

## SELF PERCEPTIONS IN THE SELECT NOVELS OF MANJU KAPUR

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### ABSTRACT

*This paper brings into view the concern of gender discrimination and Indian women's fight under a closed society's patriarchal system in Manju Kapur's *Difficult Daughters* (1998). Which fetched her Commonwealth Prize in Eurasia Section, *A Married Woman* (2003), *Home* (2006), and *The Immigrant* (2009) with the opinion to study convention as opposed to modernism in Manju Kapur's novels? This novel grounded on the calamity in the assessment organization of the modern society. Manju Kapur is much captivated to present the interrogations and difficulties connected to women in a superior perception. In her novels, the women's interrogations have emerged in essence in the background of the distinctiveness of the new sophisticated middle class. Manju Kapur in her works portray how females bring about to exchange both the places in their lives, through sacrifices they have to make the home fires burning and also through their individual lives they find some kind of contentment outer the home. The notion that all female predestined to get matrimonial and be acquiescent to their spouses was prearranged a second look when we go through the books of Manju Kapur. She stimulates women to cross the beginning of domestic life. She handles with the mixture of customary and contemporary philosophy.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Individuality- Viewpoint, Matrimonial, Masculine chauvinism, Replication, Civilization.*

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### Introduction

Indian Writing in English established in numerous phases: Simulated, Indianization and Investigation. Being a novelist of the present time, Manju Kapur has dealt with contemporary difficulties. Her novels highlight the important facets of being and existence of women in the Middle class the social order of India. In fact, the whole fictional world of Manju Kapur is dominated by the female characters whereas the male characters are marginalized. They exist only as factions and players of subaltern roles. Men appear to be inconsequential, since there is an importance on women. Women are demonstrated as superior to their male matching part. If they prove lower in some belongings, they try to catch their individuality to be as equivalent as to men. In other words, it is the woman in Manju Kapur's works who grasps all the trump card cards. She turns out to be a wheeler-dealer whose clever approach looks beyond the male understanding. She can be beaten or be disloyal to but she can overwhelmed herself from the yearnings and outplay all her masculine security parts. In this respect, Manju Kapur's female is a new woman. In 1960s with the rise of women's movement, there appeared the New Woman, who is entirely dissimilar from her outdated corresponding item. This new female may be cognizant, self-possessed and peaceful, but sometimes she may be seduced or cheated emotionally. For acquiring a new identity, she is seen dealing with the world around her on her own terms. She gets the center and has got rid of her position as the other. She might be conscious of her purpose that is to release her from the authorities of undeserved restrictions and imposes compulsory on her by the male under enemy control humanity. She is aware of her own privileges, she has started a fight. The contest is not so easy and short lived since it is against the human fundamentals like self-esteem, greediness, determination, and self-interest. So far the females are observed at as man's privilege and they have also accepted it without rebellion. But the modern woman becomes rebellious against the unjust nature of such an

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attitude and has prompted thinking on different lines. Manju Kapur attempts to display an important shift in the position of her women who are autonomous. They do not want to depend for their survival on their fathers, husbands or sons or any kind of male counterparts. On the contrary, they require strength to face life with all its ups and downs. They are very self-confident in nature, real in performances and solid physically. They plunge into the group of the New Woman who resolves her difficulties by the woman in question it is on the beginning of the reliable representation of women in her novels, that Manju Kapur is well-thought-out one of the highest innovators in the representation of New Indian Woman in her novels.

### **Objectives**

- To show how Manju Kapur a prominent writer.
- To Study major themes used by Manju Kapur in her works

### **The Prediction of Woman**

Women are considered as mere shadows of men and treated as the other. They are accepted as a second sex. However, in this fast changing world, the role of woman in the society too, has been changing fast, affecting greatly the social norms prevalent in the society. Manju Kapur protests against the male dominance and strongly detests the marginalization of women. She does not represent her womanly figures as slaves or just associates at home. She is a modern Indian female author who peeps into the measures of the inner self of the modern woman and her maintenances and uncertainties. She discovers the all God's creatures of the modern urban female as her narratives are the part of the modern urban life. They deal with today's issues related to the subjugated and marginalized women. As a matter of fact a woman is born to be free as a man but she is captured and victimized by the other side of community everywhere in patriarchal culture. She has been 'the second sex' and has to conform to male standards. 'Man' means the whole social fight, while 'woman' is quiet and not stated. In our male subjugated civilization woman is careful as a second person and never appreciates the equivalent position with men. As well all these things the current female cannot follow her career without accomplishment home duties. She has to pay attention to her career as well as the domestic duties. This is the most projecting motive of struggle between tradition and modality finds a vast place in the portrayal of women by the women novelists.

