

Child Psychology and Indianness Depicted by R. K. Narayan in his Novels “Swami & Friends” and “The Guide”

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Abstract:

Child Psychology and Indianness are two different words, indeed many would say that child Psychology is different from the Psychology of a grown up man. All the same, it is true that the kind of atmosphere in which a child grows up determines his/her manhood/womanhood and indianness is the perception or feeling of being an Indian Socially, Culturally and Spiritually. These come at the subject from several perspectives, historical and ideological, literary and philosophical, sociological and psychological. It is no longer seems quiet pertinent now to ask about the possible future of Indianness in the world, when we know for certain that Indianness is going to stay for long in India.

Key Words: Culturally, spiritually. Child psychology, Indian, cultural, spiritual.

Introduction:

Child psychology and the indianness are the words which R.K. Narayan has used very much in his Novels. No doubt the Indian writers have faced so many difficulties. There has been indifference even unwillingness, of publishers to publish their works. The publishers from India are traditionally conservative and unadventurous, as the Indo-Anglian works are accepted with great caution, and often after much persuasion, because they are supposed to be risky investments.

R.K.Narayan was the only Novelist who proved himself very dedicated for Indian writing. As it is obvious that R.K. Narayan and Mulk Raj Anand are two of the greatest of Indian writers of fiction. In his first novel he achieved recognition during the publication. He has written ten novels, near about hundred short stories, a number of articles and sketches, to his credit, and all this large body of works, with few exceptions (as the Dark Room) is uniformly of a high standard. His “Swami and Friends” and “The Guide” are the famous novels in which he depicted the indianness and child psychology. Both Novels have Indian life. As Swami is the main character in the “Swami and Friends” and Raju is the main character in the “the Guide”. Both novels are fine examples of indianness and in both novels; children have played a well rule. In these novels the author has shown the indianness and the child psychology. The characters in these novels depict the high level of indianness. Every character shows and depicts indianness. Which is one of the valuable feature for world. By these novels R.K.Narayan tries to give the value for indianess throughout the world.

R.K.Narayan’s indanness is reflected in various ways in his novels. He is a story – teller first and last, and he is a story teller in the Indian tradition. His tales are episodic and loose in construction, except in “The Guide”. There is a straight forward, chronological narration. He has a great regard for family ties and pieties of the home. As for as the human relationship is concerned in his novels, they occupy a central place in his novels. His stress on the role of the family is famous throughout the world by his novels which no other writer has done. So simply it shows the Indianness.

There are a number of housewives in his novels, who bear the tyranny of their husbands, passively and meekly. They have proved themselves Indian wives. Even when they revolt, like Savitri in the Dark Room the revolt is temporary and they return to their home. Even Rosie in The Guide shows Indianness in her solicitude for her husband and the altitude of resignation she adopts when Raju is arrested for forgery. She tells him, “I felt all along you were not doing the right things. This is Karma. What can we do?” His Indianess is further seen in the introduction of much that is fantastic but which is credible in the Indian context. He has often uses the Hindu names in which Sadhus, Sanayasis and Swamis are ever recurring characters. As it is clear in the “The Guide” that Raju once fasting to bring down the rain and Raju is easily taken to be a Mahatma by the villagers. It was their concept that Raju bring the rain. They felt that Raju pleased the god or goddess. Much is woven into the fabric of his novels, which recognizes no logic.

CONCLUSION:

It is clear that these two novels of R.K. Narayan are one of the meaningful novels and on the basis of the discussion of R.K. Narayan’s Novels “Swami and Friends” and “The Guide” in the previous chapters including the stress on the form and meaning, here I come to the conclusion that the novelist has developed a perfect understanding of the craft of the novel writing. Although the novels “Swami and Friends” and “The Guide” depicts the child psychology and Indianness. R.K. Narayan happens to be a legendary novelist born in India. Almost all his novels reflect the author’s native environment and Indianness. Thus there is need to study the novels in consonance with the techniques and methods of fiction standardized at international level in English literature. So it is the need to see Indian English literature seriously and one can read it without any confusion throughout the world.

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