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## Social realism in the novels of Arvind Adiga

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### Abstract

In a competition to innovate, a new age of young fascinating writer is rapidly growing in India's literary horizon and the name of Arvind Adiga is among them. Arvind Adiga is a young Indian writer who was born in Chennai in 1974. He started his career as Journalist and also worked as a correspondent in India for TIME Magazine. He won Britain's most prestigious literary award – The Mon Booker Prize 2008, for his debut novel 'The White Tiger'. Adiga is the fourth India born author to win Booker Prize after Salman Rushdie, Arundhati Roy and Kiran Desai.

**Keywords:** Social realism, novels, Arvind Adiga

### Introduction

Adiga in his novels made a living depiction of changes in the Indian society in this age of globalization. His characterization of people from every walk of life make a him great writer that of Charles Dickens and R.K. Narayan. He wrote about simplicity and complexity of common man of India. Adiga in his novels reflects his deeper concern on the social taboos which exists in contemporary Indian society. Through his writings Adiga suggests the proper treatment of evil, which still exists in our society. It is the truth that people grant their significance to the social troubles rather than solutions. Community issues and problems are not prominent but the right treatment for these kinds of issues is prominent, because the treatment of the social harms are not to forget but to face and finish otherwise these social issues will become unbearable and apart from that "Prevention is better than cure" awareness is the most significant remedy for such social problems. And Arvind Adiga is one such writer who presents his views on social issues and created his characters like those people who live in the society with the social problems. The readers feel the connectivity with his characters while reading his novels and that proves him as a one of the immense novelist. Adiga presents the darkness and bitter truths of the modern society in his novels. Here is a description of his novels, through which we will get the glimpse about the social concerns in his writings.

'The White Tiger' Adiga's Booker Prize winning debut novel provides a darkly humorous perspective of India's class struggle in a globalized world as told through a retrospective narration from Balram Halwai, a village boy and protagonist of the novel. The novel provides sample of various malpractices in Indian democracy and society at a large. This is a story of a man named Blaaram Halwai and his journey of varied human emotions ranging from regression to suppression. The writer presented the bitter reality of the contemporary Indian society, where a man is born in a poor family finds his opportunities of prevailing in the country are such that it forces to comitt a crime like murder and theft. The novel is based on the disparities of two world, the world of poor and underprivileged who cannot even fulfill their minimum requirements which the author refers to "Darkness" in the novel and another is the "lighter" world of zamindars, politicians, businessman etc. who shamelessly exploits the poor people, making them even more poor and grows their own luxurious life. Through this novel Adiga challenges Indians and customs to create a society in which individuals truly free.

Adiga's second novel is 'Last Man in Tower' published in 2011. The novel focuses on the ongoing real estate issue in Mumbai, particularly on struggle between the changes of the past and the present. The protagonist of the novel is a 61 years old, Masterji who lives in a small apartment. The apartment is surrounded by the rural area and middle class Indian people belonging to different communities of Hindu, Muslim and Christian etc.

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The novel begins when a builder enters and for a modern construction that builder wants to purchase that building including that area but Masterji was not ready for that. Adiga has used literature as a crucial tool to understand the economic and cultural condition of the society. His characters revolve across race, gender and class through which reader conventionally understands the social deference. Adiga's third and recent novel *Selection Day's* which appeared in 2016 is a sport fiction novel. This novel is ambitious, Original and morally serious, The novel is about the aspirations and discontents is contemporary Indian society. His third novel is also set in Mumbai, and this is the story of two cricketing brothers Manju and Radha who were divided by success and failure. Hold up a mirror to the shattered dreams of a nation. And cricket is of course a wonderful way of writing about shattered dreams both personal and national. Cricket here represents what is loved in India and yet is being corrupted by the changes within the nation.

The novel shows that how much the Indians are obsessed with the game of cricket. The character of Mohan Kumar the ambitious father of the two cricketing boys and a chutney seller from a small village of Karnataka who came Mumbai to make fortune and for him the cricketing ability of his son's is a ticket to salvation. As we know, India is a very religious country, beside these religions cricket is also appeared as a religion in India. People are so much crazy about cricket and they accepts heroes of the field as their role model. Cricket has reached the corners of our country today, and the people are very influenced by the success story of the cricket icons. Recently we have such a film on the success story of Mahendra Singh Dhoni and Sachin Tendulkar on how they rose from poverty, how they succeed and became a cricketer and a millionaire with an actress as a wife and ferrari in the shed. So, cricket is now being used to sell a certain vision of life in India, and who would not want to live this luxurious life. Many people wants to make their children's career in cricket, and most of the children who want to make their career in this field are in their adolescence and in schools. To achieve their dream they drop their schools because in India there is no such arrangements for the children who wants to make their career in sport, and also chances to get the success is very less and when these children do not succeed, their dreams break apart and they became victims of bad addiction like drunkenness in depression. The novel is not a celebration of a standard success story, actually the writer is curious about what happens to those children who fails to make it, which would be the vast majority of young talented boys and those whom we don't see in the films or books in India. In a sense the novel is a parody or like a inversion of the success stories.

### Conclusion

So, if we examine we can see that his fictions covers almost every aspects of contemporary Indian society. Adiga through his writings proved that a writer cannot change the society or cannot remove the problems of social issues from the society but his presentation or views can convince the reader or can change the people to face the social affairs. The way Adiga writes it gives the impression that we desperately wants to change the society and people mentality. Author through his narration analyses of what troubles Indian Politics, society and economy and advices

what need to be done and set is right. The characters and situations in his novels are real than supernatural.

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