

“Imaging India in Upamanyu Chatterjee Novel English August”

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In the 1980s Indian writers made the most valuable place in the field of the novels. Indian novelist are popularized and honoured day by day. During this period Salman Rusdie's Midnight Children and Vikram Seth's The Golden Gate are the most popular fictions in Indian writing. We also see through the fiction that it has been powered to face challenges and change in the society very lightly. It shows only reality in the several directions. Which depicts the purpose of Indian fiction to define the problems of society with their solutions as per the situation. With this infer the Indian novels plot construction and characterizations are pre- historical and presumable. Therefore the three big fictional constructor who gave new pathetic way to the Indian Novel are Mulk Raj Anand Untouchable, Raja Rao Kanthapura and R.K Narayan The Painter of Signs. Then in these novels we came across with didacticism and allegorical fiction and this proves that they arises great revolution, who presents the real picture of that time. The development of Indian fiction seems to be of new talents and trends with a definite pattern. Afterwards gradually the Indian novelist shifted to the public point as well as to the private of view. Fictional writers certainly provided according to the problems and crises of life as well as definitely they tried to catch the human values in the society. “Amitav Ghosh, Rohinton Mistery, Shobha De and Khuswant Singh” these entire novelists gave significant contribution in the Indian English Literature.

Surrounding these novelists we get a glimpse of outstanding contribution of another personality that is Upamanyu

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Chatterjee in the Indian fiction through his novels- English August.

The Last Burden

The Mammaries of the Welfare State

Weight Loss.

Upamanyu Chatterjee is one of those Indians novelists in the post-Independence era who have comprehended their Indian experience from a philosophical point of view. He has engaged himself in creating the narratives that reveal the existential crisis of human beings in these times of uncertainties, anxiety and unknown fears. In all his fictional works Upamanyu narrates the stories of those human beings who do not share any traditional assumptions of heroes or heroines. His characters are indeed the anti-heroes who are unable to handle the big meaninglessness that life creates for us as we grow and live life in this senseless world.

His novels are affectionate for new themes and new modes. But I will discuss his first Novel English August which took an assertive place in India. It was published in 1988, which is an Indian story based on the new generation education.

Agastya is the main protagonist of his novel, who is a young civil servant joining the Indian administrative service as a trainer in a small town Madna- which author Chatterjee himself joined at the same age in 1983? In the opening novel when a deputy Engineer 'Laxman Shankar' the first person whom he meets on his way to Madna and ask to Agastya what kind of name is Agastya? After that when 'Srivastava' questions as a same that what kind of name is Agastya Bhai? He was so fed up with such questions then he said panically Agastya is a Sanskrit word although he feels a strange sense of dislocation, alienation and frustration as well as he thinks simply that wasting his time in Madna, then he met with his friend Dhruvo and held a great conversation with each other.

Dhrubo was a Marijuana smoker as well as asked to Agastya “what you do for sex and marijuana in Madna? And said; I think that you are going to get hazaar fucked in Madna and Agastya consider simply that he is 'wasting time here'. Therefore the mixture of modern and traditional, urban and rural all speech are reflected to the characters in the novel. Whatever “Agastya existed that 'Reading was impossible' but Marcus Aureliues meditations turned out his thought.

Agastya is a youth and to find meaning and directions of our life, so meditations show his perceptions view. Agastya does not want to work in Madna, as Srivastava, kumar and others do but he wants to increase the Indian bureaucracy. Therefore the character of Tamse as an Executive Engineer, who was posted in Madna sometime ago, is very enthusiastic and untalented he learnt that loneliness was not enough.

Govind Sathe is journalist or a cartoonist. Agastya want to go from the Madna. Then sathe tells him own story 'his father migrated from Bombay for Madna to his father's business as a forest constructor.' When Agastya puts the question what are you doing in Madna? He replies I like this place. There are also other prominent stories which are Laxman Shankar's sick story he wanted koltanga because he was homesick and unlike to other Engineers because he mints money from everybody. Shankar was powerless and he could be suspended at any moment. He had to pay much to make a comic figure. Geeta appreciates the novel for the accumulation of thought and produces a powerless image of Madna. Then at last Agastya reads Neera's letter which expresses her feelings and focused against customs and conversations.

