

## CROSS CULTURAL ISSUES DEPICTED IN BHARATI MUKHERJEE'S NOVEL 'JASMINE'

**Basappa Y. Bangari**

*Research Scholar, Department of Studies and Research in English  
Tumkur University, Tumakuru, Karnataka, India*

### Abstract

*This paper tried to explore cross cultural issues depicted in Bharati Mukherjee's novel 'Jasmine'. This novel proved somewhat an example of Indian English Literature which is an indivisible piece of English Literature. Indian writing in English has made its own particular character. The study of Bharati Mukherjee's books with regards to culturally diverse relations is a most difficult errand. Aside from this, India is a multilingual nation, in this manner in numerous routes, after Hindi, English has been utilized for correspondence reason across India. Presently, it turns into a connection dialect, once it was called window of the world. Swamy observed, "Bharati Mukherjee's novel Jasmine deals with intense gender portrayal in Diaspora situation. Jasmine is a story of a native young Punjabi girl who could have lived like many Punjabi women 'content' and 'happy' with common lifestyle, she could have also lived a subdued life of suffering and widowhood after her husband's death, on the contrary Jasmine always desired for challenges she had dreams to emigrate to America the dreams which were instilled by her husband Prakash. After Prakash's death Jasmine migrates illegally to America in order to fulfill her deceased husband's dreams." Mukherjee has attempted to portray outsiders' life sensibly. Jasmine's combined good awareness of self-personality has offered quality to handle with a complexity of social majority. She guesses through the arrangement of enterprises from a territory of Punjab to California by means of Florida, New York. All these cross cultural issues clearly depicted in the novel.*

**Keywords:** *Cross Culture, Multilingual, Traditional,*

### Introduction

Indian English writing in English started as a fascinating side-effect of the battle between ambitious Britain and a hopeless and chaotic India. With the appearance of Indian English written work, the principal issue that goes up against the student of the history of this writing is to characterize its inclination and degree clearly. As M.K. Naik remarks about the meaning of Indian English Literature, "Indian English writing might be characterized as writing composed initially in English by creators Indian by birth, family line or nationality." The investigation of English writing propelled abstract creation in Marathi, Telugu, Tamil, Gujarati and Bengali. The most noteworthy abstract figures of the last 110 years have been incorporated both were English educated coming from the higher strata of society. Numerous scholars are bilinguals. They have made an interpretation of the English renditions into their mom's tongue. At the approach of Indian English composition, novices were artists, who had utilized English language as a method for their idyllic structures means Indian English writing incorporates of writing from a few languages from India— Assamese, Bengali, Marathi, Gujarathi, Kashmiri, Kannada, Hindi, Sindhi, Tamil, Urdu, Maithili, Oriya, Punjabi and so on.

India, a multilingual nation, the men and ladies of English instructed have made writing in their territorial dialects and English dialect. For the most part, Indian essayists are bilinguals. Larger part some portion of

English writing is deciphered and that is some portion of territorial writing specifically first language. The Nobel grant winning Gitanjali is earlier interpretation it was composed in Bengali, and then it has been converted into the English language. Literature is the understanding of human life; normally Indian English writing is the translation of human life, so as Indian English writing confers Indian life. The study of Bharati Mukherjee's books with regards to culturally diverse relations is a most difficult errand. In the post-Independence period, the Commonwealth writing in India has been created in various points of view. The commitment of ladies authors is additionally an imperative marvel in such manner. The universe of ladies composing has encountered the new rushes of reasoning and imaginative morphology of the ladies composing. As Beena Agarwal admits, "Cumulative efforts of the women world writers prepared a new idiom of exile and empathy and expanded the horizons both of the feminist fiction and the Immigrant narrative". The Indian ladies essayists in English have contributed an incredible arrangement in reflecting culturally diverse connection. They have delineated diverse relations on the foundation of the dynamic culture of multicultural American culture. Mukherjee has displayed the universe of Indian ladies migrants with their predicaments and issues in the outside land. "Racial inferiority and the anguish of gender discrimination prepare the fabric of discrimination" (Agarwal)

