

Identity Crisis in the Era of Globalization: A Study of Kiran Desai's the 'Inheritance of Loss'

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Abstract:

Kiran Desai is one of the greatest Indian female diasporic novelists in the history of Indian English literature. She published her second novel entitled *The Inheritance of Loss* in 2006 which won the Man Booker Award. It helps us to understand the issues regarding the identity and belongingness in the era of globalization. Migration is one of the most important issues in the current globalised world. Globalization has come with many blessings in this ultra-modern era with some serious issues like identity crisis, question of nation and nationality, trans-cultural, trans-national identity and social belongingness etc. increasing influence of Commercialization and homogenization of western products is affecting the daily lives in third world countries by affecting the social, Economic, cultural and national autonomy of states. Globalization is a tool in the hands of western world to mould the views of other nations towards them as per their interests. *The Inheritance of Loss* is the best prognostication of loss of identity and cultural shock among the people, who adored west blindly. The characterization of Kiran Desai in *The Inheritance of Loss* is so realistic that every character is presenting the issues of our daily lives and the fondness for western beliefs that comes with the question mark on our traditional values.

Key words: Globalization, Migration, commercialization, trans-cultural etc

Introduction:

The word *Globalization* is derived from 'globalize' which means increasing interaction between nation state to the economic growth product and ideas it means the self equality. It is an international platform for maintaining consistency in the living mode of the people all over the world. Globalization is connection of different parts of the world resulting in the expansion of international, cultural, economic and political activities. The term Globalization can be defined as the process of change from national things into International platform. It is the process of reality of regional, economic society and culture through universal network for exchange. Globalization is seen in all fields and has a great impact of all over the world. In the present century, globalization is a buzz word like communication. Globalization is the process of incorporation of worldwide ideas, technology, trade, products, information, business, various aspects of culture etc. The four aspects of globalization identified by IMF are trade and transactions, capital and investment movements, migration and movement of people and dissemination of knowledge. According to Chris Barker:

“The concept of globalization refers us to the increasing multi-directional

economic, social, cultural and political connections that are forming across the world and

our awareness of them. Thus globalization involves the increased comparison of the world and growing consciousness of this process. The comparison of the world can understand the term of the expansionism of the Institution of modern it is why the reflex reflect you intend intensification of consciousness of the world can be received beneficially in cultural terms” [1]

Kiran Desai is one of the greatest Indian female diasporic novelists in the history of Indian English literature. She is the daughter of well known Indian novelist Anita Desai. At the age of 14 years, Kiran Desai migrated to England with her mother for a year. She studies creative writing in Hollins University. She published her second novel entitled *The Inheritance of Loss* in 2006 which won the Man Booker Award, National Book City circle award. She focuses on all the modern issues in her novel such as terrorism ,economic, migration, globalization, human relationship, racism identity are the theme of the theme of his novel. Globalization has attracting the masses of third world nation to praise new ideologies and to question their own identity. Kiran Desai has described the globalization and the influence of foreign culture in her work *The Inheritance of Loss*. So that the reader has to know about almost all the characters of the novel and to understand the current third worlds societies. The setting of the novel is 1980 India and America. *The inheritance of Loss* examines the issues of lives of the people who are trapped in cultural clash, alimination, displacement and the sense of loss. She highlights the issue of globalization, multiculturalism and caste system of India and social political issues like hybridity social discrimination, identity crisis etc.

Issues of Globalization

In the novel *The Inheritance of loss* Kiran Desai want to show the real picture of the cruel class history in India and out of India. She portrays as the struggle of cross-cultural people in America. The novel set in a small town named Kalimpong which is near to Darjeeling in the Northwest India. The story begins with a Sai with lives in the high Northwest Himalaya at Kalimpong with a retired judge, dog and cook. On the other hand Biju and Indian young man work for sai’s grandfather in the United States. In the novel Gyan introduces sai’s conflict between India and British culture. She wants to maintain between both cultures. Sometimes she considers herself as a part of a Indian culture and sometimes is the part of the British cultures. Thus she becomes the victim of the conflict of the both culture.

The title of the novel indicates the outcome of the text that the loss of ancestral roots like Judge lost his wife and the respect of his parents because of his too much kindness in western look even in India. lost her love because of her western culture Birju lost his bride in America and lost his love because of his sell your acceptance of the size Western look so all the main character is lost some part of the industrial source for the title is perfect in the novel can introduce size conflict between India and British culture she wants to maintain between both culture she considered herself as a part of Indian culture and sometimes is a part of a British culture them to become part of a conflict of a both cultures. The cook

actually will not be accepted the lower class that follows Indian tradition but she is the western world as something of the highest standard. They want to go there to earn money like many other members of the lower class, the Cook is proud of his son, Biju lives in New York. He was cooking English food. He has presented the loss and anger of people who are lost their sparkling domain of globalization and the connection between two words loss of roots even their birth place judge who completed his education in England try to know about western culture by using white powder, western attire. Once he returned to his native country India, he did not felt as a native place. Because the impact of globalization.

Globalization encourage masses to question their own existence and compared with other Lifestyle Western media is a good projection of their .own cultures and praising the standards of the lifestyle which is affecting the developing of the world elimination and rootlessness in India was not only because of his Western looks but also because of the way she was treated his own people in his own country he left his wife because he did not want to anything which looks like Indian with hybrid nature which forced him to eat chapati with a fork and the knife in India the novel successfully represented the nature of colonial people and the Western world which learn more and more people from the third world countries of the world towards the west.

Alienation and displacement of Biju in America is immigrants who lured by the glamour of the West without knowing the real struggle of those who are already settled in foreign lands. He become the victim of racism and everybody hates him expect his Black Muslim friend, Sheed. She finally he decides to leave America but is India; he lost everything to young insurgents but was happy to see his father again. The loss of identity in Judge, sense of displacement in Biju and cultural clash of Judge and Sai gives the novel perfect shape to present the people who are in the past and present even their homeland.

“Multiculturalism has raised important question about status of minorities within the nation state. By asking whether different communities are treated as equals within the democratic polity , multiculturalism has also shown that the presence of many plural cultures and communities is not enough.....[2]

Influence of globalization in the new world has clashed with traditional values in developing countries like India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. It is not easy to access new changes as for the new world demand. Gyan who is totally against the western culture. Gyan is a tutor of Sai their ideological differences was threatening to their relationship; he did not appreciate sai English medium education and English manners. Sai’s English table manners where making Gyan uncomfortable in front of judge because he was unaware about the English table manners and felt embarrassed the way he was picking fork and knife later he refused to adopt western culture. Due to globalization the purity of inherited cultural values are the guarding day by day before us foreign influence and the promotion of westernization in countries like India new generation is found new western as Lifestyle but the society is not ready to accept the sudden changes which is pushing of our generation towards the between the native and foreign culture stress has portrayed the foundation of Indian masses

towards the white skin. Kiran Desai has portrayed the fondness of Indian masses towards the white skin through the judge who is using white powder to look like a western

“White powdered wig over white powder face”. [Desai 2006]

Influence of foreign language can be seen our society that everyone wants to learn English in developing countries like India. India has thousands of the locals and the state languages; English is the second official language. It is because of globalization of languages. Kiran Desai has nicely explained the fondness of foreign languages among Indian masses in the novel.

Conclusion:

Kiran Desai at one of the greatest Diasporic female in Indian English literature Kiran Desai create the real situation multicultural issues and conflict of globalization in the *Inheritance of Loss*. The meaning diasporic key concept like displacement, dislocation, linguistic hybridization, immigration etc. are presented global and multicultural issue. In the novel *Inheritance of loss* is targeted in the conflict of multiculturalism and globalization. Globalization has attracting the masses of third world nation to praise new ideologies and to question their own identity. Kiran Desai has described the globalization and the influence of foreign culture in her work *The Inheritance of Loss*. Kiran Desai’s comment referring to centuries of subjugation by the economic and cultural powers of the West; “certain moves made long ago had produced all of them” sums it all. She also point out that the so called global economy.

References:

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