



Indian Writing in English

Tropes, Trends and Techniques

Edited by

Dr Anand Prakash Dwivedi

Dr Arvind Kumar Mishra

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CULTURAL ALTERITY AND DIASPORIC DISPLACEMENT IN JHUMPA LAHIRI'S *UNACCUSTOMED EARTH*

DR G. PRIYA

From the East to the West to the West to the East
We scatter and settle and scatter some more.

– (Alexander, “The African Picnic” 59)

Diasporic writings are narratives beyond time and space that explore the issues of diaspora, transnationalism, cultural conflicts, hybridity, identity crisis and the discovery of the self-voice that arise from a transnational space created by a fluid community that is neither at home or outside. Jhumpa Lahiri is one of the famous Indian-American writers who represent the diasporic Indian ethos in the global scenario. *Interpreter of Maladies* (1999), *The Namesake* (2003), *Unaccustomed Earth* (2008), *The Lowland* (2013), *Dove Mi Trovo* (2018) and *Whereabouts* (2021) are some of her prominent works which compels the readers to ponder over the themes and cultural encounters presented in them. This research paper explores and elucidates the cultural alterity and diasporic displacement in Jhumpa Lahiri's *Unaccustomed Earth*. *Unaccustomed Earth* is a short story collection of two parts comprising of five stories packed with distinctive leit-motifs, unique characterizations, plotlines and conflicts. Each story presented in the collection traces a significant phase in the lives of the protagonists. Surprisingly, most of the characters etched in *Unaccustomed Earth* are either Bengali, Bengali-American or American individuals, a recollection of past events with apprehensions for future and the stories tend to revolve around the time frame of 1980s and 1990s.

contributed five papers in five books with a special focus on Dalit Literature and Dalit Feminism.

Dr Mala Srivastava, (MA, PhD), is working as a Senior Assistant Professor of English, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Govt. (P.G.) College, Saidabad, Prayagraj (U.P.) She has a wide range of publications in reputed journals. She has presented research papers in various national and international conferences.

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Indian Writing in English

Tropes, Trends and Techniques

The anthology titled *Indian Writing in English: Tropes, Trends and Techniques* is an all-encompassing and comprehensive compilation of forty-five research papers that showcase the plethora of diverse topics, recurring themes, and rich modern literary trends of Indian Writing in English. It offers an incredibly nuanced, balanced, and complex view of Indian society, regions, religions, castes, and communities. This anthology is a testament to the originality and creativity of Indian writers who have used the English language to express their thoughts, feelings, and experiences in their texts. The research papers in this anthology encompass a wide range of themes, including the complexities of identity and belonging, gender discrimination, the struggle of the marginalized and oppressed, conflicts and existential dilemmas, and the clashes between tradition and modernity. The individual papers of this anthology delve deep into the thematic innovations of different Indian select texts, focusing on their unique perspectives and insights. This book is a well-intended attempt to cover maximum notable Indian English writers whose works have shaped the literary landscape of India. Overall, this anthology is an essential read for everyone interested in gaining deeper insight into the complex and multifaceted world of Indian literature and culture. Its assorted and mottled range of voices and perspectives offers a remarkable and nuanced understanding of the Indian experience, making it a valuable resource for students, scholars, faculty members, and general readers alike.



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