The writer handled from different perspectives during the time spent Americanization. At the point when Indian interacted with the Western culture, they have examined as well as advanced western societies. The investigation of essential books composed by the ladies essayists suitably affirms the culturally diverse relations. At the point when Jasmine is all of a sudden widowed at seventeen, she appears to be looked to an existence of calm detachment in the little Indian town where she was conceived. In any case, the power of Jasmine's wants impels her violently into a bigger, riskier and at last more nurturing world. In only a couple of years, Jasmine progresses toward becoming Jane Rippl The writer handled from different perspectives during the time spent Americanization. At the point when Indian interacted with the Western culture, they have examined as well as advanced western societies. The investigation of essential books composed by the ladies essayists suitably affirms the culturally diverse relations. At the point when Jasmine is all of a sudden widowed at seventeen, she appears to be looked to an existence of calm detachment in the little Indian town where she was conceived. In any case, the power of Jasmine's wants impels her violently into a bigger, riskier and at last more nurturing world. In only a couple of years, Jasmine progresses toward becoming Jane Ripple meyer, joyfully pregnant by a moderately aged Iowa investor also, the assenting mother of the Vietnamese displaced person. The fascination towards Indian culture is a critical wonder. Be that as it may, they feel totally removed in the outside arrive. The social and social estrangement has been made a critical three-way commitment. Mukherjee's books have delineated the sentiments of foreigners' effectively. They have likewise built up the culturally diverse relations on the range of family, social and social life moreover. Joyfully pregnant by a moderately aged low investor also, the assenting mother of the Vietnamese displaced person. The fascination towards Indian culture is a critical wonder. Be that as it may, they feel totally removed in the outside arrive. The social and social estrangement has been made a critical three-way commitment. Mukherjee's books have delineated the sentiments of foreigners' effectively. They have likewise built up the culturally diverse relations on the range of family, social and social life moreover.

Mukherjee has endeavoured to portray outsiders' life sensibly. Jasmine's combined good awareness of self-personality has offered quality to handle with a complexity of social majority. She guesses through the arrangement of enterprises from a territory of Punjab to California by

means of Florida, New York. She ends up in the changing situation of various social surroundings safeguards her way of life as Indian the lady who seizes the quality of will for the reaffirmation of her life circumstances. Her life rotates around the self-will to live amidst the sumptuous of American culture. She frames her way through the prickly and trouble way of heterogonous life conditions as Beena Agarwal stated in other words. "To assert her identity and voice, instead of turning back, she develops the poetics of assimilation. Amid the obscurities of American society, she makes spaces with her firm faith in Indian religious values. The odyssey of the life of Jasmine seems to be a process of the synthesis of progressive ideals of west and the native values governing the life of Indian immigrants." Jasmine has faced plight in her life as, "Life times experience are crammed into a few years in the life of its young female protagonist as Jasmine is put through the most grueling confrontations with death (of her husband Prakash), murder (of Half Face), assault and crippling (Bud) and suicide (of her neighbor Darrel). She is for a while the mother of a seventeen-year-old Du (an immigrant like herself): she is expecting the child of a crippled man whom she leaves for the man she thinks she actually loves (Taylor). The picaresque, surrealistic, no-holds-barred ethos obviously has a message beneath the action: that change and adaptability are the key to survival, and that the successful immigrant has the instinct."

Another writer Shobha Shinde observed Bharati Mukherjee's views. "Her journey through life led Jasmine through many transformations Jyoti, Jane. Through large geographical locals like Punjab, Florida, New York, Iowa and Finally towards California. At every stage of life Jasmine revolted against her fate and the path drawn for her." "Bharati Mukherjee's novel Jasmine deals with intense gender portrayal in Diaspora situation. Jasmine is a story of a naïve young Punjabi girl who could have lived like many Punjabi women "content" and "happy" with common lifestyle, she could have also lived a subdued life of suffering and widowhood after her husband's death, on the contrary Jasmine always desired for challenges she had dreams to emigrate to America the dreams which were instilled by her husband Prakash. After Prakash's death Jasmine migrates illegally to America in order to fulfill her deceased husband's dreams. In America, first she becomes victim of rape but she gets even by killing him as goddess 'kali'. The trauma of violence and displacement transforms her totally and changes her identity from a docile Indian girl Jasmine into Jane Ripple Mayer, a paradoxical identity in the American world. Her

