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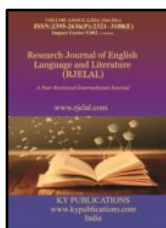
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**CONFLICTS OF CULTURAL VALUES REFLECTED IN JHUMPA LAHIRI'S *THE NAMESAKE*,
UNACCUSTOMED EARTH AND *THE LOW LAND*: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF
LITERATURE**

SAHELEH KHEIRABADI

Research Scholar of English Department
Bharati Vidyapeeth University, Pune



ABSTRACT

Jhumpa Lahiri is the child of Indian immigrants who was born in England and grew up in the USA. While she is living in the United States, she suffers of conflict of cultural in during her life. Hence, her fictions are full with conflict of cultural and lost identity among the characters of her stories. The purpose of the paper is to study multicultural problem and searching of identity in *Namesake* novel and *Lowland* novel, and collection of short stories in *Unaccustomed Earth* by Jhumpa Lahiri. Consequently, the researcher used of sociological study for analysis the characters in novels which have already been selected. In fact, Lahiri's stories discuss a new model of American identity. It is performed on conflict culture, in border situations, interstitial spaces. She focuses on conflict cultural that displacement highlights the Asian Indian immigrant experience from an intergenerational perspective. The major problem in this research is to explain how the conflicts of cultural values happen in these novels written by Lahiri. So, the researcher wants to prove that these characters lost their identity in destination country and faced many problems as multicultural in during their life.

Key Words: Culture, Immigration, Multicultural, Sociological Study

Introduction

Jhumpa Lahiri was born on 11 July, 1967 in London of Bengali parents, and grew up in Rhode Island, USA. When she was two years, her parents moved to the United States. She is an Indian American author and her prize winning stories have appeared in many American journals, including the *New York Times*. Lahiri attended South Kingstown High School and graduated B.A in English literature from Barnard College in 1989. Lahiri received three Master degrees from Boston University, including an M.A. in English literature, M.A. in Comparative Literature, an M.A. in Creative Writing and also she completed Ph.D. in Renaissance Studies. Lahiri's parents selected the Bengali name Nilanjana Sudeshna but Lahiri's teacher in kinder

garden changed her name to Jhumpa because the pronunciation of her Bengali name was very difficult for them. The first collection of Lahiri with title 'Interpreter of Maladies' (1999) which won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2000. This collection including nine short stories about Indians and Indian Americans who have been multicultural and faced many problems in during their life. This collection including 'A Temporary Matter', 'When Mr. Pirzada Came to Dine', 'Interpreter of Maladies', 'A Real Durwan', 'Sexy', 'Mrs. Sen's', 'This Blessed House', 'The Treatment of Bibi Haldar', and 'The Third and Final Continent'. The first novel Lahiri is 'The Namesake' that was published in New York in 2003. This story is about young boy who is immigrated to abroad. The young boy lost his identity and involved

many problems in his life. In fact, this novel sketched conflict of cultural and social problems among the characters of the novel. The second collection of short stories with title 'Unaccustomed Earth' published in 2008 which won Pulitzer Prize for this collection. This collection of short stories including eight stories with title: 'Unaccustomed Earth', 'Hell-Heaven', 'A Choice of Accommodations', 'Only Goodness', 'Nobody's Business', 'Once in a Life Time', 'Year's End', 'Going Ashore'. The collection of short stories 'Unaccustomed Earth' describe Indians who are migrated to the United States and they try to adjust to new live in the country of destination hence, they are undergoing cultural conflict and suffering in duration of their life.

The second novel JhumpaLahiri is 'The Lowland' which is published in 2013. This book was bestseller book in the U.S.A and also in Iran. This novel translated by Amir Mahdi Haghighat in Iran. The Lowland is story of the two Indian brothers who were involved in the turmoil and political movements in the 60s and 70s in India.

The researcher plans to study on Namesake novel and Lowland novel, and collection of short stories in Unaccustomed Earth by JhumpaLahiri.

JhumpaLahiri's Interpreter of Maladies established this young writer as one the most brilliant of her generation. The Namesake (2004) is the first novel by JhumpaLahiri. It was originally a novel which is published in The New Yorker and was later expanded to a full-length novel. Her stories are one of the very few debut works -- and only a handful of collections -- to have won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction. The story of the Ganguli family whose move from Calcutta to New York evokes a lifelong balancing act to meld to a new world without forgetting the old. Gogol is the son of Ashima and Ashoke in the novel. They gave Gogol name to their son. He is given the name by his father who, before he came to America to study at MIT, was almost killed in a train wreck in India Gogol changes his name to Nikhil because he doesn't like Gogol name. He believes that Nikhil is a Bengali name, and Gogol is an old Russian dude's last name. Gogol is torn between finding his own unique identity without losing his heritage. The major theme in the novel is searching for identity. So, the Namesake

novel considers identity, culture and post-colonial literature.

This paper analyzes the construction of cultural identity and cultural dislocation in JhumpaLahiri's novels and her short stories. This novel tells about an Indian immigrant born in India, who is later moved from India to USA when they were a child. In the novels and short stories have selected present experiences cultural identity and cultural dislocation. Lahiri deals with a multicultural society both from 'inside' and 'outside', seeking to find her native identity as well as a new identity in the adopted country.

Significance of Study

The significance conflicts of cultural values reflected in JhumpaLahiri novels is in the construction and formation of society is so natural. Her narratives, which always intertwine elements of "Indian" and "American" life, abound in the type of conflict of culture and identity that emanates with social implications. It is clear in Lahiri's fictions that focused on the questions as character's multicultural and character's identity. In this research paper, researcher purpose to analyses the character's identity and considers the conflict of cultural among the characters of novels by sociological study in English literature. In fact, Lahiri's stories discuss a new model of American identity. It is performed on conflict culture, in border situations, interstitial spaces. Lahiri focus on conflict cultural that displacement highlights the Asian Indian immigrant experience from an intergenerational perspective. In this research papers, study conflict culture and conflict identity in "The Namesake", "The Lowland" and "Unaccustomed Earth" by JhumpaLahiri.

Cultural conflict when is occurred which different social groups have different ideas of acceptable behavior. Culture conflict in "Namesake" novel when is occurred which Gogol decides to change his first name to Nikhil the summer before he heads off to Yale.

However, no matter how distinct the plot twists or character circumstances in any of the stories, as a collection *Unaccustomed Earth* is markedly unified. All stories focus on members of Bengali families dealing with England or America. All

are richly detailed, painting portraits of the complexity of these families' lives; all deal with making and remaking lives, loves, and identities in the wake of radical disruptions.

Although, *The Lowland* novel is significant with respect to multiculturalism. The novel sketched the character Bella who her follows American culture seriously.

Thus, in sociology multiculturalism is the view that cultural differences should be respected. Sociologists use the concept of multiculturalism to describe one way of approaching cultural diversity within a society. In this research considers conflict culture and identity in a major's characters in Lahiri's novels by sociological study literature.

Literature Reviews

Qualitative study is a method which is used to analyze conflicts of culture values reflected in the novel. *The primary data is taken from the novel itself and the secondary data sources are other resources related the study such as dictionary, website, some books that support the analysis. The techniques of collecting data are reading the original novels several times, determining the character that will be analyzed, taking note of the important thing both the primary data and secondary data, and classifying and determining the relevant data. The techniques of data analysis are as follows: the first is analyzing of the novel, the second is analyzing the data based on sociological perspective.*

The results of this study are, first, based on the structural analysis of each element, it shows that the character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, and theme are related to each other and form the unity into good quality novels.

Aims of This Study

The aim of study JhumpaLahiri's books is analysis prognostic's life in the stories. Researcher considers role of characters and their problems in during their life. The aim of researcher's study is connecting author's life to her characters in the stories. Researcher expose twin concept author with her characters in the stories, and researcher's aim is to show that the author wants to portray the fate of persons who are similar to herself. In fact, researcher focused on multicultural and searching identity on the main characters in the JhumpaLahiri's

stories.

Methodology

The researcher has selected sociological study method to analyses characters in novels by JhumpaLahiri which has selected as, 'The Namsake' novel and an *Unaccustomed Earth*, and also 'The Lowland' novel. Sociology is the study of human societies, English literature reflects and values of various periods in history and culture. The analysis of conflicts of culture values is divided into six aspects such as; Social, Economic, Political, Cultural, Religious, and Technology aspect.

Although, social aspects are divided itself into four namely social structure, immigration, social status, and social relation. Researcher thinks that the author portray herself and her life in picture of characters in the novels.

Thus, the researcher can defiantly say that conflict of cultural and lost identity sketched in all major characters of JhumpaLahiri 'stories. So, researcher needs to analysis all characters' stories and consider them for conflict culture and lost their identity by Sociological study in English literature.

Conclusion

JhumpaLahiri is a famous Indian American author of Bengali origin. Her fiction deals with the lives of Indian-Americans, particularly Bengalis. In Lahiri's collection, she presents characters that they have been born in India and then immigrated to the abroad or characters whom born in United States but their parents come from India. JhumpaLahiri sketching the life of Indians that have emigrated from India to the abroad and faced many problems of conflict culture and conflict identity. In fact, the characters show that their identity has a direct connection to their Indian culture, so they are experiencing cultural conflict and lost their identity. For this reason, researcher intentions to analysis major characters by sociological study in this research.

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