



An Anthology of Research Articles on Contemporary British Fiction

EMERGING GENRES IN BRITISH FICTION

Edited by

Dr. Mursalin Jahan
Dr. Aareena Nazneen

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A POST-COLONIAL READING OF NADEEM ASLAM'S MAPS FOR LOST LOVERS

Dr.Zeba Rizvi

Abstract

The purpose of this research article is to analyse the postcolonial perspective through the concept of migrants, cultural hybridity, and otherness in Nadeem Aslam's *Maps for Lost Lovers* with a reference to Homi Bhabha and Edward Said. Nadeem Aslam has become a prominent figure in the world of postcolonial contemporary British fiction. The research concludes that the novel presents a reductive view of Islam and reinforces its stereotypical image of fundamentalism. It also indicates that Aslam's perception of Islam has recollections of Orientalists, thereby showing the connivance of postcolonial works with a neo-colonial imperial agenda.

Keywords: Cultural, Fundamentalism, Hybridity, Migrants, Orientalism, Otherness, Post-colonial.

The Post colonialism of Pakistani literature in English is manifested in all works by local and expatriate writers representing the nation. The multifaceted postcolonial dimensions of these literary products, ranging from the personal exilic agonies to the collective traumas triggered by displacement, have been explored. Postcolonial literature has won critical acclaim and gained worldwide popularity in recent decades. Some eminent figures like Said, Bhabha, and Spivak have theorized the postcolonial themes and contributed to creating awareness of the issues concerning the nations and regions that remained in the colonial clutch. Some issues such as cultural assimilation and identity crisis have been important debates since the rise of postcolonial literature and theory. These issues have affected human relations in the postcolonial era, and continue to do so; particularly the diaspora in the Western metropolitan centers has been the center of this debate. Creative writers from across the globe Nadeem Aslam, Jhumpa Lahiri, Michael Ondaatje, and an array of other writers have addressed the exilic conditions and the predicament rooted in the experience of dislocation.