portrayal is one of self-assertion and transformation in a complex alien world from Jasmine to Jase. Bharati Mukherjee's other writings, *Wife*. Dimple, the protagonist of the *Wife*, on the other hand, is another transformed woman who changes her identity from the dutiful Indian house wife to a killer of her husband - a negative transformation. Migration casts a cruel shadow upon her character and finally her expectations fall short. The racist views towards the third world aggravates her situation when she tries to imitate the western culture and she fails in her attempts and ultimately ends up being a 'nowhere woman.' Bharati Mukherjee's 'Darkness' portrays pragmatic problems of racial discrimination, homeless, loss of identity, cultural differences, including language issues of Indian immigrant life. The collection of twelve short stories have exhibit a clear picture concerning the Indian immigrants have in all shades of struggling to adjust to life in Canada and the United States."(Swamy) "The novel tells the story of Jasmine who migrates from India to the U.S. to escape the oppression of tradition. Born into a traditional Hindu family that survives Partition violence and flees Pakistan into India, Jasmine has to fight for her early education since her family (with the exception of her mother) argues against it as she is a girl. She marries a "modern" man, Prakash, who, however, does not tolerate her plan to earn some extra money by selling goods from door to door. Prakash's dream isto come to Tampa, Florida to gain an education but he is killed by a Sikh fundamentalist named Sukhwinder one day before his departure. Playing the role of a dutiful wife, Jasmine decides to complete Prakash's journey by coming to the U.S. and by cremating herself on the pyre of his suit, but when she finally reaches the shore of Florida with forged travel documents, she is violated by her smuggler, Half-Face; this changes her forever. She kills her violator then and there, but instead of cremating herself afterwards, she decides to move on and arrives at the house of Ms. Lillian Gordon, a lady who helps and shelters illegal immigrants. Having spent a few days with her while her tongue heals (she had cut it when performing Kali, the goddess of death, on Half-Face), she comes to Flushing, New York, where she first works as a domestic helper to the Vadher as and then as a day-care provider to Taylor and Wylie's adopted daughter, Duff. After the encounter with Sukhwinder, her husband's murderer, in New York, she decides to move to Iowa where she meets Bud Ripplemeyer, a banker and stays with him for many years before heading out once again to California with Duff and Taylor, who is recently divorced." (Katawal)

Jasmine is from a country foundation yet her destiny takes her toward the Western world where she battles with her destiny. She is from Third World immigrants. She moves to America to finish her assignments of life. Be that as it may, her excursion was not straightforward and smooth sit is loaded with hindrances and barriers. She has a worldwide and vast vision for living life in America. The creator portrays the procedure of Americanization of a lady by her possess involvement with injury and triumph in her push to get her new personality in have arrived. "In other words, she is an accurate feminist-Modern Woman who struggle every confront in life to ascertain herself in the civilization. Jasmine comprehends that the true individuality of a person does not lie in being an Indian or an American but it lies in the inner strength of the person to be at concord with her. Jasmine, commencement from her birth till the evacuation to the USA passes numerous circumstances and crosses from one country to another which exposes that her inner self is reborn numerous times tills she attains a higher level.(Hooda) Mukherjee has built up Jasmine's character based on her nearby perceptions of her stay both in India and abroad. Be that as it may, "... the juxtaposition of "the promise of America "and "old-world dutifulness" immediately places the west on the side of excitement and change, and betrays India's reality to bean "older," more stable one. In this "older "culture, duty and honour are valued but there are no promises held out to the individual, while America privileges individual desires over domestic and communal obligations."(Aneja)

### Conclusion

Bharati Mukherjee's Jasmine is only the heartbeats of innovation that is the new face of changing the social face of worldwide society. She is an insubordinate lady who has changed herself to survive and live on the new land. Her life in America was a pursuit of her internal identity and her identity. Finally, she has gotten herself and she perceived that she has been changed now she is another lady who needs to live for herself. Her Indian character has been presently evaded it is the aftereffect of her strong identity that is supported in the long prickly voyage in America. She has subsumed the worldwide culture and new lifestyle to live in America It is the incarnation of another lady through the hardships of life. She has confronted grim states of life and experiences the arrangement of encounters. Her portrayal of all circumstances with even minded advancement and the account consciousness. She has broken the case of her life, actual that cover was loaded with customs, conventions, at the beginning of her life the crystal gazer revealed to her future which was

corrupt and couldn't ready to endure yet as she has testing identity she has handled all issues with confidence yet always remember India and Indian morals in the western world. The sublimity of her character lies in the battle of personality in the outside land. The depiction of the characters and cultural aspects in this novel are once again stating the strong roots of Indian culture.

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