This is very funny novel but a writer kindness one as well that this book displays a worldwide seen in the modern Indian writing revealing with a detailed knowledge of the particular

activity that can also be expressed with personal experience. In the novel all characters are surrounded to each other. There are number of a part that commits him to do anything. He did not consider himself too seriously for example – Marijuana, Masturbation, Day Dreams and Marcus Aurelius – although Tonic a cousin of Agastya , is an idiot, who had with great tactlessness refused to publish a book of pultakaku's articles on something called “ The Indian Renewal's as well as Ghosal and Multani provided description of Agastya's background as the civil services examination, the nature of his job, his reactions about to Madna his marriage plans as well his other interests. According to the characters view that English August is absurdist play which explores the cause of human suffering. A more potent cause of suffering is man's uncertainly about his origin and destination. Human life is therefore senseless and meaningless but his expectation are so high which we do in the hide freedom. We see that the human existentialism view that death which is real and a part of life but human far away that condition. We do not want to realize that life and death both is complex to each other but when we analyze the life of Agastya we find that life is full of mortal and immortal with a pathetic consideration. The novel can be read at two levels- firstly on the surface level, the book is a commentary on the administrative service of India and secondly the deeper level, it is frank discussion of the predicament and level also the novel describes sometime pathetic, sometime humorous even ridiculous. Agastya is basically unwilling and unable to commit himself fully to do anything but Chatterjee presents this act very sympathetically. Although Chatterjee's tone fits well with his laid back as a protagonist reality around him is decidedly odd. In another word we can say that Chatterjee novels are very puzzling and surprisingly touching story and always well presented to the whole episodes. The world of bureaucrats and business administrative to touch each other and

both invite satirical treatment as far as the book finally leaves us wandering motivated. Thus English August wears the crown of reality because the novel is so natural and definitely true so it is an Indian story.

Although when the novel is written the impact is not available to change the society for example – T.V and Cables then Chatterjee does not waste the opportunity to develop human state of mind. Forever he seemed as extreme points of an unreal existence as pathetically. Agastya defined India is too exact definition with our own experience. There are humorous smaller and larger episodes and encounters. We see in the novel functions of bureaucracy. There are several characters which makes prominent figures in the novel. The narrativeness is full of satire and humour. The writing is not always consistent but the lapses are relatively good indeed. English August has worn remarkably well. Agastya's story is convincing entertaining, moving and timeless as classic. Chatterjee's all description and characters are spiritual restlessness. Therefore we have to see properly all around an Indian life. English August is an Indian story and literally presented the post – modernistic, Meta fictional and literally traditions. The parody and self-parody mode intended textual structure of the novel. While the new generation main stream Agastya, Dhruvo, Reenu, Neera and Bhatia on the contrary, we find Chimpanti, Jompanaaa and Goparak create un conscious idea of mainstream. Though we identify that India bureaucracy has also the description of nature as the Chamble Valley, there were a small town. Madna and Delhi seemed two extreme points of an unreal existence. There are many people as Paal and Deputy Secretary Industries and Englishman followed Agastya into the dark silent room, in Srivastava Saal's house this apparent all as numerous contradictory.

The novel describes a journey English August and Wating for Godot both are absurdist and narrative which explores the cause of human suffering. UpmanyuChatterjee is comparatively a new English novelist who takes of the dynamics of urban living. They are praised between the hope of salvation and the fear of damnation. A more potent cause of suffering is man's uncertainly about his origin and destination. The symbolism of the play is certainly too complex to admit of a single or simple interpretation. There is also physical suffering which is caused by man's cruelty to man and mystification of the identity. Human life is therefore senseless. Agastya's feeling is full of emancipation able which related to his career. He wants a progressive change in our life. Then day by day his thinking ability may be sophisticated. So his tendency to admire his position very energetically and ethically. The articulation of Agastya character is very regenerating and always convinced him to delicate our post in the right way as he is able to do for the primary schools and primary health care center who originated there camps as well as he wondered what it would be like for a hetro sexual to be doctor at P.H.C. These description are show the admirable qualities of Agastya which popularize the novel. Basically Chatterjee wanted to show various colors by his characters and he became successful. Therefore he discovered novel by the phrase also as-

“Moved from many mouths to many ears”

Perhaps life was based on a leisurely affair in Madna. They also come back from the A passage to India, Amadeus , The Jewel in the crown lots of other movies for show his Indian perception view in the novel and Agastya defined India he said -

“India is too exact definition. He notifies that we are servant of the people and realize that effective administration really means meeting the people although



“this is India and we lived Independent country.”

Thus we identify that the human conditions are always in distressful state.

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