### **The Representation of Female Characters in Manju Kapur's Novels**

Manju Kapur reflects the dissimilar features of female's life and depicts a variability of Women and this carries out the diverse ways the women are exposed to male domination. In every novel, she focuses on the marginalization of women in Indian society. It is acknowledged that the bulk of women in the current time are gratified with their lot of reduction in the home and society. Being a lady, Manju Kapur concluded some of her female's characters show very brilliant depictions of the dissimilarity between men and women. In the current society, she appeals our consideration to women's manipulation and perception. As a feminist writer, Manju Kapur presents the ideas of liberating woman through She thinks that the woman should be independent. In *Difficult Daughters* Virmati exhibits sheer courage and determination while fighting her battles of independence. She is a young Punjabi girl from a very conservative family in Amritsar, and falls in love with a married professor. This relationship is not only considered illicit but does not even receive social, legal or moral sanitation. In spite of that, she prefers to take the way less travelled and is reprimanded for this from every quarters; she begins to give Importance to education and other's higher things in life. She believes that life's horizons are not only wider, but there are things even beyond the horizons that still remain unconquered. During her life time, Virmati lives through the realm of various experiences. She is in the quest for independence, quest for self-expression and this might not be stopped. Things are not always as they appear or seem. She needs to live her life on her own instructions and rules; but in the procedure, she misplaces an important portion of herself and appreciates the unimportance of things. Virmati, the oldest child in the family, becomes the second mother to her ten other siblings who look up to her for every little object.

Being the daughter of a father with broad-minded thoughts and a traditional mother, she found human relatives that would allow her to be herself. Toni Morrison points out, in this perspective

Tell us what it is to be a woman  
so that we may know what it is.  
To be a man is to be a man.  
What happens on the outskirts?  
How does it feel to have it?

There is no such thing as a home in this place.  
To be set adrift from the one you know well.  
What it is to be at the edge of towns  
that bear your Company. (Morrison 201)

The novel is set contrary to the background of wall in the towns of Amritsar and Lahore and splatters a commanding picture of a society where self-possession is more significant than sorrow and the joy of the associates of the family. Three generations- Kasturi, Virmati and Ida- symbolize the three phases of Indian individuality. Kasturi is obtainable as a pre-independence situation and develops the victim of the aggressive control of the patriarchy. She signifies the personification of maternity, who stands discomfort and sorrow.

### **Journey towards Self-Realization**

Women's character in Indian life as well as Indian fiction has continued diverse. It is true that her physical nature has gifted her with a certain exact obligation. Her position is intimately connected to her role as a customary wife and mother. She should be idyllic and effectively shaped in the same manner. In fact, facility, expenditure, compliance and broadmindedness are the characters which should come to her obviously. She has a boundless quantity of resolution and a long list of negotiations. She should be realistic and respectful. And these are the standards recognized by men; they are gifted with women, but then are observed as disobedient and deprived of receipt by society. Manju Kapur's females decline to be occupied for decided and they do protest about this disorder.

### **Conclusion**

Manju kapur has left her own spot on English narratives. All of these writers have endeavored and prospered in depicting present-day women who have disallowed the covering of custom, philosophy, patriarchy, and community duties. The novel offerings Manju kapur's considerate of human characters and her development as a novelist. Manju kapur's novel discloses the lives of women, their fight for basic privileges, their quest for self and endurance. With education they become conscious of their independence which is showed in anxiety with new women. "One is not born, but rather becomes a woman,"

One of the sisters, Simone de Beauvoir, says. No biological, psychological or economic fate governs the figure that the female grants in a society. As a result, women face economic and sociocultural disadvantages in a male-dominated society. The patriarchy dominated society. The women were silent and remained only as rubber dolls for others to move as they wanted. They had been deprived of their fundamental rights, aspirations for individuality, and self-sufficiency. Manju Kapur is somewhat happy to be called a 'chronicler of Indian families,' but do senses free to choose any tag that will drift your ship. "My own feeling is, describe me any way you like, as long as I am relevant, as long as I am reading, I don't really care... "

Families reproduce all of the social order – community mores, social trends, sexual category relations, class equations – all of them are seen vividly in the novel," says Manju Kapur. The novels request to her not only as a novelist, but as an instructor as well.

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