted, broken, fragmented and insecure person. Duality of self-the native consciousness and other civilization consciousness, duality of culture the born culture and present habitation culture tears his inner self apart. Such issues are seen in the characters of Jayojit, Moni, Tridib and Jack. Jaya, represents the plight of middle class educated women who dared not to revolt against the traditional role becaUse of a fear of breaking up her marriage, she could not shade off the role of traditional wife. Developing ambivalent attitude towards her condition for an Indian wife it is out of question to rebel against existing pattern of society becaUse the Code of submission, sacrifice and chastity is dinned into her ears from the roots of her childhood. Indian women belong to the milieu which is the sphere of their activities, the milieu which is the sphere of their activities, the milieu which provide them food, shelter, feeling of belonging is highly patriachal. It is the family that assigns gender limited role to a woman: being a dutiful daughter, docile wife and sacrificing mother. Hence in the process of gender biased roles for the first time girl children experience their negligence, rejection and discrimination on account of their sex. Various symbols implied in the work projects the hidden concepts, views and issues of that work. The haveli in the novel Inside the Haveli is a symbol of age old patriarchy which incessantly remains present in the course of the novel. The Image of barren mountain in the novel Fire on the Mountain indicates the issue of alienation and barrenness of life. Constant image of mammaries in the novel The Mammaries of a welfare state explores the issues of corruption and exploitation of the state by the protector themselves. The flash back technique has been applied by writers like Amitav Ghosh, Sunetra Gupta, and Shashi Deshpande. The researcher has analyzed this technique in detail. Amitav Ghosh represents armature view of Indian reality and handles the themes in his novel The shadow Lines with greater clarity by experimenting new methods to express novel ideas. Non-linear, fragmented narration is presented by the modernist Indian English novelists because thought process itself is non linear. The postmodern tendency of abandoning omniscient authorship becomes visible in the selected novels of 90's. Kiran Nagarkar's wonderful novel
cuckold represents the narrative filtered through the personality of prince and his personal experiences. It is a mixture of first and third person narration that helps to penetrate into psychological plane of the characters. Novels written during the socio-cultural issues arising due to colonization while post-freedom novels portrays poignantly the anxiety of modern times, uncertainty of future, questions that haunt the survival of a common man. The modernist novels depict the dilemma of diasporic community habituating in other countries. Another factor that the researcher has highlighted is changing paradigms of patriarchy. In pre-modern age also women were victims of patriarchy and oppression, in the same way during modern or post-modern age also women are victimized, only form of patriarchy is altered. Satire is a technique employed by writers mainly to exposé folly, vice or foolishness of an individual or a society. In other words it can be described as the subject by making it ridiculous and holding up attitude of scrod, derision, or ridicule. Indian English Novelists have made use of satire as major literary device to expose and ridicule corruption and social evil prevalent in the society. Upmanyu Chatterjee has utilized satire to expose and ridicule corruption that is prevailing in Indian bureaucracy from top to bottom. The main theme of the novel moves around politics, power and exploitation of poor mass. Nahal has followed linear sequence of the chronicles in his narrative. As soon as Sialkot was caught into the fire of communalism, Hindus start migrating towards India. Delhi, after newly gained independence, has been caught among chaos, corruption and overpopulation. Stream of consciousness is highly adapted by post-independence Indian English Novelist as a device to reveal character’s conflicts, thoughts, feelings and action. It is different from interior monologue, as it reveals the thought process that is preconscious and inward. Stream-of-consciousness does not include any kind of unity or cohesion. Sunetra Gupta has made use of Stream-of-Consciousness to give insight to the character of Moni. Her conflicts and traumas are thoroughly justified with this technique. Throughout the novel Moni’s conscience is swinging from past to present and along with this she muses over her predicament on marrying an English man. Like a stream, her thought process passes from one object to another, from one person to another.

The research thus, the study will remain highly useful to understand India and Indians. her culture, socio-political reality in contemporary context. Becomes significant as it is a study of socio-cultural and psychological issues of pre-modern and modern times.