

WORLD LITERATURE

Emerging Trends, Texts and Theories

Edited by

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**World Literature:
Emerging Trends, Texts and Theories**
Dr. S. Chelliah and Dr Bijender Singh

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Trauma, Displacement and Mimicry in V.S. Naipaul's *The Mimic Men*

Dr Suruchi Sharma

V.S. Naipaul, a writer who is known for his criticism on various grounds, always felt trauma in his life because he could not settle himself at any city and found himself placeless in every country he lived. He says, "When I speak about being an exile or a refugee, I am not just using a metaphor" (Rowe-Evans 62). He feels exilic in India, Britain and Trinidad, and this exilic trauma is explicit in his works also. Landeg White also writes about him, "...the struggle against the effects of displacement lies at the heart of his work" (3). Gillian Dooley also comments in her article, "The Imaginative Promptings of My Many-Sided Background V.S. Naipaul's Diasporic Sensibility" that Naipaul "instead of drawing heavily on memories of the homeland and the collective identity, he has made his difference into a distinction and turned his alienation into an abiding preoccupation" (3).

So far as mimicry is considered, it is generally seen in the postcolonial society where the people of a specific community, group or religion blindly imitate the dress, life-style, language politics, rituals and manners of the colonizers. It has become so common that the person who mimics is unable to understand what he is doing and why he is doing so. It has become a common practice in the postcolonial world. Its effect is camouflage. It does not harmonise with the background rather it remains against a mottled background.

WORLD LITERATURE

Emerging Trends, Texts and Theories

The anthology *World Literature: Emerging Trends, Texts and Theories* is an exclusive array of thirty-three intellectually provocative articles contributed by some of the best scholars, academicians, critics, professors across various states in India. The issues dealt in these articles not only challenge our prevailing perceptions in terms of our conventional approach towards world literature but at the same time force us to think anew about the global issues, themes and cultures also. Whether it is critical perspective or stylistic device applied in a text everywhere, fresh insightful ideas perceptively abound in throughout this anthology. The contributors' dedicated works cover a varied range of critical issues including conflict between Indian feminism and individualism, diasporic dilemma, destabilizing eco-centric nature, the attitudinal clash between tradition and modernity, Indian poetic thoughts with universalistic appeals, projection of ethical and moral values in literature, psychoanalytic approach to literary classics, identity crisis, rootlessness, subalterns and diaspora studies, post-independent culture, etc.



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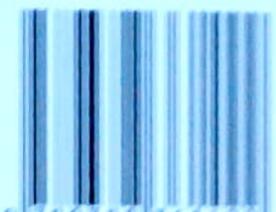
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