

# VOICES FROM HILLS: THE DOOMED PARADISE UNDER PENUMBRA OF GUNS & GULLS

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## ABSTRACT

It is observed the writers from north-eastern region of India are meeting the double challenge of truth and liberty, of ethnic specificity and aesthetic universality of identity and unity. It is notified that in the last one decade there is a vibrant contemporary writing has been seen in many languages including English. The north-eastern writers tried their hard to reach the rest of India and the world through translations and anthologies. Our assimilation of north-eastern writers may be skewed as the writing we receive is filtered through editors and translators with their own prejudices and preferences. This paper presents an analytical study of writing style of north-eastern writers of by analysing their work.

*Keywords: ethnic specificity, anthologies, contemporary writing, aesthetic universality, truth and liberty*

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## INTRODUCTION

It is noticed that coeval literature coming out of India's northeast is vigorous and mirrors the concerns and issues faced by the people of this sorely beautiful but strife-ridden region. The literature of northeast is vivacious and dimensional. Growing unemployment, insurgency, vanishing of additional attributes, youth losing sense of direction and political turbulence are the content of which is reflected in literature of the northeast. As a consequence of this it has moved to a new direction. The upcoming new generation of writers are continuing extemporize with these issues. As they grew up in penumbra of the gun, their whim to scrutinise the reader's reaction to insurgency is as strong as ever. The paper enlists the five north-eastern writers to aver that how the issues of these states conserve grasp over their writing style and over the literature.

### Mamang Dai

Mamang Dai is a journalist, poet, author and a civil servant from Itanagar. She scored instant success for her debut anthology of poetry, River Poems. Her writing pieces hold vivid pictures of nature. If we look at her work at surface it looks filled with facile lyricism but if we read closer her pieces we will observe that this paradisiacal landscape is also one of guns and gulls. It carries a genuine persuasive riverine tug that can lead us to moments of heart-stopping surprise. She has contributed to the literature for young readers. Her poetic world is grounded on river, forest and mountain. She wrote there's nature as an alchemistic, verdant with myth and crammed with pious memory. Her work is impregnated by an intense bustle about abolished histories and a lazy future. Her writings are full of simplicity and do not attain at elementary conclusion. We can conclude that she is an effective messenger.

### Arup Kumar Dutta

Arup was born at Jorhat of Assam. He is a fulltime writer, award conquering who has acceded to international recognition. The list of north-eastern illustrious writers will be incomplete without the name of Arup Kumar Dutta. He wrote fourteen novels for young readers. He has caged down short stories, novels, columns, essays, articles, editorials and many pieces in the form of journalistic writing. The distinguished journalist and writer incepted several adventure novels and works for adults. He has an overwhelming flair in writing. His novels include a linear narrative style, structural integrity, naturalistic characterization, emotional or situational conflict. He won several prizes which include Shankar Award and The Life Time Achievement Honour by Association of writers and illustrators. The setting of gripping fiction in writing is the achievement attained by him and he was fully appreciated for this new genre in writing.

### Siddhartha Deb

Siddhartha Deb was born in Meghalaya and grew up in Shillong. He started writing in journalism as a journalist. Siddhartha Deb is a prolific writer who was selected for a fellowship in Columbia and went to United States. After a time span he moved to all-over India and refined his narrative skills. He wrote fiction as well as non-fiction. He wrote on the struggle between two generations. He went to metro cities and observed the life leading by the people there. He wrote fictions and non-fictions. He was recognized for his first piece 'The Beautiful and the Damned-Life in new India' for which he won PEN/Open Book Award and was short-listed for Orwell Prize. He considered and wrote about the life of people in metro

cities and also figured contemporary India. He recollects someone from outside culture can give vivid perspective and criticism.

### **Dhruba Hazarika**

Dhruba Hazarika is from Shillong and a familiar name in Indian writing in English. He is a novelist, short-story writer and is undoubtedly an introducer in the northeast of India in Indian writing in English. His free command over the language in describing characters carries a unique style. His work captures the geographical essence of Shillong. He also took his writing to depict the murky world of underground and a cluster of equally ferocious government officials.

### **Mitra Phukan**

Mitra Phukan is a well known figure of Assam. She conventionally accords to 'The Assam Tribune' and is a protuberant member of the 'North East Writers' Forum. Her debut novel 'The Collector's Wife' is the first generation novels in English written by an Assamese writer and which was published by an international house. She is one of the most committed literary voices from northeast India. She is one of the finest writers who had contributed towards children's literature. She is also a trained classical vocalist and contributes regularly to music. On the discussion of her style this writer continues to grapple with the issues of North East. She is grown up in penumbra of guns and her style reflects it.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Northeast region has undergone historical and political upset of indescribable suffering and marginalization. The writing pieces from Northeast infact the voices from their region need to be implicit in the montage of Indian diversity. These writers illustrate their various communities, their inimitable linguistic registers and the worldview that they venture in an endeavour to conserve their cultural and ethnic values/identities. These voices need to be acknowledged as these have arisen from their historical and political grounds, cultural ambivalence and personal tragedies. The paper reveals that the affairs of northeast have left a great consequence on writing style of North-Eastern writers. It is cataclysmic that the long-running unease, brutality and terrorism in the northeast has continued a mere deflection in the mainstream of Indian nation-state. Northeast is a place of many languages and cultures apart from geographical political unit. The writer believes that the circumstances leave a great impact on writer's piece and his